THE COLUMBIAN.

COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT, STAR OF THE NORTH AND COLUMBIAN CONSOLIDATED.)

Issued weekly, every Friday morning, at BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA.

AT TWO DOLLARS per year, 50 cents discount allowed when paid in advance. After the expiration of the year $2.50 will be charged. To subscribers out of the county the terms are $2 per year, strictly in advance.

No paper discontinued, except at the option of the publishers, until all arrearages are paid, but long continued credits after the expiration of the first year will not be given.

All papers sent out of the State or to distant post offices must be paid for in advance, unless a responsible person in Columbia county assumes to pay the subscription due on demand.

POSTAGE is no longer exacted from subscribers in the county.

JOB PRINTING.

The Jobbing department of the COLUMBIAN is very complete, and our Job Printing will compare favorably with that of the large cities. All work done on demand, neatly and at moderate prices.

The Columbian.

C. R. BROCKWAY, G. E. ELWELL, } Editors and Proprietors.

BLOOMSBURG, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1878.

THE COLUMBIAN, VOL. XII, NO. 46
COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT, VOL. XLIII, NO. 52

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

SPACE.	1M.	2M.	3M.	6M.	1Y.
One inch	$2.00	$2.50	$3.00	$5.00	$8.00
Two inches	3.00	4.00	5.00	8.00	12.00
Three inches	4.00	5.50	7.00	12.00	18.00
Four inches	5.00	7.00	9.00	15.00	22.00
Quarter column	6.00	8.00	10.00	15.00	25.00
Half column	10.00	12.00	18.00	25.00	40.00
One column	20.00	25.00	30.00	40.00	100.00

Yearly advertisements payable quarterly. Transient advertisements must be paid for before inserted except where parties have accounts.

Legal advertisements two dollars per inch for three insertions, and at that rate for additional insertions without reference to length.

Executor's, Administrator's and Auditor's notices three dollars. Must be paid for when inserted.

Transient or Local notices, twenty cents a line regular advertisements half rates.

Cards in the "Business Directory" column, one dollar per year for each line.

Columbia County Official Directory.

President Judge—William Elwell.
Associate Judges—I. K. Frickbaum, F. L. Shuman.
Prothonotary, &c.—B. Frank Zarr.
Clerk and Stenographer—S. S. Walker.
Register & Recorder—Williamson H. Jacobs.
District Attorney—Robert E. Little.
Sheriff—John W. Hoffman.
Surveyor—James Kocher.
Treasurer—Dr. A. V. Mendenhall.
Commissioners—John Horner, S. W. Mellenry, Jacob Sands.
Clerk to Commissioners—William Frickbaum.
Auditors—M. V. B. Kline, J. B. Casey, E. B. Brown.
Coroner—Isaiah Yeager.
Jury Commissioners—H. Robbins, Theodore W. Smith.
County Superintendent—William H. Snyder.
Directors—R. S. Ent, Scott, Wm. Kramer, Bloomsburg and Thomas Reece, Secretary.

Bloomsburg Official Directory.

President of Town Council—G. A. Herring.
Clerk—Paul E. Wirt.
Chief of Police—Jas. C. Sterner.
President of Gas Company—S. Knorr.
Secretary—A. W. Miller.
Bloomsburg Banking Company—John A. Funston, President; B. H. Grotz, Cashier, John Peacock, Teller.
First National Bank—Charles R. Paxton, President; C. P. Austin, Cashier.
Columbia County Mutual Saving Fund and Loan Association—E. H. Little, President; C. W. Miller, Secretary.
Bloomsburg Building and Saving Fund Association—W. H. Pearsol, President; J. K. Robison, Secretary.
Bloomsburg Mutual Saving Fund Association—J. I. Brower, President; P. E. Wirt, Secretary.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

BAPTIST CHURCH.
Rev. J. P. Tustin, Catechumen.
Sunday Services—10½ a. m. and 6½ p. m.
Sunday School—9 a. m.
Prayer Meeting—Every Wednesday evening at 6½ o'clock.
Seats free. The public are invited to attend.

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH.
Services—Rev. C. H. Hay, A. M.
Sunday Services—10½ a. m. and 7½ p. m.
Sunday School—9 a. m.
Prayer Meeting—Every Wednesday evening at 7½ o'clock.
Seats free. No pews rented. All are welcome.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
Minister—Rev. Stuart Mitchell.
Sunday Services—10½ a. m. and 6½ p. m.
Sunday School—9 a. m.
Prayer Meeting—Every Wednesday evening at 6½ o'clock.
Seats free. No pews rented. Strangers welcome.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
Presiding Elder—Rev. W. Evans.
Minister—Rev. M. L. Shoyser.
Sunday Services—11a and 6½ p. m.
Sunday School—2 p. m.
Bible Class—Every Monday evening at 6½ o'clock.
Young Men's Prayer Meeting—Every Tuesday evening at 8½ o'clock.
General Prayer Meeting—Every Thursday evening 7 o'clock.

REFORMED CHURCH.
Corner of Third and Iron streets.
Pastor—Rev. W. E. Krebs.
Residence—Corner 4th and Catharine streets.
Sunday Services—10½ a. m. and 7 p. m.
Sunday School—9 a. m.
Prayer Meeting—Saturday, 7 p. m.
All are invited. There is always room.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.
Pastor—Rev L. Zahner.
Sunday Services—10½ a. m., 7½ p. m.
Sunday School—9 a. m.
First Sunday in the month, Holy Communion.
Services preparatory to Communion on Friday evening before the 1st Sunday in each month.
Pews rented; but everybody welcome.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
Presiding Elder—Rev. A. L. Reese.
Minister—Rev. George Hunter.
Sunday Service—2 p. m., in the Iron Street Church.
Prayer Meeting—Every Sabbath at 2 p. m.
All are invited. All are welcome.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.
Meets in "the little Brick Church on the hill,"—known as the Welsh Baptist Church—on Rock street east of Iron.
Regular meeting for worship, every Lord's day afternoon at 3½ o'clock.
Seats free; and the public are cordially invited to attend

BLOOMSBURG DIRECTORY.

SCHOOL ORDERS, blank, just printed and neatly bound in small books, on hand and for sale at the COLUMBIAN Office.

BLANK DEEDS, on Parchment and Linen Paper, common and for Administrators, Executors and trustees, for sale cheap at the COLUMBIAN office.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES just printed and for sale at the COLUMBIAN Office. Ministers of the Gospel and Justices should supply themselves with these necessary articles.

JUSTICES and Constables' Fee Bills for sale at the COLUMBIAN office. They contain the corrected fees as established by the last Act of the Legislature upon the subject. Every Justice and Constable should have one.

VENDUE NOTES just printed and for sale cheap at the COLUMBIAN office,

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

C. G. BARKLEY, Attorney-at-Law, Office in Brower's building, 2nd story, Rooms 4 & 5

DR. WM. M. REBER, Surgeon and Physician. Office S. E. corner Rock and Market sts.

J. R. EVANS, M. D., Surgeon and Physician, (Office and Residence on Third street,

J. B. McKELVY, M. D., Surgeon and Physician, north side Main street, below Market.

J. B. ROBISON, Attorney-at-Law. Office in Hartman's building, Main street.

SAMUEL KNORR, Attorney-at-Law, Office in Hartman's Building, Main street.

H. ROSENSTOCK, Photographer, over Clark & Wolf's Store, Main street.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DAVID LOWENBERG, Merchant Tailor Main st., above Central Hotel.

I. S. KUHN, dealer in Meat, Tallow, etc., Centre street, between Second and Third.

BUSINESS CARDS.

L. E. WALLER,
Attorney-at-Law.
Increase of Pensions obtained, Collections made.
Office, Second door from 1st National Bank.
BLOOMSBURG, PA.
Jan. 11, 1878

DR. J. C. RUTTER,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
Office, North Market street,
Mar.27,'74— Bloomsburg, Pa.

N. U. FUNK,
Attorney-at-Law,
Increase of Pensions Obtained, Collections Made,
BLOOMSBURG, PA.
Office in Ent's Building.

DR. I. L. RABB,
PRACTICAL DENTIST,
Main Street, opposite Episcopal Church, Bloomsburg, Pa.
☞ Teeth extracted without pain.
aug 24, '77-1y.

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Bloomsburg, Pa.
Office on Main street, first door below Court House

R. F. & J. M. CLARK,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
Bloomsburg, Pa.
Office in Ent's Building.

F. P. BILLMEYER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
OFFICE—In Barman's Building, Main street, Bloomsburg, Pa.

H. LITTLE. ROBT. E. LITTLE.
H. & R. R. LITTLE,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Bloomsburg, Pa.

W. Y. KESTER,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
Room No. 15, OPERA HOUSE BUILDING, Bloomsburg.
apl 19, 1878.

C. W. MILLER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Office in Brower's building, second floor, room No. 1, Bloomsburg, Pa.

W. H. HOWELL,
DENTIST.
Office in Hartman's Block, second floor, corner Main and Market Streets,
BLOOMSBURG, PA.
May 26—1y.

HERVEY E. SMITH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Office in A. J. EVAN'S NEW BUILDING,
BLOOMSBURG, PA.
Member of Commercial Law and Bank Collection Association. Oct 14, '77-tf

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Sewing Machines and Machinery of all kinds repaired. OPERA HOUSE Building, Bloomsburg, Pa.

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The assets of these old corporations are all invested in SOLID SECURITIES and are liable to the hazard of Fire only.
Moderate lines on the best risks are alone accepted.
Losses PROMPTLY and HONESTLY adjusted and paid as soon as determined by CHRISTIAN F. KNAPP, Special Agent and Adjuster, Bloomsburg, Penn'a.
The citizens of Columbia county should patronize the agency where losses, if any, are adjusted and paid by one of their own citizens. nov.16, '77-1y

FREAS BROWN'S INSURANCE AGENCY, Exchange Hotel, Bloomsburg, Pa.

	Capital.
Ætna, Ins Co., of Hartford, Connecticut	6,500,000
Liverpool, London and Globe	20,000,000
Royal of Liverpool	13,500,000
Lancashire	10,000, 00
Fire Association, Philadelphia	2,100,000
Farmers Mutual of Danville	1,000,000
Danville Mutual	75,000
Home, New York	5,600,000
	$80,621,000

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March 26,'77—y

B. F. HARTMAN
REPRESENTS THE FOLLOWING
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North American of Philadelphia, Pa
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Pennsylvania of " "
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Manhattan of " "
Office on Market Street No. 6, Bloomsburg, Pa.
oct. 26, '77-1y.

CATAWISSA.

WM. L. EYERLY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Catawissa, Pa.
Collections promptly made and remitted. Office opposite Catawissa Deposit Bank. 6m-38

W. H. ABBOTT. W. H. RHAWN.
ABBOTT & RHAWN,
Attorneys-at-Law.
CATAWISSA, PA.
Pensions obtained. dec 21, '77-1y

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RAILROAD.
GREAT TRUNK LINE
AND
UNITED STATES MAIL ROUTE.

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Construction and Equipment
THE
PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

stands confessedly at the head of American railways. The track is double the entire length of the line, of steel rails laid on heavy oak ties, which are embedded in a foundation of rock ballast eighteen inches in depth. All bridges are of iron or stone, and built upon the most approved plans. Its passenger cars, while eminently safe and substantial, are at the same time models of comfort and elegance.

THE SAFETY APPLIANCES

in use on this line well illustrate the far-seeing and liberal policy of its management, in accordance with which no utility only of an improvement, and not its cost has been the question of consideration. Among many may be noticed

THE BLOCK SYSTEM OF SAFETY SIGNALS,
JANNEY COUPLER, BUFFER and PLATFORM
THE WHARTON PATENT SWITCH,
AND THE
WESTINGHOUSE AIR-BRAKE,

forming in conjunction with a perfect double track and road-bed a combination of safeguards against accidents which have rendered them practically impossible.

Pullman Palace Cars

are run on all Express Trains

From New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington,

To Chicago, Cincinnati, Louisville, Indianapolis and St. Louis,

WITHOUT CHANGE,

and to all principal points in the far West and South with but one change of cars. Connections are made in Union Depots, and are assured to all important points.

THE SCENERY
OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA ROUTE

is admitted to be unsurpassed in the world for grandeur, beauty and variety. Superior refreshment facilities are provided. Employees are courteous and attentive, and it is an inevitable result that a trip by the Pennsylvania Railroad must form

A PLEASING AND MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE.

Tickets for sale at the lowest rates at the Ticket Offices of the Company in all important cities and towns.

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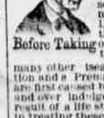
feb. 1, 78-1y.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY!
GRAY'S SPECIFIC MEDICINE



is especially recommended as an infallible cure for seminal weakness, Spermatorrhœa, Impotency, and all diseases, such as Loss of memory, Universal Lassitude, Pain in the Back, Dimness of Vision, Premature Old Age, and

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The specific Medicine is sold by all Druggists at $1 per package, or six packages for $5, or will be sent by mail on receipt of the money by addressing

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Sold in Bloomsburg by C. A. Klein, and by all Druggists everywhere.
Harris & Ewing, Wholesale Agents, Pittsburg.
sept. 6, '78-1f

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WRIGHT'S LIVER PILLS,

The only sure CURE for Torpid Liver, Dyspepsia, Headache, Sour Stomach, Constipation, Debility, Nausea, and all Billious complaints and Blood disorders. None genuine unless signed "Wm. Wright, Phila." If your Druggist will not supply send 25 cents for one box to Barrick, Roller & Co., 16 N. 4th st., Phila. Jan. 4, '78-1y

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Choice books no longer for the few only. The best standard novels within the reach of every one. Books usually sold from $1 to $3 given (unchanged and unabridged) for 10 and 20 cents.

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103. A Brave Lady, by Miss Mulock	20c
104. Peep O' Day, by John Banim	10c
105. At the Sign of the Silver Flagon, by B. L. Farjeon	10c
106. The master of the Greylands, by Mrs Henry Wood	20
107. Blade-o'-Grass by B L Farjeon	10c
108. The Sea King, by Captain Marryat	10c
109. Eleanor's Victory, by Miss M. E Braddon	20c
110. The Girls of Feversham, by Florence Marryat	10c
111. A Tour of the World in Eighty Days, by Jules Verne	10c
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131. Michael Strogoff, by Jules Verne	10c
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134. My Brother's Wife, by Amelia B Edwards	10c
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146. Charles O'Malley, the Irish Dragoon, by Lever, (Triple No)	20c
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164. A Young Wife's Story, Harriet Bowrn	10c
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177. George Canterbury's Will, by Mrs. Henry Wood	20c
178. Rare Good Luck, by R. E. Francillion	10c
179. The History of a Crime, by Victor Hugo	10c
180. Armadale, by Wilkie Collins	20c
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204. The Young Llanero. W. H. G. Kingston	10c
205. The mysteries of Paris, (1st half) by Eugene Sue	20c
205. The mysteries of Paris, (2d half) by Eugene Sue	20c
206. Poison of Asps, by Florence Marryat	10c
207. The Children of the New Forest by Capt. Marryat	20c
208. North and South, by Mrs. Gaskell	20c
209. A Jewel of a Girl	10c
210. Young Musgrave, by Mrs. Oliphant	10c
211. Randolph Gordon, by "Ouida"	10c
212. Brigadier Frederick, by Erckmann-Chatrian	10c
213. Barnaby Rudge, by Chas. Dickens	20c
214. Winnifred, by Mrs. Leith Adams	10c
215. Birds of Prey, by Miss Braddon	20c
216. Legends of the Black Watch, by James Grant	10c
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218. Dombey and Son, by Charles Dickens	10c
219. My Own Child, by Florence Marryat	10c
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221. Poor Zeph, by F. W. Robinson	10c
222. Last of the Mohicans, by J. F. Cooper	10c
223. The Marriage Verdict, by Alex. Dumas	10c
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225. Two Destinies, by Wilkie Collins	10c
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227. Hannah, by Miss Mulock	10c
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250. No Name, by Wilkie Collins	20c
251. Lady Audley's Secret, by Miss M. E. Braddon	10c
252. Hard to Bear, by Georgiana M. Craik	10c
253. A True Man, by M. C. Stirling	10c
254. The Octoroon, by Miss Braddon	10c
255. Lothair, by Right Hon. B. Disraeli	10c
256. Lord Oakburn's Daughters, by Mrs. Henry Wood	20c
257. That Boy of Norcott's, by Lever	10c
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259. Valentine Vox, (1st half) by Henry Cockton	20c
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260. Charlotte's Inheritance, by Miss M. E. Braddon	20c
261. Les Miserables—Fantine, by Hugo	10c
262. Les Miserables—Cosette, by Hugo	10c
263. Les Miserables—Marius, by Hugo	10c
264. Les Miserables—St. Dennis, by Hugo	10c
265. Les Miserables—Jean Valjean, by Hugo	10c
266. James Fallon, by Captain Marryat	10c
267. The Last of the Haddons, by Mrs. Newman	20c
268. Forty-five Guardsmen, by Dumas	20c
269. Fred as a Hero, by Shelley	10c
270. The Jilt, by Chas Reade	10c
271. The Diary of a Physician, (1st half) by Samuel Warren	10c
271. The Diary of a Physician (2d half) by Samuel Warren	20c
272. The Cricket on the Hearth, by Charles Dickens	10c
273. Snarleyyow, by Capt. Marryat	10c
274. Ten Thousand a Year, (1st half) by Samuel Warren	20c
274. Ten Thousand a Year (2d half) by samuel Warren	20c
275. A Shadow on the Threshold, by Mary Cecil Hay	10c
276. The Page of the Duke of Savoy, by Alex. Dumas	10c
277. Brother Jacob, by George Eliot	10c
278. Six Years Later, by Alex. Dumas	20
279. A Leaf in the Storm, by "Ouida"	10c
280. The Wreck of the "Grosvenor"	10c
281. Lady Maraloun's Troubles, by "Ouida"	10c
282. Poor Jack, by Captain Marryat	10c
283. Twenty Years After, by Dumas	20c
284. Oliver Twist, by Charles Dickens	10c
285. Cometh up as a Flower, by Rhoda Broughton	10c
286. After Dark by Wilkie Collins	10c
287. Leighton Grange	10c
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Poetical.

THE CHILDREN.

BY PAUL HAYNE.

The children! ah the children!
Your innocent, joyous ones;
Your daughters, with souls of sunshine;
Your buoyant and laughing sons.

Look long in their happy faces,
Drink love from their sparkling eyes,
For the wonderful charm of childhood,
How soon it withers and dies!

A few fast-vanishing summers,
A season or twain of frost,
And you suddenly ask, bewildered,
"What is it my heart hath lost?"

Perchance you see by the hearthstone
Some Juno, stately and proud,
Or a Cleopatra, whose softly anointed eyes
Flash out from the golden cloud

Of lavish and beautiful tresses
That, wantonly floating astray
Over the white of a throat and bosom
More fair than blossoms in May,

And perchance you mark their brothers—
Young heroes who spurn the sod
With the fever of antique knighthood,
And the air of a breeding god.

But where, ah, where are the children,
Your household fairies of yore?
Alack! they are dead, and their grace has fled
For ever and evermore!

—Harper's Magazine for December.

Select Story.

RUNNING "PILOT"

From Cassell's Magazine.

'Who is standing pilot this evening?' said the Superintendent, or 'Boss,' as he was called.

'Seth Martin,' was the foreman's reply.

'Tell him to come here, will you? and hurry up!'

The foreman hastened away, and both he and Seth Martin must have 'spread themselves,' as the former said, for in a few minutes the engine driver stood before his chief.

The great man took a comprehensive look at the engineer, who flinched not a muscle. His clear, steady eyes were as blue as the sky; a handsome brown beard ornamented his face, which, albeit rather dirty was full of character and determination. To use the popular expression, 'he was pure gold down to bed-rock.'

The Superintendent, satisfied with his scrutiny, nodded to the engine driver, and said:

'There's a specie train up out of Collinsville to-night, Seth.'

'I know that,' was the curt response.

'And it will require close watching, continued the chief.

'I's'pose so—I know that,' repeated Seth.

'You are mighty knowin' this evening,' said the Superintendent, smiling, 'but there is one thing you don't know, sonney. You don't know that you are going to run pilot to that train.'

'Yes, I do,' replied the engine driver.

'Who in thunder told you, then? I didn't know it myself till ten minutes ago!'

'You told me this minute, then I knew it,' replied Seth, smiling and disclosing his white even teeth. 'I'm ready, boss.'

'Seth Martin, you ought to be a Judge; your talents are thrown away on this line. But listen; we've no time to split straws in chaff. There's a very festive gang of desperadoes hanging about up Dartford way. They nearly wrecked the through Pacific last week. Fortunately, the passengers was handy with their shooting irons, and bullets was rainin' pretty thick, else there would have been something unpleasant.'

'Wa'al,' said the engine driver, 'go ahead.'

'Now you must run pilot to the specie train, and see that the line's clear up as far as Dartford City. Ye can shunt at the trestle-bridge siding, and wait to pull the wagons up the Bunker incline through the cuttings. Once safe there ye can rattle along, and mind ye keep a good lookout.'

'You bet!' was Seth's reply. 'I'd better take my six-shooter, I suppose. We'll have to fight, maybe?'

'Most likely,' replied the superintendent, coolly. 'Keep this quiet. I've got men on the lookout along the line. Who's your mate?'

'English Tom Atkins,' was the reply. 'He's grit!'

'All right, then,' said the chief. 'Now, don't drink; keep a full head of steam; bring back the specie safe, and——'

'Wa'al?, drawled the other coolly.

'I'll provide for your family if you're hurt or shot; if not, I'll reward you.'

'Is that all, then? Well, good night, boss and thank ye!'

'Good luck,' was the answer; 'I'll not forget you.'

Seth Martin turned away with a nod of acknowledgment and directed his steps to the shed to where his engine was 'stanuing pilot.' This means that the engine had steam up (or was 'in steam,' to speak technically), and was ready for any emergency. The driver was just as well pleased to run a couple of hundred miles on a dark night, even with the chance of being shot, as to have an invitation to the White House itself.

'Tom!'

'Hallo!' came back in an unmistakable English voice.

'Fire up a bit; we are bound West; special pilot; 10 o'clock. Keep it quiet.'

A man unseen by the driver put up his head to listen.

Seth was a man of action, and so was his mate, Tom Atkins. They looked to the engine and their revolvers; put a dozen cartridges in a tin can, filled a similar can with some old Bourbon whisky at a saloon close by, whither they were followed by the man who had been listening to their conversation, and who noted their preparations.

After communicating with some accomplice, this mysterious individual left the saloon and made his way toward the signal box, which stood some distance down the line.

As soon as the engine driver and his mate were recognized they were warmly welcomed for they were favorites. Many drinks were tendered for their acceptance, and declined on various pleas, till at length one man declared that the Britisher wanted to fix an insult on a freeborn citizen. He offered Seth and Tom a glass apiece, saying:

'What's up, mate? Swore off, eh!'

'For this evening,' replied Seth, 'but as I'd rather drink than fight just now, I'll take your treat.'

So the men each took the proffered glass, but scarcely tasted it; and soon afterward Seth, fearing that some inkling of his intended mission might leak out, beckoned to his fireman to follow as soon as possible, and then left the saloon. He lit a cigar, climbed up into the 'cab' of his engine (all American locomotives are protected and closed in) and began to smoke.

He smoked in comfort for about a quarter of an hour, then he felt 'queer.' 'These is stronger cigars than usual,' he muttered and he threw it from him. But the oppression on his brain became heavier; he felt very sleepy now.

'I think I'll have a nap; it's only about 9 o'clock. I must; there's an hour yet. I wonder where Tom is. It's my opinion Tom will drink too much or——'

His train of thought was suddenly interrupted. All at once it flashed upon him that he himse'f had been 'drugged' in the saloon!

'That's it; what a thunderingidiot I am!' He essayed to rise, but felt quite bewildered. He made hopeless attempts to stand upright but could do nothing. He was as useless as a child; but, worse than all, he was conscious of his inability to do his duty. Ten o'clock rang out. He struggled to his feet. His head was spinning round, his feet were heavy as leaden weights. He opened the sliding-door, but ere he could descend a blow from behind sent him flying into space—a splash, and down he sank into a large pond containing a quantity of surplus water for the locomotive tanks.

At the same moment three men climbed up on the engine and, with a low but hearty chuckle, started it out from the siding.

'I think we did that neat,' said the shortest of the party. 'I didn't listen to the boss for nothin' this time. The specie train will run after all, you see. Oh! they couldn't catch me tripping. No, sir!'

'The Savage will do the bridge, I suppose,' said another. 'He's to work on the up line, isn't he?'

'Aye, only on that side. Ye did that Britisher pretty, I must say. He and Seth was kinder cautious, too.'

'I mixed it strong,' said the other, with a savage laugh. 'Did you settle the signals, Abe?'

'Aye; telegraphed ourselves on special, and then cut the wires and smashed the instruments. We're clear now to Dartford City. What's that?' he added, hastily, as the engine lurched for a second and lifted.

'Only the points. We're out now. We can run easy, I s'pose. She won't bust, I hope. Here goes.'

The speaker, who knew little about engine-driving, tur