

gestion of individuals and their friends, who feel under deep obligations to them. Many of the efforts at succor during the fearful scene, were truly heroic and noble, and we refer to them with sincere pleasure. Jan 1849.

The Accident of Monday.—A Noble Felicitous.—The late accident on the Schuylkill, at the Fairmount Dam, was the subject of much conversation yesterday, and numerous acts of heroism were noticed. We alluded to the fact that one brave fellow had, regardless of all danger to him—elf, plunged into the water and rescued a number from an almost inevitable death. Upon inquiry, we have ascertained his name to be WILLIAM LOCKRIDGE, an omnibus agent for Messrs. Dougherty and Power's line. Being near at hand, and hearing the screams of those who were struggling for life, he hastened to their rescue, first relieving a little boy, and then in quick succession succeeded in taking from the water, surrounded as they were by large cakes of floating ice, no less than seven females! At one time, this noble, heroic fellow, had three of the unfortunate creatures within his grasp,—one under each arm, and the third clinging to his back! It was a thrilling scene, indeed, and many a heart beat with fear at the result of so hazardous an undertaking. With iron nerve and undaunted courage, LOCKRIDGE reached the shore in safety,—and, with the seeming rapidity of lightning, dashed again into the angry element, continuing his philanthropic exertions until all were safe. Such an act of bravery is worthy of all commendation, and should be recorded, far and wide, to the lasting credit of WILSON LOCKRIDGE, the humble omnibus driver.

Death of a Gallant Philadelphian.—It is with feelings of deep regret we announce the death of a gallant young Philadelphian, in the person of Lieut. James A. Deane, of the Eighth Regiment, United States Infantry. The sad event took place at Port Lavaca, Texas, on the 25th of December last, and was caused by that dreadful pestilence, the Asiatic Cholera. Lieut. Deane, in December, 1846, joined the Cadwalader Grays, Capt. Scott, which formed part of the First Pennsylvania Regiment, in the war with Mexico, and previous to leaving for the seat of war, was elected Second Lieutenant. After having served with great gallantry at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, La Hoya, Perote and Huamantla, he was ordered home for the purpose of recruiting, but had not remained long in Philadelphia, when he received a commission from the Secretary of War, promoting him to the regular line, with the same rank he held among the volunteers. Finally, he was ordered to Fort Hamilton, and with a large number of recruits, soon left for Jefferson Barracks, where he joined his regiment. From thence, the regiment, after being thoroughly drilled, proceeded to Port Lavaca, where it arrived in the early part of November last. The Cholera soon made its appearance among the troops, and Lieut. Deane was the first and only victim among the officers! The painful intelligence of his death was communicated yesterday morning to his aged parents, wife, brothers and sisters, and was naturally received by them in the most agonising manner.

The deceased was a kind husband, a dutiful son and affectionate brother. Lieut. Deane was a young officer of much promise, possessing a large circle of acquaintances, to all of whom he was greatly endeared, and his death will be deeply lamented. The writer of this brief notice knew him well—it was his pride and pleasure to have been an associate during the Mexican campaign, and no one was more universally endeared to the Pennsylvania Volunteers than Lieut. Deane. He was strict in the discharge of his duty, but at the same time, bland and gentlemanly in his command. In the hour of sickness or distress, he was kind and benevolent. The parents of Lieut. D. reside in Marriott's Lane, between Fourth and Fifth streets, Southwark, and in the sad bereavement which has befallen them at their advanced stage of life, do we sincerely condole. Lieut. D. leaves a young and interesting wife, with two small children.

WHIG CITY CONFERENCE.—The Whig City Conference met last evening in the Supreme Court room, and placed a number of gentlemen in nomination for Mayor. The following we believe are all that were named for the office:—John Thompson, John B. Kenny, Charles Gilpin, Charles A. Poulson, A. G. Waterman, Richard Donegan, and Ed. C. Dale.

On motion, it was Resolved, That the Conference vote *viva voce* for Mayor. Oct. 1850. The Conference adjourned to meet again on Thursday evening, at the same place.

**For the North American & U. S. Gazette.
Mercantile Beneficial Association.**

Messrs. Editors:—An institution or association having the above name has been in existence in this city since the year 1842, at which time a number of highly respectable merchants associated themselves together, and constituted the association; shortly after which they obtained a charter from the Legislature of our State, allowing them the exercise of certain rights and immunities, as therein set forth. And from a small beginning the Association has increased to be one of some importance, having a fund sufficiently large to insure permanency, and to afford the means to carry out all the intentions of the original founders, as well as of the present members.

This association has met with favor—and yet, it does not number among its annual or life members all of the independent and benevolent merchants of the city and county—the cause of which perhaps, may be the want of correct information on the subject.

This institution is of a two-fold nature, and in its operations combines *business and benevolence*: that is, one object of it is to afford relief to all its worthy members, by loaning them such sum or sums of money, on their own personal responsibility, as may be needful for their immediate relief—on the condition if at any future period they shall feel able—they are to refund the amounts so borrowed again to be placed in the funds of the association for the benefit of others. These loans are made *without interest*. A second object is to afford relief to such members as may be entirely destitute in consequence of want of employment, sickness, ill health, death or adversity of any kind. This is done by appropriating, of the funds of the Association, such amounts, from time to time, as the exigencies of the case may demand. These sums are given to members as donations, and thus the benevolent feature of the Association is brought to bear in a pleasant and timely manner on its objects—for none except the proper committee are made acquainted with the names of those requiring aid in the latter form. At the death of a husband and father, a sum has been appropriated, not only sufficient to defray all the necessary expenses of a decent burial, but leaving a balance with which the widow of such deceased member might establish a small business, to aid in the support of herself and fatherless children. Numerous instances might be cited, if allowable, to show the benefits resulting from this institution. Now, as to the propriety of such an association, it is certainly not necessary to say more than a word.

A highly respectable and numerous class of men engaged as clerks, book-keepers, etc. by the merchants of this city, are certainly worthy of far more notice than a simple right to place and pay—and to a higher station than of mere agents of manual labor, for their employers. Many—nay, most of our wealthiest merchants, have been made so by the exertions and labor of those in their employment. And does not this call for reciprocal favor, or at least sympathy. Instances might be named, showing that frequently these men wear out in the employment of others, and are compelled to seek a precarious subsistence as they can, without aid, and without sympathy from those abundantly blessed by a kind and benevolent Providence, and whose coffers are sometimes so full as to be almost running over.

This association, certainly, then, will commend itself to the earnest co-operation of those who have the means, and as its annual meeting is to be held this evening, an opportunity will be offered to such as may wish to aid it in its praise worthy object.

FINANCES OF PHILADELPHIA CITY.—From the report of the Finance Committee of the City Councils, we glean the following statistical information relative to the condition of our city finances.

The estimated liabilities for the year 1849 amount to \$592,361 24, while the means to meet the same are \$277,966 62, leaving a deficiency of \$314,394 62. This is to be met by a tax on the real estate of the city and the personal tax, which, deducting due allowances would amount to \$323,508. The debt of the corporation is \$3,557,900, from which, if we deduct the amount of city loans belonging to the sinking fund, \$111,300, the real debt is shown to be \$3,446,600. This debt falls due at various periods, about \$76,000 annually until the year 1876, when \$250,000 becomes payable.

The expenses of the city government are shown by the following appropriations for the year 1849:

Watering Committee,	\$30,825 20
Committee on Finance,	35,000 00
Do Police,	136,451 79
Do Public Highways,	35,150 49
Do Cleansing,	11,800 00
Do City Property,	31,452 81
Committee on Legacies and Trusts,	5,536 84
Annual appropriation to City Ice Boat,	7,500 00

The sources of revenue other than that derived from taxation, are as follows. These are the estimated receipts for 1849:

Water Rents,	\$115,000 00
Market Rents,	35,970 00
Rental of City Property,	22,650 00
Tobacco Warehouse,	10,000 00

LIST OF POST-OFFICES WITHIN 30 MILES OF PHILADELPHIA—IN PENNSYLVANIA, NEW JERSEY AND DELAWARE.—The new Post-Office law, which goes into operation on the 1st July next, permits all newspapers to be conveyed by the U. S. mail, *free of postage*, to post-offices within 30 miles of the place of publication. The subjoined list of post-offices in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, within 30 miles of Philadelphia, has been obligingly prepared for us by Dr. Lehman, and is of course correct. Persons residing in either of these places, can regularly receive the Daily or Weekly Times, for the simple price of subscription, viz: \$3 per annum for the Daily, or \$1 for the Weekly, after the 1st July.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Abington,	Hatboro,	Pleasant Valley,
Andalusia,	Haverford,	Port Richmond,
Attleboro,	Hickorytown,	Richboro,
Blue Bell,	Hilligas,	Richlandtown,
Bridesburg,	Hilltown,	Rising Sun,
Bridgewater,	Holmesburg,	Rock Hill,
Bristol,	Horsham,	Roy's Ford,
Buckingham,	Homerville,	Salisburyville,
Bunker Hill,	Huimesville,	Schwenck's Store,
Bustleton,	Joy Mills,	Sellers' Tavern,
Byberry,	Jeffersonville,	Shannonville,
Chaddsford,	Jenkintown,	Skippack,
Chestnut Hill,	Kensington,	Somerton,
Chester,	King of Prussia,	Sorrel Horse,
Concordville,	Kingsessing,	Shinerstown,
Conshohocken,	Leipersville,	Spread Eagle,
Crooked Hill,	Leverington,	Spring Garden,
Danboro,	Lima,	Spruss House,
Darby,	Limerick,	Thornton,
Davisville,	Line Lexington,	Trappe,
Dilworthtown,	Lower Merion,	Trumboersville,
Doe Run,	Maununk,	Tullytown,
Dalington,	Marous Hook,	Tylerport,
Dublin,	Marshallton,	Union Square,
Edgemont,	Mechanicsville,	Upper Dublin,
Falls of Schuylkill,	Milestown,	Valley Forge,
Feastersville,	Mongomeryville,	Village Green,
Fox Chase,	Morrisville,	Warrington,
Francisville,	Nether Providence,	West Chester,
Frankonia,	Newportville,	West Haverford,
Frankford,	Newtown,	West Philadelphia,
Frazer,	Newtown Square,	White Hallville,
Germantown,	Norristown,	White Marsh,
Gibbons Tavern,	Norritonville,	Willow Grove,
Gum Tree,	Painters X Reads,	Worcester,
Hardington,	Paola,	Venest,
Hamorton,	Penns Grove,	Thorabury,
Hartsville,	Phoenixville,	

DELAWARE.

Atsion,	Good Intent,	Penns Grove,
Bordentown,	Haddonfield,	Pemberton,
Burlington,	Harrisonville,	Pittsgrove,
Camden,	Jacksonville,	Rancocas,
Carpenter's Landing,	Jobstown,	Recklesstown,
Chew's Landing,	Julistown,	Sweedsboro,
Cinnaminson,	Long A Coming,	Vincetown,
Clarksboro,	Malaga,	Waterford, W
Columbus,	Medford,	Westville,
Evesham,	Moorstown,	Winslow,
Franklinville,	Mount Holly,	Woodbury,
Glassboro,	Mullco Hill,	Wrightstown,
Gloucester Furnace,	Pedricktown,	Woodstown,

A BRILLIANT COMMENCEMENT was that of Jefferson Medical College yesterday. Such a crowded array of intelligence, beauty and fashion never before graced the Musical Fund Hall, and such strains of delicious music never before resounded within the walls of that building, on any similar occasion. The graduating class was the largest that ever took the Degree of Doctor of Medicine in the country. It numbered *one hundred and eighty-one*, and amongst the graduates were representatives from nearly every State in the Union, from British America, from Ireland, and though not from "Greenland's icy mountains" yet from "India's coral strand"—for one was all the way from Burmah. A prouder tribute was never paid to the medical schools of Philadelphia. Her ample opportunities for full medical instruction has obtained for her the character of being the great centre of medical education on this side of the Atlantic, and she is now, we are rejoiced to see, beginning to reap the reward of that reputation in right good earnest. The number of students at the Jefferson Medical College alone, at the session of 1846-47, amounted to almost five hundred.

Commerce of our Port.—From the official tables recently published, relative to the commerce of this port, the following interesting statistics have been gleaned.

During the year ending the 30th of September, 1850, the exports from this port amounted to \$10,001,445.

The amount of coal sent to market from the coal regions of our State, during 1850, was 3,371,202 tons, against 3,235,777 tons in 1849, showing an increase of 135,425, notwithstanding the injuries to the canals by freshets, and consequent suspension of operations.

During 1850, the vessels that arrived in this port were 518 from foreign ports, and 27,035 coastwise, making a total of 27,553, being an increase of 2384 over the preceding year, when the whole number of arrivals was 25,169, including 555 from foreign ports.

The supply of cattle at Philadelphia, during 1850, was 68,750 beaves, 15,120 cows, 46,900 swine, and 82,500 sheep, making a total of 213,492 cattle. In 1849, the total supply was 206,250.

The number of emigrants who arrived at this port in 1850, was 13,615, of whom 6784 were males and 6831 females. The whole number in 1849 was 13,833, showing a decrease of 218.