Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1858.

PROTECTION AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

In various sections of the country, factories are again resuming work; but they commence operations again under an entirely new system. The times which are yet pinching hard, compel the manufacturer to commence cautiously, or he will sink again in a brief period, as he did but a few months since—sacrificed by ill-advised if not corrupt legislation. Raw material is falling in price, and the workman experiences a reduction of 20 per cent. upon the wages he received a twelve month since. And even at this reduction there are thousands of workmen who seek in vain for employment. There is something radically wrong in such a condition of things. Still capital will be idle until avenues of remunerative investment are opened to it, and the prices of labor must fall until business is in that healthy state when the workman can dictate to his employer the rates at which he will furnish his skill and industry. At present capital has labor completely at its mercy, and labor must succumb, until times grow brighter.

This is unfortunate for both. Capital and labor are not, at least should not be, inimical in interest. The highest state of prosperity and civilization is attained, when both move harmoniously. This fact we think, will not be denied by the most ultra defender of the rights of workmen, nor by the capitalist.

The present stagnation is not the result of a struggle between capital and labor. It is owing to a vicious system of party legislation, and Presidential administration, which having in view but self-aggrandizement and the spoils of office, casts aside the interests of the workmen who created the power which is turned against them. How shamefully they were deceived when Pennsylvania rang with the cry, "Polk, Dallas and the Tariff of '42," our workmen now keenly feel. Yet that was but one of many tricks whereby the dominant power attained its ends. Since the repeal of the Tariff of 1842, this country has been tributary to Europe for masses of manufactured goods, the raw material for which was exported to England. A strong commentary upon the utter folly of legislation accorded workingmen by the men they elect, is the fact that a ton of goods can be brought from Europe to New York, and be sold cheaper (it is true that there is not a succession of high tolls on the route,) than goods of similar character can be manufactured in Pottsville and sold in that city. In the one instance the goods are transported nearly three thousand miles. In the other less than two hundred. We have not only been made consumers of foreign fabrics, manufactured by the cheap labor of Europe; but the beautiful system our workmen have been induced to support, has made us debtors to Europe to the enormous amount of three hundred million of dollars, and at last caused us almost to realize the theory of James Buchanan, Ten Cents a day, wages for the American workingman.

Notwithstanding our workmen are suffering, they have in their possession the means of correcting the evil. Distress should not render them apathetic. With them rests the power of assembling in mass meetings, and preparing petitions to Congress, calling the attention of the Government to the necessity of affording protection to American manufactures. Already have the workmen of Philadelphia taken the initiative in a movement of this character. And in preparing for a regular organization for effective operation, they called upon Dr. Elder, one of the most talented writers and speakers upon political economy in this country, to address them, which he did on Thursday evening last. This is a movement in the right direction, and we hope the workmen throughout the country will join their Philadelphia brethren, in posting themselves upon the question of Protection, and then act. The power of reform lies with them. If they will but exert it with unanimity and *determination*, success must crown their efforts.

Another task which the workmen must set themselves, and discharge fully and faithfully, is to throw overboard the pot-house politicians, who hang upon the skirts of the workingmen, begging their support while they protest how much they love the "dear people." Cut them down. They are parasites destroying the growth and vigor of the noble oak. However humble and seemingly fair out of office, when in they misrepresent the people's interests and legislate for self and party. They are morally and intellectually unfit to represent the interests of the workingmen even in a village council chamber. How derogatory to dignity then, placing them in lofty positions in looking down from which all men appear small to them, and *they* are small to all men. This class of politicians is losing ground in various portions of the country; but our halls of legislation are still disgraced by too many of them. We look to the workingmen to lop them off, root, trunk and branch. Failing to do which they must suffer still at the hands of politicians who ruin them. It is folly to support a man liberal in profession, when his party is in power, and notoriously opposed to protecting the interests of the workingmen. Let the American workingmen wash their hands clean of the entire craft of pot-house politicians, and they will begin to see day breaking, where now is nought but darkness and dismay.

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN seems desirous of having a standing army at his command, and it appears probable that he will succeed.—The army bill which will we presume, soon become a law, gives an increase of seven regiments, or seven thousand men. Does the country need the increase? No: the country is at peace, and some dark scheme of wrong is to be carried out which these seven thousand bayonets are needed for. Perhaps one great object is to increase the already bloated patronage of this slave-driven administration. In India a custom prevails of sending a cake which the call *chupattee*; throughout a province to the *zemindars* and all the military leaders, and every one who tastes of this cake is held bound solemnly, *to do* whatsoever the chief of that province commands. The administration needs some more power to enforce the Lecompton swindle. It desires some more tools among whom it may distribute the *chupattee*; Congress should take care that it places no extra force in the hands of a man who, like Mr. Buchanan, stands upon the record as having broken every promise on which he was elected, and as having entered upon a scheme to carry out which demands the use of irresponsible power and brute force against the wishes and behests of the majority of the people!

CORRUPTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ARMY SYSTEM.—When John C. Calhoun was Secretary of War, the expenses of the Army were reduced to two hundred and seventy-three dollars per man, per annum. Under the present extravagant Administration it costs us over a thousand dollars each soldier. There is no reason for this state of things. Why the cost of each soldier should be so increased, is incomprehensible, when our system of post routes has been improved, and expenses of travel decreased of late years. Nothing corrupts people so quickly as plunder the system in connection with Administrative patronage, and we think that as the United States Treasury is depleted, this is a matter that should attract some attention, and insure investigation.

From the Philadelphia North American.

IRON PRODUCTION FOR THE ENTIRE U. S.

In following out the inquiries into the production and manufacture of iron undertaken for this city and its vicinity, we have been furnished with the material for the following extended statement of the entire production of iron for the whole country, which will be found the most thorough and reliable ever given to the public. It is also, we are able to say, much more accurately made up than the British statements sometimes given in their trade circulars. For the purpose of this statement we may distinguish three principal departments of the iron production, the first represented by the blast furnaces, using either anthracite, charcoal, raw or coked bituminous coal; the second by the bloomeries or mountain forges, which turn ore or cast iron into blooms or malleable iron; and the third by the rolling mills which convert these into bar, rod, sheet, and nail plate iron. Beyond this point the manufacture ramifies into an infinite number of branches among all the mechanic arts.

Of these three kinds there are about 1100 iron works in the United States, viz:—121 anthracite furnaces, and 500 charcoal and coke, 300 forges and 179 rolling mills.

The furnaces produced in 1856 about 787,958 tons of pig metal, from the various ores, to which must be added 6500 tons produced from the ore by the bloomery forges. The entire production of iron in 1856 was nearly 800,000 tons.

The annual change in the amount of iron produced is not so great, on the whole, as was once thought, or as is the case at the present chief centres of production. There were produced

in 1854,	713,366 tons,
in 1855,	706,745 tons,
in 1856,	782,958 tons.

Yet the local fluctuations are very great. The anthracite production during the three years rapidly increased, by the enlargement and better handling of old furnaces and the erection of new ones.

In 1849 it was only	107,256 tons.
In 1854 it was	307,710 tons.
In 1855 it was	343,105 tons.
In 1856 it was	393,509 tons.

There was, of course, a proportionate decrease of the manufacture of charcoal iron. Where this has taken place will appear by the following table:

PRODUCTION OF IRON BY

	1854.	1855.	1856.
Anthracite Furnaces.			
In Pennsylvania,	208,703	255,326	306,966
Out of Pennsylvania,	99,007	87,779	86,543
Charcoal and Coke Furnaces.			
East Pennsylvania,	62,724	60,596	51,775
N. W. Pennsylvania,	78,927	59,388	59,587
S. W. Pennsylvania,	11,052	18,217	29,409
Charcoal Furnaces.			
East of the Hudson,	30,420	30,925	27,837
North'n & West'n N. York,	19,197	19,136	18,847
South'n N. Y. & N. Jersey,	13,435	7,991	5,683
Maryland,	35,658	36,309	30,998
Western Virginia,	1,950	2,312	1,467
East'n & Mid. Virginia,	5,880	6,926	5,730
North and S. Carolina,	1,820	1,830	1,956
Georgia and Alabama,	3,604	3,662	4,302
Tennessee,	38,596	30,000	30,000
Missouri,	5,213	6,000	13,201
West Kentucky,	5,000	5,000	5,000
East Kentucky,	22,830	15,580	21,160
S. Ohio, (char. & coke)	56,081	47,182	69,605
N. Ohio, (" ")	8,289	6,025	7,901
Illinois, Ind., Mich., Wisconsin & Minnesota,	5,000	5,000	50,000
Total tons,	718,366	705,745	782,958

There are ten principal centres of the iron manufacture in the United States;

1. Northern New York, once including Vermont, and using the fine primitive ores of the Adirondac mountains. Here are forty bloomeries and three anthracite furnaces.

2. The Highlands, a narrow belt extending through Berkshire, Massachusetts, into southern Vermont, and through northern New Jersey into Pennsylvania, containing forty-four charcoal and twenty-two anthracite furnaces and sixty forges, using hematite and magnetic ores.

3. Eastern Penna. and northeastern Maryland, with ninety-eight anthracite furnaces, one hundred and three charcoal furnaces, and one hundred and seventeen forges; none of which last, however, produce iron from the ore. This great iron region is itself divisible into distinct smaller areas, some of them using magnetic, some hematite, and some fossil ores.

4. Northwestern Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania is a distinct region on the eastern outcrop of the lower coal measures, with forty-two charcoal furnaces, and two or three forges, and using carbonate of iron. It includes the Connellsville iron works, which accounts for its apparent growth.

5. Northwestern Pennsylvania and northeastern Ohio, with sixty-six furnaces, using the ores of the northwestern outcrop of the lower coal measures. The charcoal furnaces of this region are all going out, and the coke and raw bituminous furnaces are increasing in number, size and efficiency. All the forging of this region is done by the rolling mills at Pittsburg.

6. The Hanging Rock, or Ironton region, crosses the Ohio river as a belt of charcoal furnaces about fifteen miles wide and one hundred long; forty-five in number on the Ohio side, and seventeen on the Kentucky side. Its ores are all from the lower coal measures, and at its northern end it is beginning to use stone coal for fuel.

7. The old manufacturing region of middle and eastern Virginia is a prolongation southward of the eastern Pennsylvania with the same ores, but using charcoal exclusively as a fuel. East of the Blue Ridge are, sixteen furnaces, only one of which remains in blast, and west of the Blue Ridge thirty. There are thirty-five forges.

8. Northeastern Tennessee and northwestern North Carolina have nine furnaces and forty-one bloomery forges in a compact area. Along the base of the Cumberland Mountains, five furnaces and fourteen forges use the Dyestone, fossil, upper Silurian ore. In the southwestern corner of North Carolina are five forges, and through the middle of the State runs a belt of five furnaces and twenty-seven forges. This whole country possesses incalculable resources for iron making, and must become at some distant day one of the great centres.

9. In western Tennessee and Kentucky, around Clarksville and Eddyville, lies the principal, and, at present, only important iron region of the far West. It contains forty-five furnaces and some forges.

10. In Missouri a beginning has been made with seven furnaces, which must develop into a great iron-making region around the Iron Mountain and Pilot Knob, when fed by coals from western Missouri and Kansas.

The Lake Superior iron region has been opened as a mining region only within two or three years, though it is worked with great success at various points near the copper mines, in Michigan, and on the western shore in Minnesota. Most of the ore is shipped to Detroit and Cleveland, for the use of the rolling mills of the West. The total production of these ores was probably 15,000 tons in 1857. This will at no distant day be a principal iron making region.

Tabulating these regions on the scale of their importance, we have—

	Tons.
1. East Penna. and Maryland, charcoal, 87,773, anthracite 341,928,	429,701
2. Ironton Region, S. Ohio,	90,765
3. Highland Belt,	70,672
4. Pittsburg Region,	67,488
5. Clarksville and Eddyville Region,	33,000
6. Adirondac Region,	34,464
7. Monongahela Region,	30,867
8. Missouri Region,	13,201
9. East Tennessee and Carolina Region,	6,800
10. Virginia,	5,730
	782,958

Bloomery Forges are small open blast furnaces, or very large smith fires closed in to hold a quarter of a ton of some rich ore, which when smelted is hooked out in the form of a ball of malleable iron and hammered round or flat under a tilt hammer. All the forges are adjuncts to the blast furnaces, treating their pig iron in the same manner as if it were so much ore, and preparing it for the rolling mill. It is a great geographical feature of the manufacture that the forges are to be found almost exclusively east of the Allegheny mountains. The geological reason for which is, that here alone are found the magnetic, primary, or high per cent. ores. Lake Superior and Missouri are the only western forge regions. The West once had many forges for blooming pig iron, but these have all been abandoned, and that work is now done by the puddling furnaces, squeezers and muck rolls of the rolling mills. There is a third division of forges which use either trip or steam hammers for turning blooms and rolled iron into various shapes for mechanical purposes—engine cranks and shafts, car axles, &c.

Rolling Mills (commonly with nail factories attached) are divided into railroad and merchant mills. The principal railroad mills in the United States are given in the following table, with their make in 1856:

Bay State, Boston,	17,871
Rensselaer, Troy,	13,512
Trenton, New Jersey,	about 13,000
Phœnix, Pennsylvania,	18,592
Pottsville, do.,	3,021
Lackawanna, do.,	11,338
Rough and Ready, Danville, Pa.,	5,259
do.,	17,538
Safe Harbor, Lancaster county, Pa.,	7,347
Mt. Savage, Maryland,	7,159
Cambria, Pa.,	7,583
Brady's Bend, W., Penna.,	13,206
Washington, Wheeling, Va.,	7,355
McNickle, Covington, Ky.,	1,976
Railroad Mill, Cleveland, Ohio,	1,800
Newburg Mill, " "	000
Wyandotte, near Detroit,	6,000
	147,507

The Fairmount, at Philadelphia, has been recently adapted to rolling railroad iron, and the Palo Alto, at Pottsville, rolled about 1000 tons in 1856. The Newburg mill commenced making rails late in 1857. Most of these mills are now stopped, and a number to be erected in the West, at Indianapolis, Chicago, St. Louis, &c., will be obliged to wait for better times. The western mills chiefly re-roll old rails. The extension of this business in the past four years can be seen from the following figures:

	R. R. Iron made.	*Imported.*	*Consumed.*
1853,	105,000 tons	298,995	403,995
1854,	121,000 "	288,866	409,866
1855,	134,000 "	127,915	261,915
1856,	147,507	155,995	303,502

In connection with the above statement which is from the North *American*, of Philadelphia, we will take occasion to state that there was not a single Rolling Mill in the United States, erected for the turning out of Railroad Iron—when the Tariff of 1842 was passed—and in less than four years after its passage, a sufficient number had been erected to turn out sufficient Railroad Iron to lay *down a mile a day*.

We also append a statement of the value of Pig Iron produced in this country for a series of years, from 1824 to 1852, together with the value of Iron imported in the same years, together with the average prices in the New York Market under the different Tariffs. This is an important statement, shewing the effect of Home Protection to this branch of Industry, and also the want of it on the part of the Government.

	Domestic Pro'ct. *Value.*	Foreign Import's. *Value.*	*Av. price of Pig Iron in N. Y. Market.*
	Without Protection.		
1824,	$2,884,229	$4,314,498	$30 79
	With Protection.		
1826,	4,165,186	5,822,861	46 87
1833,	8,831,894	8,388,901	34 27
1835,	10,175,144	12,261,534	39 53
1837,	11,608,156	11,576,277	43 91
	Reduction of 20 and 40 per cent. annually in the duty under the Compromise.		
1838,	10,041,850	8,955,624	35 08
1839,	10,170,144	12,051,668	33 63
1840,	10,073,700	6,750,099	31 96
	Duties Reduced One-half since 1842.		
1841,	8,234,940	3,914,425	30 22
1842,	6,260,600	6,085,965	27 23
	Tariff of 1842 took effect in 1843.		
1843,	5,755,463	1,902,858	24 07
1844,	12,769,187	5,227,484	25 68
1845,	20,591,275	8,294,878	32 62
1846,	23,271,300	7,835,532	30 42
1847,	22,568,000	8,781,252	29 46
1848,	23,450,000	12,528,554	29 31
	Tariff of 1846 took effect in 1848.		
1849,	16,135,167	13,831,823	
1850,	12,675,920	16,332,145	
1851,	11,124,038	17,306,700,	
1852,	11,115,000	18,937,962	

We invite particular attention to the above figures. The first Protective Tariff was passed May 22, 1824, which put a duty of $10 00 per ton on Pig Metal—on Bar Iron $30 00—and on other kinds $18 00 a ton. Under the operation of this Bill (which was increased in 1828 a shade higher, and lowered again in 1832 to the rates of 1824,) the product of Iron in this country annually increased from the value of $2,884,250 to $11,663,156 in 1837 when the duty was $9 23 on Pig, $26 on Bar, and $16 84 on other kinds. After 1838, the duties began to decline rapidly under the operation of the Compromise Bill, until they finally fell to 20 per cent. in June, 1842, and the value of the annual product of American Iron also fell down to $6,260,600, less than the product of 1831, which was $6,685,000. In 1842, the Bill known as the Tariff of 1842 was passed, and took effect in 1843, when the value of the annual product began to increase, and ran up in value from $6,260,600 in 1842 to $23,568,000 in 1847—a period of five years only, under the Protective policy. In 1846 the Tariff of 1842 was repealed and the duties reduced under the Free Trade system to 30 per cent., and the American production began to decline annually until it ran down to the value of only $11,115,000 in 1852, less than the annual product of the year 1837, although the population of the country had increased in the intervening period of sixteen years, at least eight million souls.

Reader, now look at the value of Foreign Importations, and you will observe that when the American Production declined, the importations increased, thus destroying our own industry, labor and capital.

But the most important feature remains to be noticed yet—and that is, the prices of Pig Iron during the periods of Protection and Free Trade. In 1841 and 1842, when the duty on Foreign Iron was the lowest, about 20 per cent. under the Free Trade system, Iron was higher on the average, than it was under the high Protective Policy which prevailed in the years 1843-'44-'45-'46 and 1847. The prices of Pig metal was also higher in the following years under a duty of 30 per cent. than it was at any time under the high duties of the Tariff of 1842:

It was in 1853,	$34 81	in the N. York market.
" " " 1854,	38 56	" " " "
" " " 1855,	31 18	" " " "
" " " 1856,	32 58	" " " "
" " " 1857,	32 00	" " " "

The average price in the above years is considerably higher than the five years under the Protective Tariff of 1842, which proves conclusively that the assertion made by the friends of Free Trade, that by increasing the duties for Protection to American Industry the consumers are taxed to the amount of the increase, is not true.

If the laboring classes of the country will cry Democracy and vote for Free Trade,—and thus vote the bread out of their own mouths, they must take the consequences, and submit with as good a grace as possible to the starvation wages of the old country. With Free Trade, our Factories and Workshops must close—or labor must be reduced to the European standard, in order to compete with the price of European goods in our market. The large mass of the laboring classes support Free Trade and the lazy Pot-House Politicians, against the Business Community who give them employment by opening Mines, building Factories, Machine and Work Shops, &c., and now they are reaping their reward in return for their votes.

If all the suffering could fall on those only who are guilty of such a suicidal course, there would be but little sympathy for them—but unfortunately, the innocent have to suffer with the guilty.

The above statements are taken from the Official Records furnished to Congress from the Treasury Department.

IGNACIO COMONFORT who on the 12th day of last July was elected President of Mexico is now a fugitive in the United States. He has fallen, and with him has fallen the liberal Constitution with the success of which he had identified all his political fortunes. He was the sole remaining stay of liberal principles in Mexico—and was unquestionably, better fitted, both morally and intellectually, than any other man for the work of regenerating his native land. A soldier in defence of Constitutional Government at the age of twenty, he has been from that time to the present, when he is forty-five, in the fields, in the legislative hall, in the cabinet, and in the executive chair the unchanging champion of liberal ideas. It was he that successfully sustained the defence of Acapulco against Santa Anna in 1854, and carried the *pronunciamento* of Ayutla to its triumphant issue. He has been as decided a friend and admirer of our own country as Santa Anna has been its hater, and his great ambition has been to model Mexican institutions after our own pattern as far as practicable. He has specially endeavored to diminish the overshadowing influence of the priesthood, and to weaken if not absolutely destroy, the connection between the Church and the State. It was upon this rock that he finally split. The clergy united against him, and though long baffled, their open and secret hostilities finally prevailed. Even the conferment upon him of supreme power to meet the exigencies of the occasion, did not enable him to thwart their hostile operations. He held but bravely but had to succumb at last. He left the Presidency of the Republic nominally in the hands of Chief Justice Juarez, the successor designated by the Constitution in case of the resignation or disability of the regularly elected President. But this power of Juarez is hardly more than nominal, though he has undertaken to call the Congress together at Guanajuato. He is of Indian blood and an ultra radical; and it is idle to suppose that his administration can be anything else than a fleeting shadow.—Though Vera Cruz is firm against Santa Anna, we have little doubt that that man of strange vicissitudes will not long hence find means to effect an entrance somewhere, and to again resume the dictatorship. It matters little for there is absolutely no hope of a rational, moderate, and orderly republican government in Mexico. What Comonfort with his antecedents, and his capacities, and his honest purpose has so utterly failed in, we may safely set down as morally impossible for years to come. There is no medium in Mexico between utter anarchy and utter despotism.

SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION CO. MULCTED IN DAMAGES FOR NEGLECTING TO CLEAN OUT A DAM.—In the District Court at Harrisburg on Monday of last week, the trial of a suit against the Schuylkill Navigation Company by Mr. John Gwinner of Port Carbon, this County, was commenced, and ended on Thursday in a verdict for the plaintiff. Mr. Gwinner's claim was for damages arising from the Company's neglect to clean out a dam, whereby his cellar was overflowed. Damages were awarded from the time the suit was brought, which at the rate of one hundred dollars a year, for three years amounted to three hundred dollars. It will be recollected that the suit of McDonough *vs.* the Schuylkill Navigation Company, on a similar action, resulted in a similar verdict, the Supreme sustaining the decision of the lower court. There are we understand, nineteen similar cases in Port Carbon, which since this decision, will force the Company to a compromise or settlement. In the Gwinner case the damages and costs will amount to about $800. Expensive work for the Company.

IS HE MAD?

The question may well be asked, as we watch President Buchanan's career. With a stubborn determination, by the aid of the guillotine on the one hand, and *bribery* on the other, to force Kansas through Congress with the Lecompton Constitution, he presents either the pitiable spectacle of an insane old man, or a truckling, reckless knave. The more charitable construction would be that he is insane. The conviction however, that possesses us is, that he is engaged wilfully, in a knavish piece of work, under the spur of the slave-driver. President Buchanan's policy in this Kansas business has been unprecedentedly bold and unscrupulous. He is already reaping his reward. The North disowns him, while the conservative portion of the South, with Gov. Wise leading the van, declares emphatically, that to force the Lecompton Constitution upon the people of Kansas, would not only be unjust, but would be an act of tyranny unprecedented in our history.

The result of Northern Democratic opposition to the attempt is summed up by Forney's *Press* as follows:

"Efficient Representatives of the Democracy in Congress are to be read out of the Democratic church; and with them twenty-five of the most influential Democratic papers in the States; a host of able Democrats in the different counties of the State—young and old; a number of Democrats in the Legislature, AND THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PARTY ITSELF."

May we not ask, is he mad?

LET THEM GO.—A bill is before the Legislature authorizing a sale of all the remaining canals belonging to the State to the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company.

[FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

THE MISSISSIPPI.

BY E. Y. M.

It flows in the old time, majestic and slow;
The low, busy hum of the world it new knew,
For 'twas only disturbed by the rippling flow,
That danced in the wake of the Indian canoe.

Its shores only echoed the red warrior's cry,
Or the murmuring low of the buffalo herd;
Its mirror of waters reflected the sky—
The moss-y old tree-tops, and swift wheeling bird.

But now, as each branch through its prairie bee comes,
And divides like some giant's broad shewy hand,
Each one grasps a state with its wealth, and its homes;
And binds them in union, the pride of our land.

And fast on the silence, so ancient and still,
The hand of that vandal—the bold pioneer—
Is waking the echoes—the roar of the mill,
Ring of axe and of hammer, now fall on the ear.

In many a craft, as it sails on its course,
The engine now labors with hollow and scream;
From bluff and from valley, from gulf to its source,
Echo chiming of boat-bells—the hissing of steam.

Yet calmly it flows in its course to the sea.
Like the throbbing tide from the fountain of life;
It dreads not the tempest, but fearless and free,
It flows mid the tumult, it stops not for strife.

O, would its broad branches a voice could possess!
And each tell its tale of the time-laden past!
The secrets of ages, their tongues would confess, [blast.
And worlds catch the sounds when they float on the

They could tell of wonders now lost in the years;
Could tell of the moss-grown old mound on the shore;
Could tell of its builders, their warriors and seers—
A race once existing, now gone evermore;

Could tell us of changes in earths solid form;
Could tell of years sped, of ages prolong;
Laugh at time and at changes, defying the storm,
And chant in their flow a murmuring song.

Flow on forever, old father of waters;
Stop never thy course, nor cease in thy flow;
Thou bearest good tidings to earth's sons and daughters,
A blessing on all thy broad waters bestow.

Flow on forever! in strength never ceasing;
Heed not the thousands of ills that thou meet
To thy smiling valley—thy riches increasing,
To dot its broad prairies with cabins and homes.

Thy waters a nation's broad bosom enfold;
Thy power nought resists, and nought can o'erthrow—
None but He who chained thy vast waters of old,
And set thee the bounds which thou ne'er canst o'erflow.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE for March is out, fresh in its beauty as the Spring flowers which will follow in a few weeks. The contents of the March number embrace many charming and useful illustrations and much choice literary matter, among which are, prominently, a beautiful tint engraving, entitled, "Please Remember the Grotto;" five colored Fashion plates; "St. Aubin; or, a King's Love," by Joseph J. Reed, (illustrated); "The Bride of the Mad-House," by Mrs. L. S. Goodwin, (illustrated); "The Montagues, a true story of Long Ago," by Lydia Jane Pearson; Flower and Garden Hints; Editor's Easy Talk, and Ladies' Department, (illustrated.) Graham's Magazine needs no puffing at the hands of the press. Its merits are solid, substantial and recognised by myriads of readers, in this and other countries. Under the editorial charge of Charles G. Leland, Esq., *Graham* is the peer of any of the magazines embraced under the head of light and sparkling literature. Copies of the March number can be obtained at Bannan's.

THE LADY'S BOOK for March is indeed, a number of which our friend, L. A. Godey, may well be proud, not that it excels, taken as a whole, previous efforts of that gentleman; but that in one feature it has never been surpassed. We allude to the superb line engraving, entitled, "The Mother's Blessing,"—a beautiful design, and we must say, most artistically and very neatly executed. We hazard nothing in saying that this engraving alone is fully worth the price of a single copy of the Book. Let Mr. Godey always publish in connection with his Magazine, such works of art, and there will be no fear of the popularity of the Book abating one jot or title. In addition to a large number of engravings, a perusal of the literary matter convinces us that in quality and interest it cannot be surpassed. The Lady's Book is rapidly increasing its circulation, and it really merits its success. Copies of the March number can be obtained at Bannan's store.

THE JOURNAL OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE for February is on our table. It is published by the Franklin Institute at their Hall in Philadelphia. The subscription price is five dollars. The contents for February embrace articles on Civil Engineering, American Patents, Mechanics, Physics, and Chemistry, and matter in connection with the economy of the Institute. An interesting number. The *Journal* has a large circulation among scientific men and those whose interests are identified with the mechanic arts.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW.—The January number has been issued by Leonard Scott & Co., 79 Fulton street, New York. The contents of course, are of the highest order of Magazine literature.

THE DEPOT MEETING.—The proceedings of this meeting held on Wednesday evening last, were received yesterday too late for insertion.

Local Affairs.

☞ *The Good Intent Fire Company* gave a ball at the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening, which passed off pleasantly.

☞ *There* will be a regular monthly meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association held on Monday evening next, February 22d, at their room, in the 3d story of Russel's Office Building. Punctual attendance is requested, as business of importance will be laid before the Association.

☞ *Henry C. Baird*, Esq., lectured before the Silver Creek Literary Association on the 11th inst. Subject—"Protection of American Industry." We would be gratified if the Association would furnish us with a copy of it, as it is spoken of in high terms.

☞ *Skating.*—This invigorating and healthy sport has been indulged in both by ladies and gentlemen during the week. The dams at Tumbling Run spread out two magnificent sheets of ice, which at times, with the swiftly moving figures upon them, present quite a lively scene.

☞ *R. D. Schoener*, Norwegian street, and R. J. Schoener, Centre street, are agents for the sale of Peter Maison's Biscuits, Cakes and Crackers. A capital article. Groceries of all descriptions; of the best quality; and at reasonable prices, can be obtained at their stores. Call and patronize them.

☞ *The* following gentlemen were recently elected Borough officers of Port Carbon:—*Chief Burgess*—Rose Ball; *Council*—Charles Barber, Hen. Guiterman and Jas. B. Sessinger; *School Directors*—S. Burke, Joseph Baird and H. A. Sessinger; *Assessor*—John Bailey; *Assistant Assessors*—Abraham Hosbner and A. Pott; *Constable*—Thomas O'Brien; *Town Clerk*—John Templin.

☞ *The Steam Bakery* of Philadelphia, has established a branch in this Borough, where large and fresh loaves of bread are sold at one cent a loaf less than the old price. Our bakers will be compelled to enlarge the size of their loaves, or reduce the price, if they hope to compete with the Philadelphia enterprise. The bread baked by the Philadelphia steam bakery is really good. Those using it speak highly of its quality.

☞ *School Exhibition at Pinegrove.*—Mr. E. L. Jones gives notice that he will give with his scholars at his school room in Pinegrove, on Friday and Saturday evenings, March 5th and 6th, 1858, an Exhibition. On the occasion dramatic pieces will be spoken. There will also be music. The Exhibition will commence each evening at 7½ o'clock. Price of admission to defray incidental expenses, 12½ cents. The citizens of Pinegrove and vicinity should attend, *en masse*.

☞ *The Twenty-Second of February.*—The anniversary of the birth of George Washington, on Monday next, will be observed appropriately in this Borough. During the day the First Troop, Schuylkill County Cavalry, the Washington Artillery, Washington Yeagers and Scott Rifles will parade, and in the evening a grand ball will come off at the Town Hall. This is right. While we revere the name of one who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," we should observe with spirit the anniversary of the day that ushered him into existence.

☞ *The Ice Crop.*—During the week in addition to heavy snow squalls, we have had severely cold weather. On Wednesday morning last, the mercury in our thermometer marked at 7 A. M., only 4 degrees above zero. Both dams at Tumbling Run are frozen tight, and the ice men taking advantage of the fact, have been during the week, busily engaged in filling their houses with an excellent article, free from impurities, and in thickness ranging from five to seven inches. All fears of a failure in a full supply of this almost indispensable article for the coming season, are now removed, for which we are duly thankful.

☞ *Tremont Literary Society.*—The exercises of last Tuesday evening were opened with an interesting Lecture by Mr. Jacob Gruber. Subject —"Happiness." The question, "Is the reading of fictitious writings injurious," was debated by Messrs. Walker, Pinkerton and Drake in the affirmative. On Tuesday evening next the Lecture will be delivered by H. W. Pinkerton. Reader, C. L. Pinkerton. Question—"Should Kansas be admitted with the Lecompton Constitution?"—Affirmative—J. Foley, J. R. Bailey, J. Gruber.—Negative—C. L. Pinkerton, W. H. Seibert, W. D. Williams. A unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to the Hon. Wm. L. Dewart for valuable public documents.

☞ *Old Winter* has burst upon us with characteristic fierceness, adding alas, to the sufferings of those who even during the mild weather of January experienced the pangs of want. Yesterday snow fell during the entire day, and was several inches deep when we went to press last night. Lying as it does upon frozen ground, the sleighing during the coming week will be excellent. Our meteorological record for the week is as follows:

P. R. R. P. TREMAYNE OFFICE.
Pennsylvania Hall, Pottsville.

		8 A. M.	2 P. M.	7 P. M.
Sat.,	Feb. 12,	20°	29°	snow.
Mon.,	" 16,	30	28	22 —
Tues.,	" 16,	24	34	28 —
Wed.,	" 17,	8	18	16 — clear.
Thurs.,	" 18,	12	28	22 — snow.
Fri.,	" 19,	16	20	16 — snow.

☞ *Middleport Lyceum.*—The society met as usual. The exercises for the evening were, a Lecture by E. W. Bechtel, a Reading by Dr. E. K. Weber, and the question, "which caused the greater destruction of human life, war or intemperance," was ably discussed, and decided that intemperance was the most powerful agent in the destruction of life.

The exercises for the next evening are as follows:—A lecture by Rev. J. F. Bayer; Reading by A. B. Balliet. Question for discussion—"Would the annexation of Central America benefit the United States?" Affirmative—Jno. R. Porter and Chas. Bensinger. Negative—F. W. Bechtel and Oliver Bechtel.

The society returns thanks to the Hon. Wm. L. Dewart for a valuable public document.

☞ *Pottsville Literary Society.*—On Tuesday evening last, a Lecture was delivered by Wilson Hartz, Esq. Subject, "Influence of Woman."—C. Little read Mr. Samuel Weller's Valentine, as appropriate to the season. The selection was good, and was well read. The audience very properly, appreciated it. A debate then ensued on the question—"Should Congress reject the Lecompton Constitution?" with Messrs. Bartholomew and Potts in the affirmative, and Seibert and Hunt in the Negative. The question was decided in the affirmative.

The order of exercises for next Tuesday evening is as follows:—Lecture—Dr. Carpenter, Jr.—Reading—Eli Bowen. Question—"Should the American authorities have pardoned Maj. Andre?" Affirmative—Messrs. Hazen and Harris. Negative—Messrs. Marts and Milnes.

☞ *Silver Creek Literary Association:*—On the 11th inst., John J. Dovey was elected President; James Beatty and John O'Donnell Vice Presidents, and John Beach, Jr., Secretary.

The attendance on last Tuesday evening was large. Reading by Wm. Winlack. The discussion of the question "Would the United States Government be justified in interchanging Ministers and Consuls with Hayti, on the same terms as those of other Nations," was participated in by Griffith T. Jones, Richard Winlack, and Wm. Rannie, affirmative; and Wm. Winlack, John S. Dovey, Negative. Decision in the negative.

Question for next Tuesday evening—"Was the execution of Major Andre justifiable?" Richard Winlack, Griffith T. Jones and William Rannie, affirmative; John J. Dovey, Wm. Winlack, and Charles Taylor, negative. Reading by Richard Winlack. Dr. Wythe is expected to lecture before the Association on Thursday evening, the 25th inst.

☞ *Deplorable Occurrence—Loss of Two Valuable Lives.*—Tamaqua mourns the loss of two esteemed citizens. Mr. J. Edward Barnes, General Superintendent of the Little Schuylkill Navigation, Railroad and Coal Company, and Mr. Duncan Wier, its Mining Agent.

It appears that some explorations in the Company's mines being necessary, Messrs. Barnes and Wier donned their mining dress, and left Tamaqua, on Monday, February 15th, about 3 o'clock, P. M. They proceeded to Slope No. 4,—descended the ladder about one hundred and sixty yards, and between 4 and 5 o'clock, entered the fatal gangway, traveling westwardly. After passing along about 400 yards, they encountered, a bratti. This is an air-tight partition, erected in this case, for the purpose of confining the gas injected into the mines, when an effort was made to extinguish fire. They passed through the bratti—passed along about 200 yards further, and found a second one. It was here that they encountered the stream of gas which suffocated them.—Late at night both bodies were recovered. Mr. Barnes was 40 years of age. Mr. Weir, 50.—Both leave families.

The funerals took place on Tuesday afternoon last. The bodies were buried side by side in the yard of the Presbyterian Church of Tamaqua. During the passage of the funeral, church bells were tolled, and business of all kinds was suspended.

☞ *Sheriff's Sale of Real Estate.*—The following named property will be sold on Saturday, Feb. 27th, 1858, at the American House in this Borough, by Sheriff Matt:—Lot with appurtenances in Tamaqua, the property of David T. Holdeman; lot and building in Yorkville, property of Thomas Varcol, owner or reputed owner, and William Tyack, contractor; land and appurten