

THE MINER'S JOURNAL.

dearly Craft sprang up, and, seizing his gun, came running against the air. Ralph grasped his gun, and started to his feet.

"What the deuce is it? So ho boy, So ho boy!

Curse the dog, I see nothing. So ho!

Grim, however, did not advance, and when his master urged him on, he wagged his tail in acknowledgment of his instructions, and looking up in his face, uttered a long, low, whine. There was something in this that struck Ralph as mysterious, for the dog was generally as keen in the sport as himself; so he leaned forward, straining his eyes; when he caught sight of a rabbit squatting under a bush at a short distance.

"Ah ha, my little fellow, you are mine!" exclaimed joyfully, "I'll pass a peaceful night under my roof yet!"

As he spoke he raised his gun to his cheek, when in the act of pulling the trigger, it was suddenly struck up, and the shot went patterning through the trees, bringing down a shower of leaves.

"Let that rabbit alone!" exclaimed a rough voice at his elbow; "what business have you poaching on my preserves?"

Ralph turned round, but with anger, for, with the exception of his wife, he feared neither devil nor man. Upon the upper rail of a ragged fence, with a few feet of mud, a little squat figure in Dutch small clothes, of ample dimensions in the skirt, and gathered tightly at the knees, which were garnished with silver buckles. Ralph had hitherto been unaware of his presence; but there sat he with his legs crossed, a short gold headed cane in his hand, and smoking a Dutch pipe, as composedly as if he had been there an hour.

"Let that rabbit alone, I say!" repeated he with more emphasis.

Ralph was not a little startled, at the outlandish cut of the little man; nor did he feel more easy when he encountered the most portly eye which rested on him as to whether to search his secret soul; but rallying his faculties, and assuming a look of bravado, he tucked his arms about, and leaning back with consequential air, demanded of the other, whose it was, and why he had interfered with his sport?

For some time the person thus addressed, made no reply, but kept on blowing out clouds of smoke, which, for volume and density, completely amazed Ralph. At length, after some pondering, he looked at him full in the eyes, and gravely blowing in his face a puff of smoke that nearly strangled him, he answered in a more pacific tone—"I am a gentle man, generally more talked of than seen. Mr. Craft, and one who knows you better than you are aware of and who, on a pinch, may aid you. But tell me," said he, in a more reassuring tone, "what strange freak has sent you hither spotting by moonlight?"

Ralph hesitated a moment; but, as he was a man of few words, his affairs were the town talk of the town; his wife was as much the dread of the village as himself, and it mattered little whether, one person, more or less, was initiated in the secret of his troubles. So, without much parley, he frank ly disclosed the nature of the errand on which he had been sent, and the necessity for his services.

"Mr. Craft," said the little man, extending one hand gravely forward, whilst he pressed the other upon his heart, "I respect you—I sympathize with you—I will assist you."

Ralph eyed him dubiously. At length he said,

"You are a small man, though corpulent."

"But I'm vigorous!" exclaimed the stranger, stretching out one leg, and working his arms and shoulders as if in the act of rowing, for the purpose of showing off his muscle, "vigorous, air, very vigorous. I can do anything to serve you, and I will."

Name your request?"

Ralph's eyes sparkled: he looked curiously about him, made two or three steps forward, and looked down the swain, glanced behind the trees and up among the branches; then, turning back, he approached his mouth within two inches of the ear of the other, and said, with some hesitation, "Do you think I can find Mrs. Craft?"

"Mrs. Craft! your wife?" exclaimed the other.

"The same," replied Ralph, in a disappointed tone.

"She's a tough nut. I believe she'd bully Old Nick himself."

"Shed find that difficult!" exclaimed the stranger, drawing a hard breath between his teeth, and tightening his coat about him.

"Not so difficult as you imagine," answered Ralph.

"Sir!" exclaimed the little man, springing from the fence, with his pipe in one hand and his cane in the other, and bridging up in Ralph—"Sir! you are not acquainted with the gentleman of whom you speak?"

"I," replied Ralph, laconically "but I am with Mr. Craft."

The stranger's shollop seemed rising; he thrust his pipe in his buttonhole, and passed rapidly backward and forward. At length, stopping short, he thrust his hands in his pockets and assumed himself comfotably by wondering who the stranger could be, sometimes by whistling, or watching the moon as it sailed through the deep blue arch above his head.

"In the mire," thought Ralph, "his short legs won't help him much, but that is no fault of mine."

Ralph's first impulse, after his thoughts had turned to his wife, was to reload his gun, and stand for his dog; but Grim was too quick for him. Supposing, however, that he had set off in pursuit of the rabbit, he gave himself no further thought about him, but, leaning against the fence, thrust his hands in his pockets and assumed himself comfotably by wondering who the stranger could be, sometimes by whistling, or watching the moon as it sailed through the deep blue arch above his head.

In half an hour, penitential to his word, the stranger was seen coasting across the hill, and he did not move with the alacrity with which he had set out and upon his near approach, Ralph observed that his coat was nearly torn from his shoulders, his cocked hat was battered and bent in, and there was sunburn on the other extremity of his small clothes. When he came up he panted violently, as if exhausted by great exertion, as he turned his face in the moonlight; it appeared striped, and seamed with scratches, like the bark of a young plum tree. In his hand he held several partridges which he flung towards Ralph.

"I have reflected on your situation, Mr. Craft," said he, respectfully, "and find that you are more to be pitied than blamed. Take these birds, and make your peace with your wife—from my soul, I pity you."

"You seem to need that yourself," replied Ralph, emphatically, "how come your clothes so tattered, and your face so terribly scratched?"

"In the bushes," answered the other, crabbedly;

"here are your birds, take them, and ask me no further questions, for I am not the humor to answer them. Go home to your wife. Good night."

As he spoke he turned to his heel, and ascending the hill was lost in a thicket which shrouded Dusorus Land.

Ralph watched him as he was out of sight, then taking up his gift he whistled to Grim, but the dog came. Knowing, however, that the animal would be sure to find his master in the village, he set out with the dog. Within a short distance of his master he fell in with the cut, who seemed almost beside himself with joy at their meeting.

Upon entering his kitchen, Ralph was thunderstruck. In the centre stood Mrs. Craft, with a face like a ripe tomato, and a broomstick in her hand. Tables, chairs, stoneware plates and dishes strewed the floor. Windows were broken; every thing bore indication of the utmost confusion; and nearly all furniture was in a state of dilapidation. Her story was soon told, her husband, and to a group of leering neighbors, who had assembled at the noise of the treat.

After their previous, a vorpalent little gentleman, his cap off, and loose breeches, with a knife in his hand, and a pipe in his buttonhole, had walked in the kitchen. Casting himself in front of the fire, apparently as much at his ease as if the house belonged to him, he lighted his pipe, and with a few whiffs filled the room with smoke. Mrs. Craft was not the woman to put up with this, and accordingly the intruder was requested to resue. He re-

plied that if the smoke was unpleasant to Mrs. Craft, she was at liberty to quit the house, as he had done, since till his pipe was out. One word, however, another, until the intruder was compelled to leave, and a battle of that kind, which, by reason of dissidence, is called "regal," ensued. It was carried on with great vigor on both sides; but ended in the expulsion of the intruder, although nearly all the household furniture was demolished in the struggle. Mrs. Craft was in a violent temper, and was absolutely bent on having the law of the fellow; but unfortunately for the success of her intention, he was never heard of from that day to this.

From the conversation which had taken place between himself and the little man, Ralph was enabled to give a pretty shrewd guess as to what it might be. But he kept the secret to himself; for he knew that his character might suffer, were it generally known that he had indulged a scoundrel chum with notorious corruption in his conduct. And, moreover, he entertained a lurking fear of gratification towards one who had thus grossly enlisted in his behalf, and cared not to see him held up to the ridicule of the world. He kept the secret until his wife was at her wits' end, but by way of compensating her for last night's adventure, assured her of the fact that night's victory, assuring her that she had gained a victory over no less a person than "Old Nick" himself; and hinting, that as she had overcome him, when he intruded in her kitchen, there was little doubt but that she would be able to give him a hard tussle even in his own domains.

N. Y. Mirror.



POTTSVILLE.

Saturday Morning, Nov. 23.

United States Mining Journal

AND REGISTER OF THE IRON TRADE.

We have determined to continue, on or about the 1st April next, a Monthly Magazine, under the above title, which will be devoted to the interests of the Coal and Iron trades, and such other mining operations as are daily becoming of more importance in our country. The location of the Pottsville, situated in the very heart of a region, where nature has been most prolific in her gifts, points it out as the spot, whence such a work should emanate. The importance too, of our coal and iron products, and the national advantages resulting from the perfection of the experiments for smelting iron with anthracite coal, demand the commencement of a work, which will collect and disseminate in a permanent form, all the information necessary to perfection in the various branches of mechanics dependent on them.

This work will comprise about 32 pages in each monthly number, to be printed in octavo form, in double columns, with new type, and will be furnished at the low price of \$3 per ann.

Scientific assistance will be engaged, and the history of the rise and progress of our mineral business, will be given from authentic sources. Statistical tables, and European improvements will be laid before its readers, and every effort will be made to render the "UNITED STATES MINING JOURNAL AND REGISTER OF THE IRON TRADE," worthy the attention, not only of those actually connected with the iron trade and mining operations, but of all who feel pride in the advancement of our national resources, and the development of its treasures.

4. When the entire road shall be completed to our Borough, if the lateral roads in the region should require aid to connect their improvements, by laying new tracks, can they expect such aid from the Reading Rail Road, in the shape of a loan of iron, as will build corresponding lines on these important arteries of the main channel of communication?

5. Is it the intention of the Reading Rail Road Company, to extend their road to Port Carbon, and connect with the Mill Creek, Schuylkill Valley, and other lateral roads which terminate there?

In conjunction with these queries, we would suggest, that as we have mechanics, workshops, and experience in our vicinity, would it not be expedient to entrust the making of a portion of the cars to the Coal Region?

Pottsville Lyceum.—On Tuesday evening next, E. O. Parry, Esq., will deliver a lecture on "the History of England," which will commence at 7 o'clock.

Concert.—By referring to the advertisement, it will be seen that on Wednesday evening next, Berger and Braunsfeld will give a Concert and Dance, assisted by several artists of talent.

Mons. Berger, is a dancer of reputation, having been engaged as the director of the Ballet at some of the N. Y. Theatres, which of itself is a sufficient recommendation, as none but a master of his profession, can direct the intricacies of a French Ballet. Mons. Braunsfeld is a scientific musician, familiar with the best inspirations of the German and Italian schools, and his execution on the violin is very fine.

This Soiree will give the public an opportunity of testing Mons. Berger's skill as a dancing master, and will doubtless induce many to put themselves under his tuition. Nothing, in our estimation improves the carriage so much as the exercise of dancing, when gracefully conducted; and there are many of our fair ones, who with all the beauties of Venus, only need a little instruction to rival the majestic Juno, in the dance or waltz. We think Mons. Berger can impart this, and we therefore advise all who are lame or gouty, to "tip it on the light fantastic toe," under charge of this master de dances.

PORT CARBON LYCEUM.—Order of Lectures.

Lecture 23, Tuesday Nov. 26.—"History of England," by Edward Owen Parry, Esq.

(C) Lecture to commence at 7 o'clock.

PORT CARBON LYCEUM.

A public meeting of the Port Carbon Lyceum will be held on Friday evening the 23rd inst., at 7 o'clock, in the Basement Room of the Church, which the inhabitants of Pottsville and vicinity are invited to attend. A Lecture on "Caloric," may be expected from Dr. Palmer.

Mr. Peale's Lectures.—We have been desirous to inform the subscribers to this course of lectures that they will commence on Monday Evening next, at 7 o'clock. As we intimated in our last, Mr. Peale has fitted up the large room at the corner of Centre and Mahanango streets, over the store occupied by Mr. Lippincott. We were pleased to observe the generous subscription which he has received, and to accommodate the subscribers, by erecting raised seats, and other conveniences to give full advantage to all in the act of attending. The Lecture on Monday Evening will be delivered principally to the members of the Lyceum, and we hope to see the introduction favored with a full attendance of the beauty and fashion of our town.

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Progress of Anthracite Furnaces.—In addition to several stacks, which will be erected during the next year, in our immediate vicinity, there are many others to go into immediate operation. Messrs. Farr & Kline, will blow in soon, at Spring Mills, under the charge of Mr. B. Perry. This work has been retarded by the raising of a dam by the Navigation Company, which has deprived it of water power.—Reverie, Whitaker & Co., have it in contemplation to use Anthracite in their present charcoal furnace at Phoenixville. Burd Patterson, Esq., has one at Roaring Creek, and Mr. George Patterson, one at Danville, and there will be two in operation soon at Middletown.

We thus see that the enterprise of our Pennsylvania iron masters is taking immediate advantage of that most important discovery, and we have every reason to believe that in a few years, it will totally supersede the use of charcoal, as being more economical and producing iron of equal quality.

Iron Ore.—Several of our practical and scientific gentlemen visited the mines of Charles Lawton, Esq., on Monday last, for the purpose of examining the veins of ore, which have been cut in his tunnel. Mr. B. Perry, who was present, gave as his opinion, that the ore was of an excellent quality, slightly situated for working, with a soft matrix forудирии, and to all appearance inexhaustible.

These continued discoveries of mineral wealth in our region are cheering in the extreme. They tend to give permanency to our prosperity, to stimulate our citizens under the pressure of existing business difficulties, and to offer still greater inducements for capitalists to invest in our region. With such views, we shall continue from time to time to notice the discoveries of all iron veins which are well defined, and profitable for working. Every day shows that our region teems with this valuable metal, and in no instance, have finer veins been opened than on Mr. Lawton's tract. He has three veins in immediate juxtaposition of 10, 4, and 18 inches in thickness, embedded in a soft argillaceous slate; and immediately under the second Gato vein, there is a development of about eight feet of ore, intersected by soft slate, useful for mining purposes, and which our iron men are of opinion will yield remarkably well.

We shall under these circumstances calculate on seeing our friend Mr. Lawton, prepared for the erection of an anthracite furnace the ensuing spring, and add another valuable improvement to our iron works.

Get your neighbors ready.—In Pottsville and other towns in this part of western Massachusetts, they had begun digging the earth being six inches deep.

W. B. Elliott, has been feeling the tempe of our citizens, and giving them phonological charac-

ters, during the past week. He says we are patriotic; we intend to try, on or about the 20th December, which will be the longest night. Then we will write by our midnight oil, an "Ode to Philology."

West Branch Rail Road.—We learn that this Company have entered into contracts for the delivery of the requisite iron, and that it is their intention to lay a heavy track, corresponding with the Reading Road, which will be finished by the completion of that road.

At present, their position, a vorpalent little gentle-

man in his buttonhole, had walked in the kitchen, casting himself in front of the fire, apparently as much at his ease as if the house belonged to him, he lighted his pipe, and with a few whiffs filled the room with smoke. Mrs. Craft was not the woman to put up with this, and accordingly the intruder was requested to resue. He re-

Reading Rail Road.

That part of the continuous rail road between Philadelphia and the Coal Region, which connects the works with the Borough of Reading, will be completed and opened to travel on the second of December next. Messrs. Morris and Ward Robinson, have been the Engineers, and they have located a road which is justly considered superior to any other in the union, in point of strength and solidity.—When the heavy descending coal track shall have been laid, it will challenge comparison probably, with any road in the country.

As it is estimated that in the spring of 1841, the whole line of road will be completed, for the transportation of coal, its important bearings on the prosperity of our region is evident.—The regular descending grade will adapt it admirably for the purposes of heavy trade, and it is highly probable that the motive power will be estimated only by its capacity to draw back the empty cars on their return.—These considerations render it imperative for the Coal Trade, to make some inquiry of the Reading Rail Road, the answers to which will enable them to shape their future business.

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We read the above article to Mr. Perry, whose skill and judgement, all agree in praising, and he says, that on the Friday referred to, more than 4 tons were run out, and that the deficiency was only due to the inferior quality of the ore, which was full of sand-stone and other foreign substances, and should be attributed to the misfortune of the miners.

2. What will be the probably charge per ton, for the total expense from the different Depots in the Coal Region to the different wharves of the dealers on the Schuylkill or Delaware?

3. Does the Rail Road Company intend to furnish the Coal operators, cars for the entire trade, and of such construction, that they may be carried to the mouths of the mines, and from thence to the Philadelphia Depots, without changing cars?

4. When the entire road shall be completed to our Borough, if the lateral roads in the region should require aid to connect their improvements, by laying new tracks, can they expect such aid from the Reading Rail Road?

5. Will such arrangements be made to procure correct weight, that coal may be sold by car weight, on transhipment at Philadelphia without changing cars?

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