Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1854.

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

☞ SUBSCRIBERS WANTED.—Special attention is directed to the Prospectus of the *Journal* for the next (XXXIst.) Volume, to commence on the 1st. prox. Times are hard, current expenses heavy, and our recent outlay to once more set the establishment on its legs very considerable. We should like a few hundred more subscribers—a thousand could be accommodated. If each present subscriber would do something for us—ask his neighbor, for instance, to take the paper—it would give us a wonderful lift. Try it, friends.

☞ ROMISH CHURCH PROPERTY.—On the first page will be found some pungent comments by the New York *Express*, on the recent interference of Bishop O'Reilly in the burial of Father Brady, at Hartford.

This case of most indecent behavior, to say nothing of the petty tyranny it expressed, on the part of a Romish Bishop towards a dead priest, acknowledged by all to have been a most worthy man, because of the assumption of the former to a superior claim over the temporalities as well as the spiritualities of the church, is suggestive. Romanism in this country, as if conscious of its waning power, has of late years been making desperate efforts to recover. And seeing that, in this land of schools and of freedom of speech and action, her religious pretensions are insufficient to hold her people, she has resort to the more severe method of binding them to her motherly bosom by civil obligations. Their property—the lands their hard-earned money has bought, and the splendid edifices it has erected thereon—is vested, not transferred to Trustees of their own choice, for safe-keeping and management; but vested, entire and irrevocable, by process of law, in the hands of their Bishop—one appointed by the sovereign and absolute authority of the church, and whom they neither preferred, nor have the power to reject.

The evident result of this system, which has been resolved on and adopted by the two last Roman Catholic Councils of Baltimore, is to reduce to slavery both the Clergy and Laity of the Roman Catholic Church, in a manner unprecedented hitherto in the annals of that Church itself. Each church edifice becomes, after the provisions of the Councils of Baltimore have been fulfilled, a part of the legal property of the Bishop, and he can make what use of it he pleases. Nor is there any existing jurisdiction, beyond his own conscience, to prevent his even diverting to *private* purposes the vast estates which he may sometimes hold, for the benefit of the communities over whom he is placed. He may remove or depose one or all of the Priests of his Diocese, without assigning any other reason than his own sovereign pleasure. In like manner, as all Catholic cemeteries would thus, and in most cases actually do, constitute a part of the Bishop's domain, the right of burial therein is dependant upon his exclusive judgment and will—a prerogative often exercised with the veriest despotism, as the history of Catholicism in Pottsville bears ample testimony.

Such is now the ecclesiastical law of the Romish church in Pennsylvania, sanctioned by our civil authorities, in accordance with an act covertly, or at least hardly, passed by the Legislature some years ago, before its import was fairly understood. A similar regulation obtains in several other States, and but recently the Legislatures of others again have been besieged with urgent though unsuccessful applications, to the same effect, as in New York at the last session.

A system so anti-Republican in its nature and so tyrannical in its effects, cannot long be tolerated on free soil, and hence the spirit of rebellion is at work, we are glad to see, and has already, as at Buffalo, Hartford and other places, made these church tyrants tremble.

In the face of these developments, it becomes the obvious duty of the civil authorities of each and every State, where Romanism exists, to withdraw all countenance from a regulation fraught with so much mischief—if they do not go still farther and positively forbid them. We should like to see our own Commonwealth set the example.

☞ SUNBURY & ERIE RAILROAD.—The link in this important enterprise, between Milton, (Northumberland county,) and Williamsport, (Lycoming,)—thirty-six miles—is about being completed, and will be formally opened for travel and transportation on the 15th inst., Friday (an unlucky omen). This opens a direct line of Railroad communication between Philadelphia and Williamsport, and *via* the connection of the latter place with Elmira, and other roads through New York, a continuous route to Niagara Falls! Other portions of the direct line of the Sunbury & Erie Road, from Williamsport to Lock Haven, and thence Westward to Ridgway, are also under contract; and proposals have been made for the work from Erie to Warren—thus presenting a fair prospect of the speedy completion of this great Pennsylvania Railroad enterprise.

A grand excursion is to be made over the entire route by the Phila. Council, and other invited guests, on the day mentioned—the programme, according to the *News*, being as follows:

"Over the Phila. and Reading Road to Port Clinton, thence over the Little Schuylkill Railroad through Tamaqua, and to the connection with the Catawissa road; thence over the Catawissa road to Milton, (the residence of Governor Pollock,) thence by and over the Sunbury and Erie Road to Williamsport. At this point the party will be received by the authorities of Williamsport, and dine; after which they will take the Williamsport and Elmira road to the last named point, where they will change cars, and passing over the New York and Erie road, proceed to Hornellsville, where they will enter upon the Buffalo branch of the New York and Erie to the city of Buffalo, from whence they will proceed by the Buffalo and Niagara Falls road to Niagara."

☞ MR. WISE'S CHANCES.—It is asserted on competent authority, that the Know Nothings are actively and extensively engaged throughout the Old Dominion, and hence that Mr. Wise will find the way to the Gubernatorial chair, a "hard road to travel," the *circuitous* method of voting, notwithstanding. The Richmond *Examiner*, the organ of the anti-Wise Democracy, and an influential paper, talks right out in meeting thus:

"*The nomination of Mr. Wise will exonerate every Democrat from supporting him on party grounds.* We say that upon Mr. Wise's record he cannot be defended upon party grounds, and his nomination, in full view of this record, will be a total obliteration of the old party lines, and a final kicking to the dogs as worn out trumpery of the old party organization."

An American victory among the F. E. V.'s would be a triumph indeed.

☞ POOR CONSOLATION.—The *Democratic Union* (Harrisburg) in noticing the rumor of a change of the Pierce Cabinet, says:

"Other States may speak for themselves, but in Pennsylvania, so long as James Campbell remains at the head of the Post Office, or any other Department, unless called there by the voice of the people, by whom he was condemned in 1851, we can look for nothing but disaster and defeat. His removal would really the Democratic party—his retention will scatter it to the winds."

☞ THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—We have read this document carefully through, long as it is. As a literary effort, it possesses some peculiar merit—it reads well, and rather prettily; but as a State paper, especially from the Chief Magistrate of this great country, we can discover in it nothing remarkable, except its uniform tameness. The general course of national policy prescribed, is, in the main, good, but perfectly natural—just what every man of common sense would have recommended. There is one ominous omission—the word "Nebraska" does not occur in it from beginning to end!

In lieu of the entire Message we present (what will be more acceptable to most of our readers) the following abstract of its contents as prepared by the Philadelphia *North American*:

The message opens with the usual pious felicitations on the prosperity of the nation. A general assertion of the doctrine of non-intervention by foreign Powers in our interests and affairs on this continent follows.

A proposition, embracing not only the rule that free ships make free goods, except contraband articles, but also that neutral property, other than contraband, though on board enemies' ships, shall be exempt from confiscation, has been submitted by this government to those of Europe and America. Russia has acted promptly in this matter, and a convention has been concluded between that country and the United States, providing for the observance of the principles announced, not only as between themselves, but also as between them and all other nations, which shall enter into like stipulations. None of the other powers have as yet taken final action on the subject.

Since the adjournment of Congress, the ratification of the treaty between the United States and Great Britain, relative to the coast fisheries, and to reciprocal trade with the British North American provinces, have been exchanged, and some of its anticipated advantages are already enjoyed by us, although its full execution was to abide certain acts of legislation not yet fully performed.

It is recommended that provision be made for a commission, to be joined by one on the part of her Britannic Majesty, for the purpose of running and establishing the line of boundary of the Territory of Washington, adjoining the British possessions on the Pacific.

Satisfactory explanations have been exchanged between the government of France and the United States respecting the affair of the French Consul at San Francisco, and that of Mr. Soule. The correspondence in both cases will be laid before Congress.

The position of our affairs with Spain remains at the close of the last session. It is said that there is reason to believe that our minister will find the present government more favorably inclined than the preceding to comply with our just demands, and to make suitable arrangements for restoring harmony and preserving peace between the two countries.

Negotiations are pending with Denmark to discontinue the practice of levying tolls on our vessels and their cargoes passing through the sound. It is not doubted that we can claim exemption therefrom as a matter of right. Congress is advised to give the required notice for the revocation of the treaty of 1826 with Denmark, the fifth article of which provides that there shall not be paid on the vessels of the United States and their cargoes when passing through the Sound higher duties than those of the most favored nations.

A treaty, opening certain of the ports of Japan has been negotiated; and in order to give full effect thereto, it only remains to exchange ratifications, and adopt the requisite commercial regulations.

The commission to establish the new line between the United States and Mexico according to the provisions of the treaty of the 30th of December last, has been organized, and the work is already commenced.

Our treaties with the Argentine Confederation, and with the Republics of Uraguay and Paraguay secure to us the free navigation of the river La Platte, and some of its larger tributaries; but no same success has not attended our endeavors to open the Amazon. It is expected that pending negotiations will, eventually, reach a favorable result.

In relation to Central America perplexing questions existed between the U. States and Great Britain at the time of the cession of California. These as well as questions which subsequently arose concerning interoceanic communication across the Isthmus, were, as it was supposed, adjusted by the treaty of April 19, 1850; but they have been reopened by serious misunderstanding as to the import of some of its provisions, a readjustment of which is now under consideration. Our minister at London made strenuous efforts to accomplish this desirable object, but has not yet found it possible to bring the negotiations to a termination.

The history of the affair at Greytown is explained, and the destruction of the place vindicated.

The condition of the national finances, as set forth in the Treasurer's report, is referred to, and a purpose to direct continued application of the surplus revenue to the payment of the public debt, is declared. A further reduction of duties of imports is now recommended, and Congress is asked to pass a law forbidding retiring revenue officers from abstracting their official accounts and papers.

An adequate increase of the army for the protection of the frontiers is urged. It is thought that four new regiments, two of infantry, and two of mounted men, will be sufficient to meet the wants of the service. Reforms in the commissary department and administration of the service is also suggested, especially in relation to promotions, and the creation of a retired list. An increase of our naval force is also advised, the President remarking that the augmentation of the navy has not kept pace with the duties properly and profitably assigned to it in time of peace, and that it is inadequate for the large field of its operations, not merely in the present, but still more in the progressively increasing exigencies of the wealth and commerce of the United States. The apprentice system, as proposed by the Secretary of the Navy is approved.

Referring to the late marine disasters on our coast, the President suggests that the difficulty may be partially met by the introduction, into our merchant ships, of indentured apprentices; which while it would afford useful and eligible occupation to numerous young men, would have a tendency to raise the character of seamen as a class. He also observes that it is deserving of serious reflection, whether it may not be desirable to revise the existing laws for the maintenance of discipline at sea, upon which the security of life and property on the ocean must to so great an extent depend.

It is said that the report of the Postmaster General shows that the expenditure of the year ending June 30, 1854, including $133,483 of balance due to foreign offices, amounted to $8,710,907. The gross receipts during the same period amounted to $6,955,585; exhibiting an expenditure over income of $1,755,322, and a diminution of deficiency, as compared with last year, of $561,756. The increase of the revenue of the department, for the year ending June 30, 1854, over the preceding year, was nine hundred and seventy thousand three hundred and ninety-nine dollars. No proportionate increase, however, can be anticipated for the current year, in consequence of the act of Congress of June 23, 1854, providing for increased compensation to all postmasters. The cost of mail transportation, during the year ending June 30, 1854, exceeds the cost of the preceding year by four hundred and ninety-five thousand and seventy-four dollars.

During the last fiscal year eleven million seventy thousand nine hundred and thirty-five acres of the public lands have been surveyed, and eight million one hundred and ninety thousand and seventeen acres brought into market. The number of acres sold is seven millions thirty-five thousand seven hundred and thirty-five, and the amount received therefor nine million two hundred and eighty-five thousand five hundred and thirty-three dollars. The aggregate amount of lands sold, located under military scrip and land warrants, selected as swamp lands by States, and by locating under grants for roads, is upwards of twenty-three millions of acres.

The increase of lands sold, over the previous year, is about six millions of acres, and the sales, during the first two quarters of the current year, present the extraordinary result of five and a half millions sold, exceeding by nearly four millions of acres the sales of the corresponding quarters of the last year, thus increasing to an extent unparalleled during any like period in our past history the amount of revenue provided from this source for the Federal Treasury.

The policy of the government, in relation to retiring apart public domain for those who have served their country in time of war, is illustrated by the fact, that since 1790, no less than thirty millions of acres have been applied to this object.

Respecting the donation of public lands in aid of the construction of railroads, the President expresses no definite views of policy, but says he recure with satisfaction to the experience and action of the last session of Congress, as furnishing assurance that the subject will not fail to elicit a careful re-examination and rigid scrutiny.

The discussion of the question regarding internal improvements by the government, is reserved for a special message, which will be submitted to Congress at an early day.

The President renews previous recommendations of reforms in the Federal judiciary, and of provisions concerning the interests of the District of Columbia.

The message concludes with some general reflections on the duties of the government, and an invocation of the blessing of God on the deliberations of Congress.

☞ SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY'S REPORT.—We append an abstract of this important document—copying most of that portion in full relating to a change in the Tariff, as of more immediate interest to our readers:

The receipts of the fiscal year, ending the 30th of June, 1854, from all sources, were $73,519,705, which, with the balance in the treasury on the 1st of July, 1853, $21,942,592, give a total for the year of $95,462,597. The expenditures for the year have been $75,354,630, leaving a balance in the treasury on the 1st of July of $20,137,967.

The receipts for the quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1854, are $21,521,302. The estimates for the remaining three quarters of the fiscal year are $42,500,000. The amount of public debt outstanding on the 1st of July was $47,180,506.

The Secretary anticipates a falling off in the Customs, owing to the Reciprocity Treaty and short crops.

The tonnage of the United States exhibits an increase for the year of 595,892 tons.

The imports for the year are $20,321,317, in excess of the exports.

The flattering state of the Revenue induces the Secretary again to call the attention of Congress to the propriety of reducing the revenue from Customs. He recommends but three rates of duty, 100, 40, and 25 per cent., in place of the eight schedules at present in use.

"The reduction" (we quote the Report *verbatim*) "proposed in my former report, as carried out by the bill prepared in this department and the reduction proposed in the bill prepared and reported by the committee of ways and means of the House of Representatives, would each have effected the object of bringing the receipts from customs to the proposed revenue standard.

"The present tariff has eight schedules, or different rates of duties, as follows: The first of 100 per cent., the second of 40 per cent., the third of 30 per cent., the fourth of 25 per cent., the fifth of 20 per cent., the sixth of 15 per cent., the seventh of 10 per cent., and the eighth of 5 per cent. The bill prepared by the committee of the House of Representatives has five schedules, as follows:—The first of 100 per cent., the second of 20 per cent., the third of 15 per cent., the fourth of 10 per cent., and the fifth of 5 per cent.

"And the bill prepared at this department, and which is substantially the one reported by the minority of the committee of the House of Representatives, has but two rates of duty: The first of 100 per cent., and the second of 25 per cent.—There are difficulties in the execution of the present tariff growing out of the required classification under the eight schedules; and these difficulties continue to increase by the acts of the manufacturers in assimulating one class of goods to another, and in ascertaining the material of chief value in the fabrics. The difficulties would be reduced under the bill of the committee, and would entirely disappear under that proposed by the department.

* * * * * * *

"Herewith is also presented exhibit 10, containing the free list proposed by the department, to which is added the English tariff on the same articles; from which it will be seen that the English tariff makes most of these articles free; and, as far as these articles are used in the arts and manufactures, most of them are free of duty under the laws of other manufacturing nations. Under the English tariff, the raw material used in the arts and manufactures have been made free of duty, whilst our tariff of 1846 imposes on those articles heavy duties; and thus, to the extent of the duty on the raw material, the English manufacturer has a decided advantage over manufacturers of the United States in the markets of other nations, while the effect of the tariff of 1846 is reduced in our own markets.

"In the revision of the tariff, for the purpose of reducing the revenue, it was deemed expedient and proper to take away the advantages accruing to the manufactures of other countries, under their free lists, by making the same articles free under our laws, except as to the article of wool, and as to that article, on the coarser wools. Under the reciprocity treaty, wool from the British provinces will be admitted free of duty.

* * * * * * *

"The proposed addition of articles of general consumption to the free list, such as salt, &c., was deemed more questionable, but was made because it seemed to have had the sanction of Congress and the people, as to tea and coffee, and it was thought would leave the operation of the tariff laws more equitable in their bearings upon all sections of the country, than a general reduction on all articles.—The addition of unadulterated wines was made to promote our commercial intercourse with wine producing countries.

"The present tariff, the bill of the committee of the House of Representatives, and that of this department, impose the like duty of 100 per cent. on spirits imported. The bill of the committee reduces the schedules of the present tariff from 40, 30 and 25 per cent. to 20 per cent., retaining the 15, 10 and 5 per cent schedules, with some transposition of articles from one schedule to another; while that of the department imposes a duty of 25 per cent. on articles not made free; most of the articles in the 15, 10 and 5 per cent. schedules in the present tariff having been added to the free list, there being no just reason why the articles not added to the free list should not pay the higher rate of 25 per cent.

* * * * * * *

"A question of greater difficulty was, whether the rate of 40 per c. should not be maintained on manufactured and adulterated wines, and whether silks and some other sumptuary articles should not be added to that schedule. Upon mature reflection, I am fully satisfied that the schedule of 40 per cent. should have been retained, keeping in it wines not made free, and adding to it silks of all kinds, laces of all kinds, millinery of all kinds, and other sumptuary articles, and I now recommend that, in revising the tariff, such a schedule, specifying the articles, be added.

* * * * * * *

"In recognising, as I do, the principle that duties should be levied for revenue, and not for protection, I have considered it no departure from the principle to counteract the legislation of other countries, and make the same articles free under our laws that are free under theirs; knowing, also, that there has never been a tariff law enacted under the constitution, in which some articles were not allowed to be imported free of duty."

The recommendation for the repeal of the Fishing Bounties is renewed. The subject of drawback duties on refined sugar, is also recommended to the consideration of Congress.

The Secretary gives a statement of the currency which makes the total amount of gold and silver coin in circulation on the 30th December, 1854, at $241,000,000 against which there is a total bank circulation of $204,689——. He expresses an opposition to the circulation of notes of small denomination.

He commends the continuance of the coast survey, and calls for further aid in protecting human life from shipwreck on the coasts; and suggests whether the law should not provide greater security on the construction of steam passenger vessels, or leave them as now to the ship-owners.

In view of the recent frauds by Collectors of the customs at Cleveland, Oswego, &c., he calls for such additional legislation as may be deemed necessary.

The balance of the report refers mainly to the Mint operations, and the operations of the various departments of the Treasury.

☞ THE POSTMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.—This is a very long document but one of great and general interest, as showing the operations of a system about which the whole nation is deeply concerned—cheap postage. The Washington *Union* furnishes the following abstract of it:

There are 23,548 post offices in the United States; the annual compensations of 257 of which amounted to $1,000 and upward. During the last year, 1,842 offices were established and 614 discontinued. Number of postmasters appointed during the same time, 8,618. Removals, 1,977. Number of mail routes, 6,697. Number of mail contractors, 5,167. Total annual transportation of mails, 63,387,005 miles, at a cost of $4,630,676; thus, 21,267,603 miles by modes not specified, at 5 cents per mile; 20,890,530 miles by coach, at 6 cents per mile; 15,433,889 miles by railroad, at 12 cents 4 mills per mile; 5,795,183 miles by steamboat, at 8 cts. 4 mills per mile. Increase in the transportation during the past year 2½ per cent.

The expenditures of the department during the past year were $8,577,421 12, and the revenue $6,955,586 22.

To the former must be added $133,483 33, balance due foreign offices, which would leave the total deficiency for the year 1854 at $1,755,321 23. The deficiency for the year 1853 was $2,317,078 20—leaving a difference in favor of 1853 of $561,756. The increase in the revenue of 1853, is $970,399 48—or about 19 per cent.

The Postmaster General alludes at considerable length to the difficulties between the department and railroad companies relative to the rates of compensation for carrying the mails. The companies, he says, allege that the government should not ask or expect them to perform for it any service at a less rate than that paid by individuals for similar services. This principle, he says, has always been willing to recognise in the adjustment of prices. What he now required, he believes, is, that the railroad companies should be paid according to the bulk of the mails, the speed with which they are conveyed, and the accommodations required. The sums paid by express companies are no fair criterion; for, as they are unlicensed by competition, they can pay any price demanded of them and still realize a profit. Customers. England, France, Germany and Canada pay less to railroads for mail service than is paid by the United States. Complaint is made of the insufficient accommodations, as a general rule, for route-agents. Allusion is made to the habit of irresponsible parties obtaining, by gross misrepresentation, mail contracts, and subsequently throwing them up because of a failure on their part to sell the same at a profit. A remedy for this fraud is suggested.

Owing to causes not within the control of the department, the expenses of the current year will greatly exceed those of the past year. They are estimated at $9,841,921 33. This increase will be owing to the additional compensation of postmasters and the enhanced prices demanded by contractors at the last lettings.

A uniform plan of registration is warmly recommended as an additional protection for the safe delivery of letters of value. The want of such a safeguard has long been felt, and as the cost of its maintenance will fall directly upon those who will cheerfully bear the expense, we see no good reason why it should not be incorporated into our postal system as one of its principal features.

During the three years commencing July 1, 1851, $5,507,022 03 postage stamps and stamped envelopes have been issued by the department, of which $5,092,301 were sold.

For the last year the cost of the service on the various United States mail steamship lines, and across the isthmus, was as follows:—Collins line, twenty-six round trips, $858,000; New York and Bremen, eleven round trips, $183,333 26; New York and Havre, eleven round trips, $147,500; Astoria and Panama, via San Francisco, twenty-four round trips, $348,250; New York and New Orleans to Aspinwall, $289,000; Charleston and Havana, $50,000; New Orleans to Vera Cruz, twenty-four round trips, $37,000; Aspinwall to Panama, $119,727. Total, $2,028,010 29.

The service performed by the several lines of ocean mail steamships is treated at large. The Postmaster General is of opinion that the compensation now received is too large, and that the present system is calculated to drive off private competition. He also states that the Nicaragua Company have offered to carry a weekly mail between New York and California for the sum of $600,000 per annum, which he thinks is the highest rate of pay which ought to be demanded. The cost this year for a semi-monthly mail, by the isthmus route, is $757,977 03.

No progress has been made since the last report in the pending negotiations with Great Britain relative to the admission of France into the arrangement as contemplated by the provision in the 12th article of our postal convention. No postal convention has as yet been effected in France, but one is about being made with Mexico.

Arrangements have been made with the Australia line of monthly packets to convey mails regularly between New York and Australia. The rates on all outgoing matter have been fixed at five cents a letter, two cents each for newspapers, and one cent an ounce for pamphlets and magazines. These rates embrace both United States inland and sea postage.

The fines and deductions during the past year amount to $110,486. The amount for the previous year was $37,920.

☞ REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.—In the Washington correspondence of the Philadelphia *Bulletin*, we find the following abstract of this document:

"It states the authorized force of our army to be 14,216, while the actual force, as shown by the Adjutant General's report, is only 10,745. This difference between the authorized and actual forces of the army resulted from the difficulty of obtaining enlistments under the old law, but it is fast disappearing under the influence of the new law, "increasing the pay of the rank and file of the army." Our Indian difficulties are treated at great length.

"The report recommends a small steamer and a number of boats be provided, suitable to navigate the lakes and rivers of Florida, as preliminary steps towards removing the Seminole Indians by force if they continue the refusal to remove peaceably. So, we have the prospect for another Seminole war, with all its train of fraud and corruption. The report also recommends a large increase in all the branches of the army, and refers to the horrible Indian massacres on our frontier, as resulting from the ill-judged economy of Congress in refusing to increase the army as recommended at its last session."

QUILL AND SCISSORS.

☞ SCANDAL-MONGERS please take notice: The most mischievous liars are those who keep just on the verge of truth.

☞ THE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE, of Great Britain, have resolved to raise a fund of $50,000, to agitate for the enactment of a prohibitory liquor law.

That is the right way to lay siege to the enemy. A good sized fund well expended in the good cause, is worth a dozen meetings and twice as many speeches.

☞ THE New York *Sun* does not think the "Know-Nothings" will subvert the world, if they do get into power,—and that Foreigners have an unnecessary dread of them. The opposition to the new sect, comes, reasons the Editor, from the parties who have interests apart from those of the Republic,—and who fear their interests will be interfered with.

Aye, aye—every word of it true. In this County, for instance, last Fall, who among our foreign-born population said half as many bitter things against the rascally Know-Nothings," as did some of the *native* demagogues? It is these old hackneyed politicians that first feel the lash of the new craft—and richly they deserve it.

☞ A WRITER IN THE *Daily South Carolinian* over the signature of "Calhoun," strongly urges the re-establishment of the Missouri Compromise line. The people, he thinks, was badly duped in the passage of the Nebraska Kansas bill; and, without in the slightest degree censuring those Southern members of Congress who voted for the obliteration of the line, he advises that they retrace their steps at the earliest opportunity.

This seems to be the view generally taken of this matter by intelligent Southerners, apart from the professed politicians. The Nebraska manœuvre was but the work of ambitious demagoguism from beginning to end, and no good ever has or ever will come of it, to either North or South.

☞ POLITICS IN RELIGION.—This is the subject of a sermon delivered in Philadelphia, on last Thanksgiving day, by Rev. Charles Wadsworth, and since published in pamphlet form. It is replete with sound argument on prominent topics of practical, every-day life; rendered the more interesting by the eloquent and powerful language in which it is expressed. There are several portions of this discourse we should like to copy, but we have only room to-day for the following—politicians and our civil authorities, as well as sermon-readers, are requested to examine it:

"Every government is bound to put forth its appropriate power in the suppression of public vices.

Sin, indeed, as a principle of our nature latent in the heart, is subject only to the higher jurisprudence of Jehovah. But sin, when it becomes obtrusive, and, throwing itself openly in flagrant iniquities—becomes a legitimate object of earthly jurisprudence—and should be met promptly and resolutely by the sternest rebuke of executive authority. While the great end of all legislation in regard of public vices should be,—the prevention of crime and the reformation of the criminal; and so it will always be characterized by great moderation and mercy: nevertheless, such legislation should be powerful and prompt; at once impartial in its application and unyielding in its enactments. *It should be impartial in its application.* And here, perhaps, more than elsewhere, is the shortcoming of our criminal code. It bears unequally upon the extremes of society. Its type is too truthfully a spider's web strong as a hempen cord around the wing of a poor fly; but weak as gossamer to the golden plumes of the humming-bird. It punishes without mercy the shivering beggar who makes theft of a coat to keep him from freezing; but smiles graciously on the fraudulent bankrupt who, out of enormous robberies, can rear a palace of marble and crowd it with the magnificence of an oriental monarch. It is all iron to the poor drayman who happens to jostle your carriage and mar a wheel or a panel; but only poppy and rose-leaf to a titled commander who, in mad race upon the water, runs his bark into shipwreck;—the ruthless murderer of your beloved ones. It has fetter and dungeon for the poor coiner who utters a spurious shilling; but only ottoman and cologne for the swindling officials of a banking-house, flooding a whole land with utterances as worthless. Verily, the criminal jurisprudence of this time has the Pharisee's moral conscience straining out with shuddering recoil the poor gnat of iniquity, yet swallowing without shrug or contortion, hump and all, the whole monstrous *camel*.

Government should legislate impartially, *and then execute impartially.* It should frown as severely on the rich and the noble, as on mendicant and menial. Indeed, as crime committed in high place is less excusable than that committed in the low, its mal-influence, so should its punishment in high places be more sternly inflexible. And instead of the monstrous judicial iniquities so paraded in the midst of us, whereby the richer villain goes free and the poorer villain suffers—instead of this, I say, only the more lacerating for the fine garment should be the iron scourge—only the heavier for the pampered flesh, the iron links of the fetter. In a word, a government owes it to its subjects that its laws against crime should be few and simple—based on justice, but tempered with mercy—impartial in their operation, and inflexibly executed.

But with no further limits to enlarge on these general principles which should characterize legislation in the suppression of iniquities, let me dwell in illustration, for a moment, on a few of the many public immoralities a government should yet itself to prevent or punish. Of course, in these illustrations, I shall select only such as are not sufficiently regarded in our land's jurisprudence.

I. Take then, first, as an example, the vice of *Intemperance.*

Now you are all aware how this vice has come to be regarded rather as a misfortune to be pitied, than a crime to be punished. But all this is manifestly most unwise and most wicked. The intemperate man, say what you will of him, is not, like a polished man in the drawing-room, the victim of another's cupidity. He is a most bold and brutal violator of all social and domestic rights. *He commits* high felony on the property and prerogatives of his neighbors. He robs his children of their rightful bread. He lashes his *wife* with a *scorpion* scourge than a scourge of hot scorpions. He brings down to the grave with a very murder, *his* gray hairs who begat, and nurtured the heart who bore him. He racks with more than inquisitorial torments those hearts that are bound to him by love's deathless affections. And comes, therefore, *as directly* and manifestly into the legitimate province of severe criminal law, as a man who comes with arson on his own house, or murder on his own family.

And as of the intemperate man himself, so as well *of the man who makes traffic of Intemperance.*

As observed before, I will not insult your understanding, with an argument to prove that government has the *right to rule* out of the land this most infamous commerce. I would sooner spend breath on the proof that the law *could restrain* me from importing whole herds of lions, from the Indies, to let loose in our forests; or whole dens of deadly serpents from Africa, to scatter abroad in our gardens. Government has, indeed, already and always assumed this right as its prerogative, in its whole system of license laws. *Its right to license presupposes its right to restrain.* But then this license system is not sufficient. It works partially and imperfectly.

It is, indeed, nothing better than a legislative re-enactment of the grotesquely horrible old *Bull of Papal Indulgences.* Written fairly out as a business transaction, and how would the doings in this matter by a Board of Excise read? Why something like this:

"Know all men by these presents, that on this day of this year, Anno Domini ——, because Mr. A. B. seems morally qualified for such a business, and in consideration of value received, *we hereby* license him to destroy property, to bring misery into families, to take away bread and raiment from small children, to make parents childless and wives widows, to fill poor-houses with paupers and prisons with criminals, to send bodies to the grave, and souls to *damnation* ——"

This—this, and this only, is the moral significance of our license system. And I say it works at best partially and imperfectly. I am not thinking here to speak of what would be in this matter a wise and wholesome legislation. I am not satisfied that as yet any proposed system of enactment meets the case's great exigencies. I am as heartily sick as any man can be of all that ruffianism of of moral reforms, which will link temperance as a twin issue with the foul ends of *political partizanship.* I am not projecting the provisions of a bill. I am insisting on the grand principle of prerogative. That it is the *manifest right*, and the *bounden duty*, of all human governments to rise up each in its place, and put its heel in all its omnipotent strength on this monstrous Hydra of modern civilization.

II. Take next as an example the vice of *Sabbath-breaking.* And we say this is the duty of the government to prevent or to punish it.

This hue and cry of *"Church and State,"* which is ever hot-seriously raised when we seek aid from executive power for such sanctification of God's Sabbath, is as little countenanced by our Federal or State Constitutions, as it is by common sense. A public recognition of the Sabbath, as holy time, has from the first been accorded to the day by our Federal Constitution. On that day, the high civil functions of the Chief Magistrate of the nation—the business of the Supreme Court—the sessions of both houses of Congress—the operations of the War and Treasury and Navy Departments—all are suspended by constitutional provisions. And so all the individual States of the Union, in their capacity of sovereign powers, do provide for the Sabbath's sanctification, by precept and penalty.

And that, in such legislation, governments have acted only in their appropriate sphere, needs none be no argument. The Sabbath is man's spiritual blessing not only, but his great *temporal* blessing. Confessedly, Sabbath-breaking, as a crime, is the grand source of all crimes. Philosophically considered, the Sabbath is the world's great public recognition of the being and sovereignty of a God, whose laws are over us. And so to degrade it from its sanctity, is to fling a loose rein on the neck of all the wild passions that spring out of Atheism. And as a fact of observation, just as you blot out the Sabbath you blot out civilization. How was it with France? Why, as long as the Sabbath stood untouched, so long there rose a strong bulwark of adamant to stay and beat back the wilder flood-tides of Infidelity. But so soon as with insane hands they blotted that hallowed day from the calendar, and enacted a decade to the Goddess of Reason, just so soon was the roused ocean let loose from its bounds, and a tide of crimson and fiery desolation overwhelmed the whole nation. *The Sabbath is not merely a Saint's day of religion, it is God's gift to the race as a great temporal blessing.* The Sabbath was made for man, for every man, his nature craves it, his constitution requires it. It is identified with his pursuits, and with all his moral tendencies. And, therefore, is as manifestly the prerogative of earthly governments, to legislate inexorably for its observance—to see to it that no breath of blasphemous infidelity breathe a stain upon its shining garments—to guard it carefully from every rolling wheel and every trampling foot. As manifestly, all this, the prerogative of human governments, as to protect my dwelling from an incendiary's torch, and my fields from an invading enemy.

III. Take again—and lest we should weary you, finally, for example: *Any one or all of that great retinue of public vices, whose unpunished influence is our midst, is to lower the standard of Christian morals, and destroy the moral purity of the rising generation.* I need not pause here in an enumeration of these vices, their name is legion. Profane Swearing, Blasphemy, the Race Course, the Card Table, Libertinism, the Polluted Utterances of a Licentious Literature—the monstrous shapes of sin that link themselves with our Theatres, the bribery in Jury-Boxes and Elections, these—and such as these—are but specimens of a great class of public vices, whereby morality is stricken down in our streets, and a wounded Christianity lies bleeding at her own holy altars.

And we say it is the prerogative of civil power to suppress such iniquities. I know how these men say that the civil power is only for the protection of temporal interests. But be it so—and what then? Do these temporal interests, which Cæsar's jurisdiction guards, include only the pecuniary and personal well-being of our estates and our bodies? Hath the man no purely temporal interests that pertain to the home, and the heart, and the social life of himself and his beloved ones? Shall the civil power punish a man who injures his neighbor's cattle, and yet leave that man free to injure his neighbor's children? May he rob me of my peace of mind, while he dare not rob my pork barrel? May he break my heart, while he dare not break my walking stick? Must a leper be quarantined lest he fill the breeze with contagion, and the poisoner of my well, go to prison—and all this because the civil power guards the *bodies* of my beloved ones? And yet shall the man walk lawlessly abroad if he fills God's pure air with *pestilent* blasphemies, and poison the sweet wells of the old Saxon tongue with libertine literature, till he destroy all the peace and the purities of my household, and bring the very *hearts* of my beloved ones as festering corpses to the sepulchre?

Ah! No, sirs! No, sirs! As a member of society, and a subject of government, I may have bank stock and a body, which deserve protection; but then, I have a *heart*, too, and a *soul*, which deserve protection. And so all the temporal interests of my soul and my heart are as strictly under the guardianship of the civil law, as are my body and my bank stock—as are the products of my farm—and the property of my merchandise.

I can not enlarge further on this point of the subject. Enough has been said at least to illustrate the proposition—*that civil governments are bound—as they are principle of right and prerogative—to put forth all their power in the suppression of public vices!*

EDITORIAL CONDENSATIONS.

——LORD ELGIN is about to leave America and return home.

——MR. AND MRS. BARNEY WILLIAMS are in California, getting rich.

——JUDGE WILMOT is trying to organize a "Republican party."

——G. B. UPTON is the Whig candidate for Mayor of Boston.

THE REPEAL or modification of the Naturalization Laws seems already a prominent topic in Congress.

——SLIGHT SNOW in New York, Sunday morning, but it soon turned to rain, accompanied by a terrific blow.

——JNO. M. SULLIVAN, Esq., of Butler, has been appointed Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth.

——THE Inauguration of Governor Pollock will take place on the second Tuesday of January next.

——POWELL'S great picture of the "Discovery of the Mississippi by De Soto," is now on exhibition in Philadelphia.

——An old thing with a new name. The defunct Locofoco party revamped under the name, style and title of the "Constitutional party."

——CAPITAL REGULATION.—The trains on the Erie Railroad will not stop on the line near where liquor is sold. Most of the accidents on that road are attributed to Rum.

——GEN. J. W. WHITFIELD, the pro-slavery candidate, has been elected delegate to Congress from Kansas. Robert P. Flenniken, formerly of this State, was his competitor.

——HON. SIMON CAMERON.—Mr. Buchanan's friends, the Washington *Star* says, have been compromised for this gentleman for U. S. Senator.

——SENATOR BUCKALEW, of Columbia, is in South America. It will puzzle him to reach home in time for the organization of the next Legislature.

——FOR Mayor of Cambridge, Mass., Rev. J. C. Lovejoy was the Whig candidate; Z. L. Raymond, the Know Nothing. The Know Nothing ticket throughout triumphed! Ditto in Lawrence.

——THE LEADING commercial papers, we are glad to see, generally agree that the prospects in the present monetary crisis of the country are brightening—the worst, they think, is over.

——THE appointment of A. G. Curtin as Secretary of the Commonwealth seems to find general acceptance. His peculiar qualifications for the office are highly commended in every quarter of the State.

——THE bodies of Sir John Franklin and his men have been found by Dr. *Rae's* party, frozen, perfectly preserved. So says the Lake Superior *Mining News* of the 9th ult; but it is thought to be an old report, known to be erroneous, revived.

——OLD BULLION'S friends in the Missouri Legislature, it is said, have proposed a coalition with the Whigs, for the purpose of defeating the re-election of Mr. Atcheson to the United States Senate. Benton goes the whole figure when he once gets his "dander up."

——THE French Academy at Paris has been experimenting on Spirit Rapping, and come to the conclusion that it is produced by the slipping of a tendon from its sheath behind the outer ankle. Pshaw! we have long known it was that or some other humbug manœuvre.

——A MAN named Gray has been arrested in New York for throwing vitrol on ladies' dresses in the streets and at public assemblies—thereby ruining thousands of dollars' worth of splendid goods. It seems to be a question whether he is the more knave or fool—some think him insane.

——THE storm at the beginning of the week prevailed with great severity throughout the North and East. Several wrecks occurred on the lakes, the Hudson and along the seaboard.

The storm extended to Canada—Quebec and Montreal were visited heavily.

——G