Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1857.

"SHAVERS" AND THE CHEAP TRAFFICKERS.—These classes affect communities with their presence, and are the allied bane of business prosperity. The first class embraces the "shavers," the men who make 2½ per cent. per month, at the expense of the necessities of the business community. With leech-like tenacity these men cling to their victims until the last cent is extracted. The blight of such an investment of capital, can no where be so perceptible as in Pottsville. In this Borough we need very badly, a large number of small houses, with rents ranging from $100 to $150 per annum. The capital devoted to "shaving" if put to that purpose would give an impetus to the growth of the Borough in wealth and population; enhance the value of property and business, and prove a good paying investment. Were it also devoted to manufacturing operations in connection with the erection of dwellings, which is one of the imperative wants of the Borough, the results would be most satisfactory to the capitalist, the Borough, and the entire Region, for an impulse given to legitimate business here would act upon the County, as a stone thrown into the placid waters of a tiny lake, sending the wavelets in every direction to its boundaries. A system of "shaving" in a business community affects not only those who directly submit to it, but extends beyond that circle to the humblest member of the community. The exorbitant charges of the "shaver" must be borne by some one, and they fall indirectly it may be, upon the workingman. He feels it keenly in the depression of business consequent upon the system; in the scarcity of comfortable little residences which capital rightly directed, would send our Borough with, and in the almost total absence of those manufactories, which give employment to the population of, and supply the necessities of a community, in place of compelling that community, to seek abroad the commonest article used in every day life. How important might the manufacturing interests of this Region be, were the capital now used to fleece it, directed to their establishment and maintenance.

Another and probably the greatest curse to a community, is found in *cheap stores*. As the circulating medium of a place grows out of the profits of its business men, it is essential that the trade of the place should be equitably conducted, and fair profits accrue to every one engaged in business. If one or two men monopolise the business of a town by their will-o' wisp inducement to purchase cheap goods, or if a company carries out a similar plan of monopoly of the business of a place, to the detriment of other retailers, who desire but a fair profit on their sales, the circulating medium is stopped, and a check is placed upon the prosperity of the community.—The laborer in patronising cheap stores will find too soon, to his cost, that he has been patronising cheap labor, for labor is affected by the prosperity or disaster of a Region much sooner, and feels the change more keenly than capital. We do not advocate high or exorbitant charges. We simply say that it is to the interest of the entire community that it sustain those stores where good articles are sold at a fair profit to the dealer. We have no faith in cheap stores and cheap men.—We avoid them both. An experience of a series of years has destroyed all faith in either. If our citizens will give this subject a little consideration, we think that they will come with us to the conclusion, that of the two curses to a community like our own, it is difficult to decide which are first to be avoided, the "shavers" or "cheap traffickers."

HOW TO MAKE BUSINESS FLOURISH.—In every community, the life of business is judicious advertising. Many of the colossal fortunes of the country have been built up by a system of advertising, liberal in some instances to a frightful extent. It paid however. The New York *Ledger* first attracted attention by its peculiar system of advertising. Now its merits—it is probably, the best of the sentimental papers published—are fully able to maintain its huge circulation. It still advertises however, recognising the importance of being ever prominently before the public. Our remarks are intended more particularly to reach the business men of our own Borough. Business is depressed, and in a measure it is much the fault of those having articles daily wanted, which though on their shelves and in their drawers, might as well be in China as regards *usefulness* to their *possessors* or those who need them. Advertise them. Let purchasers know where they can get what they want in their own neighborhood, without sending to Philadelphia for it. People will not hunt up what they need. They inspect the advertising columns of a newspaper. A large number of our advertisements are from Philadelphia dealers, who get much custom from Pottsville, for the simple reason, that although the articles are on hand here, our dealers do not advertise them, and citizens are ignorant, without going to much trouble, where to get them. At times, we have hunted for articles here, and at last have sent abroad for them, learning subsequently, that they were on hand here, at really cheaper rates than we could purchase elsewhere. Dealers here should awaken to the fact that by not advertising they keep on hand articles unsold, which would be readily disposed of, were the fact of their existence generally known, and also learn that the aggregate retail business of the Borough would be largely increased, were they to adopt a systematic and judicious plan of advertising their goods. We have no selfish motive in suggesting this, as our advertising patronage is liberal and quite as large as we can conveniently accommodate, without infringing on our reading matter. We suggest what we really think will be conducive to the interests of our Borough store-keepers.

THE USURY LAWS.—An effort is making by stock jobbers and men of kindred gambling propensities, at the present session of the Legislature, to effect a repeal of the usury laws of the State. To their repeal we are utterly opposed, for we consider it to the interest of the State to keep money cheap, and enforce rigidly the penalties against usury. In Europe money, the rate of which is regulated by the leading banks, is kept cheap, as favorable to the wants of producers, and beneficial to business interests. In this country, where much is yet to be developed, and capital is required, it is highly important that the price of money be kept low, and it is only by a strict enforcement of the laws, which it is proposed to repeal, that an equilibrium can be maintained between capital and the manufacturing interests.—In the West, the high prices of money serve but speculative purposes in an inflated community.—Here at the East, our producers need money at cheap rates. By maintaining the usury laws and punishing the violators of them, we secure money in abundance at low rates. There is hardly a business carried on legitimately, that will yield a profit of over 6 per cent. Money should not expect more. One thing is certain, if the usury laws should be repealed, the capital of the country would be benefitted at the expense of the manufacturing interests, and the preponderance would tell fearfully against the best interests of Pennsylvania. We hope, therefore, that they will not be removed from the statute book.

INCREASE OF PAUPERISM—ITS CAUSES.—The Philadelphia *North American* in an article on neglected children and the increase of pauperism, makes the following astounding statement:

"Pauperism has increased in the State of New York from one pauper to every one hundred and twenty three persons, in 1831, to one pauper to every seventeen inhabitants in 1855. New York has 42,000 paupers more to support than Ireland. There are two paupers in New York to one in Ireland, and while in Ireland the tax has diminished ten per cent., in New York it has increased twenty per cent. In Pennsylvania, no doubt there has been a similar increase, but we have no positive data to fix its amount."

Our city contemporaries in seeking the causes of the vast and astounding increase of pauperism, rack their brains to furnish reasonable suppositions. It is attributed to idleness, want of employment, crime, etc., yet the primary cause of pauperism, is hardly touched upon, and it alluded to at all, it is in an exceedingly delicate manner. The social glass, too tempting for general condemnation, wields mere influence in the manufacture of paupers, than any other single cause which can be named. From "the bubbles that break on the banker's brim," spring full-armed for destruction, those causes which tenant our prisons, give the candidate occupation, destroy domestic felicity, impoverish the affluent, beggar the poor, and fill our alms-houses. Until a stand is taken in the matter of an indiscriminate sale of the poison, vended under the titles of brandy, whisky, etc., by the people, the causes of the increase of pauperism in the United States can be readily explained.

THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.—The Annual Report states that [illegible] miles of the second track of the Road has been completed. The report speaks strongly in regard to the tonnage tax, declaring it to be embarrassing to the road, and in direct violation of the Constitution of the United States; but the question can only be brought before the proper tribunal through other instrumentalities than the Company. Since the repeal of the tonnage tax on coal, the transportation of the bituminous variety has become an important branch of the company's business. It is deemed an important branch, in connection with other business, although the charges for transportation are necessarily light.

To increase the coal business, however, greater facilities should be furnished for its shipment to and distribution at Philadelphia. With a view to this object, as well as the more important one of reducing the cost of Western produce on shipboard to its minimum, an act of Assembly authorising the Company to extend the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad to the Delaware river has been procured, which will be submitted to the stockholders, and their sanction is asked for the commencement of the work which it authorizes. The earnings of the Company for the year, from all sources, were $4,720,193 71.

HANEMANN RE-CONVERTED TO COMMON SENSE.—At a meeting of "spiritualists," an invalid was brought forward dreadfully afflicted with ulcerous scrofula that all the doctors had failed to cure. It was proposed to appeal to the spirit land for advice, and a Homeopathic physician present interrogated the departed spirit of Hanemann as to what remedy should be taken. Loud and distinct raps, audible to the whole audience, told off *Ayers Cathartic Pills.*—*Norfolk Beacon.*

Local Affairs.

COURT for the trial of civil causes, has been in session during the week, Judge Conyngham of Wilkesbarre, presiding.

The last Lecture for the benefit of 2d M. E. Church will be delivered on Tuesday evening next by the Rev. GEO. R. CROOKS, A. M. His subject will be "the Harmony of the Bible and Science."

Larceny.—This week Joseph Bower and Wm. Yost charged with the larceny of four buffalo robes from Charles Heffner, Luke Lounsbury, Myers and Charles Tanner, were committed to prison by Esquire Reed in default of bail, to answer.

Camphene, Fluid and Oil Lamps and Candles have been in general use in the stores and dwellings of this Borough during the present week, as the Gas has been shut off. Our citizens are evidently wearied of Gas bills, as high in some instances, as the rents of their houses.

Ball at Ashland.—The first Annual Dress Ball of the Citizen's Brass Band of Ashland, will be given at the Mahanoy House, Ashland, on Monday evening, February 23d. As the arrangements for the festive scene will be of the most liberal character, and the managers are gentlemen of experience in that line of amusement, we anticipate for the participants a glorious time.

Snow enough, "in all Conscience."—Upon the frozen snow of the great storm of a fortnight since, snow commenced falling on Friday night last, and fell to the depth of about ten inches by Saturday morning. On the roads of the County, the snow is packed to the depth of a foot, while on those running around the bases of our mountains, it is in some places, three and four feet deep. We will undoubtedly, have sleighing until the Spring. The roads in the county are hardly well broken yet.

During the past two days, dame Nature has been in a melting mood, and much snow has disappeared in consequence. The thermometrical record for the week is as follows:

P. R. & P. TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
Pennsylvania Hall, Pottsville.

Sat.	Jan. 31,	8 A. M.	28° above	zero—snowing
Mon.	Feb. 2,	" 12	"	" —clear.
Tues.	" 3,	" 5	0° below	" "
Wed.	" 4,	" 12	22° above	" —cloudy.
Thurs.	" 5,	" 5	40° "	" "
Fri.	" 6,	" 12	40° "	" —clear.

Borough Election.—The following persons were on Monday last, elected officers for the Borough of Port Carbon, for the ensuing year:

Chief Burgess—Ross Bull.
Council—George B. Fisher, Eli Thompson, Michael McDonough.
School Directors—Dr. J. H. Wythe, Thomas Maloney.
Justice of the Peace—Henry Shissler.
High Constable—Uriah Gana.
Town Clerk—Orando Templin.
Assessor—Michael D. Weand.
Assistant Assessors—Charles Baber, James Gillillian.
Auditors—John Bailey, Robert Allison, Jacob Sessinger.

Although the Opposition have the majority in Port Carbon, they very judiciously placed men of all parties on the successful ticket. This course must prove satisfactory to the citizens of Port Carbon.

Christian Association's Course of Lectures.—We would call special attention to the announcement of the Lecture Committee of the Christian Association. Rev. Mr. Brown's Lecture on "Woman's Rights" which has been delayed for several weeks by unavoidable circumstances, will be delivered next Monday night.—The subject seems peculiarly appropriate to the times, when all classes and all parties are clamorous for their "rights." It is certainly very desirable to have as much light as possible thrown upon the subject of "Woman's Rights." We should say at the outset, that the right to go and hear that lecture is one of "Woman's Rights," and should advise them, one and all, to exercise that right; and further, to claim the right to be accompanied by a brother, husband or beau. We notice with pleasure that the Rev. D. A. Tyng has to become one of the lecturers before the Association. He is a talented young man, and what is better, he dares to say what he thinks to be true and right, even though it may cost him a comfortable living. Mr. Gough is also engaged to deliver one of the lectures. We sincerely hope he will come, and that every man, woman and child in Pottsville will hear him.

Tickets for the balance of the course of five lectures, are offered for 65 cts., only 17 cts. each. We would urge all who have not secured season tickets for that course to purchase them at once. They may rest assured that they will be amply repaid for the time and money they expend in the intellectual entertainment they will receive, besides having the satisfaction of aiding in a noble and praiseworthy enterprise.

Gas Meeting.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of Gas Consumers, held on the evening of Feb. 4th, inst., there being no propositions from the Pottsville Gas Company, the following proceedings were had in furtherance of the duties of the object for which we were appointed:

Resolved—In Executive Committee—that *the terms* authorized by the meeting of Jan. 7th, and *the time* limited by resolution of Jan. 12th, have expired and become inoperative by the non-acceptance of said Gas Company; and such implied refusal of an amicable arrangement for the settlement of the pending difficulty, *compels* the Committee to fall back upon the contingency provided for by the meeting of Jan. 12th, and prepare and open books for subscriptions to the capital stock THE CITIZENS' GAS COMPANY.*"*

Resolved, That the amount of said Capital Stock shall be fixed at *Thirty Thousand Dollars*, with the privilege of increase to *Sixty Thousand*, divided into shares of *Twenty Five Dollars* each, payable in installments of *Five Dollars* (on each share) on the first day of April, May, June, July, and August next ensuing.

And be it further *Resolved*, That Benjamin Pott, James M. Beatty, and John M. Crosland, be and are hereby appointed a Committee to employ counsel for the formation of a proper charter and to urge the passage of the same by our State Legislature, or Court of Quarter Sessions, for "The Citizens' Gas Company of Pottsville," and that said Committee make a report of their progress at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, and final action to be had thereon.

And be it further *Resolved*. That Benj. Haywood, Benj. Pott, James M. Beatty, Walter Sedgwick, Geo. W. Slater, and F. L. Foster, be and are hereby constituted a Committee to procure subscriptions for the new "Citizens' Gas Company of Pottsville."

A Committee from the Borough Council being in waiting, made report, that the Council were much interested in the success of the new Company, and would subscribe for stock, should it be necessary, in proportion to the amount of gas consumed, for public purposes, not exceeding the sum of ten thousand dollars, and would apply for the requisite legal authority to do so.

BENJ. POTT, *Chairman pro tem.*

We have been requested to publish the following:

To Benjamin Haywood, Chairman of the Committee of Citizens appointed to confer with the Pottsville Gas Company:

The undersigned, a Committee of the Gas Company, after a conference with your committee, would suggest that a further trial of the Gas be given to enable the citizens and the Gas Company to prove fairly how they stand. The pressure under which the Gas was supplied from the old works, was much lighter than from the new, and to meet this, a little care in the regulation of the stop cock at the meter and a change in the burners, we believe, will make a material difference in the amount of bills for Gas. The Company will with pleasure, render every information and assistance in making the trial. On application to the Superintendent, he will come round and adjust the stop at the meter and supply such burners as consumers may select. We suggest, that at the expiration of a month, or perhaps sooner, the Company will be able to lay before your Committee a full statement of the causes of the difficulty in the first starting of new works, and we confidently expect that the matter can be so arranged that all parties will be satisfied; at all events, we shall be better able to judge of what we can do in the premises, and hope with the cordial co-operation of the citizens, to be able to extend the main pipes so as largely to increase the consumption. We should be glad to so extend the works, that no portion of the Borough should be deprived of an opportunity to use the Gas, and think the interest of all parties will be best advanced by giving the Company time to understand what they can reasonably do in the premises.

SAMUEL SHAYMAN,
WESTON MORRIS,
JNO. H. ADAM,
} *Committee.*

Pottsville, Jan. 27th, 1857.

Mrs. Juliet H. L. Campbell, wife of the Hon. James H. Campbell, and daughter of Chief Justice Lewis of this State, has been justly termed by eminent biographers, one of the Female Poets of America. Several of her charming productions have obtained a trans-Atlantic reputation, while here we esteem her one of the most promising of living female writers. Mrs. Campbell is equally happy in prose and poetry. Her last poetical success is named

DEATH AT THE CAPITAL.

The dames of the city have lost the last light,
And slowly around them, now gathers the night,
With revel, and wassail, for gallant and dame—
For student and statesman, both labor and fame—
With love, for the cherished—neglect for the love,
And rest for the weary, who slumber 'till morn.

O, dames of the city, inamorate and white!
O, gentles and ladies, so joyous to-night!
O, poet! enchanted with visions of fame,
And statesman, still lusting for power and acclaim!
A lesson from heaven falls fateful and fast—
Come dalliance and travail, there's death on the blast.

Pale maid, with the lilies all pale on thy breast,
He breathes on thy bosom, but parest thou now;
Sweet babe—whom the angels are waiting above—
Still slumber to-night on the bosom of love.
'Tis not to the watching or weak, Death hath come!
He wrestles to-night with the stalwart and strong!

Ye minstrels, through sorrow be patient in prayer.
While he glaives with swift rushing the turbulent air;
Ye ripe for the harvest! all hoary and sere,
Yet tarry awhile, in your weariness here;
From the height how of manhood, falls shattered the crown.
And the locks which are brightest, in dust are laid down!

Behold, when the morning breaks misty and hoar,
How slumbers the athlete, whose strivings are o'er!
The right arm of power lies paralyed and chill,
But the lips dumb forever, are eloquent still,
As the pantomimes form, in its solemn repose,
With a smile of good will looketh up to its foes.

Unmoved they behold it when flushing in wrath,
But are awed by the calm which its helplessness hath,
And words of contention have faltered to prayer,
O'er the soulless humanity stiffening there.
God pity his errors, and pardon our hate!
And mercy keep ward at the crystaline Gate!"

JULIET H. L. CAMPBELL.

Washington.

China.—Rev. George Loomis, President of the Female College at Wilmington, Del., delivered a lecture on the subject of the Second Methodist Church, this Borough, on Tuesday evening. Having sojourned some three years in that country, the Rev. lecturer had ample opportunities of studying the manners, customs and religious ceremonies of the Chinese. He gave a brief history of the present revolution, in which the rebel chief is endeavoring to overthrow the Tartar dynasty. Mr. Loomis expresses no faith in the rebel chief, and considers his professions of Christianity as sham merely to overthrow the existing religion of the Chinese, and thus destroy the government, which it sustains. The history of China,—a country estimated at 2,000,000 square miles of territory, and a population embracing 360,000,000 souls, has been tolerably well handed down from the year 700 B. C. Mr. Loomis asked, why is it that a government so immense as the Chinese, has not broken down of its own weight? His solution of the mystery is, in the first place, the spirit of implicit obedience to commands and authority, exacted by the Chinese father from his son, which principle is carried from grade to grade, from official to official, until it reached the Emperor on his throne. Disobedience is punishable with death. In the second place, in China, talent mounts its humblest possessor from the condition of the peasant boy to a seat next the Emperor on his throne. A poor boy may enter a college in one of the universities of China, and after studying '''till his eyes are stunned,' he will be elevated to the highest official positions. These principles have sustained a government, the ruler of which being absolute, would long since have crumbled to pieces of its own weight, had they not been embraced in its economy.

In speaking of the food of the lower orders of the Chinese, Mr. Loomis said that he has seen in their markets, dogs and kittens, exposed for sale, but no rats. He never saw but one rat dressed, and that was by one of the Chinese boatmen in the harbor of Canton. Rice is the principal food of the Chinese, great quantities being consumed.

Mr. Loomis spoke of the fashion of compressing the feet of the female children of parents of rank; of polygamy—the number of wives a Chinese has, is indicative of his social position—and gave several anecdotes illustrative of these points in his lecture.

Before concluding, Mr. Loomis exhibited some idols, a spiritual sword, (to cut off the heads of evil spirits,) a funeral tablet, paper dresses which are burned at the graves of relatives, etc.

It is impossible in limited space to follow Mr. Loomis through all the details of his interesting lecture. It abounded in information even to those who are conversant with Chinese history; manners and customs, and was delivered in a conversational, entertaining manner, individual rebuking in contrast with the stiff, formal habit of delivery contracted by the mass of lecturers.

These lectures of the Second Methodist Episcopal Church have been quite a feature of the present winter's entertainments, and we congratulate the managers on the success attending their efforts to instruct and amuse. The attendance on Tuesday evening was excellent.

"Little Things."—The charming sentiment of the annexed neat lines are worthy of the fertile poetical powers of the "Buckville Blacksmith." A fund of good common sense is contained in the mental treasury of our friend, which is communicated to all his productions. We welcome the *jen d'esprit* to our columns; congratulate the author on its beauty, and commend it to attentive perusal. There is much in

Little Things.

There are little things remember'd,
Trifles they seem to be;
That have an influence in shaping,
Man's destiny.

Incidents that passed in childhood,
Have a tendency ev'n now;
To make a smile or cloud to gather,
On the brow.

Words of advice still we remember,
Tho' perhaps, the friend that gave
The same, lies mouldering cold and lowly,
In the grave.

Little words of friendly chiding,
Spoken in a gentle tone;
Stamp more deep in our affections,
The chiding one.

Little words of kind approval,
Treasured are with miser care;
And within the mem'ries garner,
Hoarded are.

Little words of sweet endearment,
From some lov'd one, how they tell!
On the heart, with force and make it
Rise and swell.

Little things—a mother's kiss,
Yet I do remember still;
How they used to soothe and make my
Bosom thrill.

Little tears are balmy dew-drops,
From the fountains of the heart;
Come to wash with healing sweetness,
Sorrow's smart.

Little smiles are beauteous gleamings,
Bright outpourings of the light;
That shine in every loving bosom,
Ever bright.

Little actions of unkindness,
Seem forgotten when they're done;
But their memories haunt us after
Years are gone.

Little smiles oft lead to great ones,
If allow'd to live and grow;
Little voices oft entailed,
Loads of woe.

Things that seem of little moment,
Wrong or rightly understood;
Form the minds of youth and make them,
Bad or good.

And the minds which thus are formed,
When they are to manhood grown;
Give the world of thought its bias,
And its tone.

Little things, they should be cared for;
They are mighty in their way;
And in earth's progressions have their
Part to play.

There are wheels that work within wheels,
Springs that act on other springs;
In fact this world of ours is made of
Little things.

See that rain-drop gently falling,
A little thing it seems to be;
Drop on drop, and myriads of them
Make a sea.

That little grain of dust that's lying,
Scarcely seen by naked eye;
Grains like it combine and form that
Mountain high.

There's a spark falls from my anvil,
Insignificant it lays;
Sparks far less have set our cities,
In a blaze.

Little things ought to be treated,
With importance, for they are,
Mighty still for good or evil,
Everywhere.

Let us watch them, not neglect them,
Little things around us strewn;
Shun the bad ones—keep the good ones,
For our own.

THE BUCKVILLE BLACKSMITH.

Buckville, Jan. 19th, 1857.

Bible Society Anniversary.—The Schuylkill County Female Bible Society held its Annual meeting on Monday evening, in the M. E. Church, Market street, Pottsville. At the appointed hour, a large and intelligent congregation having assembled, A. Russel, Esq., was called to the chair, and Rev. D. Washburn chosen Secretary. The exercises were opened by the Rev. Mr. Torrence, agent of the Penna. Bible Society, with the reading of a part of the 119th Psalm, and an appropriate, earnest prayer for the Divine presence and blessing.

The reports of the year's labors were then read, showing the following most gratifying results.—*Three thousand, one hundred and six families* had been visited by Mr. John A. Hickman, in the service of the Society, at the following localities, viz: Port Carbon, Belmont, Cumbola, Silver Creek, New Philadelphia, Pottsville, Middleport, Tuscarora, Tamaqua, West Penn township, Mahanoy Valley, Union township, Catawissa Valley, Ashland, Girardville, Little and Big Mine, Mahantango Valley, Williams' Valley, Deep Creek Valley, Locust Valley, Mt. Pleasant, Stanhope, Eckert & Gilbert's Furnace, Little Dam, Tremont, Pinegrove township, South Manheim, Orwigsburg landing, Auburn and West Haven.

Among the people thus reached, 816 volumes of the Holy Scriptures were distributed. A thousand out of eleven hundred Roman Catholic families were found without any Bible, and but few would purchase however cheaply, or even accept as a gratuity, the precious volume of sacred writ.—About 500 nominally Protestants, out of 2106 families so designated, were found destitute of the Word of Life, to most of whom it proved acceptable on presentation, and was accordingly furnished—31 volumes gratuitously, and 791 at their value or a part—making the total distributed by Mr. Hickman, 856 of the 1021 drawn by him, according to the following report:

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1ST., 1857.

No. of vols. in Depository, Feb. 1st, 1856,		206
" " Bought of Penna. Bible Soc'y,		1,318
" " In Pottsville,		47
Whole number of volumes,		1,571
No. of vols. drawn by J. Hickman,	1,021	
" " Sold by librarian,	67	
" " Donated to Hotels,	291	
" " Given by subscription,	2	
		1,381
No. of volumes in Depository,		190
Value of books in Depository,		$144 28

MARY W. PARVIN, *Librarian.*

From which it will be seen that the Society enters upon the new year with some 350 volumes, including the number in the depository, with those yet in the hands of the distributor. The report of the Treasurer shows an expenditure of $515 15 for books &c., during the year, leaving $17 38 to the credit of this Society, in account with the Penna. Bible Society, and $37 70 in the Treasury. To this $80 were added for constituting new life members, and a collection of $12 44 at this anniversary meeting: $5 of which was a donation from the 2d. Methodist Church, and the life members constituted are Mrs. T. Russel, Mrs. Parry, Mrs. Bartholomew, Mrs. Pollock, Mrs. Hedgway, by individual contributions of friends, Henry Clay Parvin, Miss Charlotte A. Russel, Miss Allen by her scholars, and Rev. Mr. Gracey by individual donations at the meeting.

The annual report alluded with affectionate regret to the decease of Mrs. Couch, late one of the managers of the Society, and closed with exhortation to perseverance in the noble work in which the society is engaged.

The meeting was then addressed by Judge Conyngham, President of the Luzerne County Bible Society, and Judge Parsons of Philadelphia, who formerly officiated as presiding judge in this and neighboring counties. This was a feature of the anniversary as delightful as it was unexpected and unusual. The counsel of learned jurists could nowhere be more appropriately given, than to such associations which directly conserve the morals and well-being of society. Happy is the people whose judicial functionaries, blending the Christain, the philanthropist and the patriot, lend their influence to promote the circulation of man's best enlightener. The fruits of disciplined minds and large experience are thus made eminently useful. This, and much more, was testified to on the occasion. Senators Bigler and Brodhead—Democrats who present as clean a record as that of the President elect himself. No more patriotic plain, English Will attempt to say the latter does not warrant them conclusions. Mr. Buchanan states, in reflect that Pennsylvania President must have a Pennsylvania Senator with whom he can hold confidential relations. By implication, at least, he here gives the people of the United States—the Democracy of the Union—to understand that Senator Bigler is unworthy of that confidence; that the representatives of the people, at the last meeting of the Legislature, did a very silly thing in electing Governor Bigler to the Senate; that the representatives from Schuylkill voted for a man wholly unfit for the position. What greater insult, I ask, could be offered those who are the friends of Wm. Bigler, one of whom I profess to be?

Mr. Buchanan's reference to Mr. Brodhead is still more plain and pointed. He states distinctly and clearly, in so many words, that his relations for several years past, with this consistent and distinguished Democrat, have been such that he has no confidence in him, and therefore he must be slaughtered to make room for John W. Forney. These, Mr. Speaker, are the instructions to the Democratic members of the Legislature, notwithstanding the positive assurance of Mr. Buchanan himself, given as I am told, previous to the late contest, that all animosities and misunderstandings should cease and be forgotten—that every Democrat who labored for the cause was to stand on an equality with his brother Democrat in the distribution of patronage, &c. How changed his views immediately after the election. Mr. Brodhead we all know, labored zealously and faithfully for the triumph of the Democracy in the late severe campaign. The fruits of his services are seen in the unparalleled majorities of old Northampton—in the overpowering vote cast for the Democracy throughout the glorious Tenth Legion. The fact had, however, gone forth. He was to be sacrificed not with one term, after a career in the Senate which should have brought him a different reward. I appeal to every disinterested, independent Democrat—to every individual who values his reputation—whether so unwarrantable reflection on Gen. Bigler, in the first place, and so unjust an attempt to prejudice the claims of Mr. Brodhead, in the next place, without taking into account others who were almost as summarily dispatched for Mr. Forney's gratification, did not loudly call for rebuke.

"I took the responsibility" of resenting this Executive dictation, and should do so again did an opportunity offer. I did it with a full appreciation of my accountability to my constituents. I believe with this explanation, their confidence in me will not be so much shaken as Mr. Buchanan's is in the two Senators mentioned. I looked in the first place for information in a letter written by Mr. Buchanan in relation to Gen. Cameron, a former election to the United States Senate—an election which was brought about also by Democratic votes—The following is an extract of the letter. I contains a rebuke administered by Mr. Buchanan in 1845; that he himself may feel at this time with almost as much force as can calculators:

"WEMMEROV, 31st March, 1845.—Gentlemen: I have the honor of receiving your communication of the 18th instant, censuring the conduct both of General Cameron and of those Democratic members of the Legislature who, in union with the Whigs and Native Americans, elected him to the Senate; and stating that you deem it proper to afford me, as a Pennsylvanian, an opportunity to express my opinion concerning what you term 'this unnatural and unexpected result.' Whilst entertaining for you the most profound and grateful respect, I have arrived at the conclusion, after much reflection, that it would be improper for me, especially since I have become a member of President Polk's Cabinet, to criticise or condemn the Legislature of a sovereign State for electing whom they pleased to the Senate of the United States. Jealousy of federal interference and federal influence in State elections, ever has been, and I trust ever may be, a prevailing sentiment throughout the Democratic party; and if, in the new official position which I now occupy, I were to pass sentence against those Democratic members who voted for another Democrat, instead of the caucus nominee, I might justly be asked "who made you a judge in this matter?" They are responsible to the sovereign people of their respective districts and counties, and in the hand of their constituents they shall be left, as far as I am concerned. Besides, I might add, that any interference on my part in this delicate question, would inevitably tend further to distract and divide the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, at a moment when I am most anxious it should be united in supporting the National and State administrations.

* * * * * * *

"I remain your friend,

"JAMES BUCHANAN.

"Findley Patterson, Samuel Negley, John Penlright, Joseph Bailey, Israel Painter, J. H. Hackman, Charles A. Black, J. P. Hoover and Benjamin Champneys, Esqs., and others, Democratic members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania."

Mr Buchanan, it will be perceived, and I wish especial attention due to this fact, deprecates the interference of "federal influence" in State elections, and says that jealousy of such interference ever has been, and he trusts "ever may be," a prevailing sentiment throughout the Democratic party." He further states that in the new official position he holds—Secretary of State—were he to pass sentence against those Democratic members who voted for General Cameron, instead of the caucus nominee, he might be justly asked, "*who made me a judge in this matter?*" If Mr. Buchanan was right in 1845, while Secretary of State under President Polk, he is sadly at fault now, when President, in bringing his influence to bear in behalf of a candidate for office. He then was called upon to speak of Judge Woodward's defeat—a man of "private virtues and splendid talents,"—but he very properly remained silent. He now raises his voice as President in favor of one who can lay claim to no qualities of the kind. In opposing Mr. Forney, we are told of "federal interference," and can appeal, without great propriety, to Secretary Buchanan of 1845, to sustain us in our position against President Buchanan in 1857.

But, Mr. Speaker, it was not alone the executive power, brought to bear against the Democrats who merited better treatment at the hands of Mr. Buchanan, that influenced myself and colleague in casting aside obligations that would otherwise have been considered binding. Mr. Buchanan forced the nomination of an individual for Senator who, by his single act of his life, without noticing more of his aims, made himself unworthy of so high a position, and unworthy to associate with the distinguished men of this State. It is perhaps needless to say I refer to Mr. Forney's base attempt to elicit acknowledgments from a weak man in a 'tit of drunkenness, produced at Forney's instance, with a view of perpetrating a great wrong against a defenceless woman in distress. For the purpose of showing the enormality of his offence and the depths to which he descended, I shall refer to the celebrated letter of Mr. Forney to Mr. Roberts.

(PRIVATE.)

"Our friend Forrest is now here, and is about to apply for a *divorce* from his wife. He has had for eighteen months the proofs of her infidelity, but has chosen to keep them quiet, and would have done so still but for her folly in essaying him for leaving her. It is really astounding how he has kept these proofs to himself from all his friends, for all that time; but it is so nevertheless. The facts are these: eighteen months ago, while playing in Cincinnati, he caught Mrs. F. in a very equivocal position with a young man, in his parlor—not in actual connection, but near it. She protested innocence, and he let it pass by—loving her as he did most profoundly. They passed on to New Orleans, and so homeward to New York. After they reached home and had been there some time he found, one evening, on his wife's table a *billet doux* in the hand-writing of, though not signed by, this young man, in which he alluded to her in terms the most amorous and unmistakable.

"The language alluded to her white arms that wound about his neck—to the 'blissful hours they had spent together;' and the letter had been kept as a memento until it was quite well worn. Upon this evidence, with the other confirmatory proofs, he intends applying to our Legislature for a divorce; but you are now in a position to serve him *in a manner he will never forget*. The person who wrote to Mrs. F., and in whose company she was *detected*, is George Jamieson, now playing in New Orleans. If you don't know him, you can, as the editor of a leading daily paper, soon make his acquaintance. What Forrest now desires to clinch the nail to, is to obtain in some way an admission from Jamieson. I named you to him, as a safe, steady and intelligent friend, and he never will forget what you do to him, in this to him the most vital matter. He suggests that you might insinuate intimate relations with J. and then induce him EITHER IN YOUR PRESENCE, OR IN COMPANY, TO ADMIT AS A THING TO BE PROUD OF, his connection with Mrs. F. He is fond of a glass, and possibly in a convivial mood, might become communicative. No harm will come to him; he is game too small for Forrest; and any admission he may make, may be interpreted only as aiding an injured man in getting relieved from a hateful bond. Can you manage this thing, my friend? It will require skill and caution, and, if successful, will warmly endear you to Forrest. He is nearly crazy at the idea of being placed in his present position; but he will spend half he is worth to be released from it. This matter must be kept secret. Above all, do not involve me in connection with it; excuse me for troubling you in regard to it. My ardent attachment to *glorious* Forrest must be my excuse. Now won't you help to relieve him?

"It would help in the matter, probably, to know that John Green, the actor, now in New Orleans, is the warm friend of Forrest, and may know Jamieson well. You can use your own discretion in letting him know the facts, and invoking his aid. This letter is addressed to you in the knowledge of its secrecy.

"Please write at once after receipt as you can find opportunity to look about you.

"With kind regards, I am, dear Roberts,

"JOHN W. FORNEY."

Shakspeare, in the character of Iago, intended to represent a villain of the darkest dye—one whose low, constantly humming vein would, for the most hellish purposes, one whose very nature is regarded by every reader with loathsome disgust, and with the feeling of distrust in a race among whom its vile wretch should be found. It is questionable whether the immortal bard had better material with which to portray this character than is furnished in the foregoing letter. Then Mr. Forney should attempt to overwhelm us with odium upon odium, because we refuse to be bullied over, after the fashion he is accustomed to him, is perfectly natural, and what might have been expected.

"Not honest Iago, if we find a strain,
Round for the handkerchief that caused his pain."

Indeed, none but a villain of the deepest dye, Forney's immorality would have and did secure his debut; and I am glad to be able to say that I am not alone in this view of the case. A leading Democrat of Schuylkill, though heading a meeting in Pottsville, called to denounce us, stated to a gentleman of my acquaintance, previous to the election of Senator, that there was sufficient justification for any one who should refuse to vote for Mr. Forney. It is painful to be obliged, in self-defence, to make mention of a circumstance of a private nature; but when individuals deal in unmeasured abuse of me, without provocation or just cause, I shall not hesitate to "carry the war into Africa."

I take it for granted, Mr. Speaker, that I have furnished sufficiently good reasons for arraying myself against the nomination and election of John W. Forney. After satisfying my mind that I was right in my determination to oppose him, I did not hesitate long in making my choice between the opposing candidates. I saw as did my colleagues, that Gen. Cameron was the only man presented with whom we could succeed. It is true, he was the candidate of members belonging in different organizations; yet, on a hasty review of his life and past services, I believed, as I do now think, I could with great propriety, under the circumstances, give him my vote. This I did conscientiously, regardless of the slights and revilings I knew would be heaped upon me by Forney and his pimps. Their defamation of character could not deter me from doing what I considered to be a duty I owed myself as well as my constituents. I can say to them now, indifferent to their scurrilous attacks, "was vice ever dire as this?"

In voting for Gen. Cameron I assisted, I am glad to say, in the election of a gentleman to the United States Senate who is highly esteemed in all the relations of life. He has been an eventful career, full of encouragement to the youth of the republic—starting penniless and friendless by wealthy friends, he has worked his way up not only to fame but fortune. During Mr. Polk's administration he represented Pennsylvania in the United States Senate. He maintained a position in that body not inferior to any of his compatriots in and out of this State. It was remarked by every Pennsylvanian visiting Washington during his term of office, that they had a representative at the seat of the National Government in whom they could justly feel a pride. He was dignified, courteous, and able to attend to the high and responsible duties of his office. Not only this, and which is of much importance to me, he can point to a Democratic record while there, that cannot be impeached, however far the malignity and envy of his traducers may carry them in other respects. It was this that had a great weight in determining my choice. He is known to have been on terms of the closest intimacy with President Polk, and the President-elect gave evidence of great confidence in him. Certain it is, the people of the State had an abiding confidence in him, on account of his watchful care of their interests. And I may say this is especially true of my constituents, who are so largely interested in the changes constantly attempted to be made in the revenue and protective policy of the government.

General Cameron upheld with so much ability and consistency, while in the Senate, the doctrine of protection, that all parties of Schuylkill applauded his course. And I have no doubt, were an examination made, I could produce the highest encomiums upon him from the very men who are now denouncing him for supporting him. But this change is easy accounted for. They are expectants under Mr. Buchanan, and, by their hypocritical fawning, hope to hide under the smiles of official patronage.

Without any authority to speak for General Cameron as to his course in the Senate, I feel satisfied