

Report of the Com. Academies and the memorials there.

THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

POTTSVILLE.

SATURDAY MORNING FEB. 24, 1838.

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We will attend to the favours of correspondents next week.

It is urged as inconsistent in us to assert that we have anything to apprehend from incorporated Coal Companies in this region, while we admit the fact that individual operators have far outstripped them in the race of competition. It is further alleged, that the latter fact proves that incorporated coal companies are and must be harmless. We deny these conclusions. Because individual operators have thus far succeeded in preventing them from obtaining the ascendancy, it does not follow that they have done no harm or mischief; nor does it follow because individual operators have been able to compete with two incorporated companies, that they are, therefore, strong enough to compete with two dozen, or as many more as the legislature may see fit to incorporate. We assert that incorporated coal companies are not only capable of doing harm, but that they have done much positive harm in this region, and that if the number should be increased, individual operators must at length surrender the region to them. It is preposterous to suppose that they can both flourish together; and it is unjust to compel individuals to attempt to compete with the advantages of corporate rights and privileges. The principle is anti-republican, because at war with equal rights; it is also otherwise contrary to the best interests of the Commonwealth.

We owe allegiance to the commonwealth, we are therefore entitled to her protection. We are virtually deprived of that protection of our rights of property to which we are entitled, when monopolies are established by legislative enactment. This appears to us a self-evident fact.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTH DAY.

MILITARY PARADES.—The National Light Infantry paraded in our borough, and presented their usual soldier-like appearance, and subsequently proceeded to Minersville, where they partook of a sumptuous dinner. The Troop also paraded and visited Mount Carbon.

BIRTH-NIGHT BALLS.—The evening of the anniversary of the birth of him who was First in War, First in Peace, and First in the Hearts of his Countrymen, was celebrated in our borough by a number of brilliant fetes. There were balls at the Pennsylvania Hall, the Pottsville House, and several other hotels in the borough. We learn that they were numerous and attended. The Assembly at the Pennsylvania Hall was of the largest and gayest character; the arrangements and decorations were all in excellent taste; the supper and refreshments reflected great credit on the host and hostess; and the whole gave perfect satisfaction and passed off in the midst of high enjoyment.

The Sub-Treasury System.—A large meeting of the Conservatives has recently been held in the city of Philadelphia, at which Gen. Robert Paterson presided, in opposition to the Sub-treasury System. We learn that the meeting was principally composed of the friends of the administration; and that their opposition to this System is no less decided than that of the Whigs. We have not seen the proceedings.

A similar meeting has also been held at Pittsburg. The number of Conservatives present was unusually large, and their hostility to the system is expressed in strong terms of reprobation.

The New York Journal of Commerce says that several of the most respectable and influential gentlemen among the friends of Mr. Van Buren, in this city, are now on a visit to Washington, for the purpose of recommending that Mr. Wright's Sub-Treasury Bill should be dropped by the administration, and their support given to the Bill introduced by Mr. Rives. We also think that this mission is sanctioned by the leading men of the party generally in this State.

Mr. Buchanan, as will be seen in another column, has reluctantly resolved to obey the instructions of the legislature of Pennsylvania, and vote against that Bill. The unpopularity of this favorite scheme of the office-holders is now apparent. The people are forgetting party distinctions in their indiscriminate opposition to it. They are now aware that there is too much at stake in the game now playing by the administration, and that the general welfare and prosperity of the country depends upon breaking it up.

MR. BOBYSHELL'S APOLOGY TO CHARLES FRAILEY ESQ.

In SENATE Saturday, Feb. 17, 1838. Mr. FRAILEY, of Schuylkill, read a resolution passed at a public meeting in Schuylkill county, at which he presided, denouncing the course of the Senator from that district in regard to corporations, and stating that he disapproved of the passage of the resolutions in question, and apologizing to the senator. The foregoing is copied from the proceedings of the Senate. We should like to know whether Mr. Bobysbell apologized for himself, or the meeting in question, and if for the latter, upon what authority. We think that the gentlemen who composed that meeting, and especially the officers are interested in this matter. We think

The Family Circle.

From the New York Mirror.

THE POETRY OF MUSIC.

O, music! thy luxuriant swelling flow, With softly-quiivering, softly-thundering roll, Awakes the conscious blood to livelier glow, And plumes with angel-wings thy ethereal soul.

As fired by love, from heaven's high altar stole! From this dull earth thy soul would break away. Touched on the lips by Inspiration's coal: I seem to rise to more than mortal day, And hear ineffable songs of boundless ecstasy!

Hark! Music pours in thousand varied rills, By Heaven-taught skill and melody refined, My soul with ecstatic visions thrills: Breath on thy golden pipes! 'Tis autumnal wind I've heard, at eve, when care was left behind, Sigh softly through the dark, high-noon, bright day.

What time bright Sol on the smooth stream-let shined, As Day has seen him to his bed decline— But, oh! what sounds are these, of harmony divine? Autumn! I own thy deep, mysterious power, As, whispering softly in the twilight breeze, In meditation's calm and sombre hour, I've heard thy diapason 'mid the trees! Too well I know thy moving sympathies: When breath Zephyrus shakes the trembling wood,

In murmuring sighs, what tones more soft than these? Music, how sweet in sylvan solitude; Heaven's gift to man below, in years before the flood. Ye rushing winds and roaring waterfalls, Sweep on, like Ocean on the sounding shore! Unlike the chant to gothic temple walls; In strain melodious, but with thunder-roar: With you I'll join, 'th' Almighty to adore!

Amid the trees, the voice of the Lord God Has oft, in twilight darkness gathering hour, Awakened some heaven-strung, though neglected chord, And Music's latent fount would shed its stream abroad. As birds, careering on aerial wind, Rise unfeeling toward the cerulean sky, And float, soft-fluttering upward as they sing, In Nature's joys, chastened melody, Fain would my blissful spirit mount on high, Far, far beyond the grovelling scenes of earth, O, say! who would not on such pinions fly, And mingle with the seraphim's rapt choir, Amid high heaven's loud choir of anthems bursting forth!

CONDITION OF EGYPT.

The present condition of Egypt, perhaps among the most remarkable of any existing territory of the world. The Jewish prophecies marked it, from the earliest periods of history, as a land of promise, second only in sternness and extent to that of Judea itself. Its religious corruptions, which have been suffered, as if for the purpose of showing to what depths the human mind, in its natural state can descend, brought down upon it the extraordinary malediction, that the Egyptians should never be an independent people. No prophetic declaration has been ever more distinctly fulfilled. For nearly three thousand years, the Egyptians have been the prey of adventurers, successfully ravaged by the Persians, tyrannized over by the Greek successors of Alexandria, turned into a province by the Romans, ravaged by its Saracen government, enslaved by its Mamaluke robbers, conquered by the French, again in the hands of the Turks, and at this hour mastered by a Turkish slave. Whether its long depression is now about to cease, or whether, as is much more probable, it is destined, on the death of Mohammed Ali and his son, to fall again into the hands of the Turks, and feel the pillage of a Turkish government, is only for the future to decide. But the not less extraordinary circumstance characterizes Egypt, that it, of all the regions of the earth, is perhaps the most singular instance of a continuance of fertility, and of a perpetual provision for that fertility. In the midst of a desert the narrow land of Lower Egypt presents to the eye a territory, whose exuberance scarcely requires the aid of human labor, and has scarcely ever failed, during a course of centuries. This is the well known work of the well-known Nile. But it is not to be overlooked, that the moral and physical conditions of Egypt, exhibiting the most direct contrast to each other since the days of Pharaoh, give decisive proof of the fact, that the power and prosperity of a nation are dependent on higher sources than soil and situation. The position of Egypt is made for power. Inaccessible by land, with the desert for its rampart; inaccessible by sea, from the shallow bay, if the people had the spirit to defend either frontier or their shore; standing on the central point between the east and west, and thus commanding the opulent commerce of both with the unexampled productiveness of a soil utterly inexhaustible—why has Egypt been a prey, or a province, for nearly three thousand years? All probability is against its nature being great; but the fact is, that, and prophecy had prepared us to expect it. Great designs of Providence may be in activity at this moment, for the restoration of the east to its moral understanding, and for the extinction of those heathen, fierce, ignorant and godless governments, which tear it to pieces. The thoughts of man, torn free from extreme prejudice, are turning upon Palestine; the days of the Crusader will never come again but it is impossible to doubt that a new influence is turned toward regions, on which neither Jew nor Christian can look, without a mingling of awe and joy and pain, of the loftiest hope and deepest humiliation.

THE RICH AND THE POOR.

Few, save the poor, feel for the poor: The rich know not how hard It is, to be of needful food And needful rest debarred. Their paths are paths of piteousness, They sleep on silk and down; And never think how heavily The weary head lies down. They know not of the scanty meal, With small, pale faces earth, No fire upon the cold, damp earth, When snow is on the ground. They never by the window lean, And see the gay pass by; Then take their weary task again, But with a sadder eye.

DEATH.

Death falls heavy on that man who is too much known to others, and too little to himself. There is an efficacy in the bowed knee, in the upturned hand and outstretched hand; in the accents of prayer arising from the lips of a sinner supplicating God to bless his child; which Faith may interpret for its encouragement; and the future will one day bless—Lithg. Rich. med.

Committee on Colleges, Common Schools, and of Wm. G. Griffin and

ry excluded from our schools, ought to be in common use in them.

Keeping all the while in view the object of popular education; the necessity of fitting the people, by moral as well as intellectual discipline, for self government, no one can doubt that any system of instruction which overlooks the training and informing of the moral faculties must be wretchedly and fatally defective. Crime and intellectual cultivation merely, so far from being dissociated in history and statistics, are unhappily old acquaintances and tried friends. To neglect the moral powers in education, is to educate not quite half the man. To cultivate the intellect only, is to unbalance the mind and destroy the essential balance of the mental powers; it is to light up a recess only the better to show how dark it is. And if this is all that is done in popular education, then nothing, literally nothing, is done towards creating and establishing public virtue and forming a moral people.

The moral powers then must be informed and cultivated in our schools. Children must be instructed in moral truth, and be taught to feel habitually the force of moral obligations; and to do this according to the best standard, the use of the Bible for that purpose can not be dispensed with. So it is believed that the great majority of our people think, and wherever they think so in the towns they will, of course, by their proper officers, order and direct the course of instruction accordingly.

Nor is it discovered that good right the petitioners, or any minority of persons, have to object to the use of this book, for the purpose indicated, as an approved and standard word for instruction in morals, because their opinion of its merits in this respect may differ from that of the majority. If the minority may rule in regard to the use of this book, and forbid the teaching of its code, they may do the same thing in regard to any other book or any other subject. They may insist that the Christian code of morals shall be exchanged for that of the Brahmins, or turn the schools over to Plato or Aristotle, or Mahomet. They may prescribe the entire course of studies, instead of leaving it to be done by those to whom the law and the voice of the majority have confided the power.

Nor again, is it discovered that in the practice of teaching morals according to the Christian code, and using the Bible for that purpose, the majority adopting it, is any infringement whatever on the religious rights and liberty of any individual. To teach Christian morals, referring to the Bible both for the principles and for their illustrations, is a widely different thing from teaching what is understood to be a Christian religion. Religion is a matter between a man and his God. It has reference to the worship of the Supreme Being, and the mode of such worship, and has relation to a future state of existence, and the retributions of that future state; and it is concerned with creeds and articles of faith. Now, religious freedom consists in a man's professing and enjoying what religious faith he pleases, or in the right of rejecting all religions; and this freedom is in no degree invaded when the morals of the Bible are taught in public schools.

And if the Christian religion, as a system of faith, whether according to one creed or another creed, according to the notions of one sect or of another sect, is not taught in these schools, then of course there can be no pretence that this religion is, in this way, supported by the State. Your committee, in common, they believe, with nearly the whole body of their fellow citizens, would regard it as the deepest of calamities, if religion—the Christian religion—should fall under the protection and patronage of political power. That religion is, in its nature, free, it can not take support from law without losing its lustre and its purity; it is in its very essence and spirit to demand none but a voluntary worship, and allow none but a voluntary support. But we cannot discern that it is in the least danger of injury from any public support in the schools on account of the use which may be made there of the Bible as a text or class book.

Your committee have now given the reason why they think the Christian code of morals should be taught in our schools as an indispensable part of our system of popular instruction; and why the Bible should be employed for that purpose.—There are other reasons why it is exceedingly desirable and important that this book should be generally used in our schools and seminaries, instead of being arbitrarily excluded as these petitioners require.—But we do not deem it necessary to detail those reasons. If the Bible should be studied for its moral principles, it should be studied also as a classic. As an authentic narrative of events, the most extraordinary and the most interesting anywhere recorded of our race, it is invaluable; and there is nothing, and can be nothing, to supply its place.

And such is the nature and antiquity of its story, that no education in this department of knowledge, not the most elementary, can be had without some acquaintance with its contents. And then as a classic, if generally employed as such, it would certainly supply a want which no other book can. The faithful and critical study of the English language, in its purity, by the youth of our country, is immensely important; and it is confidently believed,

that no where can there be found in the same compass, half as many specimens of beautiful and pure Anglo Saxon language, as in the Bible. And we think it may be safely said, that since the publication of the present English Bible, no writer or speaker in that language, can be named, who has acquired any just celebrity for the simplicity, strength and beauty of his diction, who has not been mainly indebted to that book for his excellence in that particular. Mr. Fox declared, that if he was ever eloquent, it was because he had faithfully studied the book of Job.

In conclusion, your committee would only say that, while after the most attentive examination, they have not been able to find, in the memorial before them, one fair ground of complaint, they have been, and are deeply impressed with many & weighty considerations which urge on all who value the interests of education, the interests of morals, and the interests of the country and of mankind, the indispensable necessity of reserving to the people the right to employ the Bible as a means of invaluable secular instruction, in all the public schools and seminaries, to which they may have occasion to resort.

Complaints of whatever is valuable in civil society will always be made. Some who make them are honest, but mistake; more act under the merest delusion; a few are speculative and reckless. Men of this latter class are apt to be ingenious, because restless and dissatisfied. Their work is to destroy, but never build. The moral restraints of society sit gallingly upon them. They take the name of liberty on their lips, but they mean license and confusion.—With them nothing is sacred, nothing is venerable and nothing is safe. And of late their boldness and strength seem to have increased. Their spirits are every where. It is busy with political institutions, with religious obligations, with social forms and domestic ties; busy to weaken, to invalidate, and to undermine.

They are not supposed to be numerous even yet; but they have followers, who are followers because they do not know who lead them, or whether they are led. This state of things demand undoubtedly great firmness on the part of those who would sustain and preserve what is valuable in our social and political forms. And it demands as much moderation as firmness. We would always hear; we would always consider; and we would always reply only by argument and by appeals to reason and to truth. It is this way that the committee have intended to meet the complaints of these memorialists; and with what success they may have done so, must now be left to the judgment of the house and of the country.

The committee recommended to the house the adoption of the following resolution.

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialists be not granted.

The question was taken by yeas and nays, and the resolution was adopted, yeas 121, nays 1.

The following Beautiful Eulogy on "the Law," is extracted from an article in the Southern Literary Messenger.

"The spirit of the law is all equity and justice. In a government based upon true principles, the law is the sole sovereign of a nation. It watches over its subjects in their business, in their recreation, and their sleep. It guards their fortunes, their lives, and their honors. In the broad noon day and the dark midnight it ministers to their security. It accompanies them to the altar and the festal board; watches over the ship of the merchant, though a thousand leagues intervene; over the seed of the husbandman abandoned for a season to the earth; over the studies of the student, the labors of the mechanic, the opinions of every man. None are high enough to offend it with impunity; none so low that it seems to protect them. It is throned with the King, and sits in the seat of the republican magistrate; but it also hovers over the couch of the lowly, and stands sentinel at the prison scrupulously preserving to the felon whatever rights he has not forfeited. The light of the law illuminates the palace and the hovel, and surrounds the cradle and the bier. The strength of the law laughs wickedness down, and spurns the entrenchments of iniquity. The power of the law crushes the power of man, and strips wealth of unrighteous immunity. It is the thread of Dædalus to guide us thro' the labyrinth of cunning. It is the spear of Ithuriel to detect falsehood and deceit. It is the faith of the martyr to shield us from the fires of persecution—it is the good man's reliance—the wicked one's dread—the bulwark of piety—the upholder of morality—the guardian of right—the distributor of justice; its power is irresistible; its dominion indisputable. It is above us; around us; we cannot avert its vengeance.

"Such is the law in its essence; such it should be in its enactments; such, too, it would be, if none aspired to its administration but those with pure hearts, enlarged views, and cultivated minds."

We learn from the Fredericksburg Arena, that the Examining Court, in the case of Dr. F. YADONAK, for killing WALTER H. PLEASANT, commenced its session on Wednesday last and did not adjourn until Saturday. The prisoner was ably defended by C. Johnson, and Junior Counsel, but the Court, refusing an application for bail, remanded him to Jail, there to await his trial at the next Superior Court for the city of Richmond.

likewise that this is one of the most extraordinary steps ever taken by the president officer of a public meeting.—Strange things often occur in political manoeuvring, but this is amongst the strangest, and to add the most unwarrantable. We understand that the object of the letter in question was not merely to apologise for the meeting but to counteract the effect of the resolutions, and it seems that the letter has been used for this very purpose. Now we undertake to say that the meeting in question was composed of gentlemen who were not under any necessity whatever, of apologising for their conduct. We know that it was composed of men that can neither be driven nor bribed into the support of Coal Companies; of men who will never permit apologies to be made in their name when in the performance of their duty, and especially where they themselves are the party injured, to whom, and not from whom, an apology is due. We have a idea that they will permit any individual whatever, to take such liberties to statements contained in the letter in question we are ignorant of, but we think they ought to be investigated. We have the briefly called the attention of the public to this novel proceeding. It appears to us to be of high public concern.

At a meeting of the Council, held on Tuesday, the 20th inst. JACOB REED, Esquire, was unanimously elected Clerk Burgess of Pottsville, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Samuel Morris.

Port Carbon Lyceum.—We are requested to state for the information of the members of the Port Carbon Lyceum, that the meetings thereof will in future be held on Tuesdays instead of Mondays.

Gov. Wolf has been appointed collector of the Port of Philadelphia.

The United States Gazette of Thursday says.—It is understood that there will be a majority of one in the Senate of the United States, against the Sub-Treasury Bill.

We commend to our readers the following able article on the subject of Coal Companies, which we copy from the Harrisburg Intelligencer. "This is the only paper out of the Coal Region of Schuylkill county, that has dared to advocate the rights of individuals against chartered coal monopolies."

COAL COMPANIES.

The Stafford Coal Company bill passed the House of Representatives on Friday. The Offerman railroad and mining company bill has not yet been acted on. The Stafford bill, we understand, is one of the most meritorious of the great litter of bills which have been brought forth by the Senate committee on corporations, and its passage through the House is therefore a harbinger of the success of the Offerman bill. What the Governor will do we can not say, but really after his last annual message we see not how he can sign any of them unless the reasons are very strong in their favor. If any should be vetoed we feel pretty confident two thirds will be found in support of them.

There is no necessity for the exercise of corporate powers, privileges and immunities, to drive on the great coal trade of Pennsylvania; and it is important that the trade be protected against the Lighting influence which such corporations will not fail to exercise, if they be multiplied to the extent which seems to be in the view of the Senate. The first object generally in asking for an act of incorporation is to enhance the price of some mountain tract of land—the next, to secure under one controlling influence all the mining operations of a coal district—the next, to regulate the price of labor by means of that controlling influence and the last, though not least, to regulate the market. These things cannot be done so well under the limited partnership law, though the law would reach all the legitimate purposes which could not be attained by individual enterprise.

Do the Senators who vote for these coal bills reflect on these things? Or do they identify coal corporations with the useful and sometimes essential ones of the banks, railroad and canal companies? We fear they do. Now they are widely different. The benefit arising to a community from the operations of a Bank cannot be conferred well by an individual; nor can an individual build a rail road or a canal, unless he is a wizard can make coal. Thousands of them do it, who will be driven from the business and have their rights outraged by the general incorporation of companies. So that opposition to coal companies is not absurd hostility to all incorporations—it is only a rational defence of individual rights.

There is one fact worthy of particular notice. Some we know will sneer at us for mentioning the name of LAZARUS—the man of the stick and the shovel, shank and wheel-barrow. Individual enterprise always rewards the stern labor of operatives whose DAILY BREAD and the very life of their families—their wives and children—depends on their toil from day to day, better than companies. This fact will be testified to by all who are conversant with the subject. It ought to have some consideration—but who will think of the POOR COLLIER! Who will think of his rights? When the landed aristocrat asks to be clothed with power to enslave the HUMBLE LABORER, and starve his family, who will dare brook the high contempt of that aristocrat, and raise a voice for the wretched LAZARUS! When an arrogant Senator is declaiming in favor of coal companies with Athenian plausibility, or a member of the house, fancying the representative Hall a forum, does the thought that there are such beings as poor colliers ever cross their minds? But Governor RITNER remembers them in the Executive chamber. He never forgets the poor man because he is a poor man. Will the poor man forget him? Are they ungrateful?

The true policy of the State is, to incorporate companies for the construction of railroads, and canals to the coal regions; and then leave the mining of the article to individual enterprise.