

THE MINERS' JOURNAL

AND POTTSVILLE GENERAL ADVERTISER.

I WILL TEACH YOU TO PIERCE THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH AND BRING OUT FROM THE CAVERNS OF THE MOUNTAINS METALS WHICH WILL GIVE STRENGTH TO OUR HANDS AND WEALTH TO OUR POCKETS.

VOL. I.

POTTSVILLE, PA. WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 17, 1838.

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THREE DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS per annum... WEEKLY... Two Dollars per annum...

John McCauley, and George T. Chambers, Copartners under the firm of McCauley & Chambers.

Schuykill County, ss. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania...

NOTICE is hereby given, that in Obedience to the above writ, I did, on the 5th day of December, 1837, attach all those contiguous lots...

NOTICE is hereby given, that letters of Administration have been granted to the subscriber...

NOTICE is hereby given, that letters testamentary have been granted by the Register of Schuylkill County...

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Sixth Annual Report, made by the Board of Trade to the Coal Mining Association of Schuylkill County, January 1838.

The Board of Trade now present to the Coal Mining Association their sixth annual report, in which they have endeavored to embody a retrospect, though imperfect, of the past year's operations.

The aspect of business within the past twelve months has varied from one extreme to the other. In the beginning of the year, every part of our business was going on rapidly, and with a full determination on our part, if possible, to send out a supply of coal equal to the demand.

Difficulties in monetary affairs, which had been gradually increasing in the southern and some other sections of the country, came upon us suddenly in the latter part of April last, and produced almost an entire cessation of business; which, however, was partially resumed in the course of a few days.

Whatever reliance we may place upon our individual, mental, and physical energies, in ordinary times, yet, in times of danger and difficulty, in the hour of severe trial, man is always disposed to call upon his fellow man for advice and assistance.

In consequence of unforeseen difficulties, the coal merchants in the cities were under the necessity of countermanding their orders for coal; they directed their shipments to be diminished, and in many instances, to be stopped altogether for a time.

We stated, that when the question of the reduction of duty on foreign coal was agitated in Congress, we had pledged our most strenuous efforts to make the home production equal to the demand.

We pointed out that the only medium through which coal could reach the market was the canal, and that could be used only about eight months in the year; and the consequence that would result from permitting this time to elapse in inactivity.

We would respectfully suggest to those gentlemen the necessity of acquiring more minute knowledge, before they denounce any set of men as monopolizers, speculators, &c. for pursuing what they deemed the most prudent course in their business.

We have just cause for congratulation, in the fact that men who possessed the ability to purchase, held the same views of the situation of our business that we did, and made investments in anthracite coal.

Table showing the quantity of anthracite coal sent to market during the past year, from April 1, 1837, to the end of the year.

We think it proper here to remark, that none of the coal mentioned in the preceding table, from the Wilkesbarre basin, reached Philadelphia; and of the 17,000 tons mined at Pinegrove, about 1000 tons arrived at the city; and 28,775 tons of what was entered on the canal in this region, stopped short of Philadelphia.

The whole amount of anthracite coal sent from the coal mines in Pennsylvania, as nearly as can be ascertained, since the commencement of the business on the Lehigh in 1820, up to the present time, is 4,094,297 tons. It appears, by the preceding table,

that the quantity of coal applied in 1837, for all the markets, is 586,933 tons, and whether much of this will remain unemployed on the 1st of April next, will depend in some measure upon the mildness or severity of the winter.

In consequence of the general depression of business, during the past year, a much less amount of coal was wanted, than it was supposed would be required to meet the demand.

Until lately, the coal fields of Pennsylvania have not been the subject of much inquiry among geologists, though they are now eliciting more attention; and, during the past summer, the able geologist, professor Rogers, who is engaged for the state, spent some time in this and other coal regions; and we feel much interested in the accomplishment of this geological survey.

The new weigh-lock erected at Mount Carbon, within the past year, by the navigation company, and under the superintendence of the able architect, Mr. Cole, will afford greatly increased facilities for the coal shipments of this vicinity.

From information lately obtained, we feel confident there are some boats on the canal that have not been weighed, empty, for more than a year; this being the case, the registered weight is not likely to be correct, and, consequently, it would be impossible to obtain the weight of coal in the boats.

It is customary for a weigh-master, when he issues to a captain a certificate of the weight of his boat or cargo, to charge for such certificate; and although this may appear a small affair to men of business, it is of some importance to a class of men whose earnings are so small as that of boatmen.

As the article of coal dirt is of much less value than coal, it is found by those who have used it for lime burning, &c., that to pay the ordinary costs, and charges on it, they cannot use it in competition with wood; and we think, the navigation company ought to be solicited to reduce the toll on this article.

Three new steam engines, manufactured by Haywood & Snyder, have been erected within the past year for hoisting out coal; and other improvements, as rail roads, wharves, &c. are in progress.

The number of operators engaged in mining coal, that is transported on the Schuylkill canal, is at present about sixty. If the coal trade should continue to receive such able and unwavering support, as it has since May last, we feel entire confidence in the ability of the incorporated companies, and individuals engaged in working the coal mines of Pennsylvania, to send out a supply fully equal to all the demands there may be for anthracite coal.

Smelting of iron with anthracite coal, has for a long time engaged more or less attention, though without any satisfactory results until recently. At Escord, in Wales, iron has been manufactured with complete success, without any other kind of fuel than anthracite coal.

Iron is an article entering largely into use, in the construction of rail roads and canals, and the arts and manufactures generally; and exists in great abundance in the mountains of our own state, as is conclusively illustrated by the numerous furnaces and forges that give life and activity to many a narrow gauge, that must otherwise have remained in the dark and solemn silence of the forest.

At an election for officers, of the Coal Mining Association of Schuylkill County, at the Pennsylvania Hall, on the 9th inst. the following persons were elected officers for the ensuing year.

- Vice President, MARTIN WEAVER. Secretaries, ANDREW RUSSELL, ROBERT WOODSIDE. Treasurers, CHARLES POTTS, Board of Trade, CHARLES LAWTON, SAMUEL BROOKE, G. G. PALMER, AQUILLA BOLTON, SAMUEL LEWIS, G. C. WYNKOPF, HENRY J. WILDE.

The following account of the quantity of iron manufactured in Wales in 1836, comes to us from a source that renders the information it contains perfectly reliable as to the accuracy. We should be much gratified to receive similar statements from the various iron works in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Tennessee, Missouri, Maryland and Virginia.

Having observed in the Cambrian of Feb. a statement of the quantities of iron sent down the Glamorgan and Merionethshire canals, in the year ending December, 1836, I was induced to make some enquiries as to the quantity of iron, and also as to the prospects of the trade generally, and as every thing connected with that most important of our manufactures is of such vital importance to the people of this and the adjoining countries, I trust that the following observations (the result of my enquiries) may not be altogether uninteresting to your readers.

It appears that the statement published furnished very imperfect data, whereby a judgment of the quantities of iron made at each establishment, because some of the iron masters send a considerable portion of their make to the port in the shape of pig iron, whereas others send little or no pig iron, but a considerable quantity of finished iron, and I believe it requires 27 cwt. of pig iron to make a ton of rails.

Table listing various iron products and their quantities, such as pig iron, rails, bars, and castings.

From the above statement, it appears that the quantity of iron made by the Dowlais Iron Co. was 53,450 tons, and that made by Messrs. F. & C. Bailey 47,399 tons, although the quantity sent to market by the latter exceeded the former (according to the account published in your paper of the 3d inst.) by 5,426 tons; this is accounted for by the Dowlais Co. having made upwards of 22,000 tons of finished rails.

Although Iron Mines are known to have been wrought in the Forest of Dean, and other places, from a very early period, I have not been able to procure any account of the quantity of iron produced in that country, prior to the year 1720, when the total quantity of pig iron made in Great Britain was 10,000 tons.

It is a matter of great congratulation that, notwithstanding the immense make of iron in 1836, the whole of it has gone into consumers' hands, and it is established beyond the possibility of a doubt that the stocks of iron at present in Great Britain are generally lower, than they were in the commencement of 1836, and consequently, the important fact will be borne in mind, that the price of iron is not so high as it was in 1836.

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President, SAMUEL LEWIS.

almost all parts of the civilized world, there are substantial reasons for concluding that the steel at present hanging over the iron trade is not caused by any thing peculiar to that trade, but by the derangement of the Money Market, which at present almost paralyzes every branch of manufactures and commerce; and as the Iron Masters have for the last three months, very wisely reduced their make, and intend further doing so, should circumstances require it, there is every reason to hope that the price of iron will be enabled to make a fair return for the pecuniary fortunes embarked in the trade, and also enable the iron masters to continue to their workmen the present rates of wages, which, much to their credit, have not been reduced during the present depression.

From the Boston Transcript. THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO LONDON. LONDON, Nov. 10, 1837.—The great pageant has passed by—the visit of the Queen to the city of London, to dine with the Lord Mayor and the corporation in Guildhall. For months, even, this spectacle has been looked for by the great mass of this monstrous community, and for a few days preceding the show, the noise of preparations has resounded incessantly in the streets which lay in the line of the procession.

Not a corner was left unavailed, of where a glimpse could be had. Some seats were let for several guineas, and first rate floors brought fifty pounds at least. Yesterday, in the house where I am established, and which is a small quiet place, more than a hundred people were somehow or other furnished with a sight. Stagnations were built in three tiers, in the dining parlour, to command all the windows. The upper stories were occupied as densely as they could be. Even in the parlours running along the outside of the house, between the two lower stories, and stood there for hours, before the procession began to move.

The roofs in many cases were covered with waters, porters, and all sorts of people, peering in thick rows over a parapet at the edge. In like manner the shops were cleaned out and fitted up to their utmost capacity. All sorts of things were set out in things along the whole line of the route. The seats were mostly taken immediately after breakfast. I pressed through some of the street at that hour, to see the decorations, and the windows for miles were filled even then. So were the porches of the churches, and every other space which could be used for the purpose—all filled in with transient tiers of seats, sold for their various prices. The eastern and southern sides of St. Paul's were lined round at the base, in like manner, with huge booths, erected for different schools or companies. Some of these were most gorgeously bespread with crimson and purple linings, while multitude of national, royal and heraldic flags and devices of every description, mixed in with green boughs, covered the upper front of the erection, and hung waving and flaming out over the middle of the street. One of these booths alone accommodated about 800 children of one, ancient school—Christ's Hospital. This was at the east end of the cathedral, looking down the long slope of Ludgate Hill, up which came the Queen, with all her magnificent array; and here according to immemorial usage, a short stay was made, for "the oldest Grecian" of the boys to address her majesty. This was perhaps the finest point of the spectacle. Here the decorations were most gorgeous; and here, the people, having expected most, had congregated in vast multitudes, whose immensity was almost frightful to behold. Seas of uncovered heads stood level together in all the spaces around the mighty minister, far and wide. The windows in every story, wherever the eye could reach, were alive with fluttering flags and feathers and fair faces flushed with enthusiasm. Men, women, and children—rich and poor—noble and ignoble—beggar and peer—all were animated for once by a single feeling—loyalty which belongs to Englishmen, and the curiosity and the sympathy which are the attributes of the race.

When, finally, pressing through the excitement hosts that thronged Ludgate Hill, the first glimpse of the royal cortege in all its grandeur of trappings, and glittering array of attendants, began to be had by the crowd about the cathedral, after waiting so many hours as they had, what a sensation indeed it was! What long loud shouts rose from the mass of humanity crowded together in that huge space; and then the multitudinous music, the singing of the 600 boys, the waving of all the flags, the women in the houses ready to fly in floods out of the windows, the roofs covered, the lanes blocked up, the streets alive with life—all wrought up to the pitch—all hearts uncovered—all eyes turned to the Queen, as she came in, "God save the Queen!" The