

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

MADE BY THE BOARD OF TRADE

To the Coal Mining Association of Schuylkill County.

The Board of Trade now present to the coal mining association, their Seventh Annual Report, in which they have endeavored to point out the state and condition of the coal trade.

The business during the year preceding our last report was varied in the extreme, being at one time at a complete stand and at another moving on with irresistible force.

The past year has been as different from the preceding one as possible, the business having generally progressed with a steady but rather sluggish pace.

When speaking of a sluggish pace, we bring into comparison the preceding year in which there was 92,000 tons of coal more mined from this district than in the year just past.

It was hoped and we were prepared to do, we have recorded from the product of 1837 nearly 100,000 tons such a movement it might reasonably be supposed would be felt by all engaged in the business, and it was.

This great falling off in the business of the past year was the consequence of so large a stock of coal remaining unconsumed on the first of April last.

The following table exhibits the product of the several mining districts for the past year, with the amount on hand at the opening of the navigation:

Table showing coal production and stock on hand for various districts in 1838 and 1839, including Lehigh, Lackawanna, Beaver Meadow, Hazleton and Laurel Hill, and Pinegrove.

Of the amount mined from the Wilkesbarre Mines the past season, we are ignorant, but it does not affect the Atlantic markets, as it is entirely consumed in the interior.

The Coal mined on the Shamokin the past year, has also been consumed in the valley of the Susquehanna; though when the Susquehanna Canal is completed to tide water (which is expected in all the present year) this will not be the case, as this grand canal will afford an excellent outlet into the Chesapeake Bay for all the Coal mined on the Susquehanna and its tributaries.

Of the Coal sent from Pinegrove, only 809 tons reached Philadelphia, and 30,390 tons of what was entered on the Schuylkill, was taken for the supply of places that did not reach tide water.

Of the amount disposed of in a similar manner from the mines of the Lehigh and Lackawanna, we have no positive knowledge; but estimating from the population inhabiting the sections of country through which the Coal from these mines is transported, we are led to conclude that the amount must vary considerably from that consumed on the line of the Schuylkill and Union canals.

The following table shows the amount of Anthracite Coal sent to market for several successive years, and the amount consumed as nearly as could be arrived at by estimates that were made each year of the stock on hand the 1st of April:

Table showing coal consumption from 1833 to 1839, comparing consumed amounts with stock on hand.

It is necessary here to remark that in our last report inadvertently an error was committed in stating that there was no coal remaining unsold in the market on the 1st of April 1837, whereas there was then 50,000 tons, as we have stated in the preceding table.

By close attention to the subject, arrived at a very correct knowledge of the annual wants of several millions of people, comprising their own nation, and also the demands of other nations, particularly for their iron.

Although the rate of interest is low and capital abundant in England, we do not hear of an excess in the annual supply of Coal, equal to one-fourth of the whole consumption; which would be from 4 to 5,000,000 tons, worth from 20 to 40,000,000 dollars; this is too large a capital to be locked up in the unrequited products of any one branch of business.

But the best policy, both for the consumer and those directly interested in the business, is to regulate the supply to the wants.

In this country there may be more difficulty in regulating the supplies than in England, for various reasons that might be assigned; but as we have before said, we believe that much might be accomplished by well directed efforts, and would therefore earnestly request all those who are engaged in mining and selling Coal, to turn their attention to the subject, in order that they may be kept together all the information that can be obtained upon it.

A Committee, previously appointed by the Colliers, proceeded on the 27th of August last, in company with Mr. Cox, the builder, to test the correctness of the Weigh Locks on the line of Canal, and after spending more than a week in a minute and laborious investigation, they made a report that showed such trifling discrepancies between the Weigh Lock weight and the cargo as weighed into the boat, that the Scales may be considered as virtually correct.

The toll on our Canal has been considerably reduced since its first opening, both by lessening the actual charge and by improving the canal; yet we think it should be still further reduced to bring us into fair competition with the Lehigh and Lackawanna Coal Regions, in the Eastern markets; and that the Navigation Company can well afford to do so, is evidenced by the rise of their Stock from the par value of 50 dollars, to 160 dollars per share.

The following table shows the increase of the average tonnage of the Boats on the Canal since its first opening.

Small table showing average tonnage per boat for the years 1825, 1830, 1835, and 1838.

Here we have an increased average in 13 years of 29 tons, being more than the boats actually carried when the canal first went into operation; showing very plainly that the Navigation Company have not been idle since the line of Communication was first opened.

The Rail road between Reading and Philadelphia is completed as far as Norristown, and the portion between Norristown and Philadelphia is in progress, and the Engineers report, that it will be completed by August next.

From Reading to this place, some of the heavy sections are now under contract, and it is probable that it will be completed in about two years.

The Engineers state that the transportation on the rail road, has so far been effected to a great extent with Anthracite Coal, and that they believe it to be in all respects the most advisable and the most economical fuel, for the heavy description of engines contemplated for the accommodation of the Coal Trade.

Anthracite has long since been introduced into the Steam boat for generating steam, by the Lehigh Company, and more recently by Stockton & Stevens in some of the ferry boats on New York, and in one or more of the Boats plying between New York and Albany, and they are perfectly satisfied with the result of the trial they have given it.

When the Atlantic Steamer, the Liverpool, was in New York, experiments were made on board of her with this fuel which proved highly satisfactory.

In our last report we observed that Anthracite had been successfully used in Wales for smelting Iron, and we gave as our opinion, that before another year, it would cease to be an experiment in this country; and so it has, as is fully illustrated by a furnace on the Lehigh working with this fuel alone to the entire satisfaction of the proprietors, Messrs. High, &c.

In 1834, the process of puddling or refining Iron with Anthracite, was tried by Messrs. Buckley & Swift of this place, and the practicability of it fully shown, and there is now on the Little Schuylkill a puddling furnace, belonging to Mr. Bartole, in operation with Anthracite and a small portion of wood intersized.

That the operations in the Manufacture of Iron will in the course of a few years, consume a large quantity of Coal, there can hardly remain a doubt even in the minds of the most sceptical.

The great amount of Coal that will be used for various purposes, as in making iron, generating steam in stationary Engines, Steam Boats & Locomotives; in burning lime, and for all the domestic purposes of life, might induce some persons less acquainted with the subject than ourselves, to think that a scarcity of the article must be the inevitable consequence.

BOOK-BINDERY. BANNAN has completed a Bold Effort... Blank Books... Cheap Paper, Book & Stationary Store, No. 23, N. Front street, Philadelphia.

BRUNNER & BOLLOWBUSH have on hand, and offer for sale at reduced prices, a general assortment of Paper, School Books, and Stationary Writing, Letter, Printing, and Wrapping Paper...

COUNTRY MERCHANTS will find a general assortment, embracing a variety of articles suited to their wants, which for cash or approved credit will be sold on the most reasonable terms.

THE Port Carbon Saving Fund Society, is now open every day from 9 to 3 o'clock at the Office of Discount and Deposit, for the purpose of receiving deposits to any amount not exceeding \$500...

MILLER & HAGGERTY, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL Dry Goods, Grocery, Wine & Liquor Store (Next door to Mortimer's Hotel).

DR. LEIDY'S HEALTH EMPORIUM, 2nd & below Vine, No. 191. Consumption. READERS, if you have a cough or cold, beware of their consequences.

DR. LEIDY'S TONIC AND ANTI-DYSPEPTIC CORDIAL. A never failing and efficacious remedy for DYSPEPSIA OR INDIGESTION.

WETHERILL & Brother, AT THE OLD STAND No. 65 NORTH FRONT STREET, EAST SIDE. MANUFACTURERS OF

NEW IRON & Hardware Store. THE subscribers would respectfully announce to the public, that he has added to his former stock, Iron and Hardware, consisting in part of...

PUBLIC NOTICE. In pursuance of an ordinance passed by the Council of the Borough of Pottsville, on the 19th day of December, A. D. 1839...

Upwards of 10,000 Boxes of Dr. Leidy's Sarsaparilla & Blood Pills, sold in Philadelphia alone. A QUESTION. Who does not know the efficacy and readiness...

DR. LEIDY'S SARSAPARILLA OR BLOOD PILLS, compounded principally of Sarsaparilla and with which is combined ingredients (friendly to the constitution)...

THEY are particularly recommended in Rheumatic affections, Dropsy, and watery pimples of the face and pustules of the face and body.

DR. LEIDY'S HEALTH EMPORIUM. Prepared only and sold Wholesale and Retail at Dr. Leidy's Health Emporium, 2nd & below Vine, No. 191.

DR. LEIDY'S HEALTH EMPORIUM. PRELIMINARY PRESENTATIVE. (Price 50 Cents per bottle.) Is an invaluable preparation, discovered by a regular and celebrated German physician...

DR. LEIDY'S TONIC AND ANTI-DYSPEPTIC CORDIAL. A never failing and efficacious remedy for DYSPEPSIA OR INDIGESTION. And the whole train of affections resulting from disease of the Liver, Stomach and Intestines.

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THE DELAWARE COUNTY Insurance Company. CAPITAL AUTHORIZED BY LAW, \$250,000. CHARTER PERPETUAL.

THE DELAWARE COUNTY Insurance Company will also insure against loss on all kinds of marine risks and against the damage or loss upon the transportation of goods, wares, and merchandise by water, or by rail way, upon terms as favorable as any other institution.

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