ambition. The grave
. bed-chamber, the earth
—ruption your father, and the
SHEP[illegible] mother and your sister.—N. O.
Midland Dir[illegible]

(From the Springs Mercury.)

How impossible is it for editors of newspapers to please all parties, when they are destined to find such difference of tastes. You have too many love stories in your paper, cries one; give us a little more solid matter, moral and instructive, cries another; agricultural extracts will best suit the taste of the district, says a third; I wish you would give us some funny anecdotes, Mr. Editor, writes a young friend; can't you treat us to something piquant on the Governor's policy? says a politician; another *bulloon hoax*, if you please, cries a wag; you would best suit your serious readers by religious selections occasionally, says another; och! by the powers, wont you be after telling us some more Irish stories, like Shane Fadh's wedding? says an Emeralder: can't you touch up the Yankees a little, enquires one: you are too severe upon the Americans ejaculates his neighbor; you should borrow more from the New York Albion, recommends a friend. In the absence of any thing *new* to communicate, a subscriber writes, "you don't give us enough of the *news* of the day"; we should like to know something about the fashions! exclaims a lady of the *beau monde*; let us know how the mince market goes at home, says an old stock-broker; insert in your paper the Montreal and Toronto prices of grain, observes a farmer; and of butter and cheese too, cries his better half; and tell us the cheapest stores to buy calicoes, says his daughters; and where we can get the best ploughs and axes, demands the sons; and—and as an auctioneer winds up his catalogue, various other things too numerous to mention."

A short time ago we received a double letter *unpaid*, from a distance of two hundred miles. We cared but little about the postage as we broke the seal of the envelope, feeling assured that it was a remittance; but imagine our disappointment, gentle reader, on finding nothing but an illegible scrawl of some fifty verses of *poetry*. We give the last verse as a sample of the whole.

"And now this young man his gon away
To some his fa' across the sea
He'll endeavor more agin to see
Some he as left behind in Canada—"

And subsequently another unpaid letter came, informing us of his having "rint you some original poetry which you will very much oblige me by putting in your valuable paper which I will pay you for when you come up to this place."

If this be not a tax upon the *patience*, we think no one will doubt that it is upon the *pocket* of an editor.

Beet paper.—They are piling up the facilites and uses of the beet root so fast, that in a short time it will exceed all that was ever said of the mulberry or of India rubber. A Mr. Ryan has obtained a patent, in England, for the manufacture of paper from refuse of the beet root, after the sugar has been extracted. The coarsest kinds of wrapping paper only have been attempted thus far, but little doubt is entertained of complete success in the manufacture of the finest letter paper. Hunt's Merchants. Magazine, from which we draw these facts remarks that if it be true that Europe manufactures 150,000,000, pounds of beet sugar there will be no lack of the material to experiment upon.

THE ISLAND OF PAXO.

The Island of Paxo, in the Ionian sea, has been made an object of much interest [illegible] one who passes by it in the night time will be sensible. "Here," in the words of the old annotator on Spencer's Pastoral in May, "about the time that our Lord suffered his most bitter passion, certain persons sailing from Italy to Cyprus, at night, heard a voice calling aloud, Thamus, Thamus! who giving ear to the cry, was hidden, (for he was the pilot of the ship,) when he came near to Palodas, to tell that the great God Pan was dead; which he, doubting to do yet, for that when he came to Palodas, there was such a calm of wind, that the ship stood still in the sea unmoved, he was forced to cry aloud that Pan was dead; whereuthal there was such piteous outories and dreadful shrieking as hath not been the like. By which Pan of some is understood the great Sathanas, whose kingdom was at that time by Christ conquered, and the gates of hell broken up; for at that time all oracles ceased, and enchanted spirits that were wont to delude the people, ever forth held their peace."

The words in which Milton refers to this incident, in his Ode on the Nativity,—

"The lonely mountains o'er,
And the resounding shore,
A voice of weeping heard, and loud lament;"

will recur to the memory of the English traveller, as he sails over this spot, particularly if at her in the darkness of night, by the [illegible] of Paxo.—[Christopher Wordsworth's [illegible]

Railroad of Panama.—A company was [illegible] in Paris more than a year ago [illegible] for connecting the Atlantic [illegible] Pacific ocean by the [illegible] of the Isthmus of Panama. An [illegible] was [illegible] at Cartagena, in New Granada last August, and commenced surveys [illegible] a view to ascertain the practicability [illegible] project. The result has been success[illegible] report that the [illegible] practicable, but that [illegible] be constructed at a cost much [illegible] of the estimates before furnished. [illegible] across the isthmus is [illegible] by pursuing the course of [illegible] Chagres to the town of Cruces, [illegible] twenty five miles from its mouth, [illegible] within *fifteen* miles of the Pacific at that place the Panama Railroad Company will commence operations, [illegible] from that quarter while the [illegible] to the undertaking from [illegible] by the closing of the local and [illegible] governments, have been effectually [illegible]—and that the work will be [illegible] commenced, and prosecuted to completion.

[illegible] of this work will [illegible] a new era in commerce [illegible] to the Pacific from Europe on the [illegible] will no longer be [illegible] and hardships of doubling Cape [illegible] and will save a distance [illegible] ten thousand miles [illegible]

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

A Painful Affair.—Rately indeed have we been so greatly surprised in the course of our profession, as we were this morning, by the perusal of the subjoined articles in the morning papers. We have known Mr. Mitchell as a member of Congress, and have considered him as an amiable man, not of great force, but of good character and address. On Tuesday of this week, the date of his letter to the Courier and Enquirer, we saw him among his political friends at the Astor House, and saw nothing unusual in his deportment. But the worm must even then have been gnawing at his heart.

Strange Forgeries.—The Hon. Chas. F. Mitchell, of Lockport, and a Representative of the Niagara district in the late Congress, has been staying at the Astor House for some days, but left on Wednesday morning for Philadelphia. On Tuesday he was in Wall-street, and having procured himself to be introduced to several brokers, passed upon them sundry checks, purporting to be drawn by the Bank of Orleans at Albion on the State Bank at Albany. They were all made payable to "the Hon. Chas. F Mitchell, or order," and by him endorsed. The amount was, as far as has been ascertained, $1100. The checks, having been sent up to Albany, came back yesterday morning as forgeries. At the same time there came on from Philadelphia sundry checks of the bank of Orleans on the Mechanics' Bank of this city endorsed by Mitchell, which, on being presented at the Bank, were declared to be forgeries. The amount presented, so far, is $2800. The checks seem to have been sold to various brokers in Philadelphia on Wednesday. The whole affair seems to be the result of a thoroughly digested plan, and to have been carried out without exciting the least suspicion on the part of any of the individuals defrauded. Indeed we do not see how confidence is to be placed in men at all, if such negotiations are to excite suspicion. The checks on the Mechanics' Bank had a piece of unnecessary labor expended upon them, which increased the hazards of the operation. They were endorsed as good, and the endorsement signed with the name of the cashier, Mr. Edmonds, who is however now in Europe. Sundry letters and papers were found in the Honorable gentleman's chamber, in a condition indicating that his departure was hurried. The police are, of course, in hot pursuit.—[Journal of Commerce.

The following letter, at least down to the words "I write this calmly," is about as cool a confession of villany upon calculation as we have met with.—The considerations in the paragraph beginning as above noted, should have occurred to Mr. Mitchell, before he took the fatal step—fatal to his family, to his own peace of mind, and to his character every where.

New York, March 30, 1841.

To J. Watson Webb, Editor of the Courier & Enquirer:

Sir,—As the circumstances connected with my name, together with the public station I have held, will give me a good deal of comment—I deem it not improper to make a brief [illegible] such an opinion respecting them as he shall choose.

It always has been the case, so it will be again, as soon as public reproach attaches to the name of an individual who had been deemed respectable before, instances are sought and fabulously pointed out in his previous history, to show that he always has been an unworthy member of society. I cannot hope to be an exception to this pervading rule; and I dare to say that there will be found plenty of persons ready to swear that I had always been a very considerable rascal. Now, I own, that up to this day, never in the whole course of my life, have I done an act with the intention of injuring any human being, or of wronging any man out of one cent. I have committed some very great errors—partly my own, partly through others—but never, before to-day a crime. How many persons have been benefitted by my good offices it is not for me to say. But I might appeal to the whole population of the county of my late residence, to bear testimony to my fair and honorable dealing, to my liberality and to my uniform kindness to all whom I was brought into contact with.

I went to Lockport 12 years ago; when I arrived there I did not know a human soul in the county; I was just out of my minority; I carved out my own path, was successful in business, made many capital and accomplished friends—that to whom I made money employed rose to distinction among my fellow men, and about eight years after my arrival in the district I was elected a Representative to Congress, and under circumstances peculiarly gratifying to my personal vanity, for while I received in the district a majority of over one hundred, not another person on the same ticket received any majority at all in the large counties. I am willing to admit that there is a shocking sight of humbug in this world, and especially at this day and date, but whether the people of the 30th Congressional district were humbugged into electing me to Congress, when I was not worthy, is for them to decide. I have been accused by enemies of being a great intriguer, of being a great schemer in politics, and I suppose, now that I have schemed in other matters, they will take upon themselves, no doubt, credit for their sagacity in thus [illegible] a great intriguer.

[illegible] a fact that would be very interesting to a great many people but I have not time now to detail; I am going to that region where I expect to find many just as good as myself, and just as good as them I leave behind me.

[illegible] a shocking sight. Would to God I had never seen an [illegible] I have committed crimes in connection with most of public life. I [illegible] all the days of my life to atone for the sins of that period. [illegible] I have committed [illegible] which I have strayed from the path of rectitude. [illegible] I had [illegible] I have committed [illegible] I have committed the whole [illegible] I have committed [illegible] I have committed [illegible] I have committed