

# Bedford Gazette.

BY GEO. W. BOWMAN.

NEW SERIES.

Freedom of Thought and Opinion.

FRIDAY MORNING, BEDFORD, PA. JULY 3, 1857.

TERMS, \$2 PER YEAR.

VOL. XXV. NO. 44.

## Select Poetry.



### THE DAISY.

The daisy blossoms on the rocks,  
Amid the purple heath;  
It blossoms on the river's banks,  
That threads the glens beneath;  
The eagle, in his pride of place,  
Beholds it in his nest;  
And in the mead it cushions soft  
The lark descending breast.

Before the cuckoo's earliest Spring  
His silver circle knows,  
When greening buds begin to swell,  
And zephyr melts the snows;  
And when December's breezes howl  
Along the moorlands bare,  
And only blooms the Christmas rose,  
The daisy still is there.

Samaritan of flowers! to it  
All roses are alike—  
The Switzer on his glacier height,  
The Dutchman on his dyke,  
The sea-bird on the Lapland coast,  
Beside his icy sea;  
And, underneath his burning noot,  
The paralled Chinese.

The emigrant on distant shores,  
Mid seas and faces strange,  
Behold it flowering in the sward  
Where'er his footsteps range;  
And when his yearning, home-sick heart  
Would bow to its despair,  
It reads his eye a lesson sage—  
That God is everywhere!

Stars are daisies that begem  
The blue fields of the sky,  
Behold by all, and everywhere,  
Bright prototypes on high.  
Bloom on, then, unpretending flowers!  
And to the wayfarer be  
An emblem of St. Paul's content  
And Stephen's constancy.

## COUNTY CONVENTION.

The Democratic County Convention met at the Court House in Bedford on the 23rd of June for the purpose of nominating a ticket for county officers to be submitted to the citizens at the election on the 29th of August next, when the following delegates appeared and took their seats:

Bedford Borough—John Mann, Dr. Reamer.  
Bedford Township—John Adams, Daniel Helzel.  
Broad Top—Alexander Croft, Thos. W. Horton.  
Caledonia—Wm. Cessna, Abm. Stinger.  
C. Valley—Philip Hartzel, Geo. Stinger.  
Hopewell—Joseph Calver, James McCarty.  
Harrison—John D. Smith, Jacob Matney.  
Juniata—Peter F. Lehman, Benj. Housel.  
Liberty—George Rhoads, John Long.  
Lynchburg—James Devore, John Byssong.  
Southampton—Thos. Donahoe, Wm. Adams.  
St. Clair—John Stratt, Jackson Crisman.  
Union—Samuel Burket, Cassell Aker.  
Wm. Wood—Jackson Galbraith, Wm. Pierson.  
S. Wood—Samuel Nicodemus, John B. Fiske.

On motion, John Mann was appointed President, and D. A. T. Black, Secretary.

Dr. Reamer and Peter F. Lehman, Esq. Tellers.

The following ticket was then agreed upon:

Prothonotary—SAML. H. TATE, Bedford.  
Sheriff—WM. S. FLUKE, M. Woodbury.  
Treasurer—SAML. DAVIS, Bedford.  
Commissioner—C. EVANS, E. Providence.  
Director—GEO. SMOUSE, W. Providence.  
Auditor—JOHN W. CRISMAN, St. Clair.

Thomas H. Murray, David A. T. Black and J. H. Schell appointed conferees to meet a like number of conferees from Somerset county at such time and place as may be agreed upon to place in nomination two persons as candidates for Assembly.

The following resolutions were submitted by the President and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we fully approve of the course of Col. Wm. C. Reamer as a member of the House of Representatives from this district during the last Session.

Resolved, That we will use all honorable means to secure the election of the ticket this day nominated, having the utmost confidence in the integrity and ability of the persons nominated.

Resolved, That we fully approve of the nominations made by the Democratic State Conventions held in March and June inst., of Gen. Packer for Governor, Wm. Strong and James Thomson for Judges of the Supreme Court, and Nimrod Strickland for Cadet Commissioner, being persons well tried and known to be well qualified for the discharge of the duties of such stations.

Resolved, That thus far we fully approve of the Administration of the General Government, by our worthy and highly distinguished President, "Pennsylvania's noblest son."

Resolved, That we entirely and cordially approve of the appointment of Hon. J. S. Black as Attorney General of the United States.

Resolved, That although we are not opposed to a fair and judicious sale of the Main Line of the State Improvements and the faithful appropriation of the proceeds to the payment of the State debt, yet we are opposed to the transfer thereof to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company under the provisions of the act of the Legislature of last session, which releases said company from the payment of tonnage tax to the State, now amounting to upwards of \$280,000 per annum, and which will yearly increase, and all other taxes or taxes to the Commonwealth.

Resolved, That we have full confidence in the integrity and ability of Wm. F. Packer, our candidate for Governor; and judging from the faithful manner in which he discharged his duties as Auditor General, State Senator, &c. have every assurance, that, if elected, of which we have no doubt, will make a Governor equal to any this or any other State ever had.

## CAMP MEETING.

The Camp Meeting of Bedford Circuit of the M. E. Church will be held on Solomon Sparks' land about three miles from Bedford, commencing on the 21st of August. The Brethren of Bedford station are cordially invited to tent with us.

JAMES A. COLFMAN,  
WM. H. STEVENS,  
Pastors.

## TRIUMPH OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Pollock and his Black Republican Legislature  
Rebuked by the Supreme Law of the Land  
unanimously declared by a full Bench, of  
which Gov. Pollock's appointee is a  
member!

Since our last issue, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania have given their unanimous opinion that the "svital question" involved in the Black Republican Bill for the sale of the Public Works is UNCONSTITUTIONAL! Chief Justice Lewis delivered the opinion, which is so overwhelming that it cannot fail to carry conviction to the mind of all that read it.

We publish below such parts of the Opinion as will interest every tax-payer in the county. The Philadelphia News, a paper bitterly hostile to the Democratic party, thus notices the decision of the Court:

"It will be seen, in the first place, that the Court were unanimous in their decision, and that, as we anticipated, whilst there is no attempt to interfere with the right of the Governor to offer the works for sale, the injunction is granted against the Railroad Company in terms. The effect of the decision of the court is, that the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. may purchase the line, if it chooses, on the same terms as any other bidder, but that its doing so will not relieve it from paying tonnage or any other kind of taxation. The action of the Court must, of course, prove fatal to the hopes of that Company to possess the line under the bill of last session, and the investments made by its owners, for the purpose of passing the bill, will prove to be rather ill-timed in its results, to say the least of it. Two years ago, this corporation under an act quite similar to the one under which the line is now to be offered, declined to become the purchaser, on the ground that it was not worth the amount indicated in the law; and after the fashion of the dog in the manger, although refusing themselves to buy, they by misrepresentation drove off other parties, who, if left to themselves, would have become purchasers. If the Pennsylvania Railroad Company bid for the line under existing circumstances and becomes the purchaser they gain nothing, as by the operation of the Supreme Court the tonnage tax will be added on eighty miles of road now in possession of the State, for the use of which, whatever else may pay, they are not subject to tax. There is no doubt about the correctness of this decision, and whilst the Court have been careful to throw no obstacle in the way of a fair and legitimate sale, it has rendered the State and this community a service which will not be soon forgotten. The attempt on the part of the Legislature to prefer indirect terms, this overgrown and unprincipled corporation; and that, too—as is generally admitted for a consideration—was the most bold and unscrupulous act which we have ever been called upon to notice, and the rebuke thus administered through the majesty of the law—ought to have a wholesome effect on all future assemblages of like character."

## Opinion of the Supreme Court.

We now come to the vital question involved in these applications. The Act of Assembly of 16th May, 1857, makes provision for a public sale, and for the purpose of inviting competition, directs that public notice of the time and place, be given in one or more papers of extended circulation, published in the cities of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington, Boston, New York, and in the borough of Harrisburg. It authorizes any person or persons, or railroad or canal company now incorporated, or which may hereafter be incorporated under the laws of this Commonwealth, to become the purchasers for any sum not less than 7,500,000 dollars. But there is a proviso in the 3d section, which declares that "if the Pennsylvania Railroad Company shall become the purchaser, at the said public sale, or by assignment, they shall pay, in addition to the purchase-money, at which it may be struck down, the sum of \$1,500,000, in consideration thereof, the said Railroad Company, and the Harrisburg, Mount Joy, and Lancaster Railroad Company, shall be discharged by the Commonwealth forever, from the payment of all taxes upon tonnage or freight carried over said railroads, and the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company shall also be released from the payment of all other taxes or duties on its capital stock, bonds, dividends, or property, except for school, city, county, borough or township purposes." The amount of taxes proposed to be released is beyond calculation. It can only be conjectured. It would be greatly increased by the tax which would of course be levied on the property about to be sold to the Company. Judging from the increase during the last five years, and the constant augmentation of commerce and travel along the route, it would seem reasonable to believe that in five years from this time it would be double its present amount. But conceding that the tax to be released will hereafter amount to no more, per annum, than the sum paid in 1856, the amount, according to the admission of the Railroad Company itself, would be \$280,739 21 per annum forever. This sum is more than equal to the interest on \$5,600,000 at 5 per cent, the rate to be charged to the purchasers. In other words, the Act of assembly proposes to give the Railroad Company a consideration equal to \$5,600,000 for \$1,500,000, and thus to give that Company an advantage equal to \$4,100,000 over every other bidder at the sale. By means of this privilege, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company may drive from the field of competition all other bidders. It is essential to every fair public auction, that all the bidders shall stand upon the same footing.

If the object had been to make a fair sale of this portion of the State revenue, it might have been evinced by a provision for the transfer of it to the highest bidder, without any distinction in favor of any one. But this was not done—

The extraordinary proviso in favor of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, is partial and entirely repugnant to the general intent of the act, and if allowed to stand, the sale under it will form one of the most magnificent exhibitions of a "mock auction" that the world has ever witnessed! We rejoice to say that the highly respectable and upright officers of the corporation disclaim, in the most solemn manner, under oath, all agency in procuring the enactment in question.

But has the Constitution conferred upon the Legislature the authority to extinguish, forever, by bargain and sale, the power to raise revenue for the support of government? All free governments are established by the people for their benefit, and the powers delegated are to be exercised for their common good, and not, under any circumstances, to be sold or destroyed, so long as the nations establishing them have the physical power to maintain their independence. Individuals cannot sustain without food. Deprive them of "the means whereby" they live, and you destroy them as certainly as if you did it by shedding their blood. The necessities of governments are as great as those of individuals. No government can subsist without revenues and agents. The revenue is the food indispensable to its existence. Deprive it of this and you strip it of all power to perform its duties, bring it into contempt by its uselessness and helplessness, and ultimately destroy it as effectually as if it were overturned by domestic violence or subjugated by the conquest of a foreign foe. Government is but an aggregation of individual rights and powers. It has no more right to commit political suicide than an individual has to destroy the life given by his Creator. Contracting away the taxing power in perpetuity, as we have seen, inevitably leads to the destruction of the government. If twelve or twenty millions of taxable property may be released to-day, one hundred millions may be released to-morrow, and the principle being established, the process might go on until all the power to raise revenue was gone. If this did not destroy the government, it would result in something infinitely more dangerous to the liberties of the people. It would make it the servile dependent of the wealthy corporations or individuals to whom it contracted away its means of support. Although the taxing power is but an incidental one, to be exercised only as the necessary means of performing Governmental duties, it is nevertheless a branch of the Legislative power, which always in its nature implies not only the power of making laws, but of altering and repealing them as the exigencies of the State and circumstances of the times may require. Numerous instances of national Law, b. 3, ch. 3, s. 3. If one portion of the legislative power may be sold, another may be disposed of in the same way. If the power to raise revenue may be sold to-day, the power to punish for crimes may be sold to-morrow, and the power to pass laws for the redress of civil rights may be sold the next day. If the legislative power may be sold, the Executive and Judicial power may be put in the market with equal propriety.

The result to which the principle most inevitably leads, proves that the sale of any portion of governmental power is utterly inconsistent with the nature of our free institutions, and totally at variance with the object and general provisions of the Constitution of the State. It may be urged that we must confine the fidelity of the Legislature, and that there is every ground for hope that they would not carry such measures to an unreasonable length. This is no answer to the argument. It is a question of constitutional authority, and not a case of confidence at all. Limitations of power established by written constitutions, have their origin in a distrust of the infirmity of man. That distrust is fully justified by the history of the rise and fall of nations.

But conceding that this practice will not be carried so far as to destroy the Government, is there any warrant for it to the extent to which the act of Assembly proposes to go in the present case? It is held by this Court, in Wood's Estate, 9 Harris, 114, that the duties of sovereignty and subject are reciprocal, and any person who is protected by a Government in his person or property, may be compelled to pay for that protection. As taxes are to be assessed for the sole purpose of supporting the government, the property of exacting them, the persons and property to be made liable, and the rules for their assessment and collection are to be determined by its authority. It is, however, a rule of the public law, founded on a principle of justice which no government can disregard without violating the rights of its citizens, that taxes shall be assessed in such manner that all the citizens may pay their quota, in proportion to their abilities and the advantages they derive from the society"—9 Harris, 114; 10 Harris, 497. This principle is sanctioned by writers of the highest authority—Vattel, b 1 ch 20, s 240; Rutherford's, Inst. of Nat. Law, b 2, ch 3, s 5; Puffendorf's Law of Nations, b 7, ch 9, s 10. It is expressly declared by Baron Puffendorf that no "immunities or exemptions" (from taxation) ought to be granted to certain persons to the defrauding or oppression of the rest." It is upon this principle that, when the private property of the citizen is taken for public use, just compensation is to be made to him out of the common fund, in order that the contribution to the public interest may fall in a just proportion upon each citizen—Rutherford, b 2, ch 3, s 5. As the Legislature are necessarily the judges of the method of assessing taxes, it is to be presumed that they have regarded the rule of contribution sanctioned by justice and the equal rights of the citizens; and their enactments were not always subject to judicial review. Where they make appropriations to institutions of learning or charity, or grant lands or pensions to persons who have served in defence of the nation, it is presumed to be a compensation for the good that has been done, or is to be done to the community. Where

they grant to the same institutions or individuals an exemption from taxation, such grants, for the same reason, are not regarded as a violation of the rules of justice and equality. So long as there is no contract which may tie the hands of succeeding Legislatures against repealing such exemptions—and so long as they are not repealed, they seem to have been enforced as a legitimate exercise of legislative power—1 S. & L., 62; 6 Watts, 435.

But where there is no pretence of an intention to equalize the taxation among the people, by an avowed purpose to sell to one class of citizens an exemption from all taxes forever, and thus to throw all the public burdens upon the other, for all time to come, it is, to all intents and purposes, imposing a tax upon them without the consent of their representatives, and is such a plain, palpable and open violation of the rights and liberties of the people—such a clear case of transgressing the just limits of legislative power, that the judiciary is bound to pronounce such an act null and void.

To class of corporations stand more in need of the protection of the government, or occupy more of the time of the Legislature and the Courts of Justice, or occasion more expense to the Government than Railroad Corporations. From the extensive nature of the operations, the power to take private property for the construction of their works, and their continual collision with each other's interests, and with the interests of individuals and municipal communities, they require the constant and the energetic protection of the strong arm of the government. Withdraw that protection and they would be left to the mercy of popular outbreaks, manifesting themselves by opposition to their progress and the destruction of their works wherever the location of their roads or their depots, or any of their numerous and necessary operations come in conflict with the interests of particular localities. These corporations should be the last to consent that the Government should be indebted by the diminution of its revenues, or ask that it should be bound to exert all its energies, and incur large and constant expenditures for their protection, while they are exempt from contributing their share.

These principles are not so injurious as to stand in need of the staff of authority for support.—They are the result of that liberty and equality which was established by the revolutionary struggle of our ancestors. They are perfectly understood by every one who has capacity to comprehend the nature of our free institutions. They are deeply impressed on the hearts of the people, and they are fully recognized by the history, the objects and the language of our State Constitution.

It is ordered that upon the complainants, or either of them, filing a bond in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, with sufficient sureties to be approved by this Court, or any Judge thereof, conditioned to indemnify the defendants from all damages that may be sustained by the injunction granted on this motion, an injunction be awarded, commanding the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and its officers and agents named as defendants in this bill to make no bid for or purchase the Main Line of the Public Works under that part of the proviso in the third section of the act of 16th May, 1857, which requires said Company to pay in addition to the purchase money at which the Works may be struck down, the sum of one and a half millions of dollars, and in consideration thereof assumes to discharge forever the said Railroad Company, and also the Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company, from the payment of all taxes upon tonnage and freight over said railroads; and also to relieve the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company from the payment of all other taxes or duties on its capital stock, bonds, dividends, or property, except for school, city, county, borough or township purposes. And also commanding the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and its officers and agents aforesaid, strictly to abstain from accepting any assignment on the terms stated in the aforesaid part of the said proviso, or executing, or adhering to the Treasurer of the State any bonds of the said company, for any greater amount than the sum at which the Main Line of the said Public Works may be struck down at a public sale, on a fair and equal competition with all other bidders. And also commanding the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and its officers and agents aforesaid, strictly to abstain from accepting any transfer of the said Main Line of the said Public Works from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, under the great seal of the State, founded upon, or in consideration of any purchase upon the terms herein prohibited.—And also commanding Henry S. McGraw, the Treasurer of the State, strictly to abstain from accepting the delivery of any bonds executed by the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company upon the terms herein prohibited, or for any greater amount than the sum at which the said Main Line of the Public Works may be struck down at a fair public sale of the same, upon equal terms to all persons and corporations desiring to purchase. And also commanding Andrew G. Curtin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, strictly to abstain from making any transfer of the said Public Works under the great seal of the State, upon the terms herein prohibited, or for any greater amount than the sum at which the said Works may be struck down at a fair public sale as aforesaid.

## AN INFAMOUS BILL!

The Philadelphia News of June 24 says: "During the last session of the Pennsylvania Legislature a Bill was introduced in the Senate allowing INFIDELS to appear as witnesses and testify in our Courts of Justice without taking a solemn oath to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and was passed by an overwhelming vote." This bill, the News says: "Demands of Government the abolition of all laws recognizing the existence of a Supreme Being." FR. JORDAN voted for the Bill.

## A Remarkable Meteor.

If not a Comet, Something that "Struck" as Hard.

The Utica papers have an account of a very singular phenomenon, which was witnessed on Saturday the 15th inst., which caused the death of two persons.

"During the afternoon, a tunnel-shaped moving body of a nebulous character, appeared at a point over Utica, moving rapidly along with a humming sound. It struck the ground near the dwelling of Mr. Root, in Deerfield, tearing down a fence or two, and passing on, gradually settling lower and lower. At last, having reached a point some five miles in a north-easterly direction from this city, near the dwelling of Mr. Nathan Budlong, in Schuylers, it made a descent upon his barn, ripped it up and scattered it to the winds. Then passing on, tearing up trees, fences and out-houses in its terrible course, it finally struck the dwelling of Mr. J. Warren, which was lifted from its stone foundation, carried a distance of some fifteen feet through the air, and dashed in splinters upon the ground, leaving a clean path of grass between the place where it had stood and the pile of rubbish.

"In the house were a family of six—parents and children. Mr. Warren, seeing the terrible object rushing down upon him, tearing up trees and fences in its onward course, and buzzing like a thousand hornets' nests combined, called upon his wife and children instantly to accompany him to the cellar, and, sitting the action to the west, seized two of the children and leaped down the stairway. The wife essayed to follow, but her footsteps were tardy; she was a moment—an instant too late—the engine of destruction tore the building up, carrying herself and child, together with a little son who was behind her, with it. The husband had but time to see her ascend with the building that tore away from above him, and then he stood exposed to the day, in his open cellar. He went to view the ruin of his home; it was complete. Here lay the dead and nude body of his wife, the destroying power having stripped the clothing from her person; there lay his son covered with blood, and senseless, and, just beyond his dwelling lay one such mass of destruction as probably never was beheld before. Broken and splintered beds, cradles, tables, pots, bottles, chairs, boxes, trunks, crockery, tin ware, hats, clothes, stoves, bottles, bricks, plaster, clocks, beams, stones, shingles, and endless articles, lay crushed and crumbled in one heap before him.

"Next, in the due southeasterly line of its course, it uprooted several large trees, scattered the fences, crossed the road and demolished a large barn, belonging to Mr. John M. Budlong. The destruction of property and persons was of a destructive element tore it to pieces, scattering large timbers about the fields at a distance of from five to fifteen rods, disintegrating the roof in various directions, and actually taking up an iron cylinder threshing machine, weighing perhaps four hundred pounds, and deposited it at least thirty feet from the barn. A cow belonging to Mr. B., standing near the barn, was killed, without an apparent outward wound. About 80 rods farther on, in a direct line, a smaller barn, belonging to the same gentleman, was demolished, and what is very singular in this instance, but little of the material of which it was constructed, is to be found any where. A few shivered boards and timbers alone attest to its previous existence. The dwelling of Mr. Budlong had a narrow escape. A single or two torn from one corner of the roof indicate how narrowly it escaped.

"Beyond the premises of Mr. B., for about a mile, prostrate trees and fences plainly evidence the track of the destructive messenger. It, however, seemed to have released its hold upon the earth soon after leaving the farm of Mr. B., for it was distinctly seen to rise from the surface and dissolve its conical shape into a general cloud form. The phenomenon was followed by violent rain and wind. Two men, at work in a field, saw the strange apparition approach, and took to their heels, barely escaping its track as it passed on. It seemed to raise from the earth in four or five minutes from the time it was first seen, and the evidences before us of destruction lie in a district not over four or five miles in extent, in a due southeasterly direction from where its first track was felt, and in a track about fifteen rods in width. Whatever substance presented itself in this track was swept away, and the ruin presented is certainly fearful to behold."

From the Baltimore Sun, June 25.

## Fatal Railroad Accident.

On Saturday morning last, an accident occurred to one of the trains on the Northern Central Railway, by which Mr. Jacob Mathias, a well known and highly respectable resident of Westminster, Md., was almost instantly killed. The particulars of the melancholy occurrence are these: Mr. Mathias, with his grand-daughter, appeared at the Calvert station and took passage on the train. At the Hanover Junction, where the trains are rarely detained over a minute, Mr. Mathias left his seat and went to the public house kept by Mr. Gismet, and asked for a glass of lemonade, but he declined serving him, and told deceased that he would not have time to make it, nor he to drink it, and urged him to take his seat in the cars. Immediately the bell rang and Mr. Mathias started, and running after the train grasped at the step-railing of the middle car and missed his hold; but seized the next and was instantly whirled around by the motion of the cars and thrown under the wheels. Both legs were cut off below the knees and his skull fractured.

The train was immediately stopped, and Mr. Mathias still lying borne into the parlor of Glesner's hotel. Though perfectly conscious, he did not speak of his injuries once, but only asked those about him to "raise his head," and died in about fifteen minutes. The body and mutilated members were placed in a coffin, and in

charge of John Miller, one of the agents of the company, removed to the Hanover branch, and forwarded by the superintendent over that road to Westminster. Mr. Mathias was quite aged, nearly seventy-five years, and well known in this city. He was universally beloved and respected for his many social and public qualities, and years ago was a representative from Carroll county to the State Legislature at Annapolis.—He filled other posts of both public and private nature, and at the time of his death was president of the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank of Carroll county, located at Westminster.

As regards the culpability of any of the employees of the road, it is due Mr. Q. W. Ratcliff, the conductor of the train, to state that he promptly gave the signal to stop the train as soon as he perceived that Mr. Mathias was left behind, and endeavoring to overtake it, but unfortunately too late, though the train came to a halt almost simultaneously with the occurrence. Mr. C. C. Adreon, the superintendent of the road, was in Harrisburg, but being telegraphed immediately came down to Hanover, and superintended the removal of the corpse to Westminster. The sad affair has caused a deep gloom to settle upon the whole community.

## Frontier Life—Its Dangers.

Mrs. Margaret Ann Marble, one of the captives taken at Spirit Lake, at the time of the recent massacre, arrived at Minnesota on the 30th of May, in charge of Mr. Charles E. Flaudra, agent for the Sioux of the Mississippi.

"On the 13th of March, a band of Indians came to their residence, at Spirit Lake, Iowa, murdered her husband, and took her prisoner to their camp, where she found three other white female captives—Mrs. Thatcher, a Miss Noble and a Miss Gardner. Mrs. Marble thinks the husbands of Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Thatcher both escaped being killed, but the entire family of Mrs. Gardner fell a prey before Miss G's own eyes, and then she was dragged away to the wigwam of the war Chief of the red murderers, and brutally violated. Immediately after committing the murders at Spirit Lake, the Indians, with their captives started westward, and travelled for about one month through a circuitous, rough route, unknown to any except the savage, and encamped at last at a place called Skunk Lake, west of the Big Sioux river, and about one hundred and fifty miles northwest of Spirit Lake, where the outrages were committed.

"On the route the captives were subjected to the severest hardships and torture, being compelled to carry heavy packs of shot, and to perform the most degrading service by day, and submit to the most cruel of their tortures at night.

"Mrs. Thatcher, who was in feeble health, was unable to carry the burdens imposed upon her, and when endeavoring to cross the Big Sioux river upon some trees which the Indians cut down on both sides, to form a bridge, she, being very weak, lost her balance and fell into the river. She dropped her burden and succeeded in swimming almost to the shore, when an Indian deliberately aimed his rifle at her and shot her through the head, killing her instantly. The body was left to float down the current, which was reddened with her warm life blood. This tragic scene was hailed by the Indian women (who seemed jealous of the presence of the white captives) with wild shouts of exultation.

"Mrs. Marble informs me that she and her surviving companions read, with a dread certainty, the fate which awaited them, when fatigue should overtake them. Mrs. Marble had her liberty purchased by Indians who were sent out for that purpose.

"On the 23d inst., a party of friendly Lacqui Parle Indians was dispatched to Skunk Lake, with all the requirements, in the shape of presents, to purchase the release of Mrs. Noble and Miss Gardner. Four days' travel would bring them to the camp of Ink-pud-dah."

TERRIBLE TORNADO IN ILLINOIS.—It appears that Christian County, Ill., was visited last Saturday afternoon by a tornado of great violence. The Chicago Journal says:

"Our informant was at the village of Penn, in that county, during the 'blow,' and describes its effects as terrific. It was accompanied by hail and rain. Buildings were swept from the foundations, and some of them carried into the air, others unroofed, and others torn into atoms. A number of new stores that had just been completed were scattered in fragments; the Presbyterian church, a large frame building, was moved some six feet from its foundation; the Illinois Central freight depot was unroofed; the train of freight cars was blown from the track, and worse than all, five persons—a woman and four children—were killed by being struck with falling timbers, or carried into the air and thrown upon the ground. Several other persons were more or less injured, some of whom may die from the effects of their injuries.

BENEFIT SPRINGS.—We learn from several of our exchanges that this fashionable and popular summer resort has undergone great improvements, and is now open for the reception of visitors. Bedford is one of the prettiest inland towns in the State, and can boast of advantages which belong to but few towns of its size. The Springs are situated about 14 miles from town; accessible by one of the most romantic pieces of road it has ever been our pleasure to travel over. These Springs are noted for the fine medicinal qualities of their waters; and in all other particulars are not surpassed by any other watering place in the Union. We would advise our Baltimore friends, those at least, who are seeking a return of health—who would remove the hectic flush from the cheek—to visit this healthy and salubrious region.

Hanover Spectator.