Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1855.

ROMANISM.

Politically or religiously, we are continually reminded of the arrogance, the licentiousness, the grasping avarice, the seeking after political power of the Roman Catholic Church, through its swarms of myrmidons, and unscrupulous hierarchy. From the priest picked up drunk in the gutters of our cities, up through the Jesuit in the courts of justice, refusing to give testimony in cases of crime, to His Highness, the Archbishop of the "Province of New York," we see in each phase of the policy of the Romish Church, much to disgust and abhor, much that is in enmity to the spirit of our Republican institutions, and little that claims our veneration or respect. If asked why we perceive so little in the "Holy Mother Church" that is good, we answer, that we cannot look with regard upon that religious body, which allies itself in the most open and shameless manner with the rumseller, whose trade is death; and defends slavery, that incubus upon the prosperity of some of the fairest portions of this country. We cannot gaze with complacency upon the operations of a body of priests, who owe their highest allegiance to a foreign potentate, and who in obeying his behests, argue that the ends justify the means. We can hardly cry "bravo," at the feat of the Irish and Roman Catholic power in this country, which in 1844 defeated Henry Clay for the Presidency. How was it done? The electoral vote of the State of New York, would have made Henry Clay, President. The electoral vote of the State of New York was given to James K. Polk, by the universal suffrage of every Irishman in the State. We do not feel disposed to applaud the policy of the Roman Catholic Church, when every believer in religious liberty, with us remembers, that it was *hatred to Protestantism*, that gave to Mr. Polk the vote which elected him! And it was the work of the servile minions of the Pope of Rome, a man whose sole thought, whose energy has been directed for years, to extinguishing every spark of liberty, which might by possibility exist in unhappy Italy; who has imprisoned men and women for the awful crime of reading the Scriptures, and who is sustained alone in his temporal position, by the aid of foreign bayonets. Yes, an edict went forth throughout the land in October, 1844, that the Clay ticket, must be opposed by all the followers of Romanism, for which timely assistance, they were to be rewarded by the Sham-Democratic demagogues of the day. The *Boston Pilot*, a Roman Catholic paper, contained on the 31st of October 1844, the following passage:

"We say to all men in the United States entitled to be naturalized, become citizens while you can—let nothing delay you for an hour—let no hindrance short of mortal disease, banish you from the ballot-box. To those who are citizens, we say vote your principles, whatever they be—never desert them—do not be wheedled or terrified—but vote quietly, seriously and unobtrusively. Leave to others the noisy warfare of words; let your opinions be proved by your deliberate and determined action. We recommend to you no party; we condemn no candidate but one, and he is—Theodore Frelinghuysen. We have nothing to say to him as a Whig—we have nothing to say to Mr. Clay nor to any other Whig as such—but to the President of the American Board of Foreign Missions, the friend and patron of the Kirks and Coxes, we have much to say. We hate his intolerance—we dislike his associates—and we shudder at the blackness and bitterness of that school of sectarians to which he belongs, and amongst whom he is regarded as an authority."

Through the machinations of the Roman Catholic priesthood, and the intense hatred to Protestantism, of the Roman Irish, Henry Clay lost the Presidency.

It is thus that the Roman Catholic Church has for years past esteemed it her policy to mingle in the politics of the country as a religious body, and throw the weight of her influence into that scale belonging to the highest bidder. We find her infatuated votaries defending a British Free Trade policy for this country, and allied to every political measure of a degrading character. If we examine the religious journals of the country, we find that the organs of Romanism stand alone in their advocacy of Intemperance.—They echo the opinions of the clergy, and we have in this instance alone, a proof of the readiness with which the Church allies itself to degradation. But not in this respect alone do they disgracefully distinguish themselves. We have yet to see a Protestant paper that would disgrace its columns with unmerited abuse, or deliberate falsehood, such as have rendered the Roman Catholic journals of the country so unenviably notorious. They never allude to Protestants or Protestantism except in an insulting manner. Recently one of these very refined publications applied the elegant term "Praise God bare-bones" to ministers of the Protestant faith, while indulging in some coarse allusions to them. In fact, we could enumerate *ad infinitum*, the instances of the bitter hate entertained by the Romish Church, its clergy and organs, towards Protestantism. Comment would be unnecessary, did we desire to cast odium on the Catholic press, for regular extracts from its columns would effect the object. For abuse; cool, deliberate falsifying, and contemptible subterfuge, commend us to the peculiar press to which we refer.

But these things are becoming gradually appreciated, and we have strong hopes that public opinion and the powerful arm of the law will yet check in their every shape the arrogance and assume! power of Roman Catholicism in this Republic. We had an instance recently, of a Catholic priest refusing to testify in a murder case in Richmond, Va. The priest—to the shame of the man who occupied the bench, be it spoken—was supported in his opposition to the demands of justice, by the Judge, who gave as his opinion, that the priest could not be compelled by law to reveal the secrets of the Confessional, as such a course would be contrary to one of the tenets of the Catholic Church. Now, in our opinion, the decision was as unjust as it was cowardly. No Jesuitical priest should be permitted to consider the tenets of his faith, derived from an earthly foreign power, as paramount to the laws of the country in which he resides. With equal propriety might the Mormons be allowed to establish polygamy as an institution, superior to, and beyond the action of our laws on the subject. Such a procedure as that tolerated in Virginia, was never attempted in England by the Romish power. Are our rights less to be respected? Are we less powerful than England; less zealous in the cause of justice and Protestantism, that we should permit ourselves tamely to be priest-ridden?

A decision similar to that of the Richmond Judge, was rendered in New York some years since, for the purpose of securing the Catholic vote; the Catholics themselves knowing at the time, that the position could not be sustained in this, a Protestant country. Dennis, in his Catholic Theology, provides, however, for this emergency, by stating that priests when called upon in Courts of Justice, to testify as a witness, can do so as a man—the knowledge received being confided to him as a priest. This is the morality of the Catholic Church.

As an offset, however, to the New York and Virginia cases noticed above, we are gratified to perceive that Judge Waldo, of New Haven, has taken an opposite position on this question. It appears that last week in a case of Blakeslee vs. O'Neil, et al., in the Superior Court of New Haven, Judge Waldo awarded to the plaintiff $150 damages. It was an action against a Romish priest and others for interfering at the death bed and performing Roman Catholic rites against the wishes of the plaintiff. In the course of the case, the Romish priest, O'Neil, the defendant, being on the witness stand, he was inquired of as to the confession of the dying woman. The question was objected to, when Judge Waldo, after argument, in which the recent Virginia case was cited to sustain the objection in question, took the case into consideration, and on Thursday morning decided that the confessions to a priest were not, by the law of Connecticut, privileged, and that the priest might be compelled to disclose them on the witness stand. In the present instance, however, he ruled that the confession had no relevancy to the case. The decision is interesting, and will, we hope, furnish a precedent to compel such testimony, when occasion requires, in this and other States of the Union.

We have prolonged our remarks, and adduced these instances to show how necessary it is to oppose the encroachments of Papacy in the United States, and to show that we, as an American journal, would be derelict to the principles we cherish and advocate, if we failed to steadily trim the torch of Truth, and thereby assist in warning the American people of the dangers that beset their way.

ORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS.—Congress meets on Monday next, 3d inst., and in consequence of the division of the House into several parties, none of which have a majority, the organization of it may be attended with difficulty, and will certainly be looked to with deep interest over the country. By the list of Representatives, it is evident that the Americans and those who sympathize with, and approve their principles, have a plurality, and possess the power of controlling the organization of the House. In view of the agitation of the Kansas question, which will be brought up by the decision to be made in the recognition of Whitfield or Reeder as the delegate from that Territory, the Republicans will no doubt make an effort to have the organization of the House turn upon that question. The administration representatives will doubtless endeavor to take advantage of any disagreement between Northern and Southern Americans, to elect a speaker from their party.

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Courier* says the new plan of organizing the House by a union of the Pierce and Nebraska democrats, with what remains of the old whigs, is under favorable consideration by the former party. Every sensible man, of course, perceives that it is in effect a proposition to absorb the whigs into the rival organization, and whigs who are now wandering blindly among the ruins and reminiscences of their party, will become leading democrats, and we may prepare ourselves to see them fighting under the same flag with Pierce, Douglass, Cass and Dickinson.

The duty of the American representatives in Congress, in this emergency, is to lay aside all minor questions, and with the cherished principles of the organization alone in view, secure the election of speakers and other officers, as upon the organization of the House many other, matters of great importance, will depend. Upon the judicious action of the American representatives in Congress, the approaching session, depends in a great measure the success of American principles in the next Presidential campaign. Let them then, have the openly avowed measures of the American party before them, even as a beacon light, guiding it into the desired haven. We trust therefore, that their action will be such, that the country will be proud of their services, in the work of Americanizing America.

We perceive that in connection with the organization of Congress, that it has been determined not to allow copies of the President's Message, nor of the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, to go out, until after they are communicated to Congress. The surreptitious procurement of public documents has become a trade, in which cunning and venality, rarely fail to baffle the precautions of the Government, and we are not surprised, that this former abused privilege, is this year withheld from the press.

A PLACE OF PUBLIC AMUSEMENT IN POTTSVILLE.—A recent communication in the *Miners' Journal*, on the subject of erecting in our Borough, a neat, commodious and comfortable edifice, for purposes of public amusement, has attracted considerable attention, and much interest is evinced in the prosecution of the project. We need a building of the description badly, in Pottsville. It is our duty to supply the community with amusements of an innocent, entertaining and instructive character. By erecting a suitable building, we invite to our Borough, talent—musical, historic and scientific—while we distract the attention of youth from amusements of a vicious character, and elevate the taste of the people. We hope that some move will be made in the matter, speedily. In connection with this subject, we invite attention to the following communication:

MESSRS. EDS.—*Dear Sirs*:—After reading the communication in the *Miners' Journal* on "Public Amusement," it occurred to me with great force, that we not only need an institution of the kind referred to in said communication, but public necessity requires it.

The 20,000 inhabitants in and around our Borough are in want of a large and commodious Lecture Room or Theatre. Pottsville is the emporium of Schuylkill County. It is our policy and our duty to keep it the seat of attraction of this region. A Theatre constructed as those in our Atlantic cities, could and would be sustained.—With such a building the best lecturers and actors would visit our place. With the patronage of our own citizens and those of the surrounding towns, the house would be always well filled. The necessity and policy of such a project must be admitted. The income from a building properly constructed would exceed the expectations of most people. The building would be occupied for *Theatres, Lectures, Concerts, Balls, &c.*, six months in the year at $10 per night. In addition to the rent of the lecture room, Store rooms, Offices, &c., might be attached (provided it was located on Centre street), and an additional rent of $1500 per annum would be obtained. We are noted for our public spirit. Will not some one start the project, ascertain who would subscribe and the amounts, recommend locations, &c. It is understood that three of our influential citizens are ready to subscribe $5000 each. It is certain that many more of our citizens are ready to subscribe as soon as called upon. The money can easily be raised; all that is wanting is for some person to *move* in the matter and the project can be consummated at once. Respectfully, A. B.

Pottsville, Nov. 25, 1855.

CONNECTICUT.—Governor Minor has issued his proclamation, announcing that the amendment to the Constitution lately adopted, that voters must be able to read and write, is now part of the organic law of the State.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

FRANK LESLIE'S ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER will be issued in New York to-day. It will resemble in appearance and contents, the "Illustrated News" of London. The "Newspaper" is in good hands, and will undoubtedly be conducted with spirit and ability. We wish it success.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.—The American edition of the November number of this sterling magazine, has been received by us from Leonard, Scott & Co., 79 Fulton street, New York. The contents are as usual, varied, entertaining and instructive. This publication can be obtained at Bannan's.

THE BUSINESS MAN'S LAW ALMANAC.—A useful little work for 1856, published at the Legal Intelligencer Office; No. 9 Sansom street, Philadelphia. It contains *forms* and instructions for drawing agreements, assignments, bonds, deeds, leases, mortgages, powers of attorney, judgment notes, wills, &c., bills of exchange and promissory notes, and other legal forms of use to the man of business. It should be in every store and counting room.

"THE CONSTITUTIONAL TEST-BOOK"—*By Furman Sheppard—Published, Childs & Peterson, 124 Arch street, Philadelphia.*—This work, a practical and familiar exposition of the Constitution of the United States, and of portions of the public and administrative law of the Federal government, is designed chiefly for the use of schools, academies and colleges. From a rapid review of the "Text-Book" of Mr. Sheppard, we consider it admirably adapted not only for educational purposes, but to freshen the memory of adults who have become rusty on the subject. This useful work can be obtained at Bannan's.

Dyer's BANK NOTE PLATE DELINEATOR. This useful work, published by John S. Dye, 172 Broadway, New York, is richly enlightened by several of the most prominent Bank Note engravers in the country. From the number before us, we select the following:

OFFICE OF DANFORTH, WRIGHT & CO.,
(New York, October, 1855.

JOHN S. DYE, Esq.,—*Sir*:—Your "Bank Note Delineator" seems to possess unqualified merit in the detailed description it gives of all genuine Bank Notes, and combined with your Silver, describing the counterfeits, you offer to the public a work of much utility as a protection against frauds in paper currency. Respectfully yours,

DANFORTH, WRIGHT & CO.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE for December is a remarkably fine number, in fact quite up to any previous issues, in point of illustrations and reading matter. The "Paris Fashions for December," is a superb plate. This number contains an admirable engraving of Mrs. Robert Morris, from a portrait by G. W. Peale in Independence Hall.—The other illustrations are "Fort Putnam, Looking North," "Christmas in the Olden Time," "Remarkable Trees in Foreign Lands," "The American Bittern," and several Fashion plates. The literary matter embraces contributions from several favorite contributors. There is also a piece of music entitled, "When the Autumn Leaves are Fallin." This Magazine is increasing in popularity and circulation yearly, and it is fully deserving of the success it meets with. The volume for 1856 promises to be superior. Copies of the December number can be obtained at Bannan's.

"THE YEAR BOOK OF AGRICULTURE,"—We are indebted to the publishers, Messrs. Childs & Peterson, 124 Arch street, Philadelphia, for a copy of their "Annual of Agricultural Progress and Discovery for 1855 and '56." This beautifully printed and admirably compiled work, exhibits the most important discoveries and improvements in agricultural and horticultural mechanics, agricultural chemistry, agricultural and horticultural botany, agricultural and economic geology, agricultural zoology, meteorology, &c., together with statistics of American growth and production—a list of recent agricultural publications—classified tables of American agricultural patents for 1854-'55, and a catalogue of fruits adapted to the different sections of the United States. The editor, David A. Wells, A. M., of Boston, gives a comprehensive review of the progress of American and foreign agriculture for the year 1855. The work is illustrated with numerous and beautifully colored engravings.—Bannan has it for sale.

Local Affairs.

METEOROLOGICAL NOTATIONS.

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

DECEMBER. 12th mo. 31 days.	THERM'R. Mean.	Lowest.	BAR. Mean.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS Typograph. & Geographical.
Saturd. 24	29	20	29.36	Height of Pottsville (corner
Sunday 25	41	30	29.41	of Market & 2d. sts.) above
Monday 26	37	31	28.92	mean tide, 633.957 ft.—Dis-
Wedn'y 27	36	30	29.01	tance from Philadelphia, 95
Tuesd'y 28	33	24	28.69	miles.—Latitude, 40° 43'
Thurs'y 29	31	22	29.04	15".—Population in 1850
Friday 30	33	25	29.23	7,800.

24—N. W. strong; clear.
25—S. fresh; cloudy—rain and hail.
26—N. W. high; rather cloudy—showery.
27—N. W. strong; nearly clear—ove. cloudy.
2 —Do. fresh; snow in the morning—rather cloudy.
29—Do. slightly cloudy.
30—Do.; nearly clear.

Snow.—A flurry of snow paid its respects to our Borough on Thursday morning, since which time the weather has been clear but quite cold.

The Rev. Mr. Burrows of Richmond, Va., delivered a lecture at the Court House on Thursday evening, for the benefit of the Baptist Church of this Borough. The attendance was fair, and the lecture was exceedingly interesting.

Railway Detention.—By a break-down of a freight train on the Reading Railway at Norristown, on Wednesday afternoon, the up and down way passenger trains were detained at that point several hours. The up way train, reached here at half past 2 o'clock on Thursday morning, while the down train did not arrive at Philadelphia until quarter past 12 o'clock, the same morning.

Fine Specimen of Iron.—We have in our possession a fine specimen of iron from the Rolling Mill of Lee, Bright & Co., at Palo Alto. The portion of the bar before us, has been bent quite double, and exhibits in a striking manner, the extreme toughness and excellent quality of the material of which it is composed. Those wishing to examine it can do so by calling at our office, where it will remain on exhibition for a days.

Riot on a Military Parade.—In Ashland, this County, on Saturday week, at a military parade, two volunteer companies, one American and the other Irish, met at Mott's tavern. It seems that an old grudge existed between them, and on meeting, a quarrel was provoked by some members of the Irish Company. The Irish drew revolvers, and the Americans charged them with the bayonet. Three of the Irish company were wounded, two of whom have since died.

Meeting of Old Soldiers.—A meeting of the old soldiers of the War of 1812 will be held at the Court House, in Pottsville, on Monday, the 3d of December, (Court week,) at 12½ o'clock, for the purpose of electing delegates to represent them at Washington, in General Convention, on the 8th of January next. [Signed.]

John C. Lessig, Jacob R. Bright,
Peter Aurand, Isaac Myers,
Peter Filbert, John Hanley,
John Dager.

Prof. Becker's Concert at the Town Hall on Thursday evening, was not well attended.—The programme was interesting, however, and the Professor assisted by several amateurs of our Borough, acquitted himself to the satisfaction of all present. A piano solo was brilliantly and faultlessly executed by the Professor. The flute accompaniments of a well known amateur were deservedly admired. We hope that the next Concert of the Professor will command a better attendance.

A Grand Closing Concert of the Musical Convention, under the direction of Profs. Johnson and Frost, will take place at the Town Hall this evening. Miss Hattie Briggs will appear on the occasion. The programme for the occasion embraces some of the choicest pieces of music, in the list familiar to all. We would suggest a general attendance this evening. It would be a merited recognition of the ability of the gentlemen who have sojourned in our midst during the past fortnight.

The Borough Fire Plugs.—As winter has fairly settled upon us, and we may expect during the coming three months, weather of great severity, we would suggest to the Council the propriety of securing the Fire Plugs, in order to prevent the possibility of their freezing. We have witnessed destructive conflagrations caused by the fact of the fire plugs in the vicinity being useless from this cause. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," and we trust that the Borough Fathers will appreciate that fact as far as the fire plugs are concerned.

The Ladies Moving.—By the annexed proceedings of a meeting of the ladies of this Boro', it will be perceived that they are thoroughly aroused to the necessity of assisting in the general effort now being made by their sisters throughout the Union, to rescue from desecration, and preserve to his country, the grave of George Washington. The move is commendable, and we trust that the meeting on Monday next, at Mr. Russel's building, will be largely attended. The following are the proceedings, which took place on Monday last, on the subject:

At a meeting of ladies of the Borough for benevolent purposes on Monday evening a circular "Appeal for Mount Vernon" by the "Mt. Vernon association of the Union" was read by one of the ladies present, and thereupon deterministion had to invite the co-operation in this region of all who honor the memory of WASHINGTON in forming an organization, and (through it) responding to the appeal.

As the object of the association has been more or less extensively published, especially through Godey's Lady's Book and the Southern Literary Messenger, it is only necessary to say that it contemplates the rescue of the home and the grave of WASHINGTON from neglect and execration, and seeks to procure for, vestment in his native state or in the national government, such title to the soil, which our first President cultivated, after fighting our battles and guiding our counsels, as shall perpetuate its guardianship as the resting-place of his ashes to all generations.

The undersigned do therefore unite in a call upon the ladies of this vicinity, who enjoying the achievements, revere the virtues and cherish the name of our *Pater Patriæ*, to meet for organization as indicated above, on Monday afternoon next, December 3d, at 3 o'clock, in the large room in the second floor of Mr. Russel's Office building, at the corner of Second and Mahantongo streets:

Mrs. G. W. Snyder,	Mrs. E. Yardley,
" Andrew Rastel,	" J. Y. Wren,
" P. W. Sheaffer,	" F. A. Sanderson,
" D. J. Ridgway,	" G. H. Hallenstadt,
" D. Washburn,	Miss Amelia Pott,
" E. C. Parry,	" Annette Billyman,
" C. Little,	" F. M. Washburn.

Musical Convention.—The lovers of sacred music in our borough have enjoyed rare advantages for improvement in this art, under the able instruction of Professors Johnson and Frost, who have been in our midst during the last month. These gentlemen have long held a prominent rank among the singers and teachers of vocal music in Boston, a city that as all agree, with the best musical talent this country can afford. When they came to this place, a fortnight since, an effort was made to assemble a Convention of the friends of sacred music residing among us, in order that they might avail themselves of the instructions which our Boston friends are so well qualified to impart. The call was responded to by some 60 or 70 persons, who met in Market street Lutheran church, where they have continued to assemble for instruction nearly every evening since. It is in the highest degree gratifying to notice the manifest improvement the members of the convention have been making, especially in the department of expression, an element of effective singing, in regard to which most of our folks are deficient.—Who has not been pained at the indistinctiveness with which even our best choir singers enunciate the words of hymns, sung in praise of God on the Sabbath.

We are pleased to witness the earnest spirit which has been awakened in regard to this important subject, and sincerely hope that a rich harvest of good results will be gathered from the musical seed that has been sown.

We cannot omit noticing the concerts these gentlemen have given us, as the performances were artistical and gratifying to all who attended them. The attendance was very good, far more so than we expected under the circumstances.

The soprano by Miss Briggs was well sustained and warmly received. Her voice has considerable compass and power, and exhibits a high degree of cultivation. In duets and solos she gave evidence of much skill, practice and artistic embellishment. The tenor, Mr. Frost, has a voice of remarkable compass and power. He sustained his part with credit to himself and the profession.

We learn that they will favor us with a concert this (Saturday) evening, which closes their engagement in Pottsville.

DONALDSON LETTER.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

DEAR JOURNAL:—Mr. Franklin House has, it appears, favored you with a reply to our strictures on his first communication, and judging from the tenor of this his very learned second effort he is one of those individuals who is not very apt to improve by good advice. We would have passed him by without any further notice if the point at issue did not require some further attention. In order, however, not to waste time and space in your columns, we shall bring his matter to a close in a very summary way.

He insists, with considerable emphasis, on the correctness of his "physical and geographical description" of Donaldson, and appeals to those who have ever visited the place as witnesses to the truth of his assertion. All this is, however, altogether uncalled for in the premises—we care nothing for his description, and have never denied its correctness, but we have denied and condemned the conclusions he drew from it—that on account of its secluded or "hemmed in" location our place was hard to find and still harder to get away from, and that, as a matter of course, very few strangers can come here! There are but very few places throughout the entire Coal regions of this county, and even Pottsville not excepted, which are not, "*completely hemmed in*" by mountains, and we readily admit that Donaldson is one among the number, but what has this fact to do with Mr. Franklin House's conclusions? Was he in earnest or in jest when he spread his false statements before the world? If in earnest, then we look for the proof, and that too without any further display of his extraordinary powers of wit and sarcasm, for which we care not a fig or a farthing; and if in jest, then we are anxious to see how he will clear himself from the charge of making a monstrous awkward show at cracking jokes.

Now a word to the numerous readers of the JOURNAL. It will scarcely be necessary to say that our strictures on Mr. Franklin House's letter did not proceed from any personal ill-feelings against him, or from any self-interested motives. He is a comparative stranger in our place; has never come in direct personal collision with us, and no personal considerations could therefore have induced us to come athwart his way; but when he presented us in a wrong light, as regards our facilities of intercourse with the rest of the world, in a traveling and business point of view, we thought proper to correct him. And besides, thinking that a little more care and refinement would make his communications more palatable, we took the liberty of making a gentle use of the critic's hammer, with a view of striking off the rough corners of his somewhat singular billingsgate. But supposing that perhaps all his blunders were rather the random effusions of a tyro's pen, than a designed injury to the citizens of Donaldson, we felt disposed to make all proper and reasonable amends for any wrong we should have undesignedly done him in our strictures, provided he would give us sufficient reasons for so doing, by his subsequent course in reference to the matter. We, however, now discover that we have been sadly mistaken; for instead of giving us due credit for correcting his errors, he fails to give even the why and wherefore of his puerile conclusions above referred to, assumes the air of a gladiator, and threatens to bully us clear out of the ranks of "*common sense*," thus adding insult to injury.—Really if we were of an excitable disposition, we might have been tempted to make sight at him and give him what is sometimes called a severe brushing down, of which he evidently stands very much in need, and which might possibly do him an immense amount of good; but we are free to confess that our belligerent propensities are not strong enough to induce us to leave the even tenor of our way for the purpose of gratifying the pugilistic humor of such a pop-gun antagonist. Besides, we aim not at the man, but at his false assertions or conclusions. Let it only be understood that he has grossly misrepresented the influence of the situation of our village on its conveniences of travel and trade, and we care not what the world may think about him. And in order to conceive all of the utter fallacy of his assertion, in a practical way, we give a general invitation, in the name of our citizens, to all travellers, Coal operators, business men, and the community generally, to give us a call, and they will not only find to be true what Mr. Franklin House has said about our physical resources, mechanical improvements, &c.; but they will be surprised that he had the hardihood to speak so disparagingly of some of our other advantages, which are perfectly in keeping with the highly enterprising and prosperous condition of our affairs generally.

Donaldson, Nov. 22d, 1855.

PORT CARBON AFFAIRS.

"Cleopatra."—The communication in last week's *Journal*, over the above signature has elicited from several Port Carbon correspondents, replies. As we make it an invariable rule, to present both sides of a question, fairly, we now give the various comments on the matter. If we have, unintentionally, done injustice to the beaux of Port Carbon, we ask their forgiveness, and present our congratulations to the fair denizens of our sister borough, that their recognised charms are so greatly appreciated. But we annex the indignant communications of our correspondents:

MESSRS. EDS.:—It is difficult to suppress the indignation we feel on account of the unwarrantable reference to us—the young ladies of Port Carbon—in the *Journal* of Saturday last. The scribbler does not, I am sure, belong to our sex, but is some disagreeable masculine *biped*, whose presence is torture to the females, unfortunately his acquaintances. We have all the *attention* we desire and when we want more we will seek it in a way dignified and becoming. Who "Cleopatra" is we neither know nor care, but would thank *him*, to mind his own business if he has any, and if he has not, to seek something useful to engage his attention, as soon as possible. We judge men not by their physical appearance, but by their intelligence. By applying this standard to "Cleopatra" we set *him* down as a small specimen of humanity. HARRIET L——

Port Carbon, Nov. 24, 1855.

MESSRS. EDS.:—As "Cleopatra" expressed a wish to hear from other ladies of Port Carbon upon the subject of gallantry, I would remark, that she is much mistaken on more than one point. Does she for one moment think that any young lady in Port Carbon coincides with her? If so, she is much mistaken. They feel not a little mortified that any young lady in our quiet little town should so far forget the natural modesty belonging to our sex, as to publish an article that has caused many a cheek to crimson. In the first place our young men are not behind the age in regard to gallantry. Though we cannot boast many beaux, the few we have should not unjustly be accused of inactivity to the ladies. Though some of them are quite young yet, they understand the rules of etiquette, and practice them possibly, more effectually than some older persons who have mingled in society for years.—"Cleopatra" may partake of the nature of her namesake, but, I doubt very much if she possesses her beauty. If she did, the modern "Cleopatra" would have as much to complain of the cruelty of her swain. Perhaps her tears have washed away her roses and the wrinkles of old age sit enthroned upon her callow brow. I have no doubt she merits the sympathy of the gentlemen. If I mistake not, I have seen "Cleopatra," I should think a fortnight ago, the proposition point very quickly. But, at least (I have no doubt she is on the sunny side of fifty) she is undoubtedly, terribly shaken up, and the storms of Winter are here, if she has not a manly arm soon to lean upon, she will fall down and lose her dignity, or else be blown away like a thistle. EVA.

Port Carbon, November 26, 1855.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I observed in the JOURNAL of the 24th inst. a letter from Port Carbon, signed "Cleopatra," in which the character and gallantry of the 'young gents' of our Borough are shamefully misrepresented. Your correspondent writes as if she was commissioned to speak for the ladies in general. Now this, I think, is not only insulting to the gentlemen but also derogatory to the ladies, and at the same time the height of presumption, in one of such limited influence as she seems to have. Indeed, I am led to believe that nature has endowed her with but a small share of the beauty and charms of her namesake of yore, or she would not have been obliged to overstep *all* bounds of modesty, in thus making her troubles known to the public. And her ideas or rather her *example* of "polite etiquette," how ridiculous! Shade of the immortal Chesterfield, defend and preserve us from its baneful influence.

In conclusion I will remark that *I* have found no lack of attention from the gentlemen, which leads me to believe that she is a *solitary* instance, and my advice would have been for her to have waited until the New Year had ushered in its peculiar privileges to our sex. Then she might have expressed her wishes and claimed those attentions which she so *earnestly desires*, in a more private manner, and perhaps with greater satisfaction to herself, without shocking the modesty of others as well as of her well wisher, ANGELICA.

Port Carbon, Nov. 29th, 1855.

Here is a communication from a Port Carbon gent. on the subject. "Cleopatra" has certainly created quite a time among the Port Carbon beaux and belles:

MESSRS. EDS.:—In looking over your valuable paper on Saturday last, I discovered a letter from Port Carbon, signed *Cleopatra*—a representative of the single lasses I presume—complaining of the young gents. of this town, showing towards them ungallantry, incivility, cruelty and coldness, contrary to the laws of nature, and not at all approved of by the ladies. I deem it my duty as a single man to review this matter. In the first place the young gents. have done all that *moral* suasion and civility could do to try and make things appear that we live in the days of enjoyment and pleasure; but the ladies have received us with anything but smiling countenances, and we are now ready to give up in despair, and look for sympathy in some other quarter.

In the second place, the lads have great cause to complain of indifference practiced towards them by the lasses, and we admit that a coldness does exist between them. Why? Because the ladies are indifferent towards themselves—cannot agree—and consequently, both are affected with similar feelings. It is evident that unless the young single ladies soon change their present tactics, they will become bankrupt, as the young men are too independent—have too much of Young America in them—to humble themselves before any young lady.

In the third place, we admit that they do not rank least as regards beauty and accomplishments; but with all their beauty &c., we are compelled to say that courtesy is an entire stranger to them, and that they are very far behind the age.

And finally, *Cleopatra* will find that she cannot exercise the same influence over us young gents that *Cleopatra of old* did over *Mark Antony*.—For fear of taking up too much room in this matter at present, I will close, and wait to hear from some of the rest of the gents. I remain *Cleopatra's* well wisher. BONAPARTE.

Port Carbon, November 30, 1855.

NEW YORK LETTER.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

Evacuation day—Military display—The Seventh Regiment—National Guard—Enthusiastic reception—Corps of Engineers—Trial of Baker—Murder on board a schooner—Scuttling of the vessel—Affair of honor—Windy pranks—Homicide—Sale of Autographs—Comparative value of great men—Presidents—Authors—Showmen—Big gun scamps—Crystal Palace—The Rascals—Laura Keene—New Opera—The Prophet.

NEW YORK, November 27, '55.

DEAR JOURNAL:—There has scarcely yet died away the roar of cannon, the chiming of bells, and the march of military with its measured and stately tread, which yesterday commemorated one of our national anniversaries—national as pertaining to our common struggle for Independence, yet local as concerns the city of New York.—Seventy-two years ago yesterday, the British forces evacuated this city and set sail for home, the last remnant of a hostile force that has set foot on the soil of this Empire city of ours—and gloriously was their departure celebrated—the stars and stripes were floating in glittering beauty from the spires and buildings of the city beneath the rays of a superb sun, which seemed to have emerged from the canopy of rain and clouds with which he had been covered, to do honor to the scene.

The military display was superb—the number of men under arms reaching seven thousand.—Amid this vast multitude the "observed of all observers" on this occasion, as in fact on every other, was the celebrated "Seventh Regiment—National Guards," whose renown is as extensive as their perfection is absolute. Not to know "The Seventh" is to be a stranger to the celebrities of our city—the heroes of riot and disturbances, they stand forward pre-eminent among our city's boasts. Their display of yesterday even surpassed themselves, and as their solid columns marched through the Park before the Mayor and an invited company of distinguished individuals, the deafening cheers of a countless throng attested their admiration. Col. Duryee may well be proud of his command, as the regiment is and justly so, of their commanding officer.

One of the features of the Seventh Regiment, introduced of late, is their Corps of Engineers, the only one, with the exception of that attached to the Twelfth Regiment (a fine organization by the way and a more accomplished Corps of Engineers), to be found among our military. They made a fine display as they preceded the favorite regiment on the line of march. As soldiers and as gentlemen they stand unrivalled. Neither are they mere fine weather, parade soldiers, but hard working and accomplished in their line of duty, as was abundantly testified by their unremitting labors in preparing Camp Worth for the occupancy of the Seventh during the last summer at Kingston, where the Colonel took occasion to publicly compliment and thank them for their invaluable services. Laukits, their commander, is the beau-ideal of a soldier and a member of the Regiment of twenty-seven years' standing.

The long expected trial of Baker, for the murder of Poole—which has become famous in its way—was commenced yesterday, the whole day being spent in empannelling nine jurors. The talent on both sides is of the very highest order, composing such men as Hoffman, Brady, Whiting and Clark—each one—a host.

Apropos of murders—we have just had one of most cool-blooded atrocity—apparently without object. A negro employed on the schooner Endeavor, collier, has to all appearance murdered all hands and then sunk the vessel. The schooner having remained at anchor some day or two or the Sound, was suddenly observed to keel over and sink, which event the full moon rendered perfectly visible. The movements of the negro had excited some remark and he was fortunately found and detained. Grappling in the schooner revealed some bed clothing and a tarpaulin hat all gory with blood. The vessel is about being raised, when full particulars will undoubtedly be revealed.

Duels seem to be quite the mode. One young blood succeeded in barking a friend's nose in an affair of *honor* up town yesterday.

The high winds of a day or two past, have had some serious consequences to account for. The flag staff of Wallack's Theatre was blown down and a young gentleman passing, instantly killed thereby.

Two Coal vessels were sunk in the bay, by the same unpromitiable agency.

The wind alone, however, is not the only thing that damages, as will be seen from the fact of a young man of twenty-three years having been shot through the neck and instantly killed, by some member of a target company returning from a day's sport. He was an invited guest, and was accidentally killed by a bullet from one of the pieces, which were being unloaded preparatory to returning home.

A number of our citizens were vastly amused yesterday, at a sale of some two hundred autographs—the prices of which show that but little reverence is paid to departed greatness. Some of the relics were truly valuable and some of course of no little worth. One autograph of Washington realized eleven dollars and a quarter—pretty good for a country where utility is the standard—yet painful to relate, another one of the same brought six dollars only—what a collapse in patriotism—Calhoun, Clay and Webster—the illustrious trio—whose like we almost despair of again seeing—each one—a giant in comparison with the pigmies of modern politics—the far sighted patriot—the unequalled orator and the incomparable diplomatist—were knocked down—shades of departed heroes—hear it—for three dollars—a half dollar—and a quarter respectively—ye Gods—Ashland for fifty cents and Mansfield for a quarter.—Presidential incumbents, however, fared no better, whence we may infer that greatness and the Presidency are not *necessary* concomitants—witness Jefferson—Monroe—Adams—Madison—Jackson—Van Buren—Harrison—Tyler—Polk—respectively valued at four dollars and three quarters (the weight of "the Declaration" helped that)—seventeen shillings (*the doctrine* should have commanded more)—twenty shillings—seven—two dollars (*taking the "responsibility"* added weight there)—fifty cents (small for the great advantage of *looking two ways at once*)—thirteen shillings each for Harrison and Tyler—while forty-four cents bought James K. Polk—the lowest offer for a Chief Magistrate—Franklin the First not being a competitor.

Authors had to take their share, though mighty small, as you can see with, Bancroft for a quarter, Clay and Marshall, one shilling, Sparks at a dollar, Irving at two dollars, Cooper, Prescott, Robert Sandy and majority prophet sold for sixpence, and Barnum twice over for a shilling a piece, while Robert Schuyler smid grins and groans went off the carpet for twelve and a half cents, showing plainly that the talents of the showman and the financier are held to be about on a par.

On dit, the American Institute contemplate purchasing the Crystal Palace, for one hundred thousand dollars, and keeping it permanently open as an exhibition of American talents and industry. Capital project!

The Ravel troupe commenced at Niblo's last evening, to an audience packed like herring in a box.

Le Prophete is on the boards of the Academy, produced at prodigious expense.

Laura Keene has turned manager, and taken five years lease of the Metropolitan theatre. Better have kept out of it. We shall soon have another instance of burned fingers.

Arditi is at work upon a new opera, "The Spy," founded on Cooper's novel. Brister's success with Rip Van Winkle has made American opera popular, not to mention the growing Americanism of the community.

Religious Intelligence.

COMPARATIVE STRENGTH OF CHURCHES.—It is generally supposed that the last national census did not give the actual number of members of the leading religious sects in the Union, but only the capacity of the church buildings. This, however, is a mistake. A writer in the Augusta *Chronicle and Sentinel* quotes from page 139 of DeBow's Compendium of the census, the membership of the churches thus:

Roman Catholic,	1,173,700
Baptists—Regular,	686,807
Presbyterians—Old School,	200,830
" —New "	139,048
" —Cumberland,	100,000
Methodist Episcopal—North,	630,680
" " —South