Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1855.

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

AGENTS FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

DAVID J. LEWIS, Mt. Carmel:
ISAAC F. DAVIS, Ashland:
FREDERIC LAUDERBURN, Tamaqua:
THOMAS A. GODFREY, Tremont:
VOLNEY B. PALMER, corner Third and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia:
E. CARR, South 3d street, Philadelphia:
CRANE & Co., South 3d street, Philadelphia:
PETERS & JONES, N. E corner Third and Race streets, Philadelphia:
C. F. NORTON, Coal Merchant, 522 Walnut St., Philadelphia:
VOLNEY B. PALMER, Tribune Building, N. York:
CRANE & Co., 102 Nassau street, New York:
S. M. PETTENGILL, 119 Nassau street, N. York:
VISCHER & SCHELL, Appleton's Buildings, Broadway, New York:
V. B. PALMER, Court street, Boston:
S. M. PETTENGILL, State street, Boston:
Who are authorized to recieve subscriptions, advertisements, &c., for the *Miners' Journal*, and receipt for the same.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

FARMERS, examine Jno. L. Pomeroy's adv.

TWO brick houses in Pottsville for sale by G. M. Cumming.

THE large hotel, just built in Ashland, is offered to a suitable tenant. See advertisement.

A CERTAIN tract of land in Wayne tp., of 40 acres, is to be publicly sold on the 17th; and another, of 100 acres, in the same tp., is offered at private sale. See advertisement.

PERSONS in want of new window-blinds, or having old ones to repair, are referred to Wm. M. Zerbe, in this Borough. His work is good and tasteful, and his prices low. See advertisement in another column.

THE Distribution of Prizes by the Cosmopolitan Art Association, announced in our columns recently, has been postponed to the 28th inst., when it will positively take place. Subscriptions will continue to be received, up to that time, at Bannan's.

AT THE Machine Carpentry establishment of Charles Lawton, Jr., St. Clair, is manufactured almost every thing in the Carpentry and Cabinet-making line, and parties interested in building may save much both in time and money by patronizing him. Window sash, for instance, already glazed and primed can be furnished to order, of any size, at short notice and at reasonably low rates. His prices for work generally, are reasonable and accommodating, and the facilities of his establishment are such as to fill all orders promptly. The mechanical wonders of this Manufactory were described at length by a correspondent of the *Journal* some time ago.

☞ THE election for a U. S. Senator by our Legislature will take place on the 13th. We are still strongly and unequivocally in favor of the choice of Ex-Governor Johnston. His election would be an honor to the State.

☞ HON. JAS. COOPER and Hon. C. M. Straub have our thanks for public documents—among those from the latter is Herndon's Exploration of the Valley of the Amazon, with explanatory Maps. We also acknowledge similar favors from Senator Hendricks and Hon. Chas. Frailey, at Harrisburg.

☞ ADAMANTINE FOREVER.—The New York Hard Shell Democracy, at a meeting held last week, resolved to stand by their principles, and consider the recent election no test, but as clearly establishing a want of confidence in the Administration. The committe strongly endorse Daniel S. Dickinson.

☞ CHURCH PROPERTY—HOW IT SHOULD BE VESTED.—A unanimous report has been made in the New York Legislature in favor of the passage of the bill to vest all church property in corporations organized by general act establishing religious societies. A similar bill has been reported in our own Legislature. It was introduced by Mr. Price, Senator from Phila., and is said to be carefully as well as stringently drawn. An Exchange furnishes the following synopsis of its provisions:

"The fifth section of the bill provides that no foreign government or power shall hereafter hold any real estate in this Commonwealth, in any corporate name or by trustee, or by any devise whatsoever. The sixth section prohibits bishops, priests, or other ecclesiastics from holding any real or personal property with power to transmit the title to his successor in office, and repeals all laws which confer capacity to transmit property to ecclesiastical property, provided that the repeal shall not affect the validity of present titles to church property. The seventh section provides that powers devised or bequeathed to any ecclesiastical corporation or bishop, for the use of a church, it shall be subject to the control of the lay members of such church, or their representatives of whom a majority shall be laymen. The eighth section provides that no church or religious organization shall hold real or personal property to an amount over $5,000, without special legislative sanction.—The eleventh section voids all bequests to religious organizations unless made at least one month before the death of the testator and attested by two credible witnesses. The twelfth section provides, in order to prevent the indefinite increase of church property in perpetuity, that all excesses of capital over $5,000 shall be expended for the purposes for which the property producing it is held, and if such objects are not sufficient to exhaust the moneys, the balances shall be paid into the State Treasury. The thirteenth section makes it the duty of the Auditor General to keep account of all moneys so paid in, in order that they may be applied to objects as near as practicable to those for which the original donations were made."

To understand fully the bearings of this bill it is necessary to bear in mind that the bulk, if not all, of the Romish church and benevolent society property in this country, is held by the Bishops in trust, not for the members of their respective dioceses, but for the Pope, who is a foreign prince, and that the Bishops are sworn to dispose of this property and its revenues as the Pope shall order.

☞ FRAUDS IN NATURALIZATION.—The following Act has been introduced into the House of Representatives of the Legislature of this State:

An Act for the Detection and prevention of Frauds in the Naturalization of Foreigners.

Be it enacted, &c., That it shall be the duty of the Prothonotary or Clerk of every Court of Record, established by the Constitution or Laws of this Commonwealth, on or within three days after the first day of June, after the passage of this act, to furnish to the Commissioners of the county in which said certificates of naturalization were granted, a complete and accurate list of all persons to whom certificates of naturalization have been granted, during the twelve months ending on the last day of May next, with the name of the voucher in each case, and the date when each certificate was granted; and every such Clerk or Prothonotary shall furnish to said Commissioners a similar list for each subsequent month, within two days after it shall have expired. And for furnishing said lists said Clerk or Prothonotary shall receive one cent for each person whose name shall appear on said lists as having been naturalized.

Sect. 2. The Commissioners of any county in which any Court of the United States may hold its session, shall procure from the Clerk of such Court certified lists similar to those acquired to be filed by Clerks of State and County Courts at the expense of the proper county.

Sect. 3. The Commissioners of each county shall prepare an alphabetical list of all persons naturalized in the county, whose names are contained in said lists, with the dates, names of vouchers, and Court naturalizing them, and publish the same by three insertions in two or more newspapers in the county, (one of which shall be the paper having the greatest bona fida circulation therein,) during the month of September annually; and also make similar publication, one time, previous to the sixth day of October in each year, of all naturalized during the month of September; Provided, that no such published list shall contain the names of those previously published according to law, by the said Commissioners.

Sect. 4. No person claiming to vote, who shall produce as evidence of his naturalization a certificate purporting to be issued by any Court of record, whose name shall not appear in the published list for the period embracing the date of said certificate, shall be allowed to vote until he shall make oath that said certificate is genuine, that he is the person designated therein, and that the same was granted him according to law; and at the request of any voter, the Judge of such election shall retain said certificate, note thereon the residence of the person so offering to vote, and the name and residence of the person at whose desire he retains it, and within two days deliver the same to the nearest Justice or Alderman in his election district. If within five days thereafter, any one appears before said Magistrate, and proves that said certificate is forged, or has been fraudulently issued, or that there is good reason so to believe, he shall investigate the matter, and imprison or hold to bail for trial, such as he shall consider guilty of any violation of law; otherwise he shall return the certificate to the person claiming to vote upon it.

QUILL AND SCISSORS.

☞ A BAND of gipsies having been sojourning near Freehold, N. J., have succeeded in swindling a farmer out of about $300.

We will wager a big apple that man don't "take the papers."

☞ THE cab and omnibus drivers of Edinburgh have struck against driving on the Sabbath.—Great efforts have been made to shake their purpose, but thus far, without effect.

A better observance of the Sabbath, we are glad to see, is becoming one of the great moral reforms of the age, all the world over.

☞ UNUSUAL SPECTACLE.—The editor of the Harrisburg *Telegraph* was gratified on Tuesday evening, to observe some five or six members of the House of Representatives actively engaged in the religious revival now in progress at the Methodist church in that place.

We are not so sure whether this is to be regarded as a good omen for politics or a bad one for the church.

☞ A resolution has been introduced by Mr. Headley, the celebrated author, into the New York Legislature, for the passage of a law by Congress, prohibiting the appointment of foreign-born citizens to diplomatic stations abroad.

We second the motion most heartily—it is perfectly reasonable and proper. Of all the posts of honor and profit, in the dispensation of our Government, from the President down, none more imperatively need to be filled by persons thoroughly *American* both by birth and principle, than our foreign embassies.

☞ THE Worcester *Journal* says that it has information which renders it certain that the Know Nothings can carry the following States at the Presidential election in 1856:

New York,	35	New Jersey,	7
Pennsylvania,	27	New Hampshire,	6
Ohio,	23	Connecticut,	6
Massachusetts,	13	Vermont,	5
Indiana,	13	Rhode Island,	3
Illinois,	11	Delaware,	3
Maine,	8		
Total electoral vote,			160

If this be true—and we know nothing to the contrary—the old liners will find "Jordan a hard road to travel" in '56. "Sam" has already proved himself a "whole team and a big dog under the wagon!"

☞ The Immaculate Conception humbug (we mean no disrespect toward the truly *religious* aspect of the subject) meets with more opposition than his Holiness had probably counted on. Witness the following:

The Pope's decree of the Immaculate Conception does not meet with very cordial response from the Romanists of Germany. The people generally have been perfectly indifferent to this intrigue of the Papacy, and many are thoroughly ashamed of it. In Tuscany, the Dominican friars openly repudiate the dogma. The monks of St. Marino have been summoned before the Archbishop of Florence on a charge of contempt of the Pope, for despising the dogma.

So in France, besides the general opposition among the Romish clergy themselves, noticed in last week's *Journal*, the official promulgation of the new dogma depends in some way, it appears, upon the sanction of the Emperor; and he, so the latest accounts say, hesitates to exercise his authority in the matter, for fear the palpable absurdity of the doctrine and the ridiculous scandal that will follow its announcement, may excite an open rebellion among the "faithful" in his empire.

SHORT METRE.

☞ THE NUMBER OF MEN, who up to the present moment have sailed from France and Algeria for the seat of war in the East, amounts to 118,000.

☞ THE SOUTHERN *Democrat* says that the large audience in Petersburg which was addressed recently by Henry A. Wise, were so enraptured *that they forgot to applaud*. Good.

☞ VICTOR HUGO, the celebrated French poet and republican, will it is said, shortly pay a visit to the United States. Like Chateaubriand he probably hopes to find here fresh and picturesque subjects for his pen.

☞ THE Pittsburg Post announces that the Kensington rolling mill, the Pennsylvania forge, the Novelty works, and several glass houses, in that city have resumed operations again.

☞ A KNOW NOTHING TOWN.—At an election for town councilmen lately held in Parkenburg, Va., (a place containing about three thousand inhabitants, situated on the Ohio river, in Western Virginia,) the Know Nothing ticket received every vote but six. This looks bad for Mr. Wise.

☞ DEAD HEADS—At the Grand Opera in Paris, they used to issue, until within a short time, the enormous number of 1700 free tickets, whilst the house holds only 3100 persons. The new administration not exactly liking this state of things appointed a committee to investigate the matter.

☞ FOR A DRY COUGH—Take of powdered gumarabic, half an ounce, liquorice juice half an ounce. Dissolve the gum first in warm water, squeeze in the juice of a lemon, then add of paregoric two drachms; syrup of squills, one drachm. Cork all in a bottle and shake well. Take one tea-spoonful when the cough is troublesome.

☞ STATE SELF PROTECTION.—In the R. Island House, Mr. BORDEN has introduced an act entitled "An act restricting the powers and duties of Courts of Record in this state;" which was read twice, and referred to the committee on the Judiciary. The bill prohibits the Courts of the State from taking cognizance of the naturalization of alien.

☞ A LADY about forty years old, says the *Journal of Health*, who has suffered severely from periodical attacks of palpitation of the heart, from the age of twelve years, has found immediate and permanent relief from the use of soda water. It appears from experiments since made, that carbonic acid gas is the active curative agent.

☞ NEW ENGLAND RUM FOR SEBASTOPOL.—The Middlesex, (Mass.,) Journal says: "We learn from good authority, that Trull Brothers, distillers, are now engaged in filling orders for this *'native juice'* to go to the Crimea. They get 45 cents per gallon, and boast of making *twelve hundred dollars* a week. Think of that in these hard times!

☞ IMPROVEMENT IN THE PIANO.—An Albany firm claim to have made an important improvement in the piano, which consists of a corrugated sounding board—a sort of corduroy sounding board—which adds about fifty per cent. to its surface, and therefore correspondingly increases the power of the instrument. In short, it makes a seven octave piano equal to a grand action piano.

☞ A PARIS paper states that Dr. Grisler, a French gentleman, has discovered that by adding a few drops of nitric ether to the most rancid oils, all the disagreeable smell is removed, and that by afterwards warming the oil, to separate the spirit from it, it becomes as clear and as limpid as though it had never been otherwise than sweet. He says that a few drops of ether in a bottle of oil will prevent it from ever becoming rancid.

☞ IT HAS been calculated that the cost of washing linen that might just as well be worn two days longer, amounts to enough in this country to more than defray the expenses of the American Board of Foreign Missions! The expenses of buttons worn on the backs of our coats where they are of no earthly use, is equal to the support of all our orphan asylums! The value of tails to dress coats, (of no value in reality, for warmth or convenience,) is actually greater than the cost of our excellent system of common schools!

☞ FIRE IN READING—On Friday evening the three one story frame offices belonging to the congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church, nearly opposite the Court House, were damaged by fire. The middle office occupied by J. Hagenman, Esq. District Attorney of Berks county, in which the fire originated, was almost totally destroyed, together with its furniture and Mr. Hagenmans's library of law and miscellaneous books. The books and furniture in the offices adjoining, occupied by Charles K. Robeson and Jacob H. Forney, Esqs., were saved.

PENNA. LEGISLATURE.

FRIDAY, 26th.—SENATE—The bill to increase the capital of the Short Mountain Coal Company was taken up and passed finally. [Where does this company hold forth?]

HOUSE.—The bill to repeal registration was under consideration, and after passing committee of the whole, was postponed.

SATURDAY.—SENATE.—A bill was passed to incorporate the Point Breeze Park Association. [This bill incorporates an Association of gentlemen of Philadelphia, for the purpose of establishing a private trotting course at Point Breeze, on the banks of the Schuylkill, beyond the lower end of Broad street.]—The bill relative to electro-magnetic telegraphs, and messages sent thereby, was passed to a third reading and laid over for final action.—[This bill imposes a penalty for injury to telegraph wires, posts, &c; makes it the duty of telegraph operators to preserve copies of messages at least three years, and to produce them in court, when required; and declares it a misdemeanor, punishable by severe penalties, for any operator to send false messages, knowing them to be such.]

Mr. Darsie reported from the Committee on Finance, the supplement to the act relative to the disbursement, deposit and safe-keeping of the public moneys. [This is a very stringent bill, intended to prevent the speculating upon the public deposits, which rumor says has prevailed to a great extent during the last few years.]

HOUSE.—Mr. Bergstresser, on leave, withdrew the petitions for the erection of a new county out of parts of Dauphin, Schuylkill and Northumberland. [This is news to us—what part of Schuylkill was it proposed to cut off?]—Mr Smith, of Allegheny, read in place a bill to prevent frauds in the naturalization of foreigners.

Mr. Frailey read in place a bill to incorporate the village of Cresoli, and another to incorporate the Mine Hill Shaft Co. [Where and who are these?]—A bill from the Senate to repeal the Registration Act, came up on second reading and passed finally.

MONDAY.—SENATE.—Nothing generally important.

HOUSE.—The bill to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors on the Sabbath, and also to prohibit the sale of adulterated liquors, taken up and discussed at some length.

TUESDAY.—SENATE.—The bill to regulate the compensation of members and officers of the Legislature was taken up, and passed Committee of the Whole. It fixes the compensation of members at $500 for the session.—[We have no means, as yet, of knowing what the detailed provisions of this bill are, but it bears upon its face the principle of a most commendable reform.]

HOUSE.—Private bill day.—A bill to incorporate the Schuylkill Junction Railroad Co., was finally passed.—[We print this bill in full in another column.]

WEDNESDAY.—SENATE.—A remonstrance was presented from Bishop Neuman, of the Catholic Church of Philadelphia, against the 6th section of the bill pending before the Legislature, relative to Priests holding Church property.—[That's perfectly natural.]—Several calls made upon the State Treasurer for information about the public funds. Right!

HOUSE.—Mr. Cummings moved to refer the Tavern License Bill back to the Judiciary Committee, on which an animated debate ensued, which was participated in by Messrs. Cummings, Fraley, Avery, Chamberlain, Simpson, Morris Eyster, North, Stockdale and others, and the motion was finally agreed to—yeas 60, nays 26—with instructions to the Committee to report a bill.

THURSDAY.—SENATE.—The Telegraph bill passed finally.—The bill relative to the compensation of members and officers of the Legislature was then again taken up, and after a lengthy and animated discussion, passed second reading.—[It fixes the salary of members of the Legislature at $500, with an allowance of 10 cents per mile for every mile travelled. The salaries of the officers are slightly reduced.]

By request, Miss Lucy Stone was allowed the use of the Hall to lecture in—Mr. Frailey read in place a bill to incorporate the Anthracite Savings Bank of Pottsville.

CONGRESSIONAL.

FRIDAY, 26th.—SENATE.—Private bill day.

HOUSE.—The French Spoliation bill was further debated.

SATURDAY.—SENATE not in session.

HOUSE.—French Spoliation bill—much spirited discussion, and finally passed—yeas, 110; nays, 76. Its title being next considered, Mike Walsh offered the following amendment:

An act to successfully accomplish the following objects: First—To enable sundry unscrupulous and grasping companies of speculators and brokers to still further aggrandize themselves in the sacrilegiously assumed name of the widows and orphans by preying upon whose helplessness and necessities they have already amassed fortunes. Secondly—To replenish the purses and brighten the mercenary hopes of the several agents, lobbyers, etc., of Washington, who are personally interested in its passage, and also to embolden those "modest" and conscientious worthies to renewed and increased efforts to deplete the National Treasury so effectually as to hereafter preclude the possibility of its funds ever again reaching one inch above low water mark.

This took well, and created much merriment and some indignation; but the mover cast the only affirmative vote on the question of its adoption.

MONDAY.—SENATE.—A variety of subjects discussed, but nothing definite transacted.

HOUSE.—The Speaker laid before the House the Resolutions from the Legislature of Pennsylvania, asking that an expedition be sent to the Arctic Seas in search for Dr. Kane and his party. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Taylor of Tenn., introduced a bill establishing a uniform rule of naturalization, repealing certain acts heretofore passed on that subject, and for other purposes. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

TUESDAY.—SENATE.—The discussion of the Army Appropriation bill occupied most of the session.

HOUSE.—Territorial business taken up.—In the course of debate a *beautiful* scene was enacted:—

"Mr. Lane of Oregon appealed to the Committee, to set this bill aside, &c., &c.

Mr. Farley of Maine rose to a point of order.

Mr. Lane—I did not yield the floor for your point of order.

Mr. Farley—I have as much right to call you to order, as you had to call me to order.

Mr. Lane called him a "liar," or "damned liar," which was retorted by Mr. Farley, with emphasis. The parties were about ten feet apart at the time—Lane standing near the main aisle. In a moment that distance was shortened two-thirds at least, both with agitated frames and threatening gestures; but several gentlemen near by interfered and thus prevented the belligerents coming to close quarters. Great excitement prevailed, and members hastened to the scene.—The Sergeant-at-arms was called, bearing his mace of office, when quiet was soon restored."

What a picture of the Congress of the United States!

WEDNESDAY.—SENATE.—House French Spoliation bill; pensions to soldiers of Indian wars of 1791 and thereafter; Bayard's defense of his deceased father; and Army appropriation bill were prominent in the business of the session.

HOUSE.—Territorial business occupied most of the time.—Mr. Houston presented a substitute for the pending bill modifying the existing tariff, which was ordered to be printed.

THURSDAY.—SENATE.—Nothing of special interest.

HOUSE.—The bill authorizing the construction of a subterranean line of telegraph from the Mississippi or Missouri to the Pacific passed finally.—In some proposed legislation for Utah, polygamy came in for a considerable share of the discussion.

☞ THOMAS JEFFERSON'S grand-daughter is teaching school in Washington City.

NEW YORK LETTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Rum on Sunday—Efforts of the Mayor crowned with success—Follow suit in Philadelphia—The "Complaint book"—A queer category—The weather and its effects upon the Coal trade—State of the trade—View; retrospective and prospective—Probabilities—Review of the Liverpool Coal trade and prospects.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30, 1855.

DEAR JOURNAL:—A week or two since I wrote you concerning the laudable efforts of our new Mayor to close up liquor shops on Sundays. He has accomplished his end, and by the reports from the Police Captains of yesterday, we see that only some twenty places were open for the sale of liquor contrary to law, on the day previous, and even these were forced to resort to the back door and alley gate system of operating. They were however, detected by the reserve corps of police, who had been directed to do duty on that day in citizens' dress. The closing has been universal from the hovels of the "pointe" to the saloons of our palace hotels. All persons are loud in their praises of the move, and several of our wards have reported no arrests whatever on Sunday, which used to furnish previously, the longest list of all the seven days that make up the week.

One new feature of the present administration is the opening of a "complaint book," where any and all persons are free to go and enter the statement of their grievances, be they what they may. The daily report, every morning, furnishes a queer list to read. One man complains that he has been forced to take in signs and posters, while his more lucky neighbor is left in undisturbed possession of all the advantages which street advertising can give him—he requests the police to be down on his more fortunate neighbor. One woman complains that her husband has given her the slip and left her for the superior charms of the bed and board of another fair damsel; while a worthy shoemaker piteously bemoans the fact that policeman No. — won't pay a justly due boot bill. Long strings of pages set forth the nuisances of beggars, icy side-walks, staggering walls and holes in the streets, delectable man-traps, while numerous others show forth the delinquencies of street contractors, ash carts, and government officials generally. Gouty millionaires, wrathy merchants, unsuspecting greenhorns, and verdant emigrants, each has his oar to put in under cover of a complaint. Great is the hub-bub in Gotham. Vive la "black-book."

Apropos—we perceive that Mayor Conrad, of Philadelphia, has "followed in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor," and opened a "complaint book," at the central police station in Chestnut street, where the irate Quakers may ease their burdened souls and serve the municipal body corporate.

We have been blessed with all the known vicissitudes of weather during the present month—we have had a season of mild summer weather when we should almost expect to see the trees sprout, which continued until we thought that cold weather was a myth, and winter a remnant of exploded old fogyism—then came a snow-storm—and tempering that we were glad to crouch around the glowing Anthracite, and remain within doors to escape not only the cold, but also the dancing shutters and tumbling chimney tops, which old Boreas in his funny mood was causing to schottische with all the *abandon* of an emancipated school miss—then came a snow-storm—oh! what a snow—its reminiscences still haunt me—a foot and a half—unparalleled in Gotham. Reader, did you ever a snow in New York—if yes—then you have seen life—if no! then thus far you have lived in vain—then we had rain—a regular immense, pelting, deluging torrent, which caused our streets, (now so well paved,) to resemble, then we had a freeze, which caused biped pedestrians to take heed unto their ways lest they fall, and fall they did, as many a thumped cranium can testify, to whose astonished optics stars were plainly visible at high noon—in fact we can realize in its fullest meaning that sublime effusion of the bard, which charmed our youthful ears,—

"First it blew, and then it snew,
And then it froze to fris."

All these fluctuations of the weather have had their effect upon the supply of Coal in the New York market. December was an unusually cold month, and the closing of the Canal, some three weeks earlier than usual, must have cut off at least seventy-five to one hundred thousand tons of our supply. Our market is at present scantily furnished, of more than a thirty days' stock being in yard—although the present facilities for freight from Richmond will afford merchants an opportunity to replenish at a price which will enable them to sell without a loss, even though without any profit. The Canal has given notice of an opening on the 15th February, which is however extremely doubtful.

The present selling price of Coal in this market is $7,50 per ton, which has been current for the entire season. Nothing but the unheard-of stringency of money has prevented the staple from reaching at least nine dollars per ton. The profits of the business for the present season must be very light, as any one who has the data at hand must see for themselves—even now take the freights from Richmond, $2, with the price of Coal from $5,15–$5,20, making it cost about $7,25 at the dock in this city—add cartage and expenses at least 75 cents more, and the profit which is left is even ultra homeopathic. He it remembered also that this amount is even less than has been paid for some of the Coal which has been sold in this market, and may be even now lying in yard for all we know. There is a greatly mistaken idea in the community regarding the profits of the Coal trade for the past season—they think that fortunes are being rapidly accumulated. Coal merchants undoubtedly wish that their trial balances would assure them also of the fact.

Much judgment will have to be displayed in the management of the trade for the coming year. There is no fear of an overstocked market and a remaining surplus in the spring to work against at present—that is out of the question—dealers must begin to buy at the very opening of navigation, and it remains with the operators and transporting companies to say whether the trade shall be steady, regular and remunerative, or unstable and unsatisfactory, dull at the opening and middle of the season, and crowded, unpleasant and harassing as navigation draws to a close.

One cardinal principle must be adopted—the price must not be set too high at the start—we tell you frankly that the prices of last Fall and those ruling now cannot be sustained. It must be remembered that the community have passed through an unexampled season of distress and pressure—a financial fiery furnace—their means are hampered, and above all things are they averse to taking upon their shoulders new obligations. Just as sure as prices are marked up at the commencement, just so sure will the entire season be a hand to mouth business. Coal will be purchased as wanted, with the idea (which will be realized too) that prices must come down.—Some inducement must be held out to make purchasers come forward and take Coal—otherwise we tell you, and mark it well, that the main bulk of what is wanted will be left until very late. They may not get their Coal then, you may reply—which is all very true, but they will take that responsibility on their own shoulders.

By a judicious movement at the start, the trade may be made regular and prosperous—by a fair scale of prices and moderate freights, not below a remunerating point, the desired end may be accomplished.

The bituminous portion of the trade, or rather the Liverpool branch has been peculiarly unfortunate during the present winter. Various operating causes forced up the price last winter to $20–$25 per chaldron, and small fortunes were made at it. This of course turned the heads of some of our dealers, and they forthwith commenced importing Coal on their own account, a foolish move at any time by the way, as Liverpool can be bought afloat in New York almost always, as well and frequently much better than it can be imported. This fact and the great falling off of importations and the shipping interest generally, caused great quantities to be thrown into our market, which of course produced its inevitable result, a tumble of prices. The reason was evident—many went into the importation for themselves—great quantities were shipped from the other side, lured by the extravagant prices that ruled previously—vessels destitute of freight brought Coal for anything—and the scarcity of money capping the climax, produced the result. Liverpool Coal has actually gone begging for purchasers, and our heavy shipping merchants have actually been peddling Coal by single chaldrons, and are filling their own cellars in order to clear their shops. One concern among our Coal fraternity that we can mention, has lost $10,000 at it, and another head of an extensive firm told us that soft Coal losses would sink the profits of his entire business, and that he deemed himself lucky if he came out square.

We cannot but believe however, that there will be an end to this, and that prices must re-act, for as soon as such advices reach the other side, such ruinous shipments must cease, and the supply gradually growing smaller must advance the cost materially. One little fact will illustrate what we have said:—A cargo of Liverpool was lately sold in New York—the consignee of which showed us his ledger, where the shippers had lost all their Coal, and been drawn upon for two or three dollars per chaldron expenses. The price of soft Coal fell in the New York market four or five dollars in less than a month.

Our Coal remarks have extended to such an unexpected length that we must defer mere items of news until another week, and for the present say adieu.

☞ THE ENGLISH IRON TRADE.—A circular, dated Birmingham, Jan. 11, says:

The ironmasters' meeting to-day was fully attended. The hall and committee rooms were during the day crowded. Such houses as Barrows and Hall (the producers of what is called market iron) were understood to be firm, but, taken generally, the price of iron was reduced 40s. per ton. Bars are therefore at about £9. The concluding meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday; but there is no reliance to be placed upon prices fixed at quarterly meetings, they are eventually settled by necessity. A considerable demand for manufactured iron exists, but the North American call, which used to be very considerable is restricted and uncertain. So soon as the American trade is improved our exports across the Atlantic may be expected to be better in proportion.

☞ DURATION OF VEGETABLE LIFE.—Lord Lindsay states that, in the course of his wanderings amid the pyramids of Egypt, he stumbled on a mummy, proved by its hieroglyphics to be at least two thousand years of age. On examining the mummy after it was unwrapped, he found in one of its closed hands a tuberous or bulbous root. He was interested in the question how long vegetable life could last, and he therefore took that tuberous root from the mummy's hand, planted it in a sunny soil, allowed the rains and dews from heaven to descend upon it, and in the course of a few weeks, to his astonishment and joy, the root burst forth and bloomed into a beauteous dahlia.

☞ A MAN OF EXTRAORDINARY ENTERPRISE.—Our readers have no doubt heard of Professor Holloway, for whether we go to the confines of India, the diggins of Australia or California, the wilds of Oregon, the empire of China, or, in fact, to any other part of the world, "Holloway's medicines are known," for in every language and in every newspaper in the world of any note his pills and ointments are advertised. It would scarcely be believed that his advertisements appear in thirteen hundred papers in the Union alone; and again, few would scarcely credit that he has expended in different parts of the world, the enormous sum of two millions of dollars for advertising.

Holloway's establishment in the Strand, is one of the lions of London, and should be visited by every sojourner in the modern Babylon. He has now one in Maiden Lane, New York, where his medicines are manufactured, the Professor himself being there for a few months; and as they are no longer imported from his house in London (thus saving the duty to the American public), he has reduced the prices from three to two shillings per pot or box.

As a proof of the great celebrity of the Professor, we may add, among other things, that he has been a great traveler, and last year visited St. Petersburg, where he had the honor of being presented to the Emperor, and obtained permission for the sale of his medicines throughout the Russian Empire. A few months before this he had audiences of the Queens of Spain and Portugal, which resulted in royal orders being granted for the introduction and sale of his medicines in those two kingdoms.

A similar honor was conferred upon him by the King of Naples and the King of Sardinia. He has been to all the courts of Europe, obtaining almost everywhere special privileges for the sale of his medicines.

It must be admitted that Holloway is the greatest advertiser that ever lived, and has by far the largest fortune in that line of any other man.—*N. Y. Sun.*

THE COAL TRADE.

The quantity sent by Railroad this week is 16,049 04 tons. Total since December 1st, 213,151, 12 tons against 190,164 10 tons to same period last year.

The trade remains as usual with no demand for Coal except for immediate consumption at such points as can be reached. A few of our Operators are aiding the dealers at Richmond to reduce the price of Coal to a losing point, by sending it down to be piled at Richmond. Only a few days ago, one of the heaviest purchasers of Coal at Richmond, informed us that there was no advantage in piling Coal at Richmond in the winter, even if they purchased it at from 25 to 37½ cents a ton less. The wastage by exposure and the extra handling, eat up all the difference in price—but, said our informant, it greatly aids us in fixing low prices for Coal in the spring when navigation opens. This is a truth which every man who has any knowledge of the laws of trade, and also supply and demand, *ought to know*. The idea that prevails with some that the person engaged in business, who reduces the price of any article of necessity below the cost of production, or even to the cost of production, leaving no profits behind to form a circulating medium in the community, is a *public benefactor*, is entirely erroneous. The man who deals fairly with the public, at fair remunerating rates for the investment of his capital and his labor, benefitting himself, his family, and the community, developing and extending the trade as the wants of the consumers require it, is more entitled to the character of a *public benefactor*, than he who cannot see beyond the limits of his own pocket, and would grasp all he can, regardless of its effect upon the whole trade, and even on himself, until he, with the whole community, becomes a victim of his own selfishness and cupidity. There may be some who are forced to send their Coal to market who did not derive much benefit from last year's business—for these there is some excuse—but for many who are now piling their Coal at Richmond, there is no excuse whatever. Men must have *enlarged* views to do a *large* business—the practice of grasping at $5 now and sacrificing $500 hereafter is, in nine cases out of ten, evidence of a contracted mind. He *may* benefit himself at the expense frequently of his neighbors, provided *they*, by pursuing a different course, *protect* him from his own suicidal course; but he never can receive the respect of his associates in business, or command any influence as a business man. If we are wrong in our positions, we are open to conviction. Our object in making these remarks is to cause some of our Operators to *think* as well as work.

TOLLS AND TRANSPORTATION.—The reports of the Railroad and Canal Companies, indicate that the rates will be maintained at a pretty high figure, the present year. The present rates by Railroad are $2 25 to Richmond, and $2 15 to Philadelphia. It is no doubt beneficial to the Trade and will be eventually to the community, that these rates are kept up this winter, and thus keep Coal out of the market, when it is not required. No community desires a whole trade to be broken up and sacrificed, who were forced to lay in their stock of Coal, to supply their respective communities, at higher rates than Coal will rule in the Spring.—One of *their* objects was to protect the community and keep prices from running up higher when supplies were cut off—*they have protected their communities*—and although the price of Coal is high, a large number of the dealers abroad are selling Coal at rates which do not net them 5 per cent. on their investments, and in many instances they are selling at cost, or only a shade above cost, so contracted has the market for Coal become in our cities by the extreme pressure in the money market, curtailing so many branches of business. (See our New York letter on the state of the Coal Trade in New York.) As the price of Coal will be less, in the Spring, the prices of transportation ought to be opened at a corresponding rate. The opening rates ought not to be above $1 60, (under no circumstances above $1 70,) by Railroad and 70 by Canal—these rates will induce purchasers to come forward early in the season—afterwards advance the rates as the season progresses, and as high as the Trade will permit. The carrying companies ought not to be crippled with too low tariffs—nor should our trade be crippled by too high rates of transportation. The immense trade, (being now one-half of the whole supply of Anthracite Coal,) and our heavy investments demand that our two carrying companies should aid us in taking advantage of our favorable position, in preference to neutralising these advantages, and aiding in the building up of rivals, not clogged with such loads of debt to carry. The *actual* average expense of transporting a ton of Coal to market last year over the Reading Railroad is given in the Report at 41.06 cents perton—including maintainance of Road and all other current expenses, 59.30 cents, with high wages, and materials unusually high during the year. A rate of toll and transportation, which would average, say 80 or 90 cents profit on a ton of Coal, together with the receipts from the other trade of the Road, ought to pay a handsome income to the stockholders, after paying the interest on the present debt of the Company.

Before this year closes a new Railroad will be completed from Scranton, in the Susquehanna Region, leading to Jersey City, opposite the city of New York. The length of this road is 125 miles—the bonds of the Company, $900,000, were thrown into the market a few days ago, and notwithstanding the stringent state of the money market, all were immediately taken *at a premium*. This Company is preparing to send to market this year, 200,000 tons of Coal, all of which will go into the interior of this State and New York, and Canada. They are preparing to increase the supply from their mines 100,000 tons, as soon as the road is opened to New York. Another Company, adjoining the Scranton Company, contracted for the building of 6 steam engines in our Borough, last week, for the opening and preparation of Collieries, to be ready to supply Coal direct to New York, as soon as the Scranton and New York branch of this Road is finished. It is true this road crosses a mountain with heavy grades, but the whole distance will be traversed with locomotives, opening an avenue to the New York market direct throughout the *whole* year. This trade will have to be encountered next year. Our position, with low rates of transportation, will enable us to compete with any Coal Region in the State, and it is urged by those connected with the transporting companies, that high rates ought to be maintained this year to strengthen and prepare them for this competition—our Operators, on the other hand, contend that it is as much the duty of the managers of the companies to protect those who furnish them with the Trade, as their own stockholders; for, just in proportion as those who furnish them with Trade, prosper and are sustained, will the revenues of these companies be kept up.—These are the arguments on both sides of the question. Our opinion is that Coal and freights can and ought to be reduced full 20 per cent. from the average rates of last season, and with prudence and a regular Trade, it will be sufficiently remunerative to all engaged in it, the business can be kept regular and healthy, and our heavy investments will

PREPARING COAL.—Since our remarks of last week, we have received a number of letters from Coal dealers abroad, uttering similar complaints to those alluded to last week. A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, also complains of the impure character of Coal from the Lehigh Region, so that the complaints, as we supposed, were not all confined to this region—but there is no use denying that they are more general against Schuylkill, than any other kind of Coal. A letter from Troy, New York, says:—"I read in your paper an article last week, in relation to impure Coal. Every word is true. I know it by experience. I dealt in Schuylkill Coal altogether. When we could purchase it low at Philadelphia, I never sold better Coal than I did then, and it gave entire satisfaction to all my customers—but when Coal advanced to $5 a ton at Philadelphia, I never saw worse Coal—I had to stop buying it, and did not buy a single ton last year—I would have lost all my trade if I had continued dealing in it. The Schuylkill is a good Coal, and gives satisfaction when it is rightly prepared—and I hope for the interest of your Miners, that you will publish as much of this letter as you think proper. Our dealers are all of the same opinion, and will not purchase any more Schuylkill Coal until it is prepared better."

Another dealer writing from Philadelphia, states that he was pleased to see the attention of the dealers called to this subject through the *Journal*. He states that he supplies families only, and procured only such Coal as sustained a good reputation—but from the fact that the Lump Coal is all picked out, and so much refuse Coal broken up with the prepared Coal, he took unusual pains to deliver the Coal in good order, leaving behind a large supply of refuse, actually falling short about 100 tons of what he purchased in a limited business. He states that the complaints in his business come principally from the wealthy, those who do not complain much about the price, and who are not annoyed in using it themselves—but are constantly annoyed by the complaints of the cooks and servants who do use it. The writer states that several dealers have found it necessary to erect small breakers in their yards in order to break up the Coal themselves, and thus free it from impurity.

We give these extracts for the information of the trade. A full supply of Coal would be the most effectual remedy for these evils—our Operators must nev