Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1855.

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

☞ THAT WAS sharp of the *Register* last week—that slashing of the *Gazette* and tribe, over our shoulders. We remember an old schoolmaster we once had (we have good reason not to forget him soon), who, when he got into a peculiar facetio-savage mood, which was generally three or four times a day at the least, would mount one offending boy on the back of another, and then larrup both—the under chap, poor innocent, catching the end, the "*bitter*" end, of the stick every crack.—So the *Gazette* had to stand and take it, last Saturday—the *Journal* the rider and the *Register* unmercifully laying on the lash.

For the benefit of those who have not already observed it, be it known that the *Register* has never yet condescended to even *name* its young rival, entertaining all the while about as much, and the same kind of, affection for it, albeit they *are* brother Democrats, as the wolf does for the lamb—and to do the *Gazette's* spunk justice, we believe the feeling is reciprocated with interest.

This much premised, it is not difficult to apportion the *Register's* flings to the right parties. Quoting the *Journal's* comments on the previous admission of the *Gazette* that Schuylkill County Democracy is sadly out of joint at present, the editor gently introduces the pith of his subject, and deals his neighbor a quiet dig under the fifth rib, as follows:

That the Democratic party in this county has at various times suffered serious violence in consequence of internal dissensions,—the result of personal animosities, and the intrigues of mere office hunters to control the action of the party—cannot be successfully refuted.

Then firing up with virtuous indignation, as every good editor will do, he unlimbers the whole line of his artillery and deals out a thundering broadside at the enemy. Read, O ye Kickapoos, and tremble in your boots!

Many men who were loud in their professions of honesty and Democracy last fall, were nevertheless deep schemers to defeat the ticket, and voted against Cake, Christ, Frailey, Huntzinger and Boyer, and supported the Whig-Know-Nothing ticket with enthusiasm: These same *pure patriots* are now wonderfully eloquent in denunciation of the party with which they acted last fall, and really profess to be the only true Democrats in the county! While on the other hand, many Democrats who have battled long and successfully for democratic principles, and who supported the entire ticket last fall, in witnessing the treachery of "fire-eaters" at that election, have either become members of the American organization, or have abandoned politics altogether. Then we see one extreme has followed the other in quick succession—and that the vigor, purity, and harmony of the Democratic party have suffered. Factions have rendered success uncertain and frequently defeated our nominees, and driven to the ranks of our enemies many recruits.

There—if that isn't a settler to all small fry, we don't know what will fix them. "We, Cake & Co., are *the* Democracy of Schuylkill County—the Simon pures; let who *dare*, say boo!"

Thus much for the *Gazette*. But after all this bluster, there is one scamp of an enemy—it must be confessed—who cannot and *will* not be scared off the track. Hear:

The fact is evident that this *Nix Wisser institution* will concentrate all its energies in the next political canvass in this county; and the duty is imperative on the part of the true Democrats to unite forces in harmonious concord. Unless this be done, defeat most disastrous will overtake our nominees.

Which being *liberally* interpreted, means, in plain English:—"'Samuel' is in the field. We can thrash the Whigs—we have done it many a time—and as for the disorganizers, we will *manage* them (tipping the wink); but oh Samuel, Samuel! you won't be bought, and *you can't be beat!* Alas for Schuylkill County Democracy!"

A word in season, neighbors, to both of you:

While the lamp holds out to burn,
The *worst of wranglers* may return:

But the bars will be put up shortly, and it you don't make application pretty soon, you'll both be caught out in your shirt-sleeves in a shower, next October.

☞ MORE OF SAM'S DOINGS.—Besides the big gun "Sam" touched off last week in the old Granite State, we notice the following places where he has been playing his pranks on a smaller, but no less significant, scale.

Reading, 16th., was carried by storm. The *Journal* announces it "the most brilliant American triumph ever achieved by any party since the organization of the city government!"

"The vote" continues the same paper "was unusually large—larger, we believe, by several hundreds than was ever polled before at a Spring election. The old Hunkers had formed an alliance with the 'rag-tag and bobtail' of all the old parties, under the name of 'Republicans,' and nominated full tickets in all the wards, with the avowed object of putting down the 'Know Nothings,' and laboredstrenuously all day to accomplish their end. The Americans rallied gallantly against this unholy 'fusion,' and gallantly have they conquered their opponents. *They have made a clean sweep*, electing their candidate for Mayor, WILLIAM M. BAIRD, Esq., by over 700 majority. They have also elected *their entire ticket*, including Treasurer, Auditors, and Constables, their two candidates for Alderman and every ward officer from Select and Common Council down to Assistant Assessors.—The self-styled 'Republicans,' or old Hunkers, *have not chosen a man in the whole city*, their Inspectors alone excepted, and one or two of these even, had a very narrow escape. Never was a victory so universal and complete."

The *Gazette*, in a most lugubrious account of the affair tells us, that 'marvellous to relate,' the American ticket received "*not a few foreigners' votes*". There is nothing strange in that, friend Getz, if you would only take the right view of the subject. One great object of the new movement is to kill off old party hacks and to redeem the politics of the country from the corrupt and unprincipled maneuvers of what your neighbors of the *Journal* and *Press* are pleased to term "Court House Clique-ry," to which we have all been too long subject—that is, to place our national affairs in the hands of the *people*, the source of all political authority, and *not* to leave them with a few self-constituted wire-pullers, who manage things on that boasted democratic principle, "the greatest good to the greatest number," but which with them always means *Number* 1.

"Foreigners!" see and understand this, as well as Natives, and hence many of them, sensible men and with the spirit of true patriotism at heart, are very properly putting *their* shoulder to the wheel, in order to help teach certain *professed politicians*, you and we not of, a wholesome lesson. That's all. Take our advice, and don't be worried about these things—you will get used to them before we are many years older.

Danvil e, same day—same result!

The vote for Chief Burgess stood; Henry, (American,) 366; Frick, (fusion,) 99—Henry's majority 267. For Councils—Thompson, Ruck, Jones and Thornton, (Americans) 293; Hughes, Comly, Rockafeller, Kauffman and Coukling (fusion) 115—majority 178.

In Mahoning township, the American ticket was elected by 54 majority.

Lebanon, same day. The whole American ticket was elected by very decisive majorities.

Perry County.—The election at Duncannon, on the 10th., resulted in the success of the whole American ticket by large majorities. The announcement of the result was the first intimation the outsiders had that "Sam" was about.

Ohio.—At an election held on the 3d inst., in Lyra, Scioto county, the American candidate received eighty-two votes. The entire number of votes polled was eighty-four.

Norristown.—We learn that the Americans elected their entire ticket in this Borough on the 16th., which is regarded by them as a very great triumph.

Another Sign.—At the recent municipal election in Galveston, Texas, all the Know Nothing candidates were successful.

Lancaster County.—The election in this county was a contest between the Know Nothings and "fusionists." In Columbia, Elizabethtown, Mt. Joy and other towns, the Know Nothings elected their tickets by handsome majorities. The townships, as far as heard from, have gone the same way. The "old guard," for years the Gibraltar of Whiggery, has been thoroughly revolutionized and Americanized!

Bedford County.—In the town of Bedford the whole American ticket is elected. The "old line" Whigs and Democrats united upon a fusion ticket headed by William P. Schell, (formerly Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives) for Burgess. Mr. Jordon, present Senator from that district, was the American candidate, and his majority is about forty! In all the townships heard from the Americans have carried the day.

Dauphin County.—Harrisburg, the Capital of the old Keystone State, has been thoroughly Americanized. The whole American Borough ticket, as well as the ward tickets, were elected by immense majorities on Friday last. In most of the other boroughs and townships in the county the result has been equally gratifying. Wherever the Americans took the field they made a clean sweep.

Mifflin County.—The election in Lewistown and M'Veytown resulted in the success of the entire American tickets, in the former town by an average majority of seventy! The whole county, with one or two exceptions, has gone the same way.

Carlisle.—The American ticket elected by about one hundred majority! Same result in Shippensburg, Newville, and other towns. As far as heard from, nearly all the townships in the county have "seen Sam" and like him.

Catasauqua, Lehigh County.—In this town, where there is a large foreign population, the Americans elected their ticket against a powerful "fusion" position. "Sam" was too strong for the Whigs, Democrats and foreigners combined.

Easton.—All the borough officers elected are Know Nothings. Bethlehem, in the same county, has elected Know Nothing officers by over 150 majority.

Armstrong County.—We learn from the Free Press, that "Sam" was everywhere through the county on Friday last, and succeeded in almost every township in electing his friends.

Allegheny County.—The Know Nothings have carried most of the townships in the county, against strong "fusion" opposition.

New Brighton, Beaver County.—The whole Know Nothing ticket elected by a handsome majority over a fusion of "old liners."

Fredericksburg, Va., March 20.—The charter election held here yesterday resulted in the election of the Know Nothing candidates for Mayor and all the other city offices.

This list could with a little trouble be extended to almost any given length, but we guess, for the present, it will do! If any party or parties, now-a-days, doubts "Sam's" courage and skill—just lock horns with him, and you can be satisfied.

☞ THE BEALE case (Phila.) has taken a new and quite novel turn. The pamphlet, noticed in the *Journal* last week, sets forth among many other things that an offer was at one time made to Mrs. Beale by a person not named, to procure a pardon for her husband, from Gov. Bigler, for the *slight* consideration of $10,000. District Attorney Reed, with his usual promptness, thinking it a fit subject for the investigation of the Grand Jury, at once brought the matter to the notice of that body, who after suitable inquiry made a presentment according to the facts, to about the following effect:

"That a plan to obtain $10,000 from the family or friends of a convicted prisoner, in order to procure a pardon, was devised; that this plan was urged upon the friends of this prisoner and declined by them; that the parties to this abortive case were Charles C. Rhoades and Mrs. Turner (sister to Mrs. Beale); that the individuals to whom this plan was communicated, and by whom it was declined, were the Rev. John Chambers and Mr Daniel Steinmetz; that the existence of such a plan was known to those gentlemen and other friends of the prisoner as far back as the early part of January, but was not communicated to the public authorities; that it was the design of the parties to this arrangement to appropriate $5000 to the employment of counsel, who was designated, but there is no mode of ascertaining from the evidence taken what was to be done with the other $5000.

The witnesses supœnaed and examined by the Grand Jury were the Rev. John Chambers, the Rev. A. Rood, Mr. Daniel Steinmetz, Mr. Charles C. Rhoades, and William L. Hirst, Esq., the last named gentlemen attending voluntarily or without supœna. From the character of the testimony—being obliged to examine parties implicated—the Grand Jury say they cannot recommend a prosecution, but at the same time it was impossible for them conscientiously to refrain from presenting "the truth in all its grossness to the Court and the public." And so the matter rests.

☞ AN OPEN AMERICAN ORGANIZATION.—Every movement of politics, "old line" and modern, now-a-days tends to this event, and we are rejoiced at it. A number of "Sam's" prominent and most influential organs, we observe, are taking ground that way, among which are the following:—*American Banner*, Philadelphia; *Young American*, Pittsburg; *Republican Banner*, Conneautville, Pa; *Register and Citizen*, Lancaster, Pa; *Courier*, Lebanon, Pa; *Daily Sentinel*, Jersey City, N. J; *Gazette*, Mauch Chunk, Pa; *Daily Sun*, Philadelphia; *Lehigh Valley Times*, Allentown, Pa.

Apropos—an important document appeared in a late number of the New York *Herald*. It consists of an address and a series of resolutions. They have been printed and are to be circulated in every Council in the country, that (in the language of resolutions adopted by Council No. 12) "the views of the party throughout the United States may be returned for the final action of the next Grand National Council."

The platform laid down by Council No. 12, is, that the Federal Constitution shall be supported, that State rights shall be respected, and the Union upheld. An exclusive American policy is to be introduced, in order to balance the foreign element now so rapidly gaining ground. The present system of electioneering is to be condemned, and one more in accordance with American principles is to take its place. In matters of religion, all individual opinions are to be respected, all churches are to stand upon a level, and the Bible is to be used in the common schools; sectional questions are to be avoided, and all attempts to alienate divisions of the Union from each other are to be resisted. The Council thinks that a liberal policy should be maintained by Congress in measures designed to develope the resources of the country, and in the improvement of harbors and rivers. The spoils system is to be abandoned—it is condemned as odious, and un-American. Other minor matters are set forth in the document, which is carefully worded throughout, and which allows of considerable latitude of meaning.

☞ PARDONS.—In order to prevent as far as possible imposition to which the Executive is more or less subject from sympathy or design on the part of interested parties, in applications for pardons; Gov. Pollock has given official notice that hereafter, in addition to the ordinary testimonials of merit, satisfactory evidence will be required that at least five days previous notice of intended applications for pardons was given to the District Attorney of the city or county in which the conviction took place; and that at least ten days previous notice of the same was given in a newspaper, published where the conviction took place. This is a capital rule—we look for the best results from its application.

We may mention in this connexion, that it is well understood that the Governor will *not* pardon cases of conviction under the new Liquor laws. He has already been applied to by several parties, but it was no go. His reasons are that the laws are as plain as daylight, and that any one who violates them does so deliberately and with his eyes open—hence, there is no occasion for Executive clemency. Take care, boys—liquor-selling now-a-days has become a mighty ticklish business. A glass of grog to an old "bruiser," or a minor—even your own child—and you're fined and *jugged* before you can say Jack Robinson.

☞ THE committee of the Massachusetts Legislature, on the removal of Judge Loring, are divided—four for, and three against.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

WE HAVE at hand an interesting article entitled "Observations on the Coal-fields of Pennsylvania," by Prof. H. D. Rogers. We will publish it next week.

☞ A communication is very long for a newspaper article on such a subject; but if possible, we will try to accommodate him and his friend next week.

MINING MAGAZINE, New York.—Wm. J. Tenney, Editor. This work is now published bi-monthly. The number for January and February comprises in its list of contents original articles on "The Ventilation of Mines and Collieries," "Mineral wealth of the United States," "The Black Band, or Mushet Iron Stone," "Salt and Gypsum of the Preston Valley of the Holten river, Va." (Prof. Rogers), "Remarks on the process for smelting lead," "The economic value of the semi-bitumincus Coal of the Cumberland basin," and "New Machinery for River Explorations;" together with various interesting selections, occupying many pages under the several heads of "Commercial aspect of Mining interest," "Journal of Gold Mining operations," ditto of "Copper," and of "Silver and Lead," "Coals and Collieries" (where our own Region holds a conspicuous place), "Iron and Zinc," "Quarries and Slates," "Miscellanies."—Altogether it would be difficult to make up a better periodical of the kind—one in which the subscriber's money would pay so well. Price $5 a year—to be had at Bannan's.

Local Affairs.

METEOROLOGICAL NOTATIONS.

Reported by Dr. A. Heger, of Potts. Sci. Assoc'n.

MARCH 34 no., 31 days.	THERM'R. Mean.	THERM'R. Lowest.	BARM'R. Mean.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS. *Topograph. & Geographical.*
Saturd. 17	39	30	29.95	Height of Pottsville (corner
Sunday 18	36	33	29.56	of Market & 2d sts.) above
Monday 19	30	17	29.08	mean tide, 633.957 ft.—Dis-
Tuesd'y 20	32	24	29.05	tance from Philadelphia, 95
Wedn'y 21	29	18	29.16	miles.—Latitude, 40° 44'
Thurs'y 22	24	17	29.01	15".—Population in 1850,
Friday 23	29	14	28.70	7,500.

17.—E. light Rain and mist.
18.—N. W. light. Cloudy—cleared in eve.
19.—W. S. W. light. M. clear—partially cloudy in afternoon.
20.—N. W. light. Partially cloudy during day—eve. clear.
21.— do do do.
22.— do do do.
23.—S. W. fresh. M. cloudy—afternoon clear.

☞ *Don't forget* the Clay Monument Concert at the Court House, next Thursday evening. Arrangements, we understand, have been made for a splendid entertainment.

☞ *Some* of our young gentlemen have it in their heads, we understand, to organize a Pottsville Cricket Club. A good institution, especially for persons of sedentary habits, old or young.

☞ *Pottsville Benevolent Society.*—A meeting of the Board of Managers will be held at Col. Wetherill's office, next Tuesday evening (27th), at 7½ o'clock. Prompt attendance of all the members is urgently requested.

☞ *Literary Society.*—Mr. Bowen was favored with an unusually large audience on Wednesday evening. His lecture was full of interesting information, relating to the first Railroads in this Region, and their projectors.

The Society closes its sessions for this season, next week.

☞ *Tamaqua Borough Election.*—This was held on the 16th, and the *Gazette* says, was "more than usually exciting." A "Citizen's Ticket" and a "Reform Ticket" were in the field, the former of which carried, as follows:

Chief Burgess, B. T. Hughes; *Councilmen*, W. Broch, jr., and H. S. Denison; *Constable*, Henry Reed; *Auditors*, Wm. Priser and Jacob Glace.

We imagine the finger of that ubiquitous gentleman, "Sam," is to be recognized in this pie.

☞ *Minersville Borough Election.*—This took place on Friday of last week, when the following persons were elected, generally by very handsome majorities. We don't know of what modern political stripe they are:

Chief Burgess, Moses Weiser; *School Directors*, Wm. N. Robins, John H. Detweiler and Jos. Bowen; *Town Councilmen*, Wm. Hower, Wm. Sterner and Charles Moban; *Supervisor*, Jas. Watkins; *High Constable*, Joseph Levan; *Treasurer*, Newsam Baker; *Town Clerk*, G. J. Lawrence; *Auditors*, Geo. H. Helfrich, F. F. Benseman and Wm. L. Kissinger.

☞ *R. R. Accommodation.*—In reply to a request of a number of our citizens forwarded to John Tucker, Esq., some days ago, that gentleman has given notice that on and after Monday next, the Schuylkill Valley Passenger trains will run to and from the Pottsville depot, making that the terminus at this end of the line, instead of Mount Carbon as heretofore. This will be a very great accommodation to the travellers on this Road, resident and transient, and entitles Mr. Tucker to general gratitude. The exceeding inconvenience of the old arrangement has frequently been alluded to in the *Journal*, and we are sure the announcement of a change will meet with cordial approbation among all our citizens.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

THINGS IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, March 21, 1855.

Dear Journal:—The friends of Dr. Beale have worked earnestly and faithfully to effect his pardon, feeling confident that he is innocent of the foul crime laid at his door; in fact so earnestly and faithfully, that they have exposed themselves to the sneers of a portion of the community, and made themselves a target for shots from the Grand Jury of the Court of Quarter Sessions. They are censured for attempting to bribe Governor Bigler to pardon Dr. Beale, and working in other ways calculated to bring law and justice into contempt. Charles C. Rhonds and Mrs. Turner, sister of the wife of the prisoner, are more directly censured by the Grand Jury, as the authors and instigators of an attempted bribe, to obtain Dr. Beale's pardon. But who can blame the relatives of this unfortunate man, for whatever course they may take to obtain his release from prison, believing as they do, that he is an injured, innocent man. The presentment referred to, has created quite a stir, and is the subject of much comment, involving as it does, the reputation and standing of several prominent clerical and legal gentlemen of Philadelphia. A singular case, truly, from first to last.

The Whig City Convention met here yesterday. The proceedings and result of its sections amounted to just nothing—so completely has the American question absorbed all old party feeling and sympathy. The Convention postponed indefinitely, a series of resolutions, denouncing the "Know-Nothings;" and finally adjourned to meet again in two weeks.

The spirit of Stephen Girard—if spirits have the power—cannot but look benignantly down upon the happy manner in which his charitable bequests are bestowed, and the gratifying results of his benevolent designs. The hundreds of orphan pupils now gathered beneath the roof of his College, receiving not only a liberal education gratis; but comfortable clothing and good food on the same terms, are living evidences of the happy results of Girard's commendable intentions. By the way, I observe that the Directors of the Girard College give notice that they are prepared to *bind out*, in the State of Pennsylvania, *twenty-two* Orphans, in accordance with the will of Stephen Girard, "to suitable occupations, such as agriculture, navigation, arts, mechanical trades and manufactures." The master will be required to teach the apprentice his respective art—to furnish him with suitable board and lodging in his own place of residence, (except where for special reasons the apprentice may be allowed to board elsewhere,) and to provide him, upon the termination of his apprenticeship, with at least two complete suits of clothes. The master will be permitted to take each orphan on trial for one month before the execution of an indenture, and the institution will furnish every pupil with a suitable outfit on leaving the College. Now, here is an admirable chance to obtain a smart, well-educated lad, who may eventually reflect honor upon the Institution from which he graduated, by becoming President of the United States. Who bids first?

The Brandywine Springs, that favorite watering place, has been sold for $5000.

At a stated meeting of the Board of Trade held on Monday, a standing committee was adopted, to examine and carefully watch the progress of improvements on the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. The attention of the Board was also called to the fact that a line of steamships is to be established between Philadelphia, Lisbon and Bordeaux. Two side-wheel steamers of 1600 tons each, will commence the enterprise, and leave Philadelphia and Bordeaux respectively, on the first of every month. The line would pay, undoubtedly, and add much to the business prosperity of Philadelphia.

Weather of the most charming description is sojourning with us; our streets are remarkably clean, ladies arrayed in the latest Spring styles throng them, attended by dashing beaux; our squares are being fixed up, and trees are leafing; "in point of fact," Nature is in her most smiling mood, and "everybody and his wife" are in ecstacies in consequence.

Miss Louisa Pyne, the vocalist, has been alarmingly ill (an injury to her spine, from an accident,) but to-day is easier. Her illness will probably disband the troupe, of which she is the principal attraction.

Miss Fanny Vining (Mrs. Davenport,) is playing at the "Walnut," this week, to large and fashionable audiences.

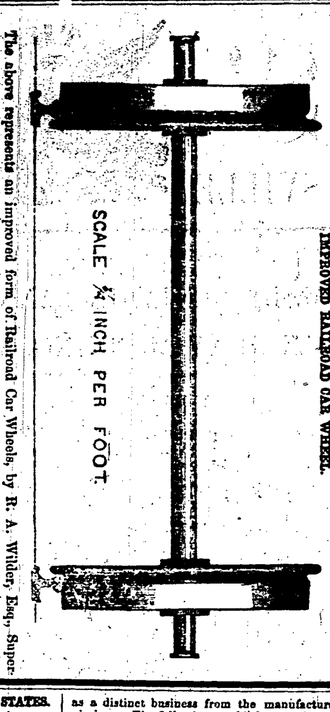
"The Pilgrim's Progress," founded on Bunyan's beautiful allegory of that name, is the attraction at the "Chesnut" this week.

The revival here of business is noticed in my last, still progresses, and affords unbounded satisfaction to all classes, from the merchant to the citizen. Yours, &c., F. D. W.

The above represents an improved form of Railroad Car Wheels, by R. A. Wilder, Esq., Superintendent of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, for which he has already secured a patent.

By it the inventor claims to reduce the friction of the wheels on the track, and also to prevent the rapid abrasion of the inner edges of the rails, caused by the tread and flanges of wheels now generally used. It consists in making the tread of the driving wheels *flat* so as to bring the greatest extent of surface of wheel and rail in contact, which together with an additional width of the top of the rail would greatly increase the adhesion and thus give greater power to the engine, although, it is alleged, increasing the friction of the train.

Such wheels have been used on the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad for upwards of a year, giving entire satisfaction and proving beyond doubt the advantage of the improvement—The new wheel is said to be as strong and durable as any other, and can be as easily cast with a chill.



IRON INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES.

HIGHLY VALUABLE STATISTICS.

From an abridged copy of Prof. Wilson's special Report on the New York Industrial Exhibition, lately published, we extract the following, relating to *Iron Ores and their manufactures:*

The very general distribution of iron ores throughout the Union, and the abundance of fuel which the natural forests everywhere readily supplied, gave facilities for the manufacture of iron, which in the early days of the Industry was carried on in various parts of the States, and in many formed the only address from which the inhabitants could obtain their scanty supplies. Possessing in common with the other States both of the raw materials—the ores and the fuel—the New England States, owing to the advanced education and general commercial energy of her people, led the way in identifying themselves with the new industry, by forming establishments where it was carried out on a more extensive scale. Gradually, however, the existence of mineral fuel in Pennsylvania gave an advantage to that State which soon showed itself by the rapid growth of her iron industry. This continued annually to increase, while the scarcity of fuel in the New England States rendered them less able to meet the increasing demands of the market which they themselves had principally created. In 1830, Anthracite Coal was successfully used in smelting ores, and when, some few years later, it was shown that the hot blast could be as advantageously applied to Anthracite as to other furnaces, this State became at once the great centre of the industry, and speedily assumed the control of the home market. This position she has held up to the present time, and must hold it for some years to come, until the iron-making resources of the States west of the Alleghanies are sufficiently developed to enable them to compete in production with their more advanced neighbors.

These great resources are at best but very imperfectly known; geological investigations have long ago made known the existence of beds of fuel to a boundless extent, and so disposed as to offer natural facilities for working which cannot be without their results on the industrial uses to which they are applied. With these beds are associated, probably throughout the greater part of their area, beds of ironstone similar to that which we find in the Coal measures of our own country. These give to this region a material advantage over that east of the mountain range, where the Coal formation is entirely destitute of the ore beds which seem to be so bountifully distributed throughout the great Bituminous Coal-field on the western side. Thus while the smelting furnace in the one district finds a ready supply of both ore and fuel immediately at hand, the location of the other has to be determined by calculations based upon the comparative cost, and other circumstances attendant upon the transport to the furnace of the two necessary materials, the fuel and the ores.

The manufacture of iron has hitherto distributed itself on the line of the great rivers, which are the natural feeders to the canals by whose medium the produce has been conveyed to the consuming districts. Thus we find the chief seats of the iron manufacture to be:—1. On the Housatonic river traversing the State of Connecticut. The production of this district is limited to charcoal iron, of the best quality, obtained from hæmatite scattered along the shores of the river.—Spathic iron ore has recently been discovered at Roxbury and Munro. The make of this division is consumed chiefly in the immediate district. 2. On the Hudson river, traversing the State of New York, in a line nearly parallel to the former river. On this line a large production of iron by Anthracite Coal, which is delivered at an average rate of 3 dollars 50 cents per ton, is rapidly springing up. The rich magnetic iron ores (iron 71-79, oxygen 28-21) which are traced for miles along the western sides of Lake Champlain, yielding from 60 to 65 per cent. of metal on the furnace, can be mined and delivered to the Coal on the Hudson at an average cost of 3 dollars per ton. On the Hudson there are six large Anthracite furnaces, and on Lake Champlain three more; but in the latter district the chief production is with charcoal, the ore being made in a kind of Catalan forge or bloomery. 3. On the Delaware and Lehigh rivers, the former of which separates the State of New Jersey from Pennsylvania, and empties itself into the Atlantic at Cape May; and the latter joins the Delaware at Easton, about 270 miles up. The Lehigh leads straight up to the north-east extremity of the first great Anthracite basin, known as the "Schuylkill." Easton is about equi-distant from the Anthracite Coal-field of Pennsylvania and the primitive ore range of New Jersey, while all around, there are extensive beds of hæmatite, yielding about 40 per cent. of metal. The Trenton Iron Company at this place have three large furnaces in operation—two with a diameter of 20 feet, and one of 22 feet—giving an average production of from 500 to 600 tons per week. On looking over the returns, which were liberally shown, some extraordinary runs were observable, amounting to upwards of 240 tons per week from the 20 feet furnace, and continuing at that rate for several weeks together. Higher up the river are the works of the Glendon Iron Company, containing four large blast furnaces. Here, in order to economise space in the engine-house, the blowing cylinders are placed immediately over the steam cylinders of the engine, so that the same piston rods, by a reciprocating movement, work the two cylinders at the same time. At Catasauqua the first furnaces in the States for the use of Anthracite iron were erected, and Mr. Crane, in the year 1837, here first successfully applied hot blast to Anthracite in iron smelting. In all the works visited economy of production was strictly adhered to. The air was heated by the waste gases of the furnaces, and in most cases the whole steam power, whether for driving the blast or for other purposes, was generated in boilers set in the upper part of the furnace, and arranged so that the heated gases played around them. 4. On the Schuylkill river, which runs into the Delaware a short distance below the city of Philadelphia, there are found, throughout the whole length of the valley, large deposits of hæmatite ores; these, however, are not so rich as those of the Lehigh; while the supply of the primitive oxides and carbonaceous ores is very scanty. Upon this river there are 18 blast furnaces using Anthracite Coal. Besides these, there are several small charcoal furnaces, whose fires are gradually waning away, though they still support the character of the American iron by the very excellent article produced. 5. The Susquehanna, another of the great parallel rivers running from the highlands of the interior down to the ocean, and which debouches, just below Havre de Grace, on the upper extremity of Chesapeake Bay, has along its banks large deposits of iron ores. As it traverses the three large Coal-fields, the Shamokin, the Schuylkill, and the Wyoming, and is well supplied with artificial modes of transport, it offers very great advantages in the manufacture of iron. 6. The Potomac, taking its course some 60 or 100 miles south of the Susquehanna, and running into Chesapeake Bay about midway from the ocean, is abundantly supplied with ores, chiefly hæmatites of good quality. Charcoal is the fuel chiefly used, although the increasing means of communication with the Cumberland Coal-field, and also with the Anthracite basins of the Susquehanna, have given great advantages in the way of fuel to those furnaces placed within reach of the lines of transport. 7. The Ohio, and the Cumberland and Tennessee, are still only partially developed, charcoal as fuel, and the hæmatite ores, which are found on the out-skirts of the great Appalachian Coal-field, being the sources from which the principal portion of the iron is now produced. In the upper part of the Ohio, in the Pittsburgh district, more progress has been made; the furnaces are being worked with raw Bituminous Coal, and with the clay carbonates mixed with hæmatites. Limestone is also found in the immediate vicinity. Besides the production of these eight principal iron districts, a large quantity is made in widely dispersed localities, with charcoal as fuel, in small blast furnaces, or in the primitive forges or bloomeries. The gross amount of iron produced in the several States of the Union for the year 1850, as given in the Census return, is 540,755 tons. The number of hands employed is given at 20,298, and the market value of the produce is estimated at 12,489,077 dollars. Taking the present production of pig iron at 800,000 tons, about one-half of it is consumed for castings, and the remaining portion is left to be converted into wrought iron, at a loss in waste, &c., of about one-third. This, for practical purposes, reduces the total or available production about 130,000 tons, and leaves in round numbers 700,000 tons to meet a consumption of not less than 1,200,000 tons. This deficiency must be supplied by the produce of other countries.

The number of establishments for the conversion of pig into wrought iron in the United States is given in the Treasury returns at 422. These establishments have an invested capital of, between fourteen and fifteen million dollars, and give direct employment to upwards of 13,000 workmen. The total amount manufactured in the States may be taken at 500,000 tons per annum. In general, the wrought iron works are carried on as a distinct business from the manufacture of pig iron. The following establishments, however, combine the whole process of smelting and puddling: the Trenton Iron Company, at Easton and Trenton, New Jersey; Fuller and Lord, at Boonton, New Jersey; Reeves, Buck, and Co., Phœnixville, Pennsylvania; Reeves, Abbott, and Co., at Safe Harbour, Pennsylvania; the Montour Iron Company, Danville, Pennsylvania; and the Mount Savage Iron Company, Maryland. The principal cause of the separation of the two branches is probably due to inadequacy of capital to carry on both. Rolling mills for plate and bar iron are met with throughout the States in which iron is produced. In Pennsylvania the establishments for the conversion of cast into wrought iron are numerous. At one of the country rolling mills charcoal blooms were being used, which were first worked up in a puddling furnace, and then tilted; after which they were again heated, and rolled out into plates of the required dimensions. Charcoal boiler plate fetches a higher price, and is always guarantied by the maker, as, owing sometimes to an imperfect process of reduction in the forge, a small portion of the fuel is left mixed up with the metal, and remains even after it has passed the puddling furnace and the tilt hammer. To detect the flaw in the iron when rolled out requires great care on the part of the foreman, who carefully notices, after it has left the rollers, whether the surface cools equally all over; if any black spots appear, they show that the plate is imperfect and contains cavities in which carbonaceous matter is usually found. The spots are then marked, and the plate laid aside. In the hands of the engineer they again undergo an examination; the practice of the boiler-makers being to rule them off in one inch squares, and then test each square with the hammer, the expenses attending any unsoundness falling upon the maker.

☞ THE LIVING STREAM.—*The Emigration of 1854.*—The Secretary of State recently submitted to Congress, an official report in relation to the emigration of 1854. It also includes a statement of the number of passengers who arrived in the United States by sea from foreign countries, from September 30th, 1843, to December 31st, 1854. The aggregates are thus stated:—

Males,	1,664,873
Females,	1,105,492
Sex not stated,	404,029
Total,	3,174,395

The arrivals for 1854 are thus given:

States.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Maine,	4,625	1,484	6,109
New Hampshire,	9	4	13
Massachusetts,	15,298	12,467	27,765
Rhode Island,	42	52	94
New York,	201,580	126,396	327,976
Pennsylvania,	8,384	6,648	15,032
Maryland,	6,995	6,159	13,154
Virginia,	30	14	44
North Carolina,	4	3	7
South Carolina,	812	321	1,134
Florida,	145	97	242
Alabama,	145	46	191
Louisiana,	31,507	19,662	51,169
Texas,	1,782	1,276	3,058
California,	13,529	958	14,487
Total,	281,887	175,587	460,474

The countries were:

England,	48,901	Sardinia,	219
Ireland,	101,606	Sicily,	60
Scotland,	4,603	Greece,	1
Wales,	816	Turkey,	7
Great Britain,	4,325	Poland,	208
British America,	6,891	West Indies,	1,636
France,	13,317	West Islands,	254
Spain,	1,432	China,	13,100
Portugal,	72	Mexico,	416
Italy,	984	Other countries,	240
Germany,	206,053	United States,	32,641
Switzerland,	7,953	Not stated,	328
Prussia,	3,955		
Holland,	1,534	Total,	460,474
Belgium,	266	Citizens of the U.	
Denmark,	691	States,	32,641
Norway,	235	Aliens,	427,833
Sweden,	3,296		

Of the whole number 455,367 intended to reside in the United States, and 4,077 in foreign countries. There died on the way a total of 2,928. The occupations are thus stated:

	Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*
Merchants,	15,173	—	15,173
Mechanics,	31,470	—	31,470
Mariners,	1,260	—	1,260
Miners,	2,156	—	2,156
Farmers,	87,188	—	87,188
Laborers,	82,420	—	82,420
Lawyers,	135	—	135
Physicians,	257	—	257
Clergymen,	139	—	139
Servants,	—	3,310	3,310
Other occupations,	2,342	249	2,591
Not stated,	62,368	172,028	234,396
Total,	284,887	175,587	460,474

☞ A CORRESPONDENT of the Norwich *Examiner*, writing from New London, under date January 8th, says:

"At the last monthly meeting of our Tract distributers, reports were given in from the sixty-five districts into which the city is divided; and the uniform statement was, that notwithstanding the *hard times*, there is less of suffering among the poor this winter, than has been known for many, many years; and the calls for aid and relief are fewer than ever known before. In our Poor House there are but *six* persons, where a year since there were *twenty-six*; and of even these six, two are deranged in their intellect, and three aged persons, leaving, properly speaking, *one* pauper for the town of over 10,000 inhabitants! The Jail is empty, and has been for three weeks! And apart from the general order and quietness of the city, which has never before been equalled, not an intoxicated person is to be seen; while almost daily, I pass three men, who but a few months since, were habitual drunkards, now sober, well-dressed, working regularly, and going to church on the Sabbath with their families. The law may be, and doubtless is, violated in some cases in secret; but openly all is changed for the better."

☞ PROGRESS OF THE COUNTRY.—Mr. Perkins, of Louisiana, in a speech on the consular system, delivered recently in Congress, presented the following interesting comparison of the progress of our country in the last fifty years.

	1800.	1850.
Population,	5,305,925	23,191,876
Area of Territory,	820,680	2,936,166
Exports,	$70,971,780	$151,898,720
Imports,	$91,252,768	$178,138,318
Tonnage,	972,492	3,535,454
Seamen,	60,000	140,000
Commercial Treaties with	5 nations.	19 nations.
Revenues of Gov't,	$10,624,997	$43,375,798
Expenses of Gov't,	$7,411,370	$43,002,168
Expenses of For. Ser.,	$153,000	$412,789

☞ PHILISOPHICAL.—About a week ago, Gen. Pierce wrote to a friend in New Hampshire that "no disappointment could depress him." Such a toughening effect has it to take many little floggings before you take your great one. We can imagine the General wandering in mild melancholy through the dismal halls of the White House repeating:

Invenî potium: spes et fortuna valete,
Satis me lusistis; ludite nunc alios.

Which being *very freely* translated, means:

My game is up; farewell, my fortune hollow:
New Hampshire's "bust," let all creation follow.

—*Boston Atlas.*

☞ CHINESE MUSIC STOPPER.—The Chinese say that tying a stone to a donkey's tail will prevent his braying, as it is well known that when an ass is going to bray he always begins by raising his tail, and he keeps it extended horizontally as long as his song lasts. To ensure silence, therefore, you have only to tie a large stone to the end of his tail, so that he cannot