THE ERIE OBSERVER.

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Erie Weekly Observer.

A. P. DURLIN & CO., PROPRIETORS

B. F. SLOAN, Editor.

OFFICE, CORNER STATE ST. AND PUBLIC SQUARE, ERIE.

TERMS OF THE PAPER

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

CARSON GRAHAM,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, in George A. Elliot's office, west side of the park, Erie. 34

JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, No. 155, Third Street, Pittsburgh. 34

JOHN W. RIDDELL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.—Office, Fifth Street, between Smithfield and Grant Streets, Pittsburgh, Pa

VINCENT HIMROD & CO.
MANUFACTURERS of Stoves, Hollow Ware, Engines, Machinery, Rail Road Cars, etc, State St., Erie, Pa.

THOMAS M AUSTIN,
(Late of the firm of G. Loomis & Co.)
DEALER in Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, Silver Spoons, Musical Instruments, Looking Glasses, Lamps and Fancy Goods, wholesale and retail.

JOHN GOALDING,
MERCHANT TAILOR, and Habit Maker—Shop on the east side of State street, two doors north of Eight, and adjoining J. H. Ribbet & Co's Cabinet Ware-Room, Erie, Penna.

JOHN KEENAN,
General Steamboat Agent, office at R. J. Roger's Hat Store State street Erie Pa.

CLARK & METCALF,
WHOLESALE and retail dealers in Dry Goods, Carpets, and Dry Groceries No. 1 Reed House.

WILLIAMS & WRIGHT.
BANKERS, Collectors and Dealers in Gold and Silver coin, uncurrent Money, Land Warrants and certificates of Deposite. Also Sight Drafts on the principal cities of the Union, and all parts of the Old Country for sale Office, Williams' Block, corner of State-st., and Public Square.
J. E. WILLIAMS. C. B. WRIGHT.

J. G. & W. I. MILLS,
IMPORTERS and Wholesale Dealers in Groceries, Wines, Liquors, Cigars.—Also, Foreign Fruit, Nutts, Pickles and Pickled Oysters, Lobsters, Preserves, and Hermetically Sealed articles of every description always on hand. No 7, William's Block, State-st, opposite Brown's New Hotel, Erie, Pa
J. G. MILLS, New York. WM. I. MILLS, Buffalo
Also, receiving in their season, Oysters in shell, from J. G. Mills Depot, New York, which will be sold Wholesale at low prices
A. C. JACKSON, Agent, Erie, Pa.

DURLIN & SLOAN,
DEALERS in Classical, School and Miscellaneous Books, Blank Books, Stationery, and Printer's Cards, No. 9, Brown's new Block, Erie Pa
A. P. DURLIN B. F. SLOAN.

W. POYNTELL JOHNSTON M. D.
OFFICE at his residence on 6th Street, two doors West of the Episcopal Church.

T. W. MOORE,
DEALER in Groceries, Provisions, Wines, Liquors, Candies, Fruit, &c., One Door below Loomis & Co's State street, Erie.

JOHN B COOK.
DEALER in Staple & Fancy Dry Goods, and the Greatest variety of any Store in the City. Cheap Side, Erie, Pa.

STERRETT & GRAY.
IMPORTERS, Jobbers and retail Dealers in Wet and Dry Groceries Provisions, Produce, Foreign and Domestic Fruit, Wooden, Willow and Stone Ware, Flour, Fish, Salt, Glass, Nails, Powder, Shot, Caps, Safety Fuse, &c., &c. French Street, opposite the Reed House, Erie, Pa.
☞ Steam and Canal Boats, Vessels, Hotels, and Private Families supplied with any of the above articles with promptness and very cheap.

WM. S. LANE.
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.
OFFICE over Jackson's store, at North-East corner of the Public Square.

DOCTORS BEEBE & STEWART.
PRACTISING Physicians and Surgeons. Office and Residences—Seventh & Sassafras Streets.
Office hours from 7 to 8, A. M.; 1 to 2, and 6 to 7, P. M.
A. BEEBE, M. D. J. L. STEWART, M. D.

JOHN HEARN & CO.
FORWARDING and Commission Merchants, dealer in Coal, Flour, Fish, and agent for a daily line of upper lake Steamers, Public Dock Erie Pa.

LIDDELL & Co.
BLACKSMITHS, Manufacturers of Iron Pence, Railing, Steamboat Boilers, &c., &c., State, between 7 h and 8th. Streets, Erie.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.
OFFICE Removed to No. 5 Reed Block, State Street.
Eastern Express closes at 11½ o'clock, A. M.
Western " " 3½ o'clock, P. M.
C. D. SHAFFORD, Agent.

GEORGE J. MORTON.
(Late of the firm of J. Hearn & Co.)
FORWARDING and Commission Merchant, Public Dock, Erie, Pa. Dealer in Coal, Salt, Fish, Flour and Plaster.

WALKER & TIBBALS.
FORWARDING, produce and Commission Merchants, second Ware House East of the Public Bridge, Erie Pa.
Also—Dealers in Coal, Salt, Plaster, Stucco, Fish, Lime and Lime Stone, Iron, Nails, Stoves, Castings, &c., &c., with unsurpassed facilities for shipping either by Steamboats, Propellers, Schooners, or by Rail Road.
D. B. WALKER L. N. TIBBALS.

W. H. KNOWLTON,
WATCHMAKER and Repairer, Dealer in Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Musical Instruments, Looking Glasses and other Fancy Goods Store one door west of the Reed House. 17

ARBUCKLE & KEPLER,
DEALERS in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Crockery, &c. No 3, Perry Block, State street, Erie, Pa.

DR. C. BRANDES.
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON—Office at his residence on Eighth Street, between French and Holland, Erie, Pa.

M. SANFORD & CO.,
Dealers in Gold, Silver, Bank Notes, Drafts, Certificates of Deposit, &c Sight Exchange on the principal cities constantly for sale Office in Beatty's Block, Public Square, Erie.

T. HERON STUART.
SURGEON AND PHYSICIAN—Office, corner of French and Fifth streets, over Moses Koch's store, Residence on Fourth street, one door east of the old Apothecary Hall.

RUFUS REED,
DEALER in English, German and American Hardware and Cutlery Also, Nails, Anvils, Vices, Iron and Steel No. 3 Reed House, Erie, Pa.

CADWELL & BENNETT,
WHOLESALE, Jobbers, and Retail Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery, Glassware, Carpeting, Hardware, Iron, Steel, Nails, Spikes, &c. Empire Stores State Street, four doors, below Brown's Hotel, Erie, Pa.
Also—Anvils, Vices, Bellows, Axle Arms, Springs, and a general assortment of Saddle and Carriage Trimmings.

S. MERVIN SMITH,
ATTORNEY AT LAW and Justice of the Peace, and Agent for the Key Stone Mutual Life Insurance Company—Office 3 doors west of Wrights store, Erie, Pa.

GEORGE H. CUTLER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, Girard, Erie County, Pa. Collections and other business attended to with promptness and dispatch.

JOSIAH KELLOGG,
FORWARDING & Commission Merchant, on the Public Dock, east of State street.
Coal, Salt, Plaster and White Fish, constantly for sale.

I. ROSENZWEIG & Co.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS in Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, ready made Clothing, Boots and Shoes, &c., No. 1 Wright's Block, State street, Erie.

MARSHALL & VINCENT,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW—Office up stairs in Tammany Hall building south of the Prothonotary's office, Erie.

MURRAY WHALLON,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW—Office over C. B. Wright's store, entrance one door west of State street, on the Diamond, Erie

TIBBALS & HAYES,
DEALERS in Dry Goods, Dry Groceries, Crockery, Hardware, &c. No. 1, Brown's New Hotel.

SMITH JACKSON,
DEALER in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queens Ware, Lime, Iron, Nails, &c., 131, Cheapside, Erie, Pa.

WILLIAM RIBLET,
CABINET MAKER, Upholster, and Undertaker, corner of State and Seventh streets, Erie.

CARTER & BROTHER,
WHOLESALE and Retail dealers in Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Dye-stuffs, Glass, &c., No. 6, Reed House, Erie.

JAMES LYTLE,
FASHIONABLE Merchant Tailor, on the public square, a few doors west of State street, Erie.

M. CHAPIN, RESIDENT DENTIST—Office on the south side of the Diamond five doors east of the Erie Bank. Prices reasonable, and all work warranted Erie June 19 1852. 6

GINGHAMS of every variety and style from 10 cents to 25 cts. per yard at Nov 9 '52 SMITH JACKSON.

60 Bags Rio, Java and Laguira Coffee just received and for sale by Nov 6 '52 STERRETT & GRAY.

DR. O. L. ELLIOTT,
Resident Dentist: Office and dwelling on the Southside of the Public Square, 1st door East of the Erie Bank Building. Teeth inserted on Gold Plate, from one to an entire sets. Carious teeth filled with pure Gold, and restored to health and usefulness. Teeth cleaned with instruments and Dentifice so as to save them of pellucid clearness. All work warranted.

JOHN H. BURTON & CO.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL dealers in Drugs, Medicines, Dye Stuffs, Groceries, &c. No. 5, Reed House, Erie.

To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of Erie

THE Petition of Hiram Baker respectfully showeth, that your petitioner occupies a commodious house situate in the township of Concord, on the road leading from Waterford to Warren, also from Meadville to Columbus, which is well calculated for a public house of entertainment, and from its neighborhood and situation is suitable as well as necessary for the accommodation of the public and the entertainment of strangers and travelers; that he is well provided with stabling for horses, and all conveniences necessary for the entertainment of strangers and travelers; he therefore respectfully prays the court to grant him a license to keep an inn or public house of entertainment there, and your petitioner will pray &c HIRAM BAKER

We, the undersigned citizens of the township of Concord aforesaid, being personally acquainted with Hiram Baker, the above named petitioner, and also having a knowledge of the house for which the license is prayed, do hereby certify that such house is necessary to accommodate the public and entertain strangers and travelers, that he is a person of good repute for honesty and temperance, and that he is well provided with house room and conveniences for the lodging and accommodation of strangers and travelers. We therefore beg leave to recommend him for a license agreeably to his petition.

Signed.—Robert C. Brown, N. P. Brown, James Hood, F. B. Stranhan, P. K. Webber, Alden Higgins, James Culver, Jedu then Gray, Abner Lilley, John Culver Wilber C. Webb, Charles Webber, Parker Stowell, J. H. Moffatt, Andrew Hays, William Hays, Eli W. Webber, Jesse Heath, Philander Boutwell, Ezekiel Lewlis. 3 33

To the Honorable Court of Quarter Sessions of Erie County.

THE petition of Robert Hills of the city of Erie, in said county, respectfully represents, that he is well provided with house room and conveniences for the lodging and accommodation of strangers and travelers, at the house known as the Farmer's Hotel, formerly occupied by L. A. Constantine in said city of Erie. He therefore prays the Honorable Court to grant him a license for keeping a public inn or tavern, and he, as in duty bound, will pray, &c. ROBERT HILLS

We, the subscribers, citizens of the East Ward of the city of Erie in which the above inn or tavern, prayed to be licensed is proposed to be kept, do certify that Robert Hills the above applicant, is of good repute for honesty and temperance and is well provided with house room and conveniences for the lodging and accommodation of strangers and travelers, and that such an inn or tavern is necessary to accommodate the public and entertain strangers and travelers.

Signed.—C. M. Tibbals, J. J. Linn, H. Caldwell, M. Mayor, C. W. Mayberry, Thos Sill, Rufus Reed, Lucius A. Constantine, Moses Koch, John S. Brown, John M. Justice, H. L. Brown, W. W. Loomis, Bernard Hubley. Jan. 1 '53- 3 34

To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions of Erie County.

THE Petition of Gibson J. Strantahan, of the township of Concord, and county aforesaid, respectfully showeth, that he is well provided with house room and conveniences for lodging and accommodation of strangers and travelers at the house he now occupies in said township; he therefore prays the Honorable Court to grant him a license for keeping a public inn or tavern.

Concord, Dec. 25 '52. GIBSON J STRANAHAN

We, the undersigned citizens of Concord township, in which the above mentioned tavern is to be kept, do certify that the above petitioner is of good repute for honesty and temperance, and that he is well provided with house room and conveniences for the accommodation of strangers and travelers, and that said house is necessary for the accommodation of strangers and travelers.

Signed.—P. K Webber, Andrew Hays, N. P Brown, Thomas Chelton, Heman Millard, John Biger, William Pratt, John Bedell, James Hood, Chas Webber, Robt Brown, F. Lewis, Heath

ORDINANCE!

FOR paving the side walks on the south side of Second street, from Holland to Parade st., on the North side of Short st., from Sassafras to Myrtle st., on both sides of Myrtle st., from Fourth to Short st., on both sides of Third st., from Sassafras to Walnut st., on the East side of German st., from Eighth to Eleventh st., on the West side of Sassafras st., from Ritner to Buffalo st., on the North side of Buffalo st., from Peach to Chestnut st., on the West side of French st., from Eleventh st., to the Erie and North East Railroad, on the East side of French st., from the Railroad to Buffalo st., on the West side of German st., from Third to Fourth st., on the South side of Third st., from Holland st., to the East side of Mrs. Dickson's lot, and on both sides of Holland st., from Second to Fifth st., on the South side of Eleventh st., from Peach st., to Sassafras st.

Be it ordained and enacted by the Mayor, Select and Common Councils of the City of Erie That all and every owner or owners of any lot or lots, or smaller quantity of land bounded on the South side of Second st., between Holland and Parade st., on the North side of Short st., between Sassafras and Myrtle sts., on both sides of Myrtle between Fourth and Short sts., on both sides of Third st., between Sassafras and Walnut sts., on the East side of German st., between Eighth and Eleventh st., on the West side of Sassafras st., from Ritner to Buffalo st., on the North side of Buffalo st., from Peach to Chestnut sts., on the West side of French st., from Eleventh st., to the Erie and North East Railroad, on the East side of French st., from the Erie and North East Railroad to Buffalo st., on the West side of German st., from Third to Fourth st., on the South side of Third st., from Holland st., to the east line of Mrs Dickson's Lot, and on both sides of Holland st., between Second and Third st., and on the South side of Eleventh st., between Peach and Sassafras st., be and are hereby required to pave the Side Walks in front of their respective Lot or Lots, or other quantity of Land, and the owner or owners of corner Lots where any street or streets intersect those ordered to be paved by this Ordinance, are required to extend their pavements along said streets past the line of their respective Lot or Lots twelve feet where said cross or intersecting street is sixty feet wide, and sixteen feet where it is one hundred feet wide, and to have said pavement completed in the manner herein after directed on or before the first of January A. D. 1853.

2nd. That said Pavements shall be good sound plank, two inches thick, to be laid six feet wide, on good substantial bed or cross pieces of timber, and securely fastened down with good spikes, and to the grade given by the City Surveyor.

3d. That the tenant, tenants of other persons residing on any such Lot or Lots or other quantity of land owned by any person or persons not residing in this city, be and are hereby required to pave in front of the same as aforesaid, and in such case it shall be lawful for such tenant or tenants to deduct the cost of such pavement out of any rent due, or to become due for the premises.

4th. That no pavement shall be deemed to be completed until examined and approved by the Side Walk Committee.

5th. That any person neglecting to comply with the requisition of this Ordinance, shall forfeit and pay the sum of one dollar for every foot in length of pavement which such person should have made, and in default of said pavement being completed by the first day of January A. D. 1853, the Mayor, Select and Common Councils will proceed to lay down the same and file Liens for the cost thereof against the respective Lot or Lots or other quantity of Land, and proceed to collect the same according to the act of Assembly in such cases made and provided.

Ordained and enacted into an Ordinance the 25th day of Nov. A. D. 1852.

MURRAY WHALLON, Mayor.
Attest, W. H SHERMAN, Clerk. Erie, Nov. 18 1852-3 32

J. M. SMITH & CO.,
WHOLESALE GROCERS,
No. 7 Bennett Block, State St. est, Erie, Pa.

THE subscribers beg leave to inform the citizens of this and the adjoining counties, that they are receiving almost daily in additions to their stock of goods, the largest and best assortment of Groceries to be found west of New York City. Thankful for the liberal patronage received since our commencement in this city, we would most respectfully call the attention of merchants and others wishing goods in our line, to an exhibition of our stock before going to Buffalo or New York. We wish it distinctly understood that we will sell goods for *Cash or Ready Pay*, as cheap as can be purchased in Buffalo or in New York, with the addition of expenses in getting goods to this City.

The following comprise a small part of our stock—
50 Hhds. N. O. Muscd., and P. R. Sugars.
100 Bbls. Crushed Pow'd, Granulat'd & Coffee do.
10 Tierces Dutch Crushed sugar,
20 Boxes Refined Loaf do.
20 Hhd Muse'd,, and P R Molasses,
20 Tierces do, do. do.
75 Bbls. do. do. & S. H. do.
15 do. Stewart's Syrup,
10 do. Cuba Honey.
130 Chests and half Chests Young Hyson, Hyson Skin, Imperial, Gunpowder and Black Teas,
100 Bx. from 4 to 16lbs of Black and Green do.
75 Bags Rio, Laguira and Java Coffee,
20 Boxes Ground Coffee,
75 do. Cavendish Tobacco, all qualities,
30 do. ⅛ lb lump do. superior qualities,
25 Bbls. J. Anderson's Smoking Tobacco, 1, ½ & ¼ lbs.
Also, several different brands Fine Cut Chewing.
75 Packages Mackeral, No's 1, 2 & 3, in whole, ½ and Kits.
650 Boxes Herring, No. 1 and Scaled,
5000 lbs Cod Fish,
25 Bbls. Refined Winter Strained Oil,
Also, Nuts, Raisins, Prunes, Pepper, Pimento, Cassia, Nutmegs, Cloves, Rice, Powder, Shot, Safety Fuse, Wrapping, Cap and Letter Paper; Mustard, and Pickles, of an excellent quality and cheap—besides a great many other articles too numerous to mention in an advertisement of this kind We also have in addition to the goods above mentioned, a large stock of PURE WINES and LIQUORS, which can be had 25 per cent. cheaper for the same quality, than can be purchased west of New York, notwithstanding the great advance in liquors. London and Philadelphia Porter, Scotch Ale, and Wines of almost all descriptions. Please call and examine for yourselves, and you will be satisfied that you can do better than by going to Buffalo or New York.
Erie, Dec. 4, 1852, 3 J M SMITH & Co.

AN extensive assortment of flavoring extracts the best in market, call and try one for the handkerchief of every kind, Colognes, hair oils, pomades, ambrodine a certain cure for chapped hands, lip salve, shaving soaps and creams of bay rum, hair rum, hair dye, hair restorative, depilatory powder, in short we constantly keep on hand a complete assortment of every kind of Perfumery, fancy articles and Yankee notions of almost every description.

Persons wishing to buy are respectfully invited to call as they may depend upon getting what they want at the lowest price, at the city drug store state-st. Erie Dec. 4-'52 P. HALL.

WRITING PAPER—Blue, White, Letter, Cap, Gilt edge, colored, satin and note Paper, fancy envelopes, plain and self-sealing envelopes, cards of all kinds which cannot fail to suit customers, give us a call and see. Dec. 4 1852-3 P. HALL.

Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1853.

Sunbury and Erie Railroad.

We give place in another column to an important and able letter from JOHN TUCKER, Esq., President of the Reading road, and CHRISTOPHER FALLON, Esq., President of the Sunbury road. This letter needs no endorsement at our hands—it speaks for itself; and in speaking exhibits the character and advantages of the Sunbury enterprise in their full and true bearing. When we look upon this work exhibited in the strong practical point of view seen by Mr. Tucker, we can only wonder that the cars are not now running between this and Philadelphia, instead of that city halting and considering whether to subscribe or not to its stock. Aside from the immense trade it would pour into the lap of Philadelphia—a trade, be it remembered, that city does not now, nor never can enjoy except by the construction of this improvement—it would in a few years, by opening a now inaccessible portion of the State, add more than its cost to the revenues of the Commonwealth. It is conceded upon all hands that by far the richest portion of the State, in natural resources, is between Erie and Sunbury. *Now* that section is an impassible wilderness, almost. Build this road, and from Erie to Sunbury the whole distance will become a garden; its lofty forests will be turned into lumber, and its mines of coal and iron brought forth to enrich the people of the State. In referring to these facts, we say nothing of the wealth of trade Pennsylvania would hereby secure that now seeks a market in N. Y. That this trade would be secured to our State, the facts set forth in the letter we refer to, fully demonstrate. Why then should Philadelphia hesitate? What, in comparison with the advantages to be derived, is a million or two millions of dollars to a city like Philadelphia? Nothing!—a mere drop in the bucket!

THE NEW YORK CRYSTAL PALACE.—Quite a number of our exchanges are down upon the gutters up of the New York Crystal Palace, for expecting the Press to advertise the institution, when the shares are said to command over fifty per cent premium. It is indeed a speculation which "takes down" completely anything ever undertaken by Barnum. What is a remarkable peculiarity in the modest projectors is, that they have, in the name of the public, procured the gratuitous use of a public square in New York, for their building, and have had it constituted a Government storehouse, by the President, so that foreign articles may be imported for exhibition, duty free. Both these facts are stretches of authority, to be palliated only upon the ground that they are in aid of a purpose wholly public. They would hardly be excused, if they were granted to help on a private speculation. The Crystal Palace at Dublin, and this again, at New York, are imitations which will not have all the merits of the original. This last is a cockneyish imitation of cockneyism—with the salt, that gave the original flavor, wanting. No Royal lady no Prince Pattypan, will parade its aisles, smiling condescendingly at the throngs of exhibitors and gazers, themselves a part of the spectacle—unless, indeed, some of the self-styled "merchant princes" of the Metropolis will enact that part.

☞ PUTNAM'S MONTHLY.—We are indebted to the publisher for an early copy of this new candidate for public favor, and fully agree with the "*Home Journal*" that it is a triumph in Magazine literature. Its contents is timely, various, and of excellent quality. The number contains 120 large, double-columned pages, between neat, pea-green covers. The articles—twenty-five in number—appear anonymously, as they should; but it is well known they are from practiced and popular pens. The gay and lively predominate, but the grave and instructive are well represented; and the result is a charming and interesting magazine—a work creditable to the publishers, the editors, the writers and the country. In its character it is eminently American; and thus while it is not expected to supercede "Harper," it will be an acceptable visiter at the fire-side of a large class of readers who look for something solid, and at the same time instructive and amusing. It can be had at No. 9, Browns Hotel.

☞ Opposition is said to be the life of business; and we are glad to see that the Express business in this country is about to have some life infused into it. The present express upon this and New York is a perfect monopoly, and like all monopolies has degenerated into a stupendous swindle upon the business of the country. But its race is run, thank fortune! The *Journal of Commerce* states that a new Express Company, to be called the "United States Express Company," with a capital of $500,000 are rapidly perfecting their arrangements, and expect to be in operation by the 1st of March. More than three times the amount of capital required was offered in that city, but a portion was reserved for other points on the route over which its business is to be conducted. The premises No. 62 Broadway, have been leased for the principal New York office.

☞ Chloroform is now used to remove bees from the honey-comb. The hive is placed above a chamber, having a glass window at one side, and a small hole pierced at the other. The chloroform is put into a small bottle, having two tubes through its cork, only one of which is allowed to come into immediate contact with the chloroform. The tube which does not come into immediate contact with the chloroform is inserted into the small hole in the side of the box, and by blowing into the other, the chamber is soon filled with gas, and they tumble out into a box below.—*Utica Observer.*

A PATRIOTIC QUAKER ELECTED TO CONGRESS.—The Boston *Post* says: Hon. E. P. Little, of Marshfield, Democratic Congressman elect in the ninth district, is a much respected member of the fraternity of Quakers, and an unswerving Democrat of the old Jeffersonian school. His father, Captain George Little, was one of our naval commanders in the war of 1812, and the present member of Congress served at one time as a midshipman in the U. S. Navy, during the war with Great Britain.

☞ The Erie Editors have taken upon themselves the herculean task of regulating all the rail road gauges in creation.—*Mercer Freeman.*

Quite a mistake, friend *Freeman*! The Legislature regulates the gauges of railroads in this State, and as the old commonwealth is a small and somewhat important part of "creation," we could'nt do what is imputed to us if we would.

☞ There is no clearer index of the growth of the West than the fact that what constitutes the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin, having twenty-three Representatives and six Senators in Congress, was, not many years ago, one Congressional District; and the delegate who then represented all this territory is yet living.

Anecdotes of Webster.

The greatest curiosity we have met, in Mr. Lanman's book, is a couple of stanzas of verse, the only specimen of Webster's poetry, so far as we know, that ever found its way into print. Our readers will, doubtless, be curious to see them:

THE MEMORY OF THE HEART.

"If stores of dry and learned lore we gain,
We keep them in the memory of the brain:
Names, things and facts—whate'er we knowledge call,
There is the common ledger for them all;
And images on this cold surface traced,
Make slight impressions, and are soon effaced.

"But we've a page more glowing and more bright,
On which our friendship and our love we write;
That these may never from the soul depart,
We trust them to the *memory of the heart.*
There is no dimming—no effacement here,
Each new pulsation keeps the record clear;
Warm, golden letters, all the tablet fill,
Nor lose their lustre till the heart stands still.

"LONDON, Nov. 19th, 1839."

Here is another anecdote of Webster, which has just been told me, and which is worth preserving.

Just before he died, and after his recovery was despaired of, one of his physicians approached his bedside, and asked how he found himself.

"I feel like the jackdaw in the church-steeple," was the strange reply. The physician withdrew sadly from the bedside to another part of the room, where some members of the family were standing together, and shaking his head, confessed his apprehensions that the brain of the dying statesman was affected—that the stately oak was perishing at the top. He could see no method in the answer which his question had received. One of the ladies present who knew Mr. Webster better, did not believe his mind was wandering, and quietly stepping to the bedside, asked him what he meant by saying that he felt like jackdaw in the church-steeple. "Why, Cowper: Cowper's delightful translation of one of Vincent Burne's little poems, entitled the Jackdaw."

I send you a copy of the verses—which some of your readers may have forgotten, or never read—that they may perceive the perfect fitness and point of the reply:—[*Corr. N. Y. Eve. Post.*

THE JACKDAW

There is a bird who, by his coat,
And by the heaviness of his note,
Might be supposed a crow;
A great frequenter of the church,
Where bishop like he finds a perch,
And dormitory too.

Above the steeple shines a plate,
That turns and turns, to indicate
From what point blows the weather.
Look up—your brain begins to swim,
'Tis in the clouds—that pleases him,
He chooses it the rather.

Fond of the speculative height,
Thither he wings his airy flight,
And there securely sees
The bustle and the rare show,
That occupy mankind below,
Secure and at ease.

You think, no doubt he sits and muses
On future broken bones and bruises
If he should chance to fall.
No—not a single thought like that
Employs his philosophic pate,
Or troubles it at all.

He sees that this great round-a-boat,
The world, with all its motely rout,
Church, army, physic, law,
Its customs and its business,
Is no concern at all of his
And says—what says he?—Caw!

Thrice happy bird! I too have seen
Much of the vanities of men;
And sick of having seen 'em,
Would cheerfully these limbs resign
For such a pair of wings as thine,
And such a head between 'em.

The book referred to, Private life of Webster, can be had at No 9, Brown's Hotel.

The Japan Expedition.

Extract from a letter of an officer on board the United States ship Susquehanna, dated Cumsingmoon, China, September 22, 1852:

"For some two months past the chief subject of interest in the squadron had been gradually dying away, owing to the character of the news from home in regard to it, and its continued delay. In the first instance it was believed to be a decidedly warlike movement on the part of the government; the amount of force to be sent, as then stated, being entirely unnecessary for a friendly visit. Subsequent reports, however, reduce the number of vessels, and put off the time for their sailing until what might be called an indefinite period, so that we were beginning to doubt whether any expedition, other than was contemplated at the time this ship sailed, would ever take place. The arrival of the store ship has somewhat revived the belief in the expedition's coming off, and its hostile or peaceful character depending upon contingencies after it reached Japan. The store ship does not bring as late intelligence, by two months, as we had received by mail; but it brings substantial evidence of the preparation already made by the government, and its serious views towards Japan. I have some few thoughts of my own upon this Japan business, and the policy pursued by the government in relation to it.

Assuming the objects of the government to be the opening of the Japan ports to commerce, and failing in that to secure some point for the establishment of a coal depot, it will be seen by all that both these objects are contrary to the known policy of the Japanese government. The Japanese, though not in the European sense of the word, a military people, are still even in that light, not to be disregarded; for they are admitted to be brave, and to entertain less regard for human life than any race on earth. They are numerous, and in that sense possess great strength; but a greater element of power is, that they have always been independent, and have great confidence in their ability to defend themselves against all invaders. Such briefly is the nation whose policy of government we propose changing. Besides they are known to be very suspicious; so that, in holding the little intercourse that has been allowed the several European vessels visiting their ports, the great difficulty was to satisfy them that they meant no deception, and that they were honest in their declarations. That being the true history of the case, does not the course of our government seem very remarkable? But just let me recount that course that was to have been pursued upon the sailing of this vessel, and then contrast with that subsequently determined upon by the government.

The force of each will speak for itself. The Susquehanna, upon her arrival at Hong Kong, was expected to meet a party of Japanese, sent from the Pacific by order of the United States government. These Japanese, Commodore Aulick was to take on board, and proceed to Japan with the view of returning them to their country. This act was to have been used as an introduction to the objects of their visit. Of course, the manner of presenting these objects must rest with the officer in charge; upon his judgment and discretion much would have depended; and by being frank in the discussion of them, all cause of suspicion would most likely have been avoided. Frequent reference to the fact of the government having sent a national ship to restore to their country and friends a party of shipwrecked Japanese, as evidence of our peaceable and friendly relations towards them, would have been a strong argument in our favor. Such is a faint outline of the course to have been pursued in the first instance.—Now for the subsequent movement, not forgetting the character of the people we have to deal with.

The world is apprised that the great American republic is about to come into collision with the empire of Japan and is sending a large naval force, consisting of seven sail, powerful steam frigates &c., to claim redress for violation of the law of nations, as well as with the hope of ultimately obliging the Japanese to open their ports to the commerce of the world. That is about the substance of the announcement. Japan, through Batavia, is very soon made aware of the publication; and whether it contained the real views and purposes of our government or not, the effect produced upon the mind of the Japanese would be the same.

And what would that effect be? A mistrust of our intentions that nothing can change. That is the frame of mind in which they will now be found, and the American negotiator, whoever he might be will not be able to approach them—at least upon a friendly basis. And assuming that force is to be used in that event, to be forewarned is to be forearmed; that, no doubt, will apply to the Japanese as well as to other nations. Their resources, whatever they may be, will be found ready for the occasion. As to what we can do and what we cannot do in the trial of arms, it hardly becomes me to speak, even to you. That by means of our guns we could destroy much property and many lives with but little to ourselves, I have no doubt. But would that accomplish our ends? I think not, because we could not go beyond a certain point if confined to our ships. To land, with a view to march upon Jeddo and hold the country, would require nearly as large a force as was required in Mexico, and about the same expense. To land upon some small island and hold it might be done; but that would require a garrison on shore and one or more ships off the place; and, though you may smile at the remark, such a step would be the most unfortunate act ever yet committed by our government. It would be but the entering wedge to the Establishment of the English system of holding foreign possessions. We would then soon have an army and navy that would overshadow the land. My saying so much in regard to this Japan business may seem strange to you.—All I desired to say was simply that, judging from rumors and reports from home relative to it, the government in departing from its original plan, made a great mistake; for, in dealing with a people so peculiar as the Japanese, one vessel on a peaceful mission would be better than two; and three or four, either as an armed demonstration of hostile intent, cannot accomplish any practical results.—*Wash. Union.*

Sunbury and Erie Rail Road.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 27, 1852.

Christopher Fallon, Esq., President of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Co.—DEAR SIR: I have your note of this morning, reminding me of my promise to give to you the views which have occurred to me with reference to the prospects of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company. I regret that I have not the time to work out the project as fully as it would otherwise afford me pleasure to do.

The importance of the work may be brought before the public in two distinct aspects; one, with a view to demonstrate its value to the trade and commerce of Philadelphia, and the great enhancement in the real estate in the city and county and along the line of the road, which I believe would exceed materially, the whole cost of the work; and the other, regarding it merely as an investment for capitalists. Either, in my judgment, is sufficient to justify the immediate construction of the road, and when combined, they seem to be perfectly resistless,—and such as to induce all interests to embark *eagerly* in the work of securing, without further delay, the immense advantages it will unquestionably produce.

I regret that my time will not enable me to trace the progress of New York and Philadelphia, from the period when the latter had the ascendancy in commerce and population. I think it would appear that the change in the position of the two cities is greatly to be attributed to the early connection which New York secured with the trade of the Lakes by her canal, and which has since been perfected by her Railroads. The growth of the cities, towns and villages in Northern New York, which has been greatly influenced by these facilities for transportation and travel, has been most marvelous. I refrain from the comparison with Northern Pennsylvania, which is vastly richer in mineral and agricultural wealth. But you do not desire, I know, these generalities, but rather my judgment upon those points which my experience may be supposed to render it of value.

The city of Erie, in our own State, is admitted to be the best harbor on the Lakes. It is the proper point from which to base our calculations, as here the various lines of Railroad diverge with their different gauges, viz: to Ohio and the great West, with a gauge of 4 feet 10 inches, to New York with a gauge of 6 feet, and to Philadelphia (for in the argument, I will assume the Sunbury and Erie Railroad to be made; and see what it can do in the competition for the great trade of the West,) with a continuous gauge of 4 feet 8½ inches.

I will now consider the advantages and difficulties of these three main Railroad routes, from Erie, eastward:

1st. The New York and Erie rout.

From Erie to State Line, 6 feet gauge,	19 miles
" State Line to Dunkirk, 4 feet 10 inch gauge,	37 "
" Dunkirk to Buffalo's, 6 feet gauge,	427 "
" Suffern's to Jersey city, by Paterson, now Union Road, 6 feet gauge,	23 "
" Jersey city to New York, by ferry,	1 "
	507 miles,

with three transhipments, viz., at State Line, Dunkirk and Jersey city.

2d. Buffalo and Albany Route,

From Erie to State Line, 6 feet gauge,	19 miles.
" State Line to Buffalo, 4 feet 10 inch gauge,	99 "
" Buffalo to Albany, 4 fee 8½	339 "
" Albany to New York, (Hudson River Railroad,)	144 "
	560 miles,

with three transhipments, viz., at State Line, Buffalo and Albany.

3d. Sunbury and Erie Railroad route.

From Erie to Philadelphia, 4 feet 8½ inch gauge, the entire distance, 432 miles,

viz., from Erie to Williamsport,	240 miles,
" Williamsport to Tamaqua,	90 "
" Tamaqua to Philadelphia,	90 "

Or from Erie to Philadelphia, via Williamsport, thence down the Susquehanna to Harrisburg, by Harrisburg and Lancaster and Columbia Railroads, 437 miles.

Or from Erie to Harrisburg as above, and from thence to Philadelphia through Reading, by the proposed Lebanon Valley Road, 444 miles.

The immense and decided superiority of the Sunbury and Erie route over the others, *in consequence of its freedom from the necessity of frequent transhipments*, will not be sufficiently appreciated by those not familiar with railroad traffic. A change of one ton of merchandize from one car to another, is about equal to the cost of transporting it for fifty miles.

This may be regarded by many who have not reflected upon the subject, as an exaggerated estimate, but it can readily be verified. The cost of mere transportation, is from half to three-quarter cent per ton per mile, with ordinary gradients, and varying as the grades are more or less favorable, which for fifty miles is from twenty-five to thirty-seven and a half cents per ton.

You will readily perceive that the cost of unloading one ton of merchandize from a car, removing it to another, and reloading it, cannot be much less, and this, independent of the other considerations arising from the delay of the cars and of the merchandize, and the damage to the later by the more frequent handling.

What, then, is the distance, *time considered*, from Erie to the two great Atlantic cities?

From Erie to New York, via the New York and Erie Railroad, actual distance, 507 miles.
And three transhipments, at 50 miles each, 150 " 657 miles.

From