

was sewing black thibet. How different our labor from that with which we had expected to usher in the Christmas Eve!

By and by, Ellen looked up with an anxious expression. 'Mother, are we poor?' she said. 'I was glad I could answer in the negative. 'But,' I added, 'we know not how soon we may be. This great misfortune has taught us that nothing is sure. We must not lean idly on what we possess, but prepare ourselves for labor, if need be. To-morrow, I wish you all to begin again your studies.'

Jane dropped her needle and thread. 'I thought it was understood that the children should go home with me,' she said. 'Perhaps you think I am poor and helpless; but you are mistaken. On the contrary, I am probably better able than you to take care of the children.'

This announcement started me; but there was no need. May threw her arms round my neck and whispered, 'I will not leave you mother,' while Ellen, her fine eyes glowing with excitement, answered, quietly and firmly—

'Our mother has the best claim on us, Aunt Jane, and until she sends us, we will never leave her. We have never been so happy as in this half past year. We love her better than all other friends, and now that our father is gone we will not leave her alone.'

My heart thrilled with gratitude that I could not utter. I could only give my noble Ellen a look of thankfulness, and say—

'I will be as faithful to you as you have been to me, Ellen.'

'Hush!' said May, starting from her seat. 'What was that sound?' She went to the window and looked out. 'It was only the wind,' she added, and sat down by me again.

Jane shot indignant glances at the children.

'I little thought, when I came here to work and wear myself for you, that you would so soon desert me for a stranger,' 'Aunt Jane,' said Ellen, quickly, 'remember it is our mother of whom you speak—our second mother to whom we owe so much.'

Miss Fleming was evidently annoyed, but was silent.

'I do hear a footstep,' said May, and again she peeped from the window, but all was dark and silent.

My heart ached with weary dissonance, and I made a last attempt at peace.

'Sister Jane—you shake your head, but you were his sister, and must, therefore, be mine—for his sake I forgive you for the many attempts you have made to turn my children's hearts against me, but for ever after let there be silence on this theme. I am no stranger in this house, but hold a mother's place to the children of my beloved husband left in my care. For them henceforth, and for them only, I shall live and labor. I have thus far tried to do them good, and they themselves bear witness to my success. Trust them to me, and let there be no more harshness between us—for his sake.'

Jane Fleming burst into tears. She wept for a few moments, and her heart was softened.

'Agnes, forgive me!' she said to my astonishment and joy. 'You think me heartless, but, indeed, I am not, though I have been harsh. It was my love for my brother and his children that made me wickedly jealous of you. But I am now a mourner with you and them. For his sake, forgive me!'

There was a moment of silent, pleased surprise, and then I clasped her hand warmly, and called her 'sister.' Ellen gravely stooped down and kissed her, and little May rejoiced, sprang to the pianoforte, and sang with her whole heart, 'Let us love one another.'

As she ceased and turned her smiling face toward us, there was a sound behind, a quick footstep toward the hall, the door was flung open, and—

Had one risen from the dead? 'My wife, my children, my blessed Agnes!' said Captain Fleming, his voice hoarse with emotion, and before he could utter a word of welcome or surprise, we were all clasped in his strong, living arms. The rapture of that hour who could seek to portray.

'Forgive me, Agnes, for playing the listener,' he said. 'It was not premeditated, but as I came in I heard young voices, and could not but pause a moment before surprising you. How can I ever thank you, how repay you for your love to my children and to me!'

These words and many more fell from his lips, as he clasped me again with warm affection. I was repaid for all my labor, all my sorrow.

Then followed questions, explanations, words of joy and welcome. His good ship, indeed, had been lost in the fearful storm, but the account of the loss of the men had been exaggerated in the excitement of the news. Many were lost, but not all. There were other homes of mourning made glad that night as well as mine.

And what a merry, joyful Christmas we had! How the Christmas tree sparkled under its many tapers, loaded not only with the gifts of the children to each other, but with more costly presents to me and to them from their delighted father! How proudly did Ellen lead her father to the pictures her industry had wrought, and say, in answer to his surprise, 'Mother taught me!' How sweetly did little May sing her favorite song, and, throwing her arms about her smiling father's neck, say also, 'Mother taught me!'

Very sacred, and full of peculiar trial, is the position of the second wife, where the children of the buried mother claim her care and love; but if, with a true heart and zeal, she enters into the work before her, rich is her reward and its pleasures endure for ever. F. C.

THE GAZETTE.

LEWISTOWN, PA.

Thursday, March 5, 1857.

TO OUR PATRONS.
We have this year, in addition to our regular expenses, to meet nearly \$300 on the 1st of April, and we trust therefore that our patrons who have heretofore so liberally responded to this annual call, will do so again. The past few years, with their high prices, have been trying ones to us, for while everything else has gone up our terms for the paper and price of job work are the same as when we could purchase flour at \$4.50 and \$5.00 per barrel, butter at 12½ cents per pound, and many other things in proportion; yet with all this, such notices as "We want money," "We must have money," &c., are never found in the columns of the Gazette unless it be at this season. This is not because we do not need it, (for to tell the truth we have been a borrower in 1856,) but because these constant "Juns" are coldly looked upon by the public, and seldom produce any good. There is one class to whom we have a special word to say. They are few in number, but totally regardless whether they pay or not. The day has arrived when we must discontinue with such "patronage," and we here give them notice that we shall take an early occasion to strike their names off the books.

A large number of subscriptions in the Western States, &c., will expire during the months of February, March and April, and as these are discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for, (except in a few special cases,) those wishing the paper continued will please remit a gold dollar, wrapped in a piece of paper and enclosed in a letter. No western shall notices will be taken in payment.

UNION STATE CONVENTION.

The citizens of Pennsylvania who are opposed to the extension of Slavery and to the other equally obnoxious principles of the incoming National Administration as announced in the Cincinnati platform—who are opposed to the union of church and State, the exclusion of the Bible from our Common Schools, and in favor of protecting the ballot-box from the corrupt influences by which the will of the people was defeated in the recent State and Presidential elections, are requested to elect delegates, equal in number to the present representation in the Senate and House of Representatives, to meet in Convention in the Hall of the House of Representatives, at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, the 25th day of March next, at 12 o'clock M., to nominate candidates for Governor, Judge of the Supreme Court and Canal Commissioner, to be supported at the ensuing October election.

Harrisburg, Feb. 21st, 1857.

- David Taggart, Fr. Jordan,
John R. Harris, S. P. McAlmont,
James J. Lewis, E. V. Dickey,
De Lorna Imbrie, C. E. Hoffman,
Paxson Vickers, G. P. Shaw,
W. Warner, Isaac Benson,
John H. Wintrose, John S. Vanvorhis,
A. W. Crawford, R. B. Moorhead,
C. S. Kauffman, J. G. Shuman,
John C. Sloan, John Musselman,
C. S. Eyster, T. J. Coffey,
Joseph Brown, Andrew Gregg,
Jos. D. Pownall, L. Reed,
John T. Peters, Jas. B. Backhouse,
Nicholas Voegtly, Jr. P. W. Housekeeper,
James Penrose, Wm. A. Crab,
John Parell, Glenn W. Seefeld,
James M. Sellers, E. D. Gazzam,
John Witherow, G. J. Ball,
Chas. B. Penrose, W. E. Frazer,
Geo. T. Thorn, J. Dock,
S. B. Chase, Samuel Karr,
David Mumma, Jr., S. S. Bishop,
John M. Gibboney, John A. Hiestand,
John Souther, John Wright,
W. E. Stevenson.

COUNTY MEETING.

The citizens of Mifflin county in favor of carrying out the views of the above call are requested to meet in the Town Hall, Lewistown, on MONDAY EVENING, March 16, 1857, for the purpose of electing Delegates to said Convention.

Notices of New Advertisements.

Garrett, Dick and Fitzgerald, New York, have lately published a new work by the author of 'Zaidee,' called *Magdalen Heppburn*, which will be forwarded pre-paid on the receipt of \$1. The work is highly commended.

Proposals are invited for building a school-house at Locke's Mills.

An extensive sale of Real Estate and Personal Property will come off in Huntingdon county on the 25th inst.

An executor's notice.

Where to buy cheap Drugs, &c.

THE SECOND WIFE.—Our lady readers, to whose pleasure we have not been able to devote much space for some time on account of politics and advertising, will find an excellent tale in to-day's paper called "The Second Wife."

FROM KANSAS.

The telegraph brought an account last week of a gross insult offered by a man named Sherrid to Gov. Geary—of a meeting to condemn it—a disturbance by Sherrid and others, in which the latter was shot by a man named Jones.

St. Louis, Feb. 28.—The Legislative Council condemns the outrage on Gov. Geary, by resolution, while the House fully sustains Sherrid.

A law has passed both branches to punish rebellion with death. All resistances to territorial law or authority is declared rebellion. The bill repealing the test oaths which passed through the Council has been almost unanimously defeated in the House.

Gov. Geary fears assassination, and sent yesterday for the troops at Tecumseh for his protection. A detachment of dragoons have gone to arrest Capt. Walker.

The Legislature has passed a territorial election law, based on the census, which provided for the constitutional convention. Only those who may be in the territory in April, and whose names shall be registered, are to vote at the next October election.

Sherrid was not killed as was at first reported, and the Mr. Jones who shot him was arrested and held to bail in the sum of \$5000.

SHOOTING CASE IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—David Hume proceeded to the Pension Office this morning to demand the retraction of a charge by D. C. Lee, a clerk in that office, that he (Hume) had picked Lee's pocket at the President's reception last night. Lee declined to retract, when Hume struck him with a stick. Lee thereupon shot him dead with a pistol, and soon after delivered himself to the officers.

The Inauguration took place yesterday. Washington is said to be crammed full of office hunters.

Appointing Opponents to Office.

The Legislature adjourned last week in order to give the democratic members time to attend the State Convention and Inauguration of President Buchanan, so that little of interest has transpired beyond the confirmation of Dr. DeWitt, who was re-nominated by Governor Pollock as State Librarian! It has been the misfortune of almost every whig administration, and in later days those elevated to power by the opponents of democracy, to place themselves upon their "dignity" or some other absurdity, and so far forget all obligation to party friends as not only to overlook their claims, but do a serious injury by appointing its opponents to office. Most working politicians go into a canvass with the expectation in case of success that they will reap a share of the rewards, and this system has been so long followed by all parties that a change of office is looked for as a matter of course on the accession of a new administration of different politics from the preceding one. Now was there no Whig, no American, no Republican at Harrisburg who could have filled the office of State Librarian quite as ably as the present incumbent, who is well known as a good democrat, and as such was appointed by Governor Bigler?—Such a question needs no answer, for almost any one could name half a dozen worthy men at that place who spent their time and means in furthering the election of Governor Pollock, while Dr. DeWitt was either lying on his oars, or perhaps aiding his democratic friends in making votes for Bigler. The present administration may flatter themselves that they are highly "magnanimous" in thus dispensing patronage, but to Americans and Republicans along the public works, who never saw or heard of a Whig, American or Republican holding an office under a democratic Board of Canal Commissioners, it sounds anything but wise or prudent. The democracy know no scruples of this kind, and hence often succeed in retaining office hunters in their ranks for years, who are put off from time to time under the mere plea that their "turn has not yet come." If the opposition expects to thrive and prosper, they must take more decided ground on things of this kind, or it will soon be idle to engage in a contest at all.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

The Democratic State Convention assembled at Harrisburg on the 21st instant for the purpose of nominating candidates for Governor, Canal Commissioner, and Supreme Judge, and after considerable balloting placed in nomination WILLIAM F. PACKER, of Lycoming county, for the leading office. This gentleman, although some years ago a member of what is generally called the "canal democracy," has fair business capacity, is conversant with State affairs, and without intending to disparage our "wheel horse," Mr. Banks, is undoubtedly the strongest nomination that could have been made from among the candidates in the field. In his own section of the State we suspect he is more popular with the politicians than the people—not that he is wanting in the manners calculated to secure favor with the latter, for from the little we know of him he is both affable and obliging, but from his former connection with the class above spoken of. His course during the late presidential campaign, in strongly endorsing southern slavery views, may also do him harm in that quarter, and should Judge Wilnot or some other favorite of that section be selected as his competitor, Mr. P. would be nowhere so far as the northern tier of counties is concerned. With all these disadvantages he is still a strong man, and it will require a good antagonist and a united effort on the part of the opposition to beat him.

The first balloting resulted as follows:

Packer,	30	Barrett,	5
Black,	25	Hughes,	4
Witte,	29	Banks,	9
Hopkins,	14	Slenker,	1
Brasley,	13	Bell,	1

Whole number, 131 votes.

After the first vote letters from F. W. Hughes and J. Porter Brasley were read, withdrawing their names from the list of candidates. The name of Isaac Slenker was also withdrawn.

On the second ballot the vote stood:

Witte,	33	Banks,	6
Packer,	38	Hopkins,	18
Black,	36	Barrett,	2

Whole number, 135.

The third vote resulted as follows:

Packer,	41	Witte,	36
Black,	37	Hopkins,	16
Banks,	3		

Whole number, 133.

The fourth to the seventh ballots resulted as follows:

	4th.	5th.	6th.	7th.
Packer,	46	47	49	49
Black,	34	35	41	45
Witte,	35	38	38	38
Hopkins,	18	12	5	1

Whole number, 133.

On the eighth ballot the vote stood:

Packer,	50	Witte,	38
Black,	44	Hopkins,	1

Whole number, 133.

There was not much variation until the eighteenth ballot, when Hopkins was dropped Packer having increased to 54, Witte to 47, and Black fell down to 22. On the twentieth Packer had 59, on the twenty-first 60, on the twenty-second and twenty-third 61, and on the twenty-fourth, the vote stood

Packer,	68	Witte,	51
Black,			14

Nimrod Strickland, of Chester county, was nominated for Canal Commissioner, and Judge Lewis for Supreme Judge.

Put on a new dress—The Muncy Luminary.

Getting interesting—The question who is to be the next P. M. of Lewistown.

Sticking out a foot—The old divisions among the democracy, when they quarreled about Cass and Buchanan.

Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad Company.

The annual Report of the President of this company was submitted to the stockholders a few weeks ago. During the past year the road has been extended into various parts of the coal region, so that "including sidings at Huntingdon, Marklesburg, Rough and Ready, Saxton, Hopewell, and at the mines, forty miles of track are laid, and three miles graded with the iron on the ground, making a total of forty-three miles of single track road, costing, with interest on bonds and stock, extra interest, engineering and all other expenses, about one million one hundred thousand dollars, or nearly twenty-five thousand six hundred dollars per mile. Weigh scales have been built at Saxton, and a Y cut, to turn engines upon; turn-tables have also been put in at Huntingdon and Hopewell, and the necessary water stations erected on the route. The Company have purchased extensive wharves at Huntingdon, upon which they have erected trestle work for dumping coal into boats, and prepared an extensive landing for storing coal when necessary.—Five hundred acres, unincumbered, have been added to the coal lands of the Company, making with the twenty-one hundred acres covered by first mortgage a total of twenty-six hundred acres. At the mines, fifteen new dwelling houses have been built, and three collieries put in complete working order, with the necessary sidings, loading houses, platforms, &c."

The total amount of coal brought down since the opening of the road, appears to be forty-two thousand nine hundred and seventy-one tons, and the total receipts for freights \$45,581. Since the 1st of July, there have been shipped thirty-two thousand seven hundred and eighty-one and a half tons of coal, and the total receipts for the six months have been as follows:

For Coal Freight,	\$19,108 51
Local	3,489 53
Rent of Mines,	3,878 57
Mail, six months,	800 00
Passengers,	5,820 50
	—\$32,097 11

Expenses—	
For Motive Power, (except coal),	5,659 98
Coal for Locomotives, Stations, &c.,	1,380 02
Maintenance of Cars,	3,300 25
Maintenance of Way,	5,996 39
Conducting Transportation of Passengers,	\$1,317 74
Freight,	1,850 68
	—\$22,507 32

Net earnings for six months, \$17,442 79

The shipments of coal for the last six months have been as follows:

In July,	6,957 tons.
August,	6,554 "
September,	5,110 "
October,	3,901 "
November,	3,719 "
December,	4,540 "

Shipments for 6 mos., 32,781

During the six months, transportation of iron rails, cross ties, lumber and materials for the construction of the road, was done to at least the amount of \$6,000, for which no charge has been made, and which would increase the net earnings to \$3,447.

The President, after referring to the great depth of snow last winter and various other matters which retarded the completion of the road and business, says—

Two facts, however, have been established, which ought to satisfy any one that a success equal to the fullest expectations of the Company is now a question of time. The one, that coal can be brought to this market at the present rate of freights, with profit to the miners, and sold at a less price than the Cumberland, or taken to New York and sold at the same rate—the other, that it has decided preference in the market over that coal, so far as it has been tried.

The Northern Central Road, with a terminus at Baltimore, the great depot of the Cumberland, is now using Broad Top coal for its locomotives. The machine shops and locomotives on the State Road have been getting their supply exclusively from Broad Top since March last; and the Norristown, Westchester direct, and other roads, have been using it to a greater or less extent. Some shipments made to New York have given the greatest satisfaction, and a trial of it is intended to be made soon upon the Hudson River Railroad and the Long Island.

Six or seven miles of the road are presently worked, ten in all; two to four more will be opened during the summer. These mines when in full operation and vigorously worked, should send to market five hundred tons annually.

For the present year, two hundred and fifty thousand tons is a moderate estimate, provided transportation can be had, of which we do not anticipate any difficulty. A turnpike connecting the road with Morrison's Cove, and a plank road connecting the latter with the Bedford turnpike, both nearly completed, will greatly increase the local freights. The improvements now making at Bedford Springs, will probably attract a large number of visitors, and add very much to the passenger receipts.

The Board think they can now safely say that there is but one thing wanting to make the success of the issue of the floating debt, and that is the funding of the floating debt.

You are all aware of the high rates charged railroad companies for money, as well as the great difficulty at times of any but the most favored getting it at all. The Board have so far been able to meet the engagements of the Company by temporary loans, but as there will be no occasion for a further increase of the debt to any extent, it is now decidedly to the interest of the stockholders to convert it into a permanent loan. With this view, the Board have decided the execution of a mortgage of \$500,000, with eighteen years of maturity, with interest on bonds in sums of \$500 each bearing seven per cent. interest, payable half yearly, on 1st February and 1st August of each year. One-fourth of the net revenue of the road and mines from January 1, 1861, after deducting interest upon loans, is pledged to be invested semi-annually, in a sinking fund, for the redemption of this issue of bonds.

The road and collieries can be leased for a term of years, at a rent under which the above arrangement for a sinking fund would redeem the bonds in eight years or less from its commencement. Besides this pledge of revenue, itself a good basis, the bonds are secured by a mortgage on forty-three miles of railroad, twenty-six hundred acres of coal lands, with the Company, the real estate at Huntingdon and other places, and all the other property of the Company, upon a considerable portion of which it is a first lien, having been acquired upon the execution of the first mortgage, and upon the remainder a second lien. There will be, perhaps, after deducting cash assets, \$360,000 of floating debt to provide for. A sale of

\$500,000 of bonds would enable us to get along for the next two months, and a further sale of \$100,000, during March and April, will likely be as large an amount of the bonds as it will be necessary to sell. The remainder can be used as collateral, and the sinking fund alluded to might be so arranged as to absorb annually a portion of the debt, an equal amount of the bonds being in all cases cancelled.

Assuming the whole amount of bonds to be sold, the annual interest on both loans would amount to \$70,000 00

Add 6 per cent. on 550,000 of stock, 33,000 00

\$103,000 00

The shipments of coal for July and August, from four collieries, were at the rate of about 80,000 tons per annum. These same collieries expect to send to market monthly more than double that average; and with six new mines getting into operation, 250,000 tons can certainly be counted on for the present season. Allowing a moderate increase in the passenger receipts and local freights, and assuming the expenses to be double those of the past year, the following will be the result:

150,000 tons, of 2000 lbs. in Pennsylvania Railroad cars, at 55 cts.,	\$82,500
100,000 in company's cars, for canal shipments, at 67 cts.,	67,000
Passenger receipts, \$1500 per month, (last six months \$1000 per month.)	18,000
Local freights,	15,000
Mails,	1,700
	—\$184,200

Superintendence, maintenance of way and total running expenses, at 5000 per month, (Average last six months \$2600.)

\$124,200

Add rent of mines,

\$13,000

\$139,200

In estimating the expenses, it must be taken into consideration that the maintenance of way will probably be less than for the last season, the banks having settled, and the deep cuts being stopped. The motive power will cost but little more; one engine having been ordered a great part of this year in the transportation of iron rails, cross-ties and lumber, for the construction of the road, or used with the dirt train, for which no charge has been made.—The Superintendent, in his report, estimates the net earnings for this year at \$120,000.—Should the stockholders, however, not have faith in these figures, some gentlemen are now negotiating for a lease, that will probably take the road for five years, on the following terms:

Equal to 3 per cent on stock,	157	90,000	75,000
Do 6 do	158	110,000	90,000
Do 7 do	159	120,000	100,000
Do 8 do	160	130,000	110,000
Do 10 do	161	150,000	125,000

This rent, allowing in 1861, that the stock had increased to 700,000, would pay 10 per cent., and allowing for an annual increase one-fourth of the net revenue invested in a sinking fund commenced at that time, would in eight years or less take up the present issue of bonds.

The most successful coal roads have had, at one time or another, a trying period in their existence, which required promptness and liberality on the part of their stockholders, and for which they afterwards reaped a rich return.—The finances once taken care of, the Board confidently rely upon a success equal to the most favored of them.

By referring to the Railroad and Mining Register, of September 27, 1856, you will see that the total earnings of the Beaver Meadow Railroad Company, in 1851, were but \$88,674, a less amount than will be earned by the Broad Top Road, allowing the year to commence with July 1st; yet, in the year 1855, their receipts amounted to \$271,394, leaving, after deducting \$105,000 working expenses, a net revenue of over one hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars. Their receipts are said to have increased sixty thousand dollars in 1856. From this you can judge of the rapidity with which the receipts of a coal road increase, as the mines are developed. That the receipts of your Company will increase in a still greater ratio is to be fairly presumed, as the increase of the receipts from the mines are to be added to the workings of the road.

A gentleman recently from the Cumberland region, and who has been engaged in mining soft coal for some twenty years in Nova Scotia and this country, has lately made an examination of the mines of the Company, on Broad Top, and is now in this City, awaiting the election of the new Board to contract for the lease of the unoccupied mines on Shoup's Run. He would bring a large number of skillful miners from the Cumberland region, and his own experience would be of great value to the Company. Altogether, the aspect of the Company's affairs, were this debt funded, would be promising.

The Board take this occasion to express their obligations to Herman J. Lombaert, Esq., Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, for his uniform kindness and courtesy in affording this Company cars and other means of transportation when in his power.

Before taking leave, they also desire to bear testimony to the industry and economy of James Boon, Esq., Superintendent of the Company, as well as to the efficiency and correct business habits of John J. Lawrence, Esq., Freight Agent at Huntingdon.

L. T. WATTS, President.

A New Novel by the Author of "Zaidee."

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Publishers, 18 ANN ST., NEW YORK.

List of Causes for Trial

At April Term, A. D. 1857.

L. Fisher vs. Milliken & McCulloch,	63	Term.	Year.
Samuel Holiday vs. John Peachey,	100	Aug.	1857
Joseph B. Ard vs. James Somerville,	24	Nov.	1857
Reuben C. Hale vs. John Wynn,	68	Nov.	1857
Sinclair Graham vs. Etting, Grant & Co.,	102	Apr.	1857
J. D. Scully vs. John Strrett & Co.,	88	Apr.	1857
D. A. & E. J. McNabb vs. Gilmore & Esq.,	67	Apr.	1857