

POTTSVILLE.

Saturday Morning, Feb. 12, 1886.

BENJAMIN HANNAN, Editor.

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Blessings of Free Trade.

Every day furnishes us with additional evidence of the practical benefits of the present tariff.

Until very recently, it had not sufficient force to unfold itself—but it is now stretching out its full length over the entire land, and its powerful breath is already lighting every description of business.

Agriculture, though not exactly progressive, will soon witness—during six months hence—its most fertile and profitable season.

Commerce is weak—freights are even now low enough, and decreasing—Manufactures are sufficiently crippled that nothing remains but a reduction of wages of twenty-five per cent, or immediate suspension of operations; and the same may be said of mining.

In the East, especially every kind of Manufacture is prostrate—factories are daily occurring and the factories being closed; and those that still continue are making arrangements to curtail their business and reduce the wages of the operatives to save themselves from ruin.

Some of the most powerful companies at Lowell have lost within the last six months, the entire profits of the previous year; and a general suspension of work is to be expected from the threatened wreck.

In iron manufactures there appears to be little encouragement. One of the most intelligent gentlemen in this State, of great practical experience in that business, casually observes in a recent letter to one of the editors: "We are already feeling the 'blessed effects' of the tariff. Railroads are being built, and the agents of the State's manufactures, deliverable at New York, at a price less than it costs to make it, at the present wages and costs of the raw material; and although a specific duty is laid on iron imported, high enough to protect us from the surplus product of the foreign manufacturers, our competitors are not making any headway, and a general suspension of work is to be expected from the threatened wreck."

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Atoms of Gossip.

Col. Fremont's Sentence.—The Washington Correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger states that Col. Fremont's sentence is a very light one, suspension for a short period, and probable remission of even this. This is the end of all the great labors of the Court-Martial that sum more than two months.

That's the Way to Talk.—A bill has been introduced in the Kentucky House of Representatives, laying a specific tax on old bedsteads over thirty years of age, in the support of indigent widows and orphans, and for other purposes.

A Gentleman Slipped, in a dense crowd, accidentally stepping on the toe of the one standing next to him. "Excuse me," said the offender, "it is only an error of the press."

Some of the Old Lads.—Lord Clonbury has commissioned the Irish High Sheriff, Hon. Wm. St. John, to execute a classic memorial to be placed over the grave of Mary Curran, daughter of the great orator, and the betrothal of Emmet.

Immense Beds of Coal are said to have been discovered in the vicinity of the State of Tennessee. In Feathers county, in the same State, inexhaustible beds of coal have been traced out.

The minds of scholars are laboring; those of antiquaries, of those of sportsmen, kennels; those of epicures, landers and others.

At the Pilgrim Dinner in New Orleans, the following was given: "We are already feeling the 'blessed effects' of the tariff. Railroads are being built, and the agents of the State's manufactures, deliverable at New York, at a price less than it costs to make it, at the present wages and costs of the raw material; and although a specific duty is laid on iron imported, high enough to protect us from the surplus product of the foreign manufacturers, our competitors are not making any headway, and a general suspension of work is to be expected from the threatened wreck."

On a visit.—Washington Irving—who is in the enjoyment of excellent health—has been spending the past fortnight very agreeably with his friends in New York city.

A prosperous artist.—Barvard is realizing a handsome fortune by the exhibition of his great picture of the Mississippi river. It deserves his success.

Major Noah has issued a prospectus for a new penny paper in New York, to be called the Morning Star.

A Lawyer, said Lord Brougham, is a lawyer who is to be trusted by your estate from your enemies, and keeps it himself!

Dr. Branch talks of starting a daily paper in New York. Literature and physical-therapeutics will be his specialties.

A Man of Family.—The late Bishop of Norwich, Dr. Daburist, was the youngest of thirty-six brothers and sisters!

Accuse your children from their earliest youth to be true, and to resist your enemies, and keep it himself!

By the late census, Texas contains 140,000 people, being one human being to each three square miles, or 2,000 acres.

Mr. Blair is now in Lebanon, N. H., at the residence of his mother. The Major is "home."

Selling rapidly.—Carey and Hart's illustrated editions of the American Poets.

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