The Miners' Journal

POTTSVILLE, PA.

Saturday Morning, Dec. 10.

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SCENES AT HARRISBURG.

DRAWN WITH THE BLUNT END OF THE PENCIL.

No. 1.—Effect of Prayer against Bribery upon the Pennsylvania Legislature.

"My conscience hath a thousand several tongues,
And every tongue brings in a several tale,
And every tale condemns me for a villain."

So raved the blood-steeped usurper, when his hour of retribution drew near; and thus doubtless, has many an evil-doer, much nearer our own "day and generation," *felt*, when the terrors of his guilty conscience were excited. We leave the application for the first case the reader finds it well fit.

The following from the West Chester *Record* explains and establishes the fact alluded to, on the authority of an eye-witness:

The clergy of Harrisburg had been invited to open the session with prayer, and day by day, when the House assembled the voice of the preacher was heard calling upon the Supreme Ruler of all the Earth for his blessing on the deliberations of the Assembly, and rendering thanks for every good and perfect gift—for seed time and harvest. The language of one of the prayers gave offence to some of the members. We believe it fell from the lips of Rev. Dr. DeWitt, a Presbyterian clergyman, whose silver hairs and mild and kindly voice were calculated to inspire every one with reverence and affection. The venerable man of God prayed that temptation might not come nigh to any member, and that *Bribery* might not darken the soul of any. Such was the language—once—twice; perhaps the invocation to God was intended to convey admonition to frail man; of course *no offence* was intended—no insult to the dignity of the high and honorable men who represented the people's sovereignty. True, whispers of malign influence were pregnant in the atmosphere—the good man may have heard them or he may not, but surely, knowing that "fire shall consume the tabernacle of Bribery," and being taught by the Great Head of the Church to pray "Lead us not into temptation," it was part of the duty of those whom they had set over them, to invoke the protective power of the Almighty in resisting an influence which may well be considered as one of the mightiest means of the Great Tempter in ruining the souls of men.

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We have often felt the propriety of commending to Divine Protection the deliberations of the Legislature—we have sanctioned it; but many a devout man has been grieved at the levity and want of reverence prevailing during the solemnities, and we have much doubt whether the Devil had warmer friends in the halls of Legislation than some of those who have voted for prayers that his kingdom might be overthrown.

Now, there is an old and homely maxim which, one would think, ought to have kept these sensitive gentlemen quiet—but they only showed where the shoe pinched.

The character, both personal and clerical, of the officiating chaplain, in this case, is such that no charge of intentional offence or personality can possibly be entertained; and hence it is only supposable that in the sincerity of his devotions, he prayed naturally against the sins that were considered most nearly besetting the "soulless" body for which he invoked the Divine blessing.—*Bribery* suggested itself as the most natural and most dangerous assailment to which the virtue of the members, frail mortals, could be subject, and he might have heard the "whispers of malign influence" the *Record* refers to (nothing strange, if he had—for nobody about Harrisburg ever pretended to be chary of such insinuations), and hence he decried the sin of *Bribery* and prayed that Heaven would avert its insidious temptations. But alas, for his religious honesty! He might have prayed against any or all the other sins proscribed in the Decalogue, and he would have been tolerated day after day for the entire session, as a harmless and decent appendage of the establishment; but *Bribery—Bribery!* to supplicate Heaven on their behalf against *that*; oh! how forcibly it brought home the truth to many in that Hall—the *literal, scathing* truth that,

"In the corrupted currents of this world,
Offence's *gilded hand* may shove by justice,
And oft 'tis seen, *the wicked prize itself
Buys out the law.* But 'tis not so above;
There is no shuffling—*there* the action lies
In its true nature."

Such praying did not suit that latitude—that was in clear case; so there was a great excitement stirred up among the members, the whole "priesthood" was denounced, especially the Rev. Mr. DeWitt, who had had the temerity to pray against *Bribery* in their hearing; and finally, a vote was taken to turn out the whole batch of Divines, and thereafter to legislate without asking Heaven's blessing. This in the 19th century!

No. 2.—The grand Entertainment given the functionaries of Maryland.

This was a rich affair throughout. Punch, we believe, originated the idea that no case of diplomacy is so extensive or intricate that it cannot be perfectly comprehended and adjusted over the table-cloth. Gov. Lowe and Gov. Bigler, it will be recollected, had some "international" misunderstanding last year, relative to a Fugitive Slave case in, which one McCreary figured prominently, &c., &c., irrelative to recall now, except to remind the reader that these two high functionaries had disagreed. There was also the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad project which needed talking over, that the mutual interests of the two States in the enterprise might be properly set forth and understood. It was therefore agreed at Harrisburg to get up a grand supper and invite the Governor, members of the Legislature and other dignitaries of the State of Maryland to partake thereof; that is, for the common good, to restore harmony between the Governors and give the Railroad a lift, with an eye to windward at the same time, our Legislature consented to stand treat, at the expense of—but we havn't come to that yet; we must take the bill of fare in order.

Well, the Supper was provided (and a sumptuous affair it was, we understand), and the guests came—Gov. Lowe and a few others excused themselves. Everything was supplied with the most prodigal liberality—who cared for cost, on such an occasion? The eatables and drinkables were furnished without stint—champagne was served, not by the basket, but in cart loads. There was a large crowd present; for beside the members of the two Legislatures and other official bodies (literally,) to feed, there was also an ample accompaniment of hangers-on, borers and speculators, from both States—and all had to be filled. Old bruisers, with many years of experience in this line, declared they had never witnessed so "glorious" a spree. Men ate and drank to excess that were never known to be guilty of such indiscretion before.

The supper over and the guests taken leave of, as soon as convenient thereafter; next comes the landlord with a smile, as much as to say "always thankful for your patronage, gentlemen," and presents his bill—

To 1 Supper (Including Extras) $6,000!—an average of near $25 apiece, estimating only the official guests present—a pretty good sum, that, to swill down at one meal. There was no little staring at that bill—it was rather stronger than the members had promised themselves; and the movers of it, who were no doubt innocently got into the scrape, have since learned that there is no surer way for Representatives in a democratic country to make out their own political death-warrant than by proposing and voting $6,000 suppers for themselves.

In short, the bill was not paid, and its omission in the usual list of annual appropriations, we are assured by one who knows, was neither by mistake nor neglect but simply from political fear; and we have also been informed that strenuous efforts have been made during the recess to have the Auditor General allow this snug little item and say nothing more about it. But the richest part of the affair is yet to come. The landlord who furnished the good things becoming impatient for his pay, threatened to forward his bill to the Maryland Legislature, if the Pennsylvania members did not do the "handsome"—whereupon, to prevent so very ungenteel a proceeding and forever to blast the hospitable reputation of the old Keystone, the Governor himself, it is said, stepped forward and temporarily appeased the enraged Boniface with $15,00, 'till he could be more amply satisfied. And there the matter rests *pro tem.*

Now there can hardly be a question about the propriety of paying this bill, on the ground of common honesty; but there is, according to our notions of right and wrong, a very serious question about the justice of taking the hard-earned dollars of the people of this Commonwealth, to pay for the extravagant living of their members of the Legislature.

No. 3.—Repeal of the State Guage Law.

The general notoriety of this case will serve as an excuse for our occupying but little space in the detail of its history.

Previous to the repeal referred to, the width of Railroad tracks in the State was regulated by a statute providing that West of a certain line they should be 4 feet 10 inches and East of it 6 feet. The New Yorkers are said to have placed $50,000 in trustful hands at Harrisburg last winter, to repeal this regulation, in order that trains of cars might be run clear through, without transhipment in this State, from New York to Ohio. At any rate the repeal was effective, and charges were then and have ever since been made of the grossest bribery for its accomplishment. Notes were found at different times dropped on the floors of the Legislative Halls, indicating with what members certain amounts might be deposited with advantage; and it was a common joke that the principal agent of the New Yorkers was roundly scolded for his extravagance, having bought more members than were needed.—In debating this bill all the arguments were obviously on one side; and it was then, and has ever since remained in the minds of all acquainted with the circumstances, a fixed fact that it was a piece of bribed legislation.

The people of Erie have always thought so, and *it is upon this settled conviction they are now acting*—only a people persuaded that they are in the right, could act as they have lately done. Witness the following despatches:

Erie, Pa., Dec. 7.—The Erie Railroad Company commenced to-day opening their guage at the State line, which produced much feeling here. Immediately cannon were fired, calling out the citizens to tear down the bridges, &c.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

The excitement is increasing. There is a mob of 700 persons engaged in tearing up the rails from the track. The depot master was robbed, and barely escaped with his life. The express train is unable to pass, and the depot is in the hands of the mob.

[THIRD DESPATCH.]

Erie, 2 o'clock P. M.—The work of demolishing the bridges is still going on. The bridge across French and State streets has been torn down, and the mob are now engaged in taking the rails out of the street at the Depot. The passengers by the "lightning train" had to be taken round the city to the road on the other side.

Police officer Ferguson, who had been engaged by the Railroad Company, while taking down the names of the rioters, was arrested and taken before a magistrate, and made to give bail to keep the peace.

The citizens of Erie have our cordial sympathy. If our Legislature will not be taught wisdom and honesty, and refuse to govern their official acts by a sense of justice with prudent aims for the common good, the people have only this last resort to manifest their utter disapproval and detestation of the unholy means employed to secure laws for their government.

With this introduction to the general character of the Pennsylvania Legislature, in corroboration of our charge of unfairness and illegitimacy in the passage of the

PANTHER CREEK R. R. BILL;

we append an extract of a letter from a leading Democratic Senator to a gentleman of this county, confirming, in stronger terms, if possible, our original position on this subject:

———— 30th Nov. 1853.

Dear Sir:—The passage of the Laurel Run and Panther Creek Railroad bill at the last session was undoubtedly surreptitious (if it can be said to have passed at all). Under its *other* name, of the Anthracite Railroad, there was known and certain majority in the House against it; and there was no possibility of its passage under *any* name, unless by fraudulent practices. I was, for one, opposed to it, and although attentive to all the business entered upon in the Senate, had no knowledge that an Act incorporating such company had passed until since the adjournment.

I have no doubt that some of the clerks in one or both branches were the active instruments in getting the Act slipped through without permitting its purport to be understood—by suppressing its reading wholly or in part. Either this or false pretences and endorsements of passage, &c., must have secured the introduction of the Act upon the Statute book.

I have had statements made me by those who alleged knowledge of the facts, fully confirming my impressions upon this subject. But so far as I can speak, as a witness, I can only say that I had no knowledge of the passage of such bill, and do not believe it ever was passed in an honest and ordinary manner. Yours, &c.

Could anything be more explicit or more to the point? What additional evidence is wanted on this subject beyond what we have already given, to convince our readers that the charter for this Railroad was not rightly and regularly obtained?

We last week stated that Senator Crabb, of Philadelphia, had written to a gentleman in this county denying that he had ever said to any one he did not know of the passage of this Railroad Bill through the Senate. We now repeat that he *did* use language to that effect, unequivocally, to a gentleman connected with the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, and moreover that the information was wholly gratuitous on his part.

COURT AND GRAND JURY REPORT.

The present term of the County Court of Quarter Sessions opened on Monday last. The proceedings will be found in full in another column. The Court, in the usual charge to the Grand Jury, called particular attention to the matter of Liquor licenses, and advised that early application be made to the Legislature for the amendment of the existing statutes regulating the same; so that all manner of licences be granted only by the authority of the Court. The subsequent report of the Grand Jury discusses this subject ably and at length, to which we must refer the reader.

Both in the charge and throughout the session, whenever opportunity occurred, the Court plainly intimated a rigid course of proceeding toward all engaged in this overgrown traffic, and a settled determination to exert its utmost power for the suppression of the evils therefrom, to which the citizens of the County have been so long subjected.

In the case of Wm. Morburger for keeping a disorderly house at Mt. Carbon, we understand Judge Hegins took occasion to read a severe and wholesome lesson to the twelve men, whoever they were, that signed the Defendant's petition to the Court for a license for a tavern, on the ground that such house was needed for the accommodation of the public. It was shown that no such necessity existed—being the second tavern licensed in that neighborhood, the two not a stone's throw distant from one another; and, accordingly, the license was promptly revoked. A few more such cases thus summarily disposed of by the Court, would have an incalculable influence for good all over the County. The Court is no doubt often imposed upon, as in the above case, *in applications for license*; and such rebukes would make petitioners fewer and less confident, and their friends more chary of their recommendations.

The Grand Jury Report is a lengthy and able document. It is particularly severe on the Liquor traffic of the County and its consequent evils; coming from such authority, its suggestions cannot fail to have a most beneficial influence. We had hoped to publish the Report in full, but its unusual length and the lateness at which it was rendered to the Court make it impossible this week.

☞ Telegraphic despatches are now interchanged between New Orleans, Philadelphia and New York, directly, without re-writing.

☞ Several counterfeiters were arrested some days ago, near Bangor, Maine—one of the party was a Postmaster, State Law Agent and ex-Sheriff.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

The interest with which the people of the Republic anticipate the assembling of Congress, and the fulfilment, on that occasion, of the duty imposed upon a new President, is one of the best evidences of their capacity to realize the hopes of the founders of a political system, at once complex and symmetrical. While the different branches of the government are, to a certain extent, independent of each other, the duties of all, alike, have direct reference to the source of power. Fortunately, under this system, no man is so high, and none so humble, in the scale of public station, as to escape from the scrutiny, or to be exempt from the responsibility, which all official functions imply.

Upon the justice and intelligence of the masses, in a government thus organized, is the sole reliance of the confederacy, and the only security for honest and earnest devotion to its interests against the usurpations and encroachments of power on the one hand, and the assaults of persons, ambition on the other.

The interest, of which I have spoken, is inseparable from an inquiring, self-governing community, but stimulated, doubtless, at the present time, by the unsettled condition of our relations with several foreign powers; by the new obligations resulting from a sudden extension of the field of enterprise; by the spirit with which that field has been entered, and the amazing energy with which its resources for meeting the demands of humanity have been developed.

Although disease, assuming at one time the characteristics of a wide-spread and devastating pestilence, has left its sad traces upon some portions of our country, we have still the most abundant cause for reverent thankfulness to God for an accumulation of signal mercies showered upon us as a nation. It is well that a consciousness of rapid advancement and increasing strength be habitually associated with an abiding sense of dependence upon Him who holds in his hands the destiny of men and of nations.

Recognizing the wisdom of the broad principle of absolute religious toleration proclaimed in our fundamental law, and rejoicing in the benign influence which it has exerted upon our social and political condition, I should shrink from a clear duty, did I fail to express my deepest conviction, that we can place no secure reliance upon any apparent progress, if it be not sustained by national integrity, resting upon the great truths affirmed and illustrated by divine revelation. In the midst of our sorrow for the afflicted and suffering, it has been consoling to see how promptly disaster made true neighbors of districts and cities separated widely from each other, and cheering to watch the strength of that common bond of brotherhood, which unites all hearts, in all parts of this Union, when danger threatens from abroad, or calamity impends over us at home.

Our diplomatic relations with foreign powers have undergone no essential change since the adjournment of the last Congress. With some of them, questions of a disturbing character are still pending, but there are good reasons to believe that these may all be amicably settled.

For some years past, Great Britain has so construed the first article of the convention of the 20th of April, 1818 in regard to the fisheries on the north-eastern coast, as to exclude our citizens from some of the fishing grounds, to which they freely resorted for nearly a quarter of a century subsequent to the date of that treaty. The United States have never acquiesced in this construction, but have always claimed for their fishermen all the rights which they had so long enjoyed without molestation. With a view to remove all difficulties on the subject, to extend the rights of our fishermen beyond the limits fixed by the convention of 1818, and to regulate trade between the United States and the British North American provinces, a negotiation has been opened, with a fair prospect of a favorable result. To protect our fishermen in the enjoyment of their rights, and to prevent collision between them and British fishermen, I deemed it expedient to station a naval force in that quarter during the fishing season.

Embarrassing questions have also arisen between the two governments in regard to Central America. Great Britain has proposed to settle them by an amicable arrangement, and our minister at London is instructed to enter into negotiations on that subject.

A commission for adjusting the claims of our citizens against Great Britain, and those of British subjects against the United States, organized under the convention of the 8th of February last, is now sitting in London for the transaction of business.

It is in many respects, desirable that the boundary line between the United States and the British provinces in the northwest, as designated in the convention of the 15th of June, 1846, and especially that part which separates the Territory of Washington from the British possessions on the north should be traced and marked. I therefore present the subject to your notice.

With France our relations continue on the most friendly footing. The extensive commerce between the United States and that country might, it is conceived, be released from some unnecessary restrictions, to the mutual advantage of both parties. With a view to this object, some progress has been made in negotiating a treaty of commerce and navigation.

Independently of our valuable trade with Spain, we have important political relations with her, growing out of our neighborhood to the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico. I am happy to announce that since the last Congress no attempts have been made by unauthorized expeditions within the United States, against either of these colonies. Should any movement be manifested within our limits, all the means at my command will be vigorously exerted to repress it.

Several annoying occurrences have taken place at Havana, or in the vicinity of the island of Cuba, between our citizens and the Spanish authorities. Considering the proximity of that island to our shores—lying, as it does, in the track of trade between some of our principal cities,—and the suspicious vigilance with which foreign intercourse, particularly that with the United States, is there guarded, a repetition of such occurrences may well be apprehended. As no diplomatic intercourse is allowed between our Consul at Havana and the Captain-General of Cuba, ready explanations cannot be made, or prompt redress afforded where injury has resulted. All complaint on the part of our citizens, under the present arrangement, must be in the first place presented to this government, and then referred to Spain. Spain again refers it to her local authorities in Cuba for investigation, and postpones an answer till she has heard from those authorities.

To avoid these irritating and vexatious delays, a proposition has been made to provide for a direct appeal for redress to the Captain-General, by our Consul, in behalf of our injured fellow-citizens.—Hitherto, the government of Spain has declined to enter into any such arrangement. This course on her part is deeply regretted; for, without some arrangement of this kind, the good understanding between the two countries may be exposed to occasional interruption. Our Minister at Madrid is instructed to renew the proposition, and to press it again upon the consideration of Her Holy Majesty's government.

For several years Spain has been calling the attention of this Government to a claim for losses, by some of their subjects, in the case of the schooner *Amistad*. This claim is believed to rest on the obligations imposed by our existing treaty with that country. Its justice was admitted, in our diplomatic correspondence with the Spanish Government, as early as March, 1847; and one of my predecessors, in his annual message of that year, recommended that provision should be made for its payment. In January last it was again submitted to Congress by the Executive. It has received a favorable consideration by committees of both branches, but as yet there has been no final action on it. I conceive that good faith requires its prompt adjustment, and I present it to your early and favorable consideration.

Martin Koszta, a Hungarian by birth, came to this country in 1850, and declared his intention, in due form of law, to become a citizen of the United States. After remaining here nearly two years, he visited Turkey. While at Smyrna he was forcibly seized, taken on board an Austrian brig of war, then lying in the harbor of that place, and there confined in irons, with the avowed design to take him into the dominions of Austria. Our consul at Smyrna and Legation at Constantinople interposed for his release, but their efforts were ineffectual.—While thus imprisoned, Commander Ingraham, with the United States ship-of-war St. Louis, arrived at Smyrna, and after inquiring into the circumstances of the case, came to the conclusion that Koszta was entitled to the protection of this Government, and took energetic and prompt measures for his release.

Under an arrangement between the agents of the United States and of Austria, he was transferred to the custody of the French consul-general at Smyrna, there to remain until he should be disposed of by the mutual agreement of the consuls of the respective governments at that place. Pursuant to that agreement he has been released and is now on his way to the United States. The *Emperor of Austria* has made the conduct of our officers, who took part in this transaction a subject of grave complaint. Regarding Koszta as still his subject, and claiming a right to seize him within the limits of the Turkish Empire, he has demanded of this government its consent to the surrender of the prisoner, a disavowal of the acts of its agents, and satisfaction for the alleged outrage. After a careful consideration of the case, I came to the conclusion that Koszta was seized without legal authority at Smyrna: that he was wrongfully detained on board of the Austrian brig of war; that, at the time of his seizure, he was clothed with the nationality of the United States; and that the acts of our officers, under the circumstances of the case were justifiable, and their conduct has been fully approved by me, and a compliance with the several demands of the Emperor of Austria has been declined.

For a more full account of this transaction and my views in regard to it, I refer to the correspondence between the Charge 'd Affairs of Austria and the Secretary of State, which is herewith transmitted. The principles and policy therein maintained on the part of the United States, will, whenever a proper occasion occurs be applied and enforced.

The condition of China, at this time, renders it probable that some important changes will occur in that vast empire, which will lead to a more unrestricted intercourse with it. The commissioner to that country, who has been recently appointed, is instructed to avail himself of all occasions to open and extend our commercial relations, not only with the empire of China, but with other Asiatic nations.

In 1852, an expedition was sent to Japan, under the command of Commodore Perry, for the purpose of opening commercial intercourse with that island. Intelligence has been received of his arrival there, and of his having made known to the Emperor of Japan the object of his visit; but it is not yet ascertained how far the Emperor will be disposed to abandon his restrictive policy and open that populous country to a commercial intercourse with the United States.

It has been my earnest desire to maintain friendly intercourse with the governments upon this continent, and to aid them in preserving good understanding among themselves. With Mexico, a dispute has arisen as to the true boundary line between our territory of New Mexico and the Mexican State of Chihuahua. A former commissioner of the United States, employed in running that line pursuant to the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, made a serious mistake in determining the initial point on the Rio Grande; but inasmuch as his decision was clearly a departure from the directions for tracing the boundary contained in that treaty, and was not concurred in by the surveyor appointed on the part of the U. States, whose concurrence was necessary to give validity to that decision, this government is not concluded thereby; but that of Mexico takes a different view of the subject.

There are also other questions of considerable magnitude pending between the two republics.—Our minister in Mexico has ample instructions to adjust them. Negotiations have been opened, but sufficient progress has not been made therein to enable me to speak of the probable result. Impressed with the importance of maintaining amicable relations with that republic, and of yielding with liberality to all her just claims, it is reasonable to expect that an arrangement mutually satisfactory to both countries may be concluded, and a lasting friendship between them confirmed and perpetuated.

Congress having provided for a full mission to the States of Central America, a minister was sent thither in July last. As yet he has had time to visit only one of these States, (Nicaragua,) where he was received in the most friendly manner. It is hoped that his presence and good offices will have a benign effect in composing the dissensions which prevail among them, and in establishing still more intimate and friendly relations between them respectively, and between each of them and the United States.

Considering the vast regions of this continent, and the number of states which would be made accessible by the free navigation of the river Amazon, particular attention has been given to this subject. Brazil, through whose territories it passes into the ocean, has hitherto persisted in a policy so restrictive, in regard to the use of this river, as to obstruct, and nearly exclude, foreign commercial intercourse with the states which lie upon its tributaries and upper branches. Our minister to that country is instructed to obtain a relaxation of that policy, and to use his efforts to induce the Brazilian government to open to common use, under proper safeguards, this great natural highway to international trade. Several of the South American states are deeply interested in this attempt to secure the free navigation of the Amazon, and it is reasonable to expect their co-operation in the measure.

As the advantages of free commercial intercourse among nations are better understood, more liberal views are generally entertained as to the common rights of all to the free use of those means which nature has provided for international communication. To these more liberal and enlightened views, it is hoped that Brazil will conform her policy, and remove all unnecessary restrictions upon the free use of a river, which traverses so many states and so large a part of the continent. I am happy to inform you that the republic of Paraguay and the Argentine Confederation have yielded to the liberal policy still resisted by Brazil, in regard to the navigable rivers within their respective territories. Treaties embracing this subject, among others, have been negotiated with these governments, which will be submitted to the senate at the present session.

A new branch of commerce, important to the agricultural interests of the United States has, within a few years past, been opened with Peru. Notwithstanding the inexhaustible deposits of Guano upon the islands of that country, considerable difficulties are experienced in obtaining the requisite supply. Measures have been taken to remove these difficulties, and to secure a more abundant importation of the article. Unfortunately, there has been a serious collision between our citizens, who have resorted to the Chincha islands for it, and the Peruvian authorities stationed there. Redress for the outrages committed by the latter, was promptly demanded by our minister at Lima. This subject is now under consideration, and there is reason to believe that Peru is disposed to offer adequate indemnity to the aggrieved parties.

We are thus not only at peace with all foreign countries but, in regard to political affairs, are exempt from any cause of serious disquietude in our domestic relations.

The controversies which have agitated the country heretofore, are passing away with the causes which produced them, and the passions which they had awakened; or, if any traces of them remain, it may be reasonably hoped that it will only be perceived in the zealous rivalry of all good citizens to testify their respect for the rights of the States, their devotion to the Union, and their common determination that each one of the States, its institutions, its welfare, and its domestic peace shall be held alike secure under the sacred ægis of the constitution.

This new league of amity and of mutual confidence and support, into which the people of the republic have entered, happily affords inducements and opportunity for the adoption of a more comprehensive and unembarrassed line of policy and action, as to the great material interests of the country, whether regarded in themselves or in connection with the powers of the civilized world.

The United States have continued gradually and steadily to expand, through acquisitions of territory, which, how much so ever some of them may have been questioned, are now universally seen and admitted to have been wise in policy, just in character, and a great element in the advancement of our country and, with it, the human race, in freedom, in prosperity and in happiness. The thirteen States have grown to be thirty-one, with relations reaching to Europe on the one side, and on the other to the distant realms of Asia.

I am deeply sensible of the immense responsibility which the present magnitude of the republic and the diversity and multiplicity of its interests, devolves upon me; the alleviation of which, so far as relates to the immediate conduct of the public business is, first, in my reliance on the wisdom and patriotism of the two Houses of Congress; and secondly, in the directions afforded me by the principles of public polity, affirmed by our fathers of the epoch of 1798, sanctified by long experience, and consecrated anew by the overwhelming voice of the people of the United States.

Recurring to these principles, which constitute the organic basis of union, we perceive that, vast as are the functions and the duties of the federal government, vested in, or entrusted to, its three great departments, the legislative, executive, and judicial, yet the substantive power, the popular force, and the large capacities for social and material developement, exist in the respective States, which, all being of themselves well constituted republics, as they preceded, so they alone are capable of maintaining and perpetuating, the American Union.

The federal government has its appropriate line of action in the specific and limited powers conferred on it by the constitution, chiefly as to those things in which the States have a common interest in their relations to one another, and to foreign governments; while the great mass of interests which belong to cultivated men, the ordinary business of life, the springs of industry, all the diversified, personal and domestic affairs of society, rest securely upon the general reserved powers of the people of the several States. There is the effective democracy of the nation, and there the vital essence of its being and its greatness.

Of the practical consequences which flow from the nature of the federal government, the primary one is the duty of administering with integrity and fidelity the high trust reposed in it by the constitution, especially in the application of the public funds, as drawn by taxation from the people, and appropriated to specific objects by Congress.—Happily I have no occasion to suggest any radical changes in the financial policy of the government. Ours is almost, if not absolutely, the solitary power of Christendom having a surplus revenue, drawn immediately from imposts on commerce, and therefore measured by the spontaneous enterprise and national prosperity of the country, with such indirect relation to agriculture, manufactures and the products of the earth and sea, as to violate no constitutional doctrine, and yet vigorously to promote the general welfare. Neither as to the sources of the public treasure, nor as to the manner of keeping and managing it, does any grave controversy now prevail, there being a general acquiescence in the wisdom of the present system.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will exhibit, in detail, the state of the public finances, and the condition of the various branches of the public service, administered by that department of the government.

The revenue of the country, levied almost insensibly to the tax-payer, goes on from year to year increasing beyond either the interests or the prospective wants of the government.

At the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1852, there remained in the treasury a balance of fourteen million six hundred and thirty-two thousand one hundred and thirty-six dollars. The public revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1853, amounted to fifty-eight million nine hundred and thirty-one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five dollars from customs, and to two million four hundred and five thousand seven hundred and eight dollars from public lands and other miscellaneous sources, amounting together to sixty-one million three hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred and seventy-four dollars; while the public expenditures for the same period, exclusive of payments on account of the public debt, amounted to forty-three million five hundred and fifty-four thousand two hundred and sixty-two dollars; leaving a balance of thirty-two million four hundred and twenty-five thousand four hundred and forty-seven dollars of receipts above expenditures.

This fact, of increasing surplus in the treasury, became the subject of anxious consideration at a very early period of my administration, and the path of duty in regard to it seemed to me obvious and clear, namely: first, to apply the surplus revenue to the discharge of the public debt, so far as it could be judiciously done; and secondly, to devise means for the gradual reduction of the revenue to the standard of the public exigencies.

Of these objects, the first has been in the course of accomplishment in a manner and to a degree highly satisfactory. The amount of the public debt, of all classes, was, on the 4th of March, 1853, sixty-nine millions one hundred and ninety thousand and thirty-seven dollars; payments on account of which have been made since, that period, to the amount of twelve million seven hundred and three thousand three hundred and twenty-nine dollars, leaving unpaid, and in the continuous course of liquidation, the sum of fifty-six million four hundred and eighty-six thousand seven hundred and eight dollars. These payments, although made at the market price of the respective classes of stocks have been effected readily, and to the general advantage of the treasury, and have at the same time proved of signal utility in the relief they have incidentally afforded to the money market and to the industrial and commercial pursuits of the country.

The second of the above-mentioned objects, that of the reduction of the tariff, is of great importance and the plan suggested by the Secretary of the Treasury, which is to reduce the duties on certain articles, and to add to the free list many articles now taxed, and especially such as enter into manufactures, and are not largely, or at all, produced in the country, is commended to your candid and careful consideration.

You will find in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, also, abundant proof of the entire adequacy of the present fiscal system to meet all the requirements of the public service, and that while properly administered, it operates to the advantage of the community in ordinary business relations.

I respectfully ask your attention to sundry suggestions of improvements in the settlement of accounts, especially as regards the large sums of outstanding arrears due to the government, and of other reforms in the administrative action of his department, which are indicated by the Secretary; as also to the progress made in the construction of marine hospitals, custom-houses, and of a new mint in California and assay office in the city of New York, heretofore provided for by Congress; and also to the eminently successful progress of the Coast Survey, and of the Light house Board.

Among the objects meriting your attention will be important recommendations from the Secretaries of War and Navy. I am fully satisfied that the Navy of the United States is not in a condition of strength and efficiency commensurate with the magnitude of our commercial and other interests; and commend to your especial attention the suggestions on this subject, made by the Secretary of the Navy. I respectfully submit that the army, which, under our system, must always be regarded with the highest interest, as a nucleus around which the volunteer forces of the nation gather in the hour of danger, requires augmentation or modification, to adapt it to the present extended limits and frontier relations of the country, and the condition of the Indian tribes in the interior of the continent, the necessity of which will appear in the communications of the Secretaries of War and the Interior.

In the administration of the Post-office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1853, the gross expenditure was seven million nine hundred and eighty-two thousand seven hundred and fifty-six dollars; and the gross receipts, during the same period, five million nine hundred and forty-two thousand, seven hundred and thirty-four dollars; showing that the current revenue failed to meet the current expenses of the department by the sum of two million forty-two thousand and thirty-two dollars. The causes which, under the present postal system and laws, led inevitably to this result, are fully explained by the report of the Postmaster-General; one great cause being the enormous rates the department have been compelled to pay for mail service rendered by railroad companies.

The exhibit in the report of the Postmaster-General of the income and expenditures by mail steamers will be found peculiarly interesting, and of a character to demand the immediate action of Congress.

Numerous and flagrant frauds upon the Pension Bureau have been brought to light within the last year, and in some instances, merited punishments inflicted; but unfortunately, in others, guilty parties have escaped, not through the want of sufficient evidence to warrant a conviction, but in consequence of the provisions of limitation in the existing laws.

From the nature of these claims, the remoteness of the tribunals to pass upon them, and the mode in which the proof is, of necessity, furnished, temptations to crime have been greatly stimulated by the obvious difficulties of detection. The defects in the law upon this subject are so apparent, and so fatal to the ends of justice, that your early action relating to it is most desirable.

During the last fiscal year, nine million eight hundred and nineteen thousand four hundred and eleven acres of the public lands have been surveyed, and ten million three hundred and sixty-three thousand eight hundred and ninety-one acres brought into market. Within the same period, the sales by public purchase and private entry amounted to one million eighty-three thousand four hundred and ninety-five acres; located under military bounty land warrants, six million one hundred and forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty acres; located under other certificates, nine thousand four hundred and twenty-seven acres; ceded to the States as swamp lands, sixteen million six hundred and eighty-four thousand two hundred and fifty three acres; selected for railroad and other objects, under acts of Congress, one million four hundred and twenty-seven thousand four hundred and fifty-seven acres.

The total amount of land disposed of within the fiscal year, twenty-five million three hundred and forty-six thousand nine hundred and ninety-two acres; which is an increase in quantity sold, and located under land warrants and grants, of twelve million two hundred and thirty-one thousand eight hundred and eighteen acres over the fiscal year immediately preceding. The quantity of land sold during the second and third quarters of 1852, were three hundred and thirty-four thousand four hundred and fifty-one acres. The amount received therefor, was six hundred and twenty-three thousand six hundred and eighty-seven dollars. The quantity sold the second and third quarters of the year 1853, was one million six hundred and nine thousand nine hundred and nineteen acres; and the amount received therefor, two million two hundred and twenty-six thousand eight hundred and seventy-six dollars.

The whole number of land warrants issued under existing laws, prior to the 30th of September last, was two hundred and sixty-six thousand and forty-two; of which there were outstanding at that date, sixty-six thousand nine hundred and forty-seven. The quantity of land required to satisfy these outstanding warrants, is four million seven hundred and seventy-eight thousand one hundred and twenty acres.

Warrants have been issued to 30th of September last, under the act of 11th February, 1847, calling for twelve million eight hundred and seventy-nine thousand two hundred and eighty acres; under acts of September 28, 1850, and March 22, 1852, calling for twelve million five hundred and five thousand three hundred and sixty acres; making a total of twenty five million three hundred and eighty four thousand six hundred and forty acres.

It is believed that experience has verified the wisdom and justice of the present system, with regard to the public domain, in most essential particulars.

You will perceive, from the report of the Secretary of the Interior, that opinions, which have often been expressed in relation to the operation of the land system, as not being a source of revenue to the federal treasury, were erroneous. The net profits from the sale of the public lands to June 30, 1853, amounted to the sum of fifty-three million two hundred and eighty-nine thousand four hundred and sixty-five dollars.

I recommend the extension of the land system over the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, with such modifications as their peculiarities may require.

Regarding our public domain as chiefly valuable to provide homes for the industrious and enterprising, I am not prepared to recommend any essential change in the land system, except by modifications in favor of the actual settler, and an extension of the pre-emption principle in certain cases, for reasons and on grounds, which will be fully developed in the reports to be laid before you.

Congress, representing the proprietors of the territorial domain, and charged especially with power to dispose of territory belonging to the United States has, for a long course of years, beginning with the administration of Mr. Jefferson, exercised the power to construct roads within the territories; and there are so many and obvious distinctions between this exercise of power and that of making roads within the States, that the former has never been considered subject to such objections as apply to the latter, and such may now be considered the settled construction of the power of the federal government upon the subject.

Numerous applications have been, and no doubt will continue to be, made for grants of land in aid of the construction of railways. It is not believed to be within the intent and meaning of the Constitution, that the power to dispose of the public domain should be used otherwise than might be expected from a prudent proprietor, and therefore, that grants of land to aid in the construction of roads should be restricted, to cases where it would be for the interest of a proprietor under like circumstances, thus to contribute to the construction of these works.

For the practical operation of such grants thus far, in advancing the interests of the States in which the works are located, and at the same time the substantial interest of all the other States, by enhancing the value and promoting the rapid sale of the public domain, I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Interior. A careful examination, however, will show that this experience is the result of a just discrimination, and will be far from affording encouragement to a reckless or indiscriminate extension of the principle.

I commend to your favorable consideration the men of genius of our country, who, by their inventions and discoveries in science and art, have contributed largely to the improvements of the age, without, in many instances, securing for themselves anything like an adequate reward. For many interesting details upon this subject I refer you to the appropriate reports, and especially urge upon your early attention the apparently slight, but really important modification of existing laws therein suggested.

The liberal spirit which has so long marked the action of Congress in relation to the District of Columbia will, I have no doubt, continue to be manifested.

The erection of an asylum for the insane of the District of Columbia, and of the army and navy of the United States, has been somewhat retarded, by the great demand for material and labor during the past summer; but full preparation for the reception of patients before the return of another winter, is anticipated; and there is the best reason to believe, from the plan and contemplated arrangements which have been devised, with the large experience furnished within the last few years in relation to the nature and treatment of the disease, that it will prove an asylum indeed to this most helpless and afflicted class of sufferers, and stand as a noble monument of wisdom and mercy.

Under the acts of Congress of August 31, 1852, and of March 3, 1853, designed to secure the cities of Washington and Georgetown an abundant supply of good and wholesome water, it became my duty to examine the report and plans of the engineer who had charge of the surveys under the act first named. The best, if not the only plan, calculated to secure permanently the object sought, was that which contemplates taking the water from the Great Falls of the Potomac, and, consequently, I gave to it my approval.

For the progress and present condition of this important work, and for its demands, so far as appropriations are concerned, I refer you to the report of the Secretary of War.

The present judicial system of the United States has now been in operation for so long a period of time, and has in its general theory and much of its details, become so familiar to the country, and acquired so entirely the public confidence, that if modified in any respect, it should only be in those particulars which may adapt it to the increased extent, population, and legal business of the United States. In this relation, the organization of the courts is now confessedly inadequate to the duties to be performed by them; in consequence of which the States of Florida, Wisconsin, Iowa, Texas and California, and districts of other States, are in effect excluded from the full benefits of the general system, by the functions of the circuit court being devolved on the district judges in all those States, or parts of States.

The spirit of the constitution and a due regard to justice, require that all the States of the Union should be placed on the same footing in regard to the judicial tribunals. I therefore commend to your consideration this important subject which, in my judgement, demands the speedy action of Congress. I will present to you, if deemed desirable, a plan, which I am prepared to recommend, for the enlargement and modification of the present judicial system.

The act of Congress establishing the Smithsonian Institution provided that the President of the United States, and other persons therein designated, should constitute an "establishment" by that name, and that the members should hold stated and special meetings for the supervision of the affairs of the Institution. The organization not having taken place, it seemed to me proper that it should be effected without delay. This has been done; and an occasion was thereby presented for inspecting the condition of the Institution, and appreciating its successful progress thus far, and its high promise of great and general usefulness.

I have omitted to ask your favorable consideration for the estimates of works of a local character in twenty-seven of the thirty-one States, amounting to one million seven hundred and fifty-four thousand five hundred dollars, because, independently of the grounds which have so often been urged against the application of the federal revenue for works of this character, inequality with consequent injustice is inherent in the nature of the proposition, and because the plan has proved entirely inadequate to the accomplishment of the objects sought.

The subject of internal improvements, claiming alike the interest and good-will of all, has, nevertheless, been the basis of much political discussion and has stood as a deep graven line of division between statesmen of eminent ability and patriotism. The rule of strict construction of all powers delegated by the States to the general government has arrayed itself, from time to time, against the rapid progress of expenditures from the national treasury on works of a local character within the States.—Memorable as an epoch in the history of this subject is the message of President Jackson, of the 27th of May, 1830, which met the system of internal improvements in its comparative infancy; but so rapid had been its growth, that the projected appropriations in that year for works of this character had risen to the alarming amount of more than one hundred millions of dollars.

In that message the President admitted the difficulty of bringing back the operations of the government to the construction of the constitution set up in 1798, and marked it as an admonitory proof of the necessity of guarding that instrument with sleepless vigilance against the authority of precedents, which had not the sanction of its most plainly defined powers.

Our government exists under a written compact between sovereign States, uniting for specific objects, and with specific grants to their general agent. If, then, in the progress of its administration there have been departures from the terms and intent of the compact, it is, and ever will be, proper to refer back to the fixed standard which our fathers left us, and to make a stern effort to conform our action to it. It would seem that the fact of a principle having been resisted from the first by many of the wisest and most patriotic men of the republic, and a policy having provoked constant strife without arriving at a conclusion which can be regarded as satisfactory to its most earnest advocates, should suggest the inquiry whether there may not be a plan likely to be crowned by happier results.

Without perceiving any sound distinction, or intending to assert any principle as opposed to improvements needed for the protection of internal commerce, which does not equally apply to improvements upon the seaboard for the protection of foreign commerce, I submit to you, whether it may not be safely anticipated that, if the policy were once settled against appropriations by the General Government for local improvements for the benefit of commerce, localities requiring expenditures would not, by modes and means clearly legitimate and proper, raise the fund necessary for such constructions as the safety or other interests of their commerce might require.

If that can be regarded as a system which, in the experience of more than thirty years, has at no time so commanded the public judgment as to give it the character of a settled policy,—which, tho' it has produced some works of conceded importance, has been attended with an expenditure quite disproportionate to their value and has resulted in squandering large sums upon objects which have answered no valuable purpose,—the interests of all the States require it to be abandoned, unless hopes may be indulged for the future which find no warrant in the past.

With an anxious desire for the completion of the works which are regarded by all good citizens with sincere interest, I have deemed it my duty to ask at your hands a deliberate reconsideration of the question, with a hope that, animated by a desire to promote the permanent and substantial interests of the country, your wisdom may prove equal to the task of devising and maturing a plan which, applied to this subject, may promise something better than constant strife, the suspension of the powers of local enterprise, the exciting of vain hopes, and the disappointment of cherished expectations.

In expending the appropriations made by the last Congress, several cases have arisen in relation to works for the improvement of harbors, which involve questions as to the right of soil and jurisdiction, and have threatened conflict between the authority of the State and general governments. The right to construct a breakwater, jetty, or dam, would seem, necessarily, to carry with it the power to protect and preserve such constructions. This can only be effectually done by having jurisdiction over the soil.

But no clause of the Constitution is found, on which to rest the claim of the United States to exercise jurisdiction over the soil of a State, except that conferred by the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution. It is, then, submitted, whether, in all cases where constructions are to be erected by the general government, the right of soil should not first be obtained, and legislative provision be made to cover all such cases.

For the progress made in the construction of roads within the territories, as provided for in the appropriations of the last Congress, I refer you to the report of the Secretary of War.

There is one subject of a domestic nature, which from its intrinsic importance, and the many interesting questions of future policy which it involves, cannot fail to receive your early attention. I allude to the means of communication, by which different parts of the wide expanse of our country are to be placed in closer connection for purposes both of defence and commercial intercourse, and more especially such as appertain to the communication of those great divisions of the Union which lie on the opposite sides of the Rocky Mountains.

That the government has not been unmindful of this, heretofore, is apparent from the aid it has afforded, through appropriations for mail facilities and other purposes. But the general subject will now present itself under aspects more imposing and more purely national, by reason of the surveys ordered by Congress, and now in the process of completion, for communication by railway across the continent, and wholly within the limits of the United States.

The power to declare war, to raise and support armies, to provide and maintain a Navy, and to call forth the militia to execute the laws, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions, was conferred upon Congress, as means to provide for the common defence, and to protect a territory and a population now wide-spread and vastly multiplied. As incidental to and indispensable for the exercise of this power, it must sometimes be necessary to construct military roads and protect harbors of refuge. To appropriations by Congress for such objects, no sound objection can be raised.

Happily for our country, its peaceful policy and rapidly increasing population impose upon us no urgent necessity for preparation, and leave but few trackless deserts between assailable points and a patriotic people ever ready and generally able to protect them. These necessary links, the enterprise and energy of our people are steadily and boldly struggling to supply. All experience affirms that wherever private enterprise will avail, it is most wise for the general government to leave to that and individual watchfulness the location and execution of all means of communication.

The surveys before alluded to were designed to ascertain the most practicable and economical route for a railroad from the river Mississippi to the Pacific ocean. Parties are now in the field making explorations, where previous examinations had not supplied sufficient data, and where there was the best reason to hope the object sought might be found.

The means and time being both limited, it is not to be expected that all the accurate knowledge desired will be obtained, but it is hoped that much and important information will be added to the stock previously possessed, and that partial, if not full reports of the surveys ordered will be received, in time for transmission to the two houses of Congress, on or before the first Monday in February next, as required by the act of appropriation.

The magnitude of the enterprise contemplated has aroused, and will doubtless continue to excite a very general interest throughout the country.—In its political, its commercial and its military bearings, it has varied, great and increasing claims to consideration. The heavy expense, the great delay and, at times, fatality attending travel by either of the isthmus routes, have demonstrated the advantage which would result from interterritorial communication by such safe and rapid means as a railroad would supply.

These difficulties which have been encountered in a period of peace, would be magnified and still further increased in time of war. But whilst the embarrassments already encountered, and others under new contingencies to be anticipated, may serve strikingly to exhibit the importance of such a work, neither these nor all considerations combined can have an appreciable value, when weighed against the obligation strictly to adhere to the constitution, and faithfully to execute the powers it confers.

Within this limit to the extent of the interest of the government involved, it would seem both expedient and proper, if an economical and practicable route shall be found to aid, by all constitutional means, in the construction of a road which will unite, by speedy transit, the populations of the Pacific and Atlantic States.

To guard against misconception, it should be remarked that, although the power to construct, or aid in the construction of, a road within the limits of a territory, is not embarrassed by that question of jurisdiction which would arise within the limits of a State, it is nevertheless held to be of doubtful power, and more than doubtful propriety, even within the limits of a territory, for the General Government to undertake to administer the affairs of a railroad, a canal, or other similar construction, and therefore that its connection with a work of this character should be incidental rather than primary.

I will only add, at present, that, fully appreciating the magnitude of the subject, and solicitous that the Atlantic and Pacific shores of the republic may be bound together by inseparable ties of common interest, as well as of common fealty and attachment to the Union, I shall be disposed, so far as my own action is concerned, to follow the lights of the constitution as expounded and illustrated by those whose opinions and expositions constitute the standard of my political faith in regard to the powers of the federal government.

It is, I trust, not necessary to say that no grandeur of enterprise, and no present urgent inducement promising popular favor, will lead me to disregard those lights, or to depart from that path, which experience has proved to be safe, and which is now radiant with the glow of prosperity and legitimate constitutional progress. We can afford to wait, but we cannot afford to overlook the ark of our security.

It is no part of my purpose to give prominence to any subject, which may properly be regarded as set at rest by the deliberate judgment of the people. But while the present is bright with promise, and the future full of demand and inducement for the exercise of active intelligence, the past can never be without useful lessons of admonition and instruction. If its dangers serve not as beacons, they will evidently fail to fulfil the object of a wise design.

When the grave shall have closed over all who are now endeavoring to meet the obligations of duty, the year 1850 will be recurred to as a period filled with anxious apprehension. A successful war had just terminated. Peace brought with it a vast augmentation of territory. Disturbing questions arose, bearing upon the domestic institutions of one portion of the confederacy, and involving the constitutional rights of the States.

But, notwithstanding differences of opinion and sentiment which then existed in relation to details and specific provisions, the acquiescence of distinguished citizens, whose devotion to the Union can never be doubted, has given renewed vigor to our institutions, and restored a sense of repose and security to the the public mind throughout the confederacy.

That this repose is to suffer no shock during my official term, if I have power to avert it, those who placed me here may be assured. The wisdom of men who knew what independence cost—who had put all at stake upon the issue of the Revolutionary struggle—disposed of the subject to which I refer in the only way consistent with the union of these States, and with the march of power and prosperity which has made us what we are.

It is a significant fact, that, from the adoption of the Constitution until the officers and soldiers of the Revolution had passed to their graves, or, through the infirmities of age and wounds, had ceased to participate actively in public affairs, there was not merely a quiet acquiescence in, but a prompt vindication of the constitutional rights of the States. The reserved powers were scrupulously respected. No statesman put forth the narrow views of casuists to justify interference and agitation, but the spirit of the compact was regarded as sacred in the eye of honor, and indispensable for the great experiment of civil liberty, which, environed by inherent difficulties, was yet borne forward in apparent weakness by a power superior to all obstacles. There is no condemnation which the voice of freedom will not pronounce upon us, should we prove faithless to this great trust. While men inhabiting different parts of this vast continent can no more be expected to hold the same opinions, or entertain the same sentiments, than every variety of climate or soil can be expected to furnish the same agricultural products, they can unite in a common object and sustain common principles essential to the maintenance of that object. The gallant men of the south and the north could stand together during the struggle of the Revolution; they could stand together in the more trying period which succeeded the clangor of arms. As their united valor was adequate to all the trials of the camp and dangers of the field, so their united wisdom proved equal to the greater task of founding, upon a deep and broad basis, institutions, which it has been our privilege to enjoy, and will ever be our most sacred duty to sustain. It is but the feeble expression of a faith strong and universal, to say that their sons, whose blood mingled so often upon the same field, during the war of 1812, and who have more recently borne in triumph the flag of the country upon a foreign soil, will never permit alienation of feeling to weaken the power of their united efforts, nor internal dissentions to paralyze the great arm of freedom, uplifted for the vindication of self-government.

I have thus briefly presented such suggestions as seem to me especially worthy of your consideration. In providing for the present, you can hardly fail to avail yourselves of the light which the experience of the past casts upon the future.

The growth of our population has now brought us, in the destined career of our national history, to a point at which it well behooves us to expand our vision over the vast prospective.

The successive decimal returns of the census since the adoption of the constitution have revealed a law of steady progressive developement, which may be stated, in general terms, as a duplication every quarter-century. Carried forward from the point already reached, for only a short period of time as applicable to the existence of a nation, this law of progress, if unchecked, will bring us to almost incredible results.

A large allowance for a diminished proportional effect of emigration would not very materially reduce the estimate, while the increased average duration of human life, known to have already resulted from the scientific and hygienic improvements of the past fifty years, will tend to keep up through the next fifty, or perhaps hundred, the same ratio of growth, which has thus been revealed in our past progress; and to the influence of these causes may be added the influx of laboring masses from Eastern Asia to the Pacific side of our possessions, together with the probable accession of the populations already existing in other parts of our hemisphere, which within the period in question, will feel, with yearly increasing force, the natural attraction of so vast, powerful, and prosperous a confederation of self-governing republics, and will seek the privilege of being admitted within its safe and happy bosom, transferring with themselves, by a peaceful and healthy process of incorporation, spacious regions of virgin and exuberant soil, which are destined to swarm with the fast-growing and fast-spreading millions of our race.

These considerations seem fully to justify the presumption, that the law of population above stated will continue to act with undiminished effect, through at least the next half century, and that thousands of persons who have already arrived at maturity, and are now exercising the rights of freemen, will close their eyes on the spectacle of more than one hundred millions of population embraced within the majestic proportions of the American Union. It is not merely as an interesting topic of speculation that I present these views for your consideration. They have important practical bearings upon all the political duties we are called upon to perform. Heretofore our system of government has worked on what may be termed a miniature scale, in comparison with the developement, which it must thus assume, within a future so near at hand, as scarcely to be beyond the present of the existing generation.

It is evident that a confederation so vast and so varied, both in numbers and in territorial extent, in habits and in interests, could only be kept in national cohesion by the strictest fidelity to the principles of the constitution, as understood by those who have adhered to the most restricted construction of the powers granted by the people and the States. Interpreted and applied according to those principles, the great compact adapts itself with healthy ease and freedom to an unlimited extension of that benign system of federative self-government, of which it is our glorious, and I trust, immortal charter. Let us then, with redoubled vigilance, be on our guard against yielding to the temptation of the exercise of doubtful powers, even under the pressure of the motives of conceded temporary advantage and apparent temporary expediency.

The minimum of Federal Government, compatible with the maintenance of national unity and efficient action in our relations with the rest of the world, should afford the rule and measure of construction of our powers under the general clauses of the constitution. A spirit of strict deference to the sovereign rights and dignity of every State, rather than a disposition to subordinate the States into a provincial relation to the central authority, should characterize all our exercise of the respective powers temporarily vested in us as a sacred trust from the generous confidence of our constituents.

In like manner, as a manifestly indispensable condition of the perpetuation of the Union, and of the realization of that magnificent national future adverted to, does the duty become yearly stronger and clearer upon us, as citizens of the several States, to cultivate a fraternal and affectionate spirit, language, and conduct, in regard to other States, and in relation to the varied interests, institutions, and habits of sentiment and opinion, which may respectively characterize them. Mutual forbearance, respect, and non-interference in our personal action as citizens, and an enlarged exercise of the most liberal principles of comity in the public dealings of State with State, whether in legislation or in the execution of laws, are the means to perpetuate that confidence and fraternity, the decay of which a mere political union, on so vast a scale, could not long survive.

In still another point of view, is an important practical duty suggested by this consideration of the magnitude of dimensions, to which our political system, with its corresponding machinery of government, is so rapidly expanding. With increased vigilance does it require us to cultivate the cardinal virtues of public frugality and official integrity and purity. Public affairs ought to be so conducted that a settled conviction shall pervade the entire Union, that nothing short of the highest tone and standard of public morality marks every part of the administration and legislation of the general government. Thus will the federal system, whatever expansion time and progress may give it, continue more and more deeply rooted in the love and confidence of the people.

That wise economy, which is as far removed from parsimony as from corrupt and corrupting extravagance—that single regard for the public good, which will frown upon all attempts to approach the treasury with insidious projects of private interest cloaked under public pretexts—that sound fiscal administration, which, in the legislative department, guards against the dangerous temptations incident to overflowing revenue, and, in the executive, maintains an unsleeping watchfulness against the tendency of all national expenditure to extravagance,—while they are admitted elementary political duties, may, I trust be deemed as properly adverted to and urged, in view of the more impressive sense of that necessity which is directly suggested by the considerations now presented.

Since the adjournment of Congress, the Vice-President of the United States has passed from the scenes of earth, without having entered upon the duties of the station, to which he had been called by the voice of his countrymen. Having occupied almost continuously, for more than thirty years, a seat in one or the other of the two Houses of Congress, and having, by his singular purity and wisdom, secured unbounded confidence and universal respect, his failing health was watched by the nation with painful solicitude. His loss to the country, under all the circumstances, has been justly regarded as irreparable.

In compliance with the act of Congress of March 2, 1853, the oath of office was administered to him on the 24th of that month, at Ariadne estate, near Matanzas, in the island of Cuba; but his strength gradually declined, and was hardly sufficient to enable him to return to his home in Alabama, where, on the eighteenth day of April, in the most calm and peaceful way, his long and eminently useful career was terminated.

Entertaining unlimited confidence in your intelligent and patriotic devotion to the public interest, and being conscious of no motives on my part which are not inseparable from the honor and advancement of my country, I hope it may be my privilege to deserve and secure, not only your cordial co-operation in great public measures, but also those relations of mutual confidence and regard, which it is always so desirable to cultivate between members of co-ordinate branches of the government.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

Washington, D. C., December 5, 1853.

FOREIGN.

☞ *Omer Pasha* is not a Turk by birth, or a Mahometan in manners. He drinks wine, and the fact is known to all his army. He has no harem, and only one wife, an Austrian lady of Transylvania. He speaks often and openly of his Croatian origin. In private life he is said to be an amiable gentleman, and in the camp an excellent horseman and an indefatigable soldier.

☞ *No wonder* Ireland is becoming depopulated. Fifteen millions of dollars were sent from this country to Ireland, in 1851, for the purpose of emigration. Most of it was sent in sums under twenty-five dollars, and by persons who had to earn it by manual labor.

RELIGIOUS.

☞ *The clergy* of the Roman States, including monks and nuns, number sixty thousand. Their united incomes amount to ten millions and a half of dollars. The population of the Roman States is about equal to that of the State of New-York.—So says Father Gavazzi, in his new paper, *The Crusader.*

☞ *It is stated*, that there are twenty-four Catholic Churches in New York and its vicinity, *and nine convents*. At eighteen of these churches, the English language is preached, five the German, and one the French.

☞ *It is proposed* by some of the leading men among the Methodists, to form a Fire Insurance Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, for the purpose of insuring their church property therein. The amount of church property owned by this denomination through the United States amounts to about $10,000,000.

TEMPERANCE.

☞ *The Prairie City* of Terre Haute, Ind., speaking of temperance in that State says:—"The temperance question is being agitated in nearly all the cities and towns in this State, to an extent not heretofore known on this subject.

☞ *In Wisconsin*, it seems, they have a Maine Law Assembly and an opposition Senate, and though the State has given 2000 majority in favor of a prohibitory liquor law, their wishes will doubtless be thwarted by the Senate and Governor. It will be indeed strange, if the Legislature will oblige the people to have liquor contrary to their express wishes.

☞ *There are 1965* licensed places for the sale of liquor in the city and county of Philadelphia, or one for about every forty-four taxable inhabitants. The *Sun* thinks there are twice as many unlicensed grog-shops in the same limits, which would give one groggery for about every fifteen taxables!

☞ *Minister turned Vagrant.*—The St. Louis Intelligencer, of Tuesday week states that a man, named John T. Berger, was fined and committed in default under the vagrant act the previous day. Berger was formerly a Minister of the Gospel in Illinois, and was a man of respectable standing in his vocation, but for some time he has frequented the grog shops in St. Louis, and has often been confined in the calaboose for drunkeness.

☞ The Harrisburg Borough *Item* says: The engineers are now employed in locating the Lebanon Valley Railroad, preparatory to an early letting of the whole line from Harrisburg to Reading. We are informed that financial arrangements have been matured for the completion of the entire work, and stocking it with machinery, and that a third track is contemplated from Reading to Philadelphia, by which it is expected that a line will be opened from Harrisburg to Philadelphia, over which passengers will be transported in three hours.

☞ Smoking.—A writer in the *Daily Times*, the other day, in an article on smoking, takes the ground that if the fumes of the weed were necessary for man's welfare, the Creator would have given him a longer neck to secure a better draught, put the smoking apparatus a little lower down, and placed a patent arrangement on the top of his head to carry off the smoke.

☞ The Lewisburg Chronicle says the work on the road between Catawissa and Pottsgrove, four miles east of Lewisburg—with which the Spruce Creek road will connect, and thus complete a direct railroad from New York to Pittsburg—is rapidly progressing, and the grading of many of the sections is already completed.

☞ At a late term of the County Court, in Perry county, (Ia.), there were twenty-two applications for divorce, seventeen of which were granted. One lady set forth in her petition that her lord always slept with his back toward her. She obtained a bill.

GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—James B. Fidler's well known Watch, Jewelry and Silverware establishment, No. 12 South Second St., below Market, Philadelphia, presents a rich, rare and incomparable assortment of goods for the approaching Holidays, which cannot fail to please the purchaser.

Mr. F.'s stock is of the most fashionable description, comprising Gold and Silver Watches, Rings, Bracelets, Chains, Guards, Gold Pens, Pencil Cases, and a valuable variety of other articles belonging to the business, which will be disposed of at the lowest cash prices. [53-3t]

VAN LOAN'S Splendid North Light Daguerreotype Rooms, No. 120 Arch St., (one door below Sixth, South side,) Philadelphia.

Persons visiting the city during the approaching HOLIDAYS, should call on us and obtain one or more of our superior DAGUERREOTYPES, and have them set in Plain or Fancy Cases.

The reputation of our style of Portraits as high as any in Philadelphia, and they are offered at a much lower cost, thus giving all an equal chance to obtain a good picture, of the best materials.—Terms ONE DOLLAR and upwards.

Daguerreotypes of deceased friends or relatives copied equal to the originals, and of the same size, or larger, if desired. [50-1m]

Christmas Cheer.—During this season of festivity and joy, when all are prone to indulge in the good things of life to excess, let us not forget that the pleasures of the table, when enjoyed beyond the bounds of moderation are at the expense of health.

To those, however, who are inadvertently led into excess in eating or drinking and who, in consequence, suffer from headache, sick stomach, lowness of spirits, indigestion, and other complaints, the penalty of over-indulgence, we recommend a trial of *Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills*, of the North American College of Health. This medicine will remove all complaints which arise from irregularity of diet, and cleans the body from those bilious and corrupt humors which are the cause of the above distressing symptoms, and of every malady incident to man.

Caution.—Storekeepers should do well to exercise care in buying from pedlars. We understand that a man by the name of [illegible], and another by the name of Sm[illegible], are offering what purports to be Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills. These persons are not authorized Agents for this Medicine, and the article offered cannot be guaranteed as genuine. The genuine is for sale by Mrs. E. M. BEATTY, J. G. BROWN and J. S. C. MARTIN, Pottsville. Wholesale Office, 169 Race Street, Philadelphia.

N. B.—The public are respectfully informed that J. C. HUGHES, of Pottsville, is *not* an agent for this medicine, and we cannot guarantee as genuine the article offered by him for sale.

WILLIAM WRIGHT.

A CARD.—Since the Proprietor's recent Laboratory enlargements have allowed him to supply his numerous orders for Lyon's Katharion, he has also introduced some new chemical affinities which add still to the high character of this immensely popular article for Curing, Beautifying, Preserving and Restoring the Hair.

Let those now use
Who never used before,
And those who always used,
Now use the more.

The Price is still 25 cents, in large bottles, and may be had at any Store in the United States.

D. S. Barnes, Proprietor, 161 Broadway, N. Y.

Sold by every Dealer in Pottsville, F. W. Dyott & Sons, Philadelphia, Wholesale Agents.

POTTSVILLE MARKETS.

CORRECTED WEEKLY FOR THE JOURNAL.

Wheat Flour, bbl	$7 25	Dried peaches pared	[illegible]
Rye do do	5 00	do unpared	[illegible]
Wheat, bushel	1 40	Dried apples pared	1 25
Rye, do	[illegible]	Eggs, dozen	20
Corn, do	[illegible]	Butter	20
Oats, do	[illegible]	Shoulders	[illegible]
Potatoes, do	[illegible]	Hams	12 to 13
Timothy Seed	[illegible]	Hay, ton	16 00
Clover do	5 50	Plaster	5 00

MARRIED.

On the 26th ult., by the Rev. W. G. Mennig, LEVY ADAMS to ELIZABETH HALZMAN, both of Branch township.

On the 5th inst., by the same, JOHN SEITZINGER, Esq., to Mrs. MARIA BRUMM, of Norwegian township.

On the 8th inst., by the same, GEORGE BECK, of West Schuylkill Haven, to SARAH HILLEMAN, of North Manheim.

On the 7th inst., by the same, DAVID HAY to REBECCA EWARS, both of Auburn.

On the 5th inst., by the same, ADAM KNOLL, of Jefferson township, Berks County, to CAROLINE, daughter of Daniel B. [illegible], of Pottsville.

On the 18th ult., by the Rev. Robert Williams of Minersville, JOHN LEKELAS to HANNAH JONES, both of Pottsville.

On the 6th inst., by Rev. J. R. Graeff, CYRUS R. RUBY, M. D., (son of John Ruby) of Chambersburg, Franklin County, to ISABELLA W. JONES, formerly of Chester County, of [illegible], Berks Co., Pa.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

☞ THE NEW EDIFICE of the First Presbyterian Church in Tamaqua will be dedicated to the service of Almighty God on Sabbath, 18th inst. Several distinguished speakers from Philadelphia, will be present on the occasion. Collections will be taken during the day. Services [illegible] A. M., [illegible] of evening. The public are invited to attend. William R. Glenn, Pastor.

☞ PROF. G. W. ANDERSON will preach in the Baptist Church, Sunday morning next, at half past 10 o'clock. In the evening the Pastor will deliver the Second Lecture of his Course, entitled "Evidences of Christianity."

☞ BAPTIST CHURCH, Mahantango Street, Rev. J. HARVARD CASTLE, Pastor. Services every Sabbath at 10½ o'clock A. M., and 7 P. M.

☞ TRINITY CHURCH (EPISCOPAL)—Rev. DANIEL WASHBURN, Rector. Service held regularly in this Church every Sunday: Morning, at 10½ o'clock. Evening, at 7.

☞ THERE WILL BE preaching in the English Lutheran Church, Market street, every Sunday morning and evening.

GENERAL NOTICES.

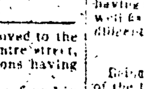
☞ PULASKI LODGE, No. 216.—A stated Meeting of Pulaski Lodge, No. 216 will be held on Monday evening, Dec. 12, 1853, at 6½ o'clock. Punctual attendance is requested.

☞ A MEETING of the Clerks of the Borough of Pottsville, will be held in the Apprentices' and Young Mens' Library Room on Wednesday evening, December 14th, at 7 o'clock. A full attendance is requested as business of importance will be transacted.

☞ POTTSVILLE LITERARY SOCIETY.—A Stated Meeting of the Pottsville Literary Society will be held on Wednesday evening, Dec. 14th, 1853, in Foster's Hall, at 7½ o'clock: Lecture—by Rev. D. Washburn. Reader—Anthony Heger. Question—"Are we approaching a monetary crisis?" Affirmative—John Warner, John Y. Wren; Negative—J. T. Shoener, A. S. Sillyman. By order of the Society, James Lewis, Sec'y.

☞ ODD FELLOWS' CEMETRY.—Persons desirous of purchasing burial lots in the Odd Fellows' Cemetry, will apply to FRANK POTT, at the Iron Store, Town Hall; JOHN J. JONES, Minersville street; or JOHN S. C. MARTIN, Centre street. Nov. 12 1853. 46-tf

LOST & FOUND.



STRAY COWS.—Came to the premises of the subscriber, two COWS—one a mouse-color Muley Heifer, the other black.—The owner is requested to call, prove property, or they will be sold according to law. THOS. HIGGINS, Mt. Laffy. Dec. 10, 1853 [illegible]

$100 REWARD.—Lost on Saturday, October 1st, Twenty 50 Dollar notes of the Farmers' Bank of Reading. The above reward will be paid on delivery of said notes to the Miners' Bank of Pottsville. Oct. 1, 1853. 40-tf

COAL.

J. M. BEATTY & SON have removed to the office of C. W. Pitman, Esq., in Centre street, below the American House, where persons having business with them will please call. JAMES THOMAS & CO., will also be found in the same office. April 16, 1852. 16-tf

GEORGE WIGGAN & SON, Miners of Red Ash Coal, Tamaqua. Jan. 8, 1853. 2-1y

NOTICE.—CHARLES MILLER & CO. have removed their office in Philadelphia, from No. 81 Dock Street, to No. 13 WALNUT Street, north side between Front and Second Streets. Philad'a., Jan. 8, 1853 2-1y

IRON & CUTLERY.

MAGIC LANTERNS.—Something to please the youngsters during the coming holidays, for sale at the Town Hall Iron Store, by FRANK POTT. November 19, 1853. 47-tf

HOOK SPIKES FOR T RAILS.—100 Kegs for sale low, to close out a consignment, at the Town Hall Iron Store, by FRANK POTT. Nov. 19, 1853 47-tf

TABLE CUTLERY.—American goods in this line are not to be excelled, having from the finest balanced Ivory handle to good common serviceable goods. I am able to please the most fastidious. For sale at the Town Hall Iron Store, by FRANK POTT. November 19, 1853 47-tf

BUILDING HARDWARE.—An unequalled assortment of all that is necessary to build or repair a house, for sale at the Town Hall Iron Store. FRANK POTT. November 19, 1853 47-tf

GAS PIPE—for machinery, with L. stops, &c., at the Town Hall Iron Store. FRANK POTT. November 19, 1853 47-tf

WANTED.

WANTED.—At the Salino Mines, six miles from Shawneetown, in Illinois, 100 good, sober, steady Miners. I am paying 2½ cents per bushel for mining coal, and to men of the right stripe constant employment will be given the year around. For further particulars, apply to ANDREW RUSSEL, Esq., Pottsville. S. L. CASEY, Sup't. Dec. 3, 1853 49-1m

WANTED—To superintend extensive mining operations in Anthracite Coal, a person thoroughly conversant with mining, having a knowledge of accounts and possessing business qualifications. One actively engaged in business would be preferred. Address "BOX 1671 New York Post Office, with references, terms, &c. Dec. 3, 1853 49-3t

WANTED.—A PRACTICAL BOSS MINER, one fully competent to take charge of the coal works known as the [illegible] Colliery near Middleport, in the Township, Schuylkill County. Must be sufficiently acquainted with working large and small veins and proper ventilation of mines, none other need apply. Liberal wages will be paid. Apply to Francis Danlell, Middleport, or to ROGERS, SINNICKSON & CO., Pottsville. Nov. 26, 1853 48-tf

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.—A GOOD WOOD Turner, at the Pottsville Steam Planing and Turning Mill, to whom constant employment and good wages will be given. WM. POLLOCK, Ag't. October 12, 1853. 43-tf

DOOR SPRINGS—A SEASONABLE ARTICLE.—India Rubber Door Springs, price 40 cts. Just received and for sale at B. BANNAN'S Book and Variety Store. Also, Rubber Finger Stalls for sore fingers—price 6¼ cents. November 5, 1853 45—

FOR SALE & TO LET.

FOR RENT.—The dwelling part of the house, in Port Carbon, recently occupied by Dr Hance, a few doors below the Post Office. Inquire on the premises, of Dr. J. J. WRIGHT. ☞ Board will be taken in payment. Dec. 3, 1853 49-tf

WHITE ASH COLLIERY—FOR SALE.—The Lease, Fixtures and Machinery of the celebrated BLACK VALLEY COLLIERY, situate on Mine Hill, near Minersville, comprising the BLACK HEATH, BLACK VALLEY, EAST WHITE ASH, and other veins. For terms, which will be liberal, apply to D. B. BENNETT, Ag't., Minersville. Dec. 3, 1853 49-4t*

FOR SALE—A BARGAIN.—A Second-hand [illegible]teen horse Steam Engine, eight inch bore, three feet stroke, two thirty inch boilers, eighteen feet long—Fly-wheel twelve feet in diameter. Part of the engine may be seen at the Machine Shop of James S. Cox, where it has recently put in order. Apply to CHARLES VAN REED, near Reading. November 26, 1853 48-3t

FOR SALE.—The subscribers offer for sale, the well known Tavern Stand, Stabling, Ice House and other buildings situated in the town of Port Carbon, Schuylkill County, at the corner of Coal and [illegible] streets. The lot upon which the improvements stand is 60 by 220 feet, and is one of the most desirable business locations in the Borough. The purchaser of the above can also, buy on very reasonable terms, the property adjoining the same on the west, which would give 120 by 220 feet of ground and be the most valuable lot in Port Carbon. For terms apply to WM. B. BELL, Esq., Port Carbon, or J. D. Meredith, Centre Street, Pottsville. Nov. 26, 1853 48-tf

FOR LEASE.—To a good Tenant, a valuable Tract of Coal Land, known as the "Zerby Tract," situate in [illegible] Township, Schuylkill County, east of Tremont. It lies on both sides of the Mine Hill Extension to Middle Creek—contains about 430 acres, is heavily timbered, and well adapted for an extensive operation. Several veins of Red Ash Coal have been proved and found to be of first-rate quality. For further information apply to JOHN BANNAN, or HESTER CLYMER, Pottsville. November 5, 1853 45-tf

FOR SALE.—A [illegible] lot on Centre Street, No. [illegible] in J. Wynn's addition to Pottsville [illegible] from Centre to Railroad street, is bounded on the [illegible] by lot of S. Hough, Esq. on the north, by a [illegible] street. For terms and particulars enquire of the subscriber, at his Drug Store, Centre Street, Pottsville. Indisputable title will be given. JOHN S. C. MARTIN, Agent for the Owner. August 10, 1853 27-tf

FOR SALE.—The subscriber offers for sale a [illegible] horse Engine, (one of the best in the region,) together with all its connections; also, Breaking Rollers, Screens, &c., all ready for a business of fifty thousand tons, or more, per annum. JOHN PINKERTON, Mahantongo Street, Pottsville; or St. Clair. June 18, 1853 25-tf

TO LET.—A large and commodious House and Fixtures in Market Street, opposite the Episcopal Church, Centre Street. Inquire of JOHN BANNAN. Jan. 22, 1853. 3-tf

GREENWOOD LOTS FOR SALE.—Valuable Building lots in the most central part of the Borough of Pottsville, lately laid out on the Greenwood Estate, are now offered for sale. Apply to A. RUSSEL, Agent for the owners, at his office in Mahantango [illegible]. Pottsville May 3, 1851 18-

NOTICES.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—WHEREAS Letters of Administration, on the Estate of CATHARINE FOX, late of the Borough of Pottsville, in the County of Schuylkill, deceased, have been granted to the subscriber; notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make payment, and those having claims will present them to said Agent. ADAM SHERTLE, Administrator. Dec. 10, 1853. 50-6t

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.—The Butchering business, carried on by HEIN & Co. at Tuscarora, was dissolved, December 1st, by mutual consent. The business will hereafter be carried on and all accounts settled by Jonas Hein. Signed JONAS HEIN, JAMES REAGAN, JACOB WINTER. December 10, 1853. 50-3t

OFFICE SCHUYLKILL VALLEY NAV. & R. R. Co., Philadelphia, December [illegible], 1853. The annual meeting of the stockholders will be held at the office of the Company, No. 7 Library street, on MONDAY, Dec. 26th, at [illegible] o'clock, A. M., at which time an election for a President, six Managers, a Secretary and Treasurer, will be held. F. C. HOLLIS, Sec'y. Dec. 10, 1853 50-3t

OFFICE MILL CREEK & MINE HILL NAV. & R. R. Co., Philadelphia, December 5, 1853. The annual meeting of the Stockholders will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 7 Library st., on MONDAY, December [illegible], at 12 o'clock, at which time an election [illegible] Managers, a Secretary and Treasurer will be held. F. C. HOLLIS, Sec'y. Dec. 10, 1853.

OFFICE [illegible] CREEK RAILROAD COMPANY, [illegible], December 5, 1853. At an election held by [illegible] Company, December 5, 1853, in the Borough of [illegible], Schuylkill County, the following persons were duly elected to serve [illegible]: President—CALEB WHEELER. Managers—John Lewis, Jacob Huber, [illegible]. Secretary—John Strimpler. Treasurer—William Graeff. JOHN STRIMPLER, Sec'y. Pinegrove, Dec. 10, 1853. 50-1t

PROPOSALS will be received until the first of January next, for the mining of Coal in this [illegible]. Particulars can be had by calling at the office of the subscriber in Market Street, Pottsville. OSCAR F. [illegible]. Dec. 3, 1853 49-3t

NOTICE TO MINERS.—Proposals for mining for the subscriber in Silver Creek will be received until Saturday, 17th December, on specifications may be had of JAMES NEILL, or WILLIAM [illegible]. Silver Creek, Dec. 3, 1853. 49-3t

THE DAUPHIN AND SUSQUEHANNA RAILROAD has been opened between AUBURN and PINEGROVE, for the transportation of passengers and freight. The departure of the trains is as follows: Leaves Pinegrove at 6½ o'clock, A. M., to meet the Philadelphia train to Pottsville. Returning—Leaves Auburn at 11½ o'clock, A. M., immediately after the arrival of the Philadelphia Train.

RATES OF FARE:

From Pinegrove to [illegible] [illegible]
From Pinegrove to White House [illegible]
From Pinegrove to [illegible] [illegible]
From Pinegrove to [illegible] [illegible]
From Pinegrove to Auburn [illegible]
Way Fare per mile [illegible]

Each passenger will be entitled to 50 lbs. of Baggage. Nov. 26, 1853.

SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION.—NOTICE TO BOATMEN.—The water will not be drawn from any level or Pool of the Navigation this season for repairs, earlier than January 1, 1854. Every effort will be made to continue the line in good navigable order during the [illegible] season. On the appearance of ice, causing obstruction, the Local Superintendents have been instructed to break the ice with their respective repair forces in readiness to break a passage of ample width for such ascending or descending boats as may be on the way. In case ice be formed of such strength as to render this impracticable, measures will be taken, on the occurrence of a thaw, to reopen the line and allow detained boats to proceed to their destination. No boat at the head of the line will be permitted to lie over winter in the Company's Docks at Port Carbon or Mount Carbon, nor at Schuylkill Haven, except in the [illegible] Dock, as the usual winter repairs and cleansing require them to be kept clear. Boats must not lie in or be moored for the winter within twenty rods of any lock, and those having charge of them, will be required to place them in such positions, in the levels, as will admit of the water being drawn without injury. JAMES F. SMITH, Chief Engineer. Office Schuylkill Nav. Co. [illegible], Reading, Nov 10, 1853. 47-tf

LAW PARTNERSHIP.—The undersigned have entered into copartnership in the practice of Law, and have taken the office lately occupied by F. W. HUGHES, Esq. The business of Mr. Hughes having been by him entrusted to us, will receive, as well as all else that may be confided to our care, our diligent attention. WM. B. WELLS, JOHN HUGHES.

Being desirous of withdrawing from the practice of the law in the Courts of this County, I have confided all unfinished professional business to the care of Wm. B. Wells and John Hughes, Esqrs., whom I will assist in the management of the same until all my existing engagements are discharged. F. W. HUGHES. August 6, 1853. 32-tf

NOTICE.—The Books of Accounts of the late firm of BRIGHT & POTT, have been placed in the hands of the undersigned for collection, and those indebted will please call and make payment, without further delay. JOHN C. CONRAD, J. P. Pottsville, July 23, 1853. 30-tf

NOTICE.—The subscribers hereby give notice that application will be made to the next Legislature of Pennsylvania for a charter of a Savings Bank, to be located in Borough of Pottsville, with a capital of Fifty Thousand Dollars, and the privilege of increasing it to One Hundred Thousand Dollars, and of receiving money on interest and discounting, to be called "THE POTTSVILLE SAVINGS BANK." R. T. Taylor, George Lauer, George Bright, Samuel Sillyman, D. G. Yuengling, John W. Weber, Solomon Foster, [illegible] J. Fry, J. F. Whitney, William Fox, John Pinkerton, Nathan Evans. July 2, 1853. 27-6m

NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that the citizens of Schuylkill County intend to apply to the Legislature, at the next session, for a charter of a Bank of Discount and Deposit, to be located in the Borough of Tamaqua, Schuylkill County, Pa., to be called the "THE ANTHRACITE BANK OF TAMAQUA," with a capital of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars, with the privilege to increase the capital of said Bank to Five Hundred Thousand Dollars. Robert Ratcliffe, B. T. Hughes, E. J. Fry, W. W. McGuigan, [illegible], [illegible] A. Heaton. July 2, 1853. 27—6m

NOTICE.—The Stockholders of the Miners' Bank of Pottsville, in the County of Schuylkill, hereby give notice that they intend to apply to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, at its next session, for an alteration of their charter for increasing their Capital Stock from Two Hundred Thousand Dollars to Five Hundred Thousand Dollars. Said Bank is located in the Borough of Pottsville, in the County of Schuylkill, created for the specific object of a Bank of Discount, Deposit and Issue. By order of the Board, CHAS. LOESER, Cashier. June 25, 1853. 26-tf

NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the next Legislature of Pennsylvania for a charter for a Bank, to be located in the Borough of Pottsville, with a capital of Fifty Thousand Dollars, with the privilege of increasing it to One Hundred Thousand Dollars, with Banking and Discounting privileges, to be called the Miners Savings Bank. June 25, 1853. 25-tf

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that I have this day, June 6th, associated with me M. EDGAR RICHARDS, Esq., in the practice of Law, which, in all its various branches, will hereafter be conducted under the firm of NEVILLE & RICHARDS. Office, Centre street, next door to R. R. Morris' Store, Pottsville. JNO. C. NEVILLE. June 11, 1853 24-tf

PURDON'S DIGEST—NEW EDITION—1700—1853—EIGHTH EDITION—Edited by F. C. BRIGHTLY, Esq., with Marginal References; Foot Notes to the Judicial Decisions and the dates of the Acts; and Index of 240 pages, referring to the sections as well as the page, &c., &c. In one convenient Imperial Octavo Volume. Price $5. Just published and for sale by B. BANNAN, Law and Miscellaneous Bookseller. Dec. 3, 1853 49—

CAST STEEL, Shear Steel, Bar Iron, Nail Rods, Railroad Iron, Flue, &c., for sale at the Town Hall Iron Store. FRANK POTT.