Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1855.

B. BANNAN, Editor and Proprietor;
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THE CATHOLIC QUESTION IN AMERICA.

This question, which like the matter of Slavery, has excited so much public attention throughout the Union, is fraught with moment to all classes. Few not connected directly with Roman Catholicism, either in the position of priest or layman, can be blind to the fact that the principles of a religion, which from the times of the earliest Popes, has been prominent in enslaving the minds of the masses, and degrading them to the lowest stage of serfdom, are inimical to the existence and spread of Republicanism, and that important coadjutor of true liberty, education, by the establishment and maintenance of a system of Common Schools.

While this question is we are happy to know, fairly discussed, by the mass of the American press and people, and will we trust, be so continued, we feel it our duty, to endeavor to call the attention of the *thinking* portion of the followers of Catholicism, to a calm and unprejudiced disquisition into the merits of the question. Influenced as the persons are to whom we allude, by priestcraft, yet we are sure that their intelligent minds will lead them to investigate the subject, and decide promptly in the matter. To us it is a mystery how individuals who desire to be considered good American citizens; are warm in their expressions of love and respect for our institutions; can still array themselves in the ranks of those, who seek to undermine the foundation of our civil and religious liberty, and subvert those precious inheritances, handed down to us by the men of the Revolution.

And yet it appears hardly a mystery, when we reflect upon the crafty policy of the head of the Roman Catholic church, connected link by link, as it is, down to the most servile tool of that arrogant sect. The Jesuit priest is sworn by solemn oath to obey the commands of his superior in office, and in discharging his *sacred* duties to the head of the church with but slight thought we fear, whether he is serving his Divine Master or not, he hesitates at no step which may serve to overthrow the enemies of his master, the Pope. The same influence is communicated to the layman, by the religious preceptor, with whom he comes in direct contact. Prejudices are instilled into the people's understanding; ignorance darkens still more their already imprisoned minds, and spite of reason which alternately glimmers in upon their benighted intellect, forging conviction upon a sterile soil, still, early teaching of the nature described, forces them to turn a deaf ear to what under other auspices, would meet a ready reception, and prove to their hungry and thirsty souls, meat and drink, so refreshing to the true Christian.

The very best proof of the depressing influence which the Roman Catholic religion exercises, upon things temporal and spiritual, is afforded by a glance at the condition of those countries in which this church has full and absolute power. Italy, Spain, Ireland and Mexico, are striking examples of the miserable condition to which both government and people are reduced, where Papacy controls Church and State. In all of the countries named, the governments, where they are so fortunate as to possess even a government, are imbecile, weak, pusillanimous and tyrannical, and the people are ignorant, filthy, without energy, and reduced to so low an ebb by the emasculating system of Popery, as to be utterly unfit, even were they accorded such a privilege, for self-government.

Does the Church of Rome fear the light of intelligence? Yes! Else why its insidious attacks upon that bulwark of our liberties, the Common School System? It knows that the cloud of error which hangs like a pall upon the minds of "the faithful," would pass away beneath the refulgent beams of the Sun of Truth; and that its power would cease to be in this country, if not recruited from abroad, if its children were permitted to feel the influence of the Truth, in all its simplicity and beauty, which is so prominent a feature of our national education. The followers of Papacy in this country, influenced by this feeling of Mother Church, permit themselves thus to be placed in an antagonistical position to American sentiments, on this question, and convert themselves into enemies; for it is their own act, not ours. We open our arms to the oppressed of all nations; we offer them a home; we give it to them; we make them brothers; but can they expect to be considered friends, when they would lop off one of the limbs, which so freely welcomed them to our shores; shall we continue to caress the snake, which we warmed into life, that it might strike at our vitality? Enjoy your peculiar belief, if you will. Our country accords you the right. None we know, would interfere with the inestimable privilege accorded you; but it would be wise on your part to enjoy that right, modestly and discreetly.—Americans will brook no foreign interference in their public or private affairs; nor permit the myrimdous of the Pope, in the shape of Jesuitical priests, to meddle with our domestic economy. The progress of "Sam," and the rather precipitate return of Mons. Bedini to his master, Pius, are striking illustrations of the truth of the assertion.

We could continue this subject, so interesting at this juncture of our country's history, *ad infinitum*; but for the present will conclude, with the sincere hope that the day is not far distant, when many good, intelligent, well-meaning men, who are at this moment embraced within the pale of the Roman Catholic Church, may be led to see the many errors which surround them, and summon up the requisite energy to burst the bonds, which hold them as it were in lethargy, and array them in opposition to the cherished institutions of our country. The time and the hour are propitious. Disenthralled, they can take their stand, then, wholly and truly, American citizens, sincere in their allegiance; wedded to her interests; owing no duty to a foreign potentate, and ready as every man should be, to die if needs be, for the honor, and in defence of the country which he *truly* loves.—As an American citizen, he can honestly do this; as a sworn subject of the Pope of Rome, and his anti-Republican errors, how can he do it? The matter is one fully worthy of grave reflection on the part of Roman Catholics, who are aware of the instability of their position, and as a sincere friend, and feeling an anxiety for their welfare here, we entreat them to give the matter a calm, dispassionate consideration. With inquiry and reason for their guide, we have no fear of the result of the inquisition. In our next, we will speak of the dangers incurred by Roman Catholics in arraying themselves in opposition to our Common School System.

☞ BANKS—GOVERNOR'S VETO.—In Governor Pollock's veto of the Pottstown bank, last week, the bank mania, so alarmingly prevalent in the Legislature of late, received a dose that we hope will do it good. His message is characterized by an honesty of purpose and an ability commensurate with the importance of the subject, that the people of Pennsylvania have reason to be proud of in their Chief Magistrate. Lucky for us all, in this juncture, that we have such a man in the gubernatorial chair! He may be denounced for the exercise of his peculiar prerogative, in this and similar cases, by those whose speculative designs his resistant firmness so suddenly extinguishes, but, be assured, he will be sustained by an overwhelming majority of the sturdy, honest and sound-thinking citizens of the State.

The message before us, after referring to the alarm created by the great number of bank charters passed by the Legislature, and the pertinacity with which they have been pressed, very properly admits that some increase of banking capital may be necessary, but everything likely to influence a reckless system of banking should be discountenanced, and, if possible, prevented.

"The history of banking," argues the Governor, "in our own and other States, is full of useful lessons on this subject. Experience should teach us wisdom; and our present and future action in relation to banks and banking, should be regulated and controlled by her teachings.—The advantages to be derived from an increased number of banks are more fancied than real. It is an error to suppose that an increase of banking capital adds to the actual capital of the state or nation. Banking capital is but the aggregation of individual capital, previously existing, rendered more efficient, perhaps, but not more useful by such aggregation, and the special privileges conferred by the act of incorporation. Circulation is not capital, nor does it increase or represent capital. As the representative of credit, based upon the ability of the bank to redeem its promises, it becomes, when properly limited, a useful auxiliary to trade and commerce. When unlimited and excessive, it not only ceases to be useful, but becomes dangerous and destructive to the financial and industrial interests of the people. Without an increase of banks and the facilities they afford, the commercial and industrial interests of the country would suffer no serious reverse. Inconvenience might be experienced, and the more rapid, and for that reason the more dangerous progress, of business arrested. But all this is still preferable to the concomitant evils of an inflated currency, reckless trading, rash speculation, and a depreciated currency always terminating in bankruptcy and ruin. That such would be the result, if the numerous banks now before the legislature should be chartered, cannot be seriously doubted. Personal and private interests may magnify the importance and necessity of incorporating these banks, but no considerations of public policy or interest could justify their creation. Such financial policy would be nothing less than financial madness and folly."

The message goes on to show that banking facilities are not indispensably necessary to the progress and development of the resources of a country, and in this connection remarks:

"In population, wealth, trade and commerce, our progress during the past ten years has been rapid and unprecedented. Our mining, manufacturing and industrial interests have been largely and permanently developed, and are now in progress of more ample development; and yet, during this period, the additions to our banking capital had been almost nominal—leaving no appreciable proportion to the immense increase of the great interests already enumerated."

And again he says:

"The financial and commercial embarrassment from which the country is now slowly recovering, requires cautious and prudent legislation, and demands that the actual and real wants of business should be regarded, and the true interests of the people consulted. A sudden and excessive inflation of the currency, by the creation of numerous banks, might mitigate and temporarily remove the evils we now suffer, but in the end would reproduce and aggravate them.

"The remedy is more to be dreaded than the disease, and its consequences, oftentimes, are more fatal and destructive. Bank accommodations are, and ever must be, an insecure and unreliable basis of legitimate business. When everything is prosperous and money abundant, accommodations are freely proffered, and loans easily secured. In a monetary crisis, and the hour of greatest need, the borrower finds his accommodations withheld, his paper rejected, and his creditor, the bank, demanding payment of his liabilities. The banks, in self-defence, in seasons of pressure, are compelled thus to act, to prevent suspension and their own ruin. In this struggle for life, the debtor must first fall, public and private interests suffer, and the general derangement of business and the currency immediately follow."

☞ COMMON SCHOOLS.—The following bill is now before our State Legislature:

A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT *to the act entitled "An Act for the regulation and continuance of a system of education by Common Schools."*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:* That so much of the act, to which this is a supplement, as abolishes independent districts at present established under special acts of Assembly, shall not take effect until the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

SEC. 2. That the superintendent of Common Schools shall be authorized to issue his warrant on the State Treasurer for the *pro rata* share of the State appropriation which would be due to the several school districts in the State, for the present School year, ending on the first day of June next, upon satisfactory proof being made that the Schools in the respective districts have been kept open for the period of three months, during said school year.

SEC. 3. That the Pennsylvania School Journal shall be recognized as the official organ of the department of Common Schools of this Commonwealth.

The object of this bill, as we understand its provisions, is to simplify our Common School system, and facilitate its operations as far as possible. The last section strikes us with peculiar favor. By the adoption of an official Common School "organ," much expense will be saved to the Department, and both trouble and expense saved to the School Directors. It will prevent the necessity of printing and distributing blank forms, instructions, &c., while Directors and Teachers will not require the constant correspondence they are now obliged to keep up with the Department—thus relieving both parties of much labor, and yet bringing them in reality to a clearer knowledge of their mutual interests.

Moreover, we have all confidence in the ability of Mr. Burrowes, present editor of the *School Journal*, to discharge the responsible duties this new law would impose. He is recognised as the father of the Common Schools of Pennsylvania; and besides fully understanding the system in its politic sense, is quite at home in all the practical mysteries of School business. He is just the man for the post.

In every point of view, so far as we are able to comprehend it, the proposed law is a good one.

☞ POTTSVILLE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY—*Noble Generosity.*—At a meeting of the Board of Directors, some evenings ago, it was resolved to suspend relief to the poor for the present season, except in the extremest cases of destitution, such as sickness, death and the like.

It was shown by the Treasurer's report that upwards of *Twelve hundred dollars* have been expended by the Society, for charitable purposes, since the first of January last, less than three months! In which connexion it was suggested that some new policy be adopted by the Society for its future operations—more economical and less liable to imposition.

The subject demands serious consideration. The enormous outlay, the past season, the still heavier drafts upon the generosity of our citizens probable in coming winters; the *discovered fact*—to say nothing of the *liability*—of gross imposition, and the known unworthy causes of the large proportion of the destitution that has been relieved—all combine to urge the absolute necessity of *some* change in the Society's plan of operations, and require to be carefully weighed. We are not now prepared to say what that change ought to be, but it is more than likely that it must be radical—organic, to effect the several desired results.

☞ CERTAINLY A CURIOUS MISSION.—In a letter to the Department of State, Mr. Soule, that erratic individual, makes some singular disclosures. He says that Louis Napoleon, before his celebrated coup d'etat, which placed him at the head of an empire, had concocted with General Narvaez, the Spanish minister, the plan of a mission to the United States, to sound how far this country was vulnerable in a military point of view. A secret agent was to be sent with instructions prepared by the Department of Foreign Affairs. These instructions, duly signed, were presented to Napoleon Bonaparte, the son of Jerome, with a tender of what amount of money he might require to carry them out. The latter refused, telling Louis Napoleon that he was not the man for such a work; that he was a democrat, and would rather be with the United States than with him. The matter was dropped, and has not been resumed since, at least to the knowledge of Mr. Soule's informant. Mr. Soule himself appears to have full faith in the statement.

☞ A USEFUL MACHINE.—We perceive that Mr. Mitchel, brother to John Mitchel, has invented a machine for setting type. If successful, the type-setting machine will make Mr. Mitchel a much more useful member of society, than his brother John is ever likely to prove.

☞ CAUGHT NAPPING.—The Philadelphia *Ledger*, some days ago, copied a lengthy correspondence from the Cincinnati *Catholic Telegraph*, said to have taken place between a Protestant young gentleman and his betrothed, of the Romish faith; whose religious differences were made the ground for breaking off the engagement. We have been too long in the business to take all the "newspapers say" for gospel, and hence until we have some stronger evidence to the contrary than is now apparent, we prefer to credit the whole fabrication to the cunning of some old priest rather than believe it the quarrel of a pair of young lovers.

Local Affairs.

METEOROLOGICAL NOTATIONS.

Reported by Dr. A. Heyer, of Potter. Sci. Assoc'n.

March 1855.	Therm'r. Mean.	Therm'r. Lowest.	Therm'r. Mean.	General Observations. Topograph. & Geographical.
3d mo., 31 days.				
Saturd. 24	37	30	28.58	Height of Pottsville (corner
Sunday 25	25	16	28.77	of Market & 2d. sts.) above
Monday 26	29	16	28.52	mean tide, 533.957 ft.—Dis-
Tuesd'y 27	34	27	28.67	tance from Philadelphia, 95
Wedn'y 28	33	22	28.85	miles.—Latitude, 40° 44'
Thurs'y 29	33	22	28.91	15".—Population in 1850,
Friday 30	43	32	28.96	7,800.

24.—N. W. light. Cloudy—cleared in eve.
25.—N. W. strong. do do do
26.—W. light. Morn. clear—aft. cloudy—slight rain in eve.
27.—N. W. light. Cloudy all day.
28.— do Cloudy, partially clearing in eve.
29.— do Clear.
30.— do Clear—charming weather.

☞ *Park Benjamin Esq.*—This celebrated lecturer, contemplates, we are pleased to learn, delivering one or more lectures in Pottsville, during the coming week, at the Town Hall. The subject of his first lecture, which will be delivered on Monday evening next, will be "Fashion." While among us, we predict for Mr. Benjamin, the most satisfactory attendance, in regard to numbers and intelligence.

☞ *Literary Society.*—"The Beautiful" was the subject of Mr. Angele's lecture, on Wednesday evening. That portion of it relating to colors and their various combinations, as illustrated by a diagram, was highly entertaining and instructive—presenting the whole matter in a clear, intelligible light. After the other usual exercises—the President, Col. Wetherill, closing with a very neat valedictory—the Society adjourned *sine die*.

At a subsequent Business meeting, the following gentlemen were chosen officers:

A. P. Spinney—*President;*
Dr. F. M. Dixon—*Vice President;*
—— Dewees—*Secretary;*
Rev. L. Angele—*Treasurer* (re-elect);
H. Fisher, Esq.—*Librarian*, do.

☞ *The Clay Monument Fund.*—The second Concert in aid of this fund, came off at the Court House on Thursday evening. The programme of entertainments comprised some excellent selections, and the execution of Hayden's and Romberg's compositions by the gentlemen, who had so nobly volunteered their services for the occasion, not to speak of several admirable solo performances, elicited the warmest approbation. The Brass Band won fresh laurels—their pieces were admirably selected, and their execution in the best style. Pottsville may well be proud of such a musical corps. At the close of the performances, on motion of Andrew Russel, Esq., the thanks of the audience were tendered the amateurs and the Band for the evening's entertainment, and on behalf of the citizens of the County, for the aid rendered toward the completion of the Monument.

Approps, the fund of the Clay Monument should swell this Spring, until all doubts of the speedy completion of the beautiful testimonial to the memory of Henry Clay, are removed. We trust that a general interest will be felt in this matter by our citizens, and that Pottsville may soon be enabled to exhibit, as a work of art, a perfect specimen, and as a testimonial of respect, one of the most appropriate, now in existence.

☞ *Brutal Outrages.*—A Scotchman, named John Beveridge, Boss miner at the works, of Brook & Beury, at Branchdale, narrowly escaped with his life from an attack by a party of Irishmen (so he recognized them), on Tuesday night last. According to his story (in short), before Esq. Reed, of this place, next day, the assailants, three or more in number, attacked his house about midnight, battered down the door, fired a pistol at his wife, discharged the contents of another, in his arm, and beat him in the most violent manner—his life being saved most probably, by his accidentally falling in the scuffle through a hole into the cellar, whence he escaped. The party then riddled the house with stones—the wife and children having secreted themselves in the upper story. No specific cause is assigned for the attack. Beveridge bears a generally good character. No arrests have been made.

Another aggravated case occurred at the New Mines, on the Forest Improvement Co.'s lands, on Monday. The workmen have been on a "turnout" there for some two weeks. One of them (we have not learned the name,) who complained that his wife and child were sick, and that he could not afford to remain idle, went to work; when a party went into the mines, brought him out, and shamefully beat him. No arrests have been made here, either, so far as we know.

☞ *Complimentary Banquet to the Hon. James Cooper.*—The Complimentary Banquet to the Hon. James Cooper, given without distinction of party by the citizens of Schuylkill County, came off agreeably to arrangements on Monday right last, at the Pennsylvania Hall. The large dining-hall was filled to its utmost capacity. The rooms draped in American flags, and the tables decorated in the most gorgeous and artistic style, afforded a scene of surpassing effect and spirit. At one end of the table, the stack of an Anthracite furnace, erected from sugar, towered conspicuously above the other ornaments;—while at the other end was a huge pile of cake and sugar, representing a scene at a Coal-mine, including a locomotive and Coal-train. In the centre was a large basket of flowers, woven together so as to produce the most gorgeous effect. Subordinate to these were large and handsome vases of oranges, grapes and fruits, ornamented with evergreen, orange leaves, laurel, &c., &c. The bill of fare, which was neatly printed in gold, included all the delicacies of the season, while the cooking was such as not only to sustain the reputation of the Hall, but to put to blush the pretensions of artistic Frenchmen, and more assuming *table d'hotes*.

The company sat down at nine o'clock. They entered the room amid the inspiring swells of music, very cleverly dispensed throughout the evening, by the Pottsville Brass Band, embracing some sixteen performers.

After the viands had been exposed to the severest practical tests, (in which they suffered considerably, but not with disparagement,) Col. Wetherill arose, and nominated

SAMUEL SILLYMAN, Esq., *President.*

Mr. Sillyman took the chair, whereupon the following *Vice Presidents* were selected:

Wm. H. Johns,	Lewis Vastine.
John B. McCreary,	James Silliman,
Hon. S. N. Palmer,	J. M. Beatty,
T. Garretson,	John C. Neville,
Col. J. W. Cake,	Geo. D. BeKeim,
Wm. DeHaven,	Col. J. M. Long,
Col. D. P. Brown,	Thos. I. Atwood,
H. E. Atkins,	Col. J. M. Wetherill.
Geo. Miller,	

Secretaries:
Ele Bowen, Geo. Patterson,
Alexander Worrall.

The company assembled consisted, for the most part, of Coal and Iron men, and the interests thus represented, in a comparatively few individuals, would amount to *three or four millions of dollars*, together with hundreds and thousands of laborers and operatives. In this respect, therefore, the compliment to Mr. Cooper is enhanced—for it conveys both significance and substantiality, in its tone, and soars high beyond the hollow laudations of mere politicians and place-seekers. After the customary toasts in honor of the State and Nation had been drank, the regular toast of the evening was proposed by the Committee as follows:

"*Our Distinguished Guest*—After a long and arduous career in the Councils of the Nation, where his services—especially—to the great Coal and Iron interests of this Commonwealth, have reflected the highest credit on his abilities as a Statesman and a Patriot—long may he live to enjoy the fruits of the honorable, wide-spread, and lasting fame thus acquired."

Mr. Cooper, in rising to respond to this toast, was greeted in a perfect storm of enthusiasm and applause. The scene appeared to animate the honest and devoted statesman, for it was generally remarked that he *looked better* than he had at any time for several years past. He intimated that he was a poor hand at thanks; but that he trusted his friends would believe, whatever his tongue might say, or fail to say, his heart responded gratefully to the kindness and partiality which had placed so high an estimate on his services in the Senate. To the generosity of the friends who summoned him here to-night, far more than to any merit of his own, he felt that he was indebted for the distinguished mark of regard and confidence with which they had honored him. He had done nothing, he said, to merit such a manifestation of their kindness; nor had he dreamed of such an acknowledgement of the small service he had been able to render to his constituents and the Commonwealth. On the contrary, instead of expecting such a manifestation of approval and regard, he had often felt painfully sensible how little he had been able to do for the promotion of their interests, and how far short he had fallen of the good he had promised himself to accomplish, as their representative. He said there was no affectation in the admission of his failure to perform, for his constituents, what he had hoped for the promotion of their welfare. He felt it often, and he felt it still, that he had failed in representing the State as it ought to have been represented, and as it might have been represented by some other person. It was only such partial friends as surrounded him, who shut their eyes to all his short-comings, and gave him credit, twice over, for all he had done, that could see in his course a subject for praise and commendation. With them, good intentions and upright purposes were enough; but their kindness, grateful as it was to his heart,—highly as he prized it, and long as he should cherish it, could not hide from him his own deficiencies and failures. Friendship, such as they had always manifested towards him was, indeed, a consolation—a soothing balm to soften self-reproach, but not to remove its cause.

Here, said Mr. Cooper,—here, in the midst of his friends and neighbors, he could speak of his mortifications and disappointments, and of their causes, frankly,—without the fear of misconstruction. *Here*, he felt he might unbosom himself, and speak as he could not speak elsewhere, without subjecting himself to invidious criticism or illiberal and unfriendly animadversion.

For some years previous to his election to the Senate, he had been, he said, the victim of ill-health—the result of efforts in some of the political campaigns which had taken place in the State. Broken down in constitution,—his energy of body and mind impaired,—being still young, he had sought to renovate them by relaxation and travel—by the recreation afforded by new scenes, and observing men and things modeled by institutions different from our own. The hope was illusory. He returned, feeble as he went;—still the victim of sufferings which were gradually undermining his remaining strength.

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast—" and it did not desert him. It whispered that tomorrow, or next week, or next month, or next year, health would return, and strength and energy with it. Under its promptings, he had suffered himself to be elected to the Senate. But the assumption of new duties was not followed by a renovation of strength and energy necessary for their successful performance. During the whole period of his service in that body, until within less than six months of the close of his term, he continued to be borne down by an overpowering lassitude, which he could neither escape from nor shake off. All his faculties of body and mind seemed to be subdued and paralyzed. Worn out, listless, without energy, and hope almost dead, he felt that it was his duty to resign, and was ready to do so more than once, when, encouraged by some momentary symptoms of returning health, hope would spring forth anew, promising better days and an opportunity to retrieve the ground which had been lost. In this way, said Mr. C., he was from time to time induced to defer his purpose, until the end of his term had approached so near as to render its execution useless. During all this time, embracing more than five years of his term, he continued to be the victim of a subduing languor, which made the performance of duty irksome, and every kind of effort painful. To present a petition, or rise to make the simplest explanation, was often an annoying duty which, he said, cost him an effort to perform. To convey an adequate idea of his suffering and mortification, would be impossible. The representative of a great State, charged with important and manifold interests, he had felt, for a large portion of his time, entirely unequal to their vindication in the event of their being assailed; and his sense of mortification, he declared, was increased by the consciousness that the experience he had derived from years of previous public service in the Councils of the State and Nation, was rendered unavailable by a feeling of overwhelming and subduing prostration. The consciousness that he understood the interests committed to his charge, and that he was yet unable to defend and vindicate them, was the realization of the feeling of a man in pain, who knew a remedy which he could not apply.

There was, also, he said, another ground of mortification in the fact that he was able to accomplish nothing, either for his own fame or to justify the expectations of his friends. But these were personal considerations, savoring somewhat of egotism, and he would forbear to pursue them.

If, said he, in the closing hours of the last session he had been able, in connection with his colleague (Mr. Brodhead,) and other friends to the protection of American Industry, to save that industry from a fatal blow, it was, he was sure, a subject of greater gratification to *him*, than even to those whose *interests* were immediately at stake. And for his defence of those great and absorbing interests he was entitled to no commendation;—he had simply performed *his duty*—a duty which, if he had left unperformed, would have justly exposed him to the execrations of the thousands who would have suffered from his neglect.

For *good intentions*, however, and a disposition—strong and paramount, to promote the welfare of the *whole country*, he was entitled to such credit as was due to one who entertained them. Whilst he had been faithful to Freedom, and endeavored to vindicate it against its assailants, he nevertheless embraced every opportunity to cultivate and establish kind relations, political and social, between the North and the South. He had never forgotten that the Independence of the country had been achieved by the common exertions of the people of all the States; and that our national prosperity and greatness depended on the preservation of the Union. And it would be a sad day, he observed, for liberty and the happiness of the American people, when the old bonds of brotherhood should be broken asunder, and old memories be scattered to the winds! When Bunker Hill and Saratoga are remembered, and Eutaw and Yorktown forgotten; when we only recollect the dead who sleep at Brandywine, and forget those who repose at Camden, the days of this proud confederacy will have been numbered!

We have thus presented the spirit, if not strictly the language of that portion of Mr. Cooper's speech which was *personal and explanatory*. No assumptions of oratorial display were attempted: but he proceeded, amid the breathless attention of his hearers, to explain away the causes which had rendered a considerable portion of his Senatorial career comparatively inefficient to his constituents as well as deeply mortifying to himself, without any apparent efforts for effect.

After this, he took up other questions, and discussed them with an ability and power which reminded one of his former mental strength and vigor, while it gave abundant proof of returning vitality and stamina. He spoke particularly of the Compromise of 1850, the course he pursued in regard to it, and the reasons which induced him to support it. We have not the space to follow him, nor is it necessary;—for his course on that occasion is now well known, and there is not a man, no matter what his party associations may be, that will not, as a good and patriotic citizen of the country, *endorse and commend it*. He concluded his remarks by reciting a number of interesting anecdotes and reminiscences of Clay, Calhoun, Webster, and other distinguished statesmen, with whom it was his fortune to have been associated in public life. He paid a handsome tribute to his colleagues in the Senate and House, for the fidelity with which they had sustained the interests of the Commonwealth against the unnatural combination which had been formed to break them down. He also pointed out, with considerable precision and length, the gradual local changes that have taken place, on the subject of the Tariff, in different sections of the Union, and the *counter combinations* by which their dangerous objects and effects may hereafter be defeated. He was interrupted, at every progressive step of his remarks, with the most heart-felt, enthusiastic, and deafening applause.

The next toast in order, was as follows:

The Old Keystone State—In the language of the late Nicholas Biddle, "a rough outside, but solid stuff within;—plenty of Coal to warm her friends, and plenty of Iron to cool her enemies."

To this sentiment, the Hon. James H. Campbell, the representative of the great Southern and Middle Anthracite Coal regions in Congress, was called upon to respond. The appearance of this eloquent champion of the Coal and Iron interests was hailed with the liveliest demonstrations, and we cannot but regret our want of space to present a sketch of his remarks. Eloquent at all times, on this occasion he appeared to surpass himself,—literally thrilling his hearers with the beauty and brilliancy of his periods, and the loftiness, intensity, and boldness of his sentiments. He depicted, in graphic colors, the closing scenes of the last session of Congress, where by a determination and courage worthy of Henry Clay himself, our distinguished guest overthrew and smothered a powerful, desperate and insidious combination to break down Pennsylvania interests, and to bankrupt our workshops and factories.

The next toast was the County of Schuylkill, to which John C. Neville, Esq. responded, in a speech of great argumentative power and eloquence. He alluded to the remark of Mr. Clay, who, in speaking of Mr. Cooper, on one occasion, pronounced him "one of the ornaments of the Senate." Addressing himself to the Tariff policy, he subsequently dwelt at length upon the condition of California, and the financial and commercial embarrassments from which we have just emerged, as the result of a system which, while it exhausted or impoverished the soil, conferred no absolute benefit or wealth upon the people. While the receipts of gold from California have been impoverishing her soil, her citizens have all along been paying two prices for their grain, provisions, and clothing—all of which, instead of being raised on her own soil, have been produced elsewhere. It was thus with the other states,—and it was this absurd policy which, time and again, has reduced us into financial embarrassments.

The next toast was—"*The Coal regions of Pennsylvania*—The great university in which have graduated some of the most eminent geologists, civil engineers, mechanics, financiers, professional and practical business men to be found anywhere on the globe."

To this toast various responses were made. After calling up one of the most popular and distinguished members of the profession of civil engineers, Col. Ellwood Morris, he soon transferred the responsibility of speech-making on his friend, Alexander Worrall Esq., who in turn passed it to another, when it finally got out of the ranks of the engineers, into those of the lawyers. Jno. Hughes, Esquire, was loudly called for, and responded, after a few prefatory remarks, by proposing the following sentiment: "The noble band of Northern Statesmen who, when our glorious Republic was shaken to its centre by internal strife and domestic dissensions, stepped manfully forward, battling in the cause of Right, and taking a position above the taint of local prejudice and sectional feeling, labored, voted for, and carried the *Compromise measures of 1850*—thus restoring the discordant elements to harmonious order—conspicuous among whom stood he, whom it is our honor and privilege to entertain here to-night!"

The next and last regular toast was to "*the Iron regions and Iron men of Pennsylvania*—May their furnaces illuminate the old Keystone State, in a general Anthracite blast of prosperity and activity." To this toast, H. E. Atkins, Esq. of the Pioneer Furnace—(the first successful works ever erected in this State,) was called upon; but after excusing himself, Wm. DeHaven, Esq., of Minersville, the well-known machinist, was called to his feet, and returned his thanks, on the part of the interest he represented, for the compliment conveyed in the toast. The health of the Coal Operators of Schuylkill County being next proposed, John B. McCreary, Esq., responded in very appropriate and happy remarks, finally enlisting again in the service, his friend Mr. Neville.

The Hon. James Cooper, upon the conclusion of the regular toasts, arose to offer a sentiment, which he prefaced with some beautiful remarks, the individual application of which, as the company glanced at the universally esteemed and public-spirited President, no one could feel any loss at recognizing. The encomiums thus passed on Mr. Sillyman and his cotemporaries, (embracing such men as Burd Patterson and Andrew Russel,) were not only eloquent, but they were just, and eminently deserved. We need not say, therefore, that Mr. C.'s toast created a tempest of rejoicings:

By the Hon. James Cooper—"Samuel Sillyman and his co-laborers, who, in good and evil fortune, have stood by and upheld the interests of Schuylkill county and her people."

The health of Mr. Bowen having been proposed, in connection with the public press, he made a few remarks, pertinent to the occasion. After introducing the announced toast, which had been received from Benjamin Bannan, Esq., in a brief letter expressive of his regrets at his inability to be present at the Banquet, Mr. Bowen proposed his health, which was responded to in the most enthusiastic terms.

By Benjamin Bannan, Esq.—"Our country and the honest representatives who sustain her best interests in the halls of Legislation;—the first, the brightest star in the constellation of Nations; the second, the jewels that encircle and add brilliancy to its lustre."

A toast complimental of the sons of Berks county drew out Mr. Keim, who entertained the company with some interesting particulars and reminiscences of that region of Democracy and Iron. Mr. Keim was interrupted by repeated bursts of applause.

The evening's entertainment now began to draw to a close, and it only remained to dispose of some letters from invited guests, and to read a few remaining toasts, to close finally one of the most dignified, magnificent, and sumptuous reunions ever witnessed North of the Blue Mountains. It was the universal exclamation of all present, that they had never passed a happier evening—a sort of reciprocal sentiment prevailing which, while it conferred happiness on others, was attracting happiness itself. The company finally adjourned at the hour of one o'clock, with three times three for the Hon. James Cooper.

By Wm. H. Johns, Esq.—"The Coal trade of the United States—may it always have such able, efficient, and undaunted defenders as the Hon. Jas. Cooper."

By J. Lawrence Getz, Esq.—(enclosed with a letter, expressive of his regret at his inability to be present,) "Pennsylvania:—Her fine and inexhaustible beds of Coal and Iron are a broad platform upon which her citizens, of all political creeds, may meet and join hands in amity."

By Ele Bowen—Burd Patterson, "one of the few, the immortal names that were not born to die."

By Louis Audenreid Esq.—"*The Iron and Coal Interests*—May their friends ever be successful in securing the services of a *Cooper*, able to *stave* off all opposition: *hoop* them in unity; *head* off *separate* legislation, and finally *bung* all enemies to their further development.

The Hon. S. N. Palmer—"Hon. James Cooper,—the profound jurist, able and eloquent advocate, and statesman of enlarged, liberal views:—As a representative of Pennsylvania, in the Senate of the United States, while looking to the welfare of the country at large, he has ever proved true to the best interests of his own State."

By Hon. James H. Campbell—"Pennsylvania and her interests:—protection to her products, commerce and labor:—her constitution, people and laws—these are things worth defending."

By James Silliman, Esq.—"Hon. James Cooper: the ardor of our Friendship is a guarantee of the sincerity in which we appreciate his services."

By a 'Bachelor Guest—"The Women and Coal of Schuylkill County—oh, how desolate would be the fireside without them!

In addition to the letters following, brief notes were received from Gen. F. M. Wynkoop, A. Herr Smith, Esq., Judge Smyser, Hon. J. Glancy Jones, and numerous others.

[*Letter from Henry C. Carey, Esq.*]

PHILADELPHIA, March 28, 1855.

DEAR SIR:—In consequence of some mismanagement at the post-office, your favor of the 14th inst., with its kind invitation to join you on the 26th, reached me only this morning, and too late, of course, for its acceptance.

I regret much that this should have happened, as it would have afforded me great pleasure to unite with you in acknowledging the services of Mr. COOPER during the time in which he has filled the post of Senator, and particularly at the recent session of Congress.

Accept, my dear sir, the assurance of the respect with which I remain,

Yours very truly,
HENRY C. CAREY.

J. M. Wetherill.

[*Letter from Hon. Jos. R. Ingersoll.*]

PHILADELPHIA, March 24, 1855.

GENTLEMEN:—I regret that it will not be in my power to join the friends of Mr. COOPER, at the Banquet on the 26th instant, to which you have done me the honor to invite me. Allow me to express the cordial wish that the compliment thus paid to eminent public services and private worth, may be as successful in its accomplishment, as it is creditable to the feelings by which it has been prompted. Believe me to be

Your faithful serv't,
J. R. INGERSOLL.

Burd Patterson, Esq., Samuel Sillman, Esq., and others—Committee on Invitations.

[*From Col. John Hendricks, State Senator from Schuylkill County—Sent by Telegraph.*]

HARRISBURG, March 26, 1855.

GENTS:—It was my intention to be present at the Banquet to be given the Hon. JAMES COOPER, this evening, at the Pennsylvania Hall, but duty here will deprive me of the pleasure of participating with you in this deserved testimonial to Mr. COOPER. It was my privilege to witness his uncompromising and successful efforts in behalf of the Coal and Iron interests of Pennsylvania, in the closing scenes of the last Congress, under circumstances that must challenge our admiration of the man, and entitle him to the lasting gratitude of his constituency. I am proud that his friends, without distinction of party, in Schuylkill County, are the first to acknowledge the obligation. Allow me to propose the following sentiment:

The Coal and Iron interests of Pennsylvania—Never more ably and faithfully represented in our National Legislature, than by our late U. S. Senator, the Hon. JAMES COOPER.

With great respect, I am your friend and fellow-citizen,
JOHN HENDRICKS.

[*From the Hon. Henry D. Moore.*]

PHILADELPHIA, March 24, 1855.

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor of acknowledging your invitation to be present at the entertainment to be given to the Hon. JAMES COOPER, by his friends at Pottsville. The pleasure of acknowledging this invitation, is only clouded by the reflection that it will be out of my power to avail myself of it, and I shall thus be deprived of the opportunity and pleasure of personally joining in a testimonial to Mr. COOPER, which is eminently due to him, not alone from his friends and fellow-citizens in Pottsville, but from the citizens of the entire State of Pennsylvania, whose interests he has so ably and faithfully sustained and defended in the Councils of our Nation.

This acknowledgment of his services, needs not the testimony of myself or any one else to sustain it, for he can confidently and triumphantly appeal to the Record, and from *it* receive a verdict of lasting honor and unqualified praise.

That the future of his life may be as happy and prosperous as the past has been honorable to him, and serviceable to his State, is the wish of

Your obedient servant,
HENRY D. MOORE.

To Burd Patterson, Esq., and others: *Com.*

[*From the Hon. H. K. Strong, Speaker of H. of R.*]

STATE CAPITOL, Harrisburg,
March 25, 1855.

GENTLEMEN:—I have this moment received your invitation to the "Complimentary Banquet to the Hon. JAMES COOPER." I regret exceedingly that my duties as presiding officer of the House of Representatives, will not permit me to be present.

This movement on the part of the whole-souled people of the County of Schuylkill, is just what I should have expected from their intelligence and generosity. And permit me to say, that I look upon the Hon. JAMES COOPER as one of the few public men that lives more for the State than himself. While others have proved recreant, he has *truly* represented our great mineral, agricultural, and mechanical interests in the Senate of the United States. Talented, honest, and faithful, I regard his retirement as a public loss, and it does my heart good to see this deserved compliment to him by the intelligence of the Coal region. He was the efficient and able advocate of the use of your Anthracite in the Steamships of the Nation—now let your gratitude be commensurate with his well directed public services. I have only time to propose to you the following sentiment:—

Schuylkill County—It has gratitude to warm the hearts of its friends, as well as Anthracite to warm their hearth-stones.

I am, with respect,
Your true friend,
HENRY K. STRONG.

SHORT METRE.

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