SUNBURY & ERIE RAIL ROAD.

Annual Meeting.—The Stockholders of the Sunbury and Erie Rail Road Company.—A meeting of the Stockholders of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company was held in the office, South Third street, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, March 22d, 1853. Christopher Fallon, Esq., was called to the Chair, and Mr. Pancoast elected Secretary.

Mr. Philip S. Price presented the annual report of the President and Managers. The report congratulated the stockholders of the completion, in December last, of the first link in the road between Sunbury and Williamsport, nearly 30 miles in length, connecting at that period Philadelphia with Southern Pennsylvania, Niagara Falls, Lake Erie, Detroit, and the rich region over which this ring is at present in the receipt of large quantities of the produce of Southern Pennsylvania, Western New York, Canada and the West.

On the 1st of April, six passenger trains are to be placed on the Sunbury, Baltimore, Pittsburg, Northern Central Railroad route, by which passengers leaving Philadelphia in the morning will reach Sunbury, Pa., the same evening. Detroit the next morning, and Chicago in 48 hours from the time of starting.

During 1854, the means of the company are increased as follows: By the subscription of the City of Philadelphia, amounting, of which $833,000 have been paid in, on per cent conversion bonds, in the subscription of the Cleveland, Painesville and Ashtabula Railroad Company, for investment, of which $300,000 have been paid in, on 6 per cent mortgage bonds of that company; and by a number of other subscriptions from corporations and private citizens. A portion of the bonds from the city of Philadelphia was applied to the redemption of the seven per cent mortgage bonds of the company, guaranteed by the Cattawissa and by the Williamsport and Elmira Railroad Companies. The payment of this mortgage debt, and the consequent release of the said guarantees, is required by its terms, a continuance and extension of to the said Cattawissa Company, of that portion of the road recently completed and opened. The other means of the company have employed in the completion of the portion of road now finished, in grading parts of the lines between Williamsport and the mouth of the Susquehanna, in continuing the work at the harbor of Erie to the payment of land and land damages, and in procuring and revising the surveys for the whole line of the road.

The contractors, Messrs. J. B. & W. B. Morehead, have made arrangements to complete the work from Milton to Sunbury, as rapidly as possible. This link of 12 miles is expected to be finished and ready for the transportation of coal and other tonnage by July next, thus opening up the great coal fields of Pennsylvania to a direct railroad communication with the markets of Western New York, Canada and the Lakes.

The estimated receipts in the single link referred to on the item of coal alone, is $200,000 per annum. The results are anticipated on every link west of Williamsport. At Lock Haven, 26 miles west, the road will be intersected by the Lock Haven and Tyrone Road, connecting the Sunbury and Erie with the Pennsylvania Railroad, and the parties interested in the Lock Haven and Tyrone Road are only awaiting the certainty of the completion of the Sunbury & Erie to Lock Haven, at a given time, to commence operations on them. At Oleott's Run and Farnsworth's the immense miningmine coal region, 100 miles to extend along the road, will yield a heavy revenue; a contract having already been entered into for the delivery at Williamsport of 100,000 tons of coal by the Farnsworth Company.

The report's further enumerates other operations west, all of which promises equally gratifying results.

The following letter was read by Mr. Price, and ordered to be entered in full on the minutes of the company:

OFFICE OF THE SUNBURY AND ERIE RAIL ROAD CO., Phila. Feb. 19, 1855.

To the Stockholders of the Sunbury and Erie Rail road Company:

In accepting the duties of the office of President of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, I did so with no other object in view than the success of the enterprise which I deemed alike essential to the interests of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth at large. In the discharge of my duties I hoped for the cordial co-operation and support of all classes of the community. These hopes have been disappointed. Instead of co-operation I have encountered opposition at almost every step, and this opposition, if continued, threatens to defeat an enterprise which, in the opinion of all, is of incalculable value to Philadelphia.

If the obstacles which have been interposed in my way are the result of personal hostility, they can probably only be removed by my withdrawal from the Management of the affairs of the Company, and as I assumed this management with nothing to gain but the honorable exercise of the enterprise, I do that no object can be lost or accomplished by withdrawing from a position in which I have failed to conciliate the support of all, where co-operation is necessary to the completion of the work.

I will not stop to inquire into the motives of those who have arrested the activities in facility to the road, and by my administration of its affairs. It is enough for me to know that such hostility exists, and that it is calculated to retard, if not entirely defeat the completion of a great work necessary to the development of the State and the promotion of the interests of Philadelphia; to induce me to resign, as far as practicable, its cause. I therefore beg leave to decline a re-election, and trust that by placing what the confidence of the head of the enterprise, he may be able to conciliate the good will and co-operation of those, whose position I have sacrificed.

I cannot, however, take leave of the managers of the road, with whom I have been associated for the last year, without tending them my most grateful thanks for the confidence they have reposed in me, and their fidelity to the interests of the Company.

Very respectfully, JAMES COOPER.

James Armstrong, Esq., of Williamsport, offered the following resolution, which passed unanimously:

Resolved, That in view of the resignation of the Hon. James Cooper, President of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, this meeting, while it regrets the determination to adopt such a course, take occasion to tender to him their thanks for the able manner in which he has presided over the affairs of the Company, and for the exertions he has ever manifested to promote the interests of the Company.

Resolved, That a Committee of five stockholders be appointed to report at an adjourned meeting the policy they can recommend for the future government of the Company, and measures as they may deem advisable.

A motion was made and adopted, that the Chairman of the meeting should appoint the Committee, and that he should name for the Chairman of it.

The following members was announced to form the Committee:

Christopher Fallon, Jos. Whitney, Benjamin Marshall, John B. Myers, Stephen Girard.

The following resolution was offered by Benjamin Marshall, Esq., for the consideration of the Committee, to be reported at the next meeting:

William Bigler, Stephen A. Morris, Robert Toland, Thos. W. Dyott, Harold D. Maxwell, Charles Macalester, Thos. Dickson, Edward Hopkins, D. S. Brown, Thos. Fletcher, James Armstrong, Wilson C. Hart, [illegible]

THE AMERICAN.

SUNBURY:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1855.

H. B. MASSER, Editor and Proprietor

TO ADVERTISERS.—The circulation of the Weekly American among the different towns in the Susquehanna and adjacent counties is very great, rendering it a most desirable medium to North and Pennsylvania.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Business Notices.

THE KNICKERBOCKER.—The January and February numbers have been received. The high character of this magazine are too favorably known to need any recommendation from us. Published at New York, by Samuel Hueston, 348 Broadway.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW for January has been received. This is an excellent republication of the British Periodicals. The present is a very interesting number. Published by Leonard Scott & Co., 79 Fulton street, entrance 54 Gold street, New York.

LAWYERS.—We refer our readers to the card of Messrs. Fine, Hendry & Co., in another column. To those will find it to their interest to call.

PATENTED SCALES.—Mason & Co's card will be found in our advertising columns. They have a large assortment of manufacturing an excellent scale.

A HORSE SHOW is now on hand for sale in our column. This is a rare chance for a physician.

EPISCOPAL SERVICES.

St. Matthew's Church will be open for Divine Service to-morrow (Sunday) evening 18th inst., at 7 o'clock.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—Hon. C. M. Straub, M. C., will accept our thanks for an interesting public document.

Mr. Taggart of the Senate, and Yorks, Reigle and others of the House, have our thanks for favors.

RESIGNATION.—It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Hon. James Cooper as President of the Sunbury & Erie Railroad. Difficulties with some of the Philadelphia Councilmen have made this step necessary. Ex-Governor Bigler, we presume, will be his successor.

LAND GRANT.—Congress has passed a joint resolution by a vote of 126 to 60, authorizing the President to confer Brevet rank of Lieut. General on Gen. Winfield Scott, for his eminent military services.

STATE SENATOR.—An election took place in Philadelphia on the 13th inst., to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Levi Pendleton, Esq. Henry C. Pratt, the American candidate, was elected by a majority of 2,562 over Mr. Rush, the democratic candidate.

POSTPONED.—We are requested to state that the distribution of prizes by the Cosmopolitan Art and Literary Association, has been postponed to the 20th of February, for the purpose of completing some arrangements which it was found impossible to perfect by the time first named.

LANCASTER ELECTION.—The election in Lancaster city, on Tuesday last, resulted in the success of Jacob Albright, the American candidate, by 271 majority, over Kaufer, the Whig and Democratic fusion candidate. The Americans have also elected most of their Municipal officers.

The Pennsylvania State Agricultural society announces that its next exhibition will commence on the 25th of September next, and the society say that they will be ready for the reception of articles on the 1st of April next. From the many towns and cities in the State, who are to the location of the exhibition.

By the latest News from Washington, we learn that the French Spoliation bill will be vetoed by the President.

We are requested to state that Washington's opp. No. 13 during term of America, of this place, intend parading on Thursday next, the 22nd February inst. In the evening they intend having a celebration in the Presbyterian church, several American addresses will be delivered. The public are respectfully invited to attend.

MR. YORKS.

The editor of the Sunbury Gazette says that Mr. Yorks, the member from Northumberland county, should steer clear of all questionable acts and special legislation for Hon. M. Taggart.

The editor is given because the proceedings of the Legislature abided the fact that Mr. Yorks reported a bill authorizing Hon. M. Taggart to form a connection between the Susquehanna river and the Pennsylvania canal, above Portsmouth. There are many persons in the world who become suddenly rich, excited wherever they see the name of certain persons connected with public legislation, and who imagine all sorts of evils if any bill is passed granting purchases to those persons. Had the bill made a connection with the canal at the point of like purpose to Hon. Ellis Lewis, Benjamin A. Gallagher, or indeed any other than would not have been a word said, but because it happened to be Hon. M. Taggart some editor adopts it as a favorable opportunity to show off a little pertinacity. The bill in question amounts to but very little, and is exactly worthy of mention. Mr. Yorks being a member of the committee to which the bill was referred, and reported by that committee to report it. It was passed by the House and Senate, and signed by the Governor. Mr. Yorks had no more to do with the bill than any other member of the Legislature, and no more than the people of the county.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR, DATED Harrisburg, Feb. 15, 1855.

For a week past Harrisburg has been crowded with an unusual number of strangers, brought hither, mostly to witness and participate in the election of a United States Senator, which takes place to day at 12 M. The number of candidates nominated in the legislature was upwards of sixty, although it was well known that the contest would be narrowed down to a few prominent individuals. These were Gen. Cameron, Andrew G. Curtin, the present Secretary of the Commonwealth; Ex-Governor Johnston; Hon. Jas. Cooper and Mayor Conrad of Philadelphia. It was well known, and conceded that Gen. Cameron had more positive and actual strength than any one candidate in the field. This fact alone united the combined strength of the various candidates, with few exceptions, against him. Every effort was made to defeat his nomination, while some who had voluntarily pledged themselves to support him, previous to the election, were now most violently opposing him.

The caucus met on Friday evening last. Ninety-two members were present. Every thing went on harmoniously until after the 6th ballot. On the 6th ballot Gen. Cameron received forty-six votes, Col. Curtin thirty-eight, with eight scattering. Before the vote was announced, it was ascertained that one vote too many had been polled, when it was unanimously proposed that another ballot should be taken. Before the last ballot was had, a portion of the minority, (not the friends to Col. Curtin) seceded. All of his friends who had voted for him at the commencement, with but one exception, remained in caucus.

On the last sixty votes were cast. Of these Gen. Cameron had forty-five, Curtin eleven, and five scattering, when, on motion, there was a unanimous vote for Gen. Cameron.

Governor Pollock, though in office only four or five days, has already become familiarized with his duties, and rests as easy under his honors as if he were here—it. He is, as is customary, frequently and almost constantly called upon by persons of all conditions, many who esteem it a high honor to speak to, and take a five Governor by the hand. This morning while sitting in the executive chamber, I observed standing at the door, a hard fisted old countryman, from the land o' cakes. He told me that he was employed in some of the iron works in Lancaster county, and as he had come a good ways he would like to see the new Governor, and have a few words with him. As soon as the Governor was disengaged he stepped up to the old man and took him by the hand. He stated that his name was Pollock, and was anxious to ascertain if the Governor was not some relation of his.—He was not, however, able to trace his genealogy back far enough to establish this important fact, and left fully satisfied that if he had not ascertained a relationship with the governor, he had at least shaken hands with him and talked to him.

The Governor has thus far made a most favorable impression, and is highly esteemed by all who have made his acquaintance.

The Whigs, eight in number, met in caucus this evening and nominated Thos. S. Williams of Pittsburg, for United States Senator. The old line democrats, twenty four in number, also had their caucus this evening, and nominated C. B. Buchalew of Columbia county.

The Union, thirty-three in number, who left the caucus of the "Americans" some days in session this evening and nominated Hiester J. Hall, of Erie, as their candidate. They are divided among themselves. Factions and disorganizing as ever, some of them are willing to sacrifice every thing, friend and foe, to carry out their own selfish views. The new organization, called the American party, will be crushed out of existence, in less than twelve months, if such factionists as characterize the General and encouraged at this early stage of their success.

The legislature, so far, has not transacted much business. After the contested seats is organized, the members will go to work. The bill to abolish the Supreme Court, now in the Senate, will occupy a few days' time. It was opposed by Mr. Taggart, when a meeting was held in the Senate chamber, but was finally passed by a vote of 18 to 15. It will be opposed in the House, and questions will be settled by the passage of a bill submitting the question to a vote of the people of the county.

Governor Bigler has been elected President of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad. Mr. Cooper made a proposition to that he would the other day one of the following individuals named to him, would be elected to the place: Gov. Bigler, James Pollock, Gen. Cameron, Gov. Bigler elected. I consider the selection a most excellent one, as Governor Bigler has always been a warm friend to the road, and his election will lend new life and energy to the efforts that have, thus far, retarded the progress of this great work.

The convention met at 12 o'clock, M. to-day, and after the second ballot adjourned to meet this day two weeks. On the first ballot Gen. Cameron had 58 votes, eight less than necessary for an election. A motion was then made to adjourn, but was lost. On the second ballot Gen. Cameron received 52 votes, when another motion was made to adjourn, and carried by a vote of 67 to 54. The most desperate efforts are making to defeat Gen. Cameron, but they can never succeed.

FOREIGN SECRETARY HIP.—This vacancy, as it was created a short time ago from the House of Representatives by the Senate, and as it passed the latter body on Tuesday, will await the approval of the President to be filled upon a bye.

In response to Gen. Cass's call for the records of this Court Martial who is supposed to have been murdered, and the arrest of the murderers, Mr. Buchanan has sent to the Senate the following letter:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1855.

To the Senate of the United States:

In response to a resolution of the Senate of the 12th inst., requesting the President to communicate to that body any information in his possession relative to the murder of John P. Heath, a lieutenant in the army of the United States, and the arrest of the murderers, I have to state that the papers in relation to this subject have been called for by the Secretary of War, and are now under the consideration of the Department of Justice. When they shall be returned to the Executive, I will communicate them to the Senate, unless in the meantime the public interest should require their withholding.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

(From the Public Ledger.)

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10, 1855.

Mr. Buchanan, the newly appointed Minister to Spain, stated yesterday on the floor of the House, that the appointment having been conferred upon him without his knowledge, he had been allowed time to reflect upon it, and had come to the conclusion that it was better for him to decline. The President nominated Augustus C. Dodge, the present Senator from Iowa, as Mr. Buchanan's successor, and the appointment was confirmed. Mr. Dodge is a fine, manly gentleman as a Representative of the West, a good educational man, and a good appointment. With the return to the conservative policy of Mr. Marcy, the duties of our Minister to Madrid will be light. If he makes himself popular with the Spanish people, and invites a [illegible] nobody, he will have fulfilled his mission.

The appointment of Mr. Appleton, of Maine, to the Executive Mission to England, is also very creditable. Mr. Appleton is a gentleman of refinement, of literary and classical attainments, and of a disposition well adapted to the latitude of London. On the return of Mr. Buchanan from England, Mr. Appleton will make an excellent Secretary of Legation to that court. The appointment of John B. Miller was withdrawn, and Mr. Cox, of Ohio, substituted for Secretary of Legation to Peru. Other appointments were made of no importance character.

The Territories that is, those who wish a modification of the Territories are still sanguine of success; but I cannot see the reason of their hope and expectation. They can only manifest a surprise at the manner in which Pennsylvania is [illegible] against which they will have to contend. In the meantime business of the country, the Territorial question is overlooked. Even the Kansas question is subdued, and the Territorial bills, as they stand, will be passed.

It is not my business whether the President will veto the French Spoliation bill or not. We have a different opinion about every thing, so that it is impossible to predict anything of the kind. A number of members elected to the House, and who have been in the habit of voting with the Democratic party, have declared that they will not support the Nebraska bill, and that they will vote for the Territorial bills, as they stand. Whether they will be able to carry out their intentions remains to be seen. Should they do so, the bill will be passed by a majority of from 15 to 20 votes.

The Senate has passed the Territorial bills, and they are now before the House. The Senate bills are the same as those which passed the House at the last session of Congress, with the exception of the Nebraska bill, which has been changed so as to leave the question of slavery to the people of the Territory, instead of prohibiting it, as was done by the Missouri Compromise. The Senate bill, as it passed the House, declares the Missouri Compromise inoperative and void, and leaves the question of slavery to the people of the Territory. The House bill, as it passed the House, declares the Missouri Compromise inoperative and void, but does not leave