

REPORTER

Wednesday, February 12, 1845.



The Office of the Bradford Reporter has been removed to Col. Means' Brick Store, (up stairs), entrance on the North side.

New York & Erie Rail Road.

The indications at present are that this road will be pushed to a speedy completion. From the following it will be seen that a new route is contemplated.

The Monticello Watchman says:—We have learned from a gentleman direct from Albany, that the New York and Erie Rail Road company have petitioned the Legislature for leave to cross the Delaware river and pass not only through the counties of Pike and Wayne but through Susquehanna in the State of Pennsylvania: that is, leave to abandon the route contemplated in their charter through Sullivan and Delaware counties, and part of Broome and Chenango, and to locate through the coal regions of Pennsylvania.

The Honesdale Herald says that petitions to the Legislature of this State are circulating in Pike and Wayne counties for consent to extend the New York & Erie Rail-road into Pike county, without further naming the route to be pursued. This the Herald construes as an intention eventually to locate the road not only through Pike but also Wayne and Susquehanna counties, in order to communicate with the Pennsylvania coal mines. This has occasioned no little fluttering among the capitalists and others interested from their location in having the road constructed on the route formerly contemplated. Some of the papers along the old route are "pell-mell" against this new project and remonstrances are industriously circulated.

SUICIDE IN ELMIRA.—The Elmira Gazette of 30th ult., contains the following account of a suicide committed in that place:—An individual by the name of Israel Skinner, who has been a resident of this village about six months, and sawed wood for a livelihood, put an end to his existence on Tuesday afternoon last, by hanging himself. There appears to be no reason assigned for the rash act; he was as sane as usual, no one suspecting that he had any intention of committing the deed; he apparently went at it very coolly he wrote two notes to persons stating that he could not fulfill some engagement, after which he went up stairs, after about an hour had elapsed his wife began to wonder why he remained so long and started up to see, but found the stair door fastened, which was immediately forced open and she went up and there found him with a rope around his neck and tied to a rafter, dead but not cold. He was about 41 years old and has left a wife and one child.

EXECUTION.—The spectacle of hanging a man, was witnessed on Tuesday 28th ult., at Troy. Wm. Miller paid the extreme penalty of the law for the murder of West, in May, 1842. He was attended at the scaffold by a clergy of the Catholic Church, and protested his entire innocence of the charge with his last breath. He made a statement of his past history, but admitted nothing that would implicate him for the murder of West, without it may have been at the confessional.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.—In our paper this week will be found a full and accurate report of the proceedings of the 1st week of court. They are prepared by Mr. H. C. Kelly, a young lawyer of our borough, and are, we believe, an entire new feature in a paper in this or any of the adjacent counties.

SLEIGHING.—The long looked for sleighing has at length arrived, and the bells discourse merry music at the present writing.

COUNTERFEITS.—Look out for well executed counterfeit two dollar bills on the Yates County Bank, and one dollar bills on the Bank of Rome.

NOT CAPTURED.—Basler, who escaped from the Wyoming county jail has not yet been captured. He was traced as far as Carbondale.

Lost Boy Found.—Extraordinary Romance.

A correspondent of the Hartford Times gives an account of the loss and recovery of a boy who was stolen by the Indians from the town of Jackson, Michigan, in 1837, and was recovered by his father, Mr. Ammi Filley, about the first of the present month in Greenville, Ct., in the employ of a citizen to whom he had been apprenticed by the overseers of the poor of Albany, N. Y. After wandering about with the Indian family, visiting various cities and towns between Wisconsin and Connecticut, he was taken from them in Albany, N. Y. in 1843, and placed in the Alms House on the ground that he was a white child, stolen from his parents. But the Indians refused to reveal his name or where he came from. His father came from Michigan to visit his relatives in Connecticut this winter, and while there heard of the boy, whom he recognized at once as his son. The one lost has been returned to his family, but there is now a dear one absent from the circle, who, it is hoped, has gone to a better world—his mother. She died soon after he was carried off by the Indians.

MISS WEBSTER.—We find the following in the Pittsburg Gazette relative to Miss Webster. "We have seen a private letter from a gentleman of high standing in Lexington, who states that it is impossible for Governor Owsley to pardon her under the present excited state of the public mind; that petitions against her pardon have been poured in upon him; that her case has been made as tolerable as possible, that her hair has not been cut off, that she has a room to herself, and has little or no option, and that she will be pardoned as soon as the excited state of the public mind will permit."

MR. POLK.—The Glasgow (Scotland) Post contains the following paragraph concerning Mr. Polk:—"The new President of the United States is of Scottish origin; and his curious looking name is an abridgement of a good old Scotch one. Mr. Polk's father or grandfather is said to have been a Lanarkshire man, of the name of Pollock. In the somewhat peculiar dialect of the upper ward of this county, the name is pronounced "Poke," and hence, probably, the orthography adopted by the transatlantic branch of the family."

TEXAS.—The Washington correspondent of the New York Express says: "Some have doubted whether the terms of the bill will be acceptable to Texas; but I am assured, from the best authority, that there is no doubt whatever that Texas will agree to it. There are persons from Texas here who know public opinion well enough at home to speak in behalf of Texas, and such persons do not doubt the concurrence of Texas in any plan of annexation likely to be proposed by the U. S. Government."

ARRIVAL EXTRAORDINARY.—The Southern Stage, on Friday evening says the Vermont Sentinel, brought some forty or fifty of the Canadian exiles to New South Wales, on their return to Canada, having received a free pardon. They appeared, in the main, to be in good health and spirits. We learn that some fifteen yet remain in captivity, owing to want of funds to pay their passage home.

ACCIDENT.—A man by the name of Farnsworth, belonging to Boston, who was engaged in blasting rocks on Thursday last, at the new factory in Lancaster, Mass., was blown up by the accidental dropping of a spark, as he was preparing to touch off the blast. He was thrown about one hundred feet into the air, and shattered to pieces.

AN AFFRAY.—An affray occurred in Hartford Conn., on Friday evening, between Mr. E. G. Squier, editor of the Hartford Journal, and Mr. Henry Hudson. The parties were separated, when Mr. Hudson felt blood trickling from his person, and on examination was found to have a cut in his abdomen about two inches long, and a half inch deep.

A CELESTIAL TERRESTRIALIZED.—A native of China, named Ah, was naturalized in the U. S. District Court at Boston, on Friday. He has been for eight years a resident of Boston, and declared his intention to become a citizen in '43.

Correspondence from Harrisburg.

(Correspondence of the Bradford Reporter.)

HARRISBURG, 7th Feb., 1845. Yesterday, Gov. Shunk transmitted a message to the Senate, announcing the nomination of Harry Morgan Esq., to be an Associate Judge of the Courts of Bradford County, vice Judge Goodwin, removed from said county. This appointment will doubtless prove a good one, and acceptable to the people of your county.

There has been little business of a public character transacted in either branch of the Legislature, since my last letter. The bill providing for resumption by the State, of the Beaver Division of the Pennsylvania Canal, was indefinitely postponed, which was in effect a rejection. The bill repealing the law establishing a Board of Revenue Commissioners passed the Senate by a majority of 19 to 8. This may be regarded as a measure of great importance to the farming interest of the State.—The plan of this revenue Board originated with the property holders of Philadelphia, whose object is to increase the amount of assessments upon all the farms in the Commonwealth, and thus in a measure exempt their own property from the burdens of taxation. There is beyond all doubt some scheme of this kind at the bottom of this measure, as its repeal is opposed by all the city and County members, and by the members from the counties adjoining. The whole burden of supporting the government is already cast upon the poor tiller of the soil, who labors from year to year without being able to clear enough from the fruits of his industry and toil, to support his family and pay his taxes! And yet, they would grind him down still lower, by assessing his farm higher, and thus increase the amount of his taxes!

I have been through different establishments in Philadelphia in which hundreds of thousands of dollars of capital was invested, and not a dollar—not a farthing of all this money came into the Treasury in the shape of a tax or licence! Capitalists embark in every project of increasing their wealth except farming! They contrive some scheme by which to avoid paying taxes on their property or income—may more; they rack their brains, as I verily believe, in devising means by which they may be able to shift upon the laboring poor—the hardy cultivators of the soil, the whole support of government.

Why do not some of our law makers introduce a bill to revise and correct our revenue laws? Why do they not look into the system adopted, and study to correct its many abuses? If I had a voice in our legislative halls, I introduce a bill to tax Incomes, Merchandize,—Manufactured articles of every description—Iron Coal &c. I would tax the State debt! In short I would lessen the burdens of taxation by making the system equal, by being universal.

I sincerely hope the bill establishing a Revenue Board will be repealed.—What can those commissioners do when they get together! How could a commissioner from the county York, determine the value of real estate in Beaver, Bradford or Cumberland? In short the old system itself, is better than the proposed Board. Perhaps it needs modification and amendment, if so let this be done, and the assessment, will be made as they should.

Great efforts are being made to procure the passage of a law erecting a new county out of parts of Bedford and Huntingdon, to be called Blair. I should not be surprised if the Bill becomes a law. Various other new counties are petitioned for in almost every part of the State.

The contract for rebuilding the Burnt Bridge, of the Cumberland Valley Rail Road, which spanned the Susquehanna at this place, has been allotted to Mr. Kirkhide, of Ohio, who has gone "up the river" to make contracts with lumbermen to supply him with timber. He may visit Bradford County.

The Governor and State Treasurer repaired to Philadelphia, on Saturday to attend to the payment of interest on State Debt.

The Bill to erect the new county of Blair, has just passed the House by a vote of 49 to 44.

The Bill to remove the seat of Justice of Columbia County, and which passed the House several days ago was called up in the Senate to day and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Bradford County Court.

MONDAY, Feb. 3, 1845.

The court opened at 10 A. M., and the day was occupied in disposing of the argument list, receiving returns of constables, &c.

TUESDAY, Feb. 4, 1845.

COM. VS. MINERVA SAGE.—Surety of the peace.

In this case, the defendant was charged with attempting to set fire to, and burn the buildings, of D. C. Salisbury, of Monroe, on the night of Jan. 28, 1845.

The motive which led to this attempt appears to have been her vexation at her failure to have Jerome Salisbury bound over to answer the charge of fornication and bastardy which she had preferred against him. After the examination before the magistrate had resulted in the discharge of Mr. Salisbury, she returned to Monroe, and in the course of the night of the same day attempted to seek revenge by setting fire to the buildings of Jerome's brother.—She was detected, however, with matches in her hand, and prevented from committing the deed that it appeared she meditated.

The Court on Wednesday ordered her to give security in the sum of two hundred dollars conditioned to keep the peace and be of good behavior towards all our good citizens, and especially towards D. C. Salisbury, for the space of one year, to pay the costs of prosecution, and stand committed till the sentence be complied with.

Upon giving the requisite security, she was discharged.

COM. VS. DANIEL CASSIN.—Larceny. Prosecutor, Ezra Long.

This was an indictment for stealing a cast steel stone chisel and a long cast steel drill, the property of Ezra Long. After the testimony was closed, the defendant withdrew the plea of not guilty, and pleaded guilty as to taking the chisel and drill, being of less value than twenty shillings. Thus constituting the offence petty larceny instead of grand larceny; and consequently subjecting the defendant to less punishment. The Court sentenced him to restore the stolen goods, if not already restored, to the owner, or pay the full value thereof, to pay a like amount to the commonwealth, and to undergo an imprisonment in the county goal for the space of thirty days.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 4, 1845.

COM. VS. GEO. SOPER.—Subornation of perjury.—Prosecutor James Bovier.

This was an indictment found against George Soper and Samuel S. Strait, for procuring Olive Benson to swear falsely in charging James Bovier with being the father of a bastard child, of which she was delivered on the 12th day of October, 1844.

Owing to want of time in getting Mr. Strait here, after the indictment was found, he was not placed upon his trial.

The principal facts upon which the prosecution relied, rested upon the testimony of Olive Benson and James Bovier, and were substantially as follows:

Olive testified that about the last of December 1843, she had illicit intercourse with Soper, at one Bakers, and that he was the father of her child which was born on the 12th of October following.

That some time before the child was born, Soper promised to marry her, if she would charge Bovier with being the father of her child, and obtain his farm, or two or three hundred dollars worth of property, telling her, as an inducement to do so, that he and she were both poor, that her parents would be mad, and would give her nothing &c. That various representations were made to her by Strait and Soper, for this purpose, and that she protested strongly against pursuing such a course of conduct, declaring that she did not like to take a false oath, that Bovier was not the father of her child, &c. That she at last yielded to these repeated solicitations, and on the 29th day of May, 1844, went before Ely Burritt, a Justice of the Peace, and entered complaint against Bovier.

James Bovier testified that he never had any criminal connexion with Olive, and never even hinted or intimated to her any thing of the kind.

The testimony on the part of defence was, that at the time of Soper and Olive being together at Bakers, it was impossible that the connexion of which she swore could have taken place, from

the fact that one Miranda Baker was lying on bed in an adjoining room with the door open, and that she was awake all the time, being kept so by the loath ache—Soper was there, and that she lay undressed on the bed in such a position, that they were both constantly in her light.

It also appeared from the testimony of Olive herself and others, that about new years, she commenced residing in the same house with James Bovier, and remained there some weeks, ostensibly for the purpose of attending school. The time when she and Soper were at Bakers, was placed by the defendant's witnesses in February.—Some of the defendant's witnesses testified that Olive had at various times, declared that the child did not belong to Soper, and likewise, that Bovier confessed at several periods to his unlawful intimacy with Olive.

A large number of witnesses was examined on both sides, to impeach the credibility of the witnesses of the opposite party, and nearly all were subjected to this scrutinizing ordeal. So that it was very puzzling to decide what to believe.

It was contended on the part of the defendant, that the story told by this girl was improbable, and that a combination had been entered into by Bovier, Olive and her friends, to procure unjustly, the conviction of Soper. That Olive stood before the Jury, by her own confession a perjured being, and consequently little reliance could be placed upon her testimony. That James Bovier, whom it was alleged she was corroborated, was directly and deeply interested in the event of the suit, and that it would be dangerous indeed to give credence to his testimony.

It was contended on the part of the prosecution, that although Olive had fallen, and the barriers of her influence were broken down, yet that her evidence taken in connexion with the circumstances related by her, corroborated by other witnesses, rendered her worthy of belief. That the reasons which induced her to swear falsely against James Bovier, had been satisfactorily explained, and that, though a weak and simple-minded girl as she was, she had once been persuaded by the strongest motives, to perjure herself, that she ought not from that fact alone, to be deemed incapable of telling the truth.

THURSDAY, Feb. 6, 1845.

In the case of the Com. vs. Soper, the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

The defendant forthwith moved for a new trial.

COM. VS. GEORGE SOPER.—Prosecutrix Olive Benson.

This was an indictment for fornication and bastardy, in which nearly the same testimony has given as in the former case.

FRIDAY FEB. 7th 1845.

SAMUEL A. TENANT VS. GORSLINE.

This was an action of replevin to recover damages for taking unlawfully numerous articles of personal property, claimed by the plaintiff to belong to him. The defendant admitted the taking but insisted that he had a right to do so, inasmuch as the property was distrained for rent, and in proof of this, testimony was introduced to show, that a few years since, Gorsline leased to Charles Webb a piece of land on shares.

That Webb went on and raised good crops, but did not deliver to Gorsline his share, in consequence of which, Gorsline distrained. It appeared that previous to this, Albert Newell obtained a judgement against Webb, and levied upon his share of the buckwheat, oats potatoes, and cornstalks, part of the property in dispute, but he bid them off, and sold and delivered them to Samuel A. Tenant. After this Tenant went on to the premises, and Gorsline distrained for \$175 in money instead of so many bushels of grain of the value of 175 Dollars.

It was contended on the part of the defendant, that Tenant when he went on to Gorsline's premises, became immediately tenant de facto de lege de nomine (in fact in law in name), and TENANT in every thing, and consequently Gorsline had a right to take his property in payment of his rent—which was unpaid.—The case turned on the manner of making the distress. The court charged the Jury that the distress ought to have been for so many bushels of grain of the value of so many dollars, and directed them to find for

the plaintiff, which was accordingly done with one dollar damages, the property having previously been returned. Feb 8th 1845.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Soper the Jury found the defendant guilty of fornication and bastardy.

The motion for a new trial in his case was overruled by the Court.

DAVID SOPER vs. SILAS MILLS.—This was an action of assumpsit brought to recover upon a bargain made by Stratton and Soper with Mills, that Mills should go down the river in pursuit of one Jones, against whom they had claims. Mills accordingly went down and succeeded in collecting some part of the amount.

Verdict for the plaintiff thirty one dollars and fifty cents.

MR. POLK'S CABINET.—The correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer writes "that last nights mail brought a letter from the President elect, to a Representative in Congress, in which it was stated explicitly, that no selection of Cabinet officers had yet been made, nor had Col. Polk counselled with any one of the subject. He further remarked, that in choosing his constitutional advisers, would be his aim to steer clear of all cliques and cabals—that it was his firm determination to ally himself with no faction, come from what quarter it might but to hold himself aloof from each and every connection that could possibly exist in involving his administration in the slightest degree with the question of the succession. This then sets at rest all the rumors relative to the new cabinet and is a subject of congratulation with all those who look as Republicans should, solely to the success of Mr. Polk's administration. The President elect will be triumphantly sustained, both by Congress and the people in this country which is precisely the one dreamed by the Whigs, as likely to upset all their hopes of profiting by dissensions in our ranks."

THE PUSEYITE CONTROVERSY.—The disturbance in the Episcopal Church has broken out with renewed vigor in England. The excitement is very great. Most of the daily press of London, now engaged in the discussion of the subject, and it would appear that the doctrines, or innovations, as they are called by the Oxford divines, now occupy the public mind to the exclusion of everything else. A pastoral letter, recently issued by the Bishop of Exeter appears to have been the chief generating cause of this revivification of the old dissension.

KILLING HER HUSBAND.—We learn from the Southampton Telegraph, of 24 inst., that a man was arrested a few days since, in Lake County, Illinois, 10 miles south of Southampton charged with murdering her husband. An attachment against another man in whose house they resided, is supposed to have instigated the deed.

BISHOP ODERDONK.—Bishop Onderdonk, of N. Y. City lately tried an ecclesiastical court, and suspended from exercising the functions of his office, has just published a pamphlet, reviewing the evidence given in case, and making a statement of what he declines to be the facts of the matters laid to charge.

NEW JERSEY.—A resolution was adopted in the House of Assembly New Jersey, on Wednesday, by a vote of 33 to 13, and in the Senate unanimously, requesting their Representatives to use their influence and exertions to prevent the passage of the resolution for the annexation of Texas to the States, recently passed by the House Representatives.

ANNEXATION IN MICHIGAN.—On 22d ult. the House of Representatives of Michigan passed to a third reading the joint resolution instructing the Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their exertions for the immediate re-annexation of Texas to the United States. A proviso prohibiting slavery or involuntary servitude in the territory of Texas, was rejected.

BISHOP DELANCY.—We learn, from the New York True Sun, that there is much dissatisfaction with Bishop Delancy in the Western Diocese of New York, for having restored the Rev. Van Zandt to his clerical functions.

CONGRESS.—The Senate are discussing the Texas measure, and the reducing the rates of postage, and their constituents are anxiously awaiting their action.