The Miners' Journal

POTTSVILLE, PA.

Saturday Morning, Feb. 25

S. BANNAN, Editor and Proprietor;
J. LITTLE, Associate Editor.

ELI K. PRICE

And the friends of Prohibition.

Mr. Price attempts to excuse his late singular behavior on the Prohibitory Law, by saying that the friends of Temperance misconceived the ground on which he stood as a candidate in the last campaign. He says he was, and still is, in favor of submitting the *question* of Prohibition to a vote of the people, while they voted for and elected him because they understood him willing to submit the *law* (which they had already prepared.) If this were all, we might be inclined to accept his explanation, with a continued appreciation of his honesty of purpose, and lay the blame of the misunderstanding on the Temperance men.

But unfortunately for Mr. Price, he has committed himself too far to allow this quibble, specious as it is, to save him.

The Executive Committee of the city and county in Philadelphia, addressed him a letter on the 16th, expressing their surprise and disapproval of his course, and asking only the same assurance as he had given them before his election, to wit: [in the words of the committee]:

"That you will advocate, and so far as your influence extends, secure the passage of a prohibitory law *in due form*, in which it can be *properly, fairly* and *intelligently* submitted to a popular vote."

To this Mr. Price replies from Harrisburg at some length, and concludes this part of his remarks with this singular, but plain and unmistakable language:

"Yet if you wish to try the sense of the people whether they will accept such a law, you can have my vote to pass a law to take the vote of the people upon it; *but not my aid afterwards to pass such a law.*"

Here is a frank, flat-footed refusal to favor the Law, under any circumstances. Entertaining such sentiments, what business, we want to know, had Mr. Price on the Prohibition ticket? How could he, as an honest, conscientious man suffer such a nomination, and allow his name to be posted up over the whole city, as a Prohibitory Candidate on large bills, staring him in the face at almost every corner? How can he explain this? The fact is, it was a gross fraud practised upon a confiding constituency.

Mr. Price admits, that "without the vigorous efforts" of the Temperance men, he could not have been elected; but how many of their votes, think you, could he have secured, had the whole truth of his sentiments on this subject, as expressed in the above extract, been made public at the time? It will be remembered that there were several important local interests at work, and that the election was closely contested by the several parties in the field. Henry K. Strong was the only candidate on either of the regular party tickets elected. The Temperance men united with the friends of Consolidation, and by that means the ticket was elected throughout with one exception, but by very small majorities—Mr. Price's was less than 200. Where would he have been without the help of the Temperance men?

We had proceeded so far with our article, when we received the following communication from Philadelphia:

[FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

ELI K. PRICE.

MR. EDITOR:—In looking over the last number of your excellent paper, I was both surprised and pained on seeing a severe and unjust condemnation of the action Eli K. Price, Esq., in the Senate from this city, has been guilty of, in reference to the Prohibitory Liquor Law heavy before the Senate.—I had intended to say fully *before* you the motives and reasons which governed Mr. Price in his actions in the Senate, and to state to you how utterly you had been led astray by the short editorial in the *Sun* of this city, and to an anonymous communication in the *North American*; but I find in the *Daily Register* of this morning [a copy of which I here with enclose] such a clear and lucid exposition of Mr. Price's course on this all-important subject, that I can but refer yourself and readers to it. By reference to the editorial and the letters from and to the Executive Committee, and especially the extract from the Rev. Mr. Rood, (the chairman of the committee, who wanted upon Mr. Price before his nomination,) you will see that it was *positively understood* by the Temperance people themselves that Mr. Price would positively refused to advocate the passage of a Prohibitory Bill, but would urge the adoption of a resolution "submitting the *question* to the people, whether or not they would have such a law. This was all he ever said he would do, and it was with such opinions he was nominated by the Temperance party, *after* having been put forward and adopted as a candidate by the Reform Fire Department and the Consolidation conventions. In the Temperance party here, in their 2 at for a Maine Law, heralded through the state that Mr. Price was in favor of such a law, and induced their country brethren to believe such to be the fact, I beg of you to let the responsibility of such assertions rest upon the heads of those giving utterance to them, and not visit upon Mr. Price the charge of breaking *pledges* which he never made. I trust, therefore, that the insinuations thrown out in the latter part of your editorial (as to your doubts of the "honesty and fair dealing" of Mr. P.,) written no doubt in a moment of excitement, will be promptly and honorably withdrawn in your next number. In reference to the 8th Section of the Senate Bill, it should be especially remembered that Mr. Price's speech was delivered against the Section as *first* introduced, which was so palpable a violation of the constitution that its advocates were ashamed to urge its passage, and have since circulated the section as *amended*, with the unfair insinuation that it was against it as thus altered that Mr. P's. argument was made.

JUSTICE.

Philadelphia, Feb. 20th, 1854.

In the first place we would remark that we were not led astray by the article in the *Sun*, &c., nor did we enter hastily on the subject. We have also read the above carefully, together with all the articles enclosed, and we cannot change our opinion one iota; but on the contrary it is strengthened in the position we have taken. The position set up by Mr. Price at Harrisburg is a miserable quibble—it is unworthy of a sensible and intelligent man, and he is not sustained in that position by even the Rev. Mr. Rood, who is the only individual of the committee quoted by those who attempted to sustain Mr. Price. Mr. Rood, in his letter to Mr. Price, says:

"You frankly and explicitly stated, that you did not see your way clear to advocate and vote for a *preliminary* prohibitory liquor law; but that you would *advocate a law to obtain the sense of the people in regard to the expediency of such a law.* And in order to obtain this position, you have only to call upon Messrs. Robb, Sheaffer & Chambers and myself to set you right as courteous, honorable men, we shall promptly and unhesitatingly do so."

Even language is plain—Mr. Price did not see his way clear to advocate and vote for a *preliminary* Prohibitory Law, which was not to be submitted to the people, but he would advocate a law to obtain the sense of the people, &c. Now the friends of Temperance asked nothing more—they submitted such a law to the Legislature for its adoption to submit the question to the people. Mr. Price not only refused to advocate this law—but absolutely voted against it—Mr. Rood does not sustain Mr. Price, nor does Mr. Robb, Steinmetz or Chambers, to whom he refers—they all agree in the statement, and all condemn him:

[Hear what Mr. Robb says:]

"Mr. Robb said that shortly after Mr. Price was nominated he met him in the street, and, during a conversation, Mr. Price said he, like his father, was in favor of a Prohibitory Liquor Law. His father was the first man in Chester county who published liquor from the harvest field. Mr. Robb said that, during a conversation in his office, Mr. Price thought it was not yet time for a Prohibitory Liquor Law, and would not go there to fight the battle of the Prohibitory Law. When asked whether he would go for a law submitting the question to a vote of the people, he said he would."

Hear what the Rev. John Chambers says:

"Rev. John Chambers said he saw Mr. Price before his nomination, and he told him he was as strong a temperance man as he (Mr. Chambers).—He was in favor of Mr. Price's nomination, because he esteemed and admired him. He saw him several times after the nomination, and congratulated him upon his success. He said he felt complimented by the action of his Temperance friends. After the election he again congratulated Mr. Price upon his success, and at the corner of Fourth and Walnut sts., Mr. Price asked, 'What do you want?' 'Nothing short of an out and out prohibitory liquor law,' replied Mr. C. 'Are you willing to submit the question to a vote of the people?' said Mr. Price. 'Yes, sir,' replied the speaker, 'because I believe we can carry the State by 30,000 to 50,000 majority.' Then said Mr. Price, 'I go for that out and out.'

"This said Mr. Chambers, was the conversation here seen Mr. Price and myself. The speaker further stated, that when the so-called clerical address was presented to him and asked whether he desired to have it modified, he replied, 'No, sir, I would not have a word or syllable altered, but I would advise it to be printed and circulated.'

Now what does the clerical address, of which Mr. Price said to the Rev. Mr. Rood that "he would be a bad man if he could not endorse the sentiments of that address," say:

"*If a prohibitory law is not demanded and sanctioned by a majority of the people, we have no desire to see its enactment.* What we ask is, that this question shall be fairly tested, *by referring it to the people*, as was recently done in the State of Michigan. Ten thousand majority there, proved that a prohibitory law was loudly called for. We believe that a popular vote would show that a majority of twenty thousand in this State demand the same thing."

This is to the point—it is the whole question in a few lines. The friends of Temperance did not desire to see a law enacted without the approval of the people. A law is not *enacted* or *established* until it is finally passed upon, and all the conditions fulfilled. The Legislature was asked to pass the law, prepared by the friends of Temperance, subject to the approval of the people. If their voice approved of said law, its enactment was complete and binding—if rejected by the people it falls, and it is neither enacted nor established; *this is the* sense in which the term *enactment* is always used. This is precisely what was done in Michigan—the Legislature passed a Prohibitory law and submitted the question to the people. The people ratified it, and its enactment and establishment was complete, and in look effect at the time designated. This is all the friends of Temperance asked of Eli K. Price and our Legislature—pass a Prohibitory law, and take the sense of the people on its ratification or rejection. Mr. Price knew very well that the only difference of opition between the friends of Temperance was, whether a law should be passed *peremptorily* or whether it should be passed subject to the decision of the people. The Committee believed Mr. Price opposed to the passage of a *peremptory* Prohibitory Bill—but *not* to a Prohibitory Bill, to be submitted to the people for their sanction.

Again—Mr. Price in his letter to the Temperance Committee in Philadelphia says:

"While urging the timely and careful preparation of bills before the meeting of the Legislature, I further said, 'To any specific form, parasitic or extraneous matter, or change, I now make no such pledge as will forestall discussion, or preclude the adoption of the results of the invited labors of the citizen in the preparation of bills, or of their further discussion in the Legislature.'"

What does Mr. Price mean by urging the friends of Temperance to prepare a Bill to be submitted to the Legislature, if he cannot vote for a Bill to be submitted to the people?

Again he says in this letter:

"I am prepared to advocate the passage of a law to take the vote of the people upon any prohibitory bill that the friends of temperance may choose to prepare for the assent or rejection of the voters of the Commonwealth."

Now Mr. Price voted against the Bill prepared by the friends of Temperance, to be submitted to the people, declaring it to be unconstitutional.

Again he says:

"But a very different demand has been made upon me here. Instead of a bill to take the vote of the people whether they would have such a law enacted or not, it has been demanded of me to vote at once for the passage of such a law, before the vote of the people has been taken with a direction authorizing them to take a vote to suggest a future Legislature for its *repeal*."

Now wherein the difference—the friends of Prohibition ask the Legislature to sanction a Bill and submit it to the people if they approve of it, it becomes a law from the time fixed in the Bill—if they reject it, the Bill fails and does not take effect, and the Legislature in accordance with the wishes of the people, strike it from the Statute Books.—Suppose Mr. Price's plea were adopted, and a Bill was submitted to the people, without the sanction of the Legislature—the people vote in favor of the Bill, say in September, and the Legislature elected in October is opposed to its passage, and refuse to enact it, setting up such miserable quibbles as Mr. Price does in justification of their conduct. This might easily occur, as the members are elected by districts, and the vote on the Bill would be general throughout the State. With all due respect to Mr. Price and his friends, we cannot conceive how any *friend* of Temperance could suggest such a course, unless he was a perfect *idiot*. Indeed it would have been insulting on the part of the Committee to impute such an idea to any sensible man, and consequently it never entered the heads of the Committee who called on Mr. Price.

But again—the Temperance Committee asked Mr. Price why he voted against the first sections of the Bill. Mr. Price replies as follows:

"My votes upon the different sections of the Senate bill, are readily explicable, by adverting to the two leading principles of the bill: The 1st and 2d sections create a government agencies for the purchase and sale of liquors, to parties in this city only, in opinion, the government was never established.

"The eighth section confers the right of search in dwelling houses, and of the seizure there and destruction of liquors kept for sale. This would be a power which I consider in conflict with the constitution, and unlawful invasion of the rights and liberties of the citizen."

We agree with Mr. Price that government was never established to authorize the purchase and sale of Liquors as a beverage—but is not every Hotel, Tavern, Beer House and Store, licensed by the State for the sale of liquors, a Government agency? If not, what are they? Now, the friends of Temperance ask for the license of places in each county to sell liquors for Medicinal, Mechanical and Sacramental purposes—but prohibit the license of persons to sell it as a beverage; Mr. Price objects to it because it is "a purpose for which the Government was never established"—but two days after he introduces a Bill into the Legislature for the establishment of Government Agencies, in the shape of Licensing Houses in the City of Philadelphia to sell liquor as a beverage, by paying $1000, $500 and $300 for licenses. It is wrong to establish Government Agencies to sell liquors for harmless purposes—but it is right to establish them to sell it as a beverage. Was there ever anything put forth so perfectly ridiculous! Does Mr. Price suppose the people are a set of block-heads? But again—Mr. Price says:

"Yet if you wish to try the sense of the people whether they will accept such a law, you can have my vote to pass a law to take the vote of the people upon it; *but not my aid afterwards to pass such a law.*"

The highest tribunal in the country, the Supreme Court of the United States, has decided that the States have the power to pass a Prohibitory Law and also to destroy the liquor—it cannot be destroyed without being searched out and found. Mr. Price knew that the friends of Temperance advocated such a law—he knew it was in force in Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont and Michigan—yet he now declares *he will not vote for such a law.* If Mr. Price had so declared before the election to the Committee, his name would not have been placed on the Temperance Ticket. As regards the plea of our correspondent, that the eighth section was altered after Mr. Price penned his objections, it will not hold good, because the section was altered to remove Mr. Price's supposed objections, and he *voted against the section after the alterations were made in the Senate.*

Now we candidly ask our correspondent, after reading the above, whether we would not be dishonest to the public, and the great cause of Prohibition, if we withdrew one single word of the article alluded to. Neither wealth nor position can screen Mr. Price from being held accountable for his public conduct. He must now be satisfied that the friends of Temperance elected him as a friend of *Prohibition*—he declares that he will not vote for such a law. The only honorable course now left for him is to resign his seat—if he refuses to do so, he must stand branded as being unfaithful to the cause of Temperance, and as having secured his election by a fraud upon the public.

If the measure fails at this session of the Legislature, the responsibility will rest upon his shoulders. Another year must go by, and thousands of poor inebriates must go down to drunkards' graves—thousands of poor heart-broken women and children must continue in want and misery, and suffer the agonies of a living death. It is a *queer conscience* that is opposed, on constitutional grounds, to searching for and prohibiting the sale, as a beverage of the most vile and counterfeit trash, in the shape of drugged poisons, which if practiced in any other business, would send the perpetrator to the Penitentiary, and has no sympathy for the thousands of poisoned and murdered victims sent to an untimely grave. The sooner our Legislature Halls are rid of *such* consciences the better for the cause of humanity.

PRISON REPORT.

We have received a copy of the County Prison Report, made by the Commissioners to the Judges of the Court. We give a general synopsis of the Report this week:

To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions of Schuylkill County:

Agreeably to the Act of Assembly, relative to the Schuylkill County Prison, the County Commissioners respectfully present their second annual report.

In the performance of this duty, they are highly gratified in being able to present such tables and statistics in favor of the Pennsylvania system of prison discipline, as to convince any opponent that separate confinement is not injurious to health. Our experience has convinced us that it has many advantages over the old, or congregate system. Its tendency to produce habits of industry, is fully shown in this report, and readers criminals submissive, and greatly reduces the spirit of insubordination. But on the subject of moral reform of convicts, our experience induces us to differ widely with many others. The prison appears rather an engine for punishment, than a means for successfully leading the vicious back to virtues. Few who have once entered a prison come out permanently reformed—the majority, perhaps, not improved. Nearly all were addicted to intemperance before sentenced, and only appear reformed while liquor is withheld. A few may be restored to society, but that number is vastly exceeded by the number of discharged convicts falling back into their old habits of intemperance, and becoming hopelessly depraved. There appears to be something in the very nature of a prison which, while it strikes terror, rouses the anger of the victim against society. Prisons restrain, but rarely produce permanent reform. We are, therefore, the more convinced that the separate system of confinement is the only judicious one, and prevents the possibility of receiving those lessons of crime and schooling in villainy, which must be the case when the youthful offender and the gray-haired criminal are in close communion, and which can only have a tendency to sink both deeper in the mire of degradation, misery and crime.

The imprisonment of witnesses is a matter of frequent occurrence, a practice by our magistrates, which we consider a most unjustifiable one. A witness rich, or favored with friends, finds no difficulty in finding bail; on the contrary, if he is poor, and perhaps more honestly determined, it is quite different, and it is calculated to make men shrink from the responsibility, with precisely the same horror they would experience if placed under actual charge of criminality. A person may have been an eye witness in a case of murder or burglary, but if he cannot procure another man to guarantee his appearance, he is imprisoned. Were we inclined to make any distinction in cases of this kind, we should certainly make them in favor of the very men whom the authorities frequently imprison.

The general health of the prisoners during this year has been very good. Nearly every case of sickness was of such prisoners as were received in an impaired state of health, leaving but very few cases originating in prison.

The whole number of persons committed during the year, was 282, for the following crimes:

Murder,	2	Fraud & false pretence,	7
Accessory to murder,		Malicious mischief,	1
Burglary, with intent		Absconding apprentice,	1
of rape,	1	Prostitution,	1
Burglary,		In default of bail to pro-	
Arson,		secute,	6
Assault and Battery,	to	Disorderly house,	1
Keep,	8	Drunkenness and dis-	
Robbery,		orderly conduct,	16
Rape,	1	Tippling house,	1
Perjury,		In default to pay costs	2
Larceny,	21	Fornication and bastar-	
Concealing death of in-		dy,	2
fant,	1	Fornication,	3
Maltreatment,	1	Common nuisance,	3
Obstructing constable		Forcible entry and de-	
and rescue,	2	tainer,	4
Horse stealing,	2	Capias non quintas,	2
Passing counterfeit mo-		Attachment to testify,	3
ney,	3	Bail-piece,	1
Buying counterfeit mo-		Common barratry,	1
ney,	2	Fugitives for deten-	
Riot,	15	tion,	5
Assault and Battery,	65	Intoxication,	13
Fighting and disturb-		Vagrancy,	6
ing the peace,	3	Trespass	7
Surety of the peace,	31		
Public nuisance,	3		282

	White.	Colored.	Total.
Males,	229	14	243
Females,	35	4	39
	264	18	282

The following is the nativity of the prisoners:

	White		Colored		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Schuylkill Co.,	4	1	4	—	9
United States,	41	5	13	4	64
Ireland,	131	24	—	—	155
England,	15	3	—	—	18
Wales,	13	1	—	—	14
Germany,	12	—	—	—	12
Prussia,	4	1	—	—	5
Scotland,	5	1	—	—	6
Total,					282
Citizens of the United States,					74
Emigrants,					208
					282
In prison January 1, 1853,					31
Total,					313
Discharged in 1853,					287
Remaining in prison Jan. 1, '54, convicted,					19
Awaiting trial,					7
Total in prison,					26

Of the 282 prisoners committed during the year 1853, there were

Married,	168
Widowers,	21
Single,	93
	282

THEIR HABITS.

☞ INTEMPERATE,	227
☞ Moderate Drinkers,	55
☞ Temperate,	none
	282

NATIVITY OF THE 84 COMMITTED IN 1853.

Schuylkill County,	5
United States,	48
Ireland,	49
Germany,	4
England,	6
Wales,	1
Emigrants 61—natives 23.	84

THEIR HABITS.

☞ INTEMPERATE,	71
☞ Moderate Drinkers,	13
☞ Temperate,	none
	84

NATIVITY OF THE 19 CONVICTS IN PRISON.

Schuylkill County,	1
United States,	5
Ireland,	9
England,	3
Wales,	1
Emigrants 13—Natives 6—Total,	19

THEIR HABITS.

☞ Intemperate,	17
Moderate Drinkers,	2
Temperate,	none
	19

☞ We commend the above to the particular attention of those engaged in the Liquor traffic. These *official facts* speak louder than any comment we can make—they are sufficient to make any right thinking person engaged in this awful traffic tremble, when he reflects upon the suffering, degredation and crime which results from this business—to his friends, his neighbors and perhaps his own family.

The Prison has nearly supported itself during the year as the following will show:

Dr.	
Salaries of officers for the year,	$1,375 49
Cost of Maintenance,	1,625 60
Stock Purchased,	3,389 86
	$6,490 95

Cr.	
Cash received for manufactured goods sold and labor,	$2,432 90
Cash made from costs and discharges,	570 90
Stock on hand,	2,676 98
Cash for Water Rent,	397 85
	6,078 64
Deficiency only,	412 31
	$6,490 95

Showing a deficiency of only $412 31 during the past year, during a portion of which time but little work was done in the prison for the want of the necessary machinery. The Report is a valuable document and ought to be in the hands of all our readers, we will publish it in full next week.

THE NEBRASKA BILL.

Shall The Missouri Compromise be Revoked?

We publish, in to-day's paper, copious extracts from various papers, from all quarters of the Union and of every shade of politics, all agreeing in the unquivocal denunciation of Mr. Douglas' attempt in the U. S. Senate, to annul the sacred compromise of 1820.—The unanimity which characterises the voice of the press on this subject, from one end of the country to the other, is remarkable and almost unprecedented—the exceptions are mostly if not all the backers of Mr. Douglas in his political aspirations. For proof of this, witness the complete tergiversation of the Washington *Union*! It but recently opposed, in the most positive terms, any interference with the Missouri Compromise; but now, that it more fully comprehends the game of the White House aspirants, it is the prime leader in the Repeal movement.

A main argument of Messrs. Douglas & Co. is that the Compromise of 1850 was intended as a substitute for that of 1820, and that the passage of the former practically annulled the latter. This is not so. We have the most indisputable evidence to the contrary. Senator Cooper, of this State, was one of the famous Committee of Thirteen that originated the Compromise measures, of which Mr. Clay was Chairman.—Mr. Cooper states that the question of the effect of these measures upon the Compromise of 1820 came up and was discussed in that Committee, and that every member of it, and Mr. Clay especially, explicitly declared that the proposed Compromise of 1850 did not in any degree affect or impair the legislation of 1820, for no reference was made or intended thereto: and Mr. Clay even went so far, we understand, as to instance the salutary influence and stable character of the Compromise of 1820, which he declared no one thought of disturbing, as furnishing a happy precedent for the series of measures then under consideration.

This, according to our comprehension, settles that point.

We had extended our remarks further, to a considerable length; but for want of room, we are obliged to drop the subject here for the present.

MATERIAL OF STATE SENATE.

On the first page will be found a list of the members of the lower House of the present Legislature, arranged according to their several "callings." We append the names of the Senators, similarly divided:

Lawyers—Messrs. Buckalew, Crabb, Cresswell, Byron D. Hamlin, Hendricks, Herster, Kunkel, Penn, Price, Quiggle.

Farmers—Messrs. Haldeman, Jamison, McFarland, Skinner, Wherry, McCahin (Speaker).

Doctors—Messrs. Knorr, McClintock, Mellinger.

Editors—Messrs. Darlington and Evans.

Hatters—Messrs. Goodwin, E. W. Hamlin, Taylor—Mr. Barnes.

Cabinet-maker—Mr. Darsie.

Merchant—Mr. Ferguson.

Surveyor and Conveyancer—Mr. Faulkrod.

Lumber Merchant—Mr. Frick.

Coach-maker—Mr. Fry.

Blacksmith—Mr. Hamilton.

Iron Master—Mr. Hugus.

Miller—Mr. Slager.

Boat-builder—Mr. Shiter.

[FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

DIRGE FOR EVA.

BY MRS. C. R. HOSKINS.

And Eva lies beside the lake,
Whose shores her fairy foot-steps pressed;
But ah! its music takes awake
No echo in her gentle breast!

Fair Eva lies where softly falls
The tow'ring light of southern skies;
But ah! the fond light recalls
No light of joy to Eva's eyes!

Pale blossom of the orange-tree
Shed fragrance on the Summer air,
And sweetly voiced birds sang wooingly,
Amid the clustering foliage!

But Eva,—Eva's rest is deep!
And Eva heeds no mortal sound;
Earth hath no spell to break the sleep
Wherewith her folded lids are bound!

What glowing aspiration woke
To breathing life thy blooming form,
Fair child of light!—whose radiance broke
Like sunlight above cloud- and storm.

A seraph, [one] from yonder rest,
Where white-winged forms forever move,
How gushed the music on the waves,
Impressed with glowing words of love!

As Ocean's bosom heaves and swells,
Beneath yon planet's high behests;
So have thy pleadings stirred the wells
Of sympathy in human breasts!

Oh! consecrated by thy tears,
And by thy young heart's gushing sighs,
Is each lone spot, where Pity rears
An altar 'neath the dwelling skies!

Then, not in vain, oh! not in vain,
Thy dawn-land setting, bright young star!
Whose shining o'er life's gloomy plain,
Sheds gleams of holiness afar!

Pottsville, February 20th, 1854.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I send you a few lines by a friend of mine addressed to Mrs. Stowe, on her arrival in England, which you will oblige subscriber by publishing in the *Journal*. J. W.

TO MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE,

On her Arrival in Britain,

BY WILLIAM H. BOOTH, BELFAST, IRELAND.

Thou art come from thy forest-land over the Ocean,
On thy errand of mercy and mission of love;
Thou art come in the midst of Woman's devotion,
Thy armour, the olive—thy ensign, the dove!

While gladly we bid thee, of Free born the pioneer,
The wisdom of Heaven in thy efforts we scan;
The sling and the stone in the hands of a woman,
Have smitten the giant oppressor of man!

Thy story hath startled the world from its dreaming;
The nations have wept at the wrongs of the [one]
The day-star of Liberty, hopefully beaming,
Is gilding the mountain, the valley, the wave.

Oh! who has not wept at thy truthful revelings?
The mother heart-broken, bereft of her child!
The father in fetters, with agonized feelings,
Midst lashes and curses, despised and reviled!

Thy pen hath done more, by its thrilling narration,
To hasten the triumph of Slavery's fall,
Than ever was achieved by the [power]
Of pulpit or college—of Senate or hall!

Thou hast drawn back the curtain of [national]
blindness,
And poured on thy country a flood-tide of light;
Hast taught the great lesson that ruling by kindness
Is the ruling of wisdom—the ruling of right.

When the cry of oppression ascended to Heaven,
The angel of mercy descended to thee!
The curse of the slave to my genius was given;
Thou hast wielded the pen, and the negro is free!

The negro is free by the laws of creation;
He is free by the verdict of righteous men:
He is free, independent of color or station;
He is free—he is free by the touch of thy pen!

EDITOR'S TABLE.

"STRUGGLES AND TENDENCIES OF GERMAN PROTESTANTISM" is the title of an able and comprehensive article in the last number of the *North British Review*—it gives but a gloomy account of genuine Christianity in the land of the Reformers.—Men of science and of letters will find much in "Arago—his life and discoveries" to interest them; while for the statesman and news monger, "The war in the East, and its political contingencies" possesses more attractive metal. The American editions of these British Quarterlies, and Blackwood's Monthly Magazine, can be had at *Bannan's*.

THE ANSWER to W. H. C.'s proposition of last week is rendered thus:

Cut from each end of the board four feet. We then have three segments, viz., one square and two parallelograms. Next divide by a diagonal line each parallelogram into two triangles. We have then four triangles and one square, making five segments, as in question.

To join them, place the square as centre, the triangles around it with their perpendicular sides to the square.

"LEO." We neglected last week to make an explanation on behalf of the gentleman who lately sent us a piece of poetry over this signature. Mr. Freeze, of Bloomsburg, accused him of plagiarism, he himself claiming to be the author of the verses; but we are satisfied—and Mr. F. will also doubtless be, after Leo has been heard—that the charge is unjust.

Leo was shown the verses by an intimate friend, and supposing them original, thought to gratify him by their publication. The friend positively objected, on Leo suggesting that disposition of them: but procuring a copy he forwarded them to us without his friends' knowledge, as original (so he thought) though not his own. There appears to have been no *intention* on the part of any one concerned to do anything wrong or dishonorable. We therefore hope the several parties will be entirely satisfied, and that the temporary estrangement between them will but re-unite them in closer bonds of friendship.

☞ *Mr. Botts on the Nebraska Bill.*—Mr. Botts, of Va., communicates to the *National Intelligencer* in a lengthy letter his opposition to the Nebraska bill, which he is satisfied "is the most mischievous and pernicious measure that has ever been introduced into the halls of Congress."

Local Affairs.

☞ *Dr. Wythes* still continues his course of lectures before the Medical Society. The next will be delivered on Monday evening, 27th.

☞ *The Sunday School* of the Second Methodist Church, Market street, gives a public Exhibition next Tuesday evening. See notice.

☞ *Ball.*—We have been favored with a complimentary ticket to a "Military and Citizens' Dress Ball," to be given by the Scott Rifle Company, at the Town Hall, Tuesday evening, March 7th, for which we return our thanks, and hope the occasion may prove "a good time" to all its participants. Arrangements are making, we are informed, for one of the largest as well as richest entertainments of the kind ever given here.

☞ *Clay Monument.*—We observe by the Philadelphia papers that the statue of Henry Clay, for the monument to his memory in this place, is completed and ready for shipment. The base-work has been ready for a long time, and we believe the cast iron shafts for the column are, too.—We may therefore expect that the perfection of the work will be undertaken as soon as the opening of the Spring weather will permit.

☞ *The Washington Ball.*—This entertainment, substituted for the usual Birthnight Ball, will be given at the Town Hall, next Tuesday evening. F. B. Kutzleb, of the Exchange, is to provide the supper, and therefore that may be set down as first-rate fare. In all other respects the managers, we are informed, design to equal, if not excel, any previous entertainment of the kind the citizens of Pottsville and vicinity have ever been invited to attend.

☞ *The Glorious 22d.*—The Anniversary of the birth of the "father of his country" was duly celebrated in this place on Wednesday. All our military companies were out,—The Cavalry, Capt. Wynkoop; the Continentals, Capt. Pott; the Artillerists, Capt. Womelsdorff; the Yeagers, Capt. Alstadt; and the Scott Rifles, Capt. Richards. The display was handsome and in every way worthy the occasion. The day was fine, the sun shone brightly, tending to show off everything and every body to the best advantage. Long live the military of Schuylkill!

☞ *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has left us, after an unprecedented run for two weeks past. We heartily bear testimony to the gentlemanly character and business uprightness of the Proprietors, Messrs. Marsh, Mason and Merrifield, and commend them to the confidence and patronage of whatever communities they may propose to entertain with their interesting drama. As an evidence of the leaning their exhibition excited among our people, we refer to the two poetical articles which appear in another column.

☞ *Personal.*—Mr. John S. C. Martin kindly sent us a large bowl of his superior Rose Water Ice, some days ago. We cannot express on paper our appreciation of its exquisite flavor, but we take this public method of thanking him for the present, and of thus calling the attention of those of our citizens, fond of the good things of this life, to his establishment, where all manner of luxuries, such as Ice Creams of every flavor, Rose and Orange Water Ices &c., &c., are served up in the most tempting style. Families and parties supplied as well as individuals.

☞ *Ward Elections.*—The following is the result of the several Ward Elections in this Borough, on Friday, 17th inst.:

SOUTH WARD.—*Judge of Election*—Jeremiah Reed; *Inspectors*—James W. Bowen, Thomas H. Weaver; *Constable*—Edward Kelly.

NORTH WEST WARD.—*Judge of Elections*—John H. Hill; *Inspectors*—Peter Jennings, Charles Kopitsch; *Justice of the Peace*—Strange N. Palmer; *Constables*—Samuel Scott.

NORTH EAST WARD.—*Judge of Election*—James Glenn; *Inspectors*—M. B. Bell, Thomas Judge; *Justices of the Peace*—James Glenn; *Constable*—James Cleary.

MIDDLE WARD.—*Judge of Elections*—J. Fenstermacher; *Inspectors*—John Good, Augustus Boyer; *Constable*—Henry Wilson.

FOR THE BOROUGH.—*Assessor*—Adam Sheffle.

☞ *Fire.*—We learn that on Monday night last, during the storm and high wind, the new Foundry of the Brothers Kerber, at West Haven, was entirely destroyed by fire. The workmen had been engaged during the day in some castings which detained them till after 10 o'clock at night, when everything about the establishment was carefully looked after and left, as they thought, in safe condition. Shortly after, however, the whole building was discovered in flames, and owing to the high wind and inflammable material, it was in possible to stay the progress of the devouring element—in a few hours the whole establishment was a pile of smoking ruins. Nothing was saved, except such parts of the machinery and tools as could not be consumed. There was an insurance on the property, we are informed, for $1,250.

The loss falls the more heavily upon the proprietors, as they are both young men, and has but lately, some three or four months ago, opened their establishment. They are both practical mechanics, and are represented to be industrious, enterprising, worthy men.

☞ *Another*—Monday morning the barn of Mr. George Payne, in the West Branch Valley, and a small dwelling house near by were also destroyed by fire, supposed to have caught from the sparks of a passing Locomotive.

☞ *Snow Storm.*—Snow commenced falling in this place on Monday about noon, and continued the remainder of the day and we don't know how much of the night; but next morning we found it some 14 or 15 inches deep. The wind continued high during the storm, and drifted the snow into huge banks in many places. Many sleighs were out during the day and also on Wednesday, but the warm sun made its visible mark on the streets and roads, and by Wednesday evening the bells on the gayest horses, bespattered with mud and water, utfered but disconsolant sounds.

Much detention was caused by the snow-drifts, both to travel and transportation, on the different Railroads in our vicinity. The Philadelphia train on the Reading road due here at 8 o'clock Monday night did not arrive till 11, and then with a short complement of cars. *No train from Philadelphia reached us at all on Tuesday*—an interruption that has never occurred before since the Road has been in operation. A train from Reading came up in the afternoon, to supply the deficiency of cars at the end of the line. The down train from this place at 7½ A. M. did not reach the city till 11 o'clock that night. Wednesday morning however, the track was cleared, and the usual trips were resumed. The principal difficulty lay in the depth of the snow below Norristown. Above more snow, it seems, fell in relation below there than in this neighborhood.

The storm, we observe by our exchanges, was very general extending over a large portion of the country, and causing interruption of the mail and travel every where.

PORT CARBON AFFAIRS.

MR. BANNAN:—At this season of the year motionary is marked on every object here. The only variety is occasionally snow and frost in the morning, and sleigh and sand in the evening; but we will soon have a change. The Boatmen will be astir preparing for the Summer campaign, in repairing and painting their Boats, and getting their teams in order. They expect to be very busy, and to get high freights in this fast age.

We have only to look at the columns of your *Journal*, and note the many extensive improvements, and the high prices paid for Collieries, to see that the Coal business is going ahead at a fearfully rapid rate.—more than 60 miles an hour. A Railroad Monitor would not be a bad thing to keep it on the track—do they prevent explosions?

Yesterday being Washington's Birth-day, Dr. Wythes entertained our folks with a rich treat, a Lecture on Geology in the afternoon, and a Magic Lantern exhibition in the evening. Geology in a science but little understood even in the Coal Region; and the Doctor handled it as he does everything he undertakes, in a very scientific manner.—The most ignorant could not fail to understand him, and the most learned were doubtless gratified.

It is the same now-a-days as in Shakspeare's time, "some men seek honors, and others have honors thrust upon them." As a proof of which, some of our candidates at the late Election are very much disappointed at their defeat. Then again we have two elected Constables, very much against their will. So sings the world.

You made a slight mistake in your paper of the 11th, in ascribing my perpetration to Vox. Why, all last week I was afraid of the Sheriff arresting me for forgery. I was nameless then and now. I never had any name—"I is so wicked."

Port Carbon, Feb. 23, 1854.

SCHUYLKILL HAVEN AFFAIRS.

☞ *The meeting* called to consider measures for supplying our Borough with Gas and Water, was well responded to by our citizens.

Our streets will soon compare favorably with those of any town in the county. There has been adopted by our Town Council, a regular grade, and the Contracts are now busily engaged in cutting down the Tannery, and filling up the streets. Some way has suggested that Gas was wanted to prevent people from breaking their necks after the streets have been cut down. But I can assure you that this is a base slander.

We want Gas because Schuylkill Haven can afford it, and because it will be an advantage to all parties concerned. Water too is much wanted in some parts of the town, and most families will want it in a greater or less quantity. Water can be readily got at a trifling expense. As for the Gas that it will pay handsomely to the Company that will get up the works and supply a good article, no one will deny who is at all conversant with the subject.

It is expected that the Canal will be filled at S. Haven, in the latter end of this or beginning of next week, to permit the S. Haven Boats to load, provided the "drop gate" at Gibson's Locks can be finished by that time. The West row of the old Landings are undergoing extensive repairs and will be ready about the 1st of March. Some of the Shippers have already large quantities of Coal dropped, ready for the market. The season will commence early, if the Shippers do not refuse to comply with the just demands of the Boatmen.

An Irishman by the name of Smith, while playing with one of the levers of the shut