

REPORTER

Wednesday, March 12, 1845.



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

New York and Erie Rail Road.

We observe in some of the Philadelphia papers, and in one or two other quarters, that great efforts are made to prevent the location of a small part of the New York and Erie Rail Road within the borders of this state, and thus delay the completion, and detract from the usefulness of that great work.

So far as the interests of Northern Pennsylvania are concerned, we regard the construction of this road, as secondary in importance only, to the finishing of the North Branch Canal—indeed, as affording the last substantial hope which remains, of effecting that desirable object. We cannot therefore, forbear asking the instant and earnest exertions of the people in this section of the state, to secure the requisite legislative provisions in favor of the Erie road. Sure we are, that they will hold to a strict account, any of their public servants, who yield to the selfish clamor of Philadelphia or the seductive wiles of grasping monopolists.

If we are to believe the professions put forth, it seems that Philadelphia fears competition in the coal trade, and hence it is urged that no public works should be constructed, which are not directly tributary to that metropolis. Now, the reduction in the price of coal in the Philadelphia market, could scarcely be considered a misfortune to the state at large; since the quantity consumed would be thereby increased, and the interests of the laboring and productive classes greatly benefited. But the coal owners who are influenced by this selfish reasoning, may dismiss their fears, and silence their hostility in this respect. The New York and Erie Rail Road, if constructed, would cross or connect with no improvement whatever, leading to the coal regions, any where east of the North Branch of the Susquehanna, except the works of the Delaware and Hudson canal company. If it be really for the interest of the state, that company can still be left in quiet possession of all her monopolizing powers; and not a ton of the rich mineral wealth of Wyoming and Lackawana Valleys, ever pass upon the Erie rail way to the Hudson. The people of those fine valleys, can speak for themselves upon this subject, but we cannot help expressing our surprise, while the charter given by the Legislature of Pennsylvania to the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, declares in so many words both that canal and the short rail way which connects it with the coal mines "shall be deemed and taken as a public highway," that it should so long have remained one of the most complete monopolies in the state; and that a New York corporation (for such it is in effect) should be allowed the entire control of the coal trade of one of the richest coal fields in the world! We protest, however, against sacrificing the interests of any additional portion of the state, to the cupidty of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company—even if it should (as we understand it has already done,) invoke the aid of other coal corporations and monopolies, and rally the narrow and habitual opposition of Philadelphia against every improvement which does not lead to her own doors—no matter how fruitful of benefits it may be to any other part of Pennsylvania.

The New York and Erie Rail Road is no more a foreign corporation than the Delaware and Hudson Canal; and besides it only asks the privilege of constructing, what really and in good faith, will be a public highway—for a small distance within our borders—without the slightest feature of monopoly—and at the same time connecting with, and thus ensuring the completion of one of the most important and useful improvements in the state. To facilitate the exchange of our mineral wealth for that of the interior of New York, we have already expended near three millions of dollars, without any beneficial effect. The property of our citizens has been taken, their farms cut up, and roads ob-

structed—yet our boundless mineral wealth must remain for ever useless and idle—all to please that grasping monopoly, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and its kindred spirits, the coal corporations in and around Philadelphia.

The enlightened and liberal mercantile interests of Philadelphia, we tender the assurance that not a dollar of the trade they now possess, will be diverted, by allowing the Erie road to pass through the small portion of our state asked for; nor can we perceive the smallest chance of any additional conflict in the carrying trade between this work and our own improvements usually termed the main line. We say then, in conclusion, let all fair and needful privileges be extended to the Erie Rail Road Company to pass through our territory, wherever it may be most expedient; and above all, let not a democratic legislature be intimidated by the selfish clamor of any soulless monopoly—whether it come through Philadelphia, or otherwise.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENTS.—The Danville Intelligencer, of the 7th inst., contains the following lamentable accidents:—

On Saturday morning last, two boys, sons of Mr. Jacob Shultz, left home to go to a Blacksmith shop in the neighborhood, as we are informed, with a yoke of Oxen hitched to the forewheels of a wagon; instead of going by the Bridge, they attempted to cross at a fording near the mouth of Roaring Creek; the river being up, the back water was perhaps ten feet deep, and when they went in, the wheels of the wagon sunk, and left the boys floating in the water—neither of them could swim, and they both went under—the accident was observed by a person at the furnace, who, with others, repaired to the spot. After being in the water about ten minutes the oldest boy was taken out—lifeless, to all appearance, but by long and persevering efforts he was recovered.—The younger boy had sunk, for the last time, before any assistance reached the spot—and the body was not found until a seine was procured and drawn through the creek where the accident happened—he had been in the water too long, and was a corpse. His name was Peter Shultz, aged about ten years.

Mr. Lewis Leighou, of Montour township, was suddenly killed, on the premises of Mr. Yorks, on Wednesday evening last.—They were drawing, with horses, a very large stick of timber up a skid to get it on a wagon to remove it to the saw mill. When nearly up, the bolt or log-chain slipped, and the log, in running back, struck Mr. L., knocked him down, and before it reached the ground at the foot of the skid, it touched his head, pressed it partly into the soft ground, and fractured his skull so that he continued to breathe but a few minutes. He was about 50 years of age, without property, and leaves a wife and five children.

POSTAGE REFORM.—This important measure was passed by the House with amendments, which were concurred in by the Senate. The rates of postage of a single letter, fixed by the Senate bill at 5 cents without discrimination, are by the house bill, 5 cents for all under 300 miles, and 10 cents for all over 300. The other amendment fixes the period for the operation of the bill at 1st of July. This measure has many sanguine friends, and many strong opponents. As an experiment, a short time will test its utility.

PARDONED.—Miss Delia Webster has been pardoned by the Governor of Kentucky, and was at Cincinnati on the 26th ult. Fairbank, is likely to serve his whole term, fifteen years.

FIRE.—The dwelling house of John Woodward, Esq., of Hector, Tompkins Co. N. Y., was destroyed by fire on the 14th ult. Loss \$1,800—no insurance.

LECTURE.—The Lecture to be delivered this evening, at the Court House, by Rev. A. S. COLTON is postponed, on account of the unfavorable state of the weather.

DESTROYED.—The office of the Highland Democrat, Peekskill N. Y. was destroyed by fire on Thursday last, with all its contents.

THE NEWS of the Texas resolutions, was four hours too late to go to Europe, in the steamship Hibernia.

ON OUR FIRST PAGE, will be found the commencement of a capital story.

The Texas Measure Passed.

The proceedings of Congress, for the last few days of its existence, are highly important. Among other measures, the joint resolution for the reannexation of Texas to the United States, passed the Senate by a vote of 27 to 25, with Mr. Walker's amendment.

This action upon a measure so unequivocally declared for by the popular will, and fraught with such moment to this country and to Texas, though somewhat tardy, has been everywhere received with demonstrations of joy by the democrats. It was opposed in its passage, step by step, by the enemies of the bill, who were determined to waste the session without any final action being taken upon it. Every democrat voted for Texas, including Mr. Bagby, notwithstanding his speech to the contrary. Three Whigs, Johnson, of Louisiana, Merrick, of Maryland, and Henderson of Mississippi, voted in the affirmative.

We have not room this week for the joint resolutions as amended with Mr. Walker's addition, and as they passed, and received the signature of President Tyler.

The following are yeas and nays on the resolutions:

Yeas.—Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Bagby, Benton, Breese, Buchanan, Colquitt, Dickinson, Dix, Fairfield, Hanagan, Haywood, Henderson, Huger, Johnson, Lewis, M'Duffie, Merrick, Niles, Semple, Sevier, Sturgeon, Tappan, Walker, Woodbury—27.

Nays.—Messrs. Archer, Barrow, Bates, Bayard, Berrien, Choate, Clayton, Crittenden, Dayton, Evans, Foster, Francis, Huntington, Jarnagan, Mangum, Miller, Morehead, Pearce, Phelps Porter, Rives, Simmons, Upham, White Woodbridge—25.

THE SUSQUEHANNA REGISTER is grumbling because the mail matter for Bradford passes through Montrose, and very sharply rebukes the Post Master at Tunkhannock and Berwick. The Post Master at the latter place has no alternative but to send our papers via Tunkhannock, and the officer at the former place by sending via Montrose, enables us to receive Philadelphia papers, in some instances two days sooner than we otherwise should.

THE INAUGURAL.—We this week present to our readers the Inaugural Message of JAMES K. POLK, on assuming the office of President of the United States. It is an admirably written document, breathing in every line, the spirit of democracy. We commend it to the perusal of every one.

FIRE IN OWEGO.—An unoccupied dwelling house, on the west side of the Park, belonging to Mr. James Pumpelly, was destroyed by fire on Sunday evening, 2d inst. The fire was communicated from a lantern carried into a shed attached to the house, by a couple of boys.

ALLOWED A SALARY.—HON. W. P. Mangum, who has been President of the Senate since the death of Gen. Harrison, has been voted the Salary which the Vice President would have received, had he remained in office to discharge the duties of the station.

DEAD.—Intelligence was received at Harrisburg, on the 5th inst., of the death of W. J. B. Andrews, of Elk county, late clerk of the House of Representatives of this state, and said to be a defaulter.

HISTORY OF WYOMING.—The Hon. Charles Miner, of Wilkes-Barre, is about publishing a History of Wyoming.

NOT RECEIVED.—This week's letter from our Harrisburg correspondent has not been received. The mails, probably are to blame.

JUDGE NELSON has been sworn into office, and taken his seat on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States.

ADOLPHUS D. WILSON, Esq., has been appointed by the Attorney General, to be his Deputy for the county of Lycoming.

SNOW.—Tuesday morning last, the snow lay on the ground to the depth of six inches.

HENDRICK B. WRIGHT is spoken of for Collector at the Port of Philadelphia.

THE WEATHER for the past week has been a beautiful variety of rain, hail, snow and sleet!

The Inauguration.

The ceremonies of the Inauguration, at Washington, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., were somewhat marred by the falling rain. We learn that it attracted a large crowd to the Capitol, than that city ever before witnessed. The public and private boarding houses were literally crowded, and many were unable to procure lodging places.

At 9 o'clock the procession marched to the Capitol under command of Gen. M'Calla, of Ky., rain falling during the whole ceremony of the inauguration. When the President took his station on the platform, the air was rent by the shouts of the enthusiastic multitude.

The proceedings were opened with prayer, and the Senate then called to order. When all the Senators had taken their seats, the appearance of the Vice President attracted immediate notice of all spectators. The oath of office was administered to him by the Hon. Mr. Mangum, the President of the Senate, who immediately vacated his own seat, surrendering it to the new occupant.

Presently President Tyler and the President elect entered together. A temporary stage had been erected, as at the inauguration of President Harrison, over the great flight of steps; and from the front of this, the President elect, read to as many of the vast mass which filled the space in front as could hear him, the Address.

The delivery of the Inaugural being concluded, the oath of office was administered to the President, by the chief Justice of the United States, and the new President was saluted by loud cheers from the surrounding multitude.

The procession was then again formed, and escorted the President to the Presidential mansion, where, in the course of the afternoon, he received the congratulations of a large number of his fellow citizens.

THE NEW CABINET.—The new Cabinet under Mr. Polk has been officially announced as follows:

JAMES BUCHANAN, Secretary of State.
ROBERT J. WALKER, Secretary of the Treasury.

WILLIAM L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

GEORGE BANCROFT, Secretary of the Navy.

CAVE JOHNSON, Post Master General.

JOHN Y. MASON, Attorney General.

NORTH BRANCH CANAL.—A petition is in circulation, and receiving a very general signature, praying that damages may be awarded those persons along the route contemplated for the North Branch Canal, whose farms and improvements have suffered materially.—Want of room will not permit a more extended notice this week.

A HICKORY PEN.—Mr. Tyler, to give an additional character to the act, and pay at the same time somewhat of a pointed compliment to General Jackson, wrote his signature to the Annexation Resolutions with a hickory pen!!!

U. S. SENATOR.—Now that Mr. Buchanan is Secretary of State, there is another U. S. Senator to elect in this State. Why cannot the North unite upon some one of their many prominent Democrats?

TWO NEW SISTERS.—Florida and Iowa, have been received as States into the Federal Union.

U. S. Senator.

MESSRS EDITORS.—I congratulate the democracy, not only of this Commonwealth, but the whole Union, on the appointment of our "favorite son" and distinguished statesman to be Secretary of State. Who will take his place in the Senate? This is a question of great interest and importance. Who shall stand where Buchanan stood?—Who in his stead, will eloquently advocate on the floor of the Senate, the equal rights of man; and stand by and sustain the great interests of Pennsylvania? I have a preference for one of our eminent jurists and statesmen, the Hon. NATHANIEL B. ELDRID. The great confidence of the party in him, was signally expressed in the caucus which nominated Hon. D. Sturgeon.—We need only refer to that period, for a sure evidence of the strength and popularity of Mr. Eldred with those who hold the selection in their hands. Let the North unite on him, and his election will be made certain. The West will go with the North, their feelings and interest incline them to do so.

A SOUTHERN DEMOCRAT.

Inaugural Address OF JAMES K. POLK.

FELLOW CITIZENS: Without solicitation on my part, I have been chosen by the free and voluntary suffrages of my countrymen to the most honorable and most responsible office on earth. I am deeply impressed with gratitude for the confidence reposed in me. Honored with this distinguished consideration at an earlier period of my life than any of my predecessors, I cannot disguise the diffidence with which I am about to enter on the discharge of my official duties.

If the more aged and experienced men who have filled the office of President of the United States, even in the infancy of the republic, trusted their ability to discharge the duties of that exalted station, what ought not to be the apprehensions of one so much younger and less endowed, now that our domain extends from ocean to ocean, that our people have so greatly increased in numbers, and at a time when so great a diversity of opinion prevails in regard to the principles and policy which should characterize the administration of our government? Well may the boldest fear, and the wisest tremble, when incurring responsibilities on which may depend our country's peace and prosperity, and, in some degree, the hopes and happiness of the whole human family.

In assuming responsibilities so vast, I fervently invoke the aid of that Almighty Ruler of the universe, in whose hands are the destinies of nations and of men, to guard this heaven-favored land against the mischiefs which, without His guidance, might arise from an unwise public policy. With a firm reliance upon the wisdom of Omnipotence to sustain and direct me in the path of duty which I am appointed to pursue, I stand in the presence of this assembled multitude of my countrymen, to take upon myself the solemn obligation, "to the best of my ability, to preserve, protect, and defend the constitution of the United States."

A concise enumeration of the principles which will guide me in the administrative policy of the government, is not only in accordance with the examples set me by all my predecessors, but is eminently benefiting the occasion.

The constitution itself, plainly written as it is, the safeguard of our federative compact, the offspring of concession and compromise, binding together in the bonds of peace and union this great and increasing family of free and independent States, will be the chart by which I shall be directed.

It will be my first care to administer the government in the true spirit of that instrument, and to assume no powers not expressly granted or clearly implied in its terms. The government of the United States is one of delegated and limited powers; and it is by a strict adherence to the clearly granted powers, and by abstaining from the exercise of doubtful or unauthorized implied powers, that we have the only sure guaranty against the recurrence of those unfortunate collisions between the Federal and State authorities, which have occasionally so much disturbed the harmony of our system, and even threatened the perpetuity of our glorious Union.

To the States respectively, or to the people, have been reserved "the powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States." Each State is a complete sovereignty within the sphere of its reserved powers. The government of the Union acting within the sphere of its delegated authority, is also a complete sovereignty. While the general government should abstain from the exercise of authority not clearly delegated to it, the States should be equally careful that in the maintenance of their rights, they do not overstep the limit of power reserved to them. One of the most distinguished importance to "the support of the State government in all their rights, as the most competent administration for our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwark against anti-republican tendencies;" and to the "preservation of the general government in its whole constitutional vigor, as the sheet-anchor of our peace at home, and safely abroad."

To the government of the United States has been intrusted the exclusive management of our foreign affairs. Beyond that, it yields a few general enumerated powers. It does not force reform on the States. It leaves individuals, over whom it casts its protecting influence, entirely free to improve their own condition by the legitimate exercise of all their mental and physical powers. It is a common protector of each and all the States; of every man who lives upon our soil whether of native or foreign birth; of every religious sect, in their worship of the Almighty according to the dictates of their own conscience; of every shade of opinion, and the most free inquiry; of every art, trade, and occupation, consistent with the laws of the States. And we rejoice in the general happiness, prosperity, and advancement of our country, which have been the offspring of freedom, and not of power.

This most admirable and wisest system of well-regulated self-government among men, ever devised by human minds, has been tested by its successful operation for more than half a century; and, if preserved from the usurpations of the federal government on the one hand, and the exercise by the States of powers not reserved to them on the other, will, I fervently hope and believe, endure for ages to come, and dispense the blessings of civil and religious liberty to distant generations. To effect objects so dear to every patriot, I shall devote myself with anxious solicitude. It will be my desire to guard against that most fruitful source of danger to the harmonious action of our system, which consists in substituting the mere discretion and caprice of the executive, or of majorities in the legislative department of the government; for powers which have been withheld from the federal government by the constitution. By the theory of our government, majorities rule; but this right is not an arbitrary or unlimited one. It is a right to be exercised in subordination to the Constitution, and in conformity to it. One great object of the constitution was to restrain majorities from oppressing minorities or encroaching upon their just rights. Minorities have a right to appeal to the constitution, as a shield against such oppression.

That the blessings of liberty which our constitution secures may be enjoyed alike by minorities and majorities, the executive has been wisely invested with a qualified veto upon the acts of the legislature. It is a negative power, and is conservative in its character. It arrests for the time, hasty, inconsiderate, or unconstitutional legislation; invites reconsideration, and transfers questions at issue between the legislative and executive departments to the tribunal of the people. Like all other powers, it is subject to be abused. When judiciously and properly exercised, the constitution itself may be saved from infraction, and the rights of all preserved and protected.

The inestimable value of our federal Union is felt and acknowledged by all. By this system of united and confederated States, our people are permitted, collectively and individually, to seek their own happiness in their own way, and the consequences have been a happy and glorious one. Since the Union was formed, the number of States has increased from thirteen to twenty-eight; two of these have taken their position as members of the confederacy within the last week. Our population has increased from three to twenty millions. New cities, villages and States are seeking protection under itsegis, and multitudes from the Old World are flocking to our shores to participate in its blessings. Beneath its benign sway, peace and prosperity prevail. Freed from the dangers and miseries of war, our trade and intercourse have extended throughout the world. Millions no longer tasked in devising means to secure or conquest, is devoting itself to man's true interests, in developing his faculties and powers, and the capacity of man to minister to his enjoyments. Genius is free to announce its inventions and discoveries, and the hand is free to accomplish whatever the head conceives, no longer inhibited by the rights of a fellow-being. All distinctions of birth or of rank have been abolished. All citizens whether native or adopted, are placed upon terms of perfect equality. All are entitled to equal rights and equal protection. No union exists between church and state, and perfect freedom of opinion is guaranteed to all sects and creeds.

These are some of the blessings secured to our happy land by our federal Union. To perpetuate them, it is our sacred duty to serve it. Who shall assume limits to the achievements of free minds and free hands under the protection of this glorious Union? No reason to mankind, since the organization of society, would be equal in atrocity to that of him who would lift his hand to destroy a fellow-man wisdom, which protects himself and his fellow-man. He would stop the progress of free government, and involve his country either in anarchy or despotism. He would extinguish the fire of liberty which warms and animates the hearts of happy millions, and invites all the nations of the earth to imitate our example. He would say that error and wrong are committed in the administration of the government, let him remember that nothing human can be perfect, and that under no other system of government can reason be allowed so free and broad a scope as to combat error. Has the sword of despotism proved to be a safer or surer instrument of reform in government than enlightened reason? Does he expect to find among the ruins of the Union a happier abode for our swarming millions than they now have under it? Every laborer of his country must shudder at the thought of the possibility of its dissolution, and will be ready to adopt the patriotic sentiment, "let the federal Union—it must be preserved."

To preserve it, the compromises which alone enabled our fathers to form a common constitution for the government and protection of many States, and distinct communities, of diversified habits, interests, and domestic institutions, must be sacredly and religiously observed. Any attempts to disturb or destroy these compromises, being terms of the compact of Union, can lead to none other than the most ruinous and disastrous consequences.

It is a source of deep regret that in some sections of our country, misguided passions have occasionally indulged in schemes and agitators, whose object is the destruction of domestic institutions existing in other sections—institutions which existed at the adoption of the constitution, and were recognised and protected by it. All must see that if it were possible for them to be successful in attaining their object, the dissolution of the Union, and the consequent destruction of our happy form of government, must speedily follow.

I am happy to believe that at every period of our existence as a nation, there has existed, and continues to exist, among the great mass of our people, a devotion to the Union of the States, which will shield and protect it against the moral treason of any who would seriously contemplate its destruction. To secure the continuance of that devotion, the compromises of the constitution must not only be preserved, but that they are members of the same political family, having a common destiny. To increase the attachment of our people to the Union, our laws should be just. Any policy which shall tend to favor monopolies, or the peculiar interests of sections or classes, must operate to the prejudice of the interests of their fellow-citizens, and should be avoided. If the compromises of the constitution be preserved—if sectional jealousies and heart burnings be discontinued—if our laws be just, and the government be practically administered strictly within the limits of power prescribed to it—we may discard all apprehensions for the safety of the Union.

With these views of the nature, character, and objects of the government, and the value of the Union, I shall steadily oppose the creation of those institutions and systems, which, in their nature, tend to pervert it from its legitimate purposes, and make it the instrument of sectional, classes, and individuals. We need not national banks, or other extraneous institutions planted around the government to control or strengthen it in opposition to the will of its constituents. Experience has taught us how unnecessary they are as auxiliaries of the public authorities, how impotent for good, and how powerful for mischief.

Ours was intended to be a plain and frugal government; and I shall regard it as my duty to recommend to Congress, and, as far as the executive is concerned, to enforce by the means within my power, the strictest economy in the expenditure of the public money, which may be compatible with the public interests.

A national debt has become almost an institution of European monarchies. It is viewed in some of them, as an essential prop to existing governments. Melancholy is the condition of that people whose government can be sustained only by a system which periodically transfers large amounts from the labor of the many to the coffers of the few. Such a system is incompatible with the ends for which our republican government was instituted.—Under a wise policy, the debts contracted in our revolution and during the war of 1812, have been happily extinguished. By a judicious application of the revenues, not required for other necessary purposes, it is not doubtful that the debt which has grown out of the circumstances of the last few years may be speedily paid off.

I congratulate my fellow-citizens on the entire restoration of the credit of the general government of the Union, and of the independence of the States. Happy would it be for the indebted States if they were freed from their contracted debts, many of which were incautiously contracted. Although the government of the United States is neither a legal nor a moral debtor, it is neither in a legal nor a moral sense bound for the debts of the States, and it would be a violation of our compact of Union to assume them, yet we cannot but feel a deep interest in seeing all the States meet their public liabilities, and pay off their just debts at the earliest practicable period. That they will do so, as soon as it can be done, without any other