

JOHNSTOWN, July 12, 1853.
Resolved, That the superintendent of the Philadelphia and Columbia, and Allegheny Portage railroad, and the supervisors of the several divisions of the Pennsylvania Canal, be directed in the disbursement of money for the payment of debts, in all cases, to pay first those creditors who have performed the labor, and in no case to pay any check roll or other evidence of debt in the hands of second parties, until the debts in first hand shall have been fully paid.

Resolved, That said superintendents and supervisors be also directed to draw from the Treasury at the earliest practicable moment, as much money as may be necessary to pay all back debts due to laborers, engineers, and other hands in the employ of the Commonwealth, and that hereafter said parties be paid monthly, so long as the appropriations for that purpose may last.

In this connection it is proper to state that a number of the newspapers charged the officers of the road with "speculating in the wages of the operatives," &c. The committee, it is true, made no such allegation, yet the publicity which had been given to the suggestion by the press, induced the Board to investigate the matter. They therefore propounded to every witness who had any knowledge of claims having been sold, the general question, "Do you know of any officer of the State having been concerned, either directly or indirectly, in the purchase of check rolls, or other evidence of debt against the Commonwealth?" To this a negative answer was given in every instance. The Board being desirous to do justice to all parties concerned, deemed it proper to call upon the bankers who had purchased the claims referred to. To this end they went to Hollidaysburg, and addressed a note to Messrs. Boll, Johnston, & Co., and also to Bryant, Gloim, & Co., requesting their attendance. Mr. Johnston representing the former, and Mr. Gardner, the latter firm, appeared in compliance with the note.

The Board then put this question to each of them: "Has there been, or is there now any arrangement between your house and any officer of the State, by which the officer is or was to receive any portion of the profits arising from the purchase of these claims?" These gentlemen both answered negatively, that "no such arrangements had ever existed," and Mr. Johnston, with whom Gen. Ross deposits his money, stated in answer to another question, that "Ross receives no compensation whatever on account of the money being deposited with them." Mr. Robert J. Ross, of Harrisburg, who had purchased a considerable portion of these claims, stated substantially the same that Messrs. Johnston and Gardner had said. The Board will hereby remark on this point, that they rejoice that the evidence exculpates entirely every officer in the service of the State from all participation in these speculations. Whatever difference of opinion may exist with regard to the propriety of the traffic in these claims by others, no one, it is believed, would attempt to justify a disbursement of the State in either directly or indirectly prostituting his position in such a manner.

During the progress of the investigation a portion of the committee laid before the Board a second communication, as follows:
SUMMIT, July 6th 1853.
Wm. T. MORRISON, Esq.,
President Board Canal Commissioners:
Sir—We make the following charges against Maj. V. Phelps, and will give the names of the witnesses to prove the charges:

That at the time Maj. Phelps was acting as Assistant Superintendent of the old Portage railroad, he was partner in a contract to furnish cross-ties for the new road. That cross-ties which were taken up for the old road, and charged to the old road, were seen by the man who took them on the new road. That the hands from repairs, and other men in employ of the Commonwealth, were engaged in loading and unloading those ties, and the time while they were so engaged was charged to the Commonwealth.

The names of the persons by whom we expect to prove these things, are Robert P. Linth, Jesse Patterson, James Shannon, and William Rainey.
Very truly yours,
DANIEL BROPHY,
HENRY L. DOWNEY,
ANDREW PURCELL,
DANIEL McMANAMY.

It will be observed that the committee charge: First, that Mr. Phelps, while acting as Assistant Superintendent of the Portage road, was a partner in a contract to furnish cross-ties for the new road, &c. This charge was sustained, and it is also shown that the foreman of the machine shop at Johnstown was a partner.

The contract price of these ties was thirty-five cents per tie.
It appeared in evidence that some of these ties had been purchased by the contractors from other parties, at from twenty-three to twenty-five cents. But there was no evidence to show that, at the time the allotment was made, there was any bid below twenty-five cents.

Notwithstanding this, the Board feel called upon, publicly to express their disapprobation of the practice of officers of the State being contractors for furnishing materials, or otherwise.

The Legislature has very properly provided that no member of either branch of that body, nor Canal Commissioner, superintendent or supervisor, shall have any interest in any contract whatever, on the public improvements of the State.

The spirit of this wise provision, it seems to us, would apply with equal force to all those holding office under the Canal Board.
It is believed that no officer connected with the improvements now has any contract for furnishing materials, either for repairs or new work; nor has the Board any knowledge of such contract having ex-

isted the present year. It is true that some of the ties referred to were delivered in May last, but it is alleged that it was done under a constitution of the contract which had been entered into last year.

It may not be improper to state, in this connection, that shortly after the organization of the Board, as it is now constituted, a resolution was adopted, requiring the superintendents of the railroad, and supervisors on the canals, before contracting for lumber, or other materials, for the repairs of the railroads and canals, to give public notice by handbills, that sealed proposals would be received for furnishing such materials as might be required; and that in all cases, the allotments should be made to the lowest responsible bidder, &c. Had it occurred to the Board that an officer, in any manner connected with the improvements, would become a bidder, they would have directed that their bids should be rejected. Everything having even the appearance of a collusion between officers of the same department of the public service ought to be discounted. There are men enough wholly disconnected with the Canal Board, who would at all times, be willing to furnish any quantity and quality of materials which might be required, and at as low rates, at least, as they would be furnished by officers of the State. Besides, if there be any profit in this business, it would be appropriately distributed among those who receive nothing from the State in the shape of emoluments of office, than those who do.

The Board cannot close this brief report without assuring the public generally, and the operatives in the service of the State especially, that they will bring the difficulties which have been so justly complained of to the attention of the Legislature, in their next annual report, and will urge upon the department of the Government the absolute necessity of providing at once for the payment of all back debts on this, as well as the other lines of improvement throughout the State; and will urge the propriety of appropriating, at an early day, a sufficient sum to meet the current expenses of the next year. We know that such a recommendation will be cordially concurred in by our worthy Governor, whose sympathies are always with the laboring classes. That the Legislature will respond promptly to the suggestion, we will no doubt. Let this be done, and the hands can be paid at the end of every month, and we shall not again be subjected to the mortification of knowing the honest and industrious creditors of the State have been compelled to sacrifice one tenth part of their earnings.

WILLIAM T. MORRISON,
SETH CLOVER,
WILLIAM HOPKINS.
CANAL COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE,
Harrisburg, Pa., July 30, 1853.

SPAIN AND MEXICO.—THE PROPOSED ALLIANCE.—Several of the journals in Mexico take decided ground in favor of the proposed alliance between Mexico and Spain, with the object of mutual defence. Several others ridicule it as absurd, inasmuch as Spain has not the ability to protect. The *Universal*, which is said to be official organ of the Mexican government, contains two long articles in favor of the measure. One of them concludes thus:

"The rapacious views of the Republic of the North upon the Island of Cuba are well known, and it is the indisputable determination also of Spain to defend this valuable colony. For Spain the preservation of the Island of Cuba against the United States is a question of interest and honor, and this is so clear and well known that it would be a waste of time to demonstrate it.

"Now, what should be the Island of Cuba if our country fell into the possession of the Republic of the North? Spain would fight with valor to defend it. She would shed torrents of blood upon its soil. But who could doubt the final result, placed as Spain is so distant from the scene of action.

"Horetore we have said, and now repeat it: The loss of our independence would be for Spain the loss of the Island of Cuba. So, likewise, the loss of the Island of Cuba would be the loss of Independence for us. If any one is so simple that he cannot perceive this combination so plain, for him we do not write, because he can comprehend nothing.

"If, then, this community of interest is such, and so strong, not only of interests, but also of dangers, between Mexico and Spain, the advantage as well as the necessity of an alliance between the two nations is most evident and beyond all doubt. Therefore, to procure this alliance, will not only be for our government a wise measure, but it is one absolutely necessary, which in no way can be avoided. The executive have taken upon their shoulders the immense responsibility of saving the independence of our country. How could they misunderstand the means so powerful to accomplish the end? How, knowing the dangers that menace us, and seeing them so near, can they fail to appeal to a way so efficacious in assisting us?"

LET HER RISE.—This is a very meaningful, favorite American expression. Some fellow, not having the fear of the wrath to come before his eyes, and not many conscientious scruples about shooting a Mexican, fired some of his long rifle shots across the Rio Grande, near Matamoros, whereupon, General Alvarado, then in command of that post, wrote to Judge McLean, of Brownsville; that if any more such shots were fired, he would bombard the town. Whereupon the Judge addressed him in answer, the following "let her rise." Note:

"BROWNVILLE, Jan. 11, 1853.
DEAR GENERAL:—We have received your appreciated note of this date.
Let her rise!
Justice of the Peace, Cameron County, Texas.



THE REPUBLICAN.

CLEARFIELD, SEPT. 2, 1853.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

Supreme Judge.
JOHN C. KNOX, of Venango county.
Canal Commissioner.
THOS. H. FORSYTH, of Philadelphia co.
Auditor General.
EPHRAIM BANKS, of Mifflin county,
Surveyor General.
J. PORTER BRAWLEY, of Crawford co.

THE KOZTA AFFAIR.

European letter writers generally concur in the opinion that the affair which lately occurred at Smyrna, in which the American Minister at Constantinople, our Consul at Smyrna, and the gallant Capt. Ingraham, Commander of the Frigate St. Louis, acted so highly creditable to the American character, is not yet settled, but is likely to lead to much trouble, if not to open hostilities between the United States and Austria, as the Austrian authorities say they will be satisfied with nothing short of a very humble apology on the part of the United States. Now, we always want our country to do nothing but what is right, and to fulfil the Divine command by doing only "as she would have others do unto her," but in this case particularly, we think the people of these great States will, under no circumstances, give their consent to our government going a single step further. If it shall appear that Kozta had a legal claim to the protection of the American flag, Austria presents her demand for an apology, she should be discarded from our door, and given to understand that our President spoke the sentiment of the country when he said in his inaugural address that the American flag, with its broad stripes and bright stars, shall be a protection to every American citizen, wherever it floats in the breeze.

Should it turn out otherwise, however, and should it appear that for want of the fulfilment of some provision of the law, Kozta was not legally entitled to protection as a citizen, we still object to any of your humble apologies for the part enacted by the American representatives in that affair. If the question as to Kozta's claim to American protection arose fairly, and as stated in all concurring accounts, then did Capt. Ingraham do no more than honorably discharge his duty, in demanding and compelling, in the manner in which he did, the surrender of Kozta into the hands of a neutral power, until that question could have been fairly and legally decided.

It was a bold and manly act of the gallant Commander, but not more so than was justifiable; and had such courage, promptness and energy been displayed by similar officers, on previous similar occasions, in all probability Captain Ingraham would not thus had an opportunity to distinguish himself. Austria, as well as all other nations would have been more cautious how they attempted to meddle with our honor and our rights.

The country has the fullest confidence in the patriotism of the present National Administration. It is generally understood that President Pierce and his cabinet cordially sanction the conduct of the American officers. They will no doubt act entirely honorably towards Austria; fairly and clearly investigate all the facts and circumstances—but unless Capt. Ingraham was made the victim of a base deception, or what is not at all likely, acted rashly, and without the semblance of justice on his side, they will not suffer the least shadow of apology to escape their lips. If they do, the American people will hold them to a fearful responsibility.

HON. JOHN C. KNOX.—The democratic press throughout the state, with one accord, hoist to their mast head the name of this distinguished gentleman and able jurist, and rejoice over the wisdom of the Convention in nominating him as our candidate for Supreme Judge. With Knox, Forsyth, Banks, and Brawley, a popular candidate for the Assembly, and a county ticket of the right stripe, which we doubt not will be the result of the Convention on the 3d of September inst., a democratic majority which will compare favorably with that given to Pierce and King last fall, may be expected from the democracy of this County. If the County Convention exercise that wisdom in the selection of a county ticket which they should, and the candidate for Assembly be conceded to us, as we are justly entitled to that officer, then we may say, that on the second Tuesday of October next, so far as Clearfield county is concerned, it will again be "Saturday night with the whigs," and "no wood chopped for Sunday."

Our next gubernatorial candidate.

The eagerness with which the whig press of the state snap at and present to the view of the people, every word of complaint or dissatisfaction which is or has been uttered by any member of the great democratic party, or those who have assumed the name of democrat, against our present worthy Executive, goes to show most clearly that Gov. BIGLER, above all others, is the man against whom they dread to enter the campaign in 1854. If he was really unpopular with the people, and the whig press knew it as well as they pretend to, it is hardly likely, that at this early day they would be proclaiming to the people of the State the defeat which they appear to calculate must result to the democratic party from an attempt to re-elect him. It is not characteristic of the party thus to warn us of approaching danger, and we must therefore set it down as an attempt to misrepresent the true state of affairs and to deceive us; and as such it has been received in every locality. Many of the most able democratic papers of the state have already hoisted to their mast head the name of Wm. BIGLER, and expressed their preference for him as the candidate in 1854. Almost every County Convention which has assembled have passed resolutions approving the Administration. And it would appear, that notwithstanding the timely warning which has been given by the opposition, that William Bigler, the present incumbent is the man for whom the Democracy of the old Keystone State will be found battling for, with an unbroken front, as their candidate for Governor in 1854.

COL. J. C. FREMONT.

This accomplished gentleman, and famous explorer of our western country, left Washington on the 22d ult., for the frontiers, where he intends to organize a company for the purpose of making what has never yet been accomplished, a winter excursion by land to the Pacific, through the passes of the Rocky Mountains. Colonel Fremont does this at his own expense, and entirely independent of the government. His intention is to examine the country, as to its practicability for a railroad, and on his return, will be able to show every particular as to distance, cost, and climate, and the character of the country for some 30 or 40 miles on each side of the line of survey.

The government has at present no less than three different parties exploring as many different routes to the Pacific, with a view to the building of a railroad. A railroad to the Pacific will soon be commenced; and once commenced its indispensable necessity will be seen at once, and it will then be carried forward to completion in a very short time. We are much mistaken if Col. Benton does not prove himself as much wiser, and as far ahead of most other people in the question of the location of this road, as he did in his advocacy of the gold bill, many years ago.

THE DEMOCRACY OF THE DIFFERENT TOWNSHIPS OF THIS COUNTY, met at their regular places of holding elections, on Saturday last, and elected delegates to represent them in the County Convention, which is to assemble at the court house in this place, on Saturday next, at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of nominating a county ticket to be supported at the approaching election, and appointing conferees, and making the necessary arrangements preparatory to the meeting of the Judicial and Representative Conventions.

THE DEMOCRACY OF ELK COUNTY will assemble in Convention on Saturday the 3d inst., when conferees, will be appointed to meet other and similar conferees of the Representative district, composed of the counties of Clearfield, Elk and McKean.

CENTRE COUNTY.—The Democracy of Centre county, assembled in Convention, at Bellefonte, on the 22d of August, and nominated the Hon. James Burnside, as President Judge of the district, and Dr. C. R. Foster, as their candidate for Assembly.

THE HON. JAMES BURNSIDE was nominated by acclamation by the Democratic Convention of Clinton county, which assembled in Lock Haven on the 9th of August, as President Judge of the District, and Thos. White and James McGhee appointed Judicial Conferees.

THE JUDICIAL CONVENTION OF THE DISTRICT composed of the counties of Jefferson, Clarion, Venango and Mercer, assembled in Franklin, on last week, and on the three hundred and seventy-fourth ballot, succeeded in nominating John S. McCallmont, Esq., as President Judge of the district.

THE YELLOW FEVER still prevails in New Orleans to an alarming extent. The interments in all the cemeteries of the city for the week ending on the 19th ult., are reported at 1524, of which 1297 were from yellow fever.

THE LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCES OF Jefferson, Clarion, and Armstrong counties, met at New Bethlehem, in Clarion county, on the 25th of August, and nominated David Putney, of Armstrong; Thomas Magee, of Clarion, and Geo. W. Zeigler of Jefferson, as candidates for Assembly. W. F. Clark, the regular nominee of Jefferson county, having gent in his declination to the Convention, the name of G. W. Zeigler was submitted, in his place.

WE PERCEIVE that John Hastings, has retired from the editorial chair of the Pittsburgh Union, and has been succeeded by Andrew Hopkins, Esq., of Washington county.

THE WHIG STATE CONVENTION met at Huntingdon on the 25th ult., and on the third ballot nominated Thomas A. Burr, Esq., of Philadelphia, as their candidate for Supreme Judge.

For the Republican.

THE NEXT MEMBER.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The connection of our county, with two southern counties, the whole having but one member, has placed the democratic party of Clearfield county in rather an unenviable situation. Since that connection has existed, we have yielded peaceably to each of those counties a member of the legislature, and with remarkable unanimity, concentrated the entire party vote of the county upon the nominee of the two southern counties. In addition to this, when at the late Senatorial Convention, we presented the most manifest claims to the Senatorship of the district of which we form a part, and laid before that Convention the name of a candidate to whom the Democratic party of our legislative district were indebted, and against whose integrity and principles, no one could say aught, we were again defeated and a citizen of one of the counties of our legislative district was nominated. Almost doubling in population both the other counties, all we asked was common even handed justice, but in return even an equal share of representation has been denied us, and neither reason for the past nor promise for the future have at any of the Conventions that have been held, been conceded by these pigmy giants for the course they have pursued towards us.

Shall this longer be so? Must we, possessing a democratic vote larger than that of both these counties, and holding in our hands the means of righting ourselves, still submit?

Questions of vital importance to the interests of our county, require that we should have in the next legislature a man who, from being one of ourselves, knows our wants, and who with that knowledge possesses both the disposition and the nerve to effect what we so much need. We have men among us unfettered by prejudice, free from party pique or spleen, popular with the masses—honest, faithful democrats, any one of whom placed fairly in the canvass, in defence of our rights, would pull an almost unanimous vote in our county.

Such a man either with or without a nomination, the party in their might would rally round, and show our northern neighbors, that although we are sensible that "forbearance is a virtue," yet he who suffers himself to be trampled, resistless and trembling, is most despicable.

Yours truly,
A VOTER.
Aug. 30, 1853.

THE DEMOCRACY OF Blair County, assembled in Convention at Hollidaysburg, on the 22d of August last, and after nominating H. L. Ake, as their candidate for assembly, and an entire county ticket, unanimously adopted the following resolutions: Resolved, That we have full confidence in the patriotism and ability of the Chief Magistrate of the American Union, Gen. Franklin Pierce; and that we believe his administration, so auspiciously begun, will be marked throughout with that deep devotion to the interests of the whole Union which signalized the administrations of a Jefferson, a Jackson, and a Polk, and which has rendered their names immortal as statesmen, patriots, and genuine republicans.

Resolved, That in the selection of his constitutional advisers, General Pierce has exhibited a degree of prudence, foresight, and enlarged republicanism, which gives ample evidence of his fitness for the high position to which his country has called him, and to the people of the United States a sure guarantee that in his administration he knows "no North, no South, no East, no West," but the whole Union, one and indivisible.

Resolved, That in the Chief Magistrate of our own Keystone, WILLIAM BIGLER, we have found everything that characterizes the sound practical statesman, the devoted patriot, and honest man, and his administration, thus far, has been distinguished for wisdom, prudence, and devotion to the best interests of the Commonwealth; whilst it has reflected honor on the Democratic party, and will meet the hearty plaudits of "well done good and faithful servant," from a virtuous, intelligent, and grateful constituency.

Resolved, That our delegate to the fourth of March Convention, this day appointed, be and he is hereby instructed to vote in Convention for the re-nomination of Gov. BIGLER.

Resolved, That we cordially endorse the nominations of J. C. KNOX, THOMAS H. FORSYTH, J. PORTER BRAWLEY, EPHRAIM BANKS, and that we will give to them, as we will all Democratic nominees, a warm and hearty support at the polls in October next.

Resolved, That we are opposed to the repeal of the 3 mill tax, whereby the Commonwealth would lose, annually, one hundred thousand dollars; and we hereby instruct our representatives to vote against the repeal of said three mill tax, should any attempt be made to repeal it, by the next Legislature.

From the N. O. Picayune, Aug. 18th.

The full particulars of the fight between Americans and the Mexicans.
The following letter reached us last evening by the mail steamer from Texas. It was written at El Paso, Mexico, by a gentleman whom we know to have the means of obtaining the best information. It was addressed to a merchant of San Antonio, who forwarded it to us.
EL PASO DEL NORTE, Mexico,
July 22d, 1853.

DEAR SIR:—This mail takes you news of our difficulties here upon this frontier. You will not be surprised at them; it has been predicted for months and months. We are here entirely abandoned. I do not suppose the Government gives us a thought; they are so busily dealing out the loaves and fishes.

From the moment the California emigrants strike the river, they commence looting their cattle; hundreds have been stolen from them and carried to the side of the river. At the head of the robbing parties is the Montos family of five brothers, protected by the authorities. On the 10th or 12th a man named Neger, the owner of 400 or 500 head of cattle, came to this side to look for some 40 head that he had lost. In his rounds he came across seven head in the lower part of the town. The Mexicans were holding them together, with some eight or ten head of Mexican cattle. He took the cattle, and was taking the herders to the Alcalde, when they took to the bushes and could never be found afterwards. Mager then drove all the cattle to the camp on the American side of the river.

The next day he came back, and was ordered by the Prefecto to bring all the Mexican cattle to this town, which he did the next day, and was arrested for stealing those and other cattle and thrown into prison. He has had no trial yet. I have been led to believe that he would be released; indeed the proposition was made by the Prefecto to release Mager by his paying \$400. That looks like swindling. It was afterwards found out that Mager was a man of property, and on the 17th it was finally decided that his cause should be sent to Chihuahua, thinking by that means to get \$500 or \$1000 out of him. The best of it is that Mager is detained upon the evidence of the very man who stole his cattle, and in whose possession they were afterwards found.

After the 17th all hope was given up of having Mager released. The Californians made up a party to rescue him from the prison. The thing was talked about for several days; no person appeared to pay any attention to it. On the morning of the 18th, between 3 and 4 o'clock, I was awakened by firing in the direction of the prison, and soon after received a message from the Prefecto, that a party of Americans had attacked the prison, and had been repulsed, and that a dead and wounded man had been left on the ground, and requested me to examine them. I soon found myself on the spot, and by the light of the day that was just breaking, recognized in the dead man, Esler Hendrix, the District Attorney of El Paso county, Texas. I had him immediately removed to a room, and afterwards sent across the river for burial. The wounded man, Samuel Hamcock, was one of Col. Skillman's mail men; the ball had penetrated his lungs, and he died in twenty-four hours afterwards.

The whole town was under arms in two hours; all communication was stopped between this and the other side; they would not allow me to cross the river without a permit from the Prefecto. The excitement still continues; two or three hundred men are drilling every morning, and reviewing on the Plaza. They anticipate another attack. They need have no fear; the Californians are not the men to stand fire. It is said that they all took to their heels at the first charge. The Mexicans were prepared for them. Immediately after the attack, a mob paraded the streets shouting, "Death to the Gringos! Death to the Yankee dogs! Let us ransack the stores and houses! Let not an American escape!"

Every American is in danger of his life. When one walks along the street all eyes are turned upon him, and he is pointed at as one of the marked. Mager is still in prison, without any prospect of getting out soon that I can see. The measures taken by the authorities, and particularly by the Prefecto, Jose Sanchez, have been arbitrary in the extreme. It is very evident that Mager has not had a fair hearing, nor is there any prospect of it. Much excitement prevails on the American side of the river. All condemn the lawless attempt of the party on the night of the 18th, but they also condemn the course of the Prefecto, upon whose shoulders rest the whole blame.

Mager is in prison, his property in the hands of strangers, without the prospect of being released.

AN OLD FOGIE.—There is a farmer residing at Quogue, Long Island, sixty-three years of age, who has never seen a steamboat. He has only travelled twenty-five miles east and thirty-five west of his home. He is possessed of land and does not care about selling it, as the money would give him trouble. He once went to river head depot of the Long Island railroad with his daughter, and was so frightened at the noise of the steam-whistle that he ran away.

NUMEROUS PROGENY.—Mr. John Cox, who emigrated from Adams county, Pa., to the West, 1850, is now living in Bristol township, Trumbull county, Ohio, at the advanced age of 68 years, but still a pretty hale, active man. It is said he has 22 children, 89 grand-children, and 32 great-grand-children—making 133 in all. One of his grand sons, aged 14 years, weighs 185 pounds. His wife is still living, aged about 83.