Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1855.

PHILADELPHIA—HER INTERESTS.

An attentive observer of the affairs of the metropolis of Pennsylvania, cannot fail to become cognizant of the erroneous policy which actuates the course of those who control her destinies, and should contribute to her greatness, as a commercial emporium, as she now ranks first in the world in point of science, learning and literature. The press of Philadelphia is continually mourning over the lack of energy, and the apparent apathy which hung like a pall upon its business prosperity. The term "village" is applied to Philadelphia, by New York, in a tone of pity, rather than jealousy, for it has little to fear from the rivalry of a city, which is as a house divided against itself, in all that concerns its business prosperity.

Philadelphia undoubtedly owes much of her disastrous career, to her opposition to the interests of the interior, and the want of unanimity of sentiment in her press. There is a marked difference in the conduct of the Philadelphia press, and that of New York, as far as concerns unity of action, for the general welfare of the respective cities. The press of New York may differ about petty local matters; but when a great public object is to be accomplished, and the good of the whole is concerned, they are united, and add their powerful influence, as one. No faction, or individual interest, controls the press of New York in such an emergency. It would be well if Philadelphia were characterized by the same feeling as far as the press and business community are concerned.

The illiberal, laggard policy of Philadelphia, which has permitted steamship after steamship to be withdrawn from its trade by an enterprising sister city, and thereby crushed lines of importance to the commercial prosperity of the city, has also arrayed it in opposition to the interior of the State. Pennsylvania is considered merely a colony of Philadelphia, by its narrow minded business men, and short-sighted press; and satisfied with the self-awarded honor, she is content to slumber on in Castilian inactivity, while her more liberal, wide-awake neighbors, are quietly, but surely, attracting that trade from Philadelphia, which has so far, been the chief source of its commercial prosperity.

In place for instance, of the harmony which Philadelphia should endeavor to cultivate with Schuylkill County, for their mutual interest, she substitutes a hostility, which is displayed not only within her walls, but in the halls of legislation. Corporations so inimical to the prosperity of this Region, in the Coal business, are advocated with a warmth by Philadelphians, which proves that individual influence is paramount to those interests which should bind the Coal Region and Philadelphia, with that closeness, necessary to their mutual prosperity.

People of this section it is well known, would rather deal with New York than Philadelphia, from the fact that they experience better treatment at the hands of the citizens of the former city. It is to be regretted that Philadelphia will continue blind to her own interests; and thus permit all those links which might render her the first commercial emporium of this continent, to be severed.—A press imbued with proper spirit, might in a great measure, rectify the error, by cultivating those amenities of business life, and urging action in matters of vital interest to its commercial existence. With possibly, one or two exceptions, Philadelphia contains no paper free from petty factional influence; no paper so unfettered, that it dare speak the truth, fearless of the consequences. Some local interest of minor importance; some private patronage or influence, deters that open, manly course, which if adopted by the press of Philadelphia, would redound to its credit, and confer unexampled prosperity on a city, in which we feel much pride, and which we know from its position, might be rendered a formidable rival of neighboring cities. Until such a course is adopted; until the business community of Philadelphia perceives the importance of cultivating that proper intercourse with the interior, which distinguishes New York so eminently, and until she discards the ridiculous idea that she alone is the State, we fear she will still sleep, *a la* Rip Van Winkle, and still quietly permit that trade—which is her life blood—to be withdrawn by more adventurous, liberal and far-seeing rivals.

RUM, POPERY AND DEMOCRACY.

Some time ago when we headed an article with the above caption, some persons seemed to be a little horrified at the idea, and believed that we were doing injustice in thus coupling the two together. But recent events prove that we were correct. Throughout the whole country, the sham Democracy, particularly that portion, which, adhering to President Pierce, as a party, takes ground against a Prohibitory Law. Every Roman Catholic Press in the country opposes the Maine Law and Prohibition. Nearly every Roman Catholic votes against Prohibition, and three-fourths of the worst and most debased Rumsellers in the country are Catholics and Democrats. The consequence is that nearly all the decent portion of those who have heretofore acted with the Democratic party, except the office-seekers and their dependents, are leaving it in disgust, and uniting themselves with those who profess and advocate American principles, and defend American institutions, in opposition to the flood of ignorance, superstition and degradation which has flown into our country so rapidly within the last few years, threatening to break down all the land-marks left by our forefathers. We are aware that there are many good and worthy Catholics, and also Democrats; but we speak of them as a party, and a religious body. In some places the sham Democratic Press even go so far as to attack Protestantism, and ask the question *whether the race is any better off for having accepted her faith?* The following is from the organ of the sham Democracy in Tennessee, the *Nashville Union*:

A church that can boast of an existence of thirteen centuries—passing through all the various vicissitudes of her eventful career, unscathed, can certainly show, with all her atrocious barbarity, many bright spots which may be placed in favorable contrast with the Protestant church, with its thousand and one wrangling sects. Men are beginning to see through the transparent gauze that veils this Know Nothing movement. They are beginning to ask what has Protestantism done for the world? What has she done to alleviate and elevate the down-trodden? Is the race any better off for having accepted her faith?

These reverend hypocrites—these scribes and pharisees are treading on a terrible volcano. They will find their treasonable schemes and infernal plottings against the liberties of man tried and condemned by the pure light of God's own truth and love, which shines and throbs in every pulsation of humanity's heart. If Protestantism proves recreant to her high trust, she will have to pass the ordeal of enlightened public opinion and be consigned to her merited obscurity. Popery, with all its crimes against God and man, adapts itself to the times and to circumstances and thus saves itself from being absorbed in the mass of conflicting elements.

REGISTERED LETTERS.—Persons sending valuable letters by mail, should in all cases have them registered at the Post Office from which they are sent. Under the new postage law valuable letters may be sent in this way with perfect safety at an expense of five cents for registering. Subscribers at a distance remitting money to us will greatly insure their safe deliverance by having them registered.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE EVANGELICAL MAGAZINE for July is upon our table. The contents which are varied and interesting, reflect credit upon the taste and ability of the editor, Rev. Charles A. Smith. This is a Christian publication which should find its way into every home in the land.

MARY LYNDON.—Through E. Garrigues, we have received from Stringer & Townsend, the New York publishers, a copy of a new work, entitled "Mary Lyndon, or the Revelations of a Life." The work it is thought, will make a powerful impression.—The story is one of great interest—the subject, woman's wrongs. The characters and incidents are drawn from real life, and are depicted with a power of delineation of the most vivid intenseness.

JOURNAL OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE.—The series for July, of this Journal has been received. This publication is devoted to mechanical and physical science, civil engineering, the arts and manufactures, and the recording of American and other patented inventions. It is edited by John F. Frazer, Esq., assisted by the Committee on Publication of the Franklin Institute. The number before us contains an extended notice of American patents issued in May, 1855, and a number of scientific and able papers, finely illustrated. The *Journal* is one of the most useful and interesting publications of the character published in the United States, and is extensively circulated in mechanical and scientific circles.

THE MINING MAGAZINE.—The May and June numbers of this well known and popular Magazine have been received. The contents are as usual, exceedingly interesting to the miner and scientific reader. As the *Mining Magazine* is published for subscribers only, those wishing to receive the publication regularly, would do well to send their names to Wm. F. Tenney, No. 98 Broadway, N. York. By the way, the editor makes the *amende* to the *Miners' Journal* in a graceful manner, in acknowledging the source from which it recently gleaned valuable Coal statistics. The publication of the *Mining Magazine* has been delayed by fire which destroyed the printing establishment of Mr. John F. Frow, in which the Magazine was printed. It is re-issued, however, more interesting than ever.

Local Affairs.

METEOROLOGICAL NOTATIONS.

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

JULY. (7th mo., 31 days.)	THERM'R. Mean.	Highest.	ATM. Mean.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS. Topograph. & Geographical.
Saturd. 14	58	64	29.02	Height of Pottsville (corner
Sunday 15	64	68	29.10	of Market & 2d. sts.) above
Monday 16	72	76	29.08	mean tide, 633.957 ft.—Dis-
Tuesd'y 17	82	94	29.05	tance from Philadelphia, 95
Wed'y 18	83	96	29.04	miles.—Latitude, 40° 44
Thurs'y 19	82	93	29.90	15".—Population in 1850,
Friday 20	83	90	29.95	7,800.

21.—E. fresh; rainy—cloudy.
22.—E. light; ditto
23.—E. changed S.; rainy—cloudy.
24.—S. W. light; rather cloudy—heavy storm in aft.
25.—S. W. fresh; rather cloudy all day.
26.—W. ed ditto ditto show'rs at night.
27.—N. W. fresh; rather cloudy.

☞ *Damage by Lightning.*—During the storm of Tuesday evening, lightning struck a barn at Middleport, and injured a man named Macavoy. The lightning also struck a post in New Philadelphia; and did other damage in the neighborhood. The rain at both points fell for a long time and in torrents.

☞ *Lightning Conductors.*—It is proper that the rods should be frequently examined, or they may actually increase the danger from electricity. The rod should be of competent thickness, and the point and insulators in order. It is estimated that the rod will protect an area equal to twice the distance it is elevated above the top of the building.

☞ *Concert.*—Mr. Kemmerer will give a grand musical entertainment at the Court House in this Borough on Monday evening next. The programme for the occasion is of the most interesting character, and we anticipate for Mr. K. a fine audience. Three hundred pupils will assist Mr. K., and several choice ballads will be sung by Master Castle, a fine vocalist of Philadelphia.

☞ *Death in the Mines.*—A man whose name we have not learned, was killed in the mines of the Messrs. Brown at Oak Hill on Monday last.—He went to get his tools, and moved some slate and rubbish which was in his way in procuring them, which caused several hundred weight of slate to fall upon and bury him. He was taken out as rapidly as possible, but died a minute or two after his extrication.

☞ *New Hose Carriage.*—The "Rough and Ready" Fire Company, of this Borough, received their new carriage from Philadelphia yesterday, and escorted it with music, to its new quarters.—The carriage was purchased from the Carroll Hose Company of Philadelphia; is quite neat in its appearance, and wears a serviceable look. We congratulate the company upon the desirable acquisition.

☞ *Retrospection.*—A communicant sends us the following stanzas, and requests a corner for them. We yield it with pleasure, and only regret that in this instance, to judge from the heart-breaking tone of the lines, that the course of true love has run so roughly:

TO ——

Oh could that strain, it makes me sad,
To trace those mem'ries o'er;
Though thy heart, "——" it maketh glad,
Mine's filled with sorrow's flow.

We parted there at stilly eve,
Two hearts that loved too well—
For vows and darts of falsest friends
Drove to that last farewell.

☞ *The Storm of Tuesday Evening.*—It is a remarkable fact that during the prevalence of the severe storm of Tuesday evening last, three buildings in our Borough were struck by lightning.—No loss of human life ensued, nor was any material damage done to property. It is a singular fact, in connection with the death of Mr. Beatty's horse, noticed in the *Dollar Journal*, that within the space of a year he has lost two valuable animals at the same spot, in Halberstadt's stable. Last October, the fire which destroyed our office, burned Mr. B's horse to death, and on Tuesday evening a favorite mare was struck by lightning, and instantly killed.

Peculiarly situated as Pottsville is, it is but rarely that lightning strikes any object within the Borough limits. The elevated points in the immediate vicinity are more exposed, and liable to be struck. The fact then, of three places in the Borough being struck by lightning during the prevalence of a single storm, is singular, and worthy of record.

☞ *Drowning Case.*—On Thursday morning, the body of a man was discovered in the Dam between this Borough and Port Carbon. It bore the appearance of having lain in the water for a length of time. As the body has not been identified, and no person as far as we can learn, is missing from this neighborhood, the supposition is, it must be the body of a stranger.

P. S.—Since the above was placed in type, we understand that the body has been identified as that of Michael Gibbons, a boatman, and that suspicions of foul play in the case are excited, from the fact, that on Friday night last, cries of murder were heard in the vicinity; which did not attract particular attention, as disturbances there are of frequent occurrence. An inquest has been held on the body, and from evidence elicited, it is rendered certain that Gibbons was first killed, and then thrown into the canal. The affair should be thoroughly investigated, and if murder has been committed the guilty parties should be brought to justice. The deceased was a young, unmarried man.

☞ *Distressing Drowning Case.*—On Thursday afternoon, Thomas Rowland, aged 28 years, in the employ of his uncle, Mr. Davis, at his livery stable in this Borough, rode several horses down to Lauer's dam, for the purpose of swimming them. He was in the habit of doing it, and as he was an excellent swimmer, no danger was apprehended from the practice. It appears that on Thursday however, while swimming one of the horses, he slipped from the back of the animal, and was precipitated into the water. He could easily have reached the shore in safety; but in rashly attempting to save his cap, which was floating down with the current, he became undoubtedly exhausted, in consequence of the weight of his clothing, and sank to his death. His body was recovered, after much exertion, in the space of a couple of hours, and an inquest was held upon it. The verdict rendered was, "accidental drowning." Rowland was, we understand, an estimable young man,—industrious, sober and steady,—and his untimely fate is sincerely regretted by a large number of friends. He was a native of England, where his father lives; and at the time of the unfortunate occurrence, had only resided in this country a couple of years.

☞ *Death in the Mines.*—An explosion took place at Oliver's Colliery, at Bear Ridge, on Wednesday last, burning three men badly, one of which James Davis, has since died. We have not learned the cause of the accident.

☞ *Our Market.*—Provisions are kept at enormous prices in this place—entirely too high for prices elsewhere. Many of our citizens talk of clubbing together for the purpose of sending abroad to get their provisions. The people won't stand it much longer. We disapprove of this course ourselves, but one extreme produces another. Look to it in time, dealers.

The price of Coal delivered to our citizens is also kept up to last winter's prices—although the price of Coal is considerably less than it was last year. Is there any cause for this? We can't get any more for printing than we did two years ago. The fact is, that while everything else was high last year, we were compelled to work at the usual rates notwithstanding the advance in provisions, &c.

☞ *Frightful Mining Accident at Belmont.*—A fearful accident occurred on Tuesday morning last, about half-past seven o'clock, at Mr. Agard's Belmont Colliery, in this County—the place is better known by the old name of the Five Points. Four persons, two men and two boys, have been taken out of the slope, dead and dreadfully mangled—one more is not likely to live, and six others are seriously injured. It has been, and may be denominated an explosion of gas; but more properly it was a powder explosion; for the latter did the most injury, though the "fire damp," as it is generally called, exploded first and ignited the powder.

The facts of the occurrence are as follows:—The mining boss, Mr. John W. Davis, went into the mines early in the morning as usual, and examined the works carefully before any of the miners were at work. He found "fire" in one of the "breasts" near the face of the gangway. This breast was worked by James Silverthorn and son, and was the only part of the mine considered dangerous. Mr. Davis met Silverthorn and told him twice, very emphatically, that his place was full of fire, and that he should not venture in it with a naked lamp until the gas was driven out. Accordingly Silverthorn took the Davy or safety lamp, and commenced to brush fire out of the breast. But unfortunately, several of the miners were seated around the bottom of the breast, in the gangway with their naked lamps, taking their customary "whiff" and chat before commencing work, and near them were between two and three kegs of powder, open and unprotected.

The gas being driven down the shute past the cross-heading, penetrated to the gangway, where the miners were seated, and as might be expected, it took fire from their lamps. But the explosion of gas would have been trifling, in comparison to the amount of damage done, had not the powder, which was in close proximity to the men, also ignited and exploded, crushing and bruising every thing in the vicinity, and doing considerable damage to the mines. The effect of the shock was felt at a great distance from the scene, and the mines throughout trembled with the concussion. Coal, rocks and material, were hurled with dreadful velocity far out towards the slope. But the damage done to the work, the amount of which cannot yet be fully ascertained, is nothing in comparison to the dreadful loss of life and limb—the horrid suffering which the fearful accident occasioned.

Frederick Sauerbrey, and James Devlin, the two men who were killed, leave behind them families to lament their loss. The two boys killed were named David Morgan and Enoch Silverthorn. James Silverthorn, the father of Enoch, is not expected to live—since dead. Some of the other six are severely injured. There are eleven killed and wounded. The dead were buried on Wednesday.

No blame can be attached to the operator or the bosses, if we except their culpability of allowing the men to take such large quantities of powder into the mines. In this respect they plead guilty. Otherwise the mine was in good order, as much so probably as the generality of deep mines in this County, and the boss miner did his duty, as the men themselves acknowledge. If blame must fall on any person or persons, it seems the men who suffered most, must bear it. It was certainly a dangerous place to sit with naked lamps, at the entrance of a breast, from which they could not but know, that the miner was at the time driving the fire.

Miners generally are far too careless—it is a serious thing when the lives, perhaps of hundreds, in many instances, rest in the hands or actions of *one man*; as one careless person, in an unthinking moment, might send a mine and all its inmates to destruction. Those who work in sulphurous mines are always more or less in danger. A great responsibility also rests on the operator—good ventilation is imperatively required; it would be both safer and *cheaper* in the end.

We can say nothing against Mr. Agard in this respect, not being acquainted with the mines. It is acknowledged that they were in good working order, and that they contained no more gas at the time of the explosion, than at other times when they were considered safe.

It seems that none of the men were badly burned, except Silverthorn, who was in the midst of the gas when it exploded. The rest were mutilated by the powder, which tore out the props and covered the men in the vicinity with fragments of rock and coal. They were horribly mangled.

The habit of carrying powder into the mines by the keg full, has been too long tolerated in this region. We could point out a great number of accidents which have been occasioned by powder explosions alone, and which would have been prevented, were the miners *forced* to carry what powder they want each day into the mines in a "powder can." The *trouble* of doing this is the principal objection, for the cost of a can is but trifling. We have often seen them knock in the end of a keg of powder with a sparkling lamp on their heads above it. It is not long since, as will be recollected, that *three men* were killed at Belmont by a powder explosion. One would think that such accidents would be forewarning enough; but throughout the whole of the Coal Region, carelessness in this and other respects, endangering lives and property, is predominant. We are only surprised that such calamitous accidents are not more frequent.

Mr. Agard states that the damage done his mines is trifling, except in the immediate vicinity of where the explosion of powder took place.

SILVER CREEK AFFAIRS.

MESSRS. EDS.:—This place has of late been remarkably visited by lightning. It has struck in the vicinity five times within two weeks. On Friday evening a woman was struck dead in her house by an electric flash. It entered one corner of the building—a shanty—dangering it slightly, and destroyed some delf in the cupboard, besides killing a woman, a hog and a pigeon—or so report has it. Yesterday a boy was slightly shocked at one of the Coal Breakers and a shovel was struck and destroyed near one of the "Pips." Several withered and blasted trees were pointed out to me as having been struck within a very short period of time, and quite close to the works.

There is not a single lightning conductor in the place!! C.

Silver Creek, July 25th, 1855.

ST. CLAIR AFFAIRS.

DEAR JOURNAL:—Having dropped into hot water, I must cry, like the great orator of patriotic renown, "sink or swim, live or die;" and not only that, but must "paddle" out in "my own canoe" the best way I can.

Who ever would have supposed that this *little* place contained such a "big spirit?" We do not mean the spirit *Alcohol*; for he, like the devil which entered the swine in olden times, is daily cooping through such operations here; yet we do not wish to be understood to say, that he resides permanently here, to the exclusion of other "great places." O no! he is omnipresent in the Coal Region.

I had no intention of *slighting* St. Clair in my letter, or rather note, from this place on the 5th of July; indeed I am quite willing and ready to do St. Clair *justice* in every respect; not because "Kate" threatens to pull, box, pinch, or "grok" my ears; but for "charity's sake;" for she, herself, declares that St. Clair has suffered considerably of late from "Reporters and *others*;" but more we think from being unnoticed than noticed.

Did we know that "Kate was about," we certainly should have said somethin' about the "intelligent ladies, and pretty ones too;" but being in the dark on this subject, as well as who it were that "eat the best cake" and "ice cream;" though we heard the *baiter*, grumbling about it, to be excused.

If Kate had read with as much perception as vengeance, she would have seen that the "soldiers and the dear little children" were spoken of in "that letter," but that about the "Sonnies" we must confess ignorance. I had not the least idea that there were any Sonnies in St. Clair, and not spending our Fourth here we did not see them. Certainly there cannot be many, if there are, who patronizes the thirty grog shops and porter houses, not to mention the five hotels? And here we may remark, that we do not wish Kate or any one else to understand that we are "down" on the latter. One or two *well* conducted hotels in a place like this is an absolute necessity, having always the liquor department.

We do not wish to fight with "Kate" even a paper war, for the old song says, "every bullet has its bullet; but were it Tom, Dick or even Harry—not meaning the 'old one'—we might go into a war on a small scale, since "all the world's a fightin'."

I have no good hat to bet with, having lost it, but if Kate's bonnet is "a thing to wear on the head," as Webster has it—don't know how to define it now—I will bet my "Rough and Ready" against it, that St. Clair Coal Operators are not making money quite as fast as they did last year at this time.

I do not recollect of ever seeing a Monument which was erected to the memory of a woman outside of churchyards, and therefore suppose that they have never been rightly appreciated by the public. Mother Eve and Helen of Troy, did things which made them immortal, but we recollect their deeds so well, that we live them over every day. The most celebrated monument or statue, that I have ever heard of—excepting the Greek Slave—was erected to the "good woman;" but what was singular is—and what would be rare now-a-days—she had no *tongue*.

There is certainly room enough in St. Clair for many an improvement in a moral, as well as a business point of view, and we certainly hope that they may take place. For instance, the *porter fountains* should be stopped off, and good, pure water from our *Pottsville Water Works above St. Clair!* used instead.

There should be trees planted in First and Second streets, and the *holes* in the side walks filled up and leveled. There should be night or evening schools, and the Lyceum should be supported, instead of "Women's Rights Conventions;" these things would keep the young folks out of mischief. The proverb says, "that Satan finds some mischief *still* for idle hands to do."

There will be no danger of Kate dying an old maid, since she loves the printers so well; their's are generous natures, and affections of that kind are spontaneous with them. We will say nothing about getting the type into pie at present—printers pay very dear for their knowledge on that subject, and we cannot be expected to impart information of that kind gratis. If Kate goes partner with some "printer's boy" she will find that out; and in this connection we may remark, that there is a paper conducted in the Coal Region, and a good one too, by a printer and his wife.—They have no "hands" in their office, but do the editing and press work, and set the types themselves—Mr.—— is a fast hand; but Mrs.—— can beat him!

In conclusion, though we did not intend to say so much about Kate when we began this letter, we beg to remark, that her spirit is one to admire. It is really refreshing to find a *rara avis* now and then, even if they do "*peck at a fellow!*" Butas the boys used to say at school, if Kate will let me alone, I'll let her alone. I really think it dangerous to get into "scrapes" with such sharp writers as Kate and Ella. It is possible that we might be forced to creep out at the "little end of the horn."

REPORTER.

St. Clair, July 23d, 1855.

MINERSVILLE AFFAIRS.

[FROM OUR TRAVELING REPORTER.]

Stage-coaches again—Not all so bad as we seem—Minersville a busy place—Doctors and business—Improvements—New Coal works—Improved tilt hammer—Model school house—German Roman Catholic Church—Child bitten by a snake—Accident in the Mines.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—My first letter from Minersville—that stage letter—was like a tune harped on one string; but I wrote it under the influence of the fumes of the rum and tobacco, which I was very reluctantly forced to partake of, and those who occasioned it, being the only persons censured, certainly have no right to complain of its severity; for worse might be said of the vulgar and disgusting habit of smoking in stage-coaches, and dram-drinking at every shop and tavern on the road. But no one will understand us to say that such is invariably the case. It is only occasionally that such nuisances are to be borne, but they are much too frequent. There are many gentlemanly stage drivers, and thank heaven! all the traveling public are not so lost to decency and common sense.

Minersville while it is not the cleanest, is undoubtedly one of the most busy towns in the Coal Region, and it contains as many apothecary's shops as ought to be tolerated in the county. The people here seems to depend entirely on doctors and drugs for their lives.

We said Minersville is a busy town, and it is particularly so. Every store-keeper, tailor, shoemaker, butcher, huckster and tavern-keeper seems to be doing a good business; stores and streets are constantly full, and people are constantly pouring in and out—in fact Minersville is a big hive, and very few drones about it; but money—ah! it is almost as scarce as elsewhere.

It is impossible to mention every thing worth noticing about this place at present, and therefore we must merely glance at some of the most interesting; promising at the same time, something better in future.

The Messrs. Brittans have been putting up some heavy and extensive works on their diamond vein, commonly known as the Peach mountain, in the vicinity—the works are within the borough. It will cost them when finished about seventy thousand dollars, but they will be able to mine a large quantity of the best red ash Coal next season.—There is no better Coal than this for domestic purposes,—prepare it well, and it will answer for itself.

The new tilt hammer in Mr. DeHavens' iron works, is well worthy of more attention than we can give it at present. The foreman was not at home when we visited it, and we did not attempt to obtain the necessary information from any one else. This hammer works on a new principle, which is the invention, we think, of Mr. Taylor. Instead of falling, and applying its own weight alone to the blow, this hammer is forced down as well as raised, by steam power. Thus a small hammer with this invention, can do the work of a very large one under the old system, and the quantity of power used is not materially increased, for the force used in raising the hammer, if added to its impetus, or its own weight in falling would enable it to strike a tremendous blow. I watched it working for a while, and thought of the invisible power which hammered out the great iron bars, with the strength of a little army.

The young vulcans are stronger than the old!

The Minersville people are building a splendid new School-house, capable of holding nearly seven hundred scholars. It is to be three stories high, and sixty feet long by forty feet wide.—Each story is to be divided into two rooms. The lower rooms are for the younger children, which, being on a level with the ground will enable them to run in and out without any danger of breaking their necks. The upper stories are to be cut in from the sides, where platforms are to be erected with high and strong railing to prevent accidents. This School-house when finished will be a model. The plan was taken, with some alteration, from the Werner Grammer School of Philadelphia.—Much credit is due to Mr. Detwiler and his colleagues for their enterprise and taste in the arrangement and forwarding of this building, and their enlarged views on the subject of education generally. The building material is brick.

The corner stone of a new German Roman Catholic Church was laid but a few days ago at the head of Second street; when finished it will be an ornament to the town.

On Tuesday a child was bitten by a snake at Forestville, and brought into town immediately by its parents, for medical treatment. It was thought to be a copper head, commonly called house snakes; but Doctor Hale does not think it could have been a poisonous reptile—he supposes that it was a common black snake. It came out of the wall in the basement of the house and bit the child on the thigh. Immediately on a person being bitten by a snake, a bandage should be drawn tight above the wound if possible, and a poultice of pounded plantain leaves applied, or the wounded part covered with fresh lard. Doctor Hale treated a copper-head bite successfully, some six years ago, by the application of plantain externally and internally. The bite of a copper-head, though not quickly fatal as that of a rattle snake, is extremely dangerous, and unless a remedy be applied at an early stage, the inflammation will spead beyond the power of control.

On Saturday a man by the name of Wm. Bush was seriously, though not fatally, injured in the mines of Sutton & Wright, at the Black Valley, near Minersville. He was crushed on the back and hips by a fall of Coal, when in the act of stooping to pick up the last "laggio," which was to prevent it from falling. Yours truly,

HENRIES DEBOW.

Minersville, July 25th, 1855.

TAMAQUA AFFAIRS.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

MESSRS. EDS.:—The gang of young rowdies spoken of by your correspondent "Sam" last week, have been at the same tricks this week. On Thursday night last, they broke into Mr. Mackey's Shoe Shop and took all they could find. Fortunately the door leading into the store room was well secured, or they might have left the place more heavily laden. Since then, oyster saloons have been entered and much damage done; sign posts taken down and removed to a distance from the places where they belong. Now, many of these boys are well known to our citizens, but through mistaken kindness and false sympathy, they are left to pursue a course that will ultimately lead them to the State Prison or the *Gallows*. They receive no moral instruction at home; indeed the poor youth that was found insensible by the whiskey barrel, and is, I believe, the acknowledged leader of the gang, has been fed on alcohol in some shape ever since his birth, and when sober, regrets his errors, but has not strength enough to resist strong drink. When he gets it, he is ready to take the lead in all manner of wickedness. He thinks *if he could get away from his evil companions* a year or so, he could do better. As little appears to be known throughout the country in regard to the House of Refuge, except as a place of punishment for young offenders, perhaps a few words in regard to it will not be out of place. It is a great mistake to consider it merely a place of punishment. It was built for the reformation and instruction of youth who have been neglected and led into evil ways. True, the children are not at liberty to run out of the institution and mix with the rest of the world until they are of age, or by their good conduct have gained the confidence of the officers, and a good situation is secured for them. They receive religious instruction without sectarianism. They have a Chapel where every Sabbath a minister of a different persuasion officiates. They are taught the rules of the different churches, and to observe them. Sometimes the Friends have a meeting there; but the children get very tired of Quaker meetings. They have their Bible Classes and Sabbath Schools, and often a Catholic Priest or Layman visits them; and although the officers of the institution are all Protestant, fish is used every Friday for the sake of the Catholic children that are there. When the children are old enough to choose for themselves they can unite with any church their conscience dictates. In the morning they are all called together for family worship; then breakfast. The boys then proceed to the school room where they are learned all the different branches taught in our Common Schools; after that the workshops, where they are instructed in the mysteries of Cain-seat Chairs, Band Box, Shoemaking, &c. Then comes the hour for play, and it would do any visitor good to see the hundred happy faces rushing into the large yard used for play and recreation. If you should see one with sullen and downcast look, upon inquiry, you will find he has been doing wrong and expects punishment. But it would make my letter too long to speak of all the blessings and privileges enjoyed by poor neglected children in this institution. There are many very excellent young men now filling honorable stations in society, who daily thank God that he put it in the hearts of benevolent persons to build a refuge from the snares and temptations of the world, where the young like themselves, had been led into error, might receive good instruction and become useful, respectable men.

Tamaqua, July 26, 1855. E.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

MESSRS. EDS.:—The passengers by the last Sunday evening train made a most remarkable escape. The train was running at a rapid rate and as they approached the bridge at Centreville, about five miles below Tamaqua, there was a cow on the track, as or very near the bridge. The engine passed over her without sustaining any serious damage; and the baggage and passenger cars on coming in contact with her, were thrown from the track, on the bridge into the river, a distance of 8 or 10 ft. The latter contained about twenty five passengers, among whom were several ladies and children. The passenger car was exactly reversed in the fall, lodging with the top in the river. The scene of confusion and terror that ensued it would be impossible to describe. After the usual delay attending these unforseen occurrences the passengers were all extricated from their awkward positions, and strange to say none were dangerously injured. Fortunately the river was very low at the time, or they would hardly have escaped drowning.

And now Mr. Editor permit me to say a word to your fair correspondent Kate, of St. Clair. I could not help sighing as I read the paragraph, "St. Clair's going to be a city before I am an old maid." Oh! how significant that sentence. Not that I think St. Clair will ever be a city, nor do I believe that you do Kate; but am strongly inclined to believe that you have pretty positive evidence that you never will be an old maid—and I felt sad as I read,—not because you are not going to be an old maid, but because some lucky fellow has showed his good sense by intending to prevent it. Sam thinks of visiting St. Clair soon, and the pleasure of meeting Kate would amply repay him for a pilgrimage to Mecca. And that reporter who said "St. Clair was not worth noticing," has no more taste than an Esquimaux or an inhabitant of Timbuctoo. He would walk through a group of Greek Slaves and Venus's, and mistake them for scare crows. We can only forgive him by an honest confession that he did not know that Kate lived in St. Clair, and, that any place where angels dwell is paradise.

Mr. Maingay is still continuing his efforts to extinguish the burning vein at this place. His experiment is regarded with much interest, and he should receive the hearty co-operation of all; yet strange, a fiendish effort was made last week to thwart his purpose, by placing gum in the pipes used, almost instantly closing them up, which after some delay was fortunately discovered. The perpetrators of so satanical an act are unworthy a civilized community.

The Schuylkill convocation of the Episcopal Church has been holding its session here during the week, begining on Tuesday evening. It will terminate on Friday evening. SAM.

Tamaqua, July 26th, 1855.

[COMMUNICATED.]

ROAST BEEF vs. DOLLARS AND CENTS.

One hundred and eleven head of fine sleek, fat-looking, beef-making, steak-bearing, surloin-carrying, cattle were driven *through* Pottsville to day, (June 19,) but very few, if any of them, will go into our "flesh pots" or frying-pans. The drovers ask six cents per lb. standing. One hundred lb. standing will make about sixty lbs. of beef when butchered, besides tallow, skin, horns and tripe. I think you give from twelve to fourteen cents per lb. to the Butcher, don't you? guess they are getting rich—ain't they?

These cattle were brought from Crawford County—a fine beef growing country—flowing with milk and maple sap, and "roast beef" at sixpence a pound.

Well, let them pass—they are too young and fat for our market; a good tough bit of "old ox" will *go* twice as far in a family; and then, we have the *pleasure* of masticating—we get the taste you know, and when "aunty pounds it well," 'tis not so bad.

HARD TIMES.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS, an unfailing Remedy for all disorders of the Chest and Lungs.—Oliver Thompson, of Little Falls, New York, was certainly in a most deplorable state of health ten weeks ago; his lungs, so the doctors told him, were *completely gone*, his chest, and in fact his body generally, had scarcely an atom of flesh on it, so thin had he become. In addition to this, he had a cough which completely shook him to pieces (these are his own words); he has just called on Professor Holloway to inform him, that all these complaints have been removed by Holloway's Pills, after he had used them for seven weeks and two days; and he now feels better than ever he did in his life. These Pills will readily remove all diseases of the stomach and bowels.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

☞ Rachel will soon be here.

☞ Deaths in Baltimore last week, 162.

☞ The Kertsch Museum has reached Paris.

☞ The largest pin manufactory in the United States turns out four million pins per day.

☞ The fashion for flounces has been attacked, and proved victorious.

☞ "Honor and fame from no condition rise,
Act well your part—there all the honor lies."

☞ The Bank of England is about to establish a branch at the West End of London.

☞ A married lady sowbided a young doctor in Atlanta, Georgia, a few days ago.

☞ There are about two thousand brewers in the British Islands.

☞ A Russian nobleman, incog., is among the guests at the Mount Vernon Hotel, Cape Island.

☞ In Philadelphia last week, Isabella McCarroll committed infanticide and then suicide.

☞ New Hay is selling in Syracuse, N. Y., at from $9 to $12 per ton.

☞ The King of Siam has a printing-press in operation in his palace.

☞ The banking capital of Philadelphia is about eleven millions of dollars.

☞ Joseph L. Chester, Esq., is associated with Col. Wallace, in the editorial management of the Philadelphia *Sun*.

☞ A lump of pure gold worth $1,000 has recently been taken from the Slate Hill Mines in Louis county, Virginia.

☞ Capital and labor are nowhere better compensated than in the cotton planting region of the United States.

☞ In Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the office of the *National Defender* was partially destroyed by fire.

☞ The *Ledger* makes the *amende honorable* to the *Times* of Philadelphia. Much better than lying to the law for redress.

☞ Anthony Byrnes, aged 30 years, and Cornelius Sullivan, 12 years old, were killed in New York on Monday, by the falling of a building.

☞ In Boston, the whole number of children between the ages of four and fifteen years is 28,528.

☞ Smooth and oily tongues, are, generally speaking, indicative of deceit, and should be estimated accordingly.

☞ The best field of corn in Texas is said to be four hundred acres on Stern's Ranch, upon the clear fork of the Brazos.

☞ The full returns of the election in Louisiana, for Chief Justice, exhibit a majority of 1672 for Merrick, the Know Nothing candidate.

☞ Professor Haswell, late Engineer in Chief of the United States Navy, puts down 1 lb of Coal as equal to 2½ and 2¾ lbs of Wood in generating steam.

☞ There is a pumpkin vine growing in Monongahela city, Pa., that has already attained the enormous length of two hundred and twenty-five feet. The vine has twenty-five pumpkins on it.

☞ The number of *suicides occurring* throughout the country has directed attention to the fact that the disposition thus to escape from the ills and *trials of life is alarmingly* on the increase.

☞ There is a boy in Alabama, fifteen years old, in April last, who weighs two hundred and twelve pounds, is five feet ten inches high, and well proportioned.

☞ There is no single exhibition in which human vanity so often overleaps itself and entails misery upon others, as in the propensity of parents to bring up their children to what are termed the learned professions.

Religious Intelligence.

NOTICES.

☞ SECOND METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Market Street, Pottsville, Rev. ANDREW LONGACRE, Pastor. Divine service every Sabbath at 10 A. M. and 6 P. M.

☞ FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Second Street above Norwegian. Rev. T. SHOWERS THOMAS, Pastor.—Divine service every Sabbath at 10 A. M. and 7½ P. M.

☞ *BAPTIST CHURCH*, Rev. JOHN H. CASTLE, Pastor.—Service every Sabbath at 10½ o'clock, A. M., and 7½ o'clock, P. M.

☞ ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTN CHURCH, Market street, Rev. WILLIAM H. PRESLEY, Pastor. Divine service every Sabbath at 10½ o'clock, A. M., and at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

☞ ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH, Market Square, Pottsville, Rev. DANIEL STOCK, Pastor. Divine service in this Church regularly every Sunday, Morning, at 10½ o'clock; evening, at 8 o'clock. Weekly Prayer Meeting, Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock.

☞ WOODS MEETING.—There will be a Woods Meeting in a grove in the borough of Port Clinton. To commence on Friday, 3d of August, and continue over Sabbath. Several able preachers are expected to be in attendance. There will be preaching every morning an afternoon, during the meeting. All persons are invited to attend JOSEPH DARE, *Preacher in charge.*

☞ WELSH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, Minersville road, P