Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1856.

THE ASSAULT IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.—In our last issue we gave a brief account of the atrocious attack upon the person of the Hon. Charles Sumner of Massachusetts by the *Hon.* Mr. Brooks of South Carolina. The incentive to the dastardly assault, was as the *honorable* Mr. Brooks states, contained in the speech on Kansas affairs delivered in the Senate on the 20th inst., by Mr. Sumner. We regret that the extreme length of the speech prevents its publication entire in our columns, for no speech delivered during the Revolutionary period of our history will live longer in the list of those made in defence of freedom, than that delivered on the floor of the United States Senate on the 20th inst. The dastardly attack on its brilliant author will endear its noble sentiments to every true freeman. As we cannot publish the speech entire, we will give the paragraph from it, which it is alleged induced the assault as a slander on Mr. Butler, and a libel on the State of South Carolina:

With regret, I come again upon the Senator from South Carolina, [Mr. BUTLER,] who, omnipresent in the debate, overflowed with rage at the simple suggestion that Kansas had applied, for admission as a State; and, with incoherent phrases, discharged the loose expectoration of his speech, now upon her representative, and then upon her people. There was no extravagance of the ancient Parliamentary debate which he did not repeat; nor was there any possible deviation from truth which he did not make, with *so much* of passion, I am glad to add, as to save him from the suspicion of intentional aberration. But the Senator touches nothing which he does not disfigure—with error, sometimes of principle, sometimes of fact. He shows an incapacity of accuracy, whether in stating the Constitution or in stating the law, whether in the details of statistics or the directions of scholarship. He cannot open his mouth, but out there flies a blunder. Surely he ought to be familiar with the life of Franklin; and yet he referred to his household character, while acting as agent of our fathers in England, as above suspicion; and this was done that he might give point to a false contrast with the agent of Kansas—not knowing that, however they may differ in genius and fame, in this and in other respects they are alike: that Franklin, when intrusted with the petition of Massachusetts Bay, was assaulted by a foul-mouthed speaker, where he could not be heard in defense, and denounced as a "thief," even as the agent of Kansas has been assailed on this floor, and denounced as a "forger." And let not the vanity of the Senator be inspired by the parallel with the British statesmen of that day, for it is only in hostility to Freedom that any parallel can be recognized.

But it is against the people of Kansas that the sensibilities of the Senator are particularly aroused. Coming, as he announces, "from a State"—ay, sir, from South Carolina—he turns with lordly disgust from this newly-formed community, which he will not recognize even as "a body politic."—Pray, sir, by what title does he indulge in this egotism? Has he read the history of "the State" which he represents? He cannot surely have forgotten its shameful imbecility from Slavery confessed throughout the Revolution, followed by its more shameful assumptions for Slavery since. He cannot have forgotten its wretched persistence in the slave trade as the very apple of its eye, and the condition of its participation in the Union. He cannot have forgotten its Constitution, which is republican only in name, confirming power in the hands of the few, and founding the qualifications of its legislators on "a settled freehold estate and ten negroes." And yet the Senator, to whom that "State" has in part committed the guardianship of its good name, instead of moving, with backward trending steps, to cover its nakedness, rushes forward, in the very ecstasy of madness, to expose it by provoking a comparison with Kansas. South Carolina is old; Kansas is young. South Carolina counts by centuries, where, Kansas counts by years. But a beneficent example may be born in a day; and I venture to say, that against the two centuries of the older "State," may be already set the two years of trial, evolving corresponding virtue, in the younger community. In the one, the long wail of Slavery; in the other, the hymns of Freedom. And if we glance at special achievements, it will be difficult to find anything in the history of South Carolina which presents so much of heroic spirit in an heroic cause as appears in that repulse of the Missouri invaders by the beleaguered town of Lawrence, where even the women gave their effective efforts to Freedom. The matrons of Rome, who poured their jewels into the treasury for the public defense—the wives of Prussia, who, with delicate fingers, clothed their defenders against French invasion—the mothers of our own Revolution, who sent forth their sons, covered over with prayers and blessings, to combat for human rights, did *nothing of self-sacrifice truer than did these women* on this occasion. Were the whole history of *South Carolina blotted out of existence*, from its very beginning down to the day of the last election of the Senator to his present seat on this floor, civilization might lose—I do not say how little; *but surely less than it has already gained* by the *example of Kansas*, in its valiant struggle against oppression, and in the development of a new science of emigration. Already in Lawrence alone there are newspapers and schools, including a High School, and throughout this infant Territory there is more mature scholarship for, in proportion to its inhabitants, than in all South Carolina. Ah, sir, I tell the Senator that Kansas, welcomed as a free State, will be a "ministering angel" to the Republic, when *South Carolina*, in the cloak of darkness which she hugs, "lies howling."

Of the particulars of the assault, we have the following, from the statement of Mr. Sumner made under oath:

I attended the Senate, as usual, on Thursday, the 22d of May, and, *after some formal business*, a message was received from the House of Representatives, announcing the death of a member of that body from Missouri. This was followed by a brief tribute to the deceased from Mr. Geyer, of Missouri, when, according to usage, and out of respect to the memory of the deceased, on motion of Mr. Geyer, the Senate adjourned.

Instead of leaving the Chamber with the rest on the adjournment, I continued in my seat, occupied with my pen. While thus intent, in order to be in season for the mail which was soon to close, I was approached by several persons who desired to converse with me, but I answered them promptly and briefly; excusing myself for the reason that I was much engaged. When the last of these persons left me, I drew my arm chair close to my desk, and with my legs under the desk continued writing. My attention at this time was so entirely drawn from all other objects that although there must have been many persons in the Senate I saw nobody. While thus intent, with my head bent over my writing, I was addressed by a person who approached the front of my desk, so entirely unobserved that I was not aware of his presence until my name was pronounced. As I looked up, with my pen in hand, I saw a tall man, with whose countenance I was not familiar, standing directly over me, and at the same moment, I caught these words: "I have read your speech twice over carefully: It is a libel on South Carolina and Mr. Butler, who is a relative of mine."—While these words were still passing from his lips, he commenced a succession of blows with a heavy cane on my bare head, by the first of which I was so stunned as to see my right hand lifted by my assailant, nor any other person or object in the room. What I done afterwards was done almost unconsciously, acting under the instincts of self defence. With my head already bent down, I *rose from my seat*, wrenching up my desk, which was screwed to the floor, and then passing forward, while my assailant continued his blows. I have no other consciousness until I found myself ten feet forward in front of my desk, lying on the floor of the Senate with my bleeding head supported on the knee of a gentleman whom I soon recognised by voice and manner as Mr. Morgan of New York. Other persons there were about me offering me friendly assistance, but I did not recognize any of them. Others there were at a distance looking on and offering no assistance, of whom I recognized only Mr. Douglas, of Ill., Mr. Toombs, of Ga., and I thought also my assailant standing between them. I was helped from the floor and conducted into the lobby of the Senate, where I was placed upon the sofa. Of those who helped me here, I have no recollection. As I entered the lobby, I recognized Mr. Slidel, of Louisiana, who retreated, but I recognized no one else, until I felt a friendly grasp of the hand, which seemed to come from Mr. Campbell of Ohio. I have a vague impression that Mr. Bright, the President of the Senate, spoke to me while I was on the floor of the Senate, or in the lobby.

I make this statement in answer to the interrogatory of the committee, and offer it as presenting completely all my recollections of the assault and of the attending circumstances, whether immediately before or immediately after. I desire to add, that besides the words which I have given as uttered by my assailant, I have an indistinct recollection of the words "old man;" but there are so enveloped in the mist which ensued from the first blow, that I am not sure whether they were uttered or not.

On cross examination, Mr. Sumner stated that he was entirely without arms of any kind and that he had no notice or warning of any kind, direct or indirect of this assault.

In answer to another question Mr. Sumner replied that what he had said of Mr. Butler was strictly responsive to Mr. Butler's speeches, according to the usages of parliamentary debate.

Mr. Wm. Y. Leader, of Philadelphia, who was an eye witness of the assault, furnishes the Philadelphia *Times* with the following account of what transpired:

The Senate having passed a series of resolutions on the death of Hon. John G. Miller, of Missouri, adjourned. A number of Senators remained in their seats, amongst them Mr. Sumner. About three-quarters of an hour after adjournment, while I was standing within six feet of Mr. Sumner, and while he was busily engaged in franking documents at his seat, I observed a gentleman approach him, and call him by name. Mr. Sumner raised his head as if to see who was speaking to him, when the gentleman before mentioned, who proved to be Hon. Preston S. Brooks, of South Carolina, [illegible] upon the left temple and [illegible] have come to the deliberate conclusion that it is an insult to South Carolina," and my gray-haired relative, Judge Butler, and immediately raised his cane, and struck him (Mr. Sumner,) a stunning blow over the head, and in quick succession repeated his blows over his head and back. Mr. Sumner rose out of his chair, and Brooks struck him until he fell bleeding and senseless on the floor, and did not cease until he was caught by Senators Crittenden and another gentleman whom I did not know. Mr. Sumner was carried into an adjoining room, and a physician sent for, who dressed his wounds, when he was taken to his residence. While Brooks was committing the assault, several persons, whether Senators or not, I did not know, cried "Give it to him, Brooks, don't interfere, he deserves it," &c. At the solicitation of several persons, I made oath to the above facts, before a justice, after which Brooks was arrested and bound over for a hearing. The statement that Mr. Sumner made resistance is utterly false, as he was unable to do so, even had he desired.

These accounts will furnish a good idea of the brutal nature of the assault on Mr. Sumner. The Northern Press *en masse*, has condemned the outrage on the dignity of the Senate; upon Massachusetts, and upon the person of Mr. Sumner in terms of indignation fitting the occasion. The Southern Press endeavors to defend the action of Mr. Brooks but in a lame and impotent manner. Two honorable exceptions, the Baltimore *American* and *Sun* condemn unequivocally, both the assault and assailant. Yet notwithstanding this, the Senate holds a man who openly applauded the act, even while the Senator from Massachusetts lay bleeding and senseless upon the floor of the outraged chamber. Mr. Crittenden said: "This is a shameful outrage;" to which Senator Toombs replied: "No, it is not." Mr. Crittenden rejoined: "the Senate is no place for it." Senator Toombs answered; "The Senate is the *very place for it.*"

Had the attack which completely disabled Mr. Sumner, been the result of a rencontre outside of the Capitol, there might have been some palliation for the conduct of Mr. Brooks; but the infamy of the base and cowardly attack is greatly enhanced by the fact that the assault was planned days before it took place, and that it was the assault of two men upon one; and that one in a defenceless position. It was believed that at least one Senator was privy to the prior arrangements. Even admitting the worst provocation that could be given, was not the assault, under the circumstances, most cowardly—most infamous?—Will any man of courage and honor answer in the negative? We think not. Yet Mr. Brooks, the day after the assault, said in the House of Representatives, *"upon the honor of a gentleman,"* that he alone premeditated the attack—he alone executed it. *His* gentlemanly honor! We ask with the New York *Courier and Enquirer*, does the man understand the English language? A king may or may not, says the *Courier*, be a gentleman; if he is, his gentlemanhood adds a grace to his royalty; if he is not, his royalty, should it represent that of all the Czars or all the Cæsars, could not raise him to the level of the obscurest gentleman among his subjects. *Among no people* that have emerged from barbarism is this distinction disregarded or held in other than the highest consideration. Even in those countries where rank is supreme in all other matters, it is secondary in this; there is not a nobleman in any aristocracy, who would not be degraded to loss of caste, by conduct unbecoming a gentleman—surely if that conduct were unrepented of, unatoned for. The gentleman is distinguished from him who is not a gentleman, by moral qualities, which have justly won the highest place in the respect and admiration of the world. The gentleman restrains his passions and subdues his selfishness; he considers the comfort of others before his own; he respects the personality of those with whom he is brought in contact; he never takes an unfair advantage; he is scrupulously regardful of his own honor, and doubly scrupulous of the honor of others be committed to his keeping; he may lack mental culture, but he is never without moral refinement; he may have an unpolished exterior, but never a base nature; courage he has, but shows it less in facing danger than in meeting responsibility; it not always sincere, he is always reliable; and to him may be safely committed all that others hold most dear, in simple reliance upon his honor; he is a man whose manly traits are penetrated and modified by the gentleness of woman's nature, and who still preserves and endeavors constantly to act upon the manliest of instincts—magnanimity. Sir Philip Sidney, that star of chivalry, that gentlest and most gallant of all gentlemen, for whom, though but a simple knight, all Europe went into mourning, gentleman *par excellence* as he had been all his life, was more than ever a gentleman in his death, when he yielded the claims of his rank, and though with the thirst of a mortal wound upon his lips, gave up a draught of water to a poor dying soldier, who, only looked at it wistfully. That act fitly crowned the life of him who *was* the first gentleman of Europe.

Now if this be a correct appreciation of the character of a gentleman, with what semblance of consistency could Mr. Brooks ask the House of Representatives to believe him on his honor as a gentleman? His hand was yet red with the blood of a man whom he had attacked in a style worthy only of a professional bully. He had made the attack upon an unarmed man, with a weapon not dead-ly only in a technical sense, and when his victim was in a situation which precluded him from resistance, he had beaten him in a *manner as disgusting as it was cruel.* He attacked him for words devoid of personality, and which in any case were uttered in debate—he being sworn to preserve the Constitution of the United States, which declares that Members of Congress shall not be questioned for words spoken *in debate*; and he chose the Senate chamber as the place of the little "transaction." He had sought to repress freedom of speech by brutal violence—for if his act had any purpose, it had this—and thus, with his oath violated, himself degraded, his State, his Country, and his manhood disgraced, he stands before his peers, and asks them to believe him on the honor of a gentleman!—"Will your men fight?" said William of Orange to the disgraced Hamilton who was brought in a prisoner at the battle of the Boyne.—"On my honor, sir, I believe they will not." "*Your* honor, sir!" said the King, and at his words rose the moral pillory upon which only the Honorable Mr. Brooks can have fit punishment.

The outrage on Mr. Sumner—unwarrantable and barbarous as it is, has capped the climax of Southern pro-slavery, fanatical intolerance. It has opened the eyes of even the moderate and conservative of the North. The assault of Mr. Brooks upon Mr. Sumner is not merely a personal attack, distinguished for its cowardly nature—it is a slaveocratic attack on the rights and freedom of speech, guaranteed by the Constitution. If not condemned by the South, and particularly by South Carolina, it will in the future, if the Union survive this and the Kansas business, send Northern representatives into the United States Senate and House of Representatives, armed to the teeth, and prepared for the attack of the revolver and bludgeon braves of the South. If law; public opinion; if the dignity of Congress are powerless to defend its members from being outraged; to punish when outrages are committed, then let every representative from a Northern State go into his seat armed with a rifle or revolver. Such are the arguments which Southern ruffians appear to appreciate most keenly—as they have recourse to them to answer the scathing truths of Northern Congressmen, representing the interests of freemen.

It is time for the North to awaken from its lethargy, for the whole power of this government at the present moment, is within the grasp of Slavery. Southern men of all parties have but one object in view, and make all other issues entirely subordinate to the extension of, concentration of, and increase of the power of Slavery. Southern Americans, Whigs and Democrats are a unit on this matter, and the Northern Slaves led on by Pierce, Douglass and Cass—in fact, the Democracy lie prostrate at the feet of the Slave King in the most abject submission. He reigns supreme. Outrage, wrong and fraud are of daily and hourly occurrence. Now, the free State men of Kansas are shot, their dwellings burned, and they forced to submit to tyrannical laws, which are a libel on civilization. Then, an Editor is beaten on the street for the avowal of manly sentiments. Next, a poor servant is shot while honestly discharging his trust. Last of all, one of the first orators and scholars of the age, is brutally beaten in our sacred Senate chamber, for a bold defence of right, and the State he so worthily represents. All this is justified and defended by the South, and by the Northern slaves of the Democratic party. And a thousand times worse than all this—there is no redress; no law; no punishment. We boast of law and liberty!!

In Washington, the Northern representatives who stand firm and frown upon these proceedings, are powerless to remedy the evil. What indeed, can they do, when the courts of that city will do nothing, or next to nothing, as the Slave King rules Supreme, and they are influenced by him? The slave sentiment pervades public sentiment—nothing is to be hoped for there. The Senate is control led by the slave power, and will do nothing, while the Democratic power is sold into abject slavery. What has the House done, and what will it continue to do? It gratifies us to state that every American from the North—save one or two coward souls, who do not deserve the name—and every Republican, are doing all that men can do to wipe out the foul disgrace which attaches to this Sumner outrage. But alas, notwithstanding these noble souls will vote to expel the actor in this outrage; will avow their sentiments boldly, and honestly; and if attacked, will defend themselves to the last, yet it will avail nothing, for a resolution to expel requires a "concurrence of two-thirds," and the North ern freemen will be voted down by the South and their Northern Democratic allies. Let the American and Republican members of Congress, who faithfully represent the views of their free constituency, rest easy. They will not share in this disgrace which attaches to retaining Mr. Brooks in his seat. All are aware that every outrage this session has been committed by Southern members, and that Northern men have demeaned themselves as representatives of a free, civilized and enlightened people. All likewise know that the institution of slavery makes the difference; is the cause of all the outrages, and do not include the Northern true representatives in the denunciation at present so justly heaped on the small men of Congress.

In view of the outrages which appear to be incapable of redress in the Capital of the country, it is well to ask where then can redress be had? At the bar of the great, free North alone. To dethrone the Slave King, who is seeking by the most unscrupulous means, to extend his dominions into our free territories, under the patronage of Pierce, Douglas & Co.; who through his myrmidons sprinkles the floor of the Senate with the blood of a respected and learned Senator; who waves his torch over the cabin of the Kansas settler, while he plunges the steel into his heart; to dethrone the tyrant, who is endeavoring to plant his heel on the neck of the North, we must UNITE. The issue of the next Presidential contest, will be for and against the extension of slavery. If the North is wise, she will as a single man, buckle on her armor, and present to the slave power, an unbroken front. Let Union be the motto, for in Union alone can we hope successfully, to combat what has so fearfully exemplified its character in the oppression of Kansas, and assault upon Senator Sumner.

AT THE general Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, recently in session at Indianapolis, at which Bishop Simpson presided, among other important matters brought before the body, were the majority and minority reports on the subject of Slavery. The majority report speaks of the evil of Slavery, and suggests that no slaveholder be eligible in the church, hereafter, with certain provisos. The minority report assigns eleven reasons why it cannot agree with the majority on the subject, among which is the belief that any increased stringency of the Discipline on the subject of Slavery will greatly weaken, if not destroy the church in the slaveholding States, and along the border. A warm debate ensued on taking up the report of the Committee on slavery, which was participated in by the Rev. P. Coombe of Philadelphia, and other delegates. It was thought that the measures would not be adopted.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

"LINDA, THE YOUNG PILOT OF THE BELLE CREOLE"—This work, from the pen of the late American authoress, Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz, *may justly be characterized as one of the most interesting that during her life emanated from* this gifted lady. Mrs. Hentz's works occupy a prominent position in American literature, and "Linda" is one of the loveliest of her many charming creations. The story is beautifully told, and the reader's interest is maintained up to the close. "Linda" has been published in book form, in unexceptionable style, by T. B. Peterson, 102 Chesnut street, Philadelphia, and we doubt if that enterprising publisher ever issued any story from his teeming press, which surpassed this in chasteness of style, purity of morals and intensity of interest. The work is complete in one large duodecimo volume, bound in cloth, for One Dollar; or in two volumes, paper cover, for seventy-five cents. Copies of either edition of the work will be sent to any part of the United States, *free of postage*, on the person wishing it remitting the price of the edition they may wish, to the publisher, in a letter.

THE CITY ARCHITECT.—From De Witt & Davenport, publishers, 160 and 162 Nassau street, New York, we have received number 32 of this beautiful and useful publication. The work is indeed increasing in interest and ability as it progresses. This number, among other designs for convenient and neat dwelling house, contains one for the erection of a block of eight houses on a lot of 100 feet front. The houses are small, but convenient ly arranged, and the cost of each will not exceed six hundred dollars. In our own borough, such a cheap style of building, combining comfort with elegance, would be appreciated. The design in the "Architect" should be examined by those wishing to avoid high rents, and at the same time desirous of securing a residence of their own. We commend this work to their liberal patronage. It is worthy of it.

Local Affairs.

Snow.—There was an extraordinary change of weather during Thursday night. With a northerly wind, the mercury fell rapidly. Yesterday morning, the Broad Mountain was white with snow.

A Heavy Rain visited our Borough on Thursday afternoon, effectually cleaning our byways and alleys, and giving a new impetus to vegetation, which is growing luxuriantly, at the present time, in this vicinity.

Keep no Impurities on your Premises.—Be careful to keep on your premises nothing that will taint the atmosphere, or cause annoyance to your neighbors. No decaying animal or vegetable matter should be permitted to remain an instant in any building or yard in densely populated localities. Warm weather is rapidly approaching, and health is easily affected in Summer by a vitiated atmosphere. Keep your premises clean and well purified, and you keep infectious disease at a distance. We allude to this matter, as we have heard complaints made of filthy premises, during the present week.

Accident on the Catawissa Railroad.—On Wednesday, the Elmira and Philadelphia passenger train ran off the track near Bingtown. The locomotive went off and rolled down the mountain, a distance of 60 feet, taking with it the tender, and the baggage car about half the way. Chas. Ford, the engineer, escaped with but a few bruises, and Mr. Brennan who was passing word to the fireman, had one leg so badly cut above the ankle that it was found necessary to amputate it. The coupling between the baggage and passenger car fortunately broke, otherwise a dreadful destruction of life would have resulted. Mr. Wm. Coville, the Conductor, made a very narrow escape with his life.

Sabbath School Convention.—The officers, teachers and friends of all the Sabbath Schools in our County, will remember that a Convention of that important branch of our religious economy will be held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church of this Borough, on the 10th proximo, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Convention is called for the purpose of considering means for the advancement of the best interest of the Sabbath School cause throughout Schuylkill Co. The Rev. John Chambers, of Philadelphia, it is confidently anticipated, will be present in the evening, and together with other speakers, will address the auditory. For the occasion, we anticipate a good attendance. The cause and the talent attracted hither, must engage the interest of the community, and secure their presence.

Temperance Lectures in the Prospective.—We are gratified to learn that Capt. Wm. M. Marshall, the able lecturer, will lecture in this Borough on Monday evening, 9th proximo, and possibly also the following evening. He will then during the remainder of the same week, make a lecturing tour of the County, embracing in his visits, the principal towns. He will lecture in Schuylkill Haven on Wednesday evening, June 11th; Minersville, Thursday evening, 12th; Tremont, Friday eve., 13th, and Pinegrove, Saturday eve., 14th. The friends of the cause in those places would do well to prepare for the reception of Mr. Marrell. He is a religious man; nothing whatever of an improper character is admitted into his lectures, and if no other building are unoccupied in the places which he contemplates visiting, pastors need not hesitate to place at his disposal their church edifices.

Improvements on the Edges of the Borough.—Within the space of a year, improvements of the most gratifying character have not only been in active operation in the Borough proper, but have extended to the gently undulating hills in its immediate vicinity. The upper part of Mahantongo street is gradually being extended, and presents to the eye a continued line of elegant *residences, remarkable for chasteness of design*, and substantial construction. The peculiar situation of Pottsville, bounded in as it is by mountains and miniature hills, presents an insuperable obstacle to building within a convenient distance of Centre street, and the eyes of some of our citizens are turned to a couple of spots overlooking the Borough, and which as yet remain unimproved as far as building is concerned. John Bannan, Esq., has set the example in beautifying the residence at a fine position on Sharp Mountain, above our Borough. The "Camp Ground" and "Lawton's Hill" offer similar advantageous positions, which have been perceived and secured by those who have watched the growth of this Borough, and feel what she is destined to be in the future.

Already those spots of ground have been fenced in, and the plough has disturbed the sod which had not before for a score of years, experienced the cutting acquaintance of that useful agricultural implement. It is not improbable that in less than a fourth of that space of time they will present to view an array of private residences, within stone's throw of the heart of business, and unsurpassed for effect and beauty of situation. With Pottsville set their feet—every house in which can be distinguished from those elevated position—an unsurpassed view down the valley through which tumbles the gentle Schuylkill, and Sharp Mountain rearing its tall form full in front, we know of but few locations preferable for a place of residence.

There is a piece of table land just below the Southern brow of Sharp Mountain, which we do not hesitate to place next to the position occupied by the Catskill Mountain House, as the finest to be found anywhere for the erection of a summer hotel for visiters. It commands a fine prospect and will yet, we doubt not, be adapted to the purpose.

An Interesting Occasion—Presentation of an American Flag to Council 55 of the O. of U. A. M.—A crowded and brilliant audience assembled at the Court House in this Borough on Tuesday evening last, to witness the presentation to Council 55 of the Order of United American Mechanics, by the ladies of Pottsville of an emblem of our nationality—a magnificent silk American flag. The members of the Council assembled at their chamber between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening, and from thence preceded by the Pottsville Brass Band marched in procession through several of our principal streets, to the Court House. When the members were seated, the room was densely thronged, and we venture to say it never was since its erection, has a more effective scene been presented within its capacious walls, than met the view on Tuesday evening. About two hundred ladies were present, while masses of the sterner sex filled the seats nearer the entrance to the room.

After an appropriate national air by the band, R. M. Palmer, Esq., received the flag from the hands of one of the fair donors, and proceeded with some pertinent remarks to present it to the Council, through its representative, E. H. Rauch, Ex. S. C. Mr. Palmer adverted to the praiseworthy objects of the order; of its influence in placing the American mechanic in his proper position; of its brotherly care and affection; paid a merited tribute to the intelligence and patriotism of its members, and finally expressed in eloquent terms the motives which induced the fair daughters of Pottsville to present the beautiful emblem to her brave sons. Mr. Palmer was frequently interrupted by warm expressions of approbation on the part of the auditory, and sat down amid vociferous applause.

Mr. Rauch in accepting the flag on behalf of the Council which he represented, expressed his embarrassment at addressing so brilliant an audience. He was a comparative stranger in our midst—having come from Bethlehem, Northampton county—and his love for the principles of the Order had induced him to accept the position which he occupied before the auditory. It was one of the most pleasing incidents of his career. Mr. R. occupied the attention of the auditory for an hour, and his breathless manner—interrupted only by tumultuous applause at intervals—in which every person in the house listened to his remarks, attested the interest felt in the subject, and the ability of the speaker. Mr. Rauch explained to his hearers, the object of the Order; its political bearings, which are entirely National, and drew a vivid picture of the evil effects of the importation of foreign paupers and criminals, to compete with the labor of American mechanics.—To resist the flood of pauper immigration is the *main object of the Order*, to which all other matters are subservient. Mr. R. said that the honest, industrious, worthy immigrant, no matter of what nation, is welcomed to our shores, and the Order will take him by the hand, and bid him *God speed* in his effort to obtain fortune and happiness.—They wage no war on them. The Order only opposes the influx of a class of population, who are exported from their "country for their country's good." We are unable to follow Mr. Rauch in all he stated on the occasion. His remarks were true, eloquent, and convinced the judgment of every auditor. After thanking the ladies warmly for their beautiful present, he sat down amid prolonged applause.

The flag which is of large size, is a beautiful work of art. It is lined with rich white satin, with a crape cord in each of the four corners. It is not intended for public display; but will be used to cover the coffin of each deceased brother before his body is entombed. It is a touching as well as patriotic testimonial of esteem on the part of the fair donors; is appreciated by the members of the Council, and we feel confident that each and all would rather perish than dishonor it, in thought, word or deed. All honor to an Order, which is our country's pride in time of peace, and will be its defence in time of war.

An Ingenious and Important Novelty.—On Wednesday morning, we witnessed with much interest, an experiment, which in itself a novelty, would attract attention, but which was doubly interesting from the fact, that in the hands of the talented and energetic projector, F. Howson, Esq., engineer, assisted by the able and accomplished mechanic, Mr. Walter Chilson, the master carpenter of the lateral roads, who is without a superior in the heavy work of his trade, it was perfectly successful.

It is of course familiar to all acquainted with the topography of the country in which the Schuylkill River rises, and through which that stream flows until it empties into the Delaware, that it is peculiarly liable to sudden freshets—*freshets so fearful at times in their character*, that property of every description, and often bridges of the most massive construction are swept away. The engineers of this character cause the Reading and other railroad companies connected with this Region can be readily imagined, while the effect upon the Trade of the Region is injurious.

To obviate any difficulty of this description in the future, it clearly demonstrated that a bridge for a double track railroad 150 feet in span and 20 feet in height, can be thrown over any river or chasm in *six hours*. (There are no structures in the Coal Region of greater dimensions.)

This may appear incredible; but the experiment of Wednesday—which by the way, was confined to prove that it can be done. On Wednesday above Palo Alto, the material for three trussels was landed on a truck by forty-two laborers and mechanics—from the Mill Creek, Mt. Carbon and Valley Roads—in *ten and a half minutes*. (Unfortunately, we arrived too late to witness this performance, but are informed by those who witnessed it, it was characterized by wonderful simplicity and despatch—the various sounds of men moving from lever to lever at the word of command from Mr. Chilson; lowering the immense piles of beams on the trucks with precision and ease, resembling the facility with which the battery of a frigate is handled.) The material was brought down to Mt. Carbon, with the men, at which point, beside the iron bridge, which connects the Valley with the Reading road, it was to be erected. Twenty minutes were occupied in framing the first tressel, and placing it by means of a moveable derrick, in its position next the abutment; ten minutes were consumed in framing and erecting the second, and ten minutes likewise were consumed in erecting the third. In forty minutes the three tressels were in their proper position. In fifteen minutes after, the heavy beams and rail were in their position on the tressel work, and a truck passed from the shore with men upon it, to the extremity of the work—about a quarter of the distance across the Schuylkill at that point. In fifty-five minutes only were occupied in bridging almost a third of the distance across the Schuylkill at Mt. Carbon, it will readily be perceived that the entire river could be crossed easily in six hours. The work is of the most substantial description, and fully capable of sustaining the heaviest engine used on the Reading Railroad.

As John Tucker, Esq., President of the Road, and other experienced gentlemen interested in the experiment, have witnessed the operation, they will undoubtedly report upon the feasibility of this novelty in the art of bridging. As a temporary substitute for a permanent structure it is undoubtedly superior to anything of the kind heretofore brought to the attention of the public, when we consider the rapidity with which it can be constructed. All wooden railroad bridges are continually liable to destruction from flood or fire, and the detention to transportation which often ensues from these causes, is most serious to railway carrying companies. As this system of temporary bridging possesses no fire—we are confident, sufficient merit to obviate this difficulty, it deserves well of every person interested in the trade of this Region, and should be adopted by the Reading and other roads, interested in an effective temporary substitute for permanent structures rendered unserviceable by accident.

We have not alluded to the plan for furnishing material in case a bridge would have to be suddenly erected; but it is understood that all the material is to be constructed, and stored above Palo Alto, ready for use at a moment's notice.—With a train of cars and the requisite number of hands it can be conveyed to any point with which there is communication by rail, and constructed in a few hours after a disaster may have occurred. We congratulate Messrs. Howson and Chilson upon the success of their experiment of Wednesday.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

State debt of Connecticut, $4664.

Deaths in Brooklyn last week, 70.

Deaths in New York last week, 322.

Deaths in Philadelphia last week, 176.

Signor Blitz is giving entertainments out West.

The Emperor of the French will visit Ireland in July.

Peter Mattocks was executed in Philadelphia last week.

The Massachusetts Legislature will adjourn to-day.

A national convention of hatters meets in Cincinnati, July 14.

A case of *coup de soliel* occurred in New York on Saturday last.

The Americans have carried the municipal election of Richmond, Va.

In portions of Massachusetts, snow banks six feet in depth, still remain.

A new town at the head of Lake Superior has been christened Hiawatha.

The 9th of June is the day fixed for the Baptism of the French Imperial Prince.

Iranistan, Barnum's country seat, is to be sold under the hammer, next September.

The Lake Superior Journal has resumed publication after a temporary suspension.

Mary Jane Lapp, aged 16 years, committed suicide in Philadelphia on Sunday last.

Now Bedford, Mass., has appropriated $2,000 for the celebration of the 4th of July.

Vijil, the name of the minister from Nicaragua, is pronounced as is if written *Vee-heel.*

The Empress Eugenie has entered her thirtieth year, having been born on the 5th May, 1826.

On Saturday last the Queen of England, Victoria, reached her 37th year—the 18th year of her reign.

Specie is returning from Europe in the steamships. A favorable premonition for monetary affairs.

The most profound metaphysician of the age, Sir William Hamilton, died in Edinburgh on the 6th inst.

The noted "Miss Coutts" is living quietly in London and is about to marry a member of the Board of Trade.

Kossuth has been lecturing to large audiences at Birmingham, Eng., on the Papal Concordat with Austria.

A woman in Hardin county, Ky., has been on trial for forcing her step-daughter to swallow pins and needles.

The Revenue of British India shows a deficit of about twelve millions of dollars compared with expenses.

Miss Coombs, a young and talented New York lady, is playing an engagement at the "Walnut" in Philadelphia.

The "Angel Gabriel" convicted of causing rioting in British Guiana, has been sentenced to three years imprisonment.

A native of Africa who visited England a few years ago, when asked what ice was, said, "him be water fast asleep."

They have on exhibition at Cincinnati what they call a "wild woman," who was caught, it is said, in Washington Territory.

Thirty of the young men from Alabama, taken to Kansas by Major Burford, have deserted him and joined the free State party.

The Junior of the American Banner has surrendered to a *Comitus*. The chains that bind him are rosy ones. The bonds, hymenial.

The clergy cost of the United States $6,000,000 annually, the criminals $9, the lawyers $5, tobacco 40, and rum over 100,000,000.

A poor man in Bristol, Eng., recently found a pocket-book containing £95, returned it to the owner, and was rewarded with three pence.

The penalty now in North Carolina for killing an adversary in a duel is death. In Washington for assassination in the street, one is applauded.

There are to be nine hundred and thirty-four hotels, and two hundred and thirty-one eating houses in Philadelphia, under the new liquor law.

During the past two years, the ocean has swallowed up forty millions of dollars worth of property. What a capacious maw, and still ready for more.

While digging near the Lehigh Water Gap last week, some workmen turned up eighteen Turkish copper coin bearing date equivalent to A. D., 1832.

Between Saturday afternoon last and Monday morning, the mercury in our thermometer fell 39 degrees. A remarkable change for even our changeable climate.

A mule in Kentucky, seventeen hands one inch high, was sold last week for eight hundred dollars. It is thought to be the finest animal of the species in the world.

At the recent Royal Review at Spithead, a war steamer, the Cuchoo, was fitted up for the use of members of the press, and exclusively assigned to them by the government.

A blighted old bachelor in town says, that he supposes that the natural diet of an infant being milk, will account for its cream. A monster in human form, he is, he thinks.

New Jersey justice is severe. Jacob Lenairs, convicted of murder in the second degree at Camden, has been sentenced to twenty years imprisonment. It is a barbarous, a cruel sentence.

Forrest, the tragedian, has determined to play an engagement in every theatre in the United States and Canada, and then retire from and from the stage. His has been a brilliant career.

The Junior of the Chambersburg *Repository* has gone and perpetrated matrimony, whereupon the senior congratulates him as "his choice was wise and happy, and the cake he sent us good."

When a man cannot "get a living" without selling rum, it is about time for him to leave this "sphere." The quicker such people are out of the way, the better. They are a curse to themselves, and to the world.

Howard Sincox, recently fell into an old Coal shaft, near Birmingham, Eng., where he remained three days and nights before he was rescued. He caught hold of a chain in his descent—a distance of 90 feet, and thereby saved his life.

In addition to the excursion of the Philadelphia Grays on the 11th of June, another excursion to Niagara is in contemplation by the Wayne Artillerists, of Norristown, on the 3d of July.

The wife of one of the unfortunates who were entombed in the Coal mine near Zanesville, became deranged in consequence of the long and agonizing suspense, and has been taken to the Lunatic Asylum, in Columbus.

A stable was destroyed, and a couple of dwelling houses damaged by fire in Reading on Sunday. The buildings occupied by the Farmers' Bank and Pennsylvania Bank, narrowly escaped destruction.

In Paris recently, M. Niquet, a rich capitalist, was murdered by his son-in-law M. Pellault, Cause—domestic difficulty, superinduced by extravagance and reckless speculation on M. Pellault's part.

The ladies of Greensburg, Ind., have voted to appoint a committee of one hundred, selecting of course the prettiest, to visit all the liquor shops in town and try by "kindness and affection to influence seller to quit the business." *Good bye* "Johnny!" Farewell "smash!"

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