Great Temperance Meeting.

On Saturday week the Lancaster County Temperance Society convened in the borough of Marietta, according to previous announcement. The meeting was largely attended, and the discussions warm and feeling. It was the most lively meeting of the kind that the Parent Society has had for a long period. The ladies cheered the sittings of the society with their presence and their smiles. During the day the following resolutions were ably discussed, one by one, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we find sufficient evidence, (if other proof were wanting,) of the deleterious effects of all alcoholic liquors, whether fermented or distilled, whether taken in large quantities, in the fact, that it exists no where as a national compound, that it is disliked by all persons until their taste become vitiated, that it furnishes no nourishment and cannot be assimilated, that it always injures the stomach and otherwise deranges the system, and when its use had been long continued, produces a long catalogue of the most fatal diseases.

Resolved, That the practice now become so universal among vintners, brewers, and others engaged in the liquor business of adulterating their liquors with some of the most active and virulent poisons, (in addition to that which they naturally contain) such as oil of vitriol, hen bane, nux vomica, sugar of lead, poison hemlock, prussic acid, &c., thus absolutely poisoning those who drink, calls for the severest reprehension on the part of the moralist, and the most speedy action on the part of the legislator.

Resolved, That we have labored long and hard for the reformation of the drunkard, by means of the Press and the public speaker, entreaty and persuasion, by the formation of Temperance Societies, Total Abstinence Societies, and Divisions of the Sons of Temperance; still we find our utmost efforts insufficient to remove the evil. Many of those that had reformed, have returned to their cups.—Intemperance still pollutes our land, giving rise to untold misery, wretchedness and crime; and the reluctant conclusion is at last extorted from us, that as long as the present license law exists, the glorious cause we advocate can never reach a successful consummation.

Resolved, That we hold with the originators and signers of the Declaration of Independence, and the framers of the Constitution of our own State, that the right to life, to liberty, to property, to pursue happiness, are inalienable, and that governments are formed for the protection of such rights; and that since our license law endangers our lives in permitting those to drink who conduct our cars and steamboats, saps the very foundation of our liberty in taking away the self-respect, and enervating the minds of our people, deprives us of our property in demanding heavy taxes and charities, to pay for the crime and support the pauperism of its victims, and interferes with our happiness in causing vice and wickedness of every dye; we call upon our legislature as good citizens seeking redress for wrongs imposed, to protect us by blotting out this remnant of barbarism from our statute books, and place rumselling upon the same platform as other crimes of like enormity.

Resolved, That, since our enemy, Rum, is strong, and his intrenchments, the license law, formidable, we recommend to temperance men every where to form Societies, where none at present exist, and add to their usual duties, that of compelling the tavern keepers to sell according to law, and in this manner keep the subject in agitation, so that we may obtain as speedy as possible, a law abolishing the sale of liquor entirely, and thus be able, Hercules like, to strangle the monster in his own den.

Resolved, That the late success of the friends of Temperance, by their remonstrances against the licensing of taverns, should encourage them to persevere in their efforts.

Resolved, That in all our efforts to promote the cause of Temperance, whether in reforming the poor inebriate, in denouncing the traffic in ardent spirits, or in striving to procure a law abolishing the sale, we are actuated by no angry feelings towards those who sell, we would gladly convince them of their error, and show them that their business compels them to be enemies of mankind; and only desire to protect our own rights, to do good to our fellows, and rescue the land from the evils of Intemperance.

Resolved, That those newspapers of our county, which refuse to publish notices of our meetings, or an account of our proceedings, and those, who do so, by inserting above, that significant phrase, "by request," show by such conduct that they are not altogether free from the influence of Rum, and forfeit much of the respect and support which we as temperance men would otherwise feel inclined to bestow.

Resolved, That we recommend to Temperance men in general, and the Order of the Sons of Temperance, that they unite in an effort to obtain such a number of subscribers, and give such encouragement to the Temperance Press in the city of Lancaster, that may enable the Editors to make such improvements as the importance of the cause it advocates seems to demand.

E. CONARD Pres't.

JOSEPH GIBBONS, Rec. Sec.

The Nashville Convention.

The following resolutions were adopted unanimously by the Nashville Convention, on the 10th inst. We invite attention to them:

1. *Resolved*, That the territories of the United States belong to the people of the several States, as their common property; that the citizens of the several States have equal right to migrate, with their property, to those territories, and be protected in the enjoyment of their property, so long as the territories remain under the charge of the government.

2. *Resolved*, That Congress has no power to exclude from territory of the United States, property lawfully belonging to the States of Union, and any act which may be passed by Congress to effect this result, is a plain violation of the constitution of the United States.

3. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of Congress to provide civil government for territories, as the spirit of American institutions forbids the maintenance of military governments in time of peace; and all laws heretofore existing in territories formerly belonging to foreign powers, which interfere with the full enjoyment of religious freedom, the freedom of the press, trial by jury, and all other rights of person or property, as secured or recognized in the courts of the United States are necessarily void; and so soon as such territories become American territory, it is the duty of the federal government to make early provisions for the enactment of those laws, which may be expedient and necessary to secure to the inhabitants and emigrants to such territories the full benefit of the constitution in assertion of their rights.

4. *Resolved*, That to protect property existing in the several States of the Union, the people of the States have invested the federal government with the powers of war and negotiations, and of sustaining armies and navies, and prohibit to the State authorities the exercise of the same powers; they made no distinction in the protection of the property to be defended, nor was it allowed to the federal government to determine what should be held as property; whatever the States hold as property, the government is bound to recognize and defend as such. Therefore, it is the sense of this convention that all the acts of the federal government, which tend to denationalize property of any description recognized in the constitution, in favor of the proprietors of other property, are acts directly opposed to the South.

5. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of the federal government to recognize and firmly to maintain, the equal rights of the citizens of the several States, in the territories of the United States, and to repudiate the power to make a discrimination between the proprietors of different species of property in the federal legislation. The fulfilment of this duty by the federal government, would greatly tend to restore peace. The laws of the States relative to the protection to be afforded, are perfectly plain; and any attempts to weaken or destroy the title of any citizen upon the American territory, are plain and palpable violations of the fundamental law under which the government exists.

6. *Resolved*, That the slaveholding States cannot, and will not, submit to the enactment, by Congress, of any law imposing onerous conditions or restraints on individuals removing with their property into the territories of the United States, or to any law making discrimination of country and class between different sections of the Union—because it is the deliberate opinion of this Convention, that the tolerance of Congress has given to the nation the impression that federal authority might be employed incidentally to subvert or weaken the institutions existing in a State which is confessedly beyond their jurisdiction and control—a main cause of the discord which menaces the existence of the Union, and which has well nigh destroyed the efficient action of the government itself.

7. *Resolved*, That the performance of this duty is required by the fundamental law of the Union; and the equality of the several States composing the Union cannot be disturbed without disturbing the frame of the American institutions. This principle is violated in the case of the citizens of the slaveholding States, if power to enter the territories, with their property is not lawfully acquired. In these States the warfare against this right is a wear upon the Constitution. The defenders of this right are defending the Constitution; and those who deny or impugn its existence, are unfaithful to the Constitution; and if disunion follows, the destroyers of these rights are the disunionists.

8. *Resolved*, That the performance of its duties upon this principle, we declare, would enable Congress to remove the embarrassments in which the country is now involved. The vacant territories of the United States, no longer regarded as places for sectional rapacity and ambition, would be gradually re-occupied by inhabitants drawing to them, by their interests and feelings, institutions based on the principles of the Constitution; to them would be naturally applied governments formed on American ideas, and approved of by the constituents of that particular section.

9. *Resolved*, That the recognition of this principle would deprive the questions between the Texas and the United States, of their sectional character, and would leave them for adjustment, without disturbance from sectional prejudice and passion, upon the considerations of magnanimity and justice.

10. *Resolved*, That a recognition of this principle would infuse the principle of conciliation in the discussion of an adjustment of this question, and would afford a guarantee of an early and satisfactory termination.

11. *Resolved*, That in the event of a dominant majority refusing to recognize the constitutional rights we assert, or continuing to deny the obligations of the federal government to maintain them, then it is the recommendation of this Convention that the territories should be treated as property, and divided between the sections of the Union, so that the rights of both sections be adequately secured in their respective shares; that we are aware this course is open to great objections, but we are ready to acquiesce in the adoption of the line of 36 30 North latitude, extending to the Pacific ocean—an extreme concession, upon considerations of what is due to the stability of one of our institutions.

12. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of the Convention, that controversy should be ended, either by the recognition of the Constitutional rights of the Southern people, or by an equitable partition of the territories; that the spectacle of the confederacy of States, involved in quarrels or other events of a war in which the American arms were crowned with glory, is humiliating; that the incorporation of the Wilmot proviso, in the offer of a settlement—a proposition which the States regard as disparaging and dishonorable—is degrading to the country; the termination of this controversy by the disruption of the confederacy, would be a climax to the shame which attaches to the difficulty, and which it is the paramount duty of Congress to avoid.

13. *Resolved*, That this Convention will not consent that Congress shall adjourn without making an adjustment of this controversy; and in the condition in which the Convention finds the question before Congress, it does not feel at liberty to discuss the methods.

Intelligencer & Journal.

GEO. SANDERSON, EDITOR.

Lancaster, June 18, 1850.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

CANAL COMMISSIONER:

WILLIAM T. MORISON.

AUDITOR GENERAL:

EPHRAIM BANKS.

SURVEYOR GENERAL:

J. PORTER BRAWLEY.

To our Democratic Friends!

We have a proposition to make. It is this: As soon as one hundred new paying subscribers can be obtained in Lancaster county we will enlarge the "INTELLIGENCER," so as to add *four columns* of reading matter to each number. If one or two active men in each township and borough will make the effort, we have no doubt treble that number can be obtained in a few weeks. What say our Democratic friends to the proposition? Who will be the first to move in the matter?

State Central Committee.

The following named gentlemen compose the Democratic State Central Committee, as appointed by the Williamsport Convention:

JOHN HICKMAN,	Chester County, Chairman.
Luther Riley,	Dauphin do.
Asa Dimock,	do. do.
Andrew Miller,	Philadelphia county.
James Goodman,	do. do.
Loyd Wharton,	Bickley, do do.
Charles Brady,	do. do.
John B. Sterigere,	Montgomery do.
Wm. T. Rogers,	Bucks do.
John Kolp,	Lancaster do.
A. M. Sallade,	Berks do.
John A. Innas,	Northampton do.
E. Maynard,	Tioga do.
Henry C. Eyre,	Union do.
D. F. Williams,	York do.
George W. Brewer,	Franklin do.
A. P. Wilson,	Huntingdon do.
Henry W. Beeson,	Fayette do.
Seth Clover,	Clarion do.
John S. Rhey,	Armstrong do.
Thos. W. Grayson,	Washington do.
M. C. Trout,	Mercer do.
Charles Frailey,	Schuylkill do.
Saml. H. Tate,	Bedford do.
Saml. P. Collins,	Luzerne do.
George P. Hamilton,	Alleghany do.
Charles Brown,	Philadelphia do.
William Deal,	do. do.
W. L. Dewart,	Northumberland do.
C. E. Wright,	Bucks do.
James Donegan,	Berks do.
T. J. P. Stokes,	Philadelphia city.
Daniel Barr,	do. do.

☞ The following County Committee, to act in conjunction with the State Central Committee, was appointed by the Williamsport Convention to serve for the ensuing year: Col. Reah Frazer, C. M. Johnston, and Dr. John Huston.

Fourth of July.

A celebration of the approaching Anniversary of Independence, irrespective of party, is to take place in Col. Mayer's woods near Brownstown. An oration suitable to the occasion will be delivered by GEORGE W. MCELROY, Esq., of this city. Dinner will be served about 1 o'clock. A Ball in the evening is to close the festivities of the day.

The "Perkins Institution."

We have received from the Publishers the "Eighteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts Asylum for the Blind"—from which we learn that the whole number of those unfortunate inmates now at the Institution is 102, and that its monetary affairs are in a flourishing condition. We learn also that the Pupils are taught various branches of manufactures in addition to the usual branches of education taught in a common school, and that from twenty to thirty-five blind adults are employed every year in the manufacture of goods, whose wages amount to over $2500.

The Institution, in all its departments, is in a prosperous condition, and is highly creditable to the State of Massachusetts and to those who have the supervision of it. The Report is a highly interesting one, but we have not room for farther details.

Another Chance for Sportsmen!

See advertisement in another column relative to the "*Great Yorkshire Race*," which is to come off at York, (England,) on the 23d day of August next. The stakes are very heavy, and the prizes will be distributed to the holders on the 20th of September

Telegraph to Europe.

Quite a number of writers are discussing with earnestness the practicability of laying wires upon the bed of the ocean, and establishing a telegraphic communication at once; and, we believe, the most of them approve of the project. A correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, who is represented to be an able, experienced and scientific civil engineer, proposes to lay down a wire rope of twenty strands, number 14 wire, isolated from each other, so that twenty distinct machines could be operated, and twenty messages sent at the same time. He says it will take eight miles in length of this rope to break by its own weight in the water; and that therefore it could not break upon being let down into the deepest part of the ocean. The wire rope is to be coated with gutta percha, and to be reeled off from steamers employed for the purpose. It would cost, he says, $875,000 for 3500 miles, the whole distance from New York to England; *via* Boston and Newfoundland, with allowances. The cost of two steamers one trip, including the erection of station houses at the landings, telegraphic machines, &c., &c., ready for operation, he estimates at $425,000, which will swell the total to $1,300,000.

☞ Senator FOOTE has consented to deliver the oration before the Washington Monument Society, at Washington, on the 4th proximo. It will doubtless be an able and eloquent address.

A Word in Season.

The next Legislature of Pennsylvania will have the important duty to perform of electing a U. S. Senator to succeed Mr. Sturgeon—and upon the character and integrity of the members of both branches returned by the people, will depend whether our good old State is to be honored or disgraced in the Senate of the United States. The Whigs will resort to any means and exert all their energies to carry a majority in the Legislature; but, failing in that, they will, as is their usual policy, cast their votes for some *pretended* Democrat, of easy virtue, who will reciprocate their kindness by yielding a willing support to their favorite measures before that body. In view of this, the people should be more than usually careful in the selection of candidates to represent them in the next Legislature. Let no one be nominated or supported by Democrats who is not known to be pure and of undoubted political integrity, and who will not be proof against all the arts and seductive influences brought to bear upon them by the designing men who will hover about the Capitol. And, to make "assurance doubly sure," a pledge in writing should be exacted from every candidate, solemnly binding himself to support the regular caucus nominations of the party. Should this course, or a similar one, be pursued in all the Democratic counties then will a true-hearted Democrat be elected to represent Pennsylvania in the U. S. Senate. But should a contrary policy prevail, we may expect some ambi-dextrous politician—some dishonest aspirant—to take the place of the firm, consistent, reliable Daniel Sturgeon, who in sunshine and storm, in prosperity and adversity, has ever been found "faithful among the faithless," and whose integrity never once has been called in question.

The disgraceful proceedings of certain individuals at the Williamsport Convention, should be sufficient to open the eyes of the people to the trickery and downright rascality that will be attempted to influence the next Legislature. Let the true hearted Democracy of Pennsylvania see to it in time, that none of their representatives, who may be sent to legislate for them next winter, can be approached in the same way. Let them select no one who is not known to be proof against bribery and corruption, and all the seductive appliances which may be put in requisition at Harrisburg.

Seeing, as we think, the danger in the prospective, we have considered it a duty to warn the people in time of what we believe will be attempted. We hope our brethren of the Democratic press throughout the State will all sound the alarm.—"Forewarned is forearmed," and let them remind the people that "eternal vigilance is the price paid for liberty." We have discharged our duty.

Whig Harmony!

There is evidently trouble brewing in the Whigwam of this region. Whilst the resolutions of the Whig County Convention and the general course of the *Union & Tribune* gives the "cold shoulder" to Henry Clay, the *Examiner & Herald* takes the opposite course and still considers the great "Harry of the West" as the beau ideal of Whig perfection. For proof of this we refer our readers to the publication, in that paper of Wednesday last, of the resolutions, so strongly approbatory of Mr. Clay's course, recently passed at a meeting of the Whig Young Men's General Committee of New York—and also to a highly laudatory article of Mr. Clay and his Compromise Bill, taken from the Philadelphia Inquirer. In addition to this, the omission on the part of the Examiner to say a solitary word approbatory of the resolutions of the County Convention above referred to, is significant of the fact that the proceedings of that body, in treating Mr. Clay with such marked disrespect, are any thing but satisfactory in that quarter. We shall watch the progress of this (as yet smothered) feud between our Whig friends with some interest. It will come to a head, by and bye—then, look out for an explosion in the Whig-wam!

"Throw Physic to the Dogs!"

It must be gratifying to the Whigs of Lancaster county, to know that their late County Convention fully endorsed the conduct of Gen. TAYLOR and his Cabinet, in every respect—including, of course, the *Galphin Swindle* and all the other peculations of the administration, which amount, in the aggregate, to over a MILLION OF DOLLARS! It is true, the Convention did not say so in that many words—but in sanctioning ALL the measures of the Administration, of course those particular acts were included. Whether this is the sentiment of the honest farmers and mechanics of the County remains to be seen—and whether the young "*sprigs* of the law," who had the resolutions prepared before hand, and who influenced the action of the Convention, truly reflected the opinions of the Whigs of the country, will be ascertained hereafter. We doubt exceedingly, however, whether this *City* dictation will go down well in the Townships, and whether they can swallow the dose—*Galphinism* and all—without nauseating their stomachs and causing wry faces. But, then again, we know that Whig stomachs generally are very capacious, and that it takes a great deal of the strongest kind of medicine to produce any retchings—and it may be that even Galphinism itself, with all its hideousness and flagrant enormity, will not prove an emetic for them. We shall see. In the mean time we give the following list of ingredients composing the dose which they must gulp down, if they endorse *all* the proceedings of their County Convention:

THE ALLEN CLAIM!
THE BARRON CLAIM!!
THE EWING CLAIM!!!
THE BENSON CLAIM!!!!
THE ALABAMA CLAIM!!!!!
THE VIRGINIA CLAIM!!!!!!
THE WINNEBAGO CLAIM!!!!!!!
THE DE LA FRANCIA CLAIM!!!!!!!!
THE MAMMOTH GALPHIN CLAIM!!!!!!!!!!
And numerous other Claims amounting to over
ONE MILLION OF DOLLARS!!!!!!!!!

Still they Come!

Is there no end to the Galphins?—and will there be no end to them? Every day, almost, brings with it a new troop, as deformed and hideous as any that have yet appeared. The Washington Union says: "We have been told that the Cabinet have been paying interest on the old Virginia commutation claims which has been refused by all former administrations. We understand that large sums have been paid out of the treasury on these claims for interest, founded on *pretended* judgments recovered in the courts of Virginia. We understand that certain agents, having the management of these claims, have made large sums of money in the business of hunting up and presenting them to the Taylor administration for payment. We understand that the amount already paid out on this class of claims—interest alone—will reach one or two hundred thousand dollars, perhaps much more!"

And all these in addition to the Galphin claim—the Francia claim—the Benson claim—the Commodore Barron claim—the Ewing claim—the Alabama claim—the Allen claim—the Winnebago swindle—and various others—amounting in the aggregate to over *One Million of Dollars!* paid by Cabinet officers, without warrant or authority of law.

Truly, the people are paying dearly for the mistake they made in elevating Gen. Taylor to the Presidency. If this system of Galphanizing, or bleeding the treasury, is permitted to continue for two or three years longer, we should not wonder if high tariff duties became necessary in order to save the government from bankruptcy.

Will the Editors of the Whig organs in this county let us have their opinion of these barefaced peculations? We are sincerely anxious to know what they think of them—and we have no doubt their readers are equally solicitous on the subject. Do, gentlemen, make public your ideas of Taylor Galphinism—and let the good people of Lancaster county know whether you sanction or disapprove of these wholesale robberies of the public treasury.

Mr. Clay and the Galphins.

Mr. CLAY and the Administration now hold antagonistical positions to each other. The great Kentucky Statesman, who for five and twenty years has held the Whig heart of the Nation as if by magic, is now, for the first time, balked in his efforts to heal the wounds of his country—and that, too, by a batch of men who are but pigmies in intellect and statesmanship when compared with himself. Whilst *he*, like a true patriot, is bending all his energies and employing all his eloquence to affect an adjustment of the difficulties that now be set the Nation, *they* are sneakingly and cowardly at work to defeat his efforts and to prolong the agitation of the Slavery question. *He* has taken his position boldly and manfully—*they* are endeavoring to evade the question, by a craven spirit of procrastination which seeks by non-action to postpone a decision of the momentus subject. But this is not the worst feature of the case on the part of the Galphin Cabinet. They are not content with trying to defeat the plan of adjustment or compromise advocated by Mr. CLAY, but they are meanly endeavoring, through the instrumentality of hired letter writers and pensioned presses, to write down that great statesman and blacken his fame with posterity.—This is the basest kind of ingratitude on their part, and must, of necessity, recoil upon themselves, with tremendous effect. To HENRY CLAY's forbearance are these ingrates mainly indebted for the positions they occupy before the country; for had he exerted his mighty influence against Gen. TAYLOR, (and who could have blamed him had he done so, after the manner he was treated by the "Slaughter House" Convention of 1848!) that gentleman never could have been elevated to the Presidential Chair. This the Galphins well know; and yet, so lost are they to a proper sense of their obligations to Mr. CLAY, that they would now destroy him, if they could, and blacken the reputation which he has acquired after fifty years hard toil in the service of the public. But they cannot do it. These men are but intellectual pigmies in the grasp of his giant intellect, and they will find to their cost that all their efforts will fall harmless at his feet.—Nor is he the man to quail before his enemies.—HENRY CLAY knows no fear—and whilst, no doubt, he would vastly prefer an encounter with "foemen worthy of his steel," yet he will never turn his back to mortal man. Least of all will he cower, to those ingrates who have been fed by his bounty and who, after having been warmed into political life by his guardianship of the Whig party, now turn round, like the adder in the fable, and attempt to sting to death their kindest and greatest benefactor.

We have no friendship for Mr. CLAY, politically. His desertion of the Democratic party in 1825, and the bitterness with which he has since assailed its principles and policy, have arrayed against him the whole body of the Democracy from one extremity of the Union to the other. He has his faults—but, he is, nevertheless, emphatically a great man, in almost every sense of the word, and no one can look upon his manly form without at the same time admiring his many splendid qualities. His character is the common property of the whole American people, and however much a majority of them may dislike some of the principles and measures he has heretofore advocated, they are willing to award him a niche in the temple of fame which has been attained by but few statesmen of the nineteenth century. His eminent services to the Whig party should have endeared him to every member of it—for it is owing to the talents and energies of HENRY CLAY, and to him alone, that the Whig party has an organized existence at the present day. Had it not been for him—for the almost super-human efforts he put forth against the Democratic party, after his apostacy from it—the Whig party would now be a weak, miserable, helpless faction—without energy, without organization, without power, without numerical strength to accomplish any thing. Mr. CLAY has made it what it is, and for this, he is now, in his old days, when upon the verge of the grave, visited with the blackest ingratitude that ever fell to the lot of man. But the day of retribution is coming, and the great Kentuckian will yet triumph over an administration that is detested and despised, on account of its weakness and inefficiency, by three-fourths of the American people.

Nothing yet Done!

Congress is now in the seventh month of its session, and still the great question of Slavery—which embraces the other question of admitting California and the Territories—is apparently as far from a settlement as ever. What is to be the upshot of this business, it is impossible to conjecture. Much ill feeling is again excited at Washington.—On Thursday last, Messrs. CLAY and BENTON, notwithstanding their age and character, had an angry altercation on the floor of the Senate; and in the House, Messrs. TOOMBS and WINTHROP, two members from whom better was expected, became so much excited as to almost come to blows, or some thing worse.

☞ We are indebted to the Messrs. SPANGLER & BRO., for a very excellent piece of music, by Miss EMMA F. MYERS, a highly talented young lady of Columbia, and dedicated to our friend GEO. WOLFE, Esq. of the same place. The music is prefaced with an admirable lithographed portrait of Mr. W., and the whole affair is gotten up in the very best artistical style. Call at SPANGLER's, and judge for yourselves.

Dry Weather.

The Erie *Observer* complains of the drought in that section, and says there has fallen no rain there of any consequence for the last seven weeks! We also learn from our exchanges that in the States of Michigan and Wisconsin, the drought has been very severe. In this region (Lancaster Co., Pa.) we have had more than our share of rain the present season—and could have spared our western friends a score at least of very fine showers! The last eight or ten days, however, indicate a dry spell of weather.

SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT IN ÆROSTATION.—Mr. Bell, a physician of London, has achieved a new discovery in the science of aerostation—that of controlling, directing, or steering a baloon, which he accomplished a few weeks since to the surprise of the Londoners. He manœuvered his bark through the realms of air with a dexterity that puts all his contemporaries in the shade. The baloon is represented to be of an eliptic shape, somewhat resembling in form the Spanish melon or vegetable marrow, manufactured of the finest silk, with netting of cordage, and with a spring valve constructed on an entire new principle. The flight, conducted with the greatest privacy, took place from the monster gasometer of the Phœnix Gas Works. The ascent was made at about six o'clock, and the descent took place at Essex, with a result favorable to the intrepid aeronaut, but causing the loss of life of one who had bravely and kindly hastened to the rescue of a fellow creature in his perilous descent from the regions above.

We'll bet a dozen of Scotch herring, that our townsman, Mr. WISE, can accomplish the feat, if such a thing has been done by a Londoner. He can do what any other body can do in the science of ærostation—that's certain.

☞ Quite a new business has been started at Harrisburg, Pa. The Union says that Messrs. Till & Main, boat builders of that borough, have laid the keel and set up the ribs of a schooner, on the bank of the Susquehanna below the railroad bridge, to be floated to tide water when completed.

EQUIVOCAL.—The flock of a worthy minister have presented him with a policy of insurance on his life for $5000—a snug little sum, which, as Phelim O'Leary would say, he can only enjoy when he is dead! These posthumos benefits are somewhat equivocal, as a reward of merit. It is like presenting a pipe of wine to a gentleman, to be drunk at his funeral.

☞ Mrs. Sallie W. Lawrence, of Louisville, has been divorced from her husband, T. B. Lawrence, of Boston.

TREMENDOUS FIRE IN COLUMBIA.

Loss of Life—$30,000 worth of Property Destroyed.

A tremendous conflagration occurred in the Borough of Columbia, on Sunday night last. For the following particulars we are indebted to the kindness of Col. A. M. SPANGLER, who was an eye-witness to the scene:

On Sunday night, about 12 o'clock, an Express train from Columbia reached our city, bringing intelligence that a destructive fire, that threatened the safety of the town, was then raging in that place, and requesting the assistance of our firemen. The alarm was immediately given, and in a short time the Sun Engine and Hose mounted a truck car, and accompanied by about 150 firemen and citizens, proceeded with the train to Columbia, and reached the fire in time to render some assistance.

The particulars are as follows: The fire broke out at about half past 10 o'clock, in a cooper shop belonging to Christian Meyers, situated near the river bank, between Walnut and Locust Sts. Surrounded as it was with buildings and material of the most combustible character, so rapid was the progress of the fire, that before the firemen could bring their apparatus to bear upon it, several of the old frame buildings were wrapped in flames. The intense heat and rapid progress of the fire soon gave it a most threatening aspect, and the destruction of the town seemed inevitable. However, by almost super-human exertions, the flames were confined to the square between Walnut and Locust streets, and Front street and the River. The Columbia Bridge was on fire three several times, and but for the unusual calmness of the night, would certainly have been destroyed. The breeze which was but light blew for a while directly towards the town, and during its continuance in that direction all hope of preventing its almost total destruction was abandoned. Fortunately, however, the wind changed and the fire was driven towards the river, where coming in contact with the immense piles of Lumber, it soon raged with renewed violence.—After several hours of severe labor, the progress of the fire was checked, not however, until a large amount of valuable lumber was consumed.

The principal sufferers are: Robert Hamilton, whose losses are heavy, and no insurance either upon dwelling or lumber; C. Meyers, & E. Howard, partly insured, loss heavy; N. Evans, insured.—Messrs. Pownall & Dickinson lose heavily, no insurance. Quite a number of our Lancaster Lumber Merchants are sufferers. The principal, are Reinhold & Co., Shenk & Long, D. Hartman, and J. S. Gable. No insurance on any part.

Nine houses tenanted by *twenty-three* indigent families, many of whom barely escaped with their lives, were destroyed. We could not learn the value of them. The total loss is estimated at $30,000, of which not the fifteenth part was insured.

The office of the "Columbia Spy" was also destroyed, though a large portion of the type & material were saved, and insurance sufficient to cover the balance of the loss.

We regret to state that a young man, named Augustus Myers, was so injured by the falling of a chimney that he died in two hours. D. Shoemaker, and another person were also injured, but not seriously.

The greatest praise is due the firemen & citizens for their noble exertions in arresting the flames.

The fire was no doubt the work of incendiaries, as two men were seen running from the Cooper Shop, just as the alarm was given, and though efforts were made to arrest them, they succeeded in making their escape.

Bunker Hill Celebration.

The Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, which occurred on yesterday, the 17th of June, was to be celebrated at Boston. From the preparations made, it was doubtless a grand affair. The orator selected for the occasion was EDWARD EVERETT, one of the most popular and eloquent speakers of the age. The Boston *Post*, in an article on the subject, and speaking of Mr. E., says:—"He will stand, too, near where the British landed seventy-five years ago when they marched to scale the redoubt which Prescott's valor, and that of his immortal band, have immortalized."

The celebration was gotten up, as it should be, irrespective of parties. A general invitation was extended to all the citizens of every age, sex and condition.

Col. William Bigler.

This distinguished Democrat paid a flying visit to Lewistown last week, on his way home to Clearfield. Speaking of the marked attention extended to him by the citizens of that Borough, the *True Democrat* concludes by saying:

The signs of the times unerringly point to him as the man to carry our flag to victory in the Gubernatorial canvass of 1851. In honoring such a man the people honor themselves.

LACKAWANNA IRON WORKS.—The great Iron Works of the Messrs. Scranton are now making forty tons of Railroad Iron per day, while no other concern in the Union is known to be making a solitary rail. This iron is of such excellence, that the makers sell it easily at seven dollars per ton advance on the price of merchantable English rails.

☞ We clip the above from the *N. Y. Tribune*. We think the editor is mistaken in his allegation that there is but that one establishment in the Union making Railroad Iron at the present time.—If our information is correct, the Safe Harbor Iron Works, in this County, are also engaged in the manufacture of Railroad Iron, at the present time, and are making at the rate of 150 tons per week, and a very superior article at that.

But is it not surprising how statements like the above find their way into Whig papees, especially at the present time when the restoration of the Tariff of 1842 is about to be *demanded!*

☞ The alleged discovery of Mr. H. M. Paine, of Worcester, Massachusetts—by which a brilliant inflammable gas is produced from water, at a mere nominal cost—is strongly doubted by some. The Boston Journal, speaking of it, says:

This discovery is so remarkable in its character, and embraces such important results, that we must be pardoned for doubting the entire correctness of the statements, until we have received stronger demonstrative proofs than have yet been laid before the public. It is true that the *light* has been exhibited, and is highly satisfactory, but the *mode* of producing it has hitherto been studiously concealed; nor is it known, excepting from the statements of the discoverer, that there is no other agent in its production than water. Nor is there any thing in the previous history of Mr. Paine which should lead us, in these days of humbug and morbid thirst for notoriety, to give full credence to his account of the astounding nature of this discovery, unsupported by testimony from persons well qualified to test its merits, and who have been allowed an opportunity of so doing.

The New York Express says:

Our Gas Company here have but little faith in the improvement, and have offered $1,000,000, for evidence of its success, which *they* say cannot be given.

CLEVELAND SAVINGS BANK.—The Cleveland correspondent of the New York Herald thus describes the mode in which the recent robbery of that institution was effected:

"The robbers came to Cleveland about two weeks before the robbery; they watched the President of the bank for several days, for the purpose of stealing the keys; they finally observed him enter his room, which is on the lower floor in front; and looking through the window, saw him deposite the bank key in the bureau drawer, and soon after he appeared in the street; and while he stood talking with some men that were at work near his house, one of the rogues slipped into the house and stole the bank key from the bureau drawer, and with it unlocked the vault, removed the $12,000, and returned the key back to the drawer. But had the President taken the caution to disarrange the key, the robbery would, in all probability have been prevented. This cunning idea of returning the key, had the effect the rogues contemplated, by fixing suspicion on the officers of the bank; and thus feeling secure, in consequence of such suspicion, the rogues began boldly spending the money. The first information that led to their arrest came from a house of ill fame, a short distance from the city, where the rogues spent a good portion of their time after the robbery. The money was buried in two parcels—part on the bank of the lake, and part in an embankment on the railroad, and never, probably, would have been found had not the rogues pointed out the spot."

THE COAL TRADE.—The shipments of coal last week from the Schuylkill and Lehigh regions alone, reached nearly 62,000 tons. The Lehigh trade is rapidly increasing—the shipments last week exceeding, by upwards of 4,000 tons, those from the Schuylkill mines by railroad. The total shipments for the season from these mines amount to 855,285 tons.

California News.

We received, by the New York mail of Wednesday last, the following letter from our friend, G. W. BAKER, Esq., now in California. The graphic description he gives of the route over which he passed, will be read with interest by his numerous friends in this county. It will also be gratifying to them to know that he is in excellent health, and succeeding very well since he reached the El Dorado of the West:

SAN FRANCISCO, April 30, 1850.

GEO. SANDERSON, Esq.,—*Dear Sir*: The Intelligencers forwarded by your kindness have been received up to March 12th. From the editorial to the last advertisement in their columns, they are the source of the deepest interest to me. Few can leave their native home, or as the Germans more touchingly express it, their "father-land," without keen regret. And although I am indebted to Lancaster county for naught but that of a birth-place, and expect never to be her debtor for aught else, it will be a happy day when my foot is again upon her soil. For a home, old Pennsylvania for ever—and Lancaster County a long while after.

I arrived at Chagres, January 26. The town is one of no interest, being composed of some two or three hundred miserable huts, and wholly inhabited by negroes. An old fort, standing a dreary and and voiceless sentinel at the entrance of the bay, might arrest the attention of an antiquarian, and cause a few sombre reflections upon fallen greatness and the vanity of national as well as human ambition. Having no penchant that way, we will not disturb the pompous ruins, but proceed to prepare for a trip up the Chagres river. The numerous shops of the place can furnish every thing requisite for the journey, such as bread, wine, brandy and cold meats. The latter should be brought with the traveller. Claret wine will be found extremely useful, as well as palatable; it quenches thirst and destroys the flaccid qualities of the river water. Brandy or rum should always accompany the voyager.—Boats of all sizes from a large launch to a small hog trough, line the shores. The scenes here presented upon the arrival of a steamer are striking and novel. A thousand natives of all sizes, ages, sexes and colors, from Japan black to parchment yellow, in any degree of nakedness, raggedness, taudriness, and dirtiness swarm upon the shores and in the boats, rowing, poleing and shoveing hither and thither in most consummate anxiety, perplexity and confusion, and all trying to drive a bargain. If you betray the least fickleness they will rate their price accordingly. A boat above the medium size should be selected for not more than three; the price will vary from $25 to $100, according to the demand, and anxiety of the passengers to get off. Over the after part of the boat there should be a covering to afford protection from the sun and dews. Your luggage stored forward, and yourself under the awning, you may bid adieu to Chagres.

This river has been most grossly misrepresented. Men devoid of taste for the beautiful in nature, dead to her poetry, and untouched by her harmony, magnificence and luxuriance, have called her many foul names. For miles her waters flow as placidly as the meadow stream where the weeping willow grows. Her banks are covered with trees, vines, and flowers, rich in color, magnificent in size, and endless in variety. And like a wanton maid, conscious of her charms, she displays all her attractions in graceful roundings, now as though she rushed to take a towering hill in her embrace, and then off to kiss a flowery plain. Everything around is so new and strange, so rich and beautiful, that it is with an effort that you are convinced of being in substantial existence. During the rainy season it is quite different; the stream is then full, rapid, and dangerous, requiring many days to complete the passage. Thirty hours to two days should find you at Gorgona, a town of the same character as Chagres. Having a good night's rest and one or two comfortable meals, (and the traveller is by this time prepared to rate comfort according to circumstances,) you must make arrangements for the transportation of yourself and luggage. This is done by mules and men. Riding mules are hired from 8 to $16—pack mules at $8 per hundred pounds. Men carry trunks, &c., on their backs for whatever they can get. I would observe here that trunks and packages should not exceed much one hundred pounds, and should be well secured and covered with canvass or gum. Get a good and strong riding mule by all means, and if you do not wish to be disappointed about your baggage, see it started and then keep with it if you think proper. Ladies ride some astride and some on side saddles. The former is possibly the safest, but certainly not the most pleasant. A good rider need have no fear upon a side saddle.

To give any adequate idea of the road from Gorgona to Panama is an impossibility. Just imagine the up-hilliest and down-hilliest, the ruggedest and stoneiest, the boleiest and narrowest, the ditchiest and rutthiest, the roughest and windiest, the rootiest and stumpiest, the breakneckiest and darndest road that ever tracked a wilderness, and you will have an idea of this. With all this, however, I saw no real danger. The animals are as nimble and sure footed as any of the Raubs on the tight rope. The journey may be made in six hours, and should be commenced in the morning, especially so when ladies travel. Refreshments can be had at the numerous ranches that now line the road. Wine and brandy should be carried conveniently as much of the water is brackish from vegetable matter. I look upon the whole trip across the Isthmus as one of romantic interest and novelty, full of incident, pleasure and amusement. As for the fatigue and other discomforts, any one who is not prepared for them should have remained at home; California is no place for him.

The church towers of Panama seen at a distance are cheering signs of the speedy termination of that part of the journey so much dreaded by the traveller. He has passed the Rubicon, and has not been torn to pieces by the huge bug-bears of the letter writers, nor has he been precipitated from some awful precipice into the yawning