

**Tuesday Afternoon, August 9.**

**PENNSYLVANIA DISHONORED.**—The failure by the state of Pennsylvania to pay the interest on her debt, due last night, is, if all the circumstances of the case are considered, an event calculated to strike a deeper blow at state credits at home and abroad than any other failure of a similar character which has yet transpired. That a state, the second in population of the Union, and among the first in its manufactures, abounding in mineral wealth, and with a population able to bear the amount of taxation necessary to preserve her honor unsmelted, and above all a state whose

indebtedness far exceeds that of any other state in the Union, has deliberately resolved to disgrace her name, and to ruin the world, is an event deeply to be deplored, and one which will call forth an indignation rebuke from one end of the country to the other.

We characterise this action as deliberate. It is a well known fact that the two or three last payments, to the banks, have been made by borrowing from the banks, and that the banks have been in a measure enforced, as the price of legation, to make the Pennsylvania banks permitted to remain suspended long after their resumption was called for by the public, and as the result has shown, much too long for their own interest. It has then been evident for some time, that the public would not be able to work, and yet session after session has been permitted to pass, with scarcely an attempt to provide permanent means for its payment.

The Legislature which has just adjourned appears so as its actions allow us to judge, have evinced an entire indifference to the subject, and have not, and although it passed a tax bill, it was chiefly for the purpose of paying the domestic debt of the state.

and the surplus, if there should be any, will be a mere tribute toward the amount necessary to discharge the annual interest. The funded debt of Pennsylvania is stated at \$34,454,356 47, of which two-thirds are owned by foreigners—say \$23,769,571; a debt created for the purpose of the importation of slaves, which has been expended in increasing the resources and rendering available the products of this immense state. Its object has been the benefit of the people—there is not the excuse, if excuse may be so all permitted, that the proceeds of the stock were for the creation of banks, and the banks have failed and the stockers worthless; they have had the money and the money has been laid out in the purchase of slaves in existence to support for, and if, in the general distress which is shown over the land, they, as might be expected, have proved deficient in revenue, still they have enhanced the value of the soil—they have enabled the agriculturist, the manufacturer, the miner, to seek a market which, but for them, would have

We apprehend that the failure on the part of Pennsylvania is not viewed with the importance which should be attached to it. The circumstances are entirely different from those of the Western states which have suffered their interest to go by default. The effect of their non-payment is well known. By sympathy it has depressed the securities of sound and solvent states, and has increased the number of bankruptcies in numbers, and poor in ability to that of Pennsylvania. While a heavy tax upon an emigrant population, but just settled and with barely the means of living, might be burdensome beyond endurance, upon the whole population of Pennsylvania, although they might grumble equally, the burden would be small comparatively, and it is in this view we apprehend

its effect will be highly injurious to all state credit.—If Pennsylvania may plead bankruptcy, why may not any other state, however rich her population, however high her notions of honor, the moment her public works fail to produce sufficient revenue, and her credit will not enable her to contract new debts? It is an example close at home, and for that reason one which calls loudly for an expression of severe rebuke and a burst of spontaneous indignation; which shall yet recall the dishonored state of Pennsylvania to a sense of the duty she owes to herself, her creditors and her associates in this great confederacy.

DINNER TO LORD ASHBURTON.—We have intimations from the seat of Government that the negotiations with Lord Ashburton are all but concluded, and that every national question between the United

States and Great Britain will, beyond all doubt, be satisfactorily arranged. In the confident belief that such will be the result, a proposition is already entertained among the resident subjects of Her Britannic Majesty in this city, to give the minister who has been so long detained here, the honor of an advertisement in a public dinner. One of our Majesty's subjects, who feels deeply the importance of this settlement, writes to us that he regards the result of this mission as of more real advantage to the world than the battle of Waterloo—averting, as it will, a war, the duration and extent of which could not be measured; and, by doing so, saving the two countries from the calamities which would be the result of a closely contested struggle in the present, without the shedding of a drop of blood. True, the transaction is not distinguished by the glare of military glory, but it is not the less glorious for that.

Most proper, then, in our view, would be the pro-

posed compliment of a public dinner, nor need it by any means be a dinner exclusively English. On the contrary, it strikes us that it would be peculiarly fitting that the citizens of the United States should be citizens should bear a part. We are confident that our own citizens, appreciating the blessings of peace, and the exertions of those who have been ministers in its preservation, will cordially join in the proceeding. As at any such festival the stars and stripes would of course be festooned with the banner of St. George over the head of the table, so let the committee of arrangements be so kind as to provide that the fete may be one of united fraternal feeling.

four places because the people of the other large towns visited by Mr. Dickens had, in general, the good sense to be sensible of the value of the opportunity afforded on that occasion. Some of the papers in Boston are particularly savage toward Mr. D. in connection with this copy-right question. Yet, as we hold, without reason. Our citizens were wrong in lavishing such attentions as they did upon Mr. Dickens, and rendered themselves justly the laughing-stocks of sensible people everywhere, and particularly in England, where they were so much more numerous. It is clearly in the right; and it strikes us as being particularly foolish for our people to oppose Dickens for what is right in itself, merely because they have at length discovered that the idol of their late idolatry cared less for their extravagant attentions than for the pounds, shillings and pence in search of which he had condescended to visit the shores of this accident-

**Correspondence Commercial Advertiser.**  
 Washington, Saturday night, }  
 August 6. }

The Senate has spent to-day upon the calendar principally. The House upon private bills.

In the former, the report of the committee of conference on the army bill was laid, but no action was taken thereon.

As to the latter, for the reorganization of the navy was a while considered, without final action. One of its provisions is the abolition of the naval commissioners' plan.

The morning hour in the House was passed in a further discussion of the issue made with the Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Cooper of Pa., chairman of the Indian committee.

Messrs. Adams and Profit had a warm passage at arms, the former going for the resolution and the latter opposing it, and a similar row took place against the administration, with his usual warmth.

Mr. Profit not having expressed, when the morning hour was spent. We shall have the next installment on Monday.

THE MEASURE.—The measure of a measure day's work I shall add tomorrow; my letter of last night, containing the closing scenes of the tariff debate, occupying as much space in your columns, I presume, as it can well spare to — Y. W. C.

THE ELECTIONS.—The returns thus far are very meagre, and may be summed up in a few words. In Kentucky the whigs are doing as well as they could wish. In Indiana three counties are heard from, in which the whigs have gained one and lost one member of the Legislature. From North Carolina we hear that the whigs have elected a majority in Halifax county the whigs have elected their whole ticket. A letter in the Tribune this morning expresses some fears that the whigs have lost the Legislature, and will be hard run to elect their Governor.

THE NEW YORK TRADE LIST OF BOOKS, STATIONERY, &c., will commence on Monday, August 29. Bangs,

Richards & Platt, auctioneers.