TERMS OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.—SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION.—Two Dollars per annum, payable semi-annually in advance, to those who reside in the County—and annually in advance to those who reside out of the County. The publisher reserves to himself the right to charge $2 50 per annum, when payment is delayed longer than one year.

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Miners' Journal.

THE PROTECTIVE POLICY:
The People Demand its Restoration!

Saturday Morning, May 18.

MESSRS. JOHNSTON & CO., of Philadelphia, have taken the old and spacious stand formerly occupied by George W. Slater, in Centre street, where they have opened a large and choice assortment of Merchandize. Messrs. J. & Co., are not *afraid* to invite purchasers to their store through public advertisements; hence, the conviction is irresistible that they sell *cheap*, and, *ergo*, they are bound to succeed. It is in the power of mortals to command success—the plan is, to *deserve* it and advertise!

GRAHAM and GODEY, for June, are "about:" It is useless to multiply words in praise of either of these veteran caterers for the "literary-public"; each successive number is an improvement on the last, both in artistical and literary merit. The best argument for our friend Godey is, that he circulates nearly 60,000 copies of his work, and that, too, mostly among the fair sex. What an army of silks and satins, and what an admirable commander General Godey is, assisted by his numerous talented field-officers.

THANKS.—Hon. James Cooper, Chas. W. Pitman, Wm. H. Seward, his Excellency, Governor Johnston, Robert Morris, Esq., of the Post Office Department, and sundry other esteemed friends, will accept our thanks for documents and papers received.

IRON MANUFACTURES ABROAD.

Their Present Position in Regard to the American Market, and some Useful Data in the Improvement of Machinery, &c.

A communication appears in the last number of the Franklin Institute *Journal*, from Hugh L. Damsel, Esq., of South Wales, which affords an interesting and comprehensive view of the present state of Iron Manufactures in that region, and elsewhere.

Notwithstanding the low prices of pig iron in Scotland, a majority of the malleable iron works there have failed to prove remunerating to their proprietors;—hence Mr. D. states his conviction that the Welch manufacturer never had any cause for apprehending the destruction of his manufacture by the Scotch malleable iron manufacturer; nor does he believe that any one acquainted with the present condition of the Scotch works would entertain such an idea. The facility of manufacturing iron from black-band is so great, that, while it exists, the Scotch iron-master will keep possession of the American pig iron market, to the exclusion of all other foreigners; but in the article of bar iron, there is yet much to be done before he can successfully compete with the Welch manufacturer in any foreign market.

The exhaustion of the celebrated black band, (from which nearly all of the Scotch pig is made,) proceeds at a rapid rate, and in a few years will be complete, when the manufacturer will have to fall back on his clay band of a low produce, or on the richer but more expensive ores of Lancashire or Cumberland. Now the cost of manufacturing pig iron from either of these ores will exceed the cost of manufacturing it from black band by fifteen shillings per ton, therefore with the existing rates of labor and profit, the selling price would be sixty-five shillings per ton, which is quite as high as the present selling price of Welch pigs of mixed qualities. But in addition to this increase of cost consequent on the use of clay band, there will be an immense reduction in the make of the blast furnaces, for it is well known in Scotland that a furnace working on clay band cannot make above two-thirds the quantity which it could make if working on black band. Hence, with a diminished supply of band, either the make of pig iron will be reduced, or the existing number of furnaces and blowing engines must be largely increased to enable the Scotch manufacturers to produce a similar quantity of iron from the clay band iron stone.

The advantages which the Welch iron masters have over the Pennsylvania manufacturers, are unquestionably very great, and are every day becoming more striking; for independently of the cheaper rate at which they obtain their raw materials, (coal, iron stone, and limestone,) the large size of their establishments and the cheapness of labor, (together with the clock-like regularity with which they are conducted, evidently conduce to reduce the cost of manufacturing. It is principally, however, by means of the improvements which have been effected in the manufacture at the Welch works that their proprietors are now enabled to undersell the American manufacturer at his own market, and not, as many persons are apt to imagine, from the mere circumstance of their obtaining their fuel at a cheaper rate.

The blast furnaces now building, says Mr. D., are very different in their construction and working arrangements from those which formerly existed. By a more judicious application of the blast, the make of the furnace is largely increased with a diminished consumption of coal, and a greatly reduced expenditure for labor, repairs, &c. One furnace lately repaired and altered, now produces the very large quantity of from two hundred and twenty to two hundred and fifty tons of forge iron weekly, with a consumption of only twenty-four cwts. of bituminous coal to a ton of iron. And in consequence of the more general use of steam, in lieu of horses, the charge for removing the cinders, a serious charge at several large works, has been largely reduced.

With the improved refinery, now very extensively adopted, the quantity of coal necessary for refining a ton of iron has been reduced from fifteen to seven cwts., and the waste of iron during the process from eleven to two cwts.; while on the other hand the make has been increased from ninety to one hundred and fifty tons per week, thus accomplishing very important reductions on the former cost of refining the pig iron. The operation of converting the refined metal into *puddle bars*, is one that has undergone very great improvement, as far as regards the waste of metal and consumption of coal, but in other respects it remains much the same.

The improvements which have taken place in the rail department are remarkable for their boldness and ingenuity, one of the most striking is the large quantity of rails which a well arranged and well conducted rail mill can now make weekly. A few years since 200 tons a week was considered a great make—now it is 400 and 500 tons, and even 1000 tons have been made in a large and very powerful rolling mill recently erected near Merthyl Tydvil. The operations of piling, heating, and rolling the rail bars are now conducted on an improved system, by which the loss which formerly occurred from defective rails is reduced to a minimum, and by substituting steam for manual power in the finishing processes of sawing, filing, straightening, &c. the charge for these is reduced to one half, and in some instances to one third, of what was formerly paid. The merchant bar, slitting and guide mills, have also participated in the general advancement. Bars and rods are now rolled of lengths varying from forty to sixty feet, being afterwards cut to the required dimensions, by which means the quantity of crops produced, the amount of labor employed, the consumption of coal in the heating furnaces, and the time occupied in rolling a given quantity of bars, are all largely reduced. Whilst these reductions have been effected in the more important departments, the inferior ones have not been neglected. Fire bricks of a superior quality are now manufactured in immense quantities at a very trifling cost, and the foundries, smith's, machine and other shops, are generally adapted to making, repairing, or altering engines and machinery of the heaviest class in the shortest time and in the most economical manner.

By these and other improvements and reductions, the large Welch manufacturers are now enabled to manufacture a ton of rails or other bars from the ore with a consumption of only four tons of semi-bituminous coal, and with a diminution in the quantity of labor, charges for stores, expenses of repairs, &c. of from thirty to fifty per cent. on what was formerly required.

How far—says Mr. D.—these improvements and reductions are applicable to existing American works, I am not in a position to say, so large a proportion of them having been but recently erected; presuming, however, that they are generally so, it will not be difficult to ascertain the amount which the manufacturers can afford to give for the carriage of their iron to market, and the coal consumed in its manufacture. The present cost—he continues—of manufacturing railway bars in this district, (including transit to the nearest shipping port, twenty-three miles from the works,) is about eighty-five shillings per ton. The expense of coals to manufacture a ton of bars from the ore, (four tons at five shillings per ton) amounts to twenty shillings, which deducted from the above, leaves sixty-five shillings per ton for the cost of the ores, and all other expenses incurred in the different processes of the manufacture.

Estimating the present selling price of railway bars of average quality in New York and Philadelphia, at forty-five dollars per ton, and deducting seventy-eight shillings, or nineteen dollars and a half, for the cost of ore, labor, and all other expenses incurred by the American manufacturer, at rates twenty per cent. higher than those paid by his Welch competitor, there remains twenty-five dollars and a half to cover the cost of coal and any other extra expense of bringing the iron to market. If the four tons of coal required in the manufacture, and the additional carriage of the iron above the twenty-three miles, cost twenty-five dollars and a half per ton, there can be no profit, but if they cost less, then the difference will exhibit the profit per ton which would accrue to the proprietors. Mr. D. thinks that, if our works were conducted on the "Welch system," at a moderate calculation the works manufacturing bars through all the different stages from the raw ore, ought to make net returns of ten dollars per ton of rail, or other large bars, made when the selling price is forty-five dollars! But this "calculation" doubtless supposes all the raw materials close at hand, [illegible] the actual difference between the cost of labor by the Welch system and our own, and takes its value without regard to its position or facility of transit to market!

The iron companies whose operations are limited to the conversion of pig into bar iron, at works on the sea board, undoubtedly labor under a greater disadvantage in the higher price of their coal, and it is but too certain that with iron at present rates, a large proportion of them cannot pay.

In conclusion, (and it must be understood that the foregoing embraces but a brief outline of his letter) Mr. Damsel says, "that although the iron manufacture of the United States is now in a most depressed condition, by reason of the large importations of foreign iron, [under the peculiar operation of our revenue laws,] yet the time is not far distant when the mineral regions of Pennsylvania and the Western States will produce an abundance of iron, which, for quality or cheapness, will be far preferable to any imported, and when *Americans will be not only independent of foreigners for their supply of iron, but they will be exporting it in the raw and manufactured state to all parts of the globe!!*"

The unprecedented success of Oak Hall, Boston, in the clothing business is owing to the fact that Mr. Simmons sells cheap. His annual sales amount to half a million of dollars, which is a sufficient guarantee that his establishment is popular with the public.

☞ *Matrimonial Agency.*—A company has been formed in Boston, with a capital of $15,000, called "The N. E. Matrimonial Agency Co." Gentlemen in want of wives, and ladies in want of husbands pay $3, and have their names registered. This done, they are entitled for one year to receive introductions and other assistance from the company. Why couldn't a similar company succeed *here*, where wives are so deucedly hard to catch!

☞ *New Creed.*—Blessed are they that are blind; for they shall see no ghosts.—Blessed are they that are deaf; for they never need lend any money, nor listen to tedious stories. Blessed is she that would get married, but cannot; for the consolations of the gospel are hers. Blessed are they that expect nothing; for they shall not be disappointed. Blessed are they that do not advertise; for they shall rarely be troubled with customers.

☞ *A Yankee Soap Pedlar*, being prohibited from retailing his goods in the streets of Newark without a license, gave notice of a lecture to be delivered on *soap* at a public hall, charging for admission the price of the soap, and *giving* a cake to each one who came. The novelty of the thing drew such crowds, that Mr. Hewet, who had advertised to read Shakespeare that evening, postponed it for want of an audience.

☞ *Female Medical College.*—The Legislature of this State has chartered a College for the Medical Education of Females, to be located in Philadelphia, and it is believed it will be opened some time in October next. It is understood that Elizabeth Blackwell, M. D., who is now continuing her studies in Paris, is talked of for the Chair of Surgery.

☞ *Hon. Hermar Denny*, it is announced, will be a candidate for the Whig nomination for Congress, in the XXIst, or Allegheny district, in this State. His opponent is Mr. Howe, the present member from that District, and a Free Soiler, who refused to vote for Winthrop. Out with him!

☞ *Babe*, condemned for piracy, several years ago, in New York, is said to be in California, one of the most wealthy men in that region, and no doubt one of the greatest villains into the bargain.

☞ *A Lawyer* on his death bed, willed all his property to the Lunatic Asylum, saying as a reason for so doing that he wished his property to return to the liberal class of people who patronized him.

If there is any thing to be despised, it is a gabbling, noisy woman, wearing her husband's pants, and sitting in the political arena at a nation's capital, engaged in what does not interest her. She must be a regular *scrunger*! Is there a decent white man in Bucks county that would marry such a *son-of-a-gun*? —[*Bucks County Democrat.*

If there is any one to be despised, we think it is the *gentleman* who dares to apply such chaste language to a lady like Mrs. Swisshelm—who only spoke the truth when she called the member of Congress from the Bucks District, in his recent speech on the Slavery question, a *Northern Dough-face!*

☞ *Two Richmonds in the Field.*—General William F. Packer, of Lycoming, has been nominated by his Locofoco friends in various parts of the State, for Governor in 1851. The General's name has also been mentioned, we perceive, in connection with the vacancy to occur, on the 4th of March next, in the United States Senate.

Col. Reah Frazer, of Lancaster, the great War-horse of Democracy, and the man who expatriated Buchanan from the "North-west Ward," is also a candidate for Governor—and we are glad to think that he stands no chance of ever becoming more than a *candidate*.

☞ *Handsome Compliment.*—The Norristown *Register*, one of the ablest and most *dignified* papers in the country, says the following: "However much we may be opposed to the political heresies of Mr. COOPER, one of our Senators, we are free to concede to him the possession of talents of a high order, and if the interests of the State were represented in the U. S. Senate, by Judge BLACK and himself, the honor and integrity of the Keystone would be entrusted to safe and competent hands."

☞ *Election of Officers.*—A meeting of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Company was held on the 10th inst., at their office at Princeton Basin, when an election for officers was held, with the following result: President, *R. F. Stockton*; Treasurer, *James Neilson*; Secretary, *John R. Thompson*; Directors, Robert F. Stockton, Richard Stockton, Garrit D. Wall, James Parker, James Neilson, Jas. S. Green, James Potter, John R. Thompson, John C. Stevens.

SENATOR STURGEON.—One Democratic friend, the Senator from Pennsylvania in the United States Senate, is frequently made the jest of Washington letter writers, because he prefers thinking to talking.—[*Philadelphia Sun.*

You mean to say that he prefers "sleeping to talking"—don't you? If so, you are correct—for, as we heard a distinguished orator from Pennsylvania say, recently—"a more inoffensive and quiet gentleman than Dr. S. *snores not* in that Senate!"

☞ *W. W. Seaton*, Esq., of the National *Intelligencer*, the present excellent Mayor of Washington, has declined a re-election, although urgently solicited to be a candidate again by a large number of influential citizens. Walter Lennox, Esq., we are gratified to learn, will, in all probability, be the successor of Mr. Seaton, and there is no man in Washington who could bring a greater amount of accomplishments, learning, and liberality into the office, than he.

A public dinner is shortly to be given to Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson, of the U. S. Senate, by a large number of the citizens of New York. Republican Rome never erected a statue to a worthier or more deserving citizen.—[*Pennsylvanian.*

You are right, Forney. Dickinson was the *first* man who boldly launched upon the troubled waters, and, amidst all the fury and threats of dissolution, and *personal* wreck, he planted himself firmly on the side of *Union*.

We see it stated that a calf raised by J. Reber, of Berks county, was recently slaughtered at Pottsville, which, though but nine months old, weighed 413 lbs. [illegible] *Miners' Journal.*

They raise some great calves in Berks—in fact, their *calves* seem to be *indentical* with their great majorities!

☞ *The Danville Intelligencer* says that a man named Wood, who recently came to that place for work in the Rolling Mill, has lately disappeared and it is supposed that he has been murdered. He had money.

AGRICULTURAL BUREAU.

Dr. Sturgeon, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture in the United States Senate, has reported a bill to establish a Bureau of Agriculture, to be attached to the Patent Office, or some other branch of the Home Department. The Locofocos generally opposed this measure when they found that General Taylor, himself a practical Farmer, had recommended it in his annual message, and the Washington *Union* was, for some time, exceedingly fierce in its denunciation of the project. The *Union* has heretofore evinced much concern for the interests of the Farmer, and it was principally for his benefit that the present revenue laws were framed, so that he might secure a safe and substantial market for his products in Europe! He was to receive large prices for his varied products—flour was to be worth at least $7 per barrel, and other breadstuffs in proportion! *But is it so?* Is the market any better now—is it as good as it was before the present Tariff began to operate? No. All this pretended regard for the Farmer, when it comes to a practical test, amounts to just nothing at all—it is mere stuff. And when a measure of the nature of this Bureau is suggested, which is entirely and exclusively for the benefit of the Farmer; it is denounced without mercy or reason—the *secret* motive being that they are opposed to spreading intelligence among the people, and giving to the honest agriculturalist the statistics of his varied interests; the analysis of his soils; the peculiarities and variations of climates, temperatures and seasons; the principles of drainage, of manuring, and rotation of crops;—besides a thousand other items that can alone be collated and disseminated under the auspices of an official stamp.

The cost of maintaining an Agricultural Bureau, weighed in the scale of its unquestioned importance, would be perfectly insignificant. While millions upon millions are expended annually by the government to support the Army and Navy, not one cent has ever been appropriated to cultivate the arts of peace—"to improve the soil and the mind." To give greater efficiency to the proposed Bureau, and to enlarge its field for *practical utility*, a farm ought to be connected with it. The large amount of seeds, flowers, rare plants, and implements—characteristics of other countries and climates—that are sent home by our consuls, and other officers in foreign countries, should be provided for under direction of a competent person. And for this purpose no place more suitable practically,—nor more appropriate under all considerations of propriety and interest—could be selected than *Mount Vernon*. This precious and hallowed spot, situated about fourteen miles from Washington, is now literally falling into ruin. The gentleman who lives there, (the nearest of kin now living of Gen. Washington) is literally overrun with visiters, and he is desirous of selling what remains of it to the Government. Several very liberal offers have been made for the premises by enterprizing Yankee speculators—but they will be sold to no other party than the United States.

A Western Woman.—A correspondent of a Detroit paper describes a western woman, whose feats of industry will doubtless be regarded as fabulous by many of our delicate and do-nothing city ladies. It seems that during the past winter and spring, her husband having gone to California, besides taking care of five children, the eldest a girl twelve years of age, and her eldest boy only five years old, the youngest, an infant at the breast, she has woven seven hundred yards of satinet and shawls; made eight hundred pounds of maple sugar; cut and drawn from the forest, all the wood the family needed during the winter and chopped the same at the door; attended to the milling and trading fifteen miles from home, with an ox-team, driving it herself, and taking all the care of them and her six cows and eleven sheep, when at home. Above all, she is only about thirty-five years of age, very modest and unassuming, and has no idea that she has accomplished any thing more than any industrious woman may, with ordinary diligence and good health. How, in the world, can the husband of such a wife need to go to California in search of wealth?

Natural Effects.—A Bostonian, writing from Dresden, says, with reference to Meyerbeer's new opera:—"In the third act the sun rises with such dazzling brilliancy, it is impossible for one to behold it without experiencing the same effects as in looking at the great orb itself." We also see it stated that the theatrical machinists of Paris have invented a beautiful "snow" for stage effects. The "flakes are seen drifting and agitated by the wind, in a manner altogether magical." The appearance, as the snow covers the ground, perfectly resembles nature.

Large Feet.—Some folks think that large feet are ungenteel, but they are convenient. A person with large feet stands a better chance in a high wind than one of small feet, as he is not so liable to overset. Large feet are more convenient for kicking rascals. On the other hand, large feet are inconvenient on account of the expense of shoe leather and stocking yarn. It also takes longer to wash large feet than small. It is still another advantage of large feet, that it puts the owner on a "substantial footing in society!" Besides, there is safety in broad foundations everywhere.

Local Affairs.

☞ *We had Rain*, in copious showers, on Tuesday and Wednesday last, and the streets are just now in the interesting condition to which plasterers and brick-layers reduce their mortar. They are fine—that is, the *mud*. The torrent always roars, in passing our office, like old Tiber alluded to by Cais Cassius; and the idea has come into us that Centre street ought to be arched, at several places, and especially at the foot of Mohantongo street, so as to bear off the angry flood without creeping into the boots—aye, the very souls—of pedestrians. It is difficult to cross at the point last mentioned during a shower of rain. A line of small steamboats, to ply every few minutes between the Pottsville House and the White Horse, would doubtless have a run, and we think the enterprize is worthy, at least, the consideration of our friend, Major Burtle. Or, perhaps, it would be best for the Town Council to take the matter in hand—if so, let the street be arched, and show the Major a chance for the contract.

Speaking of floods—yes, we *were* speaking of floods!—is'nt it astonishing what an amount of debris is borne off in every rain? Stand by the side of Sharp Mountain, during a summer shower, and you will see stones as large as your head rolling down, and borne along by the busy current. The water is full of mud and gravel—and whence go they? They are caught up by the little streams, transferred to larger ones, thence into broad rivers, and finally take up a resting place in the deep bosom of the ocean. By continual accumulation, islands arise, and again entire continents. The substance of mountains, borne off thus silently, after vast centuries of time, again rises in various shapes, stratums, and qualities, from the bottom of the sea.

Prof. Rodgers, who has recently delivered a course of lectures before the Smithsonian Institute, at Washington, stated that the Mississippi drains an area of 300,000 square miles; and the total amount of water discharged per annum, in cubic feet, is 8,092,118,940,000. The amount of sedimentary matter in the Mississippi water is estimated at about one twelve hundredth part, by measure, of the whole volume discharged per annum; and since the alluvial deposits in the delta are estimated to have a mean depth of 50 feet, and to have been wholly deposited by the Mississippi and its tributaries, the least possible time upon these hypothesis, required for the deposition of the delta, would be 13,648 years! The water discharged, in the same time, would fill a sea 850 miles square, and one mile deep!

☞ *The Danville Intelligencer* says that petitions are in circulation in that place, asking the Postmaster General to change the hours of the arrival and departure of the mail between there and Williamsport. By this change, the people of Danville may take the stage for Pottsville at 8 or 9 o'clock, P. M., and arrive here at 6 o'clock, A. M., in time for the morning train of cars for Philadelphia—avoiding the necessity of laying over here, all night;—returning, leave Pottsville at 1 o'clock, P. M., and arriving in Danville at 8 o'clock P. M., in time for the delivery of letters and papers the same evening. This is all very well, provided that *local mails*, and others depending on existing arrangements, will not be interfered with.

Speaking of mail arrangements—let us say a word to Major Hobbie in behalf of the pleasant, thriving, and important Borough of Phœnixville. A letter from Pottsville for that place goes *via* Philadelphia, although it is twenty-eight miles this side of it, and directly on the route,—and *vice versa*, a letter for Pottsville goes the same route,—laying over, in both cases, twenty-four hours. Now, the business of this region with Phœnixville is of sufficient importance to sustain a direct mail, and the Post-office not being over 80 rods from the depot, the contractors are bound to supply it free of additional cost, provided the Department so orders.

☞ *Colonel Samuel D. Patterson*, the veteran Publisher, Politician, and Poet, we are glad to learn, contemplates spending the principal part of his time in our midst. He was lately publisher of Graham's *Magazine*, and for a long time the Saturday Evening *Post*, and numerous other journals in town and country. After having borne the multifarious cares of the publisher, mingled, too, with the no less arduous ones of U. S. Marshall, Naval Agent, &c., he cannot but receive "new inspiration" here; and perhaps give our readers the benefit of some of his leisurable moments, by an occasional contribution.

☞ *Surgical Operation.*—Mr. D. Connor, Mahantongo street, had a bony tumor cut out of the knee-joint last week, by Dr. J. T. Nicholas, which had been growing for upwards of ten years. The operation is considered, by the Medical profession, extremely hazardous, and it is said will be entirely successful in this case.

☞ *Trevorton Railroad.*—We learn from the Sunbury *American* of Monday last, that the Trevorton and Susquehanna Railroad, which has been located during the past winter, will be put under contract on the 28th inst. It commences at the town of Trevorton, and following the course of the Mahonoy creek, ends at the Susquehanna, near the mouth of this creek, from whence it will be extended to the Wisconisco canal, a distance of thirteen miles, which connects with the Pennsylvania canal at Clark's Ferry.—This Railroad will at once open a connection with the great public works and afford a route to the southern, eastern, and northern markets for the inexhaustible coal fields of Mahonoy, and in fact for the whole Middle Coal Field. Trevorton is about five miles distant from the town of Shamokin, and lies in the centre of the coal basin of Mahonoy. The coal of that vicinity is of the semi-bituminous or transition species, between the very hard anthracite and the fat bituminous, combining the firmness and compactness of the anthracite with the inflammability of the bituminous. This gives it peculiar fitness for domestic use as well as for manufacturing purposes. It occurs in large veins, free from faults and very easy of access.—The road will be speedily urged on to completion: and, when this coal is introduced into market, will probably be one of the most productive in the State. Town lots in Trevorton are sought for with eagerness, and it bids fair to increase with the rapidity of Minersville and the various other towns in the Schuylkill basin.

☞ *The Editorial Excursion.*—The editor of the Norristown *Register* talks eloquently on this subject. Hear him:

"For one, we go for Pottsville—We want none of your antiquated Germantowns—flat Frankfords—dry Bristols, and sand-enveloped, mosquito bitten Beverlys. Our voice is—not for war—but for the glorious mountain heights of Schuylkill county, where the soul imbibes the glory of nature, and the spirits rise and swell under the influence of majestic scenery and lofty inspirations. The heart must be dead indeed, which does not quicken under influences like these—which does not inhale new vigor with the mountain breezes—and taste new joys in the grandeur and beauty which Providence has scattered every where around.

The editor of the Reading *Gazette* is desirous that Reading should come in for a share of the honors of this visit, and points with satisfaction to the Mansion House. Well, the Mansion *is*—we *know* it to be—one of the most admirable Hotels in the interior of the State, or elsewhere. But what are our friends going to *do there*, to kill time—that's the question? Can you get up a "hop," or waltz, upon the spur of the moment? If so, *that* is just the thing—for after the "boys" leave the mountains here, they will be in such high glee, that a waltz with the spirited Dutch girls of Reading would be the *ne plus ultra* of pleasure.

☞ *Hawkers and Pedlars.*—By a recent act of the Legislature, Hawkers and Pedlars of any article of merchandise, are prohibited from making sales in the county of Schuylkill, whether they *have a licence or not*, under severe penalties. Persons offending against this act, can be arrested at the instance of any citizen, and must be committed, in default of bail, to undergo a trial before Court, where, if found guilty, the penalty cannot be less than fifty dollars for each offence. We call the attention of the public to this act, that its features may be understood, and carried out.

☞ *Explosion and Loss of Life.*—The boiler attached to the Breaker Engine at the Colliery establishment of John Tucker, Esq., Silver Creek, exploded on Thursday morning last, killing two persons instantly, one of whom was the Engineer, Mr. Michael Shartle, and wounding several others. The other person killed, had only commenced work at the Colliery that morning, and we have been unable to learn his name, or the names of those wounded—which appears, however, to be slight. This is the first explosion of the kind that has ever occurred in this Region, and may be accounted for from the fact that the boiler was old and leaky, and, at the time of the accident, had nearly exhausted the necessary supply of water.

☞ *The Union Canal.*—It is stated that the enlargement of this work, long contemplated, will be proceeded with at once, between Pinegrove and the Pennsylvania Canal at Middletown,—the necessary funds having been provided. The work will be enlarged in time for the next year's business. It will accommodate a large increase of the shipments of coal from Pinegrove, now restricted within the present capacities of the Canal. The Coal Trade of the Susquehanna is annually receiving large augmentations, and is destined still to receive them, as well from the natural fertility of the valley, as the large amount of iron-stone deposited on the banks of the river, affording singularly splendid facilities for all sorts of manufactures on a large scale.

☞ *Orwigsburg.*—We learn from the Stimme des *Volks*, that the following persons were elected officers of that quiet and peaceable Borough, at the recent charter election, viz:—*Burgess*, William Frailey; *Assistant Burgess*, James H. Graeff; *Council*, Daniel Boas, Michael Linder, William Graeff, James P. Palun, Christian Berger; *Clerk*, B. F. Tyson; *High Constable*, Peter Yeager; *School Directors*, F. B. Hubley, George D. Boyer. There—we translated that out of the "original" *German*.

☞ *John W. Bear.*—We learn that the suits commenced against John W. Bear, the Buckeye Blacksmith, have been withdrawn at the instance of the prosecutor, who admits that he acted under improper advice. Mr. Bear is busily engaged in taking Daguerreotypes at Orwigsburg.

☞ *Tamaqua.*—The Borough Council of Tamaqua have ordered a tax of fifty cents, on each dog, to be assessed at once. Mr. X. Miller has been appointed Supervisor for the ensuing year. Measures have been adopted for grading and paving the streets, &c.

☞ *Berks County Gold.*—The Hamburg *Schnellpost* brings us the rather incredible news that a *gold mine* has been discovered upon the mineral lands of Mr. George Focht, in Windsor township. It states that Mr. E. D. Stiles, an industrious citizen of Hamburg, has been for some time engaged in the search for metals, upon Mr. Focht's lands, and, at last came across a rich vein, yielding fifty per cent. of pure metal, which, upon analysis, has proved to be part gold and part silver. Wouldn't it be a wonder, now, if the fertile Democratic soil of "Old Berks" should prove to be a second California?

☞ *Borough of Port Clinton.*—The first election under the charter took place on the 11th inst., and resulted as follows: *Chief Burgess*, Richard Perry; *Council*, Samuel Boyer, Daniel Eveland, John Bond, William Provins, and Joseph R. Perry; *High Constable*, Emanuel DeLong.

☞ *The German Lutheran Synod* for this District, will meet in this Borough on Saturday next.

[Communicated.]

MR. EDITOR:—I was induced a few days ago to visit the Store of our townsman, Mr. John Oster, of Market street, Pottsville, owing to his goods being well spoken of. I was shown a large quantity of Hams which were of his own curing—the appearance of which induced me to purchase one, and the sweetness of the same has constrained me to make known to the readers of your paper, (who are yet ignorant of the fact) where an article of exquisite richness may be purchased, and at the same time advice them to give Mr. Oster a call and do as the writer has done, viz—buy a Ham. If any should purchase on account of reading this article, your correspondent will often, no doubt, be thought of by those with pleasing sensations. Mr. Oster's Provisions, generally, together with his assortment of Groceries, are really prepossessing, and are offered at prices that must insure speedy sales.

Z.

☞ *Leggett's Gap Railroad.*—The Honesdale *Democrat* announces that this work has been commenced, by breaking ground in Abington township, Wyoming county, Pa., at the summit between the Luckawana and Tunkhannock Creeks. The prospects of its speedy completion are not, at present, very promising. The Ithaca and Owego railroad, which belongs to the Leggett's Gap Company, has been placed in complete repair, and when the new improvement is made, there will be a direct line of travel between the Luckawana coal fields and the New York and Erie Railroad.

☞ *Battalion at St. Clair.*—The Volunteer corps of Schuylkill county will meet in Battallion, for Review and Parade, on Monday next, at St. Clair. The Battalion will consist of six companies, as follows: German Yeagers, Captain Woll; Washington Artillery, Captain Nagle—Lieut. Womelsdorf, acting; Cavalry, Captain Wynkoop; Light Infantry, Captain Pott—all of Pottsville;—St. Clair Infantry, Captain Metz, of St. Clair; and the Artillerists, Captain Klement, of Minersville—the whole under command of Colonel James Nagle. The Battalion will be reviewed by Gen. F. M. Wynkoop, and will leave Pottsville for that purpose, about 9 o'clock, A. M.

☞ *Improvement in Blasting.*—A new and valuable invention, designed to accelerate the operations of blasting rock or coal, is described by the editor of the Daily *News*. It is called the patent conical or wedge tube, and is composed of strong brown paper, and can be made of any length desired.—This wedge-form tube is filled with powder, and sunk to the bottom of the hole or bore in the rock, and surrounded and covered with dirt. The fire is communicated in the ordinary way. The powder being preserved in a wedge-like form, the pressure against the tamping above is relieved, and nearly the whole force takes a lateral direction, performing double execution over the common mode of operating. The name of the inventor is Thomas L. Speakman. He belongs to our city, and has already distinguished himself in making several important improvements in agricultural implements." These tubes are for sale at this office, where they may be examined. See advertisement on third page.

POTTSVILLE MARKETS.

CORRECTED WEEKLY FOR THE JOURNAL.

Wheat Flour, bbl.	$5 25	Dr'd Peaches par'd.	3 00
Rye do	3 50	do do do'd.	1 75
Wheat, bush.	1 10	Dr'd Apples, par'd.	1 50
Rye, do	60	Eggs, doz.	9
Corn, do	60	Butter, lb.	15
Oats, do	38	Bacon, do	8
Potatoes, do	60	Hams, do	9
Timothy Seed, do	3 50	Hay, ton,	15 00
Clover do	3 50	Plaster,	5 00

MERCHANT'S GARGLING OIL OR HORSE LINIMENT.—It is only necessary to become acquainted with this valuable Horse Remedy, to be convinced that it is not only the best, but the cheapest medicine that farmers or any other owner of Horses and cattle can make use of.

We could fill a volume with certificates, but will a this time only insert the following short one from Lott Cooper, Esq.

I hereby certify that I have used the Gargling Oil, prepared by Mr. Merchant, and found it to be the best medicine for Horses, cattle and other animals, that I ever made use of, and I stand ready to recommend it to any one who keeps horses, and to farmers in particular, who should keep it constantly on hand.

J. B. LOTTRIDGE.

See advertisement in this paper. A pamphlet of description may be had gratis of the agent.

☞ WHIG STATE COMMITTEE.—At a meeting of the Central Committee, held pursuant to public notice, at Congreshall, in the city of Philadelphia, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, By an act of Assembly passed since the last meeting of this Committee, the Auditor General and Surveyor General of the State are directed to be chosen by the popular vote at the annual election in October:

Therefore, Resolved, That the Convention of Whig Delegates called for the purpose of nominating a Canal Commissioner, on the 10th day of June next, at Philadelphia, are hereby authorized to place in nomination at the same time and place, candidates for the offices respectively, of Auditor General and Surveyor General.

Resolved, That the editors of Whig newspapers throughout the State, be respectfully requested to insert the foregoing Resolutions in their columns, or to make such notice of the fact as they may deem proper.

Resolved, That the Whig Committee of Superintendance of Philadelphia be solicited to make the necessary preparations for the suitable accommodation of the State Convention, on motion adjourned.

MORTON McMICHAEL, Chairman.
JAMES TRAQUAIR, Secretary pro tem.

☞ DEMOCRATIC WHIG COUNTY MEETING.—The Democratic Whigs of Schuylkill county, and all those favorable to the Protection of American Industry from the low labor of Europe, are invited to attend a meeting at the Court House, in the Borough of Orwigsburg, on *Tuesday the 11th day of June next*, at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of electing delegates to the State Convention, for nominating a Canal Commissioner, Auditor General and Surveyor General, and making such arrangements as may be deemed necessary for the ensuing election in Schuylkill County.

DANIEL HILL, ROWLAND JONES,
BANIEL SHEIGER, SAMUEL KISTLER,
PHILLIP KOONS, JACOB KRAM,
JAMES H. GRAEFF,
County Standing Committee.

☞ PULASKI LODGE, No. 216.—A stated meeting of Pulaski Lodge, No. 216, will be held on Monday evening, May 20, 1850, at 7½ o'clock. Punctual attendance is solicited.

By order of the Lodge,
JOHN S. C. MARTIN, Sec'y.

☞ THE ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN Congregation, worshipping in Thompson's new building corner of Market and Second sts., have moved into the large upper Hall of said building, where religious worship will be conducted every Sabbath, by Rev. D. T. Carnahan. Services to commence at 10½ o'clock, A. M., and 3½ o'clock, P. M. Seats free. The public are respectfully invited to attend.

☞ THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—The following Resolution has been passed by the Vestry of Trinity Church, Pottsville.

Resolved, That in consideration of the sums contributed and to be contributed as donations to the erection and furnishing of the church edifice; the vestry do hereby set apart, and appropriate FIFTY EIGHT PEWS, which shall be, and remain *free* for all persons who may desire to worship in the Church. These pews are located as follows:

IN THE CENTRE AISLE.

North side, No. 111, 119, 127, 135, 143, 151, 159.
South side, No. 115, 123, 125, 131, 141, 153, 160.

IN THE NORTH AISLE.

North side, No. 1, 7, 13, 19, 25, 31, 37, 43, 51, 53 54, 55.
South side, No. 2, 8, 14, 20, 26, 32, 38, 44, 50, 52.

IN THE SOUTH AISLE.

South side, No. 56, 57, 58, 60, 71, 80, 86, 92, 98, 104, 110.
North side, No. 59, 67, 73, 79, 85, 91, 97, 105, 109.

DIVINE SERVICE is held in the Church every Sunday. *Morning Service* commences at 10½ o'clock. *Afternoon Service* commences at 4 o'clock. And evening service, on the first Sunday of every month.

MARRIED.

On the 16th inst., by the Rev. Joseph McCool, Mr. LEWIS DEVIN to Miss SUSAN B. SILVEN, all of Pottsville.

☞ The happy parties will accept our kindest wishes for their happiness, and our thanks for their polite remembrance of us.—[*Ed.*

In this Borough, on the 13th inst., by Jacob Kline, Esq., Mr. THOS. CADMAN to Miss CATHERINE SMITH, both of Norwegian township.

In Lancaster, J. BOWMAN BELL, Esq., of Reading, to MARY E., daughter of the Hon. A. L. Hayes.

IRON, &c.

CHAINS.—For Sale, 120 feet ¼ in. chain. Also furnished at the shortest notice, 5-8, 3-4, 12-16, 7-8, 15-16 and 1 in. best proof cable chain, at N. York prices—*freight added*. E. YARDLEY & SON.
April 20 1850 16-

RAIL ROAD IRON.—80 TONS 2½ x ½ Flat Bar Rail Road Iron,
50 do 1¼ x ½ do do do
8 do 2½ x ½ do do do with spikes.
15 do 1 x ½