Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1857.

A RETROGRADE STEP IN HUMANITY AND CIVILIZATION.—A question which is attracting considerable attention not only in Europe but in this country, has been recently agitated by a portion of the English press, led by the London *Times*. It is a project warmly urged by the cotton spinners of Manchester, to establish what they term, a civilizing apprentice *system*, but which in reality, is a plan for capturing and forcibly transporting from the western coast of Africa, negroes to the colonies of the crown. The idea which has been caught up with avidity by England, originated in France. Not long since, an extraordinary work appeared in France, under the patronage of, and with the approval of the Emperor, in which elaborate arguments were adduced, to prove that the best system of labor which could be introduced into Europe, would be that completely under the control of, and subservient to capital, that is, that the proper condition of the workingman, is that of servitude, deprived of all personal will and freedom.

It is somewhat singular that this apprentice system should be broached almost at the same moment that the French work appears. On the question, two of the most powerful nations of Christendom, appear to entertain a unanimity of sentiment. The cloak of false pretences however, under which France and England, appear desirous of reopening the slave trade to their colonies, is too transparent, for the people of England at least, and they have in alarm at the bare suggestion of this apprentice system, earnestly petitioned the Queen to employ the utmost powers and sharpest vigilance of the government in suppressing the slave trade. The question arises, should they not have petitioned directly against the system, the adoption of which is urged? Convincing reasons have been adduced to prove that a voluntary and intelligent agreement of the African savage to emigrate to a strange and distant land, as a laborer, is a *quasi* state of bondage, for a term of years, is morally impossible. Mr. M. Foster, in a frank letter to the *London Times*, indignantly remonstrates against the miserable duplicity of the so-called apprentice system. In reply to the Queen's memorialists Lord Palmerston pledges to the effect that he will exert all the energy of the government to realise the prayer of the petitioners. We hope he will, for a British subject who has been intimately and largely connected with the trade of the "West Coast" for nearly half a century, says in a late urgent remonstrance against the "apprenticeship system" as it is called, "I deny that it is possible fairly and honestly, to ship a thousand men from the coast of Africa, *as free emigrants*, under any temptation whatever. * * * * I assert positively, and I challenge any man acquainted with the condition of the people to contradict me, that not a single man can be obtained at Whydah, *without being bargained for and paid for.* * * * What a mockery is it, then, to talk of free emigration from the coast of Africa! The fact is, the proposed system is the old cruel system of slavery in a new form. *To talk of a contract with men in their condition is absurd; they do not know what they are bargaining for, even if the truth were told them.*"

To the elevation of the races of men we are favorable. Any movement calculated to benefit them, we will at all times advocate; but as a Christian press we earnestly protest against this scheme, which practically, is slavery in its worst form. We have no fear of the English people, for notwithstanding the plea of its advocates that the system is necessary, in order to obtain an increased and cheap supply of cotton, sugar and coffee, all of which are important items to them, we do not believe they will ever sanction a reopening of the slave trade, under a new name.—Not only the people of Great Britain, but the civilized world should denounce and oppose the movement.

There is a striking similarity in the issue of the French work advocating slavery as far as the working classes are concerned, and the voluntary opinion of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case. Both were manufactured to order, for political purposes. With equal favor the French idea and the Supreme Court production, are received by the pro-slavery portion of the South, who feed more labor, and they advocate any project, having for its object the re-opening of the traffic in human flesh. The Democratic party of this country is on the platform occupied by the Southern slave holders; by the Manchester cotton lords, and Louis Napoleon, a platform having among its principles the degradation and enslaving of white labor. They do not confine themselves to the negro, in urging slavery as his proper condition; but they even point to the white man—to the bone and sinew, the hard working, hard fisted, mechanic—and say with rare audacity, "your proper condition is to be completely at the mercy of capital." Workingmen, you who have heretofore, fought shoulder to shoulder, with a party, whose principles you believed in and trusted, what think you of such sentiments? We do not exaggerate. Those sentiments were openly promulgated in the last Presidential campaign by the Democratic party and are still entertained. This matter should attract the serious attention of the working classes. Consider well the tendency of an open advocacy of the enslavement of labor. *The Irish laborer, in his ignorance and crudulity, is born a slave, and dies a slave, whether under the English or American flag.* We do not address them. We speak to you, intelligent American free working men, you who while professing freedom, have acted with a party, now advocating a detested principle. If you do not awaken from your lethargy and delusion, and oppose the principles, inimical to your happiness and fatal to your prosperity—should the result of the success of the odious measures, prove disastrous to your welfare, and degrading to your manhood, you can blame but yourselves, and feel that your self-imposed doom is merited. Workingmen, can you longer remain with a party whose principles are subservient to the slave oligarchy, that does not hesitate to advocate your degradation, and to take a retrograde step in humanity and civilisation?

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNT.—We invite attention to the receipts and expenditures of the Public Schools of the Borough, for the last two years, which will be found in our advertising columns.—The school tax, by a reference to the records, was commenced at five mills. It has remained at five mills up to 1855, with a *single exception*, about six years ago; when it was reduced one year to 4½ mills. In"1856, the new School Law, required the tax to be assessed differently, designating the amount for school purposes, and also the amount for building purposes. Having a small surplus on hand at the beginning of the school year, the tax for School purposes was fixed at 4½ mills, and one mill for building purposes.—This was sufficient for that year—but at the last triennial assessment there was scarcely any increase in the assessed value of the Borough property, although the number of schools and Teachers had to be increased, and the salaries of a number of the Teachers were also increased in order to secure a continuance of their services.—This required an increase of a half mill, and the tax at the beginning of the School year 1856, was fixed at six mills on the dollar, five mills for School purposes and one mill for building purposes. After defraying all the expenses of the Schools, we have on hand a building fund set apart for the erection of a new Female School House, of upwards of three thousand dollars.—*The new School Law prohibits the use of the Building fund for School purposes*, while at the same it gives the Directors power to levy *five mills for building purposes in a single year*, if the money should be required. The Board have however, adopted the plan of laying a small sum by annually, for building purposes, which would not be felt materially by the tax payers. This money they put out at interest, and when required, they will be in a better position to build economically, by having a large portion of the necessary funds in hand.

The Schools are kept open the whole year, with the exception of a Summer vacation of six weeks and a few holidays. A High School in which the languages are taught, and pupils prepared for College when required, has been in successful operation for the last three years,—and the Board also employs a Superintendent for the Borough, who devotes half his time in teaching in the High School and the other half in superintending the other Schools, examining pupils, &c., for promotion. The School Property of the Borough is worth at least $20,000, entirely clear of debt, while the taxes for school purposes are the lowest in the county. All this has been accomplished by strict economy, and a determination on the part of the Board, to make every officer perform his duty. The School Orders have always been kept at par, in fact no orders are issued until the funds are provided for their payment. There are no "pickings" in the school board, and every person who enters it under such an expectation, is soon convinced that he has got into the wrong box"—and if that only was the controlling motive, he soon retires in disgust. The Collector, by resolution of the Board, is bound to collect all the taxes within the school year, otherwise he is charged six per cent. interest on all monies not collected, and which are not exonerated by the Board. By pursuing this policy there are always funds to meet the orders drawn, without shaving, and the tax-payers derive the benefit of it.

We had intended to draw a contrast between the School Board and the Town Council, but want of room compels us to postpone our remarks this week. It is true that the latter body have many more difficulties to contend with than the School Board—their expenditures are of a different character—but we feel confident, that if there were a few determined Councilmen in that body, actuated only by duty to the public, efforts could be devised to keep the Borough orders at par. We were informed the other day by a Councilman, that none but cripples and those who could not get employment elsewhere, were willing to work for the Borough and take the depreciated orders—and the consequence was, that in addition to the 10 mills tax assessed, the tax-payers are forced to pay at least 20 per cent. in addition, which in effect makes the Borough tax *twelve mills on the dollar*. This is almost too much for an enlightened community to tolerate, in the present state of monied matters.

VERY KIND.—"Messrs. Swayne & Co., of Baltimore," are certainly very liberal. They offer as a remarkable inducement, viz: a very singularly arranged packet which fell into their hands the other day by accident. It is one but seldom issued—really, they are too kind in giving us an exclusive chance at it—and has contained so many good prizes, that it has fairly won the title, "Lucky Package." "Messrs. S. & Co," also inform us that "it is on" the "Bel Air Lottery," class 33, drawing 18th August. As the gentlemen assure us that the least we can expect for ten dollars, which we are called upon to invest in the little affair, will be one hundred dollars—how kind—why of course, it will be a safe arrangement. As the thing is so certain, we would suggest to "Messrs. Swayne & Co.," that to economise time, necessarily consumed in corresponding, and not render oneself amenable to laws which exist in this State against lotteries, that when the drawing takes place and the result is known, they will have the kindness to forward to our address ninety dollars, reserving ten dollars, the price of the "Lucky Package." As it is a sure thing, we have no doubt that "Messrs. Swayne & Co.," will adopt our suggestion.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE FARM JOURNAL for June and July, are upon our table. Published by Samuel Emlen & Co., at Southeast Seventh and Market streets, Philadelphia. This is a publication which from its intrinsic merits, should be in the hands of every farmer in the country.

Local Affairs.

☞ *The English Lutheran Church*, Market street, will be open to-morrow, for worship, at the usual hours, the pastor, Rev. D. Stock, having providentially been detained in town.

☞ *Search's New Orleans Troupe of Ethiopian Minstrels* will give three entertainments in this borough next week. To their advertisement in another column, we refer the reader.

☞ *Fatal Railroad Accident.*—On Saturday last, a little child of German parentage, 2½ years old, was run over by a train of cars on the Catawissa Road, near Port Clinton, and literally cut in two. We were unable to learn the name or the family to which the child belonged, as they had but recently arrived from Germany.

☞ *The Verpenner Scales: Sampson's Patent.*—We have before referred to this improved scale. One capable of weighing 75 tons gross, has just been completed for the Mount Carbon Railroad Company. A trial of it was made yesterday, and it worked satisfactorily. In point of accuracy and durability, this scale cannot be surpassed. We advise an inspection of the one erected by Mr. Blake, the Agent, for the Mount Carbon Company.

☞ *Errors* will creep into a paragraph at times.—Last week in a notice of some fine Timothy grown by Reber & Marbock, Washington township, this County, in giving the dimensions, the size, 11½ inches or nearly one foot, was intended to apply to the head of the stalk, not the stalk itself. We stick to our original assertion notwithstanding the palpable error of last week, it is surprisingly named—Wilmot stalk.

☞ *Rain* on Thursday, a gor-easter, caused something of a freshet in the Schuylkill. Yesterday was clear and pleasant. Our meteorological record for the week, is as follows:—

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

Sat., July	25,	8 A. M.	68	degrees above zero	cloudy.
Mon., "	27,	7 "	72	" "	"
Tues., "	28,	7 "	72	" "	"
Wed., "	29,	7 "	76	" "	"
Thurs., "	30,	7 "	69	" "	"
Fri., "	31,	7 "	68	" "	" rain

☞ *Corner Stone Laying at Auburn.*—On Sunday last, Auburn was crowded with strangers, to witness the ceremonies of the laying of the Corner Stone of a new Church to be built by the united Lutheran and German Reformed congregations. The Rev's. Ulrich, Moyer and Stitzer officiated. Some fifteen hundred persons were in attendance. The site upon which the building is to be erected, is a beautiful one. Two acres of ground for burial purposes, were presented to the Church by Messrs. MILLER and WANNER, of Reading. Everything passed off in the best manner.

☞ *Commendable.*—Mr. Jacob Matthews, collector of the Borough of Minersville for 1857, has we are happy to state, settled his tax duplicate in full. We notice the promptness of Mr. Matthews and Mr. Witman of Cressona, in this matter, with satisfaction. Holding back in settling up tax duplicates, has been too long a feature of the plan of operations adopted by many of the tax collectors of the county. The economy of the county government is dependent on the promptness with which the taxes are paid in, and all the collectors should imitate the example of Messrs. Matthews and Witman. The habit which has existed of holding the taxes in hand, and not paying them over is pernicious, and one that in the future, we hope will be discountenanced. This matter is important, and we hope that the examples adduced will have a good effect.

☞ *Fatal Mining Accident.*—An accident, which resulted in the death of John Alp McLelland, an estimable young man, 18 years of age, happened on Friday of last week, in the Lykens Valley Coal Mines. While working in company with his brother Robert, and another miner, a fall of Coal took place, burying him to the depth of five feet. He was instantly killed. A jury was summoned by Esquire Witman, and rendered a verdict that "the deceased came to his death by the falling of Coal dirt upon him." Mr. McLelland was formerly a resident of Govan Colliery, Glasgow, Scotland. For three years, and at the time of his death, he was a member of the Wiconisco Brass Band. Operations at the Lykens Valley Coal Mines were entirely suspended until after the funeral. Mr. McLelland was much respected by all who knew him, and his death is regretted. The Philadelphia *Ledger* would confer a favor by noticing the fact of this death.

☞ *At a stated Meeting* of the Pottsville Police force, held in the Town Hall, in their meeting chamber, July 27th, 1857, the President being absent at the time the meeting was called to order, the Burgess was called to the chair; the President however, made his appearance before the meeting adjourned.

The minutes of the preceding meetings were read and adopted. On motion,

Resolved, That in case of a fire, the Lieutenants from each ward of the borough have their Police in readiness, and have all the avenues and streets blocked up, so that no goods of any description can be carried away from any fires without the consent of the owner; and keep the boys and women from crowding the firemen.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Police use their utmost endeavors in quelling riots, and keeping peace and order in the borough during the day and night.

Attest, MORRIS ROBINSON, *President.*
MORGAN REED, *Secretary.*

The above minutes meet my approval.
D. S. CHIST, *Chief Burgess.*

☞ *Dust on Railroads.*—On many of the roads of this country, particularly on the Reading, passengers are annoyed during the hot days of summer by dust, which in connection with an impure atmosphere renders travelling an annoying operation. We notice however, that the nuisance will probably be obviated by an invention lately patented by Messrs. D. H. Fox and John Fink of Reading. The *Berks County Press* says that it is a Railroad car ventilator—an ingeniously devised piece of mechanism, having for its object the comfort and health of the travelling public. In a recent experiment upon cars running on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, to which this invention was affixed, it was found to answer admirably in dispelling therefrom the foul atmosphere and dust. Beneath the car is a driving-pulley, attached to one of the axles, from which a belting runs to a fan-pulley fastened under the centre of the car, with a box-pulley to keep the belt in its place. A double fan is placed on a single shaft, with the fan-pulley between; each fan having two outlets. One of the fans (called the "supply fan") draws fresh air from the top of the car, through a broad tube running down one side of the interior of the car, and communicating with the fan, which passes the air each way through a tank of water, and drives it into the car through a register set in the floor, which can be opened and closed at pleasure. It is calculated that six registers will be sufficient to a car, but the number may be increased or diminished, as experience shall discover to be requisite. The air is entirely purified of dust and sparks by means of spray wheels in the water-tanks which are constantly in motion. This is the part of the apparatus by which fresh air is supplied. The other portion serves the equally important purpose of expelling the foul air. On the top of the car a long shallow tube is fastened, communicating with the ventilators in the roof. This tube is connected by several branches with a broad tube, corresponding to the one already described for the passage of fresh air, running down inside the car opposite the former, and entering the inlet of the second, or "exhaust fan," underneath, through which the foul air passes and is thrown off. This forms a powerful suction apparatus, which draws all the vitiated air out of the car. And thus does this invention keep the car always well ventilated, and supplied with a constant current of fresh air. It works equally well either way—that is, in either direction the car may be drawn. It can be attached to any ordinary railroad car at an expense of less than 00.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

☞ Active fall trade is predicted.

☞ Cape May is dull, and visitors scarce.

☞ Deaths in Philadelphia last week, 314.

☞ Lieut. Gov. George M. Hare of the Navy, is dead.

☞ Peaches will be abundant in Southern Illinois.

☞ Capt. Hare, of the Navy, died in York, on Monday.

☞ Some cattle of Berks county have died of hydrophobia.

☞ Lola Montez is playing at the Metropolitan theatre, Buffalo.

☞ On July 17th, 13 persons were killed by the heat in St. Louis.

☞ Another expedition against Nicaragua is preparing at the South.

☞ A large number of deaths have occurred this season from lightning.

☞ All efforts to civilize the Winnebago Indians have been unsuccessful.

☞ The crops in all parts of Continental Europe promise a rich harvest.

☞ The new Light House on Minot's Ledge, will cost a million of dollars.

☞ A new kind of drink is in vogue in California, called comet-smashes.

☞ $300,000 worth of boots and shoes was sold at one sale lately in Boston.

☞ In Boston potatoes have fallen in price from $1,50 to 75 cents per bushel.

☞ There are 150,000 Swiss in this country, most of whom inhabit the northwest.

☞ Shower-bathing has been successfully used in England as a cure for insanity.

☞ The celebrated guide Stephen, of the Mammoth Cave Kentucky, has just died.

☞ All the actors in the Ellen Desmond tragedy in Boston have escaped punishment.

☞ Charles S. Dyer, of Philadelphia was drowned at Atlantic City on Saturday last.

☞ Thalberg, D'Angri, Brignoli and Dempster are at Saratoga, preparing to give concerts.

☞ The sub-marine telegraph across Detroit river to Canada is working with entire success.

☞ A young woman committed suicide near Reading last week. Cause, disappointed love.

☞ Henry Keyes is the Democratic nominee for Governor in Vermont. "Food for powder!"

☞ The arrangements for a telegraph between Cuba and Florida only wait the consent of Spain.

☞ The Republicans of Ohio, hold their State Convention at Columbus on the 12th of August.

☞ A fissure of coal is approaching the earth so rapidly, that it will soon be visible to the naked eye.

☞ Pearls continue to be found in many brooks, dan many people are wasting their time in the search.

☞ Gottschalk, the pianist, is in Caracas, South America, giving concerts with unbounded success.

☞ Rev. John N. Hoffman, Pastor of the Lutheran Trinity Church, Reading died suddenly on Sunday last.

☞ The *Lebanon* (Ohio) *Star* records the death of four men from drinking whisky with strychnine in it.

☞ John McLelland, aged 18 years, was killed by a fall of coal, on Saturday last, in the Lykens Valley Mines.

☞ A German in Cincinnati recently drank in one day, twenty-five glasses of lager. Not fit company for a pig.

☞ Within the borders of the United States are 80,000 schools, 5,000 academies, 334 colleges and 3,800 churches.

☞ The carriage road up Mount Washington is now completed to within a mile from the top.—An omnibus will run.

☞ The census of Kansas, taken by the Marshal appointed by Governor Robinson, makes the population 50,000.

☞ Dr. Fell's remedy for cancers is a caustic composed of chloride of zinc and blood root, (*Sanguinaria canadensis*).

☞ Rum does its work effectually in St. Louis. During last week inquests were held on three bodies, victims of the fiend.

☞ The congressional library at the capitol now comprises no less than 65,000 volumes, many of them rare and all valuable.

☞ At Louisville Kentucky, a contract has been made to deliver one thousand barrels of flour next March, for $4,50 per barrel.

☞ Manager Marshall, of the Broadway Theatre, New York, was married on Thursday to Miss Emma De Haven, of Philadelphia.

☞ The New York Academy of Medicine have decided that the Asiatic Cholera disease was produced alone by a poisonous atmosphere in its body.

☞ The land within the enclosure of the Illinois Central railway for many miles has been planted to potatoes by the Irish employees.

☞ Mr Everett has accepted an invitation to deliver his Washington address in Portland, Me., at some time during the first week in August.

☞ Colonel Forney is accused of the meanness of endeavoring to entice away the workmen employed in the office of the *Pennsylvanian*.

☞ The Rev. John Glancy Jones, has gone on a tour to Kansas, thus deserting his colors, and giving up the election of Packer as hopeless.

☞ The assessed value of real and personal estate in New York, is as follows:—real estate, $352,968,203; personal estate, $168,214,749.

☞ A freshet in one part of Ohio carried the poisonous matter used in a whiskey distillery into the Ohio river and thousands of fish were killed.

☞ There is much demand for laborers in the upper peninsula of Michigan. One of the railroad companies offer $1 50 a day and board.

☞ Longworth, the wine-grower of Cincinnati, has been arrested and held to bail, for refusing to allow the Inspector of Liquors to examine his wine.

☞ The number of baskets of strawberries sent from Ramsay's Station, Bergen county, N. J., to market, from June 12th to July 9th, was 1,093,493.

☞ The Republican and American parties of New Jersey are forming a union of interests, for a preliminary step, their leading papers have been consolidated.

☞ The *N. Y. Herald* thinks that the Forney newspaper movement in Philadelphia is the forerunner of a split in the Democratic party in Pennsylvania.

☞ Harriet Livermore, the venerable Second Advent enthusiast, still exists, and is lecturing in Philadelphia to raise money for a third tour to the Holy Sepulchre.

☞ Abraham Rencher of North Carolina has been appointed Governor of New Mexico. He will introduce slavery there, by carrying his slaves with him.

☞ The Roman *Forum* is now a cow-market, the Tarpeian Rock a cabbage garden, the Palace of the Caesars a rope-walk, and Ashland the residence of J. B. Clay.

☞ There was a firemen's paradein Harrisburg on Saturday last, incident upon the reception from Philadelphia of a new fire engine by the "Friendship" company.

☞ Mr Madlina Smith, on trial in Edinburg, for alleged poisoning her lover, has been acquitted. The manner in which she has been lionized is injurious to morals, and in opposition to good taste.

☞ The Lyconing Insurance Company, which has been in operation seventeen years, and in that time issued fifty-one thousand policies, has not had the loss of a single building protected by a lightning rod.

☞ The new post office law in Canada takes effect on the first of August. The system of pasting all newspapers without charge will be discontinued, and only those sent directly from newspaper offices, will be free.

☞ George Peabody offers $10,000 to the city of Newburyport for any charitable purpose. He has given away half a million since he has been in this country, about equal to the profits of his business during the period.

☞ *A Sure Cure for a Cough.*—Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry is pleasant to the taste, and seldom fails to effect a speedy cure of every species of throat and lung diseases.—It is a scientific preparation, skillfully compounded.

☞ There are more unemployed vessels in the port of New York, than ever before. Seven hundred and ninety-two with an aggregate of about 300,000 tons are idle. The English screw Propellors are crowding us out of the carrying trade.

☞ The publication of the New York *Daily Register* has been discontinued. The editor and publisher, Mr. Scoville, says he has labored like a dog sixteen hours a day for five months, and now finds himself minus some $9,500.—This is the experience of many.

☞ An ovarian tumor, weighing 38 pounds and measuring 14 inches in length, has been removed from a lady of New Kent county, Virginia, by C. L. Gibson, Professor of Surgery at the Richmond Medical College. The prospect of the recovery of the patient is considered excellent.

☞ *Augustina Zaragoza, the veritable "Maid of Saragossa,"* died recently at Cuenca in Spain For her services, when very young, in assisting at the memorable seige of Saragossa, she was made a sub-lieutenant of infantry in the Spanish army, and received several decorations. She was buried with great honors.

☞ Mr. David Rowe of Lancaster Pa., claims to have discovered a process, by which green corn can be preserved in the ear, and has obtained a patent for his invention. Last summer he prepared and put up eight bushels of ears of corn by this process, which still retain all the sweetness and milk of the new corn.

☞ The number of locomotives running in the United States is probably 3000. The proportion of engines to length of road, will average one to every three miles—for, while the Western roads have but one to every five or six miles, many others, like the Erie, N. Y. Central, Baltimore and Ohio, &c., have nearly one to every two miles. The Philadelphia & Reading Railroad has about three engines for every two miles.

POLITICAL.

Interesting and Important Correspondence.

LETTER FROM DAVID WILMOT.

HOLLIDAYSBURG, May 9th, 1857.

HON DAVID WILMOT *Towanda, Bradford county, Pa.*

SIR:—At a regular meeting of the American State Council, held in Altoona, on the 19th of April last, it was *Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to solicit from the candidates put in nomination by the Convention held at Harrisburg, on the 25th of March, their views in regard to the principles of the American Party.

In pursuance of the foregoing resolution, the undersigned were appointed said committee:

John Brotherlins, D. McMurtrie,
John Corvode, J. N. Power,
George W. Patton.

You will please give us categorical answers to the following interrogatories, which embrace the principles of the American Party, to which your attention is desired:

1. Do you hold that in the election or appointment of all officers, native born Americans should be preferred?

2. Are you in favor of the protection of American labor, American rights, and American interests?

3. Are you in favor of the purification of the ballot-box, a reform in the naturalization laws, the enactment of a registry law, and the prohibition of foreign paupers and convicts landing upon our shores?

4. *Are you opposed to any interference of Church hierarchies in politics?*

5. Are you in favor of Free Schools for the education of all classes, with the Bible as a text book used therein?

With great respect, we remain, your humble servants,
JOHN BROTHERLINE, *Chairman.*
(REPT.) TOWANDA, July 16th, 1857.

SCRANTON.—Your letter of the 8th of May came to hand during the sitting of my courts, immediately on the close of which I left home, and returned only a few days since. This must be my apology for not earlier having responded to your communication.

I am requested to answer certain interrogatories propounded to me, in pursuance of a resolution of the late Convention held at Altoona.

The history of our State establishes a wise and safe policy in respect to the point embraced in your *first* interrogatory. It will be found rare indeed, that any adopted native-born citizens have held high official station, either in the Executive or Judicial departments of our State Government; and the same chaste, with comparatively few exceptions, have filled the seats of our Legislative Halls. The naturalized citizen cannot reasonably complain that this traditional policy should be perpetuated. There is nothing in it intolerant or proscriptive; nor will the enlightened and patriotic citizen of foreign birth so regard it. It imposes no legal disqualification. It takes from him no right. Official station of right belongs to no man. While I would adhere to this policy as one of wisdom and patriotism, no American who properly appreciates his responsibilities, would neglect an inquiry into the character and fitness of candidates presented for his suffrage; nor could he, without treason to the best interests of his country, disregard the claims of principles involved in his choice. Thus, occasions may arise, when an enlightened and faithful discharge of duty would demand our suffrages for the naturalized citizen, in preference to one born on the soil. Understanding the spirit of your first proposition as not inconsistent with the views here expressed, I yield it my cordial assent.

II.

"Are you in favor of the protection of American labor, *American rights, and American interests?*"

Your second interrogatory, I shall content myself with a simple affirmative answer.

The matters embraced in your third interrogatory are of the first importance, and demand the most serious consideration of the patriot and statesman. The boldness and success with which frauds are perpetrated upon the ballot box have become alarming, and unless promptly and effectually checked, must end in the subversion of our system of free governments. The *forms* of liberty may remain, but only as a cheat and mockery, glossing over the reality of despotism or ever crued despotism.

I would sustain with my whole strength any and every measure wisely devised to preserve the purity of our political elections. Whatever may threaten the ballot box is moral treason against republican government; and all duly convicted of doing concerned therein, in addition to other penalties, should be forever disqualified from holding office, or exercising the elective franchise.

Doubtless our naturalization laws could be so amended as to add in securing purity and fairness in our elections; but we should not weaken our State sovereignty by looking to the General Government as the great source of reform in this matter. It belongs exclusively to the States to regulate this whole question of suffrage—to prescribe the qualifications of electors—to provide safeguards against frauds, and inflict punishment for attempts made to violate the sanctities of the ballot box. Our own State cannot too early or vigorously exert its constitutional power in respect to these matters—vital as they are to liberty and the stability of the government.

It has ever been a source of just pride to the true American, that his country offered an asylum for the oppressed of every land. God forbid that this should be so ungrateful for his blessings, as to refuse to share them with the honest and industrious of whatever clime or country; but it is an outrage upon our hospitality, and a violation of confidence reposed by the generous people of the Old World to ship cargoes of criminals and paupers upon our shores. Our Government cannot be too vigilant in guarding our rights in this respect.

To your *fourth* interrogatory I answer:—That I am opposed to the interference of hierarchies in politics.—The office of a Christian minister is second to no other in dignity and responsibility. I would not detract from his functions, or impair the respect due to his character. I acknowledge his right, and as a teacher of the people, I believe it to be his duty, to speak openly and fearlessly against social and political evils, destructive of public morals and at war with the interest and happiness of humanity. But when he publicly proclaims, if he transcends the propriety of his place and office, a mild corrective is found in the censure of an enlightened public.

But thus a priestly order, invested by the laity with a mysterious sacred character—with pretensions to extraordinary spiritual power—bound together by strong ties, and acknowledging as their head a foreign potentate—that such an order should enter the field of politics, control our elections and influence the policy of our Government, is surely cause for alarm, and should awaken the jealous vigilance of the American people. It will probably be denied that any such hierarchal influence is brought to bear in our elections. We should judge with caution, but not condemn without proof.

We see the American people divided on all momentous issue. The principles of human freedom or bondage are brought in direct conflict. Man's inalienable rights to equal liberty is denied. The doctrine is openly asserted by those who hold the government in their hands, that God created the mass of mankind to be slaves. In the heat of this struggle was the strongest ties severed—the ancient political parties of the country broken, and men of every nation and faith divided, save one, the Church of Rome. Church alone are united in political action. This unity in the midst of otherwise universal division is truly most remarkable. From Maine to Texas—from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean—in every city, town and village, at every election, whether State or Federal or by whatever influences surrounded, we find the votaries of this Church arrayed in political action on the side of slavery. This unanimity in an intelligent search to the principles of slavery, because those principles would reduce ninety-nine out of every hundred of these men to a condition of slave. Whence are we to look for the cause of this unity among so many hundreds of thousands scattered over so wide a surface? We find the mystery of the Catholic Church as a class, among the least enlightened of our population, and thus in a condition to yield a ready obedience in all things to an authority which they have been taught to respect as of God's appointment. That this Church is a political power of high and extraordinary claims. It is the only true Apostolic and Catholic Church. It is infallible in doctrine—has the power to work miracles within its holy communion—its head is the Vicegerent of God on earth, and successor of the Apostle to whom was entrusted the keys of Heaven. It is a pure hierarchy. The laity have little or no voice in all authority being concentrated in the priesthood. Again I ask, whence this *unity in political action* among the votaries of this Church when they are scattered over so wide a surface? We find the source where the power resides. When the votaries of the Church of Rome shall exhibit in our political contests the like diversity of views and action that is seen among all other classes of our people, then, and not till then, will the public mind be relieved from the suspicion that hierarchal influences are mischievously at work in our politics.

It is idle to evade the point, by labored efforts in defence of religious toleration and the rights of conscience. No assault is made upon either. The largest liberty—the broadest toleration, is conceded in matters of religious faith and worship. The ground of complaint lies here—that a hierarchy, invested with peculiar sanctity and powers in the eyes of the laity, should exert a spiritual influence to control our elections, and give the policy of our Government a direction adverse to the wishes of a majority of the people, not within the sphere of ecclesiastical cognizance. No intelligent man will question the fact, that the late Presidential election was controlled by the *united Catholic vote*. It the adherents of that Church had been divided in their votes, as were all the other political sects of our country, the present administration would never have had an existence. The Slave Power to-day would not be master of our Government—relegating its abhorrent doctrines through her political tribunals—undermining the sovereignty of the States, and boldly trampling down the clearest constitutional rights of the citizen.

It is also apparent to every intelligent observer, that the same unity in the Catholic vote is relied upon as the main support of her opponents in the coming State election. With these undeniable facts before us, can it be said that there is no ground for the strong conviction in the minds of the American people, that hierarchal influences not only interfere in our politics, but actually control our elections? If the Protestant sects of our country manifested the same unanimity in *opposition* to the Pro-Slavery Democracy, that the Catholic Church does in its support, our opponents would not be slow or measured in their denunciations. Indeed, we have seen evidence that party skill will gross vituperation such Protestant Christian ministers as openly, in the face of day, denounce from the sacred desk the crime of Slavery, and insist upon the duality of the marriagal parental relations. In them, it is grievous offence to proclaim, in connection with Slavery, the great essential truths of Christianity; that God is the Creator and Father of all men—that He made of one flesh all the nations of the earth—that He is no respector of persons, but holds in equal love all His children, and that he will require of every one the observance of His righteous law: "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." This alliance between an ancient and powerful Church and the Slave interest of America, is the more remarkable when we consider the fact that the early and authoritative teachings of that Church are against slavery and oppression. That this strange alliance is to continue I know not. How long it is to be successful, is for the American people to decide.

To your *fifth* interrogatory I answer—that I am in favor of Free Schools for the education of all classes, and am opposed to any exclusion of the Bible therefrom.

Respectfully yours, D. WILMOT.

TO JOHN BROTHERLINE, Esq., *Chairman*, &c.

American-Republican State Nominations.

GOVERNOR:
DAVID WILMOT, of Bradford county.

LIEUT. GOVERNOR:
WILLIAM MILLWARD, of Philadelphia.

JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT:
JAMES VERCHE, of Fayette county,
JOSEPH J. LEWIS, of Chester county.

Democratic State Nominations.

GOVERNOR:
WILLIAM F. PACKER, of Lycoming county.

CANAL COMMISSIONER:
NIMROD STRICKLAND, of Chester county.

SUPREME JUDGE:
WILLIAM STRONG, of Berks county.
JAMES THOMPSON, of Erie county.

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Lawrence Sentinel, Mass.—"It is a sure remedy for Inflammatory Complaints."

Huntington Journal, Pa.—"It stands unrivalled in Inflammatory Diseases."

Norway Advertiser, Me.—"All whom we used the Salt have derived the most beneficial effects from it."

Piketown Journal, O., edited by Mrs. E. S. Dexter.—"We can say from experience, it is an excellent remedy for Headache, Neuralgia, Agua and Palpitation of the Heart—indeed, we are sure it will do all it professes, and we say God speed the new medicine."

Jeffersonville Democrat, Ind.—"Has cured several cases of Rheumatism, Bronchitis, Erysipelas and Canker."

Lewiston Advocate, Me.—"Our journeyman was cured of severe Neuralgia in one week."

Philadelphia Herald, Pa.—"It is growing very popular here."

Liberty-Town Banner, Md.—"It has cured Humors and Inflammatory Cutaneous Diseases."

Waynesville Visitor, O.—"We know it subdues Fevers, Headaches, Toothache, and lost pains—working *silently but effectually*."

Another editor, by letter to Dr. says:—I know of several who are using it with great benefit, but unknown to their family physicians, whom they do not wish to *offend!*"

Another—"I have been a dyspeptic 3 years—have taken the Salt four weeks and am entirely cured."

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Boonville Observer, O.—"In Fevers and Inflammatory Rheumatism, it is invaluable."

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American Eagle, Ind.—"It has been used successfully in Nervous Headache."

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Another—"It is very popular with the ladies in Nervous and Female Complaints."

Another:—"It is the best Remedy for Fever and Ague ever used in the West."

Another:—*My wife has long been afflicted with Inflammation of the Lungs and a hard Cough; she has used the Salt less than one month, and her complaints are wholly removed.*"

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Lewis Co. Banner, N. Y.—"We know it is *all* it professes to be."

Newark Times, O.—"It is an excellent remedy for Neuralgia, Headache, Inflamed Eyes, and Catarrh. It is indeed a great discovery; and we say, 'Tremble, ye disciples of Esculapius.'"

Another, by letter.—"My wife has been cured of Inflammation of the Womb and distressing Piles."

Another—"Our town clerk has had