Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 12, 1851.

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR,

WILLIAM BIGLER,

OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,

SETH CLOVER,

OF CLARION COUNTY.

For Justices of the Supreme Bench.

JEREMIAH S. BLACK, of Somerset.
JAMES CAMPBELL, of Philadelphia.
ELLIS LEWIS, of Lancaster.
JOHN B. GIBSON, of Cumberland.
WALTER H. LOWRIE, of Allegheny.

Sunbury and Erie Railroad.

A large *meeting favorable* to the speedy construction of the Sunbury and Erie railroad, was held at Warren on Wednesday last. Among the resolutions passed was one appointing a committee to memorialize the legislature at its next session to grant permission to the commissioners of Warren County to subscribe one hundred thousand dollars of stock of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, to aid in the construction of said road, whenever said Company may give satisfactory assurance of the accomplishment of the work in reasonable time—to be paid by bonds of the county, the payment of interest on which, and redemption whereof, when due, shall be duly provided for. This is the right spirit, and the right way to go to work. County subscriptions in Ohio have made a good share of her railroads, and no state has more, according to its age, of these kinds of improvements than Ohio. We hope to see this move followed up by other counties along the line.

☞ We are requested to state that an adjourned meeting of the Board of Managers of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company will be held on Wednesday the 16th inst., at 4 o'clock P. M., at room No. 2, on second floor, Reading Railroad building, No. 73, South 4th st., in the City of Philadelphia. Landed proprietors, contractors, and others interested in the construction of this road, intended to unite Lake Erie with the City of Philadelphia, and develope the resources of our North Western tier of counties, are invited to be present.

"The Glorious Fourth."

Although we had no regular old fashioned celebration in Erie on the 4th, there was undoubtedly as much powder burned as though such had been the fact. It was, however, mostly confined to the juvenile "freemen," and right patriotically they enjoyed it.

The two German military companies, and the various German societies, together with our adopted citizens of that nation generally, had a celebration "all by themselves." At ten o'clock they formed in procession, headed by their excellent brass Band, and marched to a bower erected in the rear of the United States Hotel, fronting on the Bay, where they were addressed by C. Benzon, Esq., Editor of "Our World." German to us is all Hebrew, but we are told by those who understand the language, that it was a most creditable effort, eloquent and patriotic.

Our fire Companies—or rather two of them—were out in new uniform, and made a fine display. After marching through the principal streets, they, in company with a large number of citizens, adjourned to the Park, where a prayer was offered up by Rev. Dr. Lyon, the Declaration read by C. W. Kelso, Esq., and an address delivered in his usual happy style by Judge Thompson. At 3 o'clock Eagle Fire Co. No. 2, and a number of invited guests, set down to a dinner prepared for them at the Reed House. In the evening the Fire Department got up a torch light procession, accompanied by a fine display of Fire Works from the Park. Take it all in all, the "glorious fourth" in Erie wasn't a bad day.

American Art-Union.

We have received from Mr. Isaac Moorhead, Hon. Secretary, the large line engraving, presented to the subscribers to the American Art-Union for 1850, of "Anne Page, Slender and Shallow," from the original by Leslie, painting lately in the possession of Philip Hone, Esq., deceased. It is a fine work of art, deserving all the commendation that has been bestowed upon it. The pouting pertness of "sweet Anne Page," the sheep faced stupidity of Slender and the officiousness of Master Shallow are all well rendered. Were this the only return to subscribers, for their investment, it would well repay them, but there is besides a portfolio of fine steel engravings, of a smaller size, consisting of the "Arcadia," by Cole, "The image breaker," by Lentze, "Dover Plains," by Durand, "The New Scholar," by Edmonds, and "The Card Players," by Woodville. These are all excellent and cover a wide range of subjects. We doubt whether any similar institution has ever distributed so fine a collection of works of Art in any one year. The subscribers for 1851 are to receive a large engraving, from Woodville's "Mexican News," and a similar portfolio, of fine engravings from the following original paintings; "Marion crossing the Pedee," by Ramsey, "Mount Washington from the valley of Conway," by Kensett, "American Harvesting Scenery," by Cropsey, "Old 76 and Young 48," by Woodville, and "Bargaining for a Horse," by Mount. Besides these, each subscriber will receive a copy of the Art Union Bulletin, a monthly publication on art and artists, and will be entitled to a share in the distributed paintings, medals, sculptures in marble, drawings in water colors, &c. The subscription to the Art-Union is $5.

☞ We learn that they were to commence laying the rail on the first thirty miles of the road from Cleveland to this place, on Monday last. This looks as though we should have a Western road about as soon as an Eastern. By the by, what has become of *that railroad iron*, and when is it to be laid?

Catawissa Railroad.

We see by the "Legion" that quite a large meeting was held in Tamaqua, on the 26th. Dr. W. W. McGuigan presided. He stated that the object of the meeting was to take into consideration the best course to be adopted to aid and secure the construction of the Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie Railroad, and the necessity of *impressing upon the minds* of the people of the Keystone State, the incalculable advantages to be derived by the completion of the main avenue connecting Lake Erie with the city of Philadelphia.

Several spirited speeches were made and the following resolutions, among others, adopted:

Resolved, That we look forward with anxiety to meetings being held in Philadelphia, Reading, Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie as points more immediately interested, to bring before the people the true prospects that await them as a reward for the long delayed, but still timely enterprise for forming a main avenue from Philadelphia to her own port of Erie and through her own territory.

Resolved, That we, the citizens of Tamaqua, do hereby pledge ourselves collectively and individually to use every effort in our power, to aid in the completion of the Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie Railroad.

☞ Those in want of fresh Groceries, Wines, Liquors, &c., will find a first rate stock at "Moore's Grocery," a few doors below our office. By the by, he has on hand a very superior article of Table Claret, which we know, from experimental knowledge, and otherwise, is not bad to take. Call and examine.

☞ We call attention to the card of our friend, John Linden, in its appropriate *column*. Besides furnishing through tickets to New-York and Pittsburgh, he is agent for the Toledo line of Boats, and is withall one of the most pleasant and accommodating agents we know of. We can assure the public that the most implicit reliance can be placed upon his statements in regard to routes, boats, &c., or any information desired by travelers.

Where Stand the Two Parties!

The present unexampled prosperity of the country, in all its relations, commercial, agricultural, mechanical and manufacturing, is a withering and scathing rebuke to the factional attempt of the whigs at Lancaster to lug the Tariff question into the approaching Gubernatorial Canvass. That question, heretofore fraught with so much importance in politics, is now dead and buried, and its resurrection at this time, and the attempt to infuse into its rotten carcass vitality and life, is about as sensible as the belief of the Mormons on Beaver Island in the inspired character of King Strang. Look where you will, the country is prosperous, and gives the lie to the predictions of whiggery when the odious bill of '42—a measure they even now dare not advocate the restoration of—gave place to the present revenue measures. Railroads, plank-roads, and other works of public improvements, are everywhere being prosecuted, indicating an unexampled *plethora of money*, and a prosperity throughout the country unexampled in our history. One projected improvement is no sooner finished than another and another is broached, and the money and materials forthcoming to complete them. Steam communications with all parts of the world—Europe, South-America, and our possessions on the Pacific, and soon with China—are multiplying every day. And yet we are told by these political wiseacres that the people are on the brink of ruin for the want of adequate protection in the shape of higher duties. They forget that they have sung this song—made the country vocal with false prophecies, for the last six years. And yet the perverse country refuses to be ruined—the obstinate people continue to prosper! Pass this bill, exclaimed Abbot Lawrence in '46, and in six months every bank in the country will suspend payment, and your factories and forges will close their doors. What a false prophet! Instead of banks suspending, new institutions of this character are multiplying *ad infinitum*, and the only difficulty experienced is to confine them to safe business transactions. But what has the tariff question to do with the election this fall? There are no members of Congress to elect. The Legislature to be elected has no Senator to elect. The Governor and Canal Commissioner have no influence one way or the other. Then why is this dead and buried question brought forth from its sepulchre and its grave clothes torn off by the Whig Convention at Lancaster? We certainly cannot answer. To us it appears strange—a political move without an object—a stroke of policy of doubtful utility. Gov. Johnston cannot expect that even he, as good at riding hobbies as he prides himself to be, can ride this dead horse again into the Gubernatorial Chair. No, the question to be decided this fall is of vast more importance than Tariffs or Banks, or any of the other questions which have heretofore divided parties. It is nothing more or less than the continued or non-continued agitation of the slavery question. The Democracy stand where they have always stood—upon the broad platform of the Constitution and its compromises. Those compromises must be carried out at all hazards. The Democracy say they shall be. Gov. Johnston and his whig *friends declare that the festering sore of slavery agitation* shall be kept open—that it shall be an element in the approaching Presidential canvass, and hence they assert that, while they will treat the compromise measures of the last Congress as the law of the land, they will seek the first opportunity to abolish or amend them.

The Sandwich Islands.

It is asserted, says the Philadelphia *Bulletin*, that an agent of the Sandwich Islands is now at Washington, with two *propositions for our government*—one that the Islands should be taken under our protection, the other that they should be annexed to the United States. It is said that, in case the project of annexation should be entertained by our government, the King of the Islands is prepared to resign, so that a republican constitution, in unison with the principles of this confederation, may be adopted in the Islands. We agree with the New-York Tribune in recommending annexation, instead of a protectorate. The Sandwich Islands would be invaluable to our commerce; would give us the command of the Pacific ocean; and would prevent, what otherwise would be inevitable, the ascendancy of Britain or France in that direction. The sympathies of the Islanders all point in this direction. Moreover, the *missionaries* have, to a great extent, civilized the inhabitants, so that self-government would not be so difficult a problem to these Islanders as might be supposed. Once before we alluded to the possibility of this annexation. The scheme has developed itself, however, more rapidly than was expected, and our government is called on, without delay, to decide the question. A general expression of opinion, in such a case, by the public press, would be of material service, we should think.

Politics in California.

The recent arrival from the "land of gold" brings us the programme of the political campaign in that State. The whigs, stimulated by a few partial successes in their municipal elections, and relying confidently upon the power and patronage of the General Government, are sanguine of carrying the State. They will make a desperate effort, knowing well that upon this election depends, in a measure, the future political complexion of the State. They have nominated a full ticket, headed by Pierson B. Reading for Governor. But the Democrats are preparing to meet them with equal vigor. They have, also, made their nominations; and Col. John Bigler, a *true Democrat from the old Keystone*, and a brother of Col. Wm. Bigler, whose name floats from the head of every Democratic paper in the State for the same station, is their candidate. While we look confidently to the election of our own Bigler, we cannot doubt that the State Daniel Webster said was not worth a dollar will prove equally loyal to the principles of that party which, in all contests for the extension of territory, has stood up manfully on the side of progress. To the Democracy California owes her existence as a State of the Union. Had the whigs succeeded in their designs during the administration of Mr. Polk, that land that now teems with all the elements of civilization—that is pouring her millions monthly into the money markets of the Atlantic States—would now be a Mexican province, and inhabited only by roving tribes of Indians. It cannot be that a State which owes so much to Democratic policy will be recreant to Democratic principles, or turn her back upon Democratic candidates.

A Chapter of Accidents.

We regret to learn that a young man named Raymond Stewart, while firing a salute with a small cannon, at Wattsburg, on the 4th, had both his hands horribly mangled by a premature discharge of the piece. He will probably loose both hands.

On the same day, a man named Phillips, in the same locality, while priming his rifle, accidently discharged it, the ball taking effect upon his wife, who was entering the door behind him. The ball struck her in the head, but it is thought will not prove mortal.

On the 3d, in the same vicinity, a Mr. Darius Drake, while out hunting, shot himself through the body by the accidental discharge of his gun, and died in a short time.

☞ There has been for some time before the court at Richmond, Va., what was known as the Regland will case, and the verdict of the jury, just made, offers a singular commentary upon the repeated declaration of Northern fanatics, that the colored man cannot meet with justice in the South. The Richmond Despatch says:

"That will liberated eighty or ninety negroes in the midst of one of the largest slave-holding communities in the world, and devoted to their use the entire property of the testator. It was contested with all the energy which could be brought to bear upon it. The trial was conducted with the utmost circumspection; witnesses were examined and cross-examined; the whole testimony was reduced to writing, so that the jury could read it all for themselves, (as we learn that they did a great portion of it;) and then the case was argued with all the ability that able and ingenious council were capable of exercising.—After all, fully understanding the merits of the case, a jury composed almost entirely of slave-holders—every man of them having strong sympathies, at least, with slave-holders—decided in favor of the will."

☞ The "*Fredonia Advertiser*" is the title of a very good looking "Silver Gray" Whig paper, just started at Fredonia; Tyler & Shepard, publishers. It is said to be edited by our old Editorial friend, L. L. Pratt, Esq., formerly connected with the *Censor*. We wish the enterprise more success than most "Silver Gray" papers experience.

The Effect of Agitation.

We understand Gov. Jonston, in his speech at Lancaster, to strenuously contend for continued agitation of the slavery question. He says most of the measures of the last session are "settled"—"are irrepealable," but that the "fugitive slave law *alone* is within reach of amendment," and thence goes on to argue that duty as well as expediency require the whigs to advocate "changes which will make the law more consonant with the wishes of the people." Is *Gov. Johnston so sure* that all the questions of the Compromise are "settled," but this one he wishes amended? The abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia is a measure which, if the other is not "settled," but "repealable," is equally a subject which can be agitated; and will be agitated if the other is, we doubt not. That measure was conceded by the South to the North, because the North was so *magnanimous* as to pass a law carrying out one of the provisions of the Constitution. Now, will the South quietly submit to the North's recanting, and still adhere to her part of the bargain? If we were a Southern man, when the North talked about repealing or amending the fugitive slave law, we would be as clamorous for the repeal or amendment of the act *abolishing the slave trade in the District*. When the North moved the one we would amend with the other. When the North agitated, we would agitate; and such, undoubtedly, will be the course of the South. Gov. Johnston may spin out fine sentences from now till October about "restrictions of thought and speech," may resort to all the other clap-trap theories and arguments the "higer-law" politicians of modern times are wont to interlard their harrangues to the mob, but the effect of continued agitation of this subject will always be the same. In speaking of the effect of such agitation, the Washington *Union* says, "fifteen or twenty years ago the subject of slavery was fully discussed in the southern States. Even emancipation, and plans for accomplishing that object were gravely and calmly discussed by the largest Slaveholders of the South. But since then all is changed. A faction arose in the North which was urged on by dishonest zeal and pretended philanthropy. The insolent intermeddling, and factious hypocrisy of these new zealots disgusted and excited the resentments of the southern people. The gradual development of the scheme to make slavery an element in northern elections, the unceasing agitation of the subject in the halls of Congress, and the circulation of libellous prints and incendiary publications, produced such a feeling in the public mind at the South, that all ideas of emancipation were abandoned, and its advocates became objects of distrust and suspicion. Emancipation by individuals almost entirely ceased, and, when practised, was regarded as evidence of an unsound mind, or of a heart not sufficiently alive to the insults which had been inflicted, and the dangers which were threatened, by the reckless hypocrisy of abolition fanaticism.

"In this behalf causes did but produce their natural effects. The men of the South—even those who were gravely considering the inscrutable problem of emancipation—were at once filled with natural and commendable resentment. They might have been willing to incur heavy sacrifices to rid themselves of the legacy which English cupidity had forced upon them; they might, possibly, have invited aid and co-operation to accomplish that end: but when the attempt was made to wrest from the control of their own institutions—when abolitionism, stimulated by the blackest motives and the basest passions, preached up a crusade against them, denounced them as infidels, slave-breeders, and fomented servile war—a change came over the whole South. The privileges previously allowed the slaves were abridged, and more stringent laws were enacted; the federal government was called upon to prevent the transmission of incendiary publications through the public mails; journals advocating abolition were nowhere tolerated in the South; the discussion of abolitionism was nowhere permitted by the public sentiment; and those northern newspapers which conveyed the sentiments and proceedings of abolitionists were committed unread to the flames, as if they were freighted with a physical as well as a moral pestilence."

Such has been the effect of Gov. Johnston's fine drawn cant about "liberty of thought and of speech;" and such, and even more deplorable, will be the effect if the people do not in October rebuke him for the position he has taken to keep open the sores so long festering between the North and the South.

Erie and Little Valley Railroad.

Yesterday a Convention was to have been held at Randolph, N. Y., for the purpose of taking measures to form a company to construct this road. Erie was represented there by Messrs. Cadwell, Courtright, Camp, Kelley and Whallon. The road in question is one of the most importance to Erie of any yet projected—if we except the Sunbury—and we are in hopes it will not be abandoned, even, should the railroad interests between this and Buffalo give up voluntarily, or by legislative enactment, the insane and foolish project of laying down the Ohio guage to the Pennsylvania State line. There can be no doubt that the stock of the road will be the best in the country, connecting as it will the New York and Erie road with the railroad system of Ohio, which debouches the trade and travel of the west at this place by means of a railroad now building from Cleveland. The country through which the line has been surveyed is rich in agriculture and manufactures, and extremely favorable for constructing railroads. But upon this point we will let others speak. The following from the report of a committee appointed by a meeting of the citizens of Jamestown, is conclusive as to the advantages of this road:

"Erie is the best harbor on the southern shore of Lake Erie, and 90 miles above Buffalo, and therefore a more favorable point than Dunkirk for the New York and Erie road to compete for the western business, tending towards Buffalo. Dunkirk is so near the latter place as to render it unfit for a competing point. This consideration alone ought to settle the question that the stock would be profitable. Again, that part of the road from the mouth of Little Valley to Randolph has already been nearly graded by the New York and Erie Company, and from Randolph to near the state line is a continuous valley, uncommonly favorable for a railroad. It will, therefore, be a cheap road to construct. But there is another important fact bearing upon the question. It seems to be certain that the Sunbury and Erie road will be constructed. It is the only favorable route by which Philadelphia can reach the western lakes. A direct communication with the west is of the same importance to Philadelphia as it is to Boston or New-York. Again, Philadelphia can reach Erie by this route at about 70 miles less distance than it is possible for New York to, by any known feasible route. Besides she will have to construct but 240 miles of road, even if she completes the entire road to the lake, whereas the New York and Erie road is 450 miles long. Can there be a doubt then that Philadelphia will complete this road, and try to gain her share of the great and growing business of the west?

The distance from the point where the survey of this route strikes the Allegheny above Warren, Pa., to Erie, is 68 1-2 miles, whereas it is ascertained by a careful investigation, that by starting from that point and coming up the Conewango Valley and connecting with our proposed route and passing on the same, the distance to Erie will be increased not to exceed two miles, and may even be lessened. It has been ascertained by actual survey, that the grade at no point on our proposed route, from the mouth of Little Valley to Erie, exceeds 35 to 37 feet to the mile, while on several miles of the surveyed route of the Sunbury and Erie, just before reaching Erie, the grades are of 52 feet, and the road also containing several curvatures. It seems clear then, that a connexion of the latter road with our proposed one would be desired. By it the Sunbury and Erie Company could save the building of fifty miles of road, which is more than one-fifth of the entire distance from Sunbury to Erie. There is then every rational probability, that should our proposed road be completed, it would be the principal railroad highway between the west and both New York and Philadelphia. Has any interior road of a like distance ever been proposed with better prospects of doing a profitable busines than this very route?".

☞ The State Lunatic Hospital, near Harrisburg, is completed, and has been delivered to the Commissioners. The building is 500 feet in length, three stories high, with cut stone window and door sills and coping, slate roof and copper guttering, beautiful cut stone steps and airy portico, surmounted by a dome of great span and surpassing beauty. The whole interior arrangement is in the most complete order. The cost is a little less than $100,000.

☞ Change of Masters.—Capt. Miller, formerly of the steamer Diamond, has taken command of the steamer Niagara, and Capt. Goldsmith, formerly of the propeller Buffalo, has been placed in command of the Diamond.

SIFTINGS FROM OUR EXCHANGES

WITH EDITORIAL DASHES BY A FREE PEN.

☞ It will be an easy matter after this to know who are gentlemen and who are not. Gentlemen will pay the postage on the letters they send, and *vice versa*.

☞ A Boston religious paper thinks that people eat so heavy a dinner on Sundays that they cannot carry it to church. It thus accounts for numerous absences.

☞ A tailor in New York has just invented a new fashioned coat—it has neither seam or opening. To get into it, you have to crawl out of your trousers.

☞ Harper's Magazine for July has been received at Spafford's, State Street. It is an excellent No. containing "Our National Anniversary," with 18 illustrations.

☞ A law has been passed in Kentucky, which gives to widows having children of the proper age to attend the public schools, *the right to vote in the election of School Trustees &c.* A just and equitable provision.

☞ The whigs in Ohio have nominated a Mr. *Earl Bill*, of Erie county, for Secretary of State. We expect the Democrats will move to lay that *bill* on the table in October.

☞ Wasn't last Wednesday one of the warm days, though; and didn't the Ice Cream have to suffer some at Harris' and Frenches. By the by, we have tried both of these places, and for the life of us can't decide which furnishes the best "fixins."

☞ The "fastest" man in the world is a Frenchman in a passion. One was heard the other day holding forth in this wise: "By gar, you call my wife a woman tree time once more, and I will call de watch house, and blow your brain like a candle out, by dam."

☞ Gen. Scott was nominated at the Lancaster Convention, because he was the Hero of Mexico, and John Strohm because he voted against furnishing that hero with supplies to win his battles. There is consistancy for you!

☞ *Political Compliment.*—They are not over delicate in the West in their nicknames of candidates for office, but the editor of the Princeton (Ky.) Republican is too refined to call the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant Governor of the State "Greasy Bob," so he calls him, "Oleaginous Robert."

☞ Two or three young ladies in Easthampton, Mass., who appeared in Bloomer costume, last week, were immediately waited upon by the Rev. Mr. Stone, and informed that if they persisted in wearing those dresses they could not be connected with his church. It is evident this Rev. gentleman's name is no indication of his sense.

☞ The colored people of Indiana have called a State Convention, to be held in Indianapolis on the 1st of August, to take into consideration some scheme of general emigration to Liberia, or some other country. An excellent move, and much more practical than the plans of their *dear* friends, the Abolitionists.

☞ Swedenburg says that "though the virgins he saw in heaven were beautiful, the *wives* were incomparably more beautiful, and went on increasing in beauty evermore." This is certainly an encouragement for the girls to *get married*. What girl would *remain single* in this world, at the expense of her beauty in the next?

☞ The man that's too poor to take a newspaper will be in at the Circus to-day. If he should get a little "tight" before he goes home, and get his eyes blackened in a drunken brawl, it will only cost him five or ten dollars; and what is that little sum to a man too poor to take a paper.

☞ An exchange says the ignorance of young ladies brought up to thumb pianos, read love-sick novels, and entertain young gentlemen with moustaches, is astonishing. The other day one of this class threw the milk intended for tea out of the window, because it had a yellow scum on the top.

☞ The ladies who wear the short skirt are not ridiculed half so much as was the man who first ventured out with an umbrella over his head. And, by the way, there is a similarity in the two things—one is security from the water above, and the other from the waters below.

☞ The Cincinnati Commercial complains that the city is almost in a state of downright anarchy. That Journal says, "Rowdies, blackguards, thieves, and burglars, seem to have full swing, while the God-fearing man stands in the background, and wonders why somebody don't attend to these matters."

☞ Among the toasts at the celebration in Painsville, on the 4th, was the following:

Gen Sam. Houston: The Hero of San Jacinto, the Founder of a Republic, the conqueror and capturer of the great Mexican Chief; the guide of the lone Star into our glorious constellation. Brilliant has been thy career, but soon higher on the roll of fame inscribed thy name shall be.

☞ JusSo—The Rochester *Times* says it could never understand the reason why the man who sells a yard of cloth, or a hoe, or an axe, or a pair of shoes, is regarded by community as a better or a more respectable man than he who made it—nor he who sells a barrel of flour, or ships it off for another country, than he who raised the wheat from which it was manufactured. Will some one enlighten us on this subject?

☞ The Harisburg American says, in endeavoring to depreciate General SETH CLOVER, that he is only "a *common man!*" Very well—that wont set him back a *single peg—the Democrats prefer "common men"* like themselves—they are willing to leave the whigs all the "godliks" fellows, and can beat them badly at that.

☞ Some over-zealous people in Schuylkill county have determined "not to vote for any man for office, no matter what his qualifications or character may be, unless he is a temperance man." Such a mixing of politics with a particular system of ethics never could be entertained except by the most watery intellects. A drunken man would hardly be guilty of the *folly*.

☞ Here is the toughest yarn of the season. A New York paper relates that an engine on one of the Northern Railroad trains, a few days since, going at full speed, struck a man upon the track, knocked him between the rails and the whole train passed over him. It broke no bones, but the man said, when he got up, it gave him a tremendous jar, and he was afraid he should have the head ache.

☞ Here is a case of "misplaced affection" which should serve as a warning to all other young men. At Newport, Florida, a marriage took place on the 20th ult. between Mr. G. aged 83 years, and Mrs. C. not more than half that age. It is, however, to be observed that it is the seventh time she has gone through the interesting ceremony. Three days after the happy event, Mr. G. cautioned all persons from crediting his wife on his account, as she refused to go and live with him.

☞ Why is a bad plank side walk like certain terms in music? Because if you don't C sharp you'll B flat. —*Ex Paper.*

The above reminds us that if our city Fathers could "C sharp," they would have discovered ere this that the walk across the Diamond, on the West side of State street, is in a condition well calculated to further the interests of the medical profession and the Dry Goods trade. A country friend suggests that if the plank were cut-in-two and laid *crosswise*, like a plank road, there would be less danger of stubing ones toes against the ends that now stick up like sawyers in the Mississippi.

☞ The Buffalo *Courier* says that the corner stone of the enlargement of the Capitol, at Washington, was laid on the 4th inst. by President Fillmore, with *masonic* ceremonies. The latter must have recalled to His Excellency some agreeable reminiscences of the Morgan excitement, at which time he was one of the prominent Anti-Masons of Western New York. Time, however, is the great soother of agitation of every sort, and we dare say that Anti-Masonry is as seldom thought of now-a-days by the President at Washington, as it is by the thousands of those who twenty years ago looked upon a royal arch mason—

"With as favorable eyes
As Gabriel on the devil in Paradise."

Flax vs. Cotton.

The recent improvement in the preparation of flax, says an exchange, promises to bring it into extensive use. Though, perhaps, it will never supplant cotton, it will certainly come into service in many cases were cotton is now employed exclusively; for in cheapness it will rival, if not surpass cotton. A committee of the Massachusetts Legislature has already been appointed to procure information concerning the culture of flax and the probability of its substitution for cotton in the manufacture of cheap fabrics; and they have reported that there is no doubt the plant can be raised abundantly in every State in the Union under proper tillage, without exhausting the soil; and that it is but reasonable to conclude, from recent developements, that flax may soon be adopted to a considerable extent as a substitute for cotton in the manufacture of the class of fabrics referred to. Meantime, our enterprising farmers are going largely into the flax culture. Not less than 46,000 acres of land in the State of New York were sown with flax in 1849; and since then, the number has largely increased. What influence, if any, this will have on cotton culture at the South, and remotely on the method of farming there, time only can develope.

Public Meeting.

Communicated for the Crawford Democrat.

A meeting of all persons interested in navigating French Creek, will be held at Alexander Hoig's in Cambridge, on Saturday 5th July next, to take measures to insure a free navigation by Schute, or otherwise, past Bemus' Dam. By order of the Lumbermen.

In pursuance of the above call, a large meeting assembled at Cambridge, Crawford county, on the 5th inst. Mr. JOHN BOLE, of Venango, was called to the Chair; Messrs. A. B. Ross, and S. R. Jackson, of Cambridge, and Isaac Kelley and John Jarvis, of Rockdale, were appointed Vice Presidents and Josiah Saeger and J. L. Perkin, of Venango, and Wm. G. Culbertson, of Meadville, Secretaries.

The object of the meeting was then, on motion, stated by Wm. P. Shattuck, Esq., who concluded by moving for a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. The following gentlemen were appointed a committee: Wm. P. Shattuck, John Kleckner, Wm. Campbell, Hon. John Dick, Wm. Thorp, Edw. Saeger, John McFarland, Robert Anderson, Philip Kleckner, Maj. S. S. Adram, J. F. Clark, H. B. Brooks, Alex. Hoig, and George Shearer.

During the absence of the committee, the meeting was addressed by Messrs. Williamson, Merriman, and Barron, who ably advocated the rights of our citizens and urged the immediate compliance on the part of the Erie Canal Directors, with the requirements of the law in regard to Bemus' dam.

Whereas, The Erie Canal Company have failed to put under contract a Lock or Schute at Bemus' dam, according to the act of Assembly; and, whereas, the citizens of Crawford county have suffered much loss and inconvenience from the want of such Lock, or Schute, they are, therefore, *Resolved*, to adopt such measures as are necessary to secure to them their rights, "peaceably if we can, forcibly, if we must." Therefore, be it

Resolved, That if the Erie Canal Company do not, on, or before the 1st August next, commence and prosecut to completion, according to law, the Schute or Lock at Bemus' dam, this meeting pledge themselves to the public to commence prosecution against the company for the failure in complying with the law in relation thereto, or adopt such other measures as may be deemed necessary and effective under the circumstances.

Resolved, That Gen. John Dick, John McFarland, William Thorp, D. M. Bole, A. Hoig, Edward Saeger, and John Kleckner, be a committee to forward the proceedings of this meeting to, and correspond with, the Erie Canal Company, on the subject, and also, are fully empowered to call meetings in reference thereto, and do whatever else they may deem expedient in forwarding our views on this, to us, very important subject.

Resolved, That these proceedings be signed by the officers, and published in the Crawford and Erie newspapers, and that this meeting adjourn until further notice by the committee.

SIGNED BY THE OFFICERS.

The Result of Kindness.—The Jacksonville (Ill.) Journal says, that when the superintendent of the Asylum for the Poor in that county first took charge of it, he found one insane man who had been loaded with chains for years. Believing that this cruelty kept the man insane, he took the responsibility of taking them off, and gradually restoring him to liberty. The man at first raved, expecting fresh torture; then he doubted, and finally realized that he was free. He was overpowered with delight, exclaiming constantly as he looked upon the outer world of sunshine—"O, how beautiful!" Then gratitude to his liberator prevailed. At length he *voluntarily went to work in the garden, though* he had nearly lost all his power of locomotion, and he became entirely recovered. He is now on a farm.

A Catamount Choked to death by a Man.—Quite a thrilling incident occured a few weeks ago, some five miles above here, on the Mississippi side of the river. Two men, M—— and A——, occupied a cabin in close proximity to which they were engaged in reparing levees, ditching, &c.—Early one morning, as M. emerged from the cabin door, to his surprise he discovered a very large catamount crouched in one corner of it. It immediately sprang upon him, biting his leg and otherwise scratching him. He alarmed A., but ere he could come to his assistance, he had disengaged himself, and ran into the cabin, the animal following him as far as the door. By this time A. had the gun prepared, and aimed at him as he caught his eye. The gun snapped three times in consequence of dampness. In the mean time M. seized a spade to attack him, but A. caused him to desist as he wished to shoot him. Becoming satisfied as to the inutility of the gun, he turned to lay it on the bed; the moment he withdrew his gaze from the catamount, it leaped a distance of ten or twelve feet upon his left shoulder, and bit and scratched it considerably. Perceiving the danger of his friend, M. wished to kill the catamount with his spade, but was persuaded by A. to desist. After a short struggle A. succeeded in grasping the animal's throat in his right hand, which caused it to relax its hold. He then threw it upon the bed and actually *choked it to death*. We are glad to learn that the wounds of the two individuals engaged in this affair have not proved dangerous, and from which they will recover in a few days.—*Lake Providence (La.) Rep.*

Distressing Scene.—At St. Louis, recently, a child of an Irishman died on one of the newly arrived steamers. The father sent another of his children, a little boy, into the city for a coffin. The boy being sometime gone, the man threw the dead body of the girl over his shoulder, and walked up to meet the boy or bury the body somewhere himself. He met the boy with the coffin, and laid the corpse over the head of a barrel, while he arranged some preliminaries, and then calmly laid her in, and closed the rude box up. A carman came by, to whom he gave a quarter to take his burthen from him to Potters field.

Too Good to be Lost.—We heard of a conversation which took place a few evenings since, between one of Elmira's fair daughters and a young merchant of the place, which runs thus:—The merchant was speaking of the excellent qualities of a young female friend of his, and closed his remarks by observing that "she was a noble, generous hearted lady, and one that was right here," accompanying the last word with a gesture which bordered near the heart. Her reply was, "*Judge! that is half cotton!*"—*Elmira Dem.*

The Murder in Williamsburg.—Lawrence Riley, who murdered his wife and mother-in-law at Williamsburg, last Saturday, on being removed from the prison at Williamsburg, for the purpose of conveying him to Brooklin, remarked: "There is no use to handcuff me; I do not wish to leave you. I am revenged, and I only wish to die. There will be no necessity to try me by a jury. it will only be putting the state to expense. I have committed the murder, and I want to die as soon as possible."

Good for Him.—The editor of the Concord (N. H.) *Patriot* has received the present of a couple of eggs, one weighing a quarter of a pound, the other just one third of an ounce. Of the latter he says: "We intend to raise a rooster from it to present to our Federal friends. He may be small at first, but will have time enough to grow to a "fifteen pounder" before they will need his services to proclaim a federal victory in this State."

The Tribune and the Blacks.—The Dry Goods Reporter of last week, thus comments upon the Abolition propensities of the Tribune:

A few days since a gentleman living in Jamaica, Long Island, addressed a note to the Tribune office which was one of the most direct and practical on the subject of slavery that we have for a long time read. It gave an account of the condition of about three hundred free blacks in that village and vicinity, the descendants of the Dutch slaves, once owned by the Jamaica farmers and villagers.

The writer represents them as a shiftless, worthless, idle race, and a perfect nuisance where they live. He asks the Tribune whether they were better off than their fathers were, when they were taken care of, fed, clothed, and only moderately worked by them.

The Tribune, fairly cornered by a "fixed fact," replies in a round about way, as to the inapplicability of this particular case to the mooted point, and admits the necessity of educating and preparing the Negro race for freedom before they can enjoy it.

Very well. If this be so then we call on the Tribune to set the example at once. Let us have no more agitation in that quarter before the work of education and preparation is commenced. No time is to be lost. The middle aged negroes of New-York are fast getting to be old men, and their young children are getting to be men, without the least preparation for the exalted stations to which they might aspire and perspire.

The editors of the Tribune can now show their *sincerity at once*. Let them forsake Nassau street, abandon their newspaper, divide its profits among the socialists, and repair at once to Jamaica, Long Island. There they will find three hundred "human creatures" free and independent, who are a perfect infliction upon the community. Let them establish a colony or a school, erect a rostrum, and lecture on the divine right of life and labor. After spending among them the remainder of their lives, they will have the credit of sincerity and the stamp of truth.

ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC WONDER.

PEPSIN, an artificial Digestive Fluid, or Gastric Juice a great Dyspepsia curer, prepared from Rennet, or the fourth stomach of the Ox, after directions of Baron Liebig the great Physiological Chemist by J. S. Houghton, M. D., No. 11 North Eighth street Philadelphia, Pa. This is a truly *wonderful remedy* for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Jaundice, Liver Complaint, Constipation and Debility, curing after nature's own method, by nature's own agent the Gastric Juice. See advertisement in another column.

A SMALL CONSIGNMENT OF THE ABOVE ARTICLE JUST RECEIVED, AND FOR SALE BY CARTER AND BROTHER, NO. 6, REED HOUSE. Also, by DR. P. HALL, No. 1, HUGHS' BLOCK.

☞ The valuable Hoofland Bitters, which have acquired so extensive a popularity, and command so large a sale, are not only by Dr Jackson, at the German Medicine Store, No 120, Arch street, Philadelphia. These bitters have a well merited renown for the cure of liver complaint, dyspepsia, chronic or nervous debility, etc., in relieving which they have no equal, and have indeed proved a blessing to thousands, who regard Dr. Jackson as their preserver from an untimely grave. We have seen the most obstinate cases of dyspepsia speedily and radically cured by them. The surest test of the excellence of an article is its being counterfeited; this is the case with these Bitters. To obtain the genuine, go to Dr. Jackson's authorized agents.

MARRIED.

In Buffalo on the 4th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Sawyer, of Hamburgh, Mr. Albert Lane, of Buffalo, and Miss Frances Huntsbarger, of this city.

On the 2d inst., by Rev. G. W. Cleaveland, Mr. Mills H. Bowworth, of Harborcreek, and Miss Lidia P. Wigton, of Ripley, N. York.

On the 6th inst., by H. M'Lane, Esq., Mr. Geo. A. Clake, of Wattsburg, and Miss Eliza Hubbell, of Amity.

On the 11th of June last, by the Rev. D. Rowland, Mr. Wm. Mason, and Miss Armenia Mosher, all of Amity.

On the 3d inst., by the same, Mr. Samuel Coyle, of Wattsburg, and Miss Adela Lasure, of Amity

In Girard, by J. Davis, Esq., Mr. Lewis Dodds, and Miss Matilda Morton, both of Girard.

DIED.

At the residence of his son in Girard, on the 27th of May, Mr. Arnold Warner, aged 79 years.

On the 4th inst., John Hughes, Esq., of this city, late County Treasurer, aged 46 years.

On the 1st inst., at the residence of his brother, in McKean tp., of consumption, Mr. Sebastian Schlauff, formerly a resident of this city, aged 26 years.

On the 1st inst., in Albion, Erie county, Pa., of apoplexy, Mrs. Anna, wife of Luther Litchfield, Esq., aged 60 years.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

JOHN LINDEN,

GENERAL STEAMBOAT AGENT:

Office in Speed's Telegraph Office, next to Williams & Wright's Exchange Office, State st., Erie.

Through Tickets to New York, via New York and Erie Railroad; and to Pittsburgh via Cle