The Morning Post.

L. HARPER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

PITTSBURGH:
TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 15, 1848.

VOICE OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY!

FOR PRESIDENT,

JAMES BUCHANAN,

Subject to the decision of the National Convention.

IN THIS PAPER, THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, TREATIES, RESOLUTIONS OF CONGRESS, &c., ARE PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

☞ *Advertisers are requested to hand in their favors before 4 o'clock, P. M. This must be complied with, in order to insure an insertion. When it is possible, an earlier hour would be preferred.*

☞ S. W. CARR, United States Newspaper Agency, Sun Buildings, N. E. corner of Third and Dock streets, and 400 North Fourth street—is our only authorised Agent in Philadelphia.

The Legislative Convention.

We would call the especial attention of our readers, to the proceedings and Address (to be found in another column,) of the Democratic members of our State Legislature. The address is a most able and honorable assertion of the claims of Pennsylvania and her "favorite son;" and will, we are sure, produce a favorable impression upon the minds of our countrymen; and then, too, in all its sentiments it is patriotic. Like all emanations from the Democrats, it contends for the great principles of our party as the ultimatum; and recognizes the claims of no man as paramount to those.

Legislative Proceedings.

Since our last report of the proceedings in our State Legislature, much private business has been reported to both Houses, and a considerable amount has been disposed of. Petitions continue to come in, for the abolition of the death penalty; for securing the property of married women; for a general banking law; for new banks; for the extension of bank charters, and against all banks. One or two have been presented against abolishing the death penalty; and several for a law regulating the sale of corn meal; one from the Coal Hill and Upper St. Clair Turnpike Company, for authority to put up a gate on the road; from the Society of Friends for an alteration of the Constitution permitting negroes to vote; for establishing the ten hour system; several praying that Jacob F. Brant shall be permitted to dig coal beneath the Monongahela river; and one against the repeal of the law of the last session, locating a certain road in Washington and Allegheny counties. Bills have been passed in the Senate, to continue the charter of the Farmer's and Drover's Bank of Greene county; the Columbia Bank and Bridge Company; the Bank of the Northern Liberties in Philadelphia; and the Farmer's Bank of Bucks County; and bills have been reported, to incorporate the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, and to provide for the expenses of roads and the Poor, in Reserve township in Allegheny county.

The bill to confer on the Governor the power to commute the penalty of death into imprisonment, has been under consideration; and the bill supplemental to the act incorporating the Monongahela Navigation Company.

The resolutions relating to the Mexican war having been called up, were under discussion for some time, and finally postponed. Several Federal members proposed amendments, in accordance with the views of their great party leaders; and, among the number, Mr. Darsie, who proposed an amendment the same in substance as the "Wilmot Proviso."

Taylorism on the Decline!

General Taylor seems to have had little or no support in Chester county, in this State; the late Federal convention in that county preferring Clay as its first choice, and Scott as its second. At least so says the Lancaster *Examiner*, a federal paper. And here is more comfort for the General. The Pennsylvanian says: The Chambersburg Whig, a very able federal paper, heretofore for Taylor, has hauled down the flag of the hero of Buena Vista, in obedience to the will of the "Whigs" of that (Franklin) county. It is difficult which feat more to admire, the enthusiasm with which this war flag was hoisted, or the alacrity with which it was withdrawn."

Erie County.

The Democracy of Erie county held their Convention on the 7th instant. The Hon. JOHN GALBRAITH was elected President, and DAVID OLIN, Esq., Secretary. The Hon. JAMES THOMPSON and MURRAY WHALLON and SMITH JACKSON, Esqs., were appointed Delegates to the Harrisburg Convention. We select the following from the series of resolutions adopted by acclamation:—

Resolved, That "idolizing truth as we do," the Democracy of Erie county cannot forbear expressing their utter detestation and abhorrence of the course of the leaders of the Whig party in regard to the war with Mexico. That the unsound arguments and unwarrantable statements put forth by the most prominent among them at Lexington, and echoed and responded to by the press throughout the country, is a painful exhibition of imbecility and want of patriotism, and clearly proves them guilty of affording "aid and comfort" to the enemy.

Resolved, That the Constitution of the United States is based upon the principle that the people are capable of self-government,—therefore, we firmly believe that if any territory should hereafter be acquired, the best interests of the Union and of the people of said territory will be subserved by the non-interference of Congress in their domestic institutions—hence, we are utterly opposed to the Wilmot Proviso, or any other scheme calculated to array one section of our common country against the other.

Resolved, That we highly approve of the wise, judicious and consistent measures of the present State and National Administrations, as beneficial in their tendency, and equal in their application, and prosperous in their results; and we hail with admiration the statesmanlike and patriotic course pursued by the present Executive of this Commonwealth, and the Chief Magistrate of the Union in our affairs with Mexico.

Resolved, That the present prosperous condition of the Nation, is in a great measure attributable to the wise and liberal commercial policy of the Democratic party, displayed by the Tariff of '46, and is a sure test of its wise, equal and beneficial influence upon the manufacturing, commercial, agricultural and mechanical interests of the Nation.

Resolved, That we are proud of the statesmanship, ability and firmness which have characterised the course of our distinguished representative in the Cabinet of the Nation, Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, and hereby instruct our delegates to use all honorable means to secure his nomination for the Presidency.

Bedford County.

The Democracy of this sterling county, having declared themselves favorable to the nomination of the Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN to the Presidency, the Editor of the Bedford Gazette, Gen. BOWMAN, has taken down the name of Mr. DALLAS from the head of his paper, and placed in its stead that of Mr. BUCHANAN. This act will endear the General to the Democracy of the State. As a good Democrat, favorable to the majority ruling, he could not, honorably, take any other course.

POTTER COUNTY.—We learn that at the Democratic Convention, held in Potter County, on the 3d inst., Hon. CHAS. LYMAN was designated as the Senatorial delegate to the 4th of March Convention, subject to the concurrence of Warren, McKean, Elk and Jefferson, MILES WHITE, and C. B. COTTER, Esq. were chosen Conferees, in conjunction with two Conferees, from Clinton county, to elect a representative delegate to the 4th of March Convention. The meeting in Potter county passed resolutions instructing their delegates and conferees to sustain JAMES BUCHANAN for the Presidency, and the Hon. TIMOTHY IVES for Canal Commissioner.

COLUMBIA COUNTY.—Colonel Joseph C. Levers, has been chosen by the regular Democratic County Convention of Columbia county, which met at Bloomsburgh, on the 7th, representative delegate to the 4th of March Convention, without instructions.

Words Well Spoken.

The Boston Times, in the course of a lengthy article on the subject of a National Democratic Convention, says:

"Now that the time and place for holding the Convention have been decided upon, let us all do our best to have that body one which will have full weight with the country, and so order matters as to ensure victory to the democratic eagles. We do not hesitate to say, that the Baltimore Convention will hold the decision of the next Presidential convenion in its hands. If its action be wise, discreet, and equitable, it will command confidence, and remove all grounds for complaint. It has a great band of eminent men, from among whom to select a candidate; almost any one of whom would rally the general strength of the party; but we are to recollect that the times are peculiar, and that a judicious choice alone can enable us to sustain our position as a dominant party.

Governor Shunk's Health.

The Harrisburgh Union, of Saturday, says: "We are pleased to learn that Gov. Shunk is rapidly recovering from his late attack of sickness.

☞ We see, by a call in one of the city papers, that there will be a "Rough and Ready" meeting, at the old Court House, this evening, at 7 o'clock. The signers of the call, we believe, generally, belong to that exceedingly liberal and influential branch of the federal party called *Natives*.

☞ The federal papers of Ohio, are in the midst of an interesting controversy, respecting the merits of Messrs. McLEAN and CORWIN, as candidates for the Presidency. We presume, the one who entertains the most treasonable sentiments, in relation to the war, will be selected as most worthy of federal honors.

☞ The Assembly of the Ohio Legislature have refused to make adultery punishable as a crime, thirty-two to twenty eight. Such is the way of the world. A poor fellow, who steals a loaf of bread to save himself from a horrible death by starvation, is imprisoned as a felon; and the genteel scoundrel, who invades his neighbor's sanctuary, and forever destroys his happiness, is only regarded by the law as a *trespasser!*

☞ The process of hanging a cable across the gorge, below Niagara Falls, where the "International Bridge" is to be suspended, was, as we learn from the Lockport Courier, accomplished in the following manner:—A twine was first sent across the channel, attached to a kite. This done, the process of drawing over cords of increased size and strength was an easy and simple task.

☞ We perceive that the Senate of Virginia still defers action on the bill giving power to the Banks of the State to issue notes of a smaller denomination than $5, and it has now been made the order of the day, for the 18th instant.

☞ John Van Buren, son of the Ex President, has been nominated by the Democrats of Erie county, New York, as a candidate for the Presidency.

☞ The Legislature of New Jersey has passed resolutions favoring Mr. Whitney's project, of a Railroad from the Mississippi to the Pacific. This is the fourteenth Legislature that has declared in favor of Mr. Whitney's plan.

☞ We understand, says the Washington *Union*, that Gov. Towns on his return to Georgia, appointed Herschell B. Johnson, Esq., a firm, able, and eloquent republican, to fill the vacancy in the United States' Senate, in the place of Mr. Colquitt, resigned.

☞ The U. S. Steamship Allegheny, Com. Hunter, built at this city, sailed on the 11th inst., from Norfolk, Va. She is bound to the Coast of Brazil.

☞ We learn from the Carlisle Volunteer that the Board of Directors of the Cumberland Valley Railroad have determined to lay the entire road, from the Susquehanna, opposite Harrisburg, to Chambersburg, with a new track of T rails.

☞ The Senate of Mississippi, recently passed a bill appropriating $5,000 for the benefit of the Volunteers of the State now in Mexico. The House has amended the bill by increasing the sum to $15,000.

☞ Gen. Quitman has been most handsomely entertained at Albany. On Wednesday, he dined with the Mayor, and in the evening visited the Masonic Fraternity. On Thursday he was to dine with the Governor, and yesterday he was to leave for New York.

☞ Among the regulations of the Mexican army hereafter, says the Pennsylvanian, it is stated that the soldiers are to be provided with pocket editions of the anti-war speeches of CLAY CORWIN, and WEBSTER.

WAYNE COUNTY.—The Democrats of Wayne county have declared themselves favorable to the nomination of Mr. BUCHANAN, and have appointed Rufus M. Greenel, Senatorial Delegate to the 4th of March Convention.

☞ The Harrisburgh Intelligencer infurls the name of Hon. Andrew Stewart, (Tariff Andy,) as a candidate for Vice President. Where is Santa Anna?

For the Morning Post.

MR. EDITOR:—There seems to be considerable interest awakened of late on the subject of our Public Schools. All agree that nothing will elevate the character of the Public Schools as much as the establishment of a high school. Your correspondent "Unity," however, seems to take a strange view of the subject, in recommending an *arrangement* to be made with the *University*, instead of establishing a high school in a central situation under the direction of a board of controllers, formed from the Directors of the different wards of the city, or of the two cities, and districts of the county. He seems to think it would be more *economical*, it would insure a *respectable standing*, and prevent the idea of a school for the *poor*, and hence secure unity of action in the city, &c. &c. All this may appear very well on paper, but it will not bear close scrutiny, for, to use a homely or vulgar saw, "Every tub must stand on its own bottom, and if it has no bottom, then it is no tub, any more than 'Unity's' *university high school* would be one or the other, in its *borrowed respectability*. Is the "Central high School" in Philadelphia looked upon as a school for the *poor*, and the University for the *rich*? On the contrary, the "High School" is the pride of the city, and second to no institution in the Union. Then why should we ask the patronizing countenance of our university to give *respectability* to our high school? *As to economy*, of course it will *cost* something—and our citizens would rather save the cost among *themselves*, than give the *savings* to the University to be *divided* for the benefit of the young gentlemen, the "*other students*." Besides, who wishes to *save* any thing from it?—it is not a *dollar* and *cent speculation*, I hope. If saving were the great question, the less we have to do with universities the better, as they are all notoriously *expensive*. He says "the sons of all our citizens would be placed on a *common footing*, by using the university." On the contrary, a wide distance would be made between the pupils from the Public Schools, and the "*other students*" for the very reason of its being *free of charge* to the one *class*, and *paid* for by the young gentlemen, the "*other students*"

No, Mr. Editor, the day has passed for such reasoning to suit, even in these parts; and I would say, that having considerable to do with the Public Schools and Central High School of Philadelphia, (than which there are none superior,) *true economy* would be to establish a high school on a liberal scale, without reference to any established institution, where the pupils of our Public Schools could receive a finished classical and scientific education, by accomplished professors, selected by the Directors of the Board of Controllers. T.

For the Morning Post.

MR. EDITOR:—In your paper of Saturday last, you ask "Where is Southport, the new borough in this county, which has been or will be, chartered by the Legislature.

If you mean *Worthport* (and it is probable you do) it is a Town now called West Elizabeth, situated on the Monongahela river, in Jefferson township, containing a population of about 350, which is rapidly increasing. Init are the coal works of Messrs. Owens & Co., a Boat yard and Steam Saw Mill, carried on by Messrs. Hammitt & Coyle.

A NEIGHBOR.

From the Harrisburgh Union, Feb. 9, 1848.

Nomination of James Buchanan.

A meeting of the Democratic members of the Legislature, was held in the east committee room of the Capitol, on Wednesday evening, February 2d, 1848, with a view of giving an expression in regard to the important question of the Presidency.

On motion of Mr. BRAWLEY, of Crawford, the meeting was organized by the appointment of the following officers:

President—WILLIAM F. PACKER.

Vice Presidents—JAMES L. GILLIS, JOSEPH LAUGHLAUGH, JOHN B. GORDON, THOMAS GROVE.

Secretaries—*Alonzo I. Wilcox, B. S. Schoonover.*

The object of the meeting was stated by Col. JOHN C. MYERS, of Berks.

On motion, the following committee was appointed, to prepare an address expressive of the views of the meeting, to be submitted to an adjourned meeting, to be held on Tuesday evening next.

James Potter Brawly, of Crawford,
John C. Myers, of Berks,
George A. Frick, of Northumberland,
David F. Williams, of York,
John K. Laughlin, of Philadelphia county,
George Walters, of Clearfield,
John Keatly, of Clarion,
John Kane, of Cambria,
Pope Bushnell, of Wayne,
E. G. Crearcraft, of Washington,
Abraham Lamberton, of Cumberland,
Benjamin Hill, of Montgomery.

Addresses were then delivered in favor of the Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, and in support of the claims of Pennsylvania, by Mr. Packer, President; Mr. Schoonover, Mr. Pearce, Mr. Bushnell, Mr. Myers, Mr. Kerr, and Mr. Hill, of Montgomery, when

The meeting adjourned until Tuesday evening next at 7 o'clock.

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 8, 1848.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Democratic members of the Senate and House of Representatives, again met in the East Committee Room, when the President took the chair, and called the meeting to order.

Mr. BRAWLEY from the Committee appointed at the former meeting for that purpose, reported the following Address; which was read, and on motion unanimously adopted:

To the People of the United States.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—The duty of choosing the Chief Magistrate of the United States is never devoid of interest. So intimately are his policy and acts interwoven with the common welfare; and such a controlling influence do they exercise on the present and prospective condition of the American people, that every citizen has not only a deep concern in the choice of that high officer, but an undeniable right to submit his views with entire freedom to the public consideration. It is this proud feature of our political organization, which distinguishes the institutions and government of the United States from those of every other nation on the face of the globe, and which has solved the problem, so long controverted by Emperors and Kings, *the capacity of man for self-government*. Most heartily would the downtrodden and oppressed subjects of the old world rejoice, in the grateful privilege which is now unfortunately denied them, by forms of government erected on the ruins of popular sovereignty and freedom—The right of choosing our Executive Magistrates, from the lowest in rank, to the highest is one, which we prize above all price, and we rejoice, therefore, that among our constituencies at home, as well as among our representatives, public attention is so powerfully directed to the Presidential succession of the next term.

If the selection of a candidate for the Presidency of the United States is important under ordinary circumstances, how pre-eminently fraught with interest at this critical conjuncture, when our countrymen are engaged with a foreign republic in a sanguinary, though just and righteous war—*forced* upon our government and people by a series of wanton injuries and accumulating in atrocity as our magnanimity and insults extending through a long course of time, and forbearance have been most signally manifested! Although, by the dauntless patriotism, cool courage, and exhaustless energy of the brave American troops, our starry banner has been planted in triumph on the very walls of the enemy's capital, yet the war is not ended.

Other grave and momentous questions, scarcely inferior in importance to a bombardment or a battle, have resulted from the war, and may yet result, which will require all the wisdom and foresight of our most distinguished *civilians* so to adjust as to strengthen, not weaken, to perpetuate not endanger, the bond of our great and growing confederacy. The mode of conducting the war, and of disposing the fruits of the associated valor and spent blood and treasure of our brave countrymen, are issues of such vital magnitude, as to be intimately and essentially connected with the best interests of our country and home, and the honor of the American name abroad.

We intend no disparagement to other distinguished Democrats named in connection with the Presidency, when we affirm, that among them all we discover none, who, in our opinion, more pre eminently unites the qualities of head and heart, demanded by the existing crisis, than does JAMES BUCHANAN, the FAVORITE SON OF PENNSYLVANIA. His nomination by the Democratic National Convention, would propose to the American people, not only a firm and uncompromising stand against Mexico, until that misguided republic shall consent to guarantee to our government and people full *indemnity for the past and security for the future*—but it would also so unite and harmonize conflicting sectional elements at home, as to bind the American people still more closely in the bonds of a safe and enduring national brotherhood. For two terms, he proved by a long and eventful trial in public life, would assure us of an able, upright and patriotic conduct of our national affairs, and secure to the country a Chief Magistrate, who would steer the ship of State in safety through every doubt and peril. And should that most deplorable event ever occur, the dissolution of the American Union, against which the Father of our Country warned in eternally wise and correct language, he would not be, whilst we would have at the helm, a pilot so skillful as JAMES BUCHANAN. On the contrary, the sacred ties, which now link together the various parts, would be rendered a chain of adamant, never to be rent asunder.

The elevation of Pennsylvania's choice to the Presidency, would not only, however, secure a sound and safe policy, on the engrossing subject of war, would not only strengthen and perpetuate the national Union, which we regard as the very corner stone in the edifice of our national independence, but it would, also, secure to the American Democracy the continued ascendency of those principles of domestic policy, which have characterized every Democratic administration, from that of THOMAS JEFFERSON, to that of the present, able and patriotic incumbent JAMES K. POLK. So intimately has the name of JAMES BUCHANAN, been connected with the legislative and diplomatic history of the country for the last quarter of a century, that detail would seem superfluous. He is the uncompromising enemy of any National Bank in all its protean shapes and guises. He is the first Secretary of an administration, that has fearlessly and wisely adapted the revenue to the wants of the government economically administered; and by the concurrence in the cabinet he stands pledged to the preservation of a policy that has so fully realized the hopes of its friends, and so signally falsified all the lugubrious predictions of its opponents. He was the early, as he has been the consistent and steadfast, supporter of the Independent Treasury; and by his eloquent and unanswerable speeches in its favor, on the floors of the United States' Senate in opposition to such intellectual giants as Clay and Webster, he contributed most powerfully to its adoption. On all these vital issues, which our opponents have never ceased to cherish, and probably never will, no man in the Union is truer or sounder in his adhesion to the Democratic faith than is JAMES BUCHANAN. From the period of his entrance into the Congress of the United States, up to the present moment, he has been one of the chief pillars of democratic strength, and by his speeches and State papers, has contributed as much to the elucidation and defence of republican measures as has any man now on the stage of political action. His private life, too, is as unsullied as his public career has been successful and brilliant. In a word, we esteem him the man for the crisis; and we, therefore, reflecting the wishes and the feelings of our respective constituencies, hereby earnestly recommend, to the support of our sister States, as the worthy successor of our present patriotic and enlightened Chief Magistrate, JAMES BUCHANAN, of Pennsylvania.

Whilst we repose proud and confident reliance in the unexceptionable and lofty character of our candidate, we feel that we may, with equal justice, direct an appeal to the Democracy of the Union, in behalf of our STATE. Pennsylvania occupies a position in the American Union, politically and geographically, which we esteem of sufficient consequence to warrant her in advancing her rightful claim to furnish the Democracy the next presidential candidate. By the natural advantage of location, she may be said to hold the balance between the opposite extremes of disunion and consolidation, and thus sustains the glorious arch, of which she is justly termed the Keystone. In her resources of wealth and enterprise, and in the patriotism and intelligence of her teeming population, she stands in the front rank of the national confederacy; whilst in her political attachments, she rejoices the hearts of the Democracy of other States, by majorities which are counted only by thousands. And yet she hareover, from amongst her own distinguished sons, furnished to that Democracy whom she has served so long, so faithfully, and so well, a candidate for the first honor of the Republic. We do not utter this in a spirit of querulous repining, for the Democracy of this State are ever proud to esteem the post of hardest service, as the post of highest honor. But if ever there existed a time, when the Democracy of the nation had an opportunity to testify to their brethren of this State their appreciation of her long, steadfast and patriotic devotion to the great and good old cause, by the recognition of her just and well-earned title to the Presidential office, in our opinion, that time is NOW—now that she has sent entire regiments of her brave sons to distant fields of danger and of battle—now that she again interposes her potential voice in behalf of the integrity and preservation of the Union—now, that we have arrived at a crisis in our history, which demands a firm, steady, patriotic and enlightened statesman at the helm—and above and beyond all, now, that by the well ascertained wishes of her Republican freemen, she presents a candidate, whose eminent fitness, sound Democracy, and irreproachable personal integrity, are so well established in the minds and *hearts* of the American people, as those of JAMES BUCHANAN.

Hoping and trusting, that the deep solicitude, which, as representatives of the Democratic freemen of Pennsylvania, we naturally feel on this subject, may be rightly appreciated by our co-laborers in other States—and duly responded to by the Democratic National Convention, which is to assemble on the fourth Monday of May next, in Baltimore—we commit our candidate and our cause, to the wise and patriotic deliberations of that tribunal, *pledging ourselves, one and all, to abide by its decisions.*

On motion of Mr. Schoonover, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the officers, and published in the Democratic Union, Pennsylvanian, Washington Union and all other Democratic papers throughout the State.

[Signed by the officers.]

From the Washington Union.

The whigs of 1848 are pursuing nearly the same game as was pursued by the federalists of 1812, in opposing the war. They opposed the raising of more men—they threw difficulties in the way of raising money by loans—they cried out that we did not want peace, but upon the most exorbitant terms. Just so is the clamorous opposition of 1848. We shall make extracts from the chronicles of those factious times, and apply them to the present. In the mean time, we are forced to confine ourselves to the following passage from "The Olive Branch" of those times, to show that the design of the federalists *then* is pretty much the same with the whigs of the present day:

"There is one point which cannot be too much or too frequently enforced. The federalists have been divested of the powers of the general government for thirteen years and upwards. That entire period they have spent in an unceasing struggle to regain the power they had lost. They have spared neither pains nor expense. They possess large numbers of men of powerful talents, which are in constant requisition for the purpose. They have great the superiority of newspapers in perhaps all the seaport towns, owing to mercantile influence.* They have struggled in peace—they have struggled in war—they have struggled under the pressure of taxes of the most oppressive kind—they have struggled while we were covered with disgrace and overwhelmed by disaster—and they have struggled when a halo of glory surrounded the nation. They have struggled under every possible variety of Circumstance. They have left nothing unessayed. In this struggle, the country was brought to the jaws of perdition. In this struggle, they were placed in the mortifying predicament that their views were likely to prosper by the defeat and disgrace, and to be utterally disappointed by the success, of their country. And in this struggle, some of their leaders committed acts of doting and betting the enemy, which, under any other government, or in any other nation, would have forfeited their lives. After all these struggles and efforts, they are as far as ever from the attainment of the prize which they have for thirteen years been devoring with their longing eyes."

* In Philadelphia, there are six federal and two democratic papers. The proportion is pretty nearly the same in other cities.

From the Commercial Journal.

MR. EDITOR:—The numerous and dreadful disasters that have recently occurred on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and elsewhere, occasioned by the explosion of the boilers of steamboats, will prove to the subject a fearful interest. These calamities have awakened Congress to the necessity of remedying the matter, so far as can be done by legislation, and at all events to amend the law of 1842 on the subject, which has been found to be not only defective but inoperative. I desire to call the attention of the public to an association of practical Engineers and Boiler makers, which has been recently organized and formed in this City under the name and style of "The Pittsburgh Mutual aid Society of Steam Boat Engineers."—The members of this society are practical Engineers, and have been for a long time engaged in the management of Engines on boats navigating the Ohio and Mississippi rivers—none are admitted to membership but men of integrity and moral character. One of the objects of the society is mutual improvement in the practice and science of the steam engine; another is aid and relief to those of their brethern who from sickness, or disaster may require it; but, the main object is one worthy of every encouragement from the public, because it is to the interest and safety of the travelling people that it is mainly directed:

1st. The members of the association are experienced practical river engineers.

2d. These to be admitted are to be engineers, and after examination by a committee of competent persons are to receive from the society a certificate or diploma of their competency, as 1st, 2d or 3d Engineers, as also of their moral character.

3d. If the constitution of the society is regarded, these certificates will and can only be given to worthy and competent persons, and the owners and masters of Steam boats will know where to procure faithful and skillful engineers.

It is well known that the most fruitful cause of steam boat explosions is the utter incompetency of many of the engineers. It is said that young men who commenced on the river as firemen and returned as Engineers, knowing of course no more about that wonderful machine than to "start her or stop her." Such *Engineers* expect and demand but low wages; and to save wages they are employed at the risk of the boat and the lives of the passengers. It will be found that the travelling public will not patronize any of the boats, not having certificates of the ability and faithfulness of the engineer.

At present the public have no protection except what is given under the law of Congress of 1842, appointing steam boat Inspectors. Every body knows how futile this has been. Persons appointed Inspectors are either themselves unacquainted with the steam engine, boiler &c, or their inspections are made in so careless a manner, that their certificate is not worth anything to the passengers, or public.

But an Engineer having a certificate from an association of practical Engineers accustomed to the navigation of the Ohio river, will present the surest evidence of safety. Such a certificate will be worth all the certificates of inspectors and others who depend on them for pay.

It will be found that the travelling public will not patronize boats without faithful and competent Engineers, and they will be sure of such when they find the certificates of "The Pittsburgh Mutual aid Society of Steam Boat Engineers."

A PRACTICAL ENGINEER

For the Morning Post.

JOHN DUNKEY OF THE CHRONICLE.

The genius of the Chronicle, John Dunkey, has uttered the following lachrymose lamentation over the state of Ireland, which should be embalmed in amber for the benefit of posterity "Ireland's cup of misery has been for ages *overflowing*, and it seems to be *not yet full*! ! ! ! !"

John Dunkey, though a *genius*, did not exactly catch the idea of the British poet, who sung of the Tha mes—

"'Tis strong, without rage;
Without o'erflowing, full."

John Dunkey may be overflowing with genius, but he is not yet full of that rare quality, to be met with in common folks, called

COMMON SENSE.

☞ Many honest people, having heard of BELL's prediction that the war will be voted down if submitted to the country, have come to the conclusion that he is certainly *cracked*.—*Pennsylvanian.*

☞ By a census just taken, Buffalo appears to have a population of 40,521—being an increase of 10,000 in one year.

Doctor Duncan's Expectorant Remedy, for Consumption, Cough, &c.—Whatever will have a tendency to mitigate suffering, and remove any one or a part of the many diseases which are now prevalent in the United States, is truly a great blessing to mankind. When a medical preparation has been tried, and found to possess the virtue to heal and cure disease, it is an act of imperative justice and benevolence which we owe to our fellow beings and the world to make it known. We have made use of Dr. Duncan's Expectorant Remedy in our family, and believe it to be among the very best of the many medical preparations, to remove Coughs, Colds, Spitting of Blood, &c. &c., now in practical use.

A. WHITING AVERY.

Coshocton, Sept. 3, 1845.

For sale by WM. JACKSON, 89 Liberty st., head of Wood st., Pittsburgh. feb11

LOCAL MATTERS.

PENITENTIARY REPORT.—The Report of the Warden gives us the following information in relation to the number of Prisoners received, discharged, &c. during the past year:

"On the 1st day of January, 1847, we had in confinement one hundred and twenty six convicts, viz: One hundred and twenty-one males and five females. We have received fifty-six within the year, and discharged seventy; fifty by expiration of sentence, seventeen by pardon, and three by death—leaving in confinement at this date one hundred and twelve—one hundred and six males and six females—showing a diminution of fourteen from the former year; all manifesting as cheerful and contented submission to the necessary discipline of the prison, as could reasonably be desired.

"The whole number of prisoners received, since the opening of the prison, July 1st, 1826, to the 1st day of January, 1848, is twelve hundred and thirty-one—ten hundred and three white males and twenty-two females, one hundred and sixty-nine colored males and thirty-seven females."

From the Report of the Moral Instructor we make the following extracts:

"Of the fifty six prisoners committed during the year, forty-two admit that they were men of intemperate habits. They became drunkards, and then thieves, or burglars, or murderers. How fearful are the evils which follow in the wake of drunkenness!! Twenty-eight were able, at the time of their imprisonment, to read and write. Seventeen could read only, and eleven could do neither. Of these eleven, four have learned to read, and the others, who came later in the year, are learning to spell, and I trust will be able to read before the expiration of their sentences. It is proper for me, however, to state, that the majority of these eleven are naturally of very feeble intellect, and can never make much progress in learning.

"There are five prisoners here under eighteen years of age, one of them not much over twelve. These *juvenile* offenders show a disposition to improve their minds. I trust the lesson they are learning in their youth, will tell to advantage in their after years.

"Thirty-four of those imprisoned during the year, have been married. Twenty-nine say they have wives at this time. Only twenty-two are single.

"The prisoners have had the privilege of writing letters to their friends, and receiving answers in three months. This privilege has been the reward of good conduct. It has greatly contributed to the happiness, contentment of mind, good behavior and improvement of the prisoners. It has made them feel that between them and the outer world there is yet an unsevered band of union. A letter of kindness and encouragement from a father or mother, or wife or sister, to an isolated convict, is indeed *as cold water to a thirsty soul*. It refreshes and improves.

"The library connected with the prison has been an important auxiliary in promoting the improvement of the prisoners. A good book is a society to the mind that loves to study its instructive pages. Such have good books been in this prison.

"Each prisoner has in his cell a Bible, a book of common prayer, a slate, an arithmetic, a spelling book, or small dictionary, and one or more of the books of the library, according to his taste and disposition for reading.

"All of the prisoners discharged during the past year could read, with one exception, an old man who refused to learn. Some have left this region, and but little is known of their history. Others have settled in and about our city, and are earning a living by honest industry. The good seed sown in the soil of this prison, is not all lost. There are examples of its power and efficacy, seen around us where we live, in the good conduct of discharged convicts.

"Only three prisoners have died within the year. 1169, who died in April, was a very intelligent man; he was in prison but a few months; he professed to be penitent and seemed very confident of salvation. 1011, who died in the same month, was naturally weak-minded; he gave some evidence of concern about his eternal interest. 1075, who died in May, was long ill and devoted himself with great earnestness to prepare for the realities of death. His case was more hopeful than the other two.

"In prosecuting an inquiry as to the origin of their criminal course, as given by the prisoners themselves, the same story is told, in its general outline, by the present, as by former inmates. Bad education and example *at home*, prepare the unrestrained boy to become the felon-man. Disregard of the Sabbath—then drunkenness and gambling—then robbery and the prison-house.

"One convict here, (1200,) whose career of crime has brought him through various penitentiaries, and once to within two and a half hours of execution—who has been condemned to imprisonment in different prisons, for more years than his whole past life—told me he first learned to steal and to love it, by his master instructing him to take small things belonging to others, for *his benefit*. Thus he was trained in his boyhood, and his whole life has been a commentary on his early teaching. How careful should parents and masters be, to instil honesty and truth into the minds of those entrusted to their guidance."

We make an extract from the Physician's Report, as follows:

There are at this time within the prison, two convicts decidedly insane, and who were so at the time of, and long before, their reception. One of them, is a very hard and pitiable case; a foreigner, (whose family, three of his children, committed suicide,) who was sentenced, during the past summer, to *sixteen years' imprisonment!*

"It is a disgrace, a burning shame upon our commonwealth, that no State Asylum has been provided for such unfortunate and diseased ones. It is impossible that he can be properly attended to in the prison. It would be unsafe to permit him to range the yard; it is cruel and inhuman to confine such a person in a cell as his must be; it is highly improper to turn him loose, by pardon, upon society, with none to watch over or care for him. Pennsylvania, on this subject, might learn a lesson of humanity and duty from some of her Eastern sister States.

"The well aired and spacious rooms of the hospital erected by your direction during the past season, will afford most comfortable and suitable accommodations for the sick convict who may need additional attention, to what could be extended to him in his cell. It has not yet been necessary to occupy the hospital."

☞ The valentines are beginning to fly around, in all directions. There is much pleasure experienced both by the receiver and by those who send the little dabbed messengers. But we dare say some pain is the result in some cases. We heard, last year, of a suicide of a young lady in New York, caused by the laceration of her feelings on the receipt of a valentine. Probably it was sent "only in jest;" but thousands of deaths have been caused by jest. The boys who committed the fiendish outrage at the coke-pit, a few weeks ago, say it was a "jest." But a poor, half-idiot woman, near sixty years of age, was murdered, by their "jest." We mention this merely to suggest that our young folks should be cautious how they crack jokes.

COAL.—Carts, wagons, &c., have been busily employed for some days past in supplying dealers with coal. This looks encouraging; though it is still feared that the supply will be limited. There is no article annually brought into market more desirable and necessary to city folks than ice. Of late it has been brought into common use; all classes of people indulge in it more or less. The expense is not great; and the pleasure is intense, on a hot day particularly. It is the fervent prayer of all that we may have enough—and some to spare, if need be.

THE HAYS CASE.—The verdict of the Jury in this case was rendered yesterday morning. It was in favor of the Plaintiff; that is, for the validity of the will. There will be rejoicing on the one side, and heart burning on the other; but in a thousand years they will be all straight again, and perhaps in less time. O, this law! what foolish, wicked things men are tempted to do by it.

☞ The city is well supplied with evening entertainments just now. Hudson's Panorama opened last evening to crowds of visitors. Mr. Spencer was well encouraged in the Odeon; and the company at the Athenæum, with Barney Williams at its head, has been doing well. Then the Crosby family are coming.

INQUEST.—An Inquest was held yesterday by Coroner Richardson, upon the body of a man named Samuel Jorden, who was found in the Allegheny river, opposite the mouth of the canal. He has been drowned about six weeks. His wife was present, and identified him.

☞ Mr. Allen preached in Cincinnati on Sunday. He will leave his mark in that city, as he surely did here.

THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP OUTRAGE.—Coroner Richardson yesterday visited the Saw Mill Run community, for the purpose of ascertaining something in relation to the woman whose person was so outrageously abused on the night of the 22d January. From all the information that he could glean, he thinks she is still alive, as no one has any knowledge of her death. She left there about a week after the occurrence; said she was going to Pittsburgh to get her trunk, and would leave for Washington at once. She has not since been heard from. She did not look in a dying condition when she left; had been at work the day previous for a family, and on the same day made quite merry over a pint of whiskey.

Whatever may have been her fate, the enormity of the offence committed by the persons charged, can not be lessened. We understand that they have at different times made full confessions to the worst aspect of the case.

One of them, as we have already noticed, has been arrested, and is now in prison. On Sunday night, a posse left for McKeesport, (headed by Fox,) in search of them, news having come that they were all secreted there. It was ascertained that four or five of them had been there on Saturday night, one of whom returned.

They will all get their deserts yet, for they cannot long escape the vigilance of the officers. Their crime is too horrible for chance of impunity.

DISTRESSING.—By a private dispatch, we have information of the death, by drowning, of Mrs. ELIZA SHARPE, the vocalist of the Eagle Saloon. She fell from a steamboat, a short distance below Cincinnati. We have heard no particulars.

☞ There are so many rumors about Manager Porter and his company, that we don't know what to believe. They are either in Jackson, or on their way to this city. At all events, they may be expected here in a few weeks. The Theatre will open about the middle of March.

☞ Mr. Spencer had a very respectable audience in the Odeon, last evening. He gives another Lecture this evening.

☞ We understand that Mr. Jones has retired from the Sunday Mercury.

ATHENÆUM.

C. J. SMITH.....Acting and Stage Manager.

Last night of Barney Williams.

☞ This evening, February 15th, will be presented, by request,

THE ROBBER'S WIFE.
Larry O'Gig.....Mr. Barney Williams.

After which the laughable Interlude of the
HAPPY MAN;
Pat Murphy.....Mr. Barney Williams.

To conclude with the laughable Farce of
THE RENDEZVOUS.
Simon.....Mr. Saunder.

Jaynes' Family Medicines.

DR. S. S. COOK, Piqua, Ohio, writes, March, 1846: "I have used your *Vermifuge, Carminative Balsam*, and *Expectorant*, in my practice, for the last three years, and have been exceedingly well pleased with them, and never, as yet, to my recollection, failed of realizing my fullest expectation in their curative properties. Your other medicines I cannot speak of from experience; but, judging from those I have used, I doubt not but that they claim, and are entitled to all the confidence reposed in them, by those who have used them. I was formerly very partial to ***** Vermifuge, until I became acquainted with yours, which has my decided preference to any other now in use.

Respectfully, yours, &c., S. S. COOK, M. D."

☞ For sale in Pittsburgh at the Pekin Tea Store, 72 Fourth st. feb15

NEW BOOKS FOR 1848.

GEO. F. RAHASER. ROBERT DUFF.

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MANUFACTURERS of all kinds of Saddles, Bridles, Harness, Rawhide and Stock Whips; Hard Leather, Imitation, and Common Trunks; Saddle Bags, Car