Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1856.

THE MINERS' JOURNAL has a larger circulation than any other Newspaper published in the Anthracite Pennsylvania. It circulates among the Farmers and Business men, not only in this and adjoining Counties, but in all our Cities; and it penetrates largely among the masses in Schuylkill County, which renders it one of the most valuable advertising mediums to the Country. Out-door advertisers will find it to their advantage to advertise in the MINERS' JOURNAL, as it is taken by many Capitalists enrolled on their opinion lists.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

TAX-PAYERS, see Notice of Samuel Garrett, Collector.

SEE advertisement of Clement S. Foster, Justice of the Peace, Minersville.

SEE Copartnership notice of Nevin & Heilner, Philadelphia and New York.

ENGINEERING.—See card of J. H. McElwain, Civil and Mining Engineer, Ashland, Pa.

SEE Notice of John P. Hobart, Auditor, in the matter of the estate of Catharine Scott, dec'd.

ANTHRACITE INSURANCE COMPANY.—See advertisement of this Philadelphia Institution.

FOR RENT.—A store-room and dwelling on Market street, above Norwegian. See advertisement.

PROVISIONS, &c.—See advertisement of Selby & Koons, No. 47 North Wharves, Philadelphia.

THE NEW CASTLE COLLIERY is offered for sale. For particulars, see advertisement signed Francis Spencer.

OILS.—J. B. A. & S. Allen, 7 and 8 South Wharves, Philadelphia, have received a fresh supply of Oil. See advertisement.

COAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.—The attention of the Trade is referred to the Address signed S. Sillyman, Pres't.

PARTNERSHIP.—See Notice of Cain, Taylor & Cook, general Coal shipping merchants. Their office is at No. 40 Walnut street, second floor.

FRUIT AND CONFECTIONARY.—We ask the attention of dealers to the advertisement of Ingham & Sellers, 113 North Third street, Philadelphia.

FILES AND RASPS.—These articles are related made equal to new, by J. B. Smith, at No. 84 Market street, above Second, Philadelphia. For particulars see advertisement.

FARMERS OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY. Want a cheap and excellent Fertilizer, read Leinau's advertisement in another column. Office of business is No. 19 South Front St., Philadelphia.

MANUFACTURERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.—The office of this Company is No. 10 Merchants' Exchange, Philadelphia. It is one of the most reliable Institutions of the character in Philadelphia, and we direct with pleasure the attention of our readers to its advertisement in another column.

NATIONAL SAFETY SAVING FUND.—To the advertisement of this old and well-established Institution, in another column, we ask attention. From the report of the Directors to Jan. 1st, 1856, it appears that they have nearly A MILLION of dollars safely invested for the benefit of depositors. The reputation it enjoys for safety, induces many persons living at a distance from the city, to make deposits, especially those having large sums. We confidently recommend the merits of this Institution to the notice of those wishing to deposit and receive interest from a safe Institution. The office is in WALNUT street, south-west corner of Third street, Philadelphia.

IT WILL be seen by reference to our advertising columns, that Dr. T. Dearborn Jewett, the inventor and discoverer of a certain cure for *stammering* or *stuttering*, has taken rooms at the Exchange Hotel, and all afflicted may call on him with a certainty of being cured. The Doctor, who is a gentleman, brings with him references and certificates from prominent citizens of this and other States. We are permitted to publish the following letter received by the Doctor from one who had tried various means to be relieved but without effect, until he was so fortunate as to meet Doctor Jewett.

CARLISLE, *Dec. 23d, 1855.*

DEAR DOCTOR:—It gives me pleasure to comply with request to let you know how my stuttering has been affected by your mode of treatment. Since I consulted with you, I find to my own satisfaction, and surprise of my friends, that I am entirely free from the annoyance to which I was formerly subjected; on endeavoring to speak, on my return after seeing you, and speaking to my friends and family, without stuttering, and in my natural voice, they were delighted at the change, and wondered what the Doctor had done, to me, I had put instruments in my throat, and cut something away, or if he had bored into my throat and put a tube into my wind pipe, &c., &c.; but I assured them that there was nothing of the kind, and that the Doctor had talked or reasoned my stuttering out of me. They thought he must be a wizard or a Signor Blitz, to produce so gratifying a result, and join with me in gratitude to you for my cure. Now Doctor, can't you come to our place, there are several here who are afflicted as I have been: I can assure you of a run of business and a warm welcome by a host of friends. Please write to me and let me know.

Yours with respect,

ROBERT T. HASLER.

Doctor T. Dearborn Jewett, Harrisburg, Pa.

☞ WANTED immediately at this office, a Journeyman Printer, to whom constant employment will be given.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—To W. B. Lebo, Esq., of the House, we are indebted for public documents.

SENATOR CLAYTON is still ill at Washington.

FLOUR is selling in Wheeling at $6.50 per barrel.

THE SENATE has confirmed the appointment of William Shannon, as Governor of Kansas.

DEATH OF AN AUTHORESS.—Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz died at Marianna, Florida, on the 11th instant.

MINCY BOROUGH ELECTION.—At an election held on Friday, the People's Ticket for Borough officers was elected without opposition.

LYCOMING COUNTY.—At Borough elections held at Hughesville and Montourville on Friday, the whole American ticket was elected.

THROAT AND LUNG DISEASES.—The severity of the winter has caused in the principal cities of the North, a perceptible increase in the number of deaths caused by these disorders.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The building of the Association, at Broad and Locust streets, Philadelphia, is rapidly approaching completion. It will be open for public inspection shortly.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN QUESTION.—Lord Clarendon proposes to refer the disputed points relating to Central America to the arbitration of an European sovereign. It will probably meet with favor from the people of the United States.

WILLIAMSPORT.—At the Borough election on Friday last, the Americans gave the opposition a severe drubbing on the entire ticket for town officers. The American candidates were elected by majorities ranging from 100 to 120.

THE GOVERNOR OF WISCONSIN.—The Democracy of Wisconsin appear determined that Barstow shall be Governor, notwithstanding the fact that an examination into the matter by a Legislative Committee has shown beyond all cavil or question that Barstow's reported majority was made up by heavy returns from precints where a very slight vote was cast, and in one or two instances from places *not to be found on the political or geographical map of the State.* It appears from this investigation that Mr. Bashford, the Republican candidate, was fairly elected by a majority of 347. As the Supreme Court of the State is strongly Democratic, it sympathises with Barstow, and he will of course stay in, as another specimen of Locofoco tactics in the case of political rascality.

AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL MOVEMENT.—We ask attention to the following call, as it is a movement of more than ordinary importance. It looks to a Union of the entire opposition to the present administration throughout Pennsylvania, and this to success, not only at the election in October, but at the next Presidential struggle. The call is signed by a large number of the leading members of the Legislature, and the response cannot but be general throughout the Commonwealth.—All are aware that at the last election, the Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner was chosen by a minority of the whole vote of the State. Now as the opposition to the Administration at that election, divided their strength upon several candidates, thereby playing directly into the hands of the enemy, and as the people of this State are by an overwhelming vote, opposed to the leading measures of the National Administration, they must unite and harmonize at the polls, to make this adverse feeling effective. Such is the object of the call which we annex:—

UNION FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNION.

Anti-National Administration State Convention.

The undersigned, Members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, having been solicited by their fellow citizens, in different parts of the Commonwealth, to devise a plan of united action, by which all opposed to the destructive policy and principles of the National Administration may co-operate in the support of a State Ticket, respectfully invite all who are in favor of such a movement, to assemble in City and County Convention *on the 19th of March next*, to elect Delegates equal in number to their representation in the State Senate and House of Representatives, to a Convention to be held at Harrisburg, *on the 26th of the same month*, for the purpose of nominating candidates for Auditor General, Canal Commissioner, and Surveyor General, to be supported at the ensuing fall election, and to take such other political action as may be necessary to the crisis.

R. B. M'Comb,	J. Dock,
J. W. Killinger,	C. L. Hunsecker,
James J. Lewis,	Jno. M. Gibboney,
John Ferguson,	R. B. Mourhead,
David Taggart,	Delorma Imbrie,
J. G. Shuman,	Jno. Wright,
L. Reed,	A. W. Crawford,
P. W. Housekeeper,	Jno. Henry Wistrode,
Jacob Struble,	Jonas Augustine,
Fr. Jordan,	G. J. Ball,
E. Joy Morris,	T. L. Baldwin,
Philip Clover,	W. A. Barry,
W. E. Frazer,	D. Phelps,
Andrew Gregg,	Daniel Lott,
D. A. Finney,	David Mumma, Jr.,
Henry Souther,	James M. Sellers,
Henry C. Pratt,	Jno. C. Flenniken,
Samuel Kerr,	David Mellinger,
K. Haines,	H. Gaylord,
William Hamilton,	J. Brown.
Samuel Caldwell,	

Harrisburg, February 13, 1856.

RUSSIAN SPECIAL SCHOOLS.—Although popular education is far less general and thorough in Russia than in our own, and several countries of Europe, yet the Emperor Nicholas was and Alexander is one of the most accomplished and well disciplined sovereigns of Europe, and they have studied the wants of their people, and made it their policy to supply those means of special education which seemed most pressing. For instance there are thirty-five military and naval schools in Russia, educating at one time eight thousand cadets, and training four thousand sailors for the merchant service, the customs and other maritime occupations. The mines of Russia are rich, and are worked with success. Since the time of Peter the Great, the Government has made immense appropriations to maintain a corps of miners, who shall combine thorough scientific training with abundant practical experience. The high school of miners in St. Petersburg, with its thirty-six instructors and two hundred and fifty scholars, is supported by seventy-fur lower mining schools in different parts of the Empire, to which it furnishes instructors from its graduates, and from which, in turn, it derives well-fitted pupils. The course of instruction in the school at St. Petersburg occupies eight years, and is rendered valuable by the attainments of its officers, the extent and completeness of its geological and mineralogical museums, its collection of mining apparatus, and its large models of coal, copper and gold mines.

As an agricultural country, Russia can exhibit within her borders ten agricultural academies, the principal of which are located in the vicinity of St. Petersburg and Moscow, and are provided with all the suitable buildings, well stocked with cattle, and rich in museums. These schools embrace an aggregate of over a thousand scholars received from all portions of the empire.

In other schools of the empire, chemistry, mathematics, the laws of design as applied to the arts, special schools of design, the construction of roads and bridges, every form and dialect of Oriental language, and even the post office service are taught to a large number of pupils.

This summary shows that Russia can hardly be esteemed barbarian, and that if the system of general popular education is deficient, and if it is still behindhand in manufacturing industry, still it is seeking to improve its internal affairs and to develop wisely its wonderful capacities. With a free press, Russia would make rapid strides towards the front rank of civilization.

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL NOMINATING CONVENTION.—This Convention assembled in Philadelphia, yesterday. We are not yet in possession of any of its proceedings. During the week, and up to Friday, the American National Council, met daily in Philadelphia. Everything was open, and the proceeding were reported by the press. On Wednesday, Mr. A. O. Brewster, of Massachusetts, offered the following resolution, which, after considerable discussion, was adopted—yeas, 104; nays 65:

WHEREAS, The twelfth section of the platform adopted by the American Council in June, 1855, was neither proposed by the South nor sanctioned by the South—therefore said section is hereby stricken out; and that this declaration be inserted, "that, as regards the subject of slavery, we abide by the principles and provisions of the Constitution of the United States, yielding nothing more and claiming nothing less."

The national Council has abolished the religious test, and abrogated the rule of secresy. This may have a good effect on the action of the National Convention. In regard to nominating a candidate at this early day, it should not be seriously entertained. Should, however, contrary to expectation, the nomination be entered into, Judge McLean's name will stand prominently forth as a candidate. He is a consistent advocate of the principles of the American party, and is, undoubtedly, one of the most unexcepti nable men, whose name could be blazoned on the American banner, in the coming Presidential contest. But we hope that the nomination will be deferred until the month of July. The anniversary of the natal day of American Liberty, is the proper occasion for the American party to make its first nomination for the Presidency.

INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS.—Below Philadelphia, on Wednesday, a series of experiments were made to test the effect of powder on ice. The ice was twelve inches thick. On the last trial, a keg containing 40 pounds was discharged, at the depth of seven feet, when a tremendous concussion ensued. A column of water was thrown up, not less than 40 feet in height, a hole 25 feet in diameter was broken, and the surrounding fields of ice agitated clear to the adjacent shore, without however, injuring its solidity further than causing a few cracks. The scientific gentlemen who conducted the experiments, came to the conclusion that it is useless to attempt opening the navigation by the agency of gunpowder. The sun after all, is the most effective navigation opener.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, *Feb.* 20.—No business of importance was transacted in the Senate, and the House adjourned until Thursday, there not being a quorum present.

Feb. 21.—SENATE.—Mr. Browne's substitute for the liquor bill of the House, passed finally by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Browne, Crabb, Ferguson, Flenniken, Frazer, Gregg, Hoge, Jamison, Gordon, Knox, Lewis, Mellington, Pratt, Price, Sellers, Shuman, Souther, Taggart and Wherry—19.

Nays—Messrs. Buckalew, Cresswell, Ely, Evans, Ingram, Laubach, McClintock, Straub, Walter, Welsh and Wilkins—11.

Messrs. Pratt, Killinger and Finney were absent.

HOUSE.—Mr. Dock presented five remonstrances from males, and two from 2341 females, against the repeal of the restraining liquor law.

Thirty-fourth Congress—First Session.

WASHINGTON, *Feb.* 19.—The Senate resumed the consideration of the Kansas communication, up to the hour of adjournment.—Messrs. Geyer, Wilson and Jones participated in the debate.

HOUSE.—Mr. Hickman, from the Committee on Elections, offered a resolution empowering it to send for persons and papers in relation to the Kansas contested election cases.

A warm debate then ensued on the question, in which Messrs. Phelps, Washburn of Maine, Stephens, Campbell of Ohio, and Hickman participated.

The question was then taken on Mr. Stephens' motion that the resolution be referred back to the Committee on Elections, with instructions to report the grounds on which they ask power to send for persons and papers, and negatived by the casting vote of the Speaker.

Pending the question on the resolution, the House adjourned.

Feb. 20.—SENATE.—The Coast Survey having prepared a map of Central America, 10,000 copies of it were ordered to be printed.

The Central American question was made the special order for Tuesday next.

HOUSE.—The House resumed the consideration of the resolution of the Committee on Elections, asking for power to send for persons and papers in the Kansas contested election case.

The resolution passed by three majority, but was subsequently reconsidered by a majority of nine, and on motion of Mr. Orr, recommitted to the Committee on Elections, with instructions to report the grounds on which they ask for power to send for persons and papers.

Feb. 21.—HOUSE.—Rev. Daniel Waldo, of New York, a Revolutionary soldier, in his 94th year, and a clergyman of the Congregational Church for more than 70 years, was elected chaplain.

NATIONAL AMERICAN STATE COUNCIL.—At a meeting of this Council on Saturday, a resolution approving of the course of Jacob Broom, William Millward, Henry M. Fuller in voting for Henry M. Fuller, and disapproving of the course of J. R. Edie (subsequently pursued) in voting for Fuller, was adopted. Besides Messrs. Charles D. Freeman, Wm. F. Johnston, David E. Small, R. A. Lamberton, J. Bowan Bell, F. A. Vandeve and R. K. Coulter, already elected as delegates at the State Council in Lancaster for one year, and their time not having expired, the following named gentlemen were elected delegates to the National Council which was to meet in Philadelphia yesterday:—Curtis B. Pyle, J. M. Church, Jno. W. Ashmead, Jos. W. Hunsicker, Erastus Poulson, A. L. Hensershotz, Wm. F. Small, Chas. P. Emmons, Geo. F. Gordon, William Graeff, Elias Wampole, Thomas M. Mirkil, R. N. Waite, Wm. Nichuals, Wm. E. Sisty, Chas. D. Whittecar, R. A. Parrish, H. Mirkil, Wm. R. Seaver and Samuel P. Jones. A resolution to instruct the Senatorial Delegates, Messrs. Ashmend and Hunsciker, to support the nomination of Millard Fillmore for the Presidency, was amended as follows, and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Convention recognizes in Millard Fillmore the sterling qualities of an able statesman and a pure patriot, and while it leaves the selection of the candidates of the American Party to its representatives in the National Convention, it would hail the nomination of that distinguished statesman for the Presidency, as a sure guarantee of the triumph of its principles and the permanency and peace of the Union.

Pennsylvania is entitled to twenty-seven delegates as Representatives from this State in the National American Convention.

IRON WORKS IN PENNSYLVANIA.—By the American Iron master's Statistical Review, we learn that there are in this State, of Blast Furnaces, which convert Iron ore into Pig-iron, nearly three hundred in number; and that about one-third were standing out of blast last year. In one mile of single-track Railroad, there are about 100 tons of rails, to produce which, one hundred and twenty-three tons of pig iron is required, and this quantity has often been made by a single Anthracite furnace in one week.

In 1855, about 500,000 tons of pig iron was made by the blast furnaces in operation in this State, and this quantity of pig-iron is sufficient to make Railroad bars for 3760 miles of railroad track.

There are at this time, probably, more blast furnaces in the United States, than would be required, if working at their full capacity, to furnish the iron needed for Railroads, and all other purposes in this country. In view of this, it would be much wiser to employ our own people, in the production of our iron at home, instead of sending out of the country some fifteen or twenty millions of gold every year, to purchase iron in England.—*Lebanon Courier.*

Every sensible person knows it would be better to keep the twenty millions of dollars in this country, and employ our own workmen, who will consume the produce of the farmers at home—but the "*dimocracy*" has become so completely "*Irishized*," that it goes by "*contrarys*," and thinks it better to send the twenty million dollars abroad, send the produce of the farmer three thousand miles across the ocean after it, and then send a considerable portion of the "*dimocracy*" to the rum shop, on the road to the Alms House, and the Prison, where the sober and industrious portion of the community have to support them.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.—A balmy atmosphere—comparatively speaking, of course—ushered in yesterday, the one hundred and twenty-fourth anniversary of the birthday of the greatest of modern patriots, George Washington. A commendable spirit animated the citizens of the cities and rural districts of all the Northern States, and the day was observed by military parades, social and poetical gatherings, and in the evening by a large number of brilliant balls in different sections of the Union. In this Borough and County, the military paraded, and several balls were given. At the Town Hall last night, the Birth-Night Ball came off, and was undoubtedly, a delightful affair.

Two conventions assembled in this State yesterday—the American National Convention at Philadelphia, and the Republican at Pittsburg. The duties of the latter, are rather consultative than executive. Its office is to interchange and assimilate views which shall result in concert of action when the day of action comes. No Presidential candidate will either be presented or suggested. That business will be left entirely to the National Convention hereafter to assemble.

LOSS OF STEAMSHIPS IN TWO YEARS.—Since 1853, twelve steamships, lost at sea, have cost 1250 human lives, and $7,250,000 of property. The list can be summed up as follows:—Independence, Tonnessee, St. Louis, Humboldt, San Francisco, Franklin, City of Philadelphia, Yankee Blade, City of Glasgow, Arctic, North Carolina and Golden Age. A frightful list, and in a majority of instances accident might have been averted through skill or foresight.

THE JACKSON EQUESTRIAN STATUE AT NEW ORLEANS.—Clark Mills' great equestrian statue of Jackson, an exact copy of the one which adorns Lafayette Square, in Washington City, was inaugurated at New Orleans on the 9th instant. The New Orleans papers of the 10th, are filled with glowing descriptions of the imposing ceremonies. The ceremonies in Jackson Square, where the statue is erected, are thus noticed in the *Courier*:—

"When the procession had formed within the square the veteran General Plauche—the same who so distinguished himself as the commander of the battalion of Orleans in 1814 and '15—who, with the Committee for erecting the statue, the State dignitaries, and others, occupied a platform erected in front of the statue—made a few remarks, and then introduced the orator of the day, L. J. Sigur, who pronounced an eloquent and appropriate discourse. At the conclusion of Mr. Sigur's oration, a national flag was run up the staff over the platform, and at this signal the canvas screen which had concealed the statue from public view gracefully fell aside and revealed in all its brilliancy, elegant proportions, and grand aspect, this splendid triumph of national genius and art.

"The effect of this sudden movement was startling and electric. An involuntary and hearty outburst of applause and admiration arose from the vast multitude, and vented itself in the most prolonged and earnest hurras, which nearly drowned the loud salvos of the artillery—of the hundred guns that announced in such thundering tones the great event of the day."

NIAGARA FALLS IN WINTER.—Impressive as Niagara Falls are when surrounded by the rich foliage and floral beauties of summer, the grandeur of the Falls in winter, taxes the full power of language to describe. A correspondent of the Buffalo *Express*, attempts a description however, of their present beauties, of which the following is an extract:

"The spray, drifting over the adjacent shores, has transformed the commonest objects into shapes of such fairy like beauty, as is elsewhere only conceived of in dreams.—All things are enveloped in gleaming ice.—The islands are inlaid with a pavement as pure and solid as the most stainless Parian. The rocks that shoot up from the far depths of the precipice are hooded and wrapped up in vast breadths of ice, like monks doing homage to the genius of peace. The trees are bowed down to the earth with their snowy vestments, like a worshipping choir of white robed nuns. Every where, but in the immediate channel of the swollen and surging river, the Ice King reigns supreme. Under his magic touch, Nature is isibly idealized. Stalactite groves, and towers of crystal, and forests glittering with brilliants and pearls, seem no longer a figment of genius, but a beaming reality. If you would witness this dazzling scene, come by all means soon. The visit will not be regretted."

BERKS AND SCHUYLKILL.—The expenses of Schuylkill county during the past year, amounted to $71,863 50. The expenses of Berks, within the same period, were $72,940 77—only $1,077 57 more. The little daughter is fast overtaking the big old mother, in the cost of her housekeeping.—*Gazette.*

And the daughter has been so prolific that her household, will in a very few years, be quite as numerous as that of her "big mother." There is however, a mistake in the above named expenditures. In the sum of $71,863 50, are upwards of $16,000 loans paid off, which would not come under the head of expenditures. And the Directors of the Poor drew the enormous sum of $17,728 out of the County Treasury to support the paupers last year. Under the administration of different Directors and Stewards, three years ago, the Alms House cost the County but $22,000 for *three years*, including building expenses—and the farm, and in fact the whole premises, were in a better condition than they are now.

THE LIQUOR BILL.—In the State Senate on Thursday, this bill was taken up, when Mr. Browne's bill was substituted for the bill from the House providing for the unconditional repeal of the restraining liquor law. Mr. McClintock moved to change the basis of the license from the rental to the amount of sales, and to reduce the price of license in the rural districts to $25, &c., which was rejected. The bill then passed finally—yeas, 19; nays, 11. Mr. Browne's substitute, as amended, now goes to the House. If the latter body refuses to pass it without further amendment, which the Senate will hardly submit to, or refuses to adopt it at all, the present law will remain in force. The licenses of many places where liquor is sold in this county, expire on the 1st prox., and they must be closed in accordance with its provisions. We are in strong hopes that in lieu of a better one, that the division in the ranks of its opponents will tend to keep the present Liquor Law in force.

QUITE AN excitement existed in the National American Council on Thursday, while considering the resolution of Mr. Brewster, for the repeal of the 12th section of the American Platform. Mr. Evans of Washington, then read a Platform of Principles, which he thought would satisfy every reasonable man. Mr. Sheets of Indiana, in the course of some remarks said he was willing to accept a compromise, but the section must be got rid of; he was willing to accept the Washington platform, for if there was anything in it, it was so covered up with verbiage that a President would be elected before the people would find out what it was all about. On Thursday, the general impression was, that all previous action of the Council will be nullified, and either an entirely new platform will be adopted, or an effort will be made to so modify the 12th section as to make it acceptable to the delegates from both sections.

HOW CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING IS DONE AT WASHINGTON.—The Senate and House have separate printers, and each gives its orders independently of the other. Of course, writes Mr. Greeley, the Treasury pays twice for the composition or type setting of each document, no matter whether it be actually set twice or not. Were the documents common to both Houses, and now printed by order of each, to be printed under a Joint Resolution, or jointly ordered by the two Printing Committees, the saving to the Treasury could not be less than $10,000, and might often exceed $20,000. But nobody attempts to save in Washington.

THE COLD.—January and February of the present year will be long remembered, in the annals of our country, for the intense cold experienced over such a wide extent of territory. Away down in Texas the river Brazos was frozen over, and the ice so thick that teams were crossing on it. In Virginia the snow was deeper than it had been for 60 years, and the cold was so severe that great numbers of birds, and wild animals perished. At St. Paul, in Minnesota, the thermometer had ranged from 20° to 40° below zero for three weeks.

THE LINE OF DEMARCATION.—A bill is before the Virginia Legislature to amend the third section of chapter 103 of the Code of Virginia so as to declare all persons having one sixteenth or more of negro blood in them mulattoes. Ex Governor Floyd opposed the bill, on account of the difficulty, if not impossibility, if it passed, of defining the status of individuals of that class. He argued that there should be a line of demarcation, beyond which the pollution of African blood should cease to be transmitted.

GOVERNOR SHANNON left Washington on Sunday, with instructions to use military force to suppress the Free State movement in Kansas, and to arrest the members of the Free State Legislature on their assembling on the fourth of March next. The Legislature purposes to elect United States Senators, and to memorialize Congress for admission. Shannon publicly said that he would break this Legislature up.

THE HON. JAMES H. CAMPBELL spent several days in our Borough this week, attending Court. He left on Thursday morning.

COUNTERFEITS OF THE ERIE BANK.—We learn that counterfeits of the denomination of $5 are in circulation in Philadelphia. As these notes circulate pretty freely in this Region our citizens ought to be on the look-out. They are said to be well executed.

☞ In Ohio, the peach-trees and other tender trees, are frozen to death.

☞ In the Lunatic Asylum at Columbus, O., is a pair of insane lovers. Occasionally they seem to recover their reason, and are permitted to hold interviews with one another. In one of these the poor girl begged her lover to marry her, but he replied with a melancholy real enough to bring tears from the listeners—"You know that we cannot be married, Ellen, we are insane for that happiness—poor, unfortunate creatures that we are!"

THE COAL TRADE.

The quantity sent this week by Railroad is 21,115 13 tons, against 24,385 01 tons for the corresponding week last year. Total 227,129 07, against 266,073 tons to same period last year.

The weather was quite moderate yesterday and the snow and ice was freely melting and running away. A week or ten days of such weather would materially lessen the damages likely to be sustained from a freshet in case of a sudden thaw and rain. There is less snow on our mountains than below.

The Canal last year opened the first week in March, and up to the first of April about 55,000 tons were shipped. This year, from present appearances, it is not likely to open much before the first of April. From Richmond, in all probability, no shipments can take place before the 10th of March, if then. The business will start late from all the Regions this year.

In Boston Anthracite Coal is becoming scarce—the retail prices remain at the rates quoted last week. In New York, the retail price has advanced one dollar a ton. The Pennsylvania Coal Company is selling at $6—and Schuylkill dealers at $6,50 per ton of 2000 pounds retail.

COAL FALLING SHORT.—A suit is now pending in Court in New Bedford, Mass., for the recovery of the freight paid on Coal which fell short in weight. This subject is becoming a serious evil to the trade, and every effort, consistent with the rights and interests of all parties, ought to be made to remedy it. Carriers will always be held responsible for their cargoes, while in their charge—and if the loading consists of such articles that may be removed, it becomes their duty to see whether they have the quantity on board or not before they sign the bills of lading. It is all folly for any carrier to set up the plea that he signed the bill of lading without knowing how much he has on board. He is bound to know it before he signs the bill of lading, or suffer the consequences. The evil, however, does not rest entirely with the boatmen—they frequently become the victims of dishonest receivers of Coal, as well as shippers who are careless—but as it invariably falls on the boatmen, who have to "foot the bill," we are not surprised that they should show a strong determination to have the evil remedied. Our impression is that the only manner in which it can be obviated is for the Captain to attend carefully to the loading of his boat, and refuse to sign any bill of lading for a specified quantity, until he is satisfied that the Coal is on hand, in the first place; and secondly, attend to the unloading at the point of delivery, and also satisfy himself that he has not been defrauded in weighing out the Coal. No shipper of Coal will give a bill of lading as desired by the boatmen, "said to contain," &c., as this would leave the cargo at the mercy of the boatman without any responsibility on his part.

THE BOATMEN'S CONVENTION.—The statement from the Pottsville *Journal* that it was said the Richmond boatmen had overruled the Pottsville boatmen, at the recent convention to increase the rate of freight, we find is not correct. A list of the delegates shows the names of only three from Philadelphia out of about twenty-three.—*Phila. Ledger.*

The *Ledger* seems to be peculiarly unfortunate in its condensations from the *Miners' Journal*.—This is the third or fourth time that that paper, in condensing from our articles has, through inadvertency we suppose, given a different construction than our language conveyed. We said no such thing. What we did say was truc, and the article in the *Ledger* is incorrect. We quote from an article of last week:

"The boatmen at this end of the line, as far as we can learn, were in favor of fixing the rates the same as charged last year, but they were overruled by those from below. It is also alledged, with what truth we are not prepared to state, that the boatmen running from Richmond to New York, strongly urged the adoption of the higher rates."

This is what we did say, and it is true, as we have since learned from the boatmen themselves. The boatmen from below, (that is on the line between Schuylkill county and New York,) did overrule the boatmen in Schuylkill count , and established the higher rate which was carried by only a small majority. The boatmen from Richmond *did* advocate the higher rates—they contended for $2,10, while the boatmen from Schuylkill county advocated $1,90, and they finally split the difference by fixing on $2, from Mount Carbon to New York. Were we incorrect in our statements?

The boatmen running from Richmond were favoring their own interests in advocating high rates of freight, they were perfectly right in doing so—because the higher the rates are on the Schuylkill Canal the more Coal will be thrown on the Railroad, and of course the business diminished on the Canal and increased at Port Richmond. It was the waiting for loading last year that caused the business to be unprofitable to the boatmen at $1,90, and if the higher rates of $2 is maintained this year, while provisions and feed are falling, they will be compelled to wait much longer for loading. Two dollars a ton will, in the end, prove more unprofitable than $1,90 was last year, particularly when it is generally conceded that the quantity of Coal sent from Schuylkill county this year will not be increased much, if any, over the supply of last year, unless prices of Coal, and toll and transportation, will start low both on Railroad and Canal.

"Important Arrangement.—It is said that an arrangement has been entered into by the Reading Railroad Company, Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company, and Com. Vanderbilt, of New York, by which Atlantic city, on Absecom Beach, will be made a port of entry, and the place for extensive coal operations. Also that Commodore Vanderbilt recently visited Atlantic City, and has determined to establish a line of steamers between the inlet and New York, in connection with the railroads mentioned."—*Exchange.*

The above line is also alluded to in our New York correspondence. It will do to talk about—and may answer, under peculiar circumstances.—We are not sufficiently acquainted with the expenses that will be incurred in carrying the cars across the Delaware in flats, and the transportation from Cooper's Point to Absecom, to express an opinion on the subject.

A DIFFICULTY.—The Great Western, Delaware and Lackawanna Railroad Company are asking authority of the Legislature to borrow $2,000,000 to lay down a second track. This Company owns Coal lands and are also engaged in mining at Scranton. Mr. Wright, of Luzerne, opposes the passage of the Bill, unless the Company will appropriate two-thirds of the working capacity of the Road to other Operators and Coal Companies for the transportation of their Coal. The Company resists the restriction on the ground of there being no necessity for such a clause in their Bill, and also as an interference with their rights.

LEHIGH VALLEY AND TRENTON RAILROAD.—Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, a large number of hands are engaged in the Construction of Wharves at Trenton for the transhipment of Coal at that point into the Delaware and Raritan Canal from the Lehigh Region.—There will, we understand, be considerable rivalry between the New Jersey Central Railroad and the Trenton and Belvidere Railroad to secure the Coal which will pass over the Lehigh Valley Road from the Lehigh Region. There is a descending grade from Mauch Chunk to Trenton. From Easton to Elizabethtown Point, a grade of 22 feet to the mile against the heavy trade will have to be encountered on the New Jersey Central Road.

The first report of the President of the Schuylkill County Coal Association will be found below, to which we invite attention.

REPORT

To the Members of the Coal Association of Schuylkill County.

GENTLEMEN:—The object which has called us together on this occasion is twofold. First, to render an account of the doings of the Board of Trade during the past year; and second, to consider the probable interests of the Trade in the future.

The organization of the Board under its present Constitution, is but of recent date. Scarcely eight months have elapsed since the election of its members to their present responsible position, and of necessity, its transactions have been few and cautious.

It was not anticipated, when the Board was first organized, that much could be accomplished within the first year. It was deemed sufficient to give form and life to the Association, and to look to the future for the fruits of efficient operation. The principles of confidence and self-protection will mature and strengthen as occasion requires, or as experience may dictate.

It is believed that a change has taken place in the views and feelings of the operators of this county, and that the Coal Business can now be brought within the control of safe and rational principles.

A lesson has been taught us last year which may prove a lasting benefit at home and abroad.

The greater interest however, to which our attention is now called, lies in the future. The opening of another season of active employment of capital and labor and preparation, is near at hand. And we have come here to deliberate and deliberate whether that season of labor shall be one of remuneration to the operators for their investments and energies, and by what means it may best be accomplished. That it can be made a paying one, no doubt. But by what means it is most readily effected, may be a matter of opinion between different minds.

On this subject especially, it is desirable that every operator should express himself freely, and after a full expression of the various opinions, sum them up, compare notes, and deduct the conclusion.

To give unity to the Coal Trade of this county, is of the utmost importance. Every one engaged in the mining of Coal now deems it absolutely necessary that a business of such magnitude as that which the Board of Trade represents involving interests so immense, both to the operators and the public should no longer be carried on as heretofore, wildly and recklessly, without any regard to either producer or consumer.

A self reliance and self protective principle must be established, or the business will continue to be fluctuating, unsafe and unprofitable.

In England and elsewhere, the Iron, Coal, Grain, and other leading interests are controlled by Boards of Trade upon the established principle of supply and demand.

In this country, the Iron, Grain, Cotton, and other leading commodities are represented by their respective Boards of Trade, in every commercial city of the Union, and controlled upon the same principle. Coal alone has thus far been left unprotected by the unerring guide of political economy, and just so long as it is shall continue, so long must we anticipate an unstable and unprofitable business.

Nothing seems evident or more important than to bring the Coal business of this county completely under the control and influence of the same principle. When no Coal is wanted, none need be, and none should be mined. Coal costs nothing under ground.

Foreign Coal into market when it is not wanted is admitted by all to be unreasonable, and the consequences are always ruinous.

While I would counsel strict adherence to this principle, I would recommend that every effort be made to furnish a full supply to the market when it is required. The supply should always be co-related to the demand that the consumers could have the cheapest possible fuel, and the operators remunerative prices.

With the Board of Trade of Schuylkill county fully empowered to regulate the supply by the demand, these objects could in a great measure be accomplished. But it will require the co-operation of the other Anthracite Coal Fields, to accomplish them most fully. The efforts of the Board will be continued to establish this union of action between the different districts, and the correctness of the principle leads me to hope that it will be ultimately accomplished.

There are other advantages derived from the Association. It constitutes a proper guard against injurious legislation, and against any designs and measures whenever they may arise, tending to embarrass or hurt the Trade. Also, improved systems of ventilating and mechanical appliances, tending to further security of the operatives, and reducing the cost of production; and such other improvements as the collective experience of the Association in the frequent and social intercourse with each other (for which the Association Rooms will furnish ample opportunity), may suggest.

In conclusion, I congratulate the Association upon its present flattering prospects of usefulness to its members and the public. May wisdom guide your deliberations, and an earnest adherence thereto will crown your efforts with a compensating Trade.

S. SILLIMAN, *President.*

Pottsville February 8th, 1856.

Report of Shipments

From Richmond, for the week ending Saturday, January 12th, 1856:

	TONS.
TO New York.	
For season.	64 129
Last Year.	58,348

No shipments for the week ending February 16th, 1856.

Coal Trade by Railroad for 1856.

Quantity of Coal sent by Railroad for the week ending on Thursday evening last:

	WEEK.	
Port Carbon.	7,656 14	
Pottsville.	1,508 17	
Schuylkill Haven.	8,066 15	
Auburn.	562 11	
Port Clinton.	4,250 16	
	21,115 13	
Previously this year.	206,013 14	
Total.	227,129 07	
To same time last year.	266,073 00	
Decrease.	38,941 13	

Schuylkill County Railroads—1856.

The following is the quantity of Coal transported over the different Railroads in Schuylkill County, for the week ending on Thursday evening last:

	WEEK	TOTAL.
Mine Hill and S. Haven R. R.	7,504 15	42,862 9
Mt. Carbon " "	7,648 14	50,011 12
Schuylkill Valley "	2,714 05	13,572 08
Mt. Carbon & Pt. Carbon "	7,206 07	42,374 06
Mill Creek "	3,352 06	21,473 11
Little Schuylkill "	3,573 18	33,190 12

Cumberland (Md.) Coal Trade for 1856.

For the last week:

WEEK.	YEAR.
2,760 01	19,919 00.

Union Canal R. R. Coal Transportation

Amount transported during the month of Jan. 1856:

	TONS.
Union Canal	3,751 02
Swatara Railroad.	2,519 02

Rates of Toll and Transportation on

| RAIL ROAD. | From Mt. Carbon. | From