

THE MINERS' JOURNAL.



Particular Notice to Delinquents. All subscribers who remain indebted to the Miners' Journal for a longer period than one year, will be charged at the rate of \$2.50 per annum, after the 1st of July next, the commencement of another half year.

On the commencement of the next volume, the Journal will be enlarged to a double medium sheet, and payment from that period will be required in advance.

All friends of the Miners' Journal, and particularly our present subscribers, are earnestly requested to use their exertions to increase the circulation of the Journal, firmly believing that the advantages to be derived from its increased circulation will be mutual, as far as regards the interests of this community, the subscribers and the Proprietor.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.—THE EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS.—THE COAL AND IRON TRADE.—We have engaged the services of a correspondent at Washington, during the coming session of Congress, who will keep us fully advised of the sayings and doings of our Federal lawmakers; and as he is a gentleman of talent and ability, his letters, no doubt, will give an additional interest to our columns.

We are induced to take this step from the great importance of the measures which will be laid before Congress at the Extra Session, and from a wish to obtain our intelligence from Washington in a direct and the place of a second hand manner. At no period since the adoption of the federal constitution, have the affairs of the republic arched at such a crisis as at the present time; and we need not add, how desirable it will be to receive the most authentic and reliable information relative to such measures of relief as will be laid before our representatives at the coming session of Congress.

The National Intelligencer, of the 11th instant, at the close of an able and statesmanlike article, thus enumerates the measures which may be expected to become subjects of deliberation at the coming session:

- 1. The distribution of the proceeds of the sales of Public Lands among the several States.
2. A revision and augmentation of the duties on imports, for the purpose of securing from that source a revenue adequate to the wants of the Government.
3. The repeal of the Sub-Treasury law.
4. The establishment of a fiscal agent, central or other, to aid the Government, in collecting and disbursing the revenue and equalizing the currency.
5. A temporary loan, if necessary, to supply the immediate necessities of the Treasury.

"These measures," says the Intelligencer, "would at once dispel the clouds that have so long overlaid and yet obscure the prospect before us. These measures, taken together, would, we feel entirely confident, suffice not only to restore to the country its wondrous vigor, but carry it forward with a firmer step than it has ever taken."

A revision and augmentation of the duties on imports is a measure calculated more immediately to affect and benefit the interest of this State, and more particularly of this region, than any other proposed. And we might add, that if such an alteration is not made in the Tariff it is almost hopeless to expect that Pennsylvania will ever be able to extricate herself from the difficulties by which she is at present surrounded.

The great elements of prosperity of Pennsylvania is in her coal and iron trades; and it is already a matter of notoriety, how shamefully those interests have hitherto been neglected. To be sure, a nominal duty—and it is but a nominal one—is put on foreign coal; but until a protective duty is put on both foreign coal and iron, the hidden wealth and immense resources of Pennsylvania never can be fully developed. The capitalists of this or any other State, it is not likely, will invest their money in the coal or iron trade, in its present depressed condition—the effect of had and partial legislation—so long as they can have notes at two per cent. interest per month. Few can be found who are willing to be patriotic at the expense of their pockets.

There are many short-sighted persons who honestly believe that if the duty on foreign coal was augmented, the consumer of the domestic article would have to pay at least twenty five per cent more for it than he does under the present arrangement. Experience teaches us that the reverse would be the case. The evil would soon cure itself. It is probable that for the first year or two, after the duty on foreign coal had been increased, a slight advance would take place in the price of domestic coal; but competition would soon restore a just equilibrium. Such has been the case where sufficient protection has been afforded to certain articles of manufacture in this country, and such ever will be the case. It is one of the very laws by which trade is governed and controlled, which laws are as certain and as sure in their effects as the laws of nature.

Unfortunately for us, there is but little real capital in the country; and that little is chiefly invested in commerce. An industrious, active and enterprising population, if they do not possess capital, can create it. Such might be the case with the citizens of this State if they were subject to wise, wholesome, and enlightened legislation. Let a protective duty be placed on foreign coal and iron for the space of five years, and after that period we care not how soon that protective duty is removed, how quick that protection is withheld. The coal and iron trade, now in its infancy, would by that time have received such an impetus as to place it beyond the fear of foreign competition. Blessed with a boundless store of mineral wealth, the people of Pennsylvania would soon relieve themselves from the embarrassments under which they are now laboring, and restore their State to all its pristine prosperity and credit.

BUSINESS CONVENTIONS.—The Convention of Business Men met at Harrisburg on Tuesday next, and we have every reason to believe that all the counties of the State will be represented. We trust that the delegates of Schuylkill county will be at their post. If pressing business should prevent any of them from attending, as this district is the most important in the State, it is their duty to procure proper substitutes, and forward to the Convention such statistical information relative to the great interests of Pennsylvania as they have been enabled to obtain.

The following gentlemen were appointed delegates to the above Convention from Schuylkill county:—Messrs. Burd Patterson, Dr. G. N. Eckert, George H. Potts, Dr. G. G. Palmer and John Hall. ST. CLAIR TRACT.—A few days since, in company with Col. Baird, we paid a visit to the "St. Clair Tract," and was much pleased at witnessing the progress made by Messrs. Marshall & Co. in this quarter. Three drills have been entered, and they are now driving gangways. The veins of iron ore range from eight to twenty inches in thickness. Two and three veins will frequently unite and form a thickness of three feet for a considerable distance, and then branch off again. From one hundred to one hundred and fifty tons of iron ore have been got out, and judging from one or two specimens taken at random, the ore appears to be of excellent quality, and will yield probably from 33 to 36 per cent. of pure metal. We understand that a sufficient quantity of ore to smelt a ton of iron can be mined at the St. Clair Tract for about \$5.

"ANTHRAX" AND THE COAL TRADE.—A writer over the signature of Anthrax, in the Philadelphia Ledger, has of late been amusing himself, and imposing upon the credulity of the numerous readers of the Ledger, by publishing what he is pleased to call statements in relation to the coal trade of this region. The gross and palpable mistakes made by Anthrax—and fortified, too, by misquotations from the Miners' Journal—have hitherto presented us with answering his communications. The last article, however, which he has favored the Ledger, under the caption of "Price of coal," is not altogether undeserving of notice. It is well and plausibly written, and may do mischief abroad, if the deception attempted to be practiced on the ignorant or unwary is not fully detected and exposed.

Anthrax boldly asserts that the Schuylkill miners demand and expect to obtain 25 per cent. advance over last years prices. There is not a dealer in coal in Philadelphia or New York but knows that there is not the slightest foundation for such an assertion. The highest price asked for red ash coal, put in boats, is \$2.50 per ton; and we may here state that in order to afford a fair, moderate remunerating price to the operator, at the present rents of coal land and the cost of transportation, this description of coal cannot be mined for a less amount. Persons may confidently enter into the operation of mining red ash coal, predicated on lower prices, but their capital will soon be exhausted; for we venture to assert that more money has been lost than made by the operators when red ash coal has failed to command \$2.50 per ton. Such has been the experience of our miners for years past. White ash coal, however, can be afforded at a less price than the red ash. It is easier to mine and there is less wastage.

Anthrax intimates that owing to a supposed deficiency in the supply of anthracite coal this season, is the cause which has induced this advance in the price of coal; and, furthermore, that the Schuylkill miners have raised this cry of "deficiency," for the purpose of extortion. We need not say how totally this statement is at variance with the facts of the case. Not later than two weeks ago we stated that a supply of coal might be expected from this region, provided remunerating prices could be obtained at nearly half of the season, and such has been the language held by our operators.

"The expense of mining coal," says Anthrax, "has not increased." The expense of mining coal has increased where our miners have been obliged to sink below the water level. But, generally speaking, the mining expenses, have not increased, inasmuch as the price of labor for the last two years has been cheaper than it has been for years before, and, probably, ever will be again. But what does this prove? That notwithstanding the cheapness of labor for the last two years, owing to high rents, the cost of transportation, &c. our miners have been working for a bare subsistence, and in many cases, they have lost money. These facts Anthrax is perfectly aware of, but he seems to take a strange delight in perverting the truth and misleading the public.

If Anthrax was sincere in wishing to see the last year's prices maintained for coal, he might have pointed out the only way in which it could be effected. He should have told the readers of the Ledger that the generality of our miners had to pay high rents for the land in which they worked their coal; that if these rents were reduced, the price of coal would decrease in the same ratio. He should have told them that he was the owner of coal land in this region, and that he was enjoying from it an annual rental of several thousands, while the lessees of that land could scarcely obtain a livelihood in return for their industry and enterprise. He should have told them that the only money that has been made in this region has been realized by the owners of the land and the Schuylkill Navigation Co. Anthrax is perfectly willing to see a reduction in the price of coal and the price of freight, but he breathes not the slightest whisper about reducing the price of rents.

It is repugnant to our feelings to descend to personalities; but as it is a mode of attack which Anthrax seems to delight in, he should not be surprised if the argument ad hominem should be resorted to by us; neither should he be surprised when we tell him that he is well known in this region, and that his statements and speculations pass current here for what they are really worth. Anthrax, to a certain extent, is interested in the success of our coal trade, and prudence should dictate to him, that to promote that success, propagating false reports respecting the interests of this region is not the best plan that could possibly be devised or resorted to. Our passions should never get the better of our judgment, and even if one is visited with the merited contempt of a whole community, he should not seek a Samson-like mode of retaliation. To a worldly man, like Anthrax, this advice may be thrown away; but he should not forget that there are many cases furnished us in the Bible for warning as well as for example. We have given Anthrax the text and he can now make the commentary. If, however, Anthrax is determined to innominate himself and the unfortunate Schuylkill miners, as a sacrifice to wounded pride, why, we suppose, we must envelope ourselves in our Spanish Cloaks, and die with as much decency as we can summon to our aid.

The charge of extravagance in the mode of living of our miners is worthy a passing notice. Anthrax knew at the time he made the charge, from personal observation, that such was not the case; and he is fully aware that there is not a single miner in this region who lives in the same style of luxury and extravagance that Mr. Anthrax himself can boast of. To be sure, a parallel cannot be drawn. Our miners seek to obtain their livelihood by enterprise, perseverance, and honest industry. To us, a honest phrase, Anthrax's "fish are already dried." He luxuriates upon his rents of coal lands and the gains which he acquired in the—we quote his own words—"villainous business of a stock speculator. In conclusion we would advise Anthrax to go into a state of retirement, and devote the energies of his mind to the amelioration of the condition of the people of such sunny climes as are not likely to be subject to the extortions of the miners of Schuylkill coal.

THE COAL TRADE.—About fifteen hundred tons of coal have been shipped from this region since the opening of navigation. A breach occurred in the canal near Port Clinton on Monday last, which detained boats for about two days before the damage was repaired.

Col. J. M. Bickel, of Orwigsburg, Lt. Col. E. O. Perry, of Pottsville, and Major E. Hunzinger, of Schuylkill Haven, were on Monday, the 10th inst., elected to represent the 30th Regiment in a military Convention to be held at Harrisburg on the 7th of June next.

U. S. BANK.—The U. S. Bank have accepted the provisions of the "Relief Bill" so far only as relates to the 17th section of that bill, which places the institution on the same footing with the other banks of the State.

The Investigating Committee appointed by the stockholders of the U. S. Bank have made a full reply to Mr. Biddle's famous letters. We may attend to it next week.

OLD FELLOWS.—A grand procession and celebration, in honor of the dedication of the Odd Fellows' Hall, Philadelphia, took place in that city on Tuesday last.

DECEASED.—Mr. Barker, the Cashier of the Branch Bank of the State of Georgia, is reported to have decamped with \$73,000 of the bank's money.

EDITORS AND SO FORTH.—We believe that there are many in this bankrupt, bank-note world, who believe that editors, like corporations, have no souls—that they are impalpable and imperceptible. This is a sad mistake—a strange delusion. Editors have souls, and bodies, and sometimes breeches. They eat, drink, sleep, act and talk like most other ordinary mortals; and may be considered, on the whole, usually employ both legs and both feet—when they have them—in walking; and if their heads or their stumps, they sometimes use the right hand, and sometimes the left, to ally the irritating sensation. They are also alive to the beauties of nature, and can tell a swamp from a prairie—a clear from a foggy atmosphere. An example—or, rather, to the proof. Last Monday we thought, and now affirm, was a fine day. It was what is usually called a clear, bracing day. There was the "blue vault" above, with white clouds apparently skipping over its surface like soap bubbles. There also was the Sharp Mountain, decked out seemingly in a new suit of green, and looking as smiling, as satisfied, and as happy, as a young bride. And there we were taking a stroll up the Schuylkill Valley, as the children have it.

Following our nose, And our heels following our toes, in the direction of Port Carbon. A gentle ripple was just visible on the beautiful Schuylkill, and the wind pressed the cheeks of the leaves and flowers without a sigh or even a whisper. Four respectable looking cat birds kept hopping across our path, and endeavored to atone for their intrusion by favoring us with a pretty fair imitation of the notes of the thrush. But the most pleasing sight we encountered was a couple belonging to the human species: "Both were young, and one was beautiful."

The young man was only an average specimen of the "birds of the creation," but his fair companion was indeed a lovely creature. Their conversation must have been interesting, for he seemed earnest and intense, and she half encouraged and half repulsed his addresses. Oh dear! If you'll tell me the reason a maiden must sigh, When she looks at a star or a planet; If you'll tell me the reason she dreads her look by, When she knows she has scarcely begun it; If her cheek has grown pale, and if dim is her eye, And her breathing both fevered and faint is, Then I think it exceedingly likely that I Can tell what the maiden's complaint is!

CONTRADICTION.—A story was palmed off upon us a few weeks ago about a woman in New Hampshire giving birth to five little responsibilities. The day, the date, the name of the place, and the other particulars, were given with such commendable suavity, that after making a few very facile misstatements, we followed the whole story—babies and all—and administered the same dose to our readers. But now for the catastrophe. Four-fifths of this wondrous tale is downright, sheer fabrication! Listen to the editor of the Natchez Telegraph, the author of this story which has struck so much terror into the souls of so many of our husbands: "We made it [the story of the five babies] an authority which we deemed satisfactory, and upon which it has been for some weeks very generally believed here. We shall have to take off four of the little ones, but it is a good story at that. We don't intend to take off any more. The rest of the story is true."

"We don't intend to take off any more." You are right in this particular, Mr. Telegraph, for we think that you have already taken off a four-middle number.

MARY.—We love the name of Mary, said our author of Child Harold. We love the name of Mary, too. For it is a sweet, a gentle, a lovely, and a lovable name, and the associations connected with it are of the most pleasurable kind. A swain in Richmond, Va., not only loves the name of Mary, but has been smitten by the charms of one who answers to the tender name of Mary. Hear how he raves in Corporal Streeter's "Star": TO MARY, Like a fragrant Havanna Long kept from the light, Ere its loveliness fadeth In ashes and night; Like a saint in his cloister— A monk in his cell; Like a York River oyster Shut up in his shell; Like a toad in a grindstone— A calm in the sea— My heart is bound up, Dearest Mary, in thee.

STEALING.—The only honest editor that we know of is Corporal Streeter—he never steals, depending on his pen in the place of his scissiors. We are nearly on a par with the Corporal in point of editorial honesty; for if we do commit petty larceny occasionally, we do it on the Homopneumatic principle—very small doses at a time.—Miners' Journal. That now is truly refreshing, and we commend every word of this honest, candid, spirited, witty, and worthy editor, to the calm and unbiased attention of all professional thieves. He handles the soap bubble beautifully, and deserves the highest applause. He's a capital fellow.—Richmond Star.

There is more truth, Corporal, in the above six lines, than we ever saw concocted or concentrated in such a small space before—and you see we have given you credit for it. We are "a capital fellow," although a fellow without capital; but it is our honesty and good looks, Corporal, that we mostly depend upon—more especially our good looks, Corporal. You have seen the portrait of Prince Albert? There is a striking—hem!

AN ELOQUENCE.—The N. O. Picayune says:—"We heard it reported yesterday that one of the young ladies in the Convent of the Sacred Heart, fifty miles above this, eloped on Tuesday night, with a young man, a former lover, and ere this they probably are married. If they are not married 'ere this,' we think it is high time for them. We don't believe in the practice of young men galivanting about the country with young women."

EXPLORE EXPEDITION.—The Exploring Expedition have discovered several new islands in the South Seas—so it is said. Uncle Sam will soon discover that this Exploring Expedition has cost him about a million of dollars for nothing. In this calculation we don't include those "seven tons of curiosities," which Capt. Wilkes has forwarded to this country.

GREAT FIRE AT TORONTO.—The Rochester Advocate of Monday says:—"We learn from two gentlemen, passengers in the Transit from Toronto, U. C., that a most destructive fire had broken out in that city on Tonge street, extending to Newgate street, and from thence to the Methodist church.—Thirty buildings destroyed. Particulars not stated."

FAST DAY.—It afforded us great pleasure to notice the appropriate manner in which the National Fast Day was observed throughout our borough on Friday last. Religious services were held in all the churches.

NATIONAL BANK.—Resolutions in favor of a National Bank have been submitted to the Legislature of New York. The necessity of such an institution appears to be felt throughout the whole country.

Ons and Potatoes! what are we coming to, Two sharp frosts only last week. Murphys is rich! Only a dollar a bushel.

MITCHELL, THE FORGER.—This distinguished M. C. has at last safely arrived in the city of New York, in custody of Police officer Bowyer. The following particulars in relation to his flight and subsequent arrest, we find in the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer of Tuesday morning last:—

Officer Bowyer arrived last evening in the Albany boat, having this notorious person in his custody, who is now lodged in safe keeping. Mr. Bowyer received Governor Seward's requisition on Lord Sydenham on Thursday last at Montreal, and immediately presented it to Mr. Dominic Daly, the Governor's Secretary, who informed Mr. Bowyer that His Excellency was too ill to attend to business, but he entertained no doubt the request would be complied with. Accordingly on Friday evening Mr. Bowyer received the order for Mitchell's removal, and on Saturday at 9 A. M. left Montreal with Mitchell in irons. Capt. Comeau, of the Montreal Police, accompanied Mr. Bowyer to Burlington, and as soon as they reached American waters, formally surrendered the prisoner in the name of Her Britannic Majesty.

Mitchell is in good health, and appears reckless as to his fate: avowing his determination to plead guilty of the crimes with which he is charged. It appears that on his flight from this city he took the Pottsville Railroad Office, for the purpose of misleading any who might be in pursuit) he disguised himself in a suit of grey clothes, a broad brim hat with crape band, in which dress, and green spectacles, and with a carpenter's rule in his hand, for four days openly walked the streets of that city, frequently meeting persons with whom he was well acquainted. He left Philadelphia for New York in the case, and went up the river in the steamboat Utica; being all the while in company with persons whom he knew but none of whom detected him through his disguise.

An incident occurred at Troy, which shows the constant apprehension of discovery under which he must have been laboring. While purchasing a stage ticket at that place, a person standing behind him, read aloud from a newspaper a paragraph, headed, "Mitchell the Forger," upon which the guilty man turned suddenly around, under the conviction that he was discovered; but finding such was not the case, he merely said he knew him, and believed him to be a great rascal.

A WOMAN SENTENCED TO DEATH.—Sarah Ann Davis, convicted of the murder of Julia Ann Jordan in Philadelphia last summer, has been sentenced to death. The Philadelphia Inquirer, of Tuesday last, furnishes the following particulars:—

A very large crowd attended at the Court of Criminal Sessions yesterday, to hear the sentence of the Court in the case of Sarah Ann Davis, convicted of the murder of Julia Ann Jordan, in January last. From excitement or the terror of her situation, she pronounced in a solemn and impressive manner by Judge Barton, to the effect that the convicted should suffer the extreme penalty of the law. So great was the pressure of the crowd outside the Court, that it was found expedient to carry Mrs. Davis in to the Sheriff's office, where the unfortunate woman, from excitement or the terror of her situation, was seized with a fainting fit. Every attention was paid her by the humane officers, and she was ultimately restored, and conveyed to prison. Her alleged husband attended her throughout with the greatest assiduity. Indeed, the attentions of this man in her confinement, from the moment of her arrest until the present time, were remarkable not only for their unweariness constancy, but their apparent tenderness.

ANCIENT PALMISTRY.—Before the date of Isaac Watts, the standard of Sacred Songs was rather low. Instance: 'Tis like the precious ointment, Down Aaron's beard it downward went, His garment skirts unto.

Another instance, we give, perhaps a little more poetical, if not quite so exalted: 'Ye monsters of the bubbling deep, Your Maker's praises shout, Up from the sands, ye coddling peep, And wag your tails about.

The above from the New Hampshire Telegraph, are tolerable fair specimens, but we happen to recollect a better: The race is not forever gon, By him who fastest runs, Nur the battle with those people That shoot with the longest guns!

THE ADDRESS.—On the first page will be found the address of the democratic members of our Legislature to the people of Pennsylvania. We commend it to the attentive perusal of the unbiased of both parties. We question much if such an abuse of power on the part of the Executive of this State, as is exhibited in this address, was ever before witnessed or heard of in any country pretending to be free. We are not surprised at the corruption—there is no use in mincing words—displayed by the Canal Commissioners. It only verifies the old adage of "like master, like man."

REPECTORIES.—We have two most excellent repositories in this borough. For the benefit of strangers we may add, one is attached to the Exchange Hotel and the other to the Pennsylvania Hall. The eatables and drinkables are good, the attendance better, and what may be deemed best, the charges are extremely moderate. Can we say more?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The "Wife," by Flamininus" has been received. We shall attend to the dear woman next week. "Naked Truth" has also been received, and although there is a scarcity of the article, we shall dispose of it at the same time.

The St. James' Church, Schuylkill Haven, will be consecrated to the worship of Almighty God, by the Bishop of the Diocese, on Whitsunday, May 30th, at half past ten o'clock A. M. The Bishop will preach at Minersville on the same day, at five o'clock P. M.

INDIGNANT CONDUCT.—The gentleman who swindled the banks at Cincinnati and Louisville, has written a letter, complaining bitterly of the Cincinnati bankers having shaved him with their small notes, and subjected him to great loss in having them discounted.

A DUEL.—A St. Louis paper states on the authority of a friend, that a duel was recently fought in Stevenson (Ill.) between a gentleman lately of Philadelphia, and a resident of Stevenson. One of the parties was shot in the arm—cause, a lady!

AN UGLY CUSTOMER.—A large black wolf was recently trapped in the neighborhood of the borough of Lebanon in this State. He measured 6 feet. When first discovered, he looked very sheepish. Suppose it was owing to his not being up to trap.

TWO LIVES LOST.—A few days since, two young men, named Joshua Flickinger and David Newcomer, were upset and drowned, while fishing near the Susquehanna Dam.

NEW YORK.—The special election for a member of Congress in the place of the Hon. FRANCIS GRANGER, has resulted in the choice of JOHN GARRETT (democratic Whig) by about 500 majority.

THE STEAMSHIPS.—The Boston Steamship is now out sixteen days. The British Queen is expected to arrive at New York next week.

NEW BRETTCHES.—The "Baltimore Sun"—a younger brother of the Philadelphia Ledger—has been enlarged and otherwise improved.

The Canal Commissioners are now visiting and inspecting the various lines of public works.

The Hon. Daniel Webster has arrived at the seat of government.

THE ATLANTIC STEAMERS.—What must be considered the failure of the 2,000 tons steam vessels British Queen and President, from which so much was expected, has given rise to a good deal of controversy in naval circles as to the cause which has produced so unfortunate and unlooked for a circumstance.

As no matter can be more interesting to naval men than what relates to steam navigation, we have been at pains to collect such data as will enable them to form opinions and draw deductions with greater certainty than they can be wanting this necessary information.

Both the vessels in question were built at Limehouse, by Messrs. Curling and Young. Their dimensions and tonnage are somewhat alike, the British Queen being about ten feet longer, but having a deck less than the President; the power of the latter is represented as that of 600 horses, while the former has only a power of 600, or according to some accounts, 450 horses.

The engine of the President was made by Messrs. Fawcett & Preston, of Liverpool; those of the British Queen by Messrs. Robert Napier & Co. of Glasgow; and both are represented as beautiful pieces of machinery.

It is evident that in these two vessels there is a great disparity of power for tonnage; but it is remarkable that both have repeatedly made tedious passages, the President is the most unfortunate of the two, and when she left New York on the 11th ult. had only 27 passengers on board.

The vessels provided by Mr. Cunard for the Halifax line, which have made and continue to make the passage so regularly, were built in the Clyde, by Messrs. Duncan and Messrs. Steele, of Greenock, Messrs. J. Wood and C. Wood, of Port Glasgow and Dumbarton. They are all, we believe, of nearly the same dimensions, and about 1,100 tons, with engines of 420 horse power.

We state these particulars, in order that our naval friends may be the better able to draw their inferences, for in steam navigation, like every thing else, there must be some rule of horse power for tonnage (supposing all vessels to be constructed on the best mode) which will apply with the most profit, over or under which it would not be proper to go.

On comparing the British and American Company's vessels with Mr. Cunard's, there appears a very great disparity; for the vessels of the latter have, as relates to the President, one third more, and in the case of the British Queen nearly double the horse power to propel the same weight in tons; and this on the face of it is enough to account for their greater speed, and certainly of accomplishing the voyage in weather when the others would be obliged to abandon their course, or unable to make head against a gale. Cunard's vessels have also the advantage of being built of scantling sufficient to bear a heavy armament, and so, far from being detrimental to their speed or efficiency, turns out precisely the reverse, for while the British Queen was obliged to suspend work for some months, and undergo repairs which cost several thousand pounds, after running for one season only, the others have neither straggled nor started any thing, and will, like our vessels of war, constructed with stout scantling, on improved principles, probably continue to run for years before it will require repair.

Our readers will recollect, that when Mr. Young (of the firm of Curling and Young) sat in Parliament for Tynemouth, that gentleman never let slip an opportunity of denouncing Sir William Symonds' system of ship building. We believe this was done from conscientious views, and that he was imposed on by certain members of the civil school of naval architecture, who boasted that they crammed him for the nonce. Now we find how much easier it is to preach than practice; for although the draught of these vessels was, we believe, furnished from Somerset House at the request of the company, whether owing to the want of strength or size of scantling, or other fault in the construction, we find that repairs became necessary in a very short time after the vessel left the builder's yard.

It appears to us that the vessels about 200 feet long—and 1000 tons, with 400 horse power, are the best calculated for quick passages across the ocean, from point to point, and that when their dimensions extend beyond this an increased ratio of power must be appended, to attain which would be most expensive; besides that the machinery and fuel would occupy nearly all the space in the vessel. The construction of these large steamers was designed on the score of economy, on the assumption that the same establishments, with a small increase of seams and stokers, would suffice to work a vessel of double the size. But this may be an error. At all events, the experience to be derived from the voyages of the British Queen and President, do not warrant us altering the opinion we recorded in these pages when first these vessels were designed.—The Naval and Military Gazette.

INDIANA.—Thus discourses Prentice, of the Louisville Journal, upon the recent election in the "hoosier state": "The eloquent White is elected in the New Albany, Jeffersonville, and Madison district. The Rev. Profit is elected in the Evansville district, by a majority probably of 1,500. It appears certain that only one Locofoco is elected in Indiana, and he, thanks to the dissension of the Whigs, is elected in Harrison's district, the very strongest Whig district in the State. His election is a slight tarnish upon the bright name of Indiana; a blight upon her chaplet, a cloud upon her sky."

WESTWARD, HO!—Hogon, convicted at Little Rock, Ark. of murder, but recommended to the mercy of the President of the United States, recently made his escape from prison. Previous to going away, he left an address to the people of Little Rock, in which he stated that his crime was only an act of indiscretion, not one of malice, and declared his intention to go and live among the Western Indians.

RETURNED.—Our squadron in the Mediterranean has returned. Cause—the American Minister at the Court of St. James at one time thought that John Bull and Brother Jonathan must come to blows, and acting on that thought, he despatched a missive to Com. Hull, politely intimating to him that the best thing he could do would be to "cut dirt," or rather, to cut water. The gallant commodore took the hint.

MONK GLORY.—The Congressional election in Maryland has just terminated. The democrats have carried all before them. The delegation stands 6 democrats to 2 loco focos—this is a democratic gain of three. The delegation from Tennessee, as far as heard from, remains the same as last year.

The Times and Evening Star is one of the best papers published in New York. By the way, we saw an article on our foreign relations, in a late number of this paper, that is very creditable to its author. Its length alone prevented its insertion in the present number of the Miners' Journal.

The Hagerstown "Torchlight" of Friday last says:—"An active coal business is now being done on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Between twenty and thirty descending boats and gondolas passed the canal basin at Mrs. Bevan's on Tuesday forenoon. Several boats passed up during the same time."

The enterprising publisher of the Philadelphia Saturday Evening Courier, says that the "Milliner's Apprentice" is the crack tale of that paper.

THE PARDONING POWER. "His excellency the Governor had been assailed with a tremendous volley of abuse by some of the Federal papers, for extending a pardon to this young man who was convicted in this county, some two years since, for an outrage committed upon the person of a young woman, near Llewellyn. To satisfy every candid man, that those objectives are not for mere party purposes, it can only be necessary to say that the young woman herself, her father and her brother-in-law, together with a large number of the most respectable citizens of this county, all parties made a strong appeal to the Governor, in behalf of the convict, on the ground that he had already been sufficiently punished."

Unfortunately for the writer of the above, his explanations can be explained in such a way as to place him in no enviable predicament. No strong appeal was ever made to the Governor by the father or the young woman in behalf of the convict. It is true that an appeal was written and forwarded to the Governor to which the signature of the father was appended, and it is said of his daughter likewise. But how were those signatures obtained? When the father was first called upon for his signature he promptly rejected the proposal; and as for his daughter, she viewed the proposition as an insult. They were again and again importuned with the like request. Human nature, however, is frail—the father was in embarrassed circumstances, and he was eventually induced to sign the appeal. It is said that the daughter followed his example, but until I have ocular proof, I cannot believe it; and neither will I believe that a large number of the most respectable citizens of the county signed the appeal until I am similarly convinced. I in common with a majority of the citizens of this county demand to see those names, and until they are produced, cannot but view the above statement as little better than sheer fabrication.

The citizens of this county were and are justly incensed at the pardon of this man. His was no common case. The Judge before whom he was convicted and by whom he was sentenced, (Judge James M. Porter) pronounced it the most aggravated case that had ever fallen under his observation, and regretted that the law only permitted him to sentence the prisoner to ten years imprisonment in the place of twenty. I will not trouble you, sir, with the sickening and harrowing particulars; they must still be fresh in the remembrance of your readers. The course pursued towards this wretch is calculated to excite a just cause for alarm. Our wives, our sisters, and our daughters, are no longer safe on the highways from the lustful attacks of reckless scoundrels; for villains now go unwhipped of justice, and our laws have become but a mere mockery.

Your readers will be still more surprised when I tell them that I have every reason to believe that the Hon. Strange N. Palmer is the author of the above article. What a judge on the bench sanctions an act by which the Penitentiary is defrauded of its just due? Such is the case. Is it a matter of surprise then that public morality should be in its present sad condition when we see a judge, one who is bound by the most solemn obligations to expound the laws according to the best of his capacity and belief, and to see those laws faithfully enforced, set forward to step the due course of justice? What excuse can Judge Palmer offer in extenuation for having suffered the ermine in his person to be soiled? Are there any palliating circumstances in the case of this loathsome wretch calculated to awaken and enlist his sympathies or the sympathies of the virtuous? The judge who sent him saw none; and, therefore, let us in charity suppose that the reprehensible course which Judge Palmer has pursued in this transaction is to be ascribed to the malign influence of party feeling. In conclusion, let me put a case to Judge Palmer. He is a father, and if I am not mistaken, has several interesting daughters. Suppose that a beastly outrage had been attempted on the person of one of those daughters—that the ruffian had been arrested, tried, convicted, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for the term of 10 years—suppose after the convict had been imprisoned two years, an appeal was made to the Governor for a pardon, on the ground that the prisoner had been sufficiently punished—and, finally, let us suppose that the said appeal is brought to Judge Palmer and his daughter for their approval and signatures. The course they would pursue under such circumstances is easily foreseen. We put this case to Judge Palmer because it is the proper way to view the outrage in question. It should be brought home to all; for what was the case of that unfortunate family yesterday, may be ours to-day.

JUSTICE. IMPORTANT DECISION.—The Augusta Chronicle states that Judge Andrews, of the Northern Circuit (Georgia), held at the late term of the Superior Court, of Oglethorpe county—in a capital case—that a person could not be sworn as a witness in a Court of Justice, who did not believe in the existence of God, and obligations of an oath, and a future state of rewards and punishments. He maintained with the Supreme Court of New York, that "Religion is a subject in which every man has a right to think according to the dictates of his understanding. It is a solemn concern between his conscience and his God; with which no human tribunal has a right to meddle. But in the developments of facts, and the ascertainment of truth, human tribunals have a right to interfere. They are bound to see that no man's rights are impaired or taken away, but through the medium of testimony entitled to belief; and no testimony is entitled to credit, unless delivered under the solemnity of an oath, which comes home to the conscience of the witness, and will treat a lie arising from his belief, that false swearing would expose him to punishment in the life to come. On this great principle rest all our institutions, and especially the distribution of justice between men."

TEMPERANCE IN NEW YORK.—The annual report of the New York City Temperance Society states that the number of licenses to retail spirits during the past year was 250,257 less than the previous year, and less than the number in the year 1825, although the population of the city has very much increased. The number of names affixed to the abstinence pledge during the past year was over 16,000 and, if to this was added the 10,000 Irish who had adopted the pledge, the number would be over 26,000. The number of names obtained during the past three years were about 161,800.

IMMIGRANTS.—On Monday last, says the U. S. Gazette, the steamboat Sun, Captain Willidin, arrived from Wilmington, Del, with a deck load of passengers, who had just arrived in the Provincials, from Londonderry, Ireland. There was a goodly number, old and young, bringing with them their household goods, heir looms of lengthened descent. The wharves were crowded, and among the