Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1858.

THE DOUGLAS VICTORY.

There can be no question that the triumph of Senator Douglas in Illinois is for himself and his aspirations, most signal. A majority of the new Legislature of Illinois is for Douglas, and he will be returned to the Senate for a new term of six years from the 4th of March next. Douglas and his friends strove hard for the result, for upon his success depended his nomination for next President at Charleston, in 1860. Money and effort were not wanting, and through their instrumentality, the desired result was achieved. Illinois, remarks the *New York Tribune*, now presents the same attitude toward the North and the South respectively that Pennsylvania did in 1856, and Mr. Douglas holds the position then held by Mr. Buchanan. He must either be nominated, or the Democratic party practically retires from the contest, surrendering the Government to the Republicans. Of course, not only the Northern but the Southern Sham Democracy also—at least, that very large portion of it described by Mr. Calhoun as "held together by the cohesive power of public plunder"—must insist on the nomination of Mr. Douglas; and even those who will affect to oppose it will anticipate and accept it as inevitable. The politicians, therefore, whose god is Success—who have an eye to Embassies and fat Consulates and Collectorships in the future—might well contribute their money and put forth their best efforts to secure for Mr. D. this palpable stepping stone to the Presidency. It was an investment that bids fair to pay.

And now that Mr. Douglas is in the full flush of hard-won, brilliant, conclusive triumph, with messages of congratulation pouring in upon him from every side like snow-flakes, and the "All hail hereafter" sounding musically in his ears, we tell him that his late canvass, though a successful, has not been a truly brave and noble one—that, though it may carry him into the White House, it has not exalted him in the estimate of thoughtful, discerning, conscientious, truly patriotic men, whose good opinion is worth having, though it may not waft its object into the Presidential chair.

We are not complaining of the positions with regard to Slavery and the related topics which Mr. Douglas has seen fit to take in the prosecution of his canvass. We know that men—not men of the highest type, but such men as for the most part make up the world we live in—are creatures of circumstances, taking and maintaining such positions as their necessities and supposed interests dictate. If, then, it had seemed necessary to Mr. D. to advocate the re-opening of the African Slave Trade, we should not have complained if he had done so. When it had been settled that the Republicans of Illinois would determinedly oppose Mr. Douglas's reelection at all hazards, it was obvious that he would feel constrained to take a position so near the Sun Pole as should be necessary to prevent the formation of any considerable Buchanan Democratic party, so as to enable him between two fires. Yet we must confess that we were not quite prepared to see him take the positions in the canvass which *The South* pretty accurately sums up as follows:

1. Judge Douglas affirms the original and essential inferiority of the negro.

2. He denies that the negro was intended to be embraced within the abstractions of the Declaration of Independence, and asserts that the right to freedom and equality was predicated only of the dominant race of white men.

3. He denies the privileges of citizenship to the negro.

4. He affirms the compatibility of a confederacy of Free and Slave States, and the possibility of their harmonious co-existence under a common Constitution.

5. He affirms the absolute sovereignty of the States in respect to their domestic institutions, and denies the authority of the Federal Government to discriminate against the interests of Slavery.

6. He inculcates a policy of non-intervention, as between the free and slaveholding States, as well as between the latter and the Federal Government.

7. He supports the decision of the Supreme Court, and asserts for Slavery the right of colonization in the Territories.

8. He upholds all the guaranties of the Federal Constitution in respect to the rights of the South.

9. He maintains the dignity and independence of the Senatorial function, against the encroachments of Executive usurpation.

10. He protests his opposition to Black Republicanism at every point and upon every principle.

11. He pledges himself to fidelity to the organization, principles and nominees of the Democratic party.

If South Carolina should object to a candidate for President who plants himself on that platform, she must be fastidious indeed.

But it is not in this respect that Mr. Douglas's canvass has fallen most signally below our expectations. With his indefatigable energy, his readiness in repartee, his tenacity—if we should not rather say audacity—in maintaining an exposed and indefensible position, his fertility of resource, we were already familiar. But his recent canvass, while it has stamped him first among county or ward politicians, has evinced a striking absence of the far higher qualities of statesmanship.—His speeches have lacked the breadth of view, the dignity, the courtesy to his opponent, which—not to speak here of Clay, or Calhoun, or Webster—we should have confidently looked for in the popular addresses of Crittenden, or Corwin, or Wise, or Quitman, prescribed by the official leaders of his party, and appealing from them to his constituents. They are plainly addressed to an excited crowd at some railway station, and seem uttered in unconsciousness that the whole American People are virtually his deeply interested though not interested excited auditors. They are volcanic and scathing, but lack the repose of conscious strength, the calmness of conscious right. They lack foresight, and are utterly devoid of faith. They not merely assume as an axiom that "God is on the side of the stronger battalions;" they make the battalions God, or at least fail to recognise any other. Such a struggle were better nobly lost than ignobly won, is a truth of which Senator Douglas on the stump would seem not to have the faintest conception. Hence his late canvass, while it has given him an exalted rank among mere politicians, and probably paved his way to the Presidency—or, more strictly, to the next Democratic nomination for that post—has failed to elicit any evidence of his possessing those lofty and admirable qualities without which the Presidency can afford no heartfelt satisfaction and confer no enduring fame.

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPTURE OF FORT DUQUESNE.—To the Committee of Invitation we are indebted for an invitation to be present on the 25th instant, at a celebration of the centennial anniversary of the capture of Fort Duquesne, or in other words, the overthrow of the French and the establishment of the Anglo Saxon dominion in the Valley of the Ohio. If our engagements permit we will be present at the celebration of an event of peculiar interest to the citizens of Western Pennsylvania, and in many respects of the highest importance to the entire American people. The fact cannot be questioned that the greatest project ever matured in the French Cabinet, was the line of military fortifications, on a basis of colonial settlements designed to connect Louisiana and Canada, and permanently establish French ascendancy in the valley of the Mississippi, Ohio and St. Lawrence; and consequently, to confine Anglo-Saxon dominion to the Eastern slope of the Allegheny Mountains.—Napoleon's dreams of Russian and Asiatic conquest did not equal this. The war with the French and Indians, to counteract this ambitious design, culminated—so far as we are concerned—in the capture of Fort Duquesne, on the 25th of November, 1758. In the five years of active field service of these campaigns, Colonel Washington acquired that confidence in himself, that enlarged military experience, and that recognition of his eminent merits by the then colonies, which led the Continental Congress to vest in him the higher responsibilities of Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Army. It cannot therefore, be denied that it is eminently proper that the centennial anniversary should be commemorated on the scene of former action.

The programme of the celebration, will be, a grand procession of the citizens of Western Pennsylvania, in which prominence will be given to the municipal, county, State and National officers who may be present; the military and naval forces, the civic Societies, literary and benevolent Associations, the various trades and departments of industry at home and abroad, that may desire to be represented—the whole to terminate in the Pennsylvania Railroad "Duquesne Depot," erected on the site of the old fort, where appropriate addresses will be delivered in the afternoon, and where Edward Everett will deliver his address on "Washington," in the evening. The railroad companies whose roads centre at Pittsburgh, will issue excursion tickets. We have no doubt that the arrangements of the various committees, will be worthy of the memorable occasion.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD AND THE PRESIDENCY.—As might reasonably have been anticipated, the attacks of a press more influenced by Southern trade than by those principles on which the canvass of 1856 was fought, and which will serve us on to another contest in 1860, has brought out the more independent press for Mr. Seward as a candidate for the Presidency. And as the issue in that campaign will most unquestionably be, Free Labor and Free Soil on the one hand, and the Pro-Slavery power on the other, we feel that no abler leader of the Free Soil forces could be selected, than William H. Seward of New York. The experience of the people under the Buchanan Administration, has taught them that they cannot trust the promises of mere time-serving politicians. Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated, uttering the fairest asservations, and in a brief two years succeeded in alienating from him the respect and confidence of the people, in consequence of his desperate attempts to force slavery upon an unwilling embryo State. Mr. Buchanan well deserves the contempt felt for him, and the rebuke administered to him by every Northern State in which an election has been held this Fall. And thus it will ever be when a President in a sectional spirit has recourse to tyranny and bribery, to effect his ambitious purposes.

We are thoroughly wearied of the alternate whining and threatening of the negro-drivers of the South. It is the veriest bosh. For over half a century we have been wheedled and ridiculously frightened into yielding every point to the Slave-rylists, until with the aid of their Northern doughfaces they have had complete possession of the Government, and have saddled us with Free Trade, new slave territory, and other repressing influences. While there was no murmuring on the part of the North, it was all right, but the very moment it evinced a disposition to cast off the yoke, then arose from the slave power the cries, "oppression," "meddling in what does not concern you," etc. Like a spoiled child that has been tolerated because of its relationship, the least restraint upon it causes it to yell as if some terrible outrage were being perpetrated, whereas we but administer a healthy castigation for its own good. The slave power—and in thus speaking we allude always to a minority of the white population of the Southern States—*has ruled us too long*, in and off the floor of Congress. It has grown imperious, insulting, overbearing. It must find its proper level, and with the finding keep it. We hold with Mr. Seward that there can be no compromise between Free Labor and Slavery; but that one must succumb to the other in the course of time, and either Free Labor be degraded, or Slavery gradually die out—as its progress is checked by the determination of the people to add to the country no more Slave territory either by purchase or conquest. Which shall be the case rests with the American people. The day of compromise with the slave power is numbered with the things of the past, and can never be revived. The contest will not cease until one or the other be victorious.

As a standard bearer in the campaign of 1860, none abler, more National, more worthy the confidence of the non-slaveholders of the Union, can be found than William H. Seward. His Administration we firmly believe, would be one of the most lustrous on record, for he would be entirely free from the contemptible sectional spirit of James Buchanan, and would simulate the official action of the earlier Presidents of the Republic. Of course, at this early date it is impossible to predict who will be the candidate for the President in 1860, of the friends of Freedom; but we feel assured there is no statesman more worthy in every respect, of the honor, than William H. Seward of New York.

PROTECTION AND SOUTHERN INTERESTS.—In our last we gave some sentiments of Kenneth Rayner of North Carolina, on the subject of Protection as affecting the interests of the South. They are the sentiments of the mass of the non slaveholding population of the South, and are in antagonism to the policy of the slaveholders, conjoined with their Democratic allies of the North. Unfortunately for the growth of the South, the planting interest has controlled politically, that section of the Union; it has taken precedence of the non-slaveholding power, and driven the old Whig Protectionists, Rayner among them, into private life. The splits that advocate a Protective policy, and opposed the introduction of slaves into the mechanic arts, have been since the demise of the Whig party silent, and nothing possibly, but the revival of an adequate National Protective Tariff, will again bring them out to sustain a principle rendered lustrous by the talents of a Clay. The benefits that would accrue to the manufacturing interest of the South by a judicious system of Protection, are recognised by the most eminent of her sons, and we of the North have the imperative duty imposed upon us of standing side by side with the non-slaveholding masses of the South, to assist them in the work of progress to which they are devoted. We have work before us in no sectional spirit; but to combat the demon of slavery, which holds in bondage the energies of the South and wars upon our Republican institutions and usages. We want to see the South take her position proudly by the side of the North; want to see her immense resources developed, her ports swarming with shipping, her poor white population elevated by education, and her sons of toil adequately rewarded. To effect it, the non-slaveholding power must assert its supremacy. This country has been ruled too long by a miserable minority of slave-holders, too long for her welfare; too long for our pride as freemen. Free trade never would have reared its hideous form here, had not the slave power so decreed. Like Romanism, Slavery is jealous of every encroachment upon its domain; only able to hold its own, while in a progressive stage of existence, and shuns the light of truth and intelligence, as tending to dissipate the mists of error in which it delights to enshroud itself. The South cannot be substantially benefited, until her non-slaveholders have a distinct and fearless voice for Reform, and we of the North must assist them in the work. That it will be for her welfare, who can doubt?

AUBURN AND ALLENTOWN RAILROAD.—A meeting of the stockholders of the Allentown Railroad Company was held in New York on the 2d inst. The affairs of the company were found, by the report made to the stockholders, to be in a most satisfactory condition, so much so that not one of the stockholders present expressed a word of disapprobation of the course heretofore pursued by the directors, and unanimously advised an early completion of the road. It is estimated by the directors and chief-engineer of the road that the entire line from Allentown to Auburn can at this time be completed and fully equipped for about $1,100,000, which would have cost the company $1,900,000 under the contract which was cancelled last year by the inability of the contractor to perform his engagements. We notice in the list of directors the names of W. S. Wetmore, Piere Chouteau, Jr., Charles Danforth, William Remsen, William T. Gebhard and J. F. Butterworth—the last named is the President of the company. With directors possessing the practical experience of these gentlemen, and with their integrity of character, the stockholders will not be likely to find their enterprise in an embarrassed condition. It is exceedingly important that the Road should be pushed through to completion. It would be a paying Road from the start. New York and this Region are equally interested, and will be equally benefited.

GLEASON'S NEW WEEKLY LINK OF BATTLESHIP has made its appearance. It is a folio form of very large size, and for typographical beauty excels anything of the kind we have ever seen. The heading is a representation of a line of-battle ship, under full sail, making Boston harbor, while in the distance is a bird's eye view of the city; on the right of this, resting upon a pedestal, is the goddess of Justice, and on the left is the goddess of Liberty; between these, surrounding the vessel, is the ornamental title of the new sheet. The inside border is unique and novel in its appearance, and the whole is certainly a graceful specimen of taste and design. The illustrations are profuse and well executed, and Mr. Gleason has exhibited great tact and talent in producing a sheet so elegant and complete in all its departments. We say success to the noble ship and her gallant commodore.—*Boston Sunday News.*

A. Winch, 320 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, who is agent for the *Battle Ship*, will supply subscribers and the trade at the earliest moment.

THE HOME JOURNAL.—A new series of this excellent paper will be commenced on the first of the coming year, at which time will begin the publication of a series of beautiful original works, of fact and fiction, written by some of the best American authors. In addition, the *Home Journal* will be light and sparkling in its various departments of Literature and the Arts. We esteem the *Home Journal* one of the best and cheapest family newspapers in the world, and heartily commend it to the patronage of those who do not receive this admirable paper. Morris & Willis, 107 Fulton street, New York, are editors and proprietors, and the terms are, for one copy, $2; for three copies, $5—or one copy for three years, $5; for a club of seven copies, $10; for a club of fifteen copies, $20; and that rate for a larger club—always in advance.

LITERARY SOCIETIES.

POTTSVILLE LITERARY SOCIETY.—Order of exercises for Tuesday evening, November 16th, '58: —Lecture, Rev. Mr. Colt; Reader, Henry W. Poole, Esq. Question for debate—"Could any advantageous substitute for the dead languages be introduced in our system of liberal education?"—Affirmative, Messrs. John Hughes and Eli Bowen; Negative, Messrs. Daniel Washburn and James H. Campbell.

TREMONT LITERARY SOCIETY.—The exercises of this society on last Tuesday evening were of a very animated nature, and highly entertaining. It was as usual greeted with a large audience, of which the greater part were ladies. The following named gentlemen were elected as officers for the ensuing term of four weeks:—President, G. DRAKE; Vice Presidents, Wm. H. Seibert and Edward Walborn; Recording Secretary, THOS. B. WALKER; Treasurer, John R. Bailey.

The following comprise the exercises for Tuesday evening next:—Lecture by A. J. Bear; Reading by E. Walborn. Question—"Is public opinion the standard of right?" Affirmative, Messrs. John B. Bailey, Wm. H. Seibert, J. Gruber, Jr., and Thos. B. Walker; Negative, Messrs. C. L. Pinkerton, C. D. Hipple, I. P. Bechtel and W. Allhouse. The question of last Tuesday evening was decided in the affirmative.

Tremont, November 10, 1858.

SCHUYLKILL HAVEN LITERARY SOCIETY.—The attendance at the Literary Society on Thursday evening was quite large. The Essay by J. M. Koons on the "Beauties of Nature," was well written, and was listened to with marked attention. He was followed by a reading on the subject of "Whiskers" by Charles H. Voute, who did ample justice to the piece selected. This being the evening for the election of officers, the following gentlemen were elected:—President, P. H. WERNTZ; Vice President, W. Gass; Secretary, J. W. KOONS; Treasurer, I. T. Bowman. The question was then discussed, "Is a thief more injurious to society at large than a slanderer?" Affirmative, Messrs. Paxson and Field. Negative, Messrs. Detwiler and Werntz.

Decided in the negative.

The exercises for next meeting will be a Lecture by P. H. Werntz, Esq., and a reading by C. P. Vonte. The question to be debated is, "Was the invention of Printing of more service than that of steam power?" Messrs. W. Gass and I. Bowman on the affirmative, and A. F. Seltzer and J. W. Koons on the negative. On motion the meeting adjourned to meet next Friday evening, Nov. 19th, 1858.

Schuylkill Haven, Nov. 12th, 1858.

Local Affairs.

☞ *The Washington Yagers*, Capt. Strouse, paraded on Monday last for target practice, and in the evening had a pleasant ball at the Town Hall.

☞ *Military Election.*—On Monday, the 8th inst., Benj F. Lord was elected to the office of 2nd Lieutenant of the Scott Rifle Company; and John Blakely, Ensign.

☞ *Distinguished Visitors.*—During the present week Hon. Simon Cameron was in town on a visit. Also Major Nicholas of New Mexico, formerly a resident of this County, and well known to our citizens.

☞ *During* yesterday we had several flurries of snow, the first of the season. Jack Frost, however, has been at home here for about a fortnight. Every morning we have seen his white face, peering at us from neighboring roofs.

☞ *Thanksgiving at St. Clair.*—On Thanksgiving Day the Lafayette Rifle Company will attend Divine Service, will parade in the afternoon, and close the exercises of the day by a benefit ball in the evening, in accordance with the orders of the Committee of Arrangements.

☞ *Festival at Town Hall.*—We are requested to state that the Members of the Baptist Church will hold a Festival at the Town Hall on Thursday evening, the 18th inst., the proceeds to be appropriated for the benefit of the Church. Citizens are cordially invited to participate in said Festival.

☞ *Dr. H. P. Smith*, agent in this Borough for the London and Liverpool Fire Insurance Company, returns his hearty acknowledgments to the Humane Fire Company, and the other Companies of the Fire Department, and to the Fire Police for their successful exertions at the fire corner of Centre and Mahantongo streets, on Monday evening, to rescue the property of E. T. Ellrich & Co., from entire destruction.

☞ *"Look Out!"*—Look out for a well gotten up gold dollar, of the "bogus kind," the result of an ingenious crew of counterfeiters. Nothing but strong gold will show the deceit. There are also "heaps" of counterfeit halves and quarters in circulation. These are so well made as to deceive the best judges. These coins are new and bright, and there is some grounds of suspicion that the mint is not far off.

☞ *Port Clinton Artillery* is the name of a new military company organized at Port Clinton, this County.—At an election held on the 29th ult., at which time they were inspected by Capt. Nagle, the following officers were elected:—Captain, John Horn; 1st Lieut., E. J. Kerlin; 2nd Lieut., John Crawford; 2nd 2nd Lieut., John Matz; Ensign, Henry Geiger; Orderly Sergeant, Daniel B. Kauffman. Number of members, 34.

☞ *The* weather is getting wintry, interspersed with a few mellow days to remind us of the contrast that will soon be presented, when the storms of December, January and February reign supreme. Our thermometrical record for the week is as follows—

P. R. & P., TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

		8 A. M.	2 P. M.	7 P. M.	
Sat.,	Nov. 6,	36°	38°	36°	—rain.
Mon.,	" 8,	30	40	30	—clear.
Tues.,	" 9,	34	42	38	—cloudy.
Wed.,	" 10,	34	42	34	— "
Thurs.,	" 11,	28	40	33	— "
Fri.,	" 12,	32	36	33	— "

☞ *Fatal Mining Accident.*—The Minersville *Advocate* states that on Monday evening last a shocking accident happened at Messrs. Pott & Co.'s New Slope near that place. It appears that two men named Jno. Scott and Thos Morgan, were with others, employed in working a tunnel from the bottom of the slope to the White-ash Vein. They were working on the middle shift, from 3 to 11 o'clock. About 7 o'clock they were preparing to fire a shot, when, from some unknown cause, the powder in the "hole" took fire, killing Scott instantaneously, and blowing out the eyes of Morgan. About 3 or 4 inches of dirt had been rammed on the powder. Scott stood in front of the hole, with the "wire" in one hand, and filling the hole with dirt with the other; while Morgan stood at the back of Scott, holding the "rammer" in one hand, and the hammer with the other.

The brains of poor Scott were blown all over the place. There are hopes that Morgan will recover. Morgan is a single man; but Scott leaves behind him a widow and one child.

☞ *Mozart Musical Society.*—A meeting of a large number of ladies and gentlemen of this Borough was held at Thompson's Hall, last Monday evening, the object of which was the formation of a Society for the practice and cultivation of Vocal Music, and for the more general diffusion of a musical taste throughout the community. Levi Huber occupied the chair, and Henry Edmonds acted as Secretary. A Constitution and By-Laws were submitted and ratified by the meeting. The name of the Society is, "The Mozart Musical Society." An election for officers was held, with the following result.

President—EDWARD OWEN PARRY; *Vice President*—C. Little; *Secretary*—HENRY EDMONDS; *Treasurer*—Henry Russel; *Librarian*—Frederick Harris; *Board of Directors*—L. P. Brooke, Henry, Strauch, Theodore Garretson, Charles Gundaker and A. R. Whitner.

Rehearsals will be held every Monday evening, in Thompson's Hall, a lease of the room for that purpose having been made by the Society.

☞ *Pottsville Literary Society.*—The exercises of Tuesday evening were of an interesting character. A lecture containing many happy thoughts and scientific facts, was delivered by Rev. D. Washburn. The exercises concluded with a debate on the question—"would the immediate annexation of Mexico to the United States be of advantage to us?"—with Messrs. Whitney and Dewees in the affirmative, and Messrs. Wells and Green in the negative. The question was decided in the negative.

The Literary Society starts out under the fairest auspices, and will we think, be even more successful than it was last season, if one nuisance be taken strictly in hand, and at once abated. We allude to the assemblage in the room of rude, unmannerly boys. They are not only noisy to the annoyance of the auditory, but they are positively vulgar. If parents will not, or cannot control their children while they are in respectable public assemblages, strangers must take the task in hand. We therefore, advise those *smart* youths who have heretofore made a point of behaving indecorously, at the weekly meetings of the Society, to keep a sharp look-out in the future, or they may bring up some fine evening in the watch house, from which they will have to be extricated by their thoughtless and mortified parents. We hope we shall not be compelled again to refer to this matter; and that in the future good conduct on the part of the boys will be the rule and not the exception.

☞ *Potatoe Excitement in Schuylkill County.*—Quite an excitement was produced at this place on last Monday morning by the production of a crop of potatoes, grown by John Bannan at Cloud Home, from two potatoes of ordinary size. The entire product as taken from the ground, is given as follows, to wit:

1 Potatoe weighing 2 lbs.	1 oz.	Avoir. and girting	13 inches by 17.
1 " "	2 "		
4 " "	6 "	"	5 "
2 " "	3 "	"	7 "
14 " "	14 "	"	15 "
22 " "	14 "	"	14 "
6 " "	1 "	"	8 "
Too small for size,			12 "
50 Potatoes,	45 "	"	7 " entire weight.

The potatoes are all perfectly formed, having no protuberances of any kind. The eyes of them are pink or peach blossom color, and they resemble in form and general appearance the White Mercer. Two of them were cooked, and are said to cook dry and mealy, of good flavor, and are not inferior to the best Mercer Potatoes.—The flesh is a very pale yellow. The seed was introduced into this County from the East by Mr. Agard, formerly of Bell Mount Colliery, and now of Philadelphia, and the two potatoes were presented to the grower by Mr. Lawrence Whitney of Port Carbon. They were grown in Cloud Home Garden in a bed prepared for cabbage with ordinary barn yard manure, and received the same attention bestowed upon the cabbage, and upon an elevation of about 200 feet above the base of the Sharp Mountain. The proprietor thinks that this extraordinary growth is to be attributed to the attractive influences of the Sharp Mountain. Be that as it may, we regard this product as in every way remarkable, and think that it cannot be beaten this side of California.

We regret that we can neither give the name, variety nor origin of these potatoes further than as above, and for want of a better designation, we will take the liberty of dubbing them the Banner Potatoes.

As the entire crop of these potatoes will no doubt, be carefully preserved for seed, we shall know more of them in another year.

☞ *Fire—Partial Destruction of a Clothing Establishment.*—On Monday night about half past 9 o'clock, huge volumes of smoke were discovered issuing from the first floor of the clothing establishment of E. T. Ellrich & Co., corner of Centre and Mahantongo streets this Borough. The alarm was speedily given, and in a short time the firemen and fire police were on the ground. The flames which were confined fortunately, to the first floor, were extinguished before they had damaged to any extent, the building; but the stock of valuable goods in the store was damaged to a considerable extent by fire and water. The origin of the fire is not known; but as it evidently commenced in a pattern drawer close by the stove, the store may have caused the mischief. Messrs. Ellrich & Co. estimate their loss at $1500, upon which there is an insurance in the London and Liverpool office of $2500. Until the repairs of the store below are completed, the firm will carry on its business in the second story, entrance on Mahantango street. The building which is the property of T. & J. Wood of Philadelphia, is damaged to the extent of about $500, which is fully covered by insurance in the Lycoming office.

In connection with the fire we feel it a duty to compliment the fire police upon the very efficient services it rendered. The members guarded the store property faithfully, and prevented its removal and loss. Their action at the fire was worthy of the highest commendation. We should like to see a movement made to procure them badges, so that they can readily be distinguished at fires. Their services are not rewarded, and badges should be furnished them.

☞ *At* a meeting of the Washington Artillery Company held at its Armory in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, on Thursday evening, November 4th, 1858, the following Resolutions were adopted with unanimity:—

Whereas, The Washington Artillery Company on the occasion of its recent visit to the City of Philadelphia, was received and entertained by the citizen soldiery of the Metropolis in the most hospitable manner, and"

Whereas, We deem it at once a duty and a privilege to express our acknowledgments to those who assisted in rendering our sojourn in Philadelphia one of unalloyed pleasure, therefore

Resolved, That we tender our hearty thanks to the Scott Legion, Captain Gray, Minute Men of '76, Captain C. M. Barry, State Fencibles, Captain Page, Outlenders Greys, Captain Breece, and Montgomery Guards, Captain Harvey, for receptions and entertainments so creditable to themselves as they were gratifying to us, and assure them that the true soldiers' welcome extended to us, will ever live in our recollection, and claim our warmest gratitude.

Resolved, That in the graceful reception we experienced at the hands of his Honor, Mayor Henry, we recognized the whole-souled, accomplished, hospitable citizen, blended with the upright, high-toned, dignified Chief Magistrate of our beautiful Metropolis.

Resolved, That we regret the indisposition of General Winfield Scott, which prevented our meeting him on the occasion of our recent visit to Philadelphia, and hope that the war-worn soldier may soon be restored to perfect health, that the country for many years to come may rest with safety, in peace and war, on the wisdom, prudence and bravery of her distinguished son.

Resolved, That in the cordial greeting accorded us by General Patterson, and in the remarks which fell from his lips, many of us his old comrades in arms, were carried in memory, back to the stirring scenes of the Mexican campaign, while the younger members of our corps were filled by the words of wisdom uttered by the much beloved veteran.

Resolved, That we extend to General William F. Small the assurance that his hearty welcome on behalf of the Council, and bestowal upon us of the hospitalities of the City, was a gratifying episode during our visit, and that it will long be held in remembrance in connection with our recognition of his worth as a citizen and a soldier.

Resolved, For various kindnesses and attentions, that we return our sincere acknowledgments to E. W. Hanson, Corporal in the ranks of the Washington Artillerists during the Mexican War; to Col. Snowden, Superintendent of the United States Mint; to Wm. Moran, Sr., Superintendent of Independence Hall; to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company; to our attentive hosts, Sides & Company of the National Hotel; to Messrs. Wheatley & Clarke, of the Arch Street Theatre Sanford and Long, and to those fellow soldiers whose friendly invitations we were compelled unwillingly, to decline accepting.

Resolved, that we can but inadequately express our thanks for the hospitalities extended to us during our recent visit to a city dear to us, and of whose progress as Pennsylvanians, we are proud; but hope that at no distant day we may be enabled to grasp the hands of the gallant citizen soldiery of Philadelphia, in our city among the hills.

PROCEEDINGS OF COURT.

REPORTED FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

(Continued from last week.)

An adjourned Court of Common Pleas has been held during the past week, occupying the greater part of the time. Most of the cases on the List were disposed of, a number having been settled by the parties. We give a list of the cases tried, together with the principal facts involved:—

Thomas Bonzer vs. John Quinn.—This was an action on a promissory note dated June 5, 1857, at 60 days, for $575, drawn by the deft., and payable to Wm. Weinrich's order, and endorsed by Weinrich over to Bonzer before the maturity of the note. The defence alleged that they had a set-off against Weinrich for the full amount of the note, which plff. knew before he obtained the note, and further that Weurich was the real owner of the note. There being no proof of these allegations, the jury found for the plff. $104 55

Miners' Life Insurance & Trust Company vs. Joseph Wetzer.—This was also an action on a note dated Oct. 1, 1855, at 60 days, for $200, drawn by Thos. I. Atwood in favor of and payable to the order of the deft., who endorsed it. The deft. alleged that the drawer of the note, Atwood & Co., had given new notes to the plff. for this and other indebtedness, which had been accepted by the plff. as payment of the note in suit; but of this there was no proof. Deft. further contended that by plff.'s arrangement with the drawers of the note, plff. had disabled themselves from pushing the drawers and that he as endorsor was thereby released; but of this there was no proof. The jury found for the plff. $294 52.

John M. Wemmer vs. Augustus Dietel.—The deft. sold a horse to plff. for $150. The next morning, or the next day or two afterwards, but the purchaser returned him to the plff., alleging that he was unsound, who wished deft. to take him back, but which he refused to do. The plff. attempted to prove that when the bargain was made, the horse was warranted to be good and sound by the deft., and that he was not a sound horse. These were the questions involved in the case. According to the evidence, the horse was for a short time unwell, but his ailment appeared to be only temporary. Shortly afterwards the horse was put up at public sale, and brought $84, and the purchaser then sold him for $135. The jury found for the deft.

Margaret Ann Tindle by her next friend Thomas Tindle vs. Dr. Geo. W. Brown.—The plaintiff, a child of 12 or 13 years, brought an action of trespass against the deft. for running an instrument used for pulling teeth, into her eye and destroying it. It appears that whilst the deft. was in the act of extracting some teeth of a young or brother of hers, she rushed up to the doctor and attempted to prevent him, thinking that her brother was being injured. The doctor removed her. Whilst he was in the act of putting the forceps into the boy's mouth for the second or third time, she rushed up again, saying that he would cut her brother's tongue out, and with one hand caught hold of the doctor's arm and placed her other over her brother's mouth. The doctor attempted to put her away with bisarm, and whilst in the act, the forceps in his hand entered the eye of the child and entirely destroyed it. The deft. contended that the injury was caused by the child taking hold of his arm and thus turning his hand into the instrument in; it towards the eye of the child. The child suffered a great deal, and after a while the eye ball burst and it was entirely discharged. It also affected the sight of the other eye. Plffs. did not contend that the injury inflicted was intentional, but that it was the result of carelessness or rashness on the part of deft. and that he was therefore responsible—the deft. contended that the injury was the result of an unavoidable accident and that he was not to blame—that he had exercised the care usual of a professional man in the matter. The Jury found a verdict for the deft.

Henry Walters vs. James Taggart.—This was an action on a book account. After allowing the deft. his proper credits, to which no objection was made, the jury found for the plff. $1502 88.

Michael Murphy, Owen Burns, George Tracy and Andrew Crimean, vs. Elijah and Eli Hammer, A. S. Heffner, Jno. and Daniel Schall, Jno. Shoener and John M. Bickel.—This was an action on a contract for driving tunnel in mines, made with the owners of the land. No defence appearing, the jury found for the plffs. against the parties served with the writ $217 64.

[*Conclusion of cases next week.*]

[COMMUNICATED.]

The Public Library in Due Time; But a Reading Room Immediately.

The project of a Public Library seems to have taken hold of the minds of the citizens of Pottsville, and it is not a discouraging circumstance that its final consummation is not yet attempted. It will do no harm to take an entire year, or even a greater time if necessary, for the people to realise the magnitude and dignity of the enterprise. It is the constant mistake of enthusiastic, but inexperienced persons, that they complete their organizations without duly taking the trouble to make themselves acquainted with the capacity or requirements of those whom they expect will follow in their leads. It may happen in a country village, where there are plenty of men of general intelligence and common sense, and who have been accustomed to meet together and engage in discussion of matters of general interest, a few individuals who think it better to found an Academy of Sciences, and they elect 40 members a large number of their good natured fellow citizens who had nothing to say in the direction of the institution. The constitution and laws may declare that the society is to deal with, and advance all the sciences, and these are accordingly distributed to the aforesaid members, each of whom has pledged himself among other things, to keep the society constantly informed in the discoveries made throughout the world in his own branch. The next thing done is to follow the example of other learned societies, and make themselves known to the world by publishing their transactions. After a while it is discovered that very little advance is made in science, from the fact that none of the members have reached any eminent position therein, and because they have no books or cabinets for study, and furthermore are so occupied with their daily occupations as to have no time to devote to science, even if so disposed. At last, having discovered, that, excepting the honor and improved social position, there is no return for their time and money, the members drop away, and the light of science goes out.

In every community a Library is the first thing needed. It makes no difference whether a person knows little or much—whether he desires to pursue science or literature—here he has the means. But it should be of sufficient extent to represent fairly the different departments, and these books should be procured systematically, and from lists prepared and approved by librarians and literary men. Therefore, it is not likely to answer the purpose to have only a few hundred books carelessly collected. The collection of books, the library building, and its management, should be such as to command the respect and confidence of the community. The regulations should be like those of other good Libraries, and should be such as would ensure the safety of the books, and make the rooms a pleasant resort for ladies and gentlemen.

Before any final action is made or any subscriptions received, there should be a definite plan agreed upon, and even the details arranged. It is not likely that those who know the importance of a library would subscribe, while it was uncertain as to what would become of their money, and they would be right in withholding it. The feeling is a sound one. to aid only that which is pretty sure to be a success. As regards the great Public Library, we leave it for the present to the reflection of the citizens, who will when they are ready form their plan, and see if thirty to fifty thousand dollars will be forthcoming to carry it out. Perhaps, if we can prove ourselves capable of managing a Library, by preparing such a matured scheme as has been suggested, some liberal individual may present us with the requisite money. George Peabody has taken pleasure in founding two Libraries already, the one in his native town of Danvers, to which he has already given $40,000, and one in the city of Baltimore, his donations to which have now reached $.00,000.

But the proposition you have published for establishing a reading room is altogether practicable, and ought to be put into immediate execution. We ought to have the Current Literature, the Reviews, Magazines, the leading Journals of the different cities of this country and Europe. For the cost of a single Review, or Newspaper we may have the reading of all. To this might be added a few books of reference if thought desirable, such as the Dictionaries of our Language, of Biography, Geography, etc. At any rate the Current Literature should be afforded us by a combination of the kind. We get all we need from it, and at a trifling expense. Let therefore, our mechanics, and such other similarly well disposed citizens as they will be willing to associate with us, organize this institution.

Pottsville, November 10, 1858.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

☞ In Baltimore rowdyism is rampant and supreme.

☞ Deaths in Philadelphia last week, 126; in New York, 361.

☞ Rarey is teaching horseology to a large class in Stockholm.

☞ A new theatre is nearly completed in Leavenworth, Kansas.

☞ When is a clock on the stairs dangerous? When it runs down.

☞ English papers announce the decease of the Countess of Abington.

☞ There was a smart snow storm at Ballston, N. Y., on Wednesday last.

☞ Iron buildings are rapidly increasing in number in the city of Boston.

☞ Up to the 31st, the victims by the fever at New Orleans, amounted to 4858.

☞ Why is a turkey a most unchristian fowl? Because he is two-thirds a Turk.

☞ The Farmers' and Union Banks of Reading, have each declared a dividend of 3 per cent.

☞ A man is most properly said to be "ripe for anything" when he is a little mellow.

☞ English papers announce the arrival from China of 859,200 lbs. of the new crop of tea.

☞ Capt. E. W. Paul, of St. Louis, the best pistol shot in the world, died on the 21st ult.

☞ H. B. Marsy, the manager of the telegraph office at Vicksburg, died of yellow fever 1st inst.

☞ The distance from Lawrence to Leavenworth, Kansas, by the traveled route, is thirty-three miles.

☞ Convinced of his wife's unfaithfulness, Mr. Pond, of Franklin, Mass., cut his throat with a sickle.

☞ Dr. Brehl of Berlin, has computed the period of Donati's comet and finds it to be 2103½ years.

☞ Jacob Weil, 13 years of age, hung himself on Friday in Greenwich Township, Berks county.

☞ Why had a man better lose his arm than a leg? Because, losing his leg, he loses something "to boot."

☞ A miserly old fellow has hit upon an experiment to save candles. He uses the "light of other days."

☞ Miss Kimberly has been reading "Miles Standish's Courtship" and "Two Millions," in New Haven.

☞ First-class stores in Chicago, Ill., which, one year ago brought $7,500 a year, are now offered for $500.

☞ The "Princess Royal bridal skirts" and the "Piccolomini bustle" are among the latest things in New York.

☞ Senator John Bell, of Tennessee, is named as a candidate of the "opposition" of that State for Governor.

☞ In Paducah, Ky., a young married lady of 13 years, was recently delivered of a child weighing 1½ pounds.

☞ The yellow fever has nearly disappeared from Charleston, very few fatal cases having occurred last week.