The Miners' Journal

POTTSVILLE, PA.

Saturday Morning, May 27.

B. BANNAN, Editor and Proprietor;
O. LITTLE, Associate Editor.

WHIG STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR:
JAMES POLLOCK, OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER:
GEORGE DARSIE, OF ALLEGHENY.

FOR SUPREME COURT:
DANIEL M. SMYSER, OF MONTGOMERY.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR:
WILLIAM BIGLER, OF Clearfield County.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER:
HENRY S. MOTT, of Pike County.

FOR SUPREME JUDGE:
JEREMIAH S. BLACK, of Somerset County.

DUTY ON RAILROAD IRON.

Senator Cooper, on Friday 19th, introduced into the United States Senate a *bill to regulate the importation of Railroad Iron*, as a substitute for the obnoxious bill previously reported, not only to suspend the duties for a number of years to come, but also to revoke those already levied for several years past. Mr. Cooper's Bill proposes that, after its passage, a duty of $12 per ton shall be levied on all imported railroad iron, the price of which, at the place of manufacture, shall be $40 per ton.

Sec. 2. Provides that when railroad iron shall, at the place of manufacture, command a higher price than $40 per ton, the duty thereon shall be reduced dollar for dollar, according to its first cost, so as to keep an aggregate of the original cost and duty always at $52 per ton. When the first cost is $52 per ton all duty ceases. The price of the *iron at the place of manufacture* to be ascertained by sworn appraisers.

Sec. 3. Provides, That when the price of railroad iron, at the place of manufacture, shall fall below $40 per ton, the duty shall be increased *dollar for dollar* per ton.

Sec. 4. Provides for the appointment of two appraisers, who are, monthly or quarterly, to ascertain the price of railroad iron at the place of manufacture, and report the same to the Secretary of the Treasury, who is to give notice to the collectors, who shall levy duty accordingly.

Sec. 5. Makes it obligatory on the Secretary of the Treasury to publish the report of these appraisers in the papers of the principal cities.

Sec. 6. Prescribes the oath of the appraisers, and fixes their *salary* at $2,000 each.

We like the provisions of this bill—they are reasonable and just; but the one this proposes to supersede strikes a heavy blow at the whole list of Iron manufactures of this country, but especially at our own State. But its features are so monstrous, we are persuaded that nothing short of the most unfair means can succeed in carrying it through Congress. Hon. C. M. Straub writes us a lengthy letter on this subject—it was received too late for insertion in full. He confirms a former notorious charge, that Congress is besieged by a regularly organized corps of Borers, in the interests of the Railroad men, who are doing their utmost for this Repeal bill. The terms of the bargain, Mr. S. states, are that, if these third House gentry succeed, "they are to receive in addition to the amount already paid them, five per cent. on the amount of duty released on Iron to be imported hereafter, and the same percentage on duty remitted upon Iron already imported, and that, too, for years past. For it is the object of these cormorants to so shape the law, that monies paid into the Treasury long since, are to be returned to their pockets."

Such corrupt means *ought* to damn any measure; but unfortunately for the country, M. C.'s are not immaculate. The fate of Nebraska is fresh in mind. If members sold themselves so cheaply there—some, it is reported, for petty Western Judgeships and others for even the favoritism in a Post Office appointment—what may we not fear in their present temptation? We shall see.

THAT JEWEL, CONSISTENCY.

Governor Bigler has vetoed the act consolidating the penalties imposed on the Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroads for circulating small notes of other States. His squeamish scruples were excited by the clause that "all other penalties heretofore incurred, whether sued for or not, shall be remitted, released and discharged."

The same Governor has approved the bill consolidating the interests of the Lake Shore and the Sunbury and Erie Roads, and providing for the remission, release and discharge of all penalties incurred by the former road!

If penalties incurred cannot be remitted, why did Governor Bigler sign the bill for the sale of the Lake Shore Road? If they can be, why did he veto the bill for the relief of the Companies which had taken the small notes? Either way, Governor, but not both ways at once.—*Phila. Register.*

That's easily explained—one was a closed bargain, and the other wasn't. The scandalous proceedings of the Legislature on the former Bill are notorious and decidedly rich. It seems, according to custom, a borer was forwarded to Harrisburg by the interested companies, and furnished with $10,000 cool to buy their pet through. On a certain evening, with the proper appliances, including the most liberal promises of prompt payment as soon as the job was done, "Barkis was willin"—the House passed the Bill, and the members departed feeling quite comfortable with the prospects. But lo and behold! next morning the Railroader was *non est inventus*, and no apportionment of the funds had been made. The consternation is said to have been indescribable—some of the members fairly boiled over with wrathful indignation. To be sold outright in that unceremonious way was too bad. So, to be even with the Railroaders, a delegation straightway proceeded to the Governor, to make known their grievances in his ear, and, if possible, to stay proceedings there. This, perhaps, may account for the veto.

Another piece of curious legislation was the re-chartering of the Middletown Bank, an institution notorious for the flagrant violation of its charter, by refusing to keep its notes *par*. $6,000, it is publicly stated, was the price of this enactment—how distributed, deponent sayeth not. Some of the Government functionaries could perhaps, if they would, give a reason for extending the privileges of this pet.

HARD TIMES COMING.

Under this caption, the Phila. *Register* deals out some pungent blows, which we heartily endorse—they cut to the quick on every side:

At sea, sail is shortened to meet a coming squall. Money is now at from fifteen to twenty per cent. on the street, and who knows where it will be when Pierce runs the country into a war with Spain and her allies, France and England, in his silly desire to please the slave-holding interest? Commerce will be brought to a dead stand, trade paralysed, dollars scarce as snakes' eggs. As other things go down, interest will run up—to forty per cent. perhaps. The "conscience" of office-holders tell us that our commercial marine will not be troubled by privateers,—that Spain, France, and England are much too gentlemanly to think of ruining our commerce in that rude way; that, after all, they won't want to hurt us much. Let those who are sick of the treasury pap say that our enemies will load their guns with cotton balls, put knobs on the ends of their bayonets and use wooden swords! they may tell that story to the marines. No, the brush, when it comes, will be a severe one. Merchants should prepare for its effects on trade. Those that are lame should run first. If the cause for which we suffer were a national and glorious one, the commercial classes would not complain, but to be sacrificed in a petty squabble to make the Spaniards whip their miserable negroes, whether they wish to do so or not is too bad. We can appreciate the feelings of the son of Erin, who was dying of a concussion received from a cotton-bag man, and said *he could have departed in peace if he had only* been killed by a nobler animal.

☞ EMIGRATION.—The N. Y. *Times* of Saturday, gives a list of Emigrant Ships which arrived at that port on Friday, with *twelve thousand four hundred and seventy-one* immigrants from Europe. Of the number 6,537 were from Liverpool, 1,709 from Havre, 2,656 from Antwerp, Hamburg and Bremen, and the residue from Greenock, Limerick and Plymouth. The *Evening Post* of the same date says that 1,928 in addition arrived on Saturday morning.

HOME TRUTHS.

The *American Banner* addresses a few home truths to those Democrats who have some love of country left, which we append. They will meet a response in the heart of every person who loves the institutions of his country, and boasts of the name of an American:—

FACTS FOR AMERICAN DEMOCRATS.—In former years, the charm of a mere *word* was never suffered to become more potent than Principles—more effective than argument. Our fathers were a *thinking* people,—fully competent to discriminate between the substance and the shadow, and could seldom be led astray, in pursuit of false gods, by artful demagogues, no matter by what name called. True, they felt and acknowledged a magic in the word "Democracy," which concentrated the masses and made them irresistible: because the term was the embodiment of all that patriots loved—all that citizens cherished. It was the rallying-cry of a party who scorned to proscribe their own countrymen—who were proud of their birth-right—who were willing to shelter an alien, but unwilling to make him a ruler. How prosperous, how pure, and how *safe*, would have been the reliance of the people on that party, if they stood upon the landmarks laid down by their great founder, Thomas Jefferson! But, alas, how changed, how powerless that charm now! The term "Democracy" has become a cognomen—a cloak for official peculation, election frauds, proscription, and unblushing denationalization.

Our own countrymen are struck down, and foreigners elevated to office over their heads, at the command of *Democracy*. American Mechanics, and Workingmen, born on the soil, are *driven from their work-shops* by foreign competitors, *invited here and preferred by Democracy*. Our own afflicted and unfortunate countrymen are left to struggle for bread as best they may, while stalwart, hale Irishmen and Germans *loll* at their ease in our Government offices—mere pensioners upon *Democracy*. While the wives and children of Americans are forced to seek the workshop and factory for a livelihood, to supply the deficiency consequent upon the proscription of their fathers and brothers; strong, robust foreigners fill our custom houses, straddle every mail bag, and handle *the nation's money at our mints*,—placed there by the *Democracy*. The watch and police of our principal cities and towns are filled with foreigners by the same *Democracy*. *Democracy* elevates foreigners to office in *preference to Americans*, and we find them representing that party from the Senate down to the humblest office in the gift of the people, elective or appointive.

The American portion of that party are forced to bend and cringe to the foreign portion. No matter what may be the views of those born here, the plan of every campaign is shaped to win the Irish and German vote. As delegates, they pack every Convention; as voters, they turn the lion's share of every victory. *Proud and formidable* as that party was, from the days of Jefferson up to the close of Jackson's career, it has now degenerated into an element of proscription to the American, and a mere ladder of promotion to the foreigner. Such is *modern Democracy*, and we challenge any candid Democrat to disprove it. These are facts—*home truths*—seen and felt by all.

Why, then, should an American born Democrat be a party to this own proscription, by clinging to the fanfare? Why suffer a *mere name* to lead you captive, when you know it has been perverted and used to your own injury?

THE NORRISTOWN RUM TRAGEDY.

From a small Store pass book, in possession of the Daly's, there appear some startling facts connected with the Rum traffic.—We commend their thoughtful perusal especially to *moderate* men.

From the 5th to the 31st of December last, Patrick Daly, so this little book shows, purchased of Messrs Longaker, Childs & Co., no less than *Thirty Quarts of Rum!*—averaging more than a quart per day!! And from the 1st to the 24th of January, 1854, *Eighteen Quarts* of liquor! including, whiskey and *brandy* (the latter at fifty cents a gallon). Better be called poison-drugged Rum, outright—no *brandy* was ever manufactured and sold at that price. Moreover, this little book discloses that, during these two cold winter months, Patrick Daly had paid Messrs. L., C. & Co. more than half as much for Rum, as he had for the necessaries of life for his family! And that pretty nearly the same state of things existed between the parties for the three months previous.—These merchants, be it remembered, are represented to be prominent citizens—respectable, upright, wealthy and *honorable* (as the world goes).

It also appeared from this little book, that on the 25th of January, 1854, Daly settled his account with Messrs. Longaker & Childs, and on the 27th (*two days after*) opened an account with Mr. Murphy (another establishment) and from that date up to the 27th of February (*one month*) he purchased at his store *Thirty-eight Quarts of Liquor!* It further appeared that, during this month, Daly expended at this store $4 394 cents for groceries and provisions, and $5 832 cents for liquor—being in balance in favor of the latter article, of $1 44½!

Will *moderate*, liberal readers, who oppose stringent Liquor laws, and reason that every man should be left to regulate his own liquor-drinking, tell us, after reading the above, who is more justly answerable for the horrid butchery of Daly's little innocent babe—the inhuman, but Rum-crazed mother, or the men who deliberately, day after day, and week after week, for months together, for mere dollars and cents' sake, furnished that *which they knew* would naturally produce, and had hundreds of times produced, *just such results?* And how, according to past experience, can such cases be reached by anything short of Total Prohibition? We leave the answers with your conscience.

☞ POSTAGE! POSTAGE!!—Mr. Olds says the rates of postage must be increased. We wonder if the gentleman has looked to his constituents a document "eleven inches wide, fourteen inches long and four and one-fourth inches thick, weighing twelve pounds avoirdupois." Such a package was recently received by the editor of the Cleveland, Ohio, *Plaindealer*, under the frank of a member of Congress; and the editor, who is also postmaster, and may be presumed to know, states that *cart loads* of such packages, enclosing the unabridged Census report, bound and cased in a box, are traveling *free* over the country. Besides these heavy affairs, there are great quantities of less ponderous packages continually on their travels far and wide, to elate the pride of constituents vain of the correspondence of a M. C. for a little moment, and then be used for waste paper. —*Graham's Mail.*

That's the talk exactly. It is not the legitimate use of the present Postal rates and arrangements, but the *abuse* of them, that strains Uncle Sam's purse. Besides the assumed licenses of the franking privilege, book-publishers and merchants frequently find it cheaper to forward a new work or a package of goods—gloves, silks or the like—by mail than by the ordinary conveyance.—The present law, in that respect, is lame. Were it so amended as to exclude all such articles, as not being legitimate mail-matter, a reasonable economy exercised in supporting the trans-Atlantic mail steamers, and some other superfluous expenses curtailed, there is but little doubt but that the Department would be able to sustain itself. But suppose it did not, to what purpose pray, could the national funds be better appropriated than in support of cheap postage? Hundreds and thousands are yearly squandered for matters in which the people have not half the interest, or from which they do not derive half the benefit, as this. The people ought to be accommodated with cheap postage, even if Uncle Sam *does* have to pay for it.

☞ THE Harrisburg *Union* says the tee-totalers only lack three things to make them a respectable party—honesty, common sense, and harmony.

That just shows how little the *Union* man knows about it. We have *honesty* enough to try to do what is right, (and that's more than some politicians and some papers we wot of, have), *common sense* enough to mature and carry out our own plans without the help of outsiders, and we had *harmony* enough last Fall, even without organization, to poll upwards of 100,000 votes in Pennsylvania! And as for "respectability"—if we can't compare with the red-nosed recruits of either party, Whig or Democrat, *then we will* knock under.

☞ QUEEN VICTORIA was Thirty-five years old on Wednesday last. She was born May 24th, 1819, and was married February 10, 1840—in her Twenty-first year.

PETITION TO CONGRESS.

The following petition has been forwarded to us by Hon. C. M. Straub, requesting its circulation. It is intended as a set-off to the Bill repealing the duty on imported Railroad Iron lately introduced into Congress—the backers of that measure being principally interested in the production of the articles named in the petition:

To the Congress of the United States now in Session.

The Petition of the undersigned citizens of the State of ——— would respectfully represent to your honorable body, that they deem all taxes or duties upon the indispensable necessaries of life unjust and oppressive, and are opposed to all legislation tending to such a purpose. That we are in favor of relieving the laboring classes from as many of their burdens, as can be done, consistently with the revenue wants of the government, they being always ready to pay their fair quota for the support of Government. But when it is known that there is now a very large *surplus in the Treasury* of the United States which cannot be used, and a large proportion of which, nearly Ten millions a year, is derived from a tax of 30 per cent. on Sugar and Molasses, which the laboring class consume in large quantities and which are indispensible articles of consumption in some form, and are used in every family, we pray you to repeal all laws imposing a duty or tax on these articles of prime necessity, and place them where they properly belong, on the "free list," with tea and coffee. And your petitioners believe, by so doing, you will receive the thanks of a large majority of the people of the United States.

CONGRESSIONAL.

The House finally passed the Nebraska Bill at 11 o'clock on Monday night. It was discussed up to noon on Saturday—those members not obtaining the floor having leave to print their speeches. Mr. Richardson made the closing speech for the Bill. On Monday various amendments were proposed, amid much confusion—the friends of the measure for the most part having it all their own way. The vote was as follows—the result was greeted with loud applause in the galleries and on the floor, mingled with hissing:

YEAS—Messrs. Abercrombie, James C. Allen, Willis Allen, Ashe, Bailey, of Georgia, Bailey, of Virginia, Barksdale, Barry, Bell, Bocock, Boyce, Breckenridge, Bridges, Brooks, Caruthers, Chastain, Chrisman, Churchwell, Clark, Chapman, Cobb, Colquit, Cox, Craige, Cumming, Cutting, Davis, of Indiana, Dawson, Disney, Dowdell, Dunham, Edmundson, Elliott, Faulkner, Fuller, Kentucky, English, Faulkner, Florence, Goode, Green, Greenwood, Grey, Hamilton, Harris, of Alabama, Hendricks, Henn, Hibbard, Hill, Hillyer, Houston, Ingersoll, Jones, of Tennessee, Jones, of Georgia, Kennett, Jones of La., Kerr, Kidwell, Kurtz, Lamar, Lane, Latham, Letcher, Lilly, Lindley, of Maryland, Macdonald, McDougal, McNair, Maxwell, May, Miller, Mo., Millson, Mordecai, Oliver, of N. Y., Parker, Peck, Peckham, Pennington, Perkins, Pratt, Pringle, Puryear, Ritchie, Richey, Rogers, Rouse, Sabin, Sage, Savage, Seales, Sevier, Shannon, Skelton, Smith, of N. Y., Stevens, Stratton, Stuart of Ohio, Taylor, of Ohio, Taylor, of Tenn., Thurston, Tracy, Trout, Upham, Wade, Walley, Washburn, of Me., Washburn, of Ill., Wheeler, Wentworth, of Ill., Wentworth, of Mass., Wheeler, Yates.

Making 113 ayes to 100 nays, with 20 absent. The political character of the Bill is analysed thus:

	YEAS. D.	YEAS. W.	NAYS. D.	NAYS. W.	ABS'T. D.	ABS'T. W.
Alabama,	7	0	0	0	0	0
Arkansas,	2	0	0	0	0	0
California,	2	0	0	0	0	0
Connecticut,	0	0	4	0	0	0
Delaware,	1	0	0	0	0	0
Florida,	1	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia,	5	1	0	0	2	0
Illinois,	3	0	4	1	1	0
Indiana,	7	0	2	1	0	0
Iowa,	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kentucky,	5	3	0	0	0	0
Louisiana,	3	0	1	0	0	0
Maine,	3	0	1	4	0	0
Maryland,	4	0	0	0	0	2
Massachusetts,	0	0	1	9	0	2
Michigan,	2	0	2	0	0	0
Missouri,	3	0	0	0	1	0
Mississippi,	4	0	0	0	1	0
New Jersey,	3	0	2	0	0	0
North Carolina,	5	0	1	2	0	0
New Hampshire,	1	0	2	0	0	0
New York,	9	0	12	10	0	1
Ohio,	4	0	7	2	1	1
Pennsylvania,	11	0	6	7	1	1
Rhode Island,	0	0	2	0	0	0
South Carolina,	3	0	0	0	2	0
Tennessee,	4	2	0	4	0	0
Texas,	2	0	0	0	0	0
Vermont,	0	0	3	0	0	0
Virginia,	11	0	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin,	0	0	2	0	1	0
	103	10	44	50	11	9

*F. S. 12 F. S.

	YEAS.	NAYS.	ABSENT
Democrats,	103	44	11
Whigs,	10	52	9
Free Soilers,	0	4	0
	113	100	20

A DAY OF RETRIBUTION COMING.

So says the Montrose *Democrat*, the organ of the so-called Democracy of Susquehanna county, which was formerly published, and we presume is still edited, by Mr. Chase, Speaker of the House of Representatives during the last session of the Legislature.—As an evidence of the temper and feeling of the so-called Democracy in that quarter, we extract the following editorial from the last weekly *Democrat*:

"Whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad." We have often thought that there was something like fatality directing the movements of the men engaged in attempting to force upon the country the passage of this Nebraska measure. The voice of the whole country has condemned it in the most unmistakable manner, and still they persist. They hear not and heed not; but on, on they madly push, deaf to the admonitions of the past and blind to the consequences of the future. With a self-willed and reckless determination that listens to no entreaty, is void of no sober reason, and moved by no impulse of good to the country, they seem to have nerved themselves up to the last work of despair, trusting to the hand of overruling destiny to save the nation from the natural consequences of the contemplated deed.

"The political atmosphere of Washington is fatally poisonous in all times of great political excitement, and the northern man who takes a position on this question by the spirit that vapors there, will surely find, *when too late to retract*, that he has left the constituency, who confided to him their interests, and has gone far away from the channel in which the full current of manly northern sentiment flows. *He will return to be present at the funeral of his own political aspirations,—he will return with ruined hopes and blasted fortunes—he will return to receive the earnest and scathing rebuke of his people, and the indignant denunciation of the country.* We may be laughed at and derided as a prophet, but all we ask is that every man disposed to do us should remember well what we say. THE NORTHERN MAN AND THE PENNSYLVANIAN, WHO VOTES FOR THAT BILL SEALS HIS POLITICAL DOOM! *There is a deep, settled conviction in the minds of the masses of the people that it is wrong, and no logic will convince them otherwise, and no party lines hold them in subjection when they shall be told that the outrage is consummated.* It was the fate once that broke the Camel's back, and no man will find that it was past the last point of forbearance that they drove madly on, when virtuous indignation burst forth and swept them down with the besom of destruction. Men at Washington should leave that dust cursed city often and mingle freely with those they represent, that the motes might be removed from their eyes, and that they might see clearly. Let the people of the country be fairly represented, and the Nebraska Bill would never be heard of in Congress in its present shape. The whole thing was sprung upon the country like the explosion of a mine. Nobody called for it,—nobody *had discussed it*, and nobody had been prepared for it. The notice was reposing in quiet from cogitation and strife,—peace reigned and the watchman's cry was heard through the land,—"All is well."

"O for a tongue to curse the man
Whose treason like a deadly blight—

has plunged the nation into the present unhappy state of affairs. Let him live to the age of Methuselah and do good all his days, and he can scarce repair the damage his wild and reckless folly has done to the fair temple of American freedom and happiness.

"We may be told that we are writing strong things under the excitement of the moment. Gentlemen, take it as you please, excuse it as you please, be calm and place yourselves on some other than the true ground to stand, as you seem determined to go to destruction anyhow, and then drive on.—But when you shall finally come to your senses, and look about upon the wreck of peace and happiness you have caused,—when you shall finally see for yourselves that what we tell you is true,—when you see the Democratic party, the great pillar on which the country has rested since it had a *free* government, —we say when you shall see that party prostrated and powerless in every northern State, and consequently in the whole country, by reason of your foolish persistance in this mischief you have done, then, if not before, we trust you will feel some compunctions, and realize for once that there is *spirit left in the heart of the North. A day of retribution will come*, STAND FROM UNDER!"

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY CALENDAR.

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

Sun's R. 4.43 4.42 4.42 4.41 4.41 4.40 4.40
Sun's S. 7.17 7.18 7.18 7.19 7.19 7.20 7.20

New Moon, 26th inst., at 3.17, A.

First Quarter, 3d inst., at 7.19, A.

Saturday, 20th.—Clear, bright and pleasant.

Sunday, 21st.—Cloudy and springling rain in morn, increasing up to 10-21 o'clock. Cleared at noon. Sun warm in afternoon, but coolish indoors. Evening beautiful—entirely clear, except a light bank of clouds in West. At 20 minutes to 10 heavy rain began—very heavy; did not continue long.

Monday, 22d.—Delightful—sun bright, air cool and refreshing. At 7-9 o'clock heavy in evening, black cloud in South and West. Thunder allower threatened, but cleared. Stars out very bright at night, and fresh and cool breeze.

Tuesday, 23d.—Clear, but unseasonably cool.

Wednesday, 24th.—Slightly cloudy in morning. Clear and cool remainder of day. Air particularly chill towards eve.

Thursday, 25th.—Commenced raining at midnight, and continued at intervals all day and eve. Only sunshine, a few minutes about 5 o'clock, A. Heavy rain during night.

Friday, 26th.—Cloudy and sunshiny alternately in morn. Wind high. Cleared at noon. Bright and pleasant remainder of day. Annular Eclipse of Sun at ♑ A.

☞ *Boyle has* certainly made his mark in Mahantongo Street. Best as completely metamorphosing the interior of the buildings he lately took charge of for his Truck Stand, the exterior finish is the crowning glory of the whole. Hereafter, red paint and fresh vegetables will be inseparable in our palatal memory.

☞ *Strawberries*, the first of the season, were peddled through our streets on Saturday last, and sold to folks fond of delicacies and with plethoric purses (none were offered to us for lack of the latter quality), at fifty cents a box—a pint scant! This time last year they were plenty at half that price—fifty cents a quart.

P. S.—Thanks to Jersey, they have fallen one-half.

☞ *Fluid Lamps.*—A servant girl in a family in Mahantongo street, was badly burned a few evenings ago, by attempting to fill a fluid lamp while burning. Such accidents, we would think, have been frequent enough to caution all against such indiscretions. Fluid is known to be *not explosive*, and with proper care can be employed with entire safety. Most of the accidents with it occur either from carelessness or fright.

☞ *County School Convention.*—At a meeting of the School Directors of the Borough of Pottsville, held Thursday evening May 25, 1854, it was, on motion

Resolved, That the Convention of School Directors to Schuylkill County, be held in Thompson's Hall, corner of Second and Market streets—there being Court held on said day and thereby preventing our meeting in the Court House.

The hour fixed upon for the meeting, is at 10 o'clock, A. M., on Monday June 5, 1854, in accordance with the call of the Convention made by the State Superintendent of Common Schools.

It is particularly desirable that a full meeting of the Directors of the whole County be had, as business of importance, besides the election of a County Superintendent, will be brought up for consideration.

☞ *Unmuzzled Dogs. Street Corner Loafing—Nuisances.*—Good dogs are always at par—worth anybody's care, and to enjoy the fresh air out-doors is very commendable; but there are *seasons when the canine species, for human safety*, require special restrictions upon their liberty, and street occupancy may be run into a bore. We accordingly recommend the annexed communication to the notice of our public authorities, whose business it is to regulate the affairs of the Borough for the common public safety and convenience:

MESSRS. EDS. MINERS' JOURNAL:—A citizen through your paper of last week, called the attention of the Borough authorities to the enforcement of the Dog Law—it was a good one to see it, but that no attention has been paid to it. Our streets are literally overrun with a lot of worthless curs, without an owner or a home; and I think it is time for the press to speak out, and urge our Borough Fathers to a sense of the proper performance of their duties in this respect. It was supposed that our newly elected Chief Burgess would be a live officer, but the number of worthless curs, and of unmuzzled dogs in our streets, and the reprehensible practice of a lot of boys and half grown men, standing on the corners of the streets, using obscene language and insulting passers-by, she would conclude that we had no Burgess or Police Officers or Borough Ordinances. The latter if enforced (and they might be with very little trouble) would soon obtain a nuisance which strangers and citizens alike complain of. X.

☞ *A Founding.*—An interesting, healthy male child, apparently two or three weeks old, was found on Monday morning last, by some of Mr. Lauer's family, immediately back of Sullivan's stable, near his premises, in the Orchard. It was comfortably clothed, and had apparently been abandoned but a short time. Luckily no harm had happened it, though lying in a very exposed condition—there being a number of hogs close by. The circumstances subsequently elicited, leave no doubt about the identity of the child and the inhuman mother who could thus heartlessly desert it.

Some few weeks since, (corresponding with the apparent age of the child,) a woman, calling herself Mary Kelly, stopped at the house of Mrs. Seltzinger, a respectable and good-hearted lady in Port Carbon, and requested permission to stay there for a time, complaining of being unwell, and representing that she had come from Philadelphia in search of, one Tom Conlin, who she suspected was somewhere in this region. While there, she gave birth to a male child; and on Monday last she left early in the morning, taking her child with her, to come into Pottsville in time for the Philadelphia train. On hearing of a child being afterwards found, Mrs. S. came in to see it, and at once recognized in it the little stranger of her late acquaintance, and accordingly insisted on taking charge of it. Moreover, its clothing was attached that kindly furnished by another lady in Port Carbon, so that there is no doubt about its identity. We have not heard of any steps being taken, as yet, for the apprehension of the unfeeling mother. In the meantime the deserted little orphan is well cared for.

☞ The following is from one who, we know, has the best interests of the Temperance cause at heart:

[FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

THE SUBMISSION QUESTION.

FRIEND BANNAN:—There is great agitation among the friends of Prohibition just now, to know what to do with the "Question" submitted by the Legislature. Many of them do not seem to understand that it is a trick of the enemies of our cause to divide our vote and give the advantage to the Rum party. That was its design from the first President, when we consider that it was passed with the knowledge of our pledge "not to vote upon it," and under the first belief that the pledge would be kept. This forms the main feature in the liquor party to poll their *entire* strength, as they are now united in their opposition to *any change* in existing laws, while it will prevent *thousands* of Prohibition men from voting at all. That is the design of submitting this method of voting on the question, we can only necessarily be judged by the *actual vote cast*, which under existing circumstances, cannot be the true criterion of our strength.

Let us be wise in their own craftiness," and turn this trick of the politicians to our advantage. If we be wise this can be easily done by the June Convention. 1st. Let that body *refuse* to accept the law as a law of the Commonwealth, and say that the vote cast for Prohibition *shall not* be considered as the number of its friends. 2d. Let notice be given to the Rum party, that owing to our previous pledge, we shall claim every vote not cast *against* Prohibition, and that unless they poll a *majority* of the *whole* State, we shall consider them *defeated*, and claim the law. This puts us in the following position, viz: They cannot poll more than 100,000 *against* Prohibition, and we would have 285,000 left in our favor. If we *adopt*, and do not poll at least 200,000 *in favor* of Prohibition, the Rum party will claim all the rest, whether they vote or not. We can act with perfect *consistency* in the adoption of the above plan, while we *must sacrifice* our character for principle.

Again: This whole matter is *intended to divert* our attention from the *election of men pledged to the law*, by making us believe that the next Legislature will pass the law, provided there is a majority in favor. The law has never yet been tested by a popular vote, and will not be passed by a Pennsylvania Legislature for any such cause. Let us bend all our energies to the *election of suitable men*, and let the people vote on *no*, as they may please, on the "Question." Let no one be trapped, for "surely the net is set in vain, in the *sight* of any bird." ANTI-TRICKERY.

A "NATURAL CURIOSITY."

The following correspondence explains itself:—

LEESPORT, May 20th, 1854.

B. BANNAN, Esq.—*Dear Sir:*—I send herewith a specimen of a "natural curiosity," lately found near this place. It has puzzled all the wise (and the unwise) heads in the vicinity, for the *last few days*. When found, it bore a strong resemblance to a shoulder-blade bone of some animal. But how it came into such a state as we find it, is what puzzles us most. In the ends of the specimen send you, have the appearance of being used off at one time, which is not at all unlikely. Perhaps some of your scientific gentlemen in Schuylkill can give us a key to the mystery.

The ground on which it was found, is a light yellow gravel, and exceedingly dry; too dry, I think, for putrefaction. If you can get anything from it, you are at liberty to do with it as you think best. Yours, &c., GEORGE H. DIETER.

Having referred the matter to one of our "scientific gentlemen," he has returned us the following explanation:

POTTSVILLE, May 20th, 1854.

B. BANNAN, Esq.—The "*natural curiosity*" from Leesport, Berks County, Pa., proves to be a piece of FIBROUS GYPSUM, a very desirable mineral in any agricultural district. It is, however, a stranger at Leesport, having found its way hither from Nova Scotia, in a load of Plaster Paris, imported for some intelligent farmer, who knew the fertilizing quality of this valuable mineral.

Yours, &c., P. W. SHEAFFER.

NEW YORK LETTER.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]

Marine Disasters—Their Causes—Several Vessels wrecked—Fearful Emigrant Scenes—Quarantine Hospital—Excitement among Liquor Dealers—Refusal of Licenses—A Knee Nothing" Trick—Trials of Thieves—American Rifle Regiment—Sectarian Army in the East—Observing the Preaching—Gas Explosion—Queen Victoria's Birth-day—Decision in matters of Gift Enterprises—Julien—Farewell Concert—Rush, expectations of Mr. J. Bonaparte—Operatic Rumors, &c.

NEW YORK, May 23d, 1854.

DEAR JOURNAL:—We have again occasion to refer to a subject which we had hoped would cease for a time at least—shipwrecks. The last season seems to have possessed a fatality in the way of marine disasters, scarce a week having elapsed for many months, that our journals have not teemed with the sad accounts of numerous disasters. Nor are we yet free—at this present moment four fine merchantmen, laden with the costly products of foreign climes, their decks crowded with human beings, now lie imbedded in the sands, or bumping on the rocks of our coast.

Much attention has of late been directed to the subject of this marine destruction, and the public have been led to inquire into the causes of the sad. A writer in a journal of a neighbouring city, advances four main reasons, which are most undoubtedly fully carried out by the facts themselves in very many instances. His reasons are these,—an insufficiency of vessels adapted to the trade—their being entrusted to unskilful commanders—the inefficiency of their crews—and their lack of scientific appliances.

Apropos of marine affairs—there have arrived at this port, within twenty days, from Europe alone, nearly 450 vessels, bringing fifty thousand emigrants, most of whom settle down in our city to live, whilst not sufficient of themselves to form even a large village, number more than Buffalo, more than three times as large as Reading, and more than one-third as large as the whole city of Boston.

These are over five hundred sick emigrants confined in the Quarantine Hospital, on Staten Island, chiefly by ship fever and small pox.

You will undoubtedly be pleased to learn that quite an opening has been made in the ranks of the liquor dealers of this city, by the refusal of the Excise Commissioners of the Ninth Ward to grant any licences or renewals for, the coming year.—The Board of Commissioners is composed of the Aldermen and Councilmen in each Ward—those of the Ninth declared that out of the two hundred and forty applicants that made their appearance, they saw no one that they could license as a benefit to their constituency. As a matter of course a tremendous uproar was the consequence, several applicants having gone so far as to employ counsel, after having made a tender of the amount as license, (two Dollars, in gold,) to the Board. We learn that a bond has been raised by the liquor interest in the Ward, to test the legality of the proceeding, so that we shall probably see it tried.

Quite an excitement has been raised during the last week, by a little quarrel in the celebrated "Know Nothing" society, of our city. It seems that some Catholic priest received an anonymous letter, informing him of the existence of the "Know Nothings," and offering for the moderate sum of Ten Thousand Dollars to divulge all their secrets and modes of operation, stating at the same time that he had in his possession the whole of the books and in possession of their important papers. The priest published the letter, when suspicion immediately fell upon one Elliot, a Secretary, I believe, in the order. Open night fly promises were broken open and the trunks containing all the papers and properties of the "Know Nothings," carried off when the *Arctic Nothings* of their whereabouts—while Elliot was regaled with divers letters threatening assassination if he did not make his appearance—warning him of the fate of Morgan, the Freemason, and other little matters quite interesting to his personal welfare. On complaint of Elliot, three prominent "Know Nothings" were arrested, charged with burglary and the sending of threatening letters. After along examination, however, it appeared that they really *knew nothing* about the matter, or at least the accuser could not prove it, and they were discharged.

The American Rifles of our city have just received from the Common Council, a superb stand of colors, through the hands of the Mayor. One of the flags is white silk, inscribed with an appropriate Latin inscription, the name of the Regiment and the City Arms. The other flag is of blue, and contains the State Arms, with an inscription referring to the presentation. The regiment paraded in full force yesterday, to receive their colors.

On Sunday last, a serious affray occurred in the park among a crowd assembled to witness one of those lunatics who hold forth in the public squares of our City, on Sundays. Their general topic is the gross-est abuse of the Pope and Catholic church. Several persons were severely stabbed, and a number of arrests made by the police. We have long expected serious outbreaks on these occasions.

The lower portion of two elegant marble buildings, just finished, in Nassau street, were demolished on Saturday last, by a gas explosion. The meter had been leaking and a lamp was taken to look for the difficulty, when the gas exploded and *did the damage*. One mile and a half of windows and not a pane of glass left in the buildings. The lower floors were much injured.

A salute of twenty-one guns was fired on Saturday last, and the English vessels dressed with flags in honor of the birthday of Queen Victoria.

Judge Woodruff, of New York, has decided that the "Gift Enterprises" are violations of the law against gambling and for the suppression of lotteries, without any order or hint on the part of the Governor of the Alms House against Perham, the prime mover of this class of humbugs.

Julien is now giving his farewell concerts at Castle Garden, and is about to leave for Europe in a few days. The house is crowded every evening, and his popularity increases as his stay shortens. He has done much for popular music during his visit to this country, and opened to the public a new era in musical matters.

The event of the week, however, in dramatic circles, has been the final appearance on the stage, previous to her retirement from the boards and their sex, manager of Mrs. H. Mowatt. The affair came off at Niblo's, on Saturday evening, and may safely say that no more numerous or select audience ever congregated to witness any such an event in New York. The correspondent was present nearly two hours before the curtain rose, and for a seat was obliged to try the stairs. The whole edifice was a dense jam; wherever a human being could sit, stand or hang, was filled—hundreds of ladies were standing, while hundreds left in despair. It was more of a tribute to Mrs. Mowatt as a woman, we opine, than as an actress—her talents being in the latter rather below the highest standard. Her reception however, was in the most enthus