

POTTSVILLE.

SATURDAY MORNING FEB. 10, 1838.

For Pamphlets, Checks, Cards, Bills of Lading, and Handbills of every description, neatly printed at the Office of the Journal.

A meeting of Coal Dealers and others interested in the construction of a Tide Canal, for the better accommodation of the coal trade at Philadelphia, will be held this evening at 7 o'clock, at the Pennsylvania Hall.

The press of advertisements has again crowded out all our miscellaneous articles.

Extract of a Letter, dated HARRISBURG, FEB. 7.

Charles Frailey is one half of the time in the House of Representatives, electioneering in favor of the Offerman Mining Company.

Another Batch of Coal Companies.

The Senate has at length re-considered the Bill to incorporate the Buck Ridge Rail Road and Mining Company, and for other purposes, which had been vetoed by the Governor, and negatived the same by a vote of 19 to 6. This Buck Ridge Company our readers are aware has again thrust itself forward with extraordinary effrontery and passed the Senate under the title of the Offerman Mining Company.

The Stafford Coal Company, The Pennsylvania Coal Company, The West Pennsylvania Coal Co., The Washington Coal Company, The Plymouth Coal Company.

Besides these there are several others that we cannot at present enumerate. It is evident therefore that the period has arrived when the struggle on the part of the latter is for existence itself.

Most of all the above bills have been reported in the Senate by Charles Frailey. This gentleman was but a short time since one of the most violent and noisy opponents of Coal Companies in our country, as well as all other species of monopolies.

Canal Commissioners.—Gov. RITNER has appointed MESSRS. SULLIVAN, of Butler, EDWARD F. PENNYPACKER, of Chester, and JOHN TAGGART, of Northumberland, Canal Commissioners for the ensuing year.

The Hon. MARLON DIGKINSON has resigned the office of Secretary of the Navy.

A letter from Washington, in the American Sentinel, of Wednesday last, says—The Hon. Henry A. Muhlenberg has been nominated Minister to Austria, and I understand he will accept the appointment.

Coal Companies.—We have thought it scarcely worth while to state a fact so well known to all who have made themselves in any degree acquainted with the coal trade, that the individuals now engaged in it are fully competent to supply the market with any quantity of coal that may be required, and that the market is now overstocked by their exertions.

Another Sub-Treasury Bank Gone.—One of President Van Buren's Sub-Treasury, a Post Master in Montgomery County, Ohio, has lately absconded with the deposits not only of his office, but also with the deposits of some of his Local Friends, who were trying the "unlucky experiment" of loaning their funds to

CONGRESSIONAL.

The question of the Mississippi election has at length been settled. The House has determined that neither Messrs. Claiborne and Gholson, nor Fretton and Word are entitled to seats in this Congress, and that a new election must be held for representatives from Mississippi. The vote stood 117 to 117; and was determined by the casting vote of the speaker, though an additional vote came in afterwards.

A new treasury plan has been presented in the Senate, by Mr. RIVES. The principal feature of it, is to make twenty-five banks depositories of the public moneys, which banks are to receive each other's paper, and to be regulated by certain restrictions. Mr. Rives has been expounding his plan in a very long and able speech.

The sub-treasury system has been in operation now, in point of fact, for many months. It has produced nothing but mischief to the country. In this region the effects of it have been severely felt.

The embarrassments in business, the stoppage of manufactures, the reduction of wages, are all the consequences of the sub-treasury system. Almost any system therefore is preferable to this—and the sooner some good system is adopted, the better will it be for the interests of the country.

What has produced the present stagnation in the coal business? What has caused such large piles of coal to remain on hand in our cities this season? What has thrown the miner and the mechanic out of employment? What, but the effects of the sub-treasury system! But the best evidence of the really pernicious character of this system, is the fact that a number of the leading Van Buren papers find it impossible to give it their support, and consequently are forced to denounce it.

The following is Mr. Clay's opinion of the bill of abominations, called the Sub-Treasury Bill:

"It will place at the feet of the Secretary of the Treasury, a power equal to the combined power of the 8 or 900 banks dispersed throughout the Union; and superadded to this, the whole power of the late Bank of the United States."

Mr. BANNAN.—I have been informed that there are petitions in circulation in this region, purporting to be against Coal Companies; whereas, their real object is to obtain signatures fraudulently, and to attach them to petitions for the Offerman Mining Company.

Mr. BANNAN.—Intrigue, bribery, and corruption, and what not, appears to be the order of the day among some persons who seem to exert every nerve in favor of the notorious Offerman Mining Company.

Mr. Editor, you are expected to speak out in this war, which is now raging with fury, in behalf of the Miners and Laborers. Let the turn-coat Frailey, and his cohorts feel the weight of your artillery; we'll furnish ammunition enough; and let the cannon of Schuylkill county roar in the ear of every Despot.

Mr. BANNAN.—Is not the God-father of the Offerman Mining Company, the same gentleman, John C. Offerman, who paid one hundred dollars, of the three hundred subscribed by a few individuals, to the author of the pamphlet, printed by you, in 1833, entitled, Effect of Incorporated Coal Companies upon the Anthracite Coal Trade of Pennsylvania? If I recollect rightly, that Mr. Offerman was then one of the most zealous and uncompromising opponents of all Coal Companies, and particularly of the two still operating among us.

James Trotter, Esq. (Van Buren) has been elected to the U. S. Senate by the legislature of Mississippi, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. John Black.

The Alton rioters, as we learn from the Telegraph of the 24th ult., have had their trial before the City Court, and were severally acquitted.

Another Sub-Treasury Bank Gone.—One of President Van Buren's Sub-Treasury, a Post Master in Montgomery County, Ohio, has lately absconded with the deposits not only of his office, but also with the deposits of some of his Local Friends, who were trying the "unlucky experiment" of loaning their funds to

own particular necessities and operations. None of the Companies now operating here have, ever, to our knowledge, built a house in the borough of Pottsville; and thereby, added to the general business, occupations and trade of the place, which has grown up altogether from individual operators, who reside here and give occupation, employment and support to others of every class, in a hundred ways beside the direct wages and expenses for mining coal—this Companies never do, as the stockholders are always non-residents of the place of the operations of the Company, and spend all the profits of the Company off, in other places, at a distance from us, and of no benefit to us, or our friends and neighbors beyond the lowest wages at which their Agents can extort our labor. INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISE.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Underdonk, will preach in the Episcopal church to-morrow morning and afternoon. The service, in the morning, will commence at the usual hour; and in the afternoon at half past 3 o'clock.

PRINTERS' CONVENTION.

We stated last week that the Printers of Virginia were about to hold a convention. Since that we have received their proceedings; from which we copy the following excellent resolutions adopted by that body:—Village Record.

Resolved, 1. That all subscriptions shall hereafter be considered as incurred and due in advance, and for a year's publication, unless specially ordered a shorter time, when so ordered.

Resolved, 2. That no publication shall be sent to the order of any new and unknown subscriber, unless paid in advance, or satisfactory reference be made to some known and accessible person in regard to the subscriber or his payment. But in case of an order for a publication, without payment, from a new subscriber who is unacquainted with the conditions, a single number may be sent, containing, or accompanied by, a copy of this regulation.

Resolved, 3. That the names of all subscribers whose ability to pay may be unknown to the publisher, and who may remain indebted on open account at the end of two years, from the time when the advanced payment was due, shall be erased from the list of subscribers.

The following communications, from Miners in this region, show that most foul means are resorted to for the purpose of procuring signatures to the Memorials in favor of the Offerman Mining Company. We hope for the honor of those concerned, that the accusations may prove unfounded.

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MINERSVILLE MEETING.

At the largest and most respectable meeting of the Citizens, Miners, and Laborers, of Minersville, held at Thirwell's Hotel, on Monday, at 3 o'clock, P. M. SAMUEL HEILNER was called to the chair; D. STEINBERGER, JOSEPH TAYLOR, ROBERT PATTON, and RICHARD KHAN, Vice Presidents; JAMES W. SCHEENCK and EDWARD A. KUTZNER, Secretaries.

The President rose and in an eloquent address stated the object of the meeting. On motion, a committee of five were appointed to draft resolutions, expressive of the sense of this meeting in relation to the incorporation of the Offerman Mining Company. The following gentlemen were appointed on the committee—D. Steinberger, Joseph Taylor, Robert Patton, Robert J. Lelar, and Edward A. Kutzner. The committee withdrew, and returned the following resolutions.

Resolved, That it is with astonishment we notice the passage of a Bill, in the Senate of this State, purporting to be a Bill to incorporate the Offerman Mining Company, which bill, (among others) that may have been of importance, was vetoed by our worthy and patriotic chief magistrate.

Resolved, That we the Miners and Laborers in this region, do, without hesitation, join in expressing our disapprobation of incorporated Coal Companies, as the Companies already incorporated have, instead of being a benefit, resulted in consequences fatal to ourselves and our interest.

Resolved, That from experience it has been fully determined, that individual enterprise is adequate to the wants of the country in regard to the supply of coal, and it is evident that the operation of coal companies have not had the effect of producing coal at a lower rate to the consumer, than individual enterprise.

On motion—Messrs. Robt. Patton and David Lewis were appointed to procure signatures to a remonstrance against the incorporation of the Offerman Mining Company.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Miners' Journal.

SAM'L HEILNER, Pres't. D. STEINBERGER, JOS. TAYLOR, ROBT. PATTON, RICHARD KHAN, V. Pres't. JAS. W. SCHEENCK, Ed. A. KUTZNER, Sect'ys.

SCHUYLKILL HAVEN MEETING.

At a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of Schuylkill Haven, in this County, held at the house of Mr. Haas, on Tuesday evening, February 6th, 1838, CHARLES DENGLE was appointed President, and HENRY SAYLOR, Secretary.

The object of the meeting having been stated, it was unanimously Resolved, That the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be respectfully requested not to grant any charter or acts of incorporation for the establishment of any coal companies within the borders of Schuylkill, or any other company whose trade or occupation may interfere with individual enterprise.

Resolved, That we respectfully remonstrate against the act incorporating the Offerman Mining Company, inasmuch as it is not called for by the public, and only asked for by one or two individuals.

Resolved, That the remonstrance agreed upon by our fellow citizens, at the meeting held at the Pennsylvania Hall, in Pottsville, be adopted by this meeting, signed by every person present, and forwarded to our representatives in the Senate and House of Representatives.

Resolved, That our representatives be requested, by all means in their power, to stop further proceedings thereon, in relation to the Offerman Mining Company, and not only to oppose this, but all other companies of a similar nature.

Resolved, That Mr. Lebbeus Chapman be appointed to proceed to Harrisburg to represent the interests of this meeting.

Resolved, That these proceedings be printed in all the papers in the county. CHARLES DENGLE, Pres't. HENRY SAYLOR, Sec'y.

STATEMENT of the Common School Appropriation due from the State to the Different Districts of Schuylkill County.

Table with columns: DISTRICTS, 1835, 1836, 1837, 1838, 1839, Total. Rows include Barry, Brunswig (E.), Brunswig (W.), Manheim, Mahontongo (U.), Mahontongo (L.), Norwiegans, Orwigians, Pinegroves, Pottsville, Reah, Schuylkill, Tamnagus, Union, Wayne, West Penn.

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The foregoing statement exhibits not only the dividends of State appropriation for the fifth Common School year (1833), payable on the first Monday of June 1834, when that year commenced, to all the districts, in the county, but also those for the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th school years (viz: 1831, 1832, 1833, and 1834) now due to each district, since the first year of the system, is exhibited in the last column.

The State appropriation for 1833 or the first school year, was \$75,000; for 1832, or the second \$75,000; for 1831, or the third, \$300,000; for 1830, or the fourth and present school year, \$780,000, (including the building fund of \$500,000) and for 1829, or the fifth year, it will be \$300,000 if the law remains unaltered, but if the Legislature add \$100,000 it will be \$400,000; making an aggregate given by the State since the commencement of the system of \$1,250,000 without, or \$1,350,000 with the expected increase.

Under a dividend of the two first years' appropriation are to be received from the county Treasury. The dividends of subsequent years are payable by the State Treasurer, on application to the Superintendent. The following is the form of the necessary certificate, which should be forwarded to the Superintendent, in every case, as soon as the facts will justify it:—

To the Superintendent of Common Schools. Sir—I do hereby certify that a school tax amounting to dollars cents, has been regularly levied and assessed, for the school year 1833, upon district county; that a warrant for the collection thereof has been delivered to the District Collector as required by law, and that the assessed sum is at least equal to this district's annual share of the State appropriation—

I do further certify that county, is the lawfully appointed Treasurer of this District, Signed, Post Office, county.

By the next mail after the receipt of the foregoing certificate at this department, a warrant on State Treasurer for the appropriation of the current year, will be sent to the District Treasurer, together with similar warrants for all undrawn dividends of former years, remaining in the State Treasury. To obtain the latter an additional tax is necessary, so that one tax, for the current year, equal to the District's share of the ordinary annual State appropriation (\$200,000) will be sufficient to enable it to receive all dividends of former undrawn appropriations.

As soon as a District, previously non-accepting, accepts the system and receives its money from the State Treasury, it is thereby entitled to all money remaining for its use in the County Treasury, provided it accepts before the 1st of November, 1833. In that case it is the duty of the County Treasurer to pay over such money forthwith to the District Treasurer, on the order of the Board of Directors. The best proof of such acceptance and of the receipt of the money from the State Treasurer, is the circular which accompanies the warrant of the Superintendent, on the production of which the County Treasurer will be perfectly safe in paying over the dividends in his hands.

Acceptance of the Common School system, under the present laws, can only take place by the vote of a majority of each non-accepting District, as assembled on the day of electing Directors, being in most cases the third Friday in March. The citizens then assembled have two acts to perform, 1st, to elect Directors, which must be done whether the system is to be put in operation or not; and 2d, to decide the question whether the system shall be accepted or not. This last question is only to be submitted in such Districts as previously rejected the system, but not in accepting districts, and may be decided in the affirmative by a mere majority of the vote-poll.—See the 13th Section of the Common School Law of 1835.

Having thus explained the condition of the State appropriations, the manner of obtaining them, and the mode of accepting the system, the Superintendent would respectfully address a word of information and advice to the citizens of such townships, wards and boroughs as have not yet received it. In doing this he has no wish officially to become the advocate of the system, but solely to promote the interests of those Districts, by explaining their present situation in relation to it.

By the first Common School Law (that of 1st April, 1834) if any number of Districts in a county, ever accepted the system, they became entitled to the receipt of the State appropriation intended for all the districts, in the county for that year. This harsh provision was repealed by the supplement of April 15, 1835, which enacted that non-accepting Districts should have two years, (which of course counted from the date of the supplement) within which time they might accept, and save the forfeiture of the undrawn dividends. Before the passage of the supplement, however, the forfeiture contemplated by the act of 1834, had taken place in several counties, as far as related to the appropriation of the first school year (1833).

Thus the law remained till the passage of the Common School law of June 13, 1836, and the declaratory resolution of 27th March, 1837, relative to undrawn balances in the School Fund. By the joint operation of these acts the period of forfeiture was further suspended till the 1st of November, 1838, (next November) with this difference, that the forfeited dividends are not to be distributed among the accepting Districts of the same county, but are to be added to the principal of the general Common School Fund in the State Treasury, the interest of which only is annually distributable.

But though the law reads thus, the legal act of acceptance must be performed in a certain time, before the 1st of November, in order to be entitled to the State appropriation.

Acceptance of the system next Spring, will not fasten it on the District forever, but only till the Spring of 1840, or for two years at the end of which time it may be discontinued by the vote of a majority of all the qualified voters of the District, if the experiment should not prove satisfactory.—See Sec. 13.

Present acceptance will prevent the forfeiture of one, but of four or five years' State appropriation, including that of next school year, amounting in the aggregate to about \$1 to each taxable inhabitant, or to \$2,000 in a District containing 500 taxables; without counting any thing on a probable increase of appropriation by the present Legislature.

Acceptance next Spring, and the consequent receipt of the above accumulated dividends, will only burden each District, next year, with a school tax equal to 64 cents on each taxable. This tax, however, is not to be paid in that proportion by each taxable, in the manner of a poll tax, but will be assessed on the property, professions, and persons that pay County rates, and on such personal property as paid State tax. The school tax on a township having 500 taxables, and receiving \$2,000 of State appropriation, would be something less than \$325.

But in reality, acceptance will not add much if any thing, to the burthen of taxation, in the most populous counties. It is known that many Districts the tax collected by the Commissioners for the education of poor children, is equal to the sum which would be necessary to entitle those Districts to the receipt of the Common School Funds, if they should adopt the system. Nor would it be necessary in most cases, to levy a tax beyond the lowest amount necessary to secure the State aid, because their accumulated State appropriation of four or five years, will be sufficient to build or otherwise provide good school houses, thus leaving the current year's tax and appropriation wholly applicable to instruction, for which purpose it would be nearly sufficient.