The Miners' Journal

POTTSVILLE, PA.

Saturday Morning, Feb. 4

B. BANNAN, Editor and Proprietor:
C. LITTLE, Associate Editor.

HENRY K. STRONG

ON COAL CORPORATIONS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *Harrisburg, Jan. 19, 1854.*

B. BANNAN, Esq.—*Dear Sir*:—I am very much obliged to you for the number of the *Miners' Journal* of January 14th, which you were good enough to send me, containing the Annual Statistics of the Coal trade for 1853.

As you have entirely mistaken my present position in relation to the General Mining Law, I hope you will be kind enough to insert this letter in the *Journal*.

As long as I have the honor of having a seat on this floor, I will oppose the extension of the Mining Law to Schuylkill County, unless the people would with great unanimity declare in its favor.—I do not believe that any law should be forced upon any community against their wishes. Still I believe that the time will come, when some law, allowing associated capital to be employed in opening mines, sinking deep shafts to the great Coal seams, in the centre of the basin, now beyond the efforts of individual enterprise, and in erecting buildings and furnishing machinery, will be asked for by the Operators themselves. Until that time comes let it rest.

Instead of a General Mining Law, such as was enacted last session, I should greatly prefer a well guarded Improvement Law, under which Companies should not be allowed to mine Coal, or deal in the article in *their* corporate capacities, or even purchase it of their tenants. Such a provision I should have introduced into the bill of last session, if I had not been over-ruled by others. I regret that I did not do it.

You were right in quoting from a Report written by me, in 1851, advising the Dauphin and Susquehanna Coal Company to rent their mines to *individual* Operators, but you were wrong in the inference that there has ever been any change of opinion upon that subject. You might also have copied the same advice from my report on the Broad Top Coal-field, made last Summer, in which I reiterated the same opinion to the Broad Top Railroad and Coal Company, not to mine Coal in their corporate capacity. I always do this when I have an opportunity, as I am firmly convinced that it is for the interest of the Companies themselves that their operations should be confined like those of the Little Schuylkill, the Hazleton, the Beaver Meadow, the Spring Mountain and the Sugar Loaf Companies, to building Railroads, opening Mines, and erecting machinery, leaving to individuals the mining and selling of Coal. The Delaware and North American Companies, in Schuylkill County, and the Beaver Meadow Company upon the Lehigh, present in their histories unanswerable arguments against corporate mining. The Dauphin and Susquehanna, the Lykens Valley, and the several Coal Companies, now just going into operation upon the Mahanoy and the Shamokin, will all find in time, their fancied profits consumed in salaries, agencies, and corporate management, their Coal mined out, their Companies overwhelmed with debts and their credit exhausted. The Hazleton Company, now one of the most prosperous upon the Lehigh, was at one time so low, in consequence of mining in its corporate capacity, that it *stock sold for less than Two Dollars per share, for fifty paid*. The company abandoned mining, rented its mines to individuals, and now its stock can not be purchased at fifty per cent. above the par value. I am therefore, with you opposed to corporate mining.

But what I desire is, that Companies should be *allowed to do what is out of the reach of individual enterprise*. Individuals could never have built the Reading Railroad, or construct the Little Schuylkill Navigation. Individuals will never sink those great perpendicular shafts in the centre of the Southern Coal-field to the great White Ash Coal seams which underlie the whole basin. This must be done if Pottsville is to maintain her present position in the Coal trade, or if Schuylkill County is to continue to be the great source of Anthracite Coal. The small operations which have hitherto been confined to the narrow seams of Red Ash Coal overlaying the White Ash in the centre of the basin, and to the edges upon its northern rim, are insignificant and trifling, when compared with the great Collieries which will in after times circle around Pottsville, reaching with immense shafts the great and inexhaustible seams below.

You must be aware of the fact, that Schuylkill County is fast losing her proud pre-eminence in the Anthracite Coal trade. That pre-eminence can be, and ought to be maintained; but it cannot be done by hoisting associated capital from her borders. The first seventeen years of the trade, from 1820 to 1837 inclusive, the *Lehigh held the preponderance*; but in 1838 the amount of Schuylkill Coal sent to market exceeded that of the Lehigh by 17,062 tons. Ever since that time, a period of twenty-five years, with the exception of 1831, when the business operations of Schuylkill County were partially stopped by a great derangement in the *money market, and of 1851, when the Panic in trade* was entirely suspended, in consequence of the enlargement of the Union Canal, the Schuylkill has had the ascendancy over the Lehigh and every other region united, until the present year. This year, the thirty-third of the trade, Schuylkill County, with ample avenues to market, with a *demand for her Anthracite*, which could not, and which has not been supplied; with not a day of detainment in the trade; with remunerating prices, has been distanced for the first time, in the race of fair competition, for a quarter of a century. It now remains with her own people to say, whether she is to remain in the rear forever.

From your invaluable paper of January 14, 1854, I select the following as proof of the foregoing:

PENNSYLVANIA ANTHRACITE
Sent to Market from the commencement of the Trade:

Years.	Schuyl.	Lehigh.	All other Reg'ns.	Total.
1820,	365		365	365
1821,	1,074		1,074	1,074
1822,	1,450		2,240	3,720
1823,	1,128		5,823	7,101
1824,	1,397		9,541	11,938
1825,	6,508		28,393	34,901
1826,	16,767		31,280	48,047
1827,	31,360		32,047	63,494
1828,	47,284		30,932	77,516
1829,	59,971		52,110	112,081
1830,	69,984		84,759	154,743
1831,	81,551		84,966	166,516
1832,	109,271		154,600	263,871
1833,	232,797		234,777	467,574
1834,	226,092		149,944	376,036
1835,	329,708½		221,259	550,967½
1836,	432,045		252,072	684,117
1837,	549,152		339,289	888,441
1838,	446,975		291,522	838,497
1839,	453,247		355,252	809,499
1840,	376,151		370,353	746,504
1841,	693,193		356,76	869,414
1842,	953,371		535,[illegible]	1,488,906
1843,	700,250		408,131	1,108,381
1844,	1,074,856		351,763	1,426,619
1845,	[illegible]		756,869	1,931,699
1846,	1,295,928		891,388	2,023,052
1847,	1,337,051		1,046,077	2,383,092
1848,	1,718,[illegible]		1,331,475	2,982,359
1849,	1,658,[illegible]		1,371,873	3,089,355
1850,	1,795,926		1,559,441	3,242,866
1851,	2,184,240		1,573,963	3,356,899
1852,	2,517,433		2,475,978	4,993,471
1853,	2,611,603		2,643,549	5,195,151
	23,003,012		20,037,479	43,060,491

It will be seen that the increase of Anthracite coal sent to market, from every quarter is only 215,680 tons. Of this increase only 31,946 tons is placed in Schuylkill County. The west part of Schuylkill County which sent its Coal down the Union Canal from Pinegrove, and which is all mined above the Water level, increased 14,117 tons—the west part of Schuylkill County, where the Little Schuylkill Co. open the mines, sink the slopes and erect the machinery for their tenants, the increase was 64,196 tons, while the centre of the County where the oldest Collieries were erected, where individual enterprise has been tasked to the utmost all—where the monuments of bright expectations and ruined hopes, are often seen in the dilapidated fixtures, near the hatty or worked out mines—here, around Pottsville, and Minersville, and Schuylkill, and Port Carbon, and other populous towns, there has been 45,213 tons less sent to market in 1853, than in 1852!!!

The market now demands an annual increase of between 2 and 300,000 tons of Coal, and if there is not sufficient Anthracite, the Bituminous will be brought in to supply the demand. This will be seen by the following extract from your excellent Coal article of January 14th:

"CUMBERLAND COAL TRADE.—We find in the Cumberland *Miners' Journal* the following table of the Coal sent to market from that region, from 1842 to 1853 inclusive, which shows the annual increase:

Years.	Jennos'-R. Valley. Tons.	Braddock's Piedmont R. Valley. Tons.	Region. Tons.	Total. Tons.
1842,	757	951		1,708
1843,	3,691	6,421		10,062
1844,	3,165	9,534		14,890
1845,	13,738	10,913		24,651
1846,	41,240	18,555		29,795
1847,	20,615	32,325		52,940
1848,	36,571	43,000		79,571
1849,	52,673	78,773		142,449
1850,	72,950	119,898		192,848
1851,	122,331	135,348		257,679
1852,	174,591	159,287		331,178
1853,	244,441	225,813	73,725	543,979
	764,027	841,020	73,725	1,678,773

Showing an increase of 199,862 tons during 1853. The increase of Foreign Coal imported into the country during the last year was, in round numbers, about 30,000 tons. This would give an increase in the supply of Bituminous Coal sent to the market, independent of the Virginia Coal Trade of 229,862 tons."

In addition to this, there was considerable Bituminous Coal sent to market from Pennsylvania—and the trade is increasing. The Canal Company's Report just published, does not give the quantity of Coal, but states that the tolls paid on Bituminous Coal leaving east from Pittsburgh and Holiday, have amounted to $45,136 17. It is therefore probable that the increase of Bituminous Coal in 1853, cannot be less than 300,000 tons—making with the increase of Anthracite 515,680 tons, which is just about enough to supply the demand.

The County of Schuylkill will not send one more ton to the water in 1854 than it has in 1853. *Mark the prediction*. Several new collieries it is true will come into operation; but then several old ones will have ceased to be worked, out. One hundred thousand tons may positively be sent to market, but the seven new Anthracite furnaces that have this year been erected in the Valley of the Schuylkill will require 165,000 tons of Coal to supply them. 500,000 tons of Coal will be required in 1854 on the line, in the valley of the Schuylkill. Where then will the supply come from, to supply the demand for 3,800,000 tons of Anthracite, which is an increase of 600,000 tons? Not from Schuylkill, not from the Lehigh; the increase there, cannot reach 75,000 tons. Not from the Lackawanna, the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and Lebanon and Hudson Canal Companies have nearly reached the maximum of their capacity: not from the Wyoming Valley as all the increase and in-re, will be sent northward to a new market upon the opening in the Spring of the North Branch Canal, to Western New York. The collieries upon the Mahanoy and Shamokin are new, and will do very little the present year.

The great supply of Anthracite Coal is in Schuylkill County. The whole space between the Sharp and the *Broad Mountains*, is underlaid with the great White Ash seams that crop out on the Northern rim of the basin. That portion of the country called barren land, and where the small Red Ash seams have been worked out and the tracts abandoned are the richest coal lands in Pennsylvania.—Here as in England great Collieries will be established. *Here* great perpendicular shafts will be sunk, some of which will be more than one thousand feet deep, to the great seams.

The Coal field. Some of these great collieries will annually send HALF a million of tons of Coal to market, and before it can be done the consumption of Coal in this great country will demand it.

But this cannot be done without capital—and associated capital—individual enterprise is not now equal to the task and never will be. If companies were now formed it would take from five to ten years to put *in operation such collieries*. By that time there will be a market for 10,000,000 of tons of Coal.

I am therefore in favor of a General Law, which shall be equally open to all, allowing Improvement Companies to be formed, not to mine Coal or deal in the article, but to do what is beyond the reach of individual enterprise. But I will not vote to extend it to Schuylkill County without the general consent of the people.

HENRY K. STRONG.

REMARKS.—In the main we find Mr. Strong agrees with us on the subject of Corporation Mining. We inferred that his views had been changed since his report on the Dauphin & Susquehanna Company to 1851, recently quoted in the *Journal*, from his strenuous advocacy of the General Mining Law in the Legislature last Winter; but, according to his explanation, he favored a saving clause for Schuylkill County, but was overruled by others. So far, so good.

As to the necessity of Corporations for enterprises too extensive for individual means, no sane person will object to such proposition. But to build a Railroad or dig a Coal is a very different thing from preparing a Colliery and mining Coal. The experience of this Region proves incontestibly that individuals are not only able to conduct the business; but that they actually do sink shafts, erect the necessary improvements and mine Coal on a large scale, while neighboring Companies are lying idle or content themselves with some trifling work as a ruse to raise the price of their stock in the market. *This is what has been* done and is still doing, and we know no reason for anticipating any material change in the future.

Mr. S. thinks we must know that Schuylkill County is fast losing her pre-eminence in the Anthracite Coal trade. We can assure him that we are not aware of anything of the kind. If he will throw off the semi-Bituminous trade of Dauphin County, he will find that Schuylkill did turnish more Anthracite Coal than all the other regions together, in 1851 and 1853. It is true that the excess is small in both years, but by looking at the table he will find that the trade has fluctuated greatly from all the different regions from various, local causes, which affected the trade in those years.

Mr. S. is also in error in stating that we *had a full demand* and no stoppages in the trade in 1853. It is notorious that there was a considerable overstock of Schuylkill Coal in the markets in the Spring of 1852, and that the demand for Coal was unusually slack during the Winter and following Spring up to about the 1st of June—and the *trade fell behind the previous year from 60 to 70,000 tons*; not from the want of ability to supply the Coal, but solely from a want of demand. After that period, the discovery of certain frauds checked the operations of several large Collieries to the extent of at least 50,000 tons. There were an unusual number of turnouts throughout the year, many of the extensive Collieries standing idle for weeks at a time, which affected the trade to the extent of at least 50,000 tons after the demand commenced; and added to this the great increase of intemperance during the year in our midst, high freights, and an unusual scarcity of laborers drawn off by flattering inducements to grade Railroads, retarded the trade to at least 100,000 tons more. To these causes alone are to be attributed the small increase in Schuylkill County, and not to the inability of the Collieries to furnish the Coal. All must admit, that under these circumstances, it is strange that we have maintained our position so well—considering too the great extent of Coal fields opening all around us for several years past, urged to their utmost extent by a spirit of speculation which scarcely knew any bounds, stopping at no expense, and withdrawing a large number of hands from the regular mining operations of this County.—It was nothing but individual enterprise here, and Coal Companies elsewhere, that enabled us to do so—and we might here remark that more than the whole increase of Anthracite thrown into the market in 1853, was derived from the Wilkesbarre region, and that increase was mined by individual operators, who have recently entered into the business in that quarter in opposition to the Companies. None of the Coal Companies with their "associated capital," increased their business in 1853, except the Penn Coal Company, and if we are correctly informed, all their increase was purchased by the Company from Operators who mined it in their individual capacity.

The increase in the Tamaqua portion of the region was caused mainly by the advantage they possess in having a large and permanent resident population of Miners, who own their houses and lots, and who, consequently, belonging to the better class of Miners, work more regularly and were not attracted abroad by high wages offered by speculating Coal Companies in other regions, and who, finding many of their "bubbles have burst," and their bright visions of fortunes made by "associated capital," vanished, are *now* standing idle in an effort to reduce the wages of their hands, so as to enable them to compete with the individual enterprise of this region.—The only reason why the trade fell off in the middle portion of the region named, in 1853 was, that in this section the Coal mining corporations that exist among us are located. One was broken down in the mining business, and the other made *no improvements* on their property for mining—the Collieries were abandoned, and it is generally on their property where the "monuments of bright expectations and ruined hopes are seen in the shape of dilapidated fixtures"—so graphically described by Mr. S. These Companies are now begging individuals to take hold of their land, and several of these "dilapidated" Collieries have been leased by individuals, who are putting them in working order, which the "associated capital" of the Companies failed to do, and the middle district of the Coal region will show an increase the present year, equal in proportion to the increase from any other section of the Coal regions, either in or out of the County of Schuylkill.

The Bituminous Coal Trade we admit, increased last year in the Cumberland Region, but the increase was not half as great as was promised and expected by many, considering the *extraordinary* exertion put forth to create stock speculating companies and sell the stock. This trade was also greatly aided by the high prices of transportation charged by the different carrying companies from the Anthracite Regions, while *their* Coal was transported at less than *cost prices*. *Their rates* of transportation has been enhanced 50 cts., while our rates (if wise counsel prevails), will be considerably diminished this year.

We agree with Mr. S., that an increase of 500,000 tons of Anthracite will be required this year—but the assertion that "Schuylkill County will not send one ton more to market in 1854 than she did in 1853," shows that he is totally unacquainted with the capabilities of this Region, and has been misled by the few advocates of Coal corporations among us, whom we have heard make use of similar assertions here. *The ability of our collieries to produce Coal is now, and has been for the last fifteen years ahead of the demand*; and we can assure Mr S., that we have Collieries prepared and under preparations, which could be made ready during this year, to increase the supply not less than *half a million of tons*, provided we had the *working power to mine* that additional quantity, and the facilities to transport it to market. All the principal Regions are at present in a similar condition. It is not the want of *colliery capacity*, but the deficiency in *working and transporting power* that will limit the supply this year. This is well known to the trade, and they know that these difficulties can only be partially overcome the present year, and consequently the supply will be within the demand, which will keep the trade healthy through the whole year.

To show how fallacious are the statements of Mr. S., with regard to the increased quantity of Coal that will be sent to market this year from Schuylkill County, under ordinary circumstances, we will merely remark that owing to the overstocked market of the previous year, and the want of demand in the early part of the season, the supply from Schuylkill County last year, was short of the supply the previous year to the 1st of June, about 60,000 tons. This year the demand will be brisk in the early part of the season, and instead of being behind 60,000 on the 1st of June, we will be at least 100,000 tons ahead, making a difference of 160,000 tons. Last year under many disadvantageous circumstances, some of which have already been removed, we increased over 100,000 tons after June—and this year, with increased facilities, we can do better.

We agree with Mr. S., that the great *body* of Anthracite Coal lies in Schuylkill County, and as the *depth of collieries* increase the expenses of preparing the collieries must also increase. Twenty *years ago*, when the expense of opening collieries ranged from $500 to $1000, we heard the same cry in favor of companies *for opening* coal mines. Then no person dreamed of a colliery costing over 10 or $20,000, which was considered far beyond the reach of individual enterprise.—Now we have collieries erected on the land of other parties, by individual operators, that have cost upwards of $100,000—still the cry is the same on the part of the same class of people, (speculators, not Coal operators,) that charters are absolutely necessary. Does not the history of all the Coal companies incorporated in this region brand the assertion as a falsehood? and what guarantee have we that other companies will be managed any better than those were, if you incorporate them? Cannot land owners associate together themselves where tracts are too small to make the necessary improvements, under existing laws, without acts of incorporation? The North American Coal Company has had a charter upwards of 20 years, and owns a valuable tract of Coal land in the vicinity of Pottsville—why does not this company exhibit to the people the great advantages corporations possess over individuals in improving the region? The Little Schuylkill Company is not a case in point—because the stock is held by a few individuals, who purchased out the old company at about one-fourth the value of the property—they will not sell the stock, but hold it as a good investment, which is yielding them a large income.

We would pursue the subject farther, but want of room compels us to conclude for the present—and in doing so we would merely remark, that many of our operators are men of wealth, who can command means, and possess equal ability with corporations to make all the improvements the Coal trade requires;—they, in a memorial, which will be found in another column, declare that they are fully competent to the task and desire to be let alone. When there are not, they will be the first to make the discovery, and we rejoice that Mr. Strong has concluded to *let them alone* until they ask for charters to aid them in their business.

For ourselves, we frankly state that we would not object so much to a well guarded general improvement law, if it were not the entering wedge to more objectionable charters—and it is on this ground that our operators, and the people generally, oppose the extension of either a General Mining or Improvement Law to the County of Schuylkill.

THE POPE'S NUNCIO:

His Mission to the United States.

We had intended following up our remarks of last week on this subject, but a friend has so effectually discussed the whole matter in the annexed article, that we gladly make the substitution—the letter of the Pope referred to, will be found under our Congressional head:

The letter of the Pope of Rome to the President is well worthy of attention. The letter is artfully worded and expressly ignores the supposition that M. Bedini was intended to be an envoy or diplomatic agent of any kind to our Government. The letter states,

1. That the Archbishop of Thebes has been appointed "Envoy in ordinary and Nuncio of the Apostolic See," to the Court of Brazil.

2. That he has been directed to visit "those Religious—the United States."

3. That he is to present himself before "Your excellency" to deliver the letter and express the sentiments entertained by the writer towards "Your excellency."

4. The supposition that the bearer will be kindly received.

5. An assertion of sovereignty, *imperium in imperio* over a portion of the people of the United States. The words of this part of the letter are thus translated:

"And inasmuch as we have been entrusted by *Divine commission with the care of the Lord's flock throughout the world*, we cannot allow this opportunity to pass without earnestly entreating you to extend your protection to the Catholics inhabiting those regions, and to shield them at all times by your power and authority."

6. Expressing confidence that this request will be granted, and the assertion that the writer will pray that the Almighty may bestow upon "*your honored Sir* the gift of His Paternal grace, and that he may shower upon *you* every kind of blessing and unite *us in* the bonds of perfect charity."

This letter is personal to its charter, from the Pope to the President. There is not one word in it to indicate that the Pope recognizes the existence of the *nation or of the government*. The blessings are invoked upon the President as an individual, and not one word of hope, not one prayer for the prosperity of the nation of which the President is the Chief Magistrate.

The letter is much of the same character that the President of the United States might send to some *barbarous chief, actually exercising sovereign* power over some distinct country, to induce him to extend his protection to the "Americans" inhabiting those regions, and to shield them at all times with his power and authority.

The distinction between authority *de facto* and *de jure* is well known at Rome.

No one who has read or thought about the claims of the Papacy can think that the Pope intended to invest M. Bedini with a mission of a high diplomatic character to this government. Mr. Everett who is reported to have made the statement, is too good a scholar not to know, (but he probably forgot in the noise and confusion created in the Senate by the resolution of Mr. Cass) that the Pope never sends his legates (which are his ambassadors) to any Government that does not acknowledge *the supremacy of the Roman See*. In "those regions," inhabited by infidels or heretics, who reject his authority, he has Vicars, Apostolic Bishops, Priests and minor orders to do the work of Missionaries, until the time shall come when the nation shall be converted to the Roman faith and acknowledge his authority. The Pope then recognizes the government as lawfully constituted; he sends his Legates to such Christian States to hold his Legatine Courts, in which the Legates hear and decide according to the common law of Rome, all controversies in which a clergyman may be a party or church property involved, as well as ecclesiastical questions generally, including all cases of *marriage and divorce*; and to carry the decisions of these Courts into effect by the aid of the power of the State, when the people of "these Regions" are willing and ready to do this, but not until then. Will the Pope send an ambassador to Washington?

We must not however suppose that the Pope intended the sent of M. Bedini to the President as a mere act of politeness. The assertion of sovereignty over the "Lord's heritage" in this letter, which according to the construction given to those words by Rome itself, means temporal and spiritual jurisdiction, over every soul in communion with the church of Rome—this assertion, if passed by in silence may be made the first link of a chain of undeniable assertions of authority, that in after time may be adduced to prove that "those regions—the United States" are a fief of the Roman See. The history of the last one thousand years of every nation in Europe contains upon every page a record, often written in blood, of the nature of the care of government which the Popes claim to exercise over the "Lord's Flock," and which they did exercise with an unshrinking hand whenever the *kings or people could be cajoled, frightened or forced into submission*. In the words of the Bull of Pius V against Queen Elizabeth of England, they affirm that God has constituted the Roman Pontiff "Prince over all nations and kingdoms, that he might pluck up, destroy, dissipate, root out, plant and build."

The other clearly makes a distinction between "the Catholics" and the other inhabitants of "those Regions, the United States." He claims over them a jurisdiction which is repugnant to the Constitution and laws of this country. The Catechism of the Council of Trent, (page 170 decisions authority. Twelve that "if the civil authority should issue a wicked or an unjust mandate, they are on no account to be obeyed; such a mandate is not the legitimate exercise of power but an act of perverse injustice." When we consider that the Popes and his clergy claim to be the exclusive judges of what is wicked and unjust, the "Lord's Flock" in "those regions, the United States" may be very often in the situation of those who serve two masters; for Pope Boniface VIII by a decree in the Canon Law has declared: "We declare, say, define, pronounce it to be necessary to salvation, for every human creature to be subject to the Roman Pontiff."

Although M. Bedini cannot be considered as an ambassador to this government, yet it is evident that the Pope has been actually exercising through him as much temporal power over "the Lord's Flock in these regions," as he can possibly exercise in a country where the civil power will not lend its aid to enforce his decrees to "the Lord's Flock;" he is the Nuncio of the Pope, and as such M. Bedini has demanded of certain citizens of Buffalo, that they should convey to the Roman Catholic Bishop the church property, consisting of real estate held by them under the law of New York. Many think can be the reverse of "spiritual" and strictly "temporal," it must be land and the ownership of land—it is essentially in the language of Paul "of the earth, earthy." Yet this Nuncio of the Pope threatens to ex-communicate the legal and rightful owners of this real estate, *who paid for and built* by them, or those they represent, places they will convey it to the Bishop. It appears that this congregation allow the Bishop and his clergy to make every use of the church that they require for the services of religion; and pay over to them the income of the property, and submit in all matters clearly spiritual to the authority of the clergy. There is no charge of doctrinal unsoundness; in all respects but retaining the ownership of their own property they are good Catholics; and yet they are to be cut off from the society of all good Catholics in this world, and from all hope of salvation in the world to come, because they will not obey the commands of the Pope of Rome. This looks very much like exercising temporal authority—at all events it is using Spiritual weapons for Temporal purposes—If this was what M. Bedini would call a Christian country, this power of the State would give edge and force to this decision and soon end the controversy, but as the matter now stands, the "outcast" can only be operated upon by their mental terrors, and such slights and insults as their former associates of "the Lord's Flock," can inflict without infringing on the laws of the land.

It is to be hoped that the President will give such an answer to this letter, as will show to the Pope and to the world, that he acknowledges the kind wishes and feels thankful for his prayer, as an individual; but as President of the United States he can neither know nor notice any distinction between different religious denominations; that every one in this country is left free to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, safe in the protection of equal laws, made by the consent of those who are bound by them; that we who are born free acknowledge no superior in earth above our constitution and laws; and that when a man born in a foreign land becomes a citizen of "those Regions, the United States," he does "absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, State, Potentate and Sovereignty whatever"—words broad enough to include, and which were intended by the framers of the law, to include the Temporal Power claimed by the Popes of Rome. X.

Editor's Table.

WE SHOULD like to publish W. H. C.'s problem, but, unless he can furnish a plainer solution, it will be useless, as none can possibly understand it as it now reads. Remember we can't *print the figure*, so that what is perfectly plain to ourselves, *with* that would be wholly unintelligible to our readers *without* it.

THE SCHUYLKILL CO. SCHOOL JOURNAL for this month is out. Every school boy and girl should have a copy; and parents, too, should be benefitted by its perusal. Price, only 4 cents a copy, or 50 cents a year.

HOT CORN: *Life Scenes in New York*, including "Little Katy," "Magdalina, the Rag-picker's daughter," "Wild Maggie," &c., &c., illustrated. These stories, which have immortalized the author, Solon Robinson, are published in a small neat volume, by DeWitt & Davenport, New York. It is an exceedingly interesting little book, as everybody well knows who read any part of the stories as they *first appeared in the public papers*. It can be had at *Bannan's*.

THE NEW ILLUSTRATED HYDROPATHIC QUARTERLY REVIEW—Fowlers & Wells, New York—Price, $2 a year. The title of this periodical explains its object and general character. Its reading matter is arranged under the five heads of—Essays, Reports, Criticisms, Reviews and Records. It contains much to interest and instruct the reader—its writers are represented to be of the very best stamp, men of science, of professional skill and of high literary abilities. Copies can be had at Bannan's, also subscriptions received.

PUTNAM for February comprises in its table of contents,—"Washington's Early Days" (with a number of illustrations), "Modern Greek Customs." "Places of Public Amusement (also handsomely illustrated), "Boarding-Schools, French and other," "Notes from my Knapsack, No. 2," "The Mayflower," "Stage-coach Stories," (continued), &c., &c. We mention these simply because their titles are likely to attract attention. Putnam has already become a favorite monthly with the reading public—and very justly. We commend it to all who want sound, sensible literary entertainment for their subscription money. Price $3 a year or 25 cents a number—for sale at *Bannan's*.

Local Affairs.

☞ *Jno. Fox*, a Miner from Mill Creek, was run over in Centre street, some days ago, by a horse and wagon under charge of a careless driver, and was seriously injured.

☞ *Good News.*—The bill, lately forwarded to Harrisburg, chartering a new Water Company for this Borough, we understand, has passed the Senate, some slight amendment being made in the bill as originally drafted relative to the County subscription.

☞ *Railroad Accommodation.*—An accommodation car will hereafter be attached to the Reading Coal train, leaving Pottsville at 10 o'clock every morning, for the convenience of farmers with produce and others who may prefer that hour.—This arrangement goes into effect next week.

☞ *As Mr. H. L. Cake*, of this place, and Capt. M. Seltzer, of West Penn, were last week driving from Beaver Meadow toward Mauch Chunk, their horse took fright, and running away, upset the wagon and threw both out. Mr. C. was much bruised, and Capt. M. had one leg broken just above the ankle.

☞ *Burglary.*—The Shoe Store of Hon. Solomon Foner, at the corner of Centre and Market streets, was broken into on Thursday night last, and some $150, in cash, stolen. The stock in the store being very large, it could not readily be ascertained whether any of it was taken or not. Entrance was effected by breaking open a back door—a hammer and chisel were found on the premises next morning. No clue is yet had to the perpetrators.

☞ *Literary Society.*—Mr. A. P. Spinney lectured on Wednesday evening—subject, the life and character of Socrates. The house was crowded, as usual of late. In this respect—large audiences—the Society is more favored this Winter than during any previous session.

The subjects selected for debate the next two meetings are of a peculiarly interesting character—the disputants, we understand, are in special training.

☞ *Dr. Wythes' Lecture.*—The second of the course of Lectures by Dr. Wythes on the Microscope before the County Medical Society, on Tuesday evening last, was better attended than the first, and all present expressed the highest gratification. Both these were mostly of a preliminary character, but they have opened up a wide field of entertainment for the future. The Doctor is peculiarly happy in simplifying and impressing scientific truths upon his hearers. Owing to the meeting of the Council, the next Lecture will be on *Monday* evening.

☞ *Orwigsburg College.*—The Borough Council of Orwigsburg has tendered the use of the public buildings in that place for a term of Ten years, to Mr. J. W. Burnside, for the purpose of establishing a College or High School. We have before expressed our favorable opinion of Orwigsburg as a most desirable location for an educational institution. The site of the town is superior in point of natural beauty—it is moreover remarkably healthy, retired and yet convenient enough for such an establishment to lines of public travel. Indeed, in every requisite for the purpose designed, Orwigsburg stands second to few, if any, places in the State.

☞ *Exchange Hotel.*—This house, now under the charge of F. B. Kuetcher, Esq., was reopened on Wednesday last, after undergoing a thorough renovation. Most of the rooms—all on the first floor and the parlors and the larger ones on the second—have been newly papered and painted, and new furniture, carpets and bedding supplied from the garret to the cellar. Several changes for the better have moreover been made in the division of different apartments. And as to the table, we were about to say something, but find it indescribable—each one must call and judge for himself—we are perfectly satisfied on that point. In comfort and convenience the Exchange, we have no hesitation in saying, will now favorably compare with any Hotel in our Borough.

Besides, Mr. K. will, doubtless, make a first-rate landlord—another important feature of a public house. He made a gallant soldier in the Mexican war, has done important service in a civil capacity since his return, and is a graduated brother Typo into the bargain—who, then, can doubt his success as "mine host?"

☞ *Post Offices in Schuylkill County.*—We copy the following list from the *Register*, as furnished by a clerk in the Pottsville Post Office:

Post Offices.	P. M Names.
Auburn,	Issac Hoffmeister.
Barry,	
Beaver,	Levi Fehler.
Branchdale,	Abram Skelton.
Broad Mountain,	Samuel Mann.
Catawissa Valley,	D. Gobb.
Donaldson,	D Lomison.
Drehersville,	Mr. Dreher.
Focht's Forge,	G. M. Driebelbis.
Fountain Spring,	J. Faust.
Friedensburg,	C. Hummel.
Heckeshervile,	Wm. Payne.
Kingerstown,	John Weiss.
Kepsere,	S. K. Repper.
Llewellyn,	Ezra Cockill.
Lindenwille,	Israel Lindner.
Lower Mahantongo,	J. R. Ossman.
Middleport,	John Reichel.
Minersville,	M. Weaver.
McKeansburg,	Joshua Boyer.
Orwigsburg,	W. M. Bickel.
Pinegrove,	Paul Barr.
Pitman,	Samuel Miller.
Port Carbon,	E. Colahan.
Port Clinton,	Samuel Boyer.
Pottsville,	John Clayton.
Rough & Ready,	
St. Clair,	Thomas Irvin.
Swatara,	D Tobias.
Schuylkill Haven,	D. H. Baker.
Silver Creek,	J. Buehbill.
Tuscarora,	H. F. Hause.
Tamaqua,	P. Aurand.
Tremont,	F. Wertheimer
Upper Mahantongo,	J. G. Renn.
West Penn,	Gideon Wetstone.

☞ *The Anniversary* meeting of the Co. Female Bible Society will be held, according to announcement, under the proper head, next Monday evening. The occasion will be unusually interesting—the reports of the several officers and committees will be rendered, and addresses are expected by several eminent gentlemen from abroad.

☞ *The American Association:*—

At a meeting of the American citizens of Pottsville and vicinity, at D. H. Hill's Hotel, in the Borough of Pottsville, on Saturday evening, January 14, 1854, the following business was transacted:

DANIEL B. CURRY addressed the meeting in a few strong and pertinent remarks, setting forth the objects of the meeting; du his concluding H. J. RIDGWAY was called to the Chair, and H. B. CHRIST, SIMON DEER, JACOB FRITZ, appointed Vice Presidents; A. M. Macdonald acting as Secretary.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to draw up a Preamble and Declaration, expressive of the sense of this meeting, and also to prepare a Constitution and By-Laws for the government of this association, and to report to an adjourned meeting, to be held at this place, on Saturday evening, Jan. 28, 1854.

Pursuant to adjournment the association met at the specified place on Saturday evening, Jan. 28, 1854.

The Committee on Preamble, Declaration, Constitution and By-Laws, submitted their report, which was unanimously accepted.

The report is as follows:

Preamble, Declaration, Constitution and By-Laws of "The American Association," of Pottsville and Vicinity.—Instituted January 28, 1854.

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, The purest patriot and most enlightened statesman of modern times—he who was justly declared by the general sentiment of mankind "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen"—he who beyond all other men was blessed with the far-seeing vision which pierced the future, and reads the destiny of nations, has solemnly warned us, the sons of Revolutionary sires, and the children of a land by him made free, against the two great poisons, threatening the existence of republican institutions, and the sacred cause of popular rights—the rage of party spirit, and the wiles of foreign influence; and

WHEREAS, The mal-administration of European governments, and the designs of the enemies of freedom abroad, crippled with the sinister conventions of domestic demagogues and the heartless operations of American traders in pauper emigration, are annually flooding our shores with constantly increasing hordes of *foreigners, illiterate, Pauperism, Vice and Crime* in a current too rapid for reformation; threatening alike the interests of the industrious and respectable foreigner and the sons of the soil, and rendering the suicidal policy of our existing naturalization laws, furnishing material for the elevation of bad men to power, and the uppingof those institutions which are the beacon lights of civilization, and the high hope of the world—until American State, Federal and municipal principles of the constitution have been trampled in the dust by foreign feet; in others, the blood of our fellow-citizens, shed by the hands of foreign assassins, has reddened the gutters of our cities; the freedom of the Press has been threatened; the Bible, without note or comment, has been excluded from our public schools; the right of opinion denounced; the liberty of appeal, the right constitutionally and peaceably to petition, denied to our fellow-citizens, assaulted; civil brawls provoked; religion *dragged into the arena of politics*; the inalienable right of petition made a dead letter; the dignity of American Law openly insulted; the American flag dishonored; and the American citizen rendered almost a stranger in his native land.

Now, therefore, we Americans, hereby associate ourselves together as "*True Americans*," and solemnly pledge to each other to spread abroad and maintain the doctrines of our fathers; to detect, disarm, and warning of parties, those two great principles of common sense and human nature, so illustrative of our natural love of country—that the liberties of a people are never safe unless the sovereign power of the Legislative and Executive, is vested where it rightfully belongs, in the natives of the soil—and that a popular government without the rights of a general education, and an *open Bible* in the land, must specedily degenerate into a mere mobocracy ignorance and folly—the ready tool of faction, unfit for freedom, and incapable of self-control; and for the furtherance of these our principles and objects, and wishing to transmit unimpaired and ameliorated to posterity, the blessings bequeathed to us by the patriots of the revolution: We the American citizens of Pottsville and vicinity, for the purpose of endeavoring to correct the evils we complain of, have associated ourselves together, to be known as "*The American Association of Pottsville and Vicinity*," and for the government of such adopt the following declaration and articles of Association:

DECLARATION.

1. We maintain that the Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, have the absolute right to impose such restrictions on the admission of Foreigners to the rights of citizenship, as to them may seem proper.

2. We maintain that the true interests