Miners' Journal.

Saturday Morning, April 19.

TO THE WHIGS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

☞ A STATE CONVENTION will be held in the City of Lancaster, on TUESDAY, June 24th, 1851, for the purpose of selecting Candidates for the offices of Governor and Canal Commissioner, and also for Judges of the Supreme Court.

HENRY M. FULLER, Chairman.

JOSEPH R. FLANIGEN,	SAMUEL M'SWEANY,
P. ENOS MORTON,	C. THOMSON JONES,
WM. H. SLINGLUFF,	SAMUEL B. THOMAS,
SAMUEL BELL,	JOHN S. BROWN,
NATHANIEL ELLMAKER,	T. TAYLOR NORTH,
WM. J. ROBINSON,	ALEXANDER E. BROWN,
WORDEN E. PRESTON,	WILLIAM BAKER,
THOMAS E. COCHRAN,	JOS. M. WATTS,
HENRY JOHNSON,	JAMES CLARK,
CHAS. B. SODEMAN,	SHERMAN D. PHELPS,
GEORGE CRESS,	EDWIN C. WILSON,
D. A. FINNEY,	JOHN ALLISON,
C. O. LOOMIS,	DANIEL M'CURDY,
JOHN BACHMAN,	GEORGE MEASOM,
WILLIAM EVANS,	ALEX. M. M'CLURE,
JOHN C. REVILLE,	FRANCIS JORDAN.

R. RUNDLE SMITH, Secretary.

THE PAST AND THE PRESENT.

Living as we do, in an age, pre-eminent for its advances in the arts and sciences, and blessed alike with superior civil and religious institutions, it is natural we should contrast our position with the past, and ask the reason of the difference.

It is perhaps a fault of the present age, that it is too much occupied with itself.—Rarely, in the velocity of its utilitarian and practical progress, does it pause to look over the map of departed ages. In complimenting the spirit of our own age, we must not ungenerously forget the foundation, upon which many modern improvements are based. Some one has wisely remarked, that "there are certain divine principles on the earth, which never slumber nor sleep, but silently operate on the great moving and living mass of men." One age grows rich by the knowledge and experience bequeathed by its predecessors, and year after year a gradual improvement is perfecting the wisdom and happiness of the nations of the earth.

The ancients made no inconsiderable advance in the arts and sciences, but that progress benefitted the few at the expense, nay, even the sacrifice of the many. Literature and a knowledge of whatever was good and great, were confined to the higher classes—the nobles and kings and priests; while the great mass of the people were left to herd together in the more than Egyptian darkness of primitive ignorance. No genial sun disclosed to their benighted vision the beauties of creation, or raised their thoughts from nature to nature's God, and lighted up the way to Heaven. To them the past was no more, and the future was dark—inscrutable, unmarked by a solitary gleam of Hope.—They knew nought else but to-day. When the Sun rose in the morning, they fell down and worshipped him, and said, let us work. That day was their life-time—beyond it they knew nothing—they inquired nothing. The present was their eternity.

Let us go back, if you please, 2000 years. Let us draw aside the dark drapery that enshrouds the mystic monuments of the old world. Let us learn the language of temples, of obelisks, of pyramids, whose colossal proportions impress the beholder with his own insignificance, and seem to possess all of power and greatness that human skill could embody. Their speech is mysterious. But we discover among the ruins of their treasured *arcana*, distinct traces of a priesthood—of a kingly supremacy—of their people, their slaves. We inquire still further, but alas! for human grandeur, the seers and wise men, who alone could decipher these hyeroglyphics, have passed away with the powers they vainly labored to commemorate. We, however, know enough to figure the outline of a dark picture. We know that the age was one of mere physical power. The ignorance and superstitious fear of the degraded multitude were fit instruments in the hands of a cunning and more enlightened priesthood, where the bigoted despot crushed the poor abject slave at his feet, for mere wantonness, or sacrificed him no less inhumanly to glut an insatiate ambition. These are the monuments of former ages.

Turn we for a moment to the contrast of our own happy time. The mind is now the great mainspring of action. "Knowledge is power." We build no monuments of stone or marble to perpetuate our memory, but we erect places of worship, and school-houses, where the youth of our country are trained to become energetic, useful men. These, like the jewels of the Roman matron, we point to, as the living monuments of our age. The arts and sciences are daily receiving new impulses from the concentrated energy of great minds. Theory is become practical in the general diffusion of knowledge. Civilization and Refinement are fast redeeming the nations from gross and sensual enjoyments, and substituting the resultant happiness of morality and virtue in their stead.—Superstition and the popular delusions of ages, but a little gone by, are thrown aside as the *fantasma* of weak or fanatic minds, and above all, we boast of religious toleration and liberal institutions, as the prominent characteristics of our day.

BOSTON SLAVE CASE.

This case was finally disposed of last week, according to the due course of law, without any interference on the part of the people.—On Friday the Commissioner rendered his decision, that Sims was the slave of Mr. Potter, and according to the law under which he had been arrested and tried, he must now be returned to his owner. Marshal Tukey, with a body of armed police, escorted him to the boat, and accompanied him some distance from the city, to prevent any attempt at recapture. Sims seemed perfectly willing to return, and expressed no fears of punishment from his deserted master. A large body of citizens followed him to the wharf, but no insurrectionary conduct was manifested.—Several hymns were sung on the wharf, and a prayer offered by a minister in the crowd as the boat pushed off.

Thus ended this affair, which at one time threatened a different termination in the open and forcible violation of all legal authority. We are glad the laws were respected, and hope the lessons of obedience that poured into Boston from all parts of the country, may not be without a salutary effect for the general good. They evince the decided sentiments of a law-loving and law-abiding people.—The event, moreover, shows what a great noise and how much positive evil a few disaffected citizens may do, and on the other hand what a determined and upright course in the administration of law and justice can effect.

☞ *Gen. Hugh Brady.*—A report has been going the rounds of the papers, that General Brady, of the U. S. Army, was recently thrown from his carriage, in Detroit, Michigan, and killed. We are happy to see the report contradicted. He was much injured by the fall, and his life at first despaired of, but he has since somewhat recovered, and it is probable he may yet live to read his own epitaph. The papers have been profuse with eulogies upon his life and character. He is a native of Northumberland in this State.

☞ *Orchards and Locusts.*—The West Chester *Record* cautions farmers against pruning their orchards too closely, on account of the anticipated depredations of the locusts.

A SMART WOMAN.

A singular case of suicide recently occurred in New Orleans. A husband and wife, not the most happy in their connubial relations, thinking it better to "shuffle off this mortal coil" than suffer the "stings and arrows" of an unquiet homestead, resolved to end their days together, and enter hand in hand upon the untried fortunes of the next world. Accordingly two cups of arsenic were mixed, and seated side by side, they prepared to take the fatal draught. The husband somewhat hesitated, when, on being upbraided with cowardice, by his heroine companion, he instantly drained the cup to the dregs. His worthy spouse, however, thinking it best to "look before she leaped," changed her mind, as women are apt to do, upon sober second thought, and very coolly took a glass of brandy and water in preference to the decoction of arsenic. The husband soon bade an unwilling adieu to his prudent better half, and departed this life, as might be imagined, in no very contented mood. The widow, however, was not suffered to pine in disconsolate neglect.—A government officer soon paid his *devoirs*, and officially requested her attendance at—not the altar, but the bar.—A trial was instituted against her for being accessary to her husband's death, but no precedent for the case appearing in all the statutes of Christendom, the charming widow was released, and we presume, still lives to enjoy her rescued liberties.

THE LAW OF NEWSPAPERS.

A case was tried last week in the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia,—an action to recover the subscription price of the Germantown *Telegraph* for twelve years. The paper was left at a public house in the vicinity of the defendant's stall, in Callowhill street (the defendant being a butcher at the time,) by his express direction, where it continued to be left for the space of time stated. The defence was two-fold—1st, the statute of limitations; 2d, that the paper should have been left at the residence of the defendant, as it was known to the plaintiff.

Judge Kelly charged the jury, that where a person subscribes for a paper, and gives directions where it shall be left, he is bound to pay for it, unless he prescribes the time for which it shall be left. If a subscriber wishes to discontinue his paper, it is his duty to square his accounts, and then give notice for a discontinuance. If a paper is sent to a person through the Post Office, and he takes it out, he is bound to pay for it. If a subscriber changes his residence, it does not follow that the carrier must take notice of it, and a delivery of the paper, at the place where he was first directed to leave it, is a delivery to the subscriber, unless the publisher receives notice to discontinue or send it to another place. The statute of limitations did not affect the case, as the defendant had paid something on account in June, 1844. Verdict for plaintiff, $22,50.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

The House concurred in the amendment of the Senate, providing for the publication of the Geological survey of the State.

After the defeat of the original Re-annexation Bill, in the Senate some days ago, a substitute was proposed, to annex a few districts of Montour county to Columbia, but it was defeated—giving the matter its final quietus, for this session at least.

The Legislature adjourned *sine die*, on Tuesday last. The General Appropriation Bill passed both Houses in the last hours.

The Judicial District bill also passed, but was returned without the signature of the Governor—it bearing unequivocal marks of hasty legislation.

The veto of the Governor was returned to the Senate with a message explaining his reasons. It was sustained without a dissenting vote, and the Bill was afterwards passed with certain modifications recommended.—It relates to the Judicial districts in the Northern part of the State only.

The People's Railroad Bill failed, notwithstanding there was a clear majority of two-thirds of the members in the two Houses in its favor. Some explanations will necessarily be required, and as soon as they appear, and we get possession of the facts, we shall lay them before the people.

The application of the several Improvement Companies for Charters also failed. There are some strange rumors afloat in regard to the matter. We shall endeavor to clear up the mystery before long.

GEOMETRICAL PROBLEM.

In reply to EUCLID of last week: Your problem is more readily solved theoretically than practically. The figure described is the frustum of an incomplete pyramid 100 feet high. Its cubic contents may be easily ascertained by plain geometrical rules, and the corresponding contents, board measure, found by a similar process. But in actual practice there would be a considerable difference, as the stick of timber of the dimensions given, would necessarily cut to great disadvantage—there being only 6 inches breadth, of 50 feet long left after the side slabs are taken off. The result, therefore, depends altogether on the custom of sawyers, as to the manner in which they calculate such slabs.

We confess our Geometry is somewhat rusty, and we have no time to brighten it in the multiplicity of other duties. But we have said our say—we shall now be glad to receive Euclid's own solution. It is sometimes much easier to ask than answer such questions.

FIRE AT PHŒNIXVILLE.

The barn of Messrs. Reeves, Buck, & Co., of Phœnixville, was burned on Sunday afternoon, 6th instant. It contained 500 or 600 bushels of grain, and a quantity of hay, &c. Four horses and five mules were burnt in the barn, which was a large building, 60 or 70 feet long. The barn, carriage-house and stables adjoining, belonging to the Hotel, were also destroyed. The horses and mules had been turned loose into the yard, but on seeing the fire, ran back into the stable, and could not be got out again. It is said that by putting a collar or any part of the harness on horses that cannot be got out of the stable during the excitement of a fire, they can be led or driven out without any further difficulty.

☞ *The Bible in China.*—Much discussion has lately been excited in China, respecting the corresponding word for "God" in the translation of the Bible into that language. Upon the authority of several of the most learned commentators, the word "Shin" is likely to be adopted.

☞ *Abby Folsom*, of Abolition and Woman's Rights' notoriety, was arrested in Boston, some days ago, as a vagrant. She was found lying in the streets, and on refusing to retire, was taken in charge by the police, and provided with quarters at the city's expense.

☞ *The Register* did the amiable last week—flattered us with the titles of "Philosopher" "Poet" and "one of the Literati." Sorry we can't reciprocate the compliment, gentlemen—wouldn't for the life of us accuse you of being in the remotest degree akin to such qualifications.

[Correspondence of the Miners' Journal.]

HARRISBURG, April 14, 1851.

Trip over the Blue Mountain to Harrisburg—"The Elephant"—House and Senate, &c. &c.—Matters and things in general.

There is not scenery more diversified in Pennsylvania, than that through which you pass from Pottsville to Harrisburg. The lover of Nature must be hard to please, if some portion of the journey fails to call up pleasurable emotions. The Sun was bidding this portion of the earth farewell, when we arrived upon the summit of the Blue Ridge. In gazing back we could see the town of Pinegrove, with its white cottages gleaming in the yet lingering sun-beams, while the little stream, as it wandered away in the distant wood, looked like a silver belt, spanning the mountain's base. Upon the eastern side, the fair valley of Lebanon was spread out before us, in all its beauty. Farms and farm-houses, the village church and village school house, lay apparently, at our feet, or in such close proximity, that the cast of a stone would reach either. I have crossed this mountain at seventeen different points, but I fancy there is not more real beauty at any crossing, from North Carolina to the Green in Franklin county, than can be found at this point. Here we have the bold and picturesque, the cultivated and barren, the sterile waste and rocky cleft—all within the narrow space of one short mile. And it is here, in fact, that we bid home farewell, for, *ten minutes after* we stood gazing at the blue hills of Schuylkill, we were in "Old Berks," and in twenty more, were in Lebanon county. There is evenness in the balance of the journey, that is fatiguing to the eye. The same eternal, red-painted house and wicker-work fence before it, meets your gaze, until you become disgusted with that flaming color, and gaze with delight at the yellow and brown with which some of the farmers bedaub their dwellings. There is however an evidence of wealth in this region of country, combined with neatness, which you do not often see in any other portion of our State, and but few miles intervene between the school houses, which is perhaps the only true sign of the prosperity of a neighborhood.

We arrived at Harrisburg at about six o'clock, and after tea, joined a crowd and listened to a "charity sermon," delivered by the Rev. Mr. Conrad, a Schuylkill county boy, who is now located out West, and is Professor of an Institution for which he is collecting funds. He is a pleasant speaker, and a splendid beggar. Ye powers, how he urged his cause! It would astonish some of our Pottsville preachers, if they could have listened to him that evening. I am aware that the Reverends of Pottsville are "some," but the Rev. Mr. Conrad is "*sommer*."

The next morning we visited the "Capitol on the Hill." It presents a beautiful appearance as you approach it, but when viewed closely, the beauty vanishes, and its defects appear. The Hall of the Representatives appears as if it had not been cleansed since its erection; the carpets are dirty, worn out and ragged; the desks and manner of furnishing, plain. The fire-places are constantly filled with cigar stumps, ashes, and half burnt cordwood, which when cast upon the fire green or wet, sends forth a cloud of smoke, and a perfume impure enough to make a dog ask leave to pair off, or absence for a day or two to recover. The reformation of the Government in Pennsylvania, I fancy there never were as many young men in the House at the same session as this. Many of them, after their election, fancied that they were some considerable fraction of this government—but I am satisfied that if they were *any fraction whatever*, it was a decimal *vulgar fraction*; and that portion nothing but conceit and wind. There are honorable exceptions however; *some* of the young members displayed, during the week, considerable tact, and more legislative capacity than their seniors. Our members from Schuylkill are gentlemanly and obliging, and disposed to devote as much time to our interest as could be expected.

Had we gone for pleasure, we should have waited until the close, but going on business, we came one week too late. The reason is easily explained—every member has some little pet measure up on which he intends to expend a little *wind*. This *little* speech of 40 or 50 pages, is perhaps neatly laid on his desk, or has been conned over time and again, until he is filled with it, and nothing else.* He is constantly on the look-out for an opportunity to "*let off steam*," so when he is *ready corked and primed*, you come upon him with something new, something that is no cock-sparrow work, you disarrange the gentleman's ideas, and his lips smile but he curses you in his heart. While pondering on this new measure, some member rises and cries, "Mr. Speaker, I hold in my hand an amendment to the Cork-screw Corporation of Fried Mush, located at Guzzleton Run.

This Cork-screw Corporation perhaps, was the pet child of the gentleman to whom you gave your bill—he is looking over its many sections, and is at last awoke by hearing the Speaker announce the fact that the amendment of the gentleman is agreed to, and he knows his little speech, and his Cork-screw Corporation is alike used up. I noticed several corporations just as valuable as that of Guzzleton just spoken of, knocked into a cocked hat, just in the same manner. It is useless to try to force a bill of importance through either house during the last two weeks.

The Senate Chamber presents a different appearance; in it you see *some* faces from which sparkle intellect and thought, and the floor, carpets, &c., look as if some dusting brush or broom had passed over them within the last month. A stranger is forcibly struck upon entering the door of the Senate, with the difference between the two Speakers—Cessna of the House, and Matthias of the Senate. The first is quick, with a shrill, feminine voice, and the gestures of an auctioneer; the latter mild, calm and dignified, while his voice sounds like a fine "Old English Gentleman," "one of the olden time." The Senator from Schuylkill had also the interests of Montour county in his keeping during the winter, and although he was attacked by Buckalew and others, he succeeded after a long fight, in gaining the victory. *This was his forte, the measure*—all others in his care had to take a back seat during the season. In fact, several died from the want of nourishment; others were forced to place before their time, and *murdered outright*.

The Norristown and Peoples' Railroad were two of the last mentioned species. It was in the Senator's keeping six or eight weeks, but never saw the light of day under his direction, although to hear him talk, you would really believe him in earnest; *I did, in fact*, and if he forgives me for thus believing him, I shall never sin in like manner again, although I must say that there is not a Senator in Harrisburg, whose general social qualities I admire more than Charles Frailey's.

The Hon. David Wilmot was in town for a few days. I admire the man—there is no deception in that clear, blue eye, rubicund face and stalwart form. I feel satisfied he is, and was honest in his determined hostility to Slavery—he looks as if he hated a dough face and dough cake. The first he hates because it is constitutional for him to love freedom, and the latter he hates because it is also constitutional for him to love good eating. Good eating produces healthy blood; and good blood produces all those pure feelings and noble designs "that constitute the man." All of which Wilmot possesses to a great degree. He never aspired to become learned, eloquent or great; he is a nature formed him, uncontaminated with foolish whims of party or party leaders

Yours, FRANK.

☞ *Qualities of Smell.*—It is remarkable that our vocabulary is so scant in expressing the qualities of smell, while those of the other senses have terms corresponding to most of their shades of meaning. For instance, the degrees of hearing, touching, tasting, and seeing, are classed and appropriately named—while we are limited to the simple qualifications of "pleasant" or "unpleasant" in smelling, though its qualities are more diversified than some of the others.

☞ *Talleyrand an American?*—A late writer in the New York *Courier and Inquirer*, tries to prove that Talleyrand, the noted French Statesman was a native of America, and not of Paris, according to the generally received opinion. He says that he was born at Mount Desert, on the coast of Maine—his father being Captain Baillie Talleyrand, and not Count De Talleyrand, Perigord, the elder brother. His mother was a fisherman's daughter, to whom the gallant Captain made love, when the ship which he commanded, had put into that place to undergo repairs, some time previous to the French war. His lameness was occasioned by his mother upsetting a kettle of hot water on his feet. At the close of the war, he was taken to France and adopted by his uncle, the Count.

HOLD HIM IN.

An Editor out West acknowledges the receipt of an heir—a fourteen pounder, and a boy at that. Somebody hold him—the editor, not the baby—hear how he splurges:

"I am this day multiplied by two—I am a duplicate—I am number one of an indefinite series, and there is my continuation!—And, you observe, it is not a block, nor a block-head, nor a painting, nor a bust, nor a fragment of anything, however beautiful; but a combination of all the arts and sciences in one—painting, sculpture, music—hear, hear him cry!—mineralogy, mechanics—see him kick!—geography and the use of the globes; see him nurse!—and withal, he is a perpetual motion—a time piece that will never run down!' And who wound him up?"

☞ *Our mind exactly.*—All notices of marriages, says an Eastern paper, where no cake is sent, will be set up in small type and placed in some outlandish corner of the page. When a handsome piece of cake is sent, it will be placed conspicuously in large letters; but when gloves and other favors are added, a piece of illustrative poetry will be given in addition. When, however, the editor attends the ceremony in *propria persona* and kisses the bride, it will have a special notice—very large type, and the most appropriate poetry that can be conned from the brain editorial.

☞ *A Princely Heritage.*—The aggregate cash value of all the farms in Lancaster, Montgomery, Bucks, Chester and Berks, is $121,379,814.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

WE HAVE received the International Monthly, for April. It contains three times the reading matter that monthlies generally do, and is certainly one of the best Periodicals now published. The articles are selected from the best authors, and its object seems to be to instruct as well as amuse the reader. Such books are especially valuable now-a-days in counteracting the effect of the cheap literature with which the country is everywhere flooded. Published by Stringer and Townsend, New York—$3 a year. Subscriptions received, and single copies for sale at B. BANNAN'S.

ZACHRIS' Poetry has some merit, but we must decline giving it a place in the *Journal*. It contains personalities, he will readily admit, it were inappropriate to make public. We thank him for his compliment to ourselves, and shall be glad to hear from him again.

OUR CHARMING lady correspondent will please acknowledge our very best bow editorial. Her favor shall receive an early notice.

TO CORRESPONDENTS GENERALLY. All communications must be accompanied with the real name of the author, to ensure their appearance in our columns.

ALPHA's communication too late for publication this week. We will hold it under consideration.

Local Affairs.

☞ *Commonwealth vs. Peifer.*—This case, tried at the last session of our County Court, resulted, it will be remembered, in the conviction of Martin Peifer, for the murder of his wife, at Schuylkill Haven. It was subsequently referred to the Supreme Court for a decision as to whether a jury empanelled to try an indictment for murder, can separate after being sworn. The jury had been empanelled and sworn upon a Friday, and by consent of both the prosecutor and the accused, separated until the next Tuesday, when the trial was resumed, and the accused, Martin Peifer, was convicted. This separation of the jury was alleged to be error.

We take the following decision of Chief Justice Gibson, from the report of the *Ledger*. Its correctness and justice are evident, as the opinion subjoined will convince every candid mind:

"Even the forms and the usages of the law conduce to justice; but the common law, which forbids the separation of a jury, in a capital case, before they have been discharged of the prisoner, touches not matter of form, but matter of substance. It is not too much to say, that if it were abolished few influential culprits would be convicted, and that few friendless ones, pursued by powerful prosecutors, would escape conviction. Hearts are as open to prejudice from persuasion, as other men; and neither convenience nor economy ought to be consulted in order to guard them against it. Let them have every comfort compatible with their duties; but let them not be exposed to the concurse of those who might pervert their judgment. Before the trials of Tooke, Hardy and Stone, no English Court had adjourned on the trial of a capital case; and when an adjournment became necessary, the jurors were kept together and closely secluded. We had preceded them. The slowness of proceeding of the challenging counsel in minutely taking down the words of witnesses, their protracted cross-examinations, and their endless speeches, had made it impossible to finish a trial at a sitting; and the jurors were disposed of, during the recess, as the English Courts afterwards disposed of theirs. Such was the practice in Pennsylvania; but in some of the other States it may have been as it is at this day, still more relaxed."

An experience of half a century, recalls to me no instance of a departure from it, before the present. The Attorney General has argued that there was, in fact, no departure, because the jury were not allowed to separate after the clerk had gone through the formality of stating to them the substance of the indictment, the plea, the issue, the submission of the prisoner to them for trial, and the nature of their functions. But his statement is only an announcement of what has been done. A juror is charged with a prisoner as soon as he has looked upon him and taken the oath—for he cannot be withdrawn. The trial has commenced, and the prisoner stands before him as one of his judges. In this case the jury were allowed to separate after they were empanelled and sworn. True, that took place with the prisoner's consent, but there is right reason and sound sense in Chief Justice Abbott's remark, in Rex vs. Wolfe, that he ought not to be asked to consent. Who dare refuse to consent when the accommodation of those in whose hands for the success of his life or death is involved in the question? He would have to calculate the chances of irritation being annoyed on the one hand, or of tampering on the other. The law is undoubtedly settled by precedent, that a prisoner's consent to the discharge of a previous jury is an answer to a plea of former acquittal; but, the instant a jury is discharged, the prisoner's life is no longer in their power; or if he should be the cause of their being sent back to protracted confinement, the value of a single chance in his wretched condition would disarm their resentment. Still, I think, no consent of a prisoner in the extremity of his need ought to bind him.

It is ordered that the judgment be reversed, and that the prisoner remain committed to answer an other indictment.

☞ *Lecture about Ghosts.*—On Monday evening the Rev. Septimus Tustin, formerly chaplain of the U. S. Senate, delivered a lecture in this place, on the subject of apparitions or ghosts. The generally received opinion that the Bible furnishes proof of the existence of ghosts was ably and, we think satisfactorily rebutted. In the case of the "Witch of Endor," so often alluded to by ghost-believers, the Rev. lecturer assured us that no such spirit as that of Samuel's appeared. The Septuagint translation of the Bible renders the Hebrew word for "familiar spirit" into another in Greek which corresponds with our "Ventriloquist." Other portions of the sacred scriptures were quoted in proof of this position, as also the authority of Horace and other ancient writers, totally disproving this great strong-hold of the spiritual believers.—The audience were further entertained with a number of "ghost stories," but unfortunately the lecturer would not let them remain ghost stories, he always insisted on adding some explanation, that invariably broke the spell, thus showing the many plausible delusions, to which we are more or less liable, especially when prompted by fear or superstitious belief. Many portions of the address were highly eloquent. The learned lecturer seemed to have a thorough comprehension of the subject, and we are sure that the most superstitious present, or those who entertained any lingering suspicions respecting the occasional visits of the spirits of the other world, went away perfectly at ease from their previous fears, and we hope enjoyed a night's repose undisturbed by bad dreams or unwelcome visitors.

☞ *Laying a Corner-Stone.*—The Congregation of the English Lutheran Church, Rev. D. Steck, Pastor, will lay the Corner-stone of their new edifice, about to be erected in Market street of this borough, on Sunday, the 27th inst., with the usual ceremonies. Several eminent Divines will be present, among whom we notice the names of Rev. Prof. F. W. Conrad, of Wittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio, and Rev. J. A. Brown, of Reading, Pa. The services will take place upon the ground, should the weather be favorable, otherwise in the Second Methodist Church, near the site of the new building. Our citizens should bear the appointment in mind, as the occasion will no doubt be highly interesting. The building will be 65 feet deep, by 37 feet front. Material, brick, with basement of stone. A vestibule 10 feet deep. The spire will measure 30 feet from the roof.

☞ *New Bank Notes.*—The Miners' Bank of this place, on account of the recent counterfeits of its notes, has issued new bills of the denomination of Five and Ten dollars. The Tens have figures of Hancock and Webster on the left, and Fillmore on the right. Vignette, an eagle spreading his wings and grasping a bough in his talons. In the back ground, rail-cars, canal, boats, &c. The value, $10, is placed at each end, both in figures and letters.

On the Fives, a figure of Washington appears on the left, that of a female on the right. Vignette, a locomotive and train of cars. A town in the back ground, with a steamboat and vessel under sail in the water. The figure "5" is placed twice at each end. The engraving is well executed, and the notes present a handsome appearance. They are dated April 4, 1851.

☞ *Military.*—On Monday evening, Company B, of the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Mexican War, met to consult upon the proper means to be adopted in securing their share of the thirty thousand dollars lately appropriated by the Legislature to defray their expenses. Gen F. M. Nynkoop, formerly Colonel of the Regiment, being accidentally in town, was sent for to address the members, and upon their being shown how small a portion each man would receive, we understand a considerable sensation was produced among the members, amounting almost to a determination to refuse their share of the appropriation altogether.

☞ *Blown in.*—The Pioneer Anthracite Furnace, on the "Island" in this borough, has lately been put in operation, for the fifth time since its first establishment. It is now under the management of the Messrs. Wharton, Bros., said to be experienced Iron masters. It has previously failed for the want of capital, and on account of the depression of this sort of business. This was the first Furnace in this country, at which Iron was made, in any considerable quantity, by the use of Anthracite Coal—hence its name. It was blown in first in 1840, when it took the premium then offered for the successful adaptation of Anthracite to the manufacture of Iron.

☞ *We are requested* to give notice that the Philharmonic Society will hold a meeting at Foster's Hall, next Tuesday evening, at 7½ o'clock. A full attendance of the members is particularly requested, as business of special importance will be presented for consideration.

☞ *Narrow Escape.*—Mr. Edward Hanna, formerly Bar-keeper at the Pennsylvania Hall, now connected with the Express line on the Reading Railroad, narrowly escaped a serious accident on Tuesday last. In attaching the Express Car, on leaving Philadelphia, his right arm was caught between the "bumpers" and received a severe contusion. He suffered much pain for some time after. Fortunately no bones were broken, though it is said as much time will be required to heal the bruise as it would have taken to knit a fractured bone.

☞ *Church Dedication.*—The new Church of the Associate Reformed Presbyterians, just finished, in Market street, will be dedicated to-morrow with appropriate ceremonies. Services will be held in the morning, afternoon and evening. Rev. Dr. McCartee will officiate in the morning. See notice.

☞ *Borough Statement.*—A citizen asks why the Borough Account for the last year has not been published yet. We cannot answer this question. The Treasurer's Account has been ready for a long time. It ought to have been published nine months ago.

☞ *The Apprentices' Association* is now regularly organized. They are about forming a Library. Persons having books to dispose of, would confer a favor by contributing them to the Association.

MINERSVILLE AFFAIRS.

☞ *I. O. O. F.*—The *Bulletin* says that Mr. C. W. Taylor, of Minersville, has been appointed, by the Grand Encampment of Pennsylvania, Deputy District Grand Patriarch, for the District composed of the Encampments meeting in Schuylkill county, to be entitled "Worthy District Deputy Grand Patriarch of I. O. of O. F. the State of Pennsylvania."

☞ *A Letter as is a Letter.*—The *Bulletin* publishers a letter, a rich specimen of English literature, found in Sunbury street of that place, a few days ago. We copy the last two lines as a sample:

"eckskews this righten as I hav got A bad pen no more at this time From ure frend mary."

Letter-writing is said to be peculiarly the fort of a lady, but Miss Mary, it strikes us, is somewhat out of her element.

TAMAQUA AFFAIRS.

☞ *Temperance.*—The efforts of the friends of Temperance, in their line of operations, and the recent order of the Court to suppress the sale of liquor on the Sabbath, has been the topic of much remark, and the cause of some little excitement in this borough during the few past weeks. Our Hotel keepers profess to carry out the order of the Court, but complain most bitterly of the new order of things, and declare that drunkenness is more prevalent now than before the order was issued.—They say that the only effect of this order is to take the trade from them and give it to the beer cellars, many of whom sell ardent spirits as well as ale and beer. And without doubt there is much truth in their statements, for it was remarked that there was as much drunkenness in this borough on last Sunday as on any Sunday of late. But then the query arises that if these Hotel proprietors are desirous that *law* and *order* shall prevail, why do they not take the matter in hand, and suppress the sale of beer on the Sabbath? It is idle talk to say that this cannot be done—for every soul of them who opens his drunkard-making establishment for business on the Sabbath, may be prosecuted and fined $4, before breakfast on Monday morning, for every glass of beer or ale that it can be proved he had sold on the Sabbath, and tavern keepers as much as other men are bound to see the laws obeyed.

☞ *The Coal Trade* appears to be opening with a brisk demand for the article, and our enterprising operators are as busy as you can imagine; but prices are ranging almost ruinously low—the more to be regretted, as, of course, the price of labor must correspond to some extent, at least, with the prices of Coal.

☞ *New Church.*—Our Episcopal friends are about to commence the erection of a neat and commodious Church, which will be an ornament to our borough, and a great accommodation to that denomination of Christians, as they have at present a very inconvenient place in which to worship.

NARRATOR

☞ *Newkirk Library.*—This institution is said to be in excellent condition. It contains a large number of books, magazines, pamphlets, &c. The Librarian attends twice during the week, for the delivery of books to the citizens. The terms of membership are $1 a year or 25 cents per quarter.

☞ *At a Council Meeting*, held in Tamaqua on Monday evening, 7th instant, a special police was elected to serve for the ensuing year.

☞ *The Tamaqua Lyceum* still continues its regular meetings. The audience seem to have lost none of their interest in its proceedings.

PAPAL AGGRESSION.

The Bill recently carried by such an overwhelming majority, in the British House of Commons, renders penal the assumption of territorial titles by Romanist Priests.—The following were the principal causes of excitement and opposition toward the Roman Catholic side of the question. A letter writer, from London, alluding to the Romish members, remarks:

They had, however, considerably damaged their cause by their open avowal that the doctrine of the end justifying the means would be the rule of their conduct, and that if the minister dared to press this measure, they would vote against him in a body upon all other questions, whatever might be their opinion of the abstract right or wrong of what he might propose. Since this notification the party have been styled "the honorable members for Rome."

Another cause of weakened resistance was found in some remarkable revelations of the peculiar energy with which the Roman Catholic priesthood are pursuing their designs in private homes. A few weeks since an action was commenced in one of the law courts by the relatives of a Frenchman who died in London, bequeathing the savings of his life—about £700—to the advancement of Popery, and who, it was alleged, had made his will in his last moments under the threats and misrepresentations of two priests.—While the scandal consequent upon the evidence in this case was yet fresh, another and far less doubtful affair was glaringly exposed, to which we have already referred. Miss Talbot, an orphan and a ward in Chancery, with a fortune of £80,000, was found to have been placed in a nunnery by Roman Catholic relatives, (the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury,) under circumstances which bear all the appearances of a long and deliberate plot to induce her upon coming of age to take the veil, and transfer her property to the purposes of the church. An inquiry instituted before the Lord Chancellor not only interrupted the scheme, but led to an exposure of deliberate falsehood on the part of one of the new Catholic prelates, (Dr. Henden, "Bishop" of Clinton,) which had an extraordinary effect in strengthening the hands of Lord John Russell. This Dr. Henden had incautiously rushed into print, to defend all the proceedings in Miss Talbot's case, and among other things had said that she had entered the nunnery as a Protestant, after due explanations, and that the Lord Chancellor had authorized her being placed there. Subsequent evidence from Miss Talbot and the Lord Chancellor, respectively, have stamped both these assertions as utterly untrue, and Bishop Hendren, who had previously figured for some days as an indignant writer in the newspapers, has since been publicly denounced in the most simple terms applicable to his case, and has not ventured to utter another word. Apart from their direct untruths also, the whole of his attempted representations had shown the affair to be a very bad one. Miss Talbot is nineteen years of age, and is forthwith to be removed from her present guardians.

WEST PITTSTON.

The new town, says the *Gazette*, of which we have before spoken, is daily attracting more attention. The purchase is now handsomely laid out into lots, and a beautiful and correct map, showing the precise plan of the town, has been completed, and can be seen at the office of the Agent, C. F. Bowan, Esq. On Tuesday last, the books were opened, when $3000 worth of lots were sold at private sale. Judging from this circumstance, and taking into consideration the many attractions and advantages, which the location possesses, there is every reason to believe that but a few years will elapse before the opposite shore of the Susquehanna will be decorated with a beautiful and populous town, equal in business and enterprise to Pittston proper.

☞ *Syracuse* and Rochester papers notice a large increase of travel on the railroads passing through those cities, consequent upon the recent reduction of fares.

☞ *The President*, on the 14th inst., at 9½ o'clock, sent a telegraphic dispatch to Jefferson City, Missouri, to postpone the execution of an Indian for murder, which was to take place at 12 o'clock *same day*. The execution was accordingly postponed. Several thousand people, who had greedily crowded round the gallows, were greatly disappointed!—Circumstances turned up, which may prove the innocence of the Indian.

☞ *Birth day of Henry Clay.*—Sunday being the anniversary of the birth day of Mr. Clay, was celebrated by his friends in New York at the Apollo Rooms, with becoming honors. Mr. Clay is now in his 75th year, having been born on the 12th of April 1777.

☞ *The Grand Jury* have found a true bill against *Roback*, the astrologer, for obtaining money under false pretences.

THE CHOCOLATE COCOA, &c., prepared by W. Baker, of Dorchester, Mass., have a high reputation, and are said to be the best articles of the kind now manufactured. See his advertisement in this paper.

PERSONS AFFLICTED WITH COUGHS, Colds Whooping Cough or any Pulmonary Affections, would do well to procure some of Hughes' Expectorant, it is a palatable, speedy and certain remedy. See Advertisement in another column.

ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC WONDER!—PEPSIN, *the True Digestive Fluid or Gastric Juice!* A great Dyspepsia Cuter, prepared from Renet, or the fourth stomach of the Ox, after directions of Baron Liebig, the great Physiological Chemist, by J. P. Houghton, M. D., No. 11 North Eighth Street, Philadelphia, Pa. This is a truly wonderful remedy for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Jaundice, Liver Complaint, Constipation and Debility, curing after Nature's own method, by Nature's own agent, the Gastric Juice. See Advertisement in another column.

TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FOR A Homestead, at Hermanville, Long Island.—By reference to our advertising columns it will be seen that there is now a chance offered by which any person, although of very limited means, can secure a home for himself and family at a mere nominal price, and within a very short distance of New York City. By the laws of the State of New York, such a home is forever exempt from the rapacity of ruthless creditors, and the poor man can find there an asylum from which nothing but the hand of death can dispossess him. As the division of the lots soon takes place, we would advise our readers to make early application, at the office, 117 John street, New York.

VALUABLE MEDICINES PREPARED BY DR. J. S. ROSE, of Philadelphia:
Dr. ROSE'S Alternative Syrup;
Dr. ROSE'S Expectorant or Cough Syrup;
Dr. ROSE'S Dyspeptic Compound;
Dr. ROSE'S Vegetable Vermifuge;
Dr. ROSE'S Croup or Hive Syrup;
Dr. ROSE'S Family or Sanative Pills;
Dr. ROSE'S Carminative Balsam;
Dr. ROSE'S Hair Tonic.

The Hair Tonic was highly recommended by the late Doctor Physick.

The above are not Quack Medicines—they are in high repute, and can be relied upon as selling the diseases for which they are recommended, as they are the result of *thirty year's extensive practice* in Philadelphia, by Dr. Rose.—and were put up at the instance of his numerous patients, who derived great benefit from their use.

For Sale Wholesale by the subscriber who has been appointed the Wholesale Agent in Schuylkill County, where Druggists and