

delivered in the State Senate, March, 1867, on the General Railroad Law.

Mr. WALLACE said: Mr. Speaker, this subject is so important in its bearings upon the future of the Commonwealth and so directly affects my immediate constituents, that I deem it my duty to place upon record my reasons for the several votes I have given and shall give upon the bill. It is an admitted fact that a majority of the people of Pennsylvania are favorable to the passage of a "free" or "general" railroad law. Both candidates for gubernatorial honors at the late election placed themselves upon record in its favor. Both the incoming and outgoing Governor recommended it. The Committee on Railroads of this body recognized this fact and reports favorably the bill before us, which is entitled "An act to authorize the formation of railway companies."

CLEARFIELD

GEO. B. GOODLANDER, Proprietor.



PRINCIPLES—NOT MEN.

REPUBLICAN.

TERMS—\$2 per annum, in Advance.

VOL. 38—WHOLE NO. 2014.

CLEARFIELD, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1867.

NEW SERIES—VOL. 7, NO. 37.

five hundred dollars be enough to allow the incorporation of companies under the law as it now stands, surely four thousand dollars is enough to give them life under the new bill, when our purpose is declared to be, "to authorize the formation of railway companies."

tion of purpose and determined energy enable them to advance its welfare to the detriment of the State, it should not redound to their disadvantage, but should cause the blood to mount in our cheeks, that we, the chosen rulers of almost an empire, are found unable to cope successfully with a creature of our own creation. The remedy for this lies with the people. Let them select men who will obey their will. I cannot forget too, that Senators, upon this floor, whose integrity no man dares impugn, have been found steadily voting against our amendments and for the bill of the committee. This demonstrates to the impartial mind that honest differences of opinion exist upon this subject. Senators resident in the East regard this subject from a different stand-point than those of us who reside in the West.

of the Redbank, which is a tributary of the Allegheny. Descending the Sandy by very low gradients, the town of Brookville is reached, and thence stretching westward by the valley of one of the tributaries of the Redbank, a branch of the Clarion is attained, which is descended, that stream is crossed, and one of its western branches again ascended to the summit, between the Clarion and the Allegheny, where the head of East Sandy creek is reached, and that stream descended to the Allegheny, whence easy gradients and direct lines connect with Franklin and Warren, Ohio. If we will take a map and lay upon it a line from the centre of the railway systems of Ohio and Indiana to New York, it will be found that by this route, the deflection from that line is vastly less than that of any existing line. Its distance is shorter by ninety miles; its curvatures are lighter, and its gradients are one-half easier than those of any other existing line of railway. It is the direct and natural route from New York to the great West. If to this we add the fact that, diverging from this line at the mouth of Sandy Lick, in Jefferson county, and following the valley of the Redbank to the Allegheny Valley railroad, Pittsburg is reached and connected by easy gradients with the line, we find that an unobstructed capacity for development exists in Northwestern Pennsylvania. These lines, traversing the counties of Cameron, Elk, Clearfield, Jefferson, Clarion, Venango, Mercer, Armstrong and Butler, will stimulate enterprise, bring forth their dormant treasures and add enormously to the wealth of the State. In Clarion county there exists immense deposits of iron ore and other minerals awaiting means of transit and capital for their development. Up to this time she has received no benefit from public improvements and the enterprise of her citizens has been repressed and discouraged by their inability to compete with those more favored with facilities for rapid transit and easy production. They ask that you shall but give the right to add to your wealth in nourishing and invigorating their own. The counties of Elk, Cameron, Clearfield and Jefferson bristle with forests of pine and hemlock and oak timber. Annual freshets upon the streams of the localities are the only means they possess for bringing to your doors the products of their forests. They can reach you but once a year, and then our hardy sons of toil must grapple with all the difficulties of navigation amid natural obstructions and artificial impediments, created for the benefit of other communities. They too, ask that you will permit them to invest their capital and invite other capital to come in and provide the means by which they may be able daily to place in your market the lumber so essential in everything that makes your home habitable. Upon this route I have described the valleys of Bennett's branch and Sandy Lick, in the counties of Clearfield and Jefferson, easily attainable and most desirable in its qualities, exists the finest body of bituminous coal within the State. The veins are of immense thickness, so large that a man standing erect in his wagon may drive into the coal openings, load it and return. This vast deposit stretches northward through Elk and McKean counties also. Unproductive and undeveloped, they await the magic touch that you can give them, to be at your feet shining with the colors of the rainbow, or to glow and melt in driving the mighty engine, or in reducing the stubborn ore. From the heart of this immense deposit of coal at Sandy Lick Summit, in Clearfield county, it can be placed on the wharves at Buffalo with a transportation of less than one hundred and sixty miles, by a line of railroad traversing the counties of Elk and McKean, with easy grades and light curves, a part of which is already in progress. Will you forbid our passage northward? Must our riches lie forever undeveloped? There lies the only market for our coal. Give us but the light to do it, and within sixty days the ground will be staked, the earth broken, the capital subscribed, and everything prepared to make our northern hills and forests resound with the shrieks of the locomotive, laboriously dragging to the shores of the lake mineral treasures now hidden and dormant. It is a small boon for us, and to grant it is wealth to us, and untold riches to future generations.

THE CASE OF MRS. SURRATT. [From the Age.] Court broke out in a tirade of insult and menace against him for his political opinions! Threatened with expulsion, the venerable lawyer, who seemed to have survived the law, withdrew himself from the scene where his mere presence seemed to kindle rage against himself and client. The poor old lady, now still more helpless, sat a spectacle that might have moved the pity of brutes. But, with the weight of her fetters, and of her misfortunes, her mind seemed, like her body, to sink exhausted; partial unconsciousness may have saved a human being, a woman, a mother, from a full sense of what she then endured. This was what was her condition during much of what was called her "trial." But, in fact, in any legal sense, she and the rest were never tried at all. They were "lynched," or rather, after the African fashion, they were offered up as human sacrifices to the manes of a fallen chief. Over this transaction, disgraced to our age and country, we might consent to drop the veil, were it but a passing act of violence, disclaimed by calmer reason and palliated only by the pangs of the hour. But it stands to-day as the first step, the leading case, the apt and fit example of a system which the Radicals are striving to fasten upon our country. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to expose and denounce it, and to maintain the right of every man and every woman accused of crime, to a fair, open trial, by due course of law, in the constitutional tribunals of the land. Let no party interest, no political expediency mislead the minds of the American people to tolerate the old engines of despotism which strike, with indiscriminate ferocity, the innocent and the guilty. Let no man, whether his party or his section be in or out of power, forget that these devices of tyranny return to plague the inventors. If to-day we inflict them on others, to-morrow we will suffer from them ourselves.

A LOYAL QUERY.—Hello, Sambo dis way. Ise been digested de principles ob de Publican party for time, but can't see 'actly t'roo dem. You seem to be deat friends ob de colored people, but dey are also gettin de country into much trouble, and if de country gits in trouble, de nig will be in trouble. Can you explain to me de principles ob de party in power? Oh course I can, Censar; dere are but two points in de hole kase, and I hab little respect for de deligence ob any nig who can't 'see it." De first is: Here in Noit, tremendous hard work and taxation, in de Souf, no work and starvation, mixed wid de nigger and loyalty. De second is: A young lady recently gave a lecture in which she said: "Get married, young men, and be quick about it, too. Don't wait for the millennium, hoping the girls may turn to angels before you trust yourself with one of them. A pretty thing you'd be alongside an angel, wouldn't you—you brute! Don't wait, another day, but right now—this very night ask some nice, industrious girl to go into partnership with you, to clear your pathway of thorns, and plant it with flowers."

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