Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1859.

THE LANDHOLDERS.

Of the men holding property in the Schuylkill Coal Region, none we are sure, are more deeply interested in the construction of the Auburn and Allentown Railroad, than the landholders. We have already, given a multiplicity of facts to show how intimately allied to the proposed improvement are the interests of the owners of Coal lands. It is useless to recapitulate. We think that on the strength of the facts we have laid before them, that they ought promptly, to subscribe, twelve per cent. of their rents to the capital stock of the road. It would be but an investment of a portion of their receipts, which in a short time after the road shall have been completed and in active operation, will pay them a handsome per cent age.

But we place the claims of this Region to the attention of the landholders on still nobler grounds —sympathy with the exertions and sufferings of the men who delve and dig, more as the past history of this Region shows, for the benefit of the landholders than for their own profit. While the landholders—the majority residing abroad in comfort, and with every luxury at their command—receive from the labor in this County, hundreds of thousands of dollars annually; while the flow into their treasury is steady and sure; while they run no risks, and are exposed to no dangers, our operators encounter disastrous fluctuations of trade and often meet with "faults," the miner meanwhile encountering death in the horrid form of fire damp explosions; falls of coal, etc. Surely, an employment so laborious and so dangerous, as that of mining coal, merits at the hands of those who reap a rich and sure harvest of dollars from it, substantial acknowledgment. A man's duty to his fellow man, is hardly discharged, when he pockets the dollar won by the miner's blood from the bosom of Mother Earth, without a thought or care how the condition of that hardy class of men may be improved.

Pertinent to this subject, we have always felt keenly, the sentiment and truth of the following lines entitled "THE MINERS' DOOM," published originally in the *London Mining Journal:*

'Twas evening, and a sweeter balm on earth was never shed.
The sun lay in his gorgeous pomp on ocean's heaving bed.
The sky was clad in bright array, too beautiful to last,
For night, like envy, scowling came, and all the scene o'ercast.
'Tis thus with hope—'tis thus with life, when sunny dreams appear,
The infant leaves the cradle-couch to slumber on a bier;
The rainbow of our cherish'd love, we see in beauty's ray,
That glows with all its mingled hues, alas! to fade, and die!
'Tis dark; still night, the sultry air scarce moves a leaf or flower;
The aspen, trembling, fears to stir, in such a silent hour;
The footsteps of the jaguar, alone, can be heard
Between the pauses of the song of night's portentous bird—
And in such dreary a moment, plods the miner to his toil,
Compelled by refreshing sleep to leave, for labor's hardest moil!
By fate's rude hand, the dream of peace is broken and destroyed—
The savage beast his rest can take, but man must be delayed!
And why this sacrifice of rest?—did not the Maker plan
The darksome hours for gentle sleep, the day for work by man?
Yes!—but the mighty gods of earth are wiser in their law—
They hold themselves with pride to be their Creator's first great cause.
The miner hath his work begun, and busy strokes resound,
Warm drops of sweat are falling fast—the Coal lies piled around.
And what a sight of slavery!—in narrow seams compressed
Are seen the prostrate forms of men to hew on back and breast.
Fainting with heat, with dust begrimed, their meagre faces sew,
By glimmering lamps that serve to show their looks of misery.
And oft the hard swollen hand is raised to wipe the forehead sweat;
Its brusthes a sigh for labor's close, and then his toil renews.
And manly hearts are throbbing there—and visions in that mind
Float of the young and sanguine soul, like stars that rain and shine.
Amid the dreariness that dwells within the cavern's gloom
Age looks for youth to solace him—waits for his fruits to bloom:
Behold! there is a careless face bent from yon cabined aperture,
Hope you may read in his bright eye—there's future in his look;
Oh, blight not, then, the fairy flower, 'tis heartless to destroy
The only pleasure mortals know—anticipated joy!
Oh, God! what flickering flame is this!—see, see again the fire!
Dancing around the wiry lamp, like meteors of the air.
Away, away!—the shaft, the shaft!—the blazing fire flies;
Confusion!—spreads! lava stream the lightning's wing defies!
The shaft!—the shaft!—down on the ground, and let the demon ride
Like the sirocco on the blast—volcanoes in their pride!
The choke damp angel slaughters all—he spares no living soul!
Its smiles there with sulphureous brand—he blackens them like coal!
The young—the hopeful, happy young—fall with the old and gray,
And oh, great God! a dreadful doom, thus buried to decay
Beneath the green and flowery soil where on their friends remain—
Disfigured and perchance, alive—their cries unheard and vain!
Oh, Desolation! thou art now a tyrant on thy throne.
Thou smilest with sardonic lip to hear the shriek and groan!
To see each mangled, writhing corse to raining eyes displayed—
For hopeless, follows now lament, and orphans wail disturbed.
Behold thy work! The maid is there, her lover to destroy!
The mother wails her only child, that she shall see no more;
An idiot sister laughs and sings—oh, melancholy joy!—
While bending o'er her brother dead, she opes the sightless eye.
Apart, an aged man appears, like some sage David oak,
Shedding his tears, the leaves that fall beneath the woodman's stroke;
His poor old heart is rent in twain—he stands and weeps alone
The sole supporter of his house, the last, the best is gone!
This is thy work, fell tyrant!—this the miner's common lot!
In danger's darkling den he toils, and dies lamented not.
The army hath its pensioners—the sons of ocean rest,
When battle's crimson flag is furled, on beauty's downy breast;
But who regards the mining slave, that for his country's wealth
Resigns his sleep, his pleasures, home, his freedom and his health?
From the glad skies and fragrant fields he cheerfully descends,
And eats his bread in stenchy caves, where his existence ends.
Aye, this is he whom masters grind, and level with the dust—
The slave that barters life, to gain the pittance of a crust.
Go, read your pillard calendar, the record that will tell
How many victims of the mine in yonder churchyard well.
Hath honor's laurels ever wreathed the despot's haughty brow?—
Hath pity's hallowed gems appeared when he in death lay low?
Unhonored is his memory, despised his worthless name—
Who wields in life the iron rod, in death no tear can claim!

We need not comment on the above. It is a poetical narrative, applicable to scenes which happen almost daily in this Region. We appeal to the landholders to fall not in the discharge of their duty to the miners in this crisis. In the Auburn and Allentown Railroad we have a project, which will enhance the value of their property, while it will ensure to our miners steady and lucrative employment. Under the impulse given to business by the new outlet to the East, they will be enabled to live more comfortably, while their lives will be better protected, by the economical and scientific improvements demanded to work extensive colliery operations. In the landholders' hands, to a considerable extent rests the ability to produce this state of affairs. Self-interest and humanity suggest such action as will hasten the consummation. The Auburn and Allentown Railroal is the means whereby in a great measure, it can be accomplished, and it rests with the landholders to act promptly and energetically, in the matter.

WHAT MORE?—The so called "Union Meetings" of the North, where they did not fizzle into out-and-out Buchanan demonstrations, fail to satisfy the slaveholders. Their representatives in Congress openly declare so. What is expected, pray? Are we to grovel to the South, and beg to be allowed now and then, to entertain a manly opinion? It seems that the slaveholders are resolved to identify the Republican party and the Abolitionists, although the latter repudiate the former because they are too conservative. The fact is; that the Abolitionists now fraternise with the Administration Democracy, because it is in reality, the disunion party of the country. The North is having its good, Union-loving, law-abiding spirit, tried severely. It is fortunate that we are so magnanimous as we are powerful.

HELPER'S BOOK.—In consequence of the extensive advertising which the Administration disunionists in Congress have given this work, quite gratuitously too, for which undoubtedly, the author is duly grateful, there has been during the past week, a great demand for it. The publishers have been unable to supply the demand. We expect to get some copies on in a few days. The statistical facts contained in the work, will attract universal attention, independent of the clinching arguments in it against the institution of slavery, as desirable to any State.

A LETTER addressed to us from Marion County, Iowa, says: "There is a strong feeling in Marion County, Iowa, in favor of Simon Cameron as the candidate for the Presidency, as he appears to be the only man that can unite the opposition to the Democracy."

MR. HICKMAN'S SPEECH.

An unpurchased and unpurchasable Democrat, is John Hickman, member from the Sixth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. On Monday last he delivered a remarkable speech. Below will be found a report of it. A Washington correspondent who heard it delivered, says that powerful as it is in its honesty, it received additional force from the purity of diction which characterized its manner. All who read it must admit its exceeding power, and feel the conviction that such a speech must damage the Administration, even more effectually than the speeches and articles of the apologists and followers of Mr. Buchanan:

Mr. HICKMAN. Mr. Clerk, with regard to the attack made by the President's newspaper on myself and others, I have but a word to say. It made by the President himself he knows it to be false. It made by any other person he does not know it to be true; for, sir, the reason why I occupy the position here today which I do occupy, is because I could not be purchased.—[Applause from the Republican benches and from the galleries.] This reading me out of the Democratic party has been faithfully persevered in for the last four years, by many abler and stronger than the gentleman from Missouri, [Mr. NOLL,] and still they have not yet got rid of me, and it will take them perhaps four years longer of persevering effort, if I should choose to remain to their good company.

My treason, to which very frequent reference has been made here, not merely during the present session, but during former ones, has a history connected with it—a history with which the gentleman from Missouri ought to be acquainted. Sir, it dates back four years, when, in this Hall, on the grievous charge being made—a charge which pervaded the country and which was believed by the country—that fraud and force and all manner of crimes had so far invaded the Territory of Kansas that they had prostrated thoroughly the people, I chose to introduce a resolution to investigate that charge. That was the time when my treason commenced, for I then took the stand against a combined Democracy; and, sir, I charge on that united Democracy, from whom I do dissent to-day—that, however, because I have failed to be a Democrat—a persevering effort, both in this Hall and in the other wing of the Capitol, to stifle that investigation and to suppress the proof of the fraud. Then, sir, I was read from the Democratic party; and yet, after the committee, which I was to some extent, instrumental in raising, (and this is the first time I have ever referred to it,) had made their report to Congress, no man in the country was sufficiently reckless to deny that the charge which had been preferred was fully and completely proved. Then, sir, I was denounced as a renegade, and a traitor, and for what? What was the body of my offence? Because I chose to differ from the Democracy, believing that the charge ought to be investigated, and that, if fraud existed, it ought to be revealed. And have they ever withdrawn their hands from it to this day? No, sir; to no greater extent than silence may be done it.

Well, sir, I returned home to my people with all the brand of treason which that body of men could place upon me. I was defeated; and Mr. Buchanan, the present President of the United States, honored my Democracy in the face of that presentation which had gone up against them, and thanked on my renunciation, as he believed that it would be valuable to his cause. Mr. Buchanan did not denounce me.

Now a word in respect to that canvass, for the mere purpose of illustrating a brief history. It was there the charge of treason may property rest, and was to who is the renegade. The State of Pennsylvania was in very imminent peril at that election; and Mr. Buchanan knew that the election in that state rested upon a single point, which was this: big safety upon the question of the management of Kansas affairs. Why, sir, it can be proved by a thousand living witnesses, if it be necessary, that during that summer, (this man who now tells the executive chair, made it his business to place men, not merely in the North, but in the South, that it be should succeed in his election, as he knew the free-state sentiment in that Territory to be the strongest, Kansas should come into the Union as a free and not as a slave State. That there has been much said in this Hall, it has never been doubted in Pennsylvania; and by means of the pledges that he thus gave, did he succeed in carrying that state in the November election. As soon, however, as he reached the city of Washington, it was discovered that the mind of the President had undergone a very sudden change—not that his judgment—as contrived, he may have sought to be very clearly shown that he never alleged that his mind had undergone any change up to that time; but he made the fear that three or four southern States would secede from the Union, a pretext for urging upon Congress the adoption of the fraudulent *Lecompton constitution.* Now, we begged leave to differ from him in his policy. We were again denounced as traitors, and again read out of the Democratic party. Well, sir, the President's hand was raised against us, and everything that executive power and patronage could do was done for the purpose of destroying us in our respective districts. We are now back here again, to rebuke again the treachery of this wicked and reckless Administration; and if that is treason, the other side of the House will have the most of it.

I have said all that I propose to say upon that point at this time. I shall avail myself of another opportunity to go into it at greater length.

Now, sir, the charge of treason that has been made was not sufficiently powerful to humiliate and disgrace us, and we find this newspaper adding to it a charge of corruption. If there is any man in this body of men who knows of any contract or agreement that I have entered into with anybody, for any purpose, let him produce it now, or forever hold his peace. I have never done so, and I defy him here at any time; and I say now, that if the election of my friend Col. Forney—and I take pleasure in calling him my friend—if I could purchase his election as clerk of this House by entering into an agreement with any man here, upon this side of the House, I would *refuse to do it.* As Mr. Buchanan could not purchase me, so can I not be purchased by others. [Applause and hisses.] I have already been offered more than I am worth, and I refused to sell myself at that. [Laughter and applause.] Why, sir, this is all false pretense. I know where the trouble is and the country knows where it is. I have ventured to express opinions against giving to slavery an unlimited extension to what there it pleases. That is the body of my offence; all the rest is false pretense. And I desire to say now, that if Democracy consists in supporting all the claims which the southern country may make upon it, I shall very soon cease to be a Democrat. I have been in this House long enough to learn that many things which I never could have learned at home, and I think it has perfected my education upon this point; I have learned that a man may support every measure of a Democratic Administration and yet if he votes against a single interest of slavery, he is *in fact* no Democrat; but if he votes against every measure of the Administration, and will sustain the interests of slavery, he is *in fact* a good Democrat. I put that as God's naked truth before this House and before the country, and I intend to stand upon it as a solemn convictn.

Now, sir, I wish to say a word to the other side of the House, and I intend, in what I say upon this occasion and upon every other, to treat every man here as I would be treated myself, respectfully; but I shall express my opinions, if I choose to do so, all of them, fearlessly. There is a contest between the North and the South, and the admission might just as well be made now as at *any future time. There is a state of* feeling existing between the North and the South which cannot be removed; it is as deep laid as the foundations of mountains, and, sir, it pervades every point like an atmosphere. If you want to know why the North have feelings upon this subject, I will tell you. They have become satisfied that there is but one thing which will satisfy our southern brethren, and that is the right to carry slavery everywhere to plant it where they please, to enslave it everywhere, against the united wishes as it is against the united interests of the North.

Mr. MOORE, of Alabama. Will the gentleman permit me to ask him a question?

Mr. HICKMAN. I interrupt nobody and I do not wish to be interrupted myself, for I want to get into no controversy.

This determination to extend slavery is southern interest, and the representatives of the South are compelled to ask as much. I do not complain of them for so doing; and when *our* interests are diverse and adverse to theirs, and lay in another direction, why should we be denounced for pursuing our interests as they pursue theirs.

More than this. The North has *grievous* charges to prefer against the south, and they are charges which they will have answered. That is my conviction; and if the expression of these sentiments shall stamp me with the title of Abolitionist, so be it, and I will wear it as the South which they will have answered. They barge them with the violation of covenants, compacts and compromises. That is what they charge them with, and it is well that they should know it. It is useless to evade, sir, which there is no peace. Why, sir, when these compromises of the Constitution were entered into by our fathers, it has been said that if a *same spirit* had existed which exists now, these compromises never could have been made. *I see the truth of the remark,* sir; for when those compromises were entered into, they were entered into under the solemn conviction that the spokes of slavery through all day was not to increase, but to retrograde. If they had had the convictions, or if they had pursued the policy which our southern friends are now intent upon, those compromises never could have been entered into. Is that did they get—what did our southern friends get by those compromises? They got the slavery representation. They got the foundation for fugitive slave law. They got exemption from export duties. They got, these very large advantages. What did the North get, or what did the interests of freedom get? Why, sir, they got the implied pledge that after the year 1808 the importation of Africans, or the foreign slave trade, should cease.

Now, sir, the South boasts to-day that they are in full possession of all the benefits of all the compromises of the Constitution; that they have had the slavery representation; and, if I understand a gentleman who spoke a few days ago, that they have been, by force of the three-fifths representation, twenty members upon this floor.—They boast, sir, that they have the fugitive slave law, and that the North does not abide by its provisions. They are certainly exempt from duty upon exports; and there is the North, with her share of the compromises of the Constitution? Why, sir, we been fairly swoyed—not here, but it will come before spring. It will come before the country—that they do not intend that the foreign slave trade shall be closed. They intend to open the traffic. Yes, sir, they have opened the traffic; they make bold to say so, and southern courts refuse to punish offenders. I say then, the North charges upon the South that they have swept away from the North the benefit of the compromises of the Constitution, while the South are in the full enjoyment of theirs.

When you come to the compromise of 1820; when, in order to get Missouri into the Union as a slave State they gave to us of the North the solemn pledge and entered into bonds that slavery should never exist north of the southern line of that State; after having got Missouri in, and reaped all the advantage which they could reap from that compromise, the South came here—not the North—the South came here, should a motion of the South to say that the benefit which the North received from that compromise of 1820 should sweep away; and sir, southern breath swept it away; and we have, in consequence, the struggle in Kansas as to whether we are very should or should not go into territory from which it was solemnly dedicated.

But, sir, the North charge further that in this compromise of 1832—the great compromise of the great compromisers—northern trade was paralyzed and northern industry destroyed. And then, sir, last; and not by any means least, we have the compromises of 1850 and 1854, which I choose to join together, as they constitute but one single compact. After we bought, yes, sir, after we bought California into the Union, according to an undivided sentiment, giving to them monstrous propositions, while I still not undertake now to enumerate; they made us the solemn guarantee that if we would adopt the principle of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, to leave the whole question of slavery to the final determination of the people of the Territory, and exclude agitation of the slavery question from Congress, they would abide by it. Now, sir, where are we? Who is there that represents that southern sentiment of 1850 and 18.4, upon this floor?—Who is there that represents it? Is there any southern member who represents it? It is likely that there is.—The South, however, he has maintained a most respectful silence up to this moment. No, sir; the southern sentiment destroys all the benefits which the North got by the compromise of *1850 and 1854.* I will not undertake to say what the motive of the man was who introduced the Kansas-Nebraska bill, but I think that no man ought to have doubted what the effect of that bill would be. The South undoubtedly expected that it would conduce to the interest of slavery, and the effort was strenuously made, I think, in Kansas, to reap that benefit from that provision of the bill. *But from the* moment that it failed to plant slavery in Kansas, it has been repudiated, and I understand the position which the south occupy to-day, it is that they will have nothing to do with this thing of squatter sovereignty. They wash their hands of it.

Now here is the first, the second, the third, the fourth and the 5th compromise which the North have entered into with the South upon this all-absorbing subject of slavery; and the North charge upon the South that in every single instance of compromise they have violated them after having received the benefit, or tried to receive the benefit arising from their side of the bargain. And these charges have to be answered, not here merely, but at other times and other places. They will have to be answered next year, and I assume now the position that the South have got to wash their hands of these things, or they have got to give up the Federal offices. [Applause and cries of "Good!" upon the Republican side.] Now the South have rights guaranteed under the Constitution; but the South have not all the rights.—The North have a *few.* Individually, I would not withhold from the South, or from any portion of the South, the least, as I would not the greatest right guaranteed to her either by fundamental law or statute. I would treat her as I would treat a younger sister; would give her once then she was entitled to, rather than lose, because she is the weaker party. I would bestow bounties even upon her; but when she comes here or anywhere else and demands, as a right, what was not her right, and seeks to wrest from the North what she is not entitled to, I would deny her. That is my position, and those are my principles at the present time; for if I understand the politics of the country as the North; if, I have not been blinded for the last four years, there is no politics in the United States now but "slavery." The whole politics of the country are involved in the negro question. Shall slavery travel into the Territories or shall it not? that is the question. There is no other question, and there will be no other question in the presidential contest of 1860, and, if I am constrained to choose between the party which insists that slavery shall travel everywhere, against right, and that party which says it shall not go anywhere, even when it is right, I cannot help it. That is all. I stand upon the principle of the Kansas-Nebraska bill. I believe it is sufficient for us. It is anybody bond between the North and the South, and I will try it a little further, and I am with the men who are for that principle. I know how it will result. It will result exactly where the Republicans desire it should end—it will end in the exclusion of slavery from all the Territories of the United States. If there is any man who is committed to the principles of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, who does not answer that question in that way where it is propounded to him, all I have to say is that he is either willfully blind or slightly disbonest.

Sir, I have never uttered a political sentiment in my life, that I can remember, that I would not utter here in the hearing of the South—not one. I have always stood by the Democratic party when I believed it to be right. I adhere to the principles of the Democratic party; and I have always opposed that party when I believed it to be wrong; and I intend to do so forever. There shall not be any misunderstanding between any gentleman upon the Democratic side of the House and myself. I feel perfectly certain that the party has been bankrupted by this Administration of James Buchanan. I know it. I know it. for wherever the Democratic party can no longer control northern masses, then that party is bankrupt; and that is the condition of that party today. There is not a northern State, not one, as there is a rebel a northern county, that can be carried upon the doctrine upon which Mr. Buchanan this day bases the Administration. I want the party to put itself right at Charleston; and, if it will not put itself right, I want it to put itself plainly wrong. I do not want the people either of the North, or of the South, to be deceived by any platform which can be interpreted in one way in one section and in another way in another section. If it is the sentiment of the Democratic party that slavery shall travel with the column of one advancing civilization, I say, put it so before the people, express it plainly, and receive the northern verdict upon it.

I should have said something about Union meetings at the North, but my friend from New York (Mr. GRAY) has rendered that entirely unnecessary. I say this, which will cover every thing I should have said at greater length: that there is no sentiment now in the North which can plant itself upon southern policy, as I understand it, and live; for the reason that it would be selfish. And if this condition of things existing between the North and South shall lead to a dissolution of this Union, which no one would deplore more than I should; all I can say is, the North, under these circumstances, will be found not to be the aggressors. We have reached that dividing line between the North and South, and if that non-intercourse, why, we have reached that dissolution already. If not born men cannot now travel in the South; and, as I understand it, any postmaster in any village of the South, where the receipt of five newspapers, subjects to five dollars, can, if a letter bearing my name goes into his hands, open it, examine it, and hute it, on the presumption that it is incendiary. Sir, we have reached that dividing line between the North and South, and, if dissolution means that there is to be a blessing of territory by Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Texas, I say "no;" that shall never be. I express my opinion, and that opinion may go before the country, whether it be or true—when I say "no;" the North will never tolerate the division of the territory. [Applause from the Republican benches.]

Mr. GARTRELL. I should like to know how you are to prevent it.

Mr. HICKMAN. I will tell you how it will be prevented. I am neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet; but I express my conviction that there is as much true patriotism in the North, as there is in the South, though it may not be known by the name of chivalry. Insulting language is used in the South. I do not use the words contemptuously, for I admire chivalry every where. There is much true courage at the South as there is at the North. I have believed it, and, therefore, I will express it; and I believe, sir, that with all the appliances of art to assist, eighteen hundred miles of coast to defend, with habits of the right kind, will always be able to repel any invasion. Armed by the right millions of men without these auxiliaries. [Great sensation, some applause from the Republican benches and the galleries, and hisses in other parts of the Hall.]

Mr. BLAKE. Will the gentleman permit to propound to him a respectful interrogatory?

Mr. HICKMAN. I am up now answering an interrogatory. I am answering now why I am not a rascal.—[Laughter and applause.] That is the main interrogatory.

I am sorry, sir, to trouble the House with these remarks. I entered this Hall on Monday with the firm determination that I would not be dragged into a speech; I found that it was impossible to maintain that determination—that attacks were to be made incessantly continuously; attacks, too, that could not be passed over in silence. I have answered them. There is no charge resting upon me of corruption, either here or at home. If there had been, it would have been exposed long before this. I have passed between raking fires there, as I have here. My colleague [Mr BLAKE] smiles, for he knows something about it. If the charge could have been made, it would have been made and proven; and, therefore, I do not want any charge made against me here by any gentleman in this floor, much less by a contemptible, hoodwinked newspaper, at the other end of the avenue, which has just as much circulation as a decent northern village journal, when they have got nothing to feed on but their charges upon.

QUERIES.—The objection to John Sherman from the slaveholders, is, that he signed a circular recommending the proposed distribution of 100,000 copies of a compendium of "The Impending Crisis of the South," yet John Letcher of Virginia, formerly a Member of Congress, now Governor elect of the Old Dominion, recommended in 1847, by his signature, an "*Address to the People of West Virginia, showing that Slavery is injurious to the Public Welfare, and that it may be Gradually Abolished, without detriment to the Rights and Interests of Slaveholders. By a Slaveholder of West Virginia. Lexington, Va.: Printed by R. C. Noel.* 1847." That work contains just as good "treason" as any that can be found in Helper's book. In what respect, then, is John Sherman a greater traitor than John Letcher? If the former is unfit to be elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, is not the latter unfit to be inaugurated Governor of "the Mother of States?" It is to be sincerely hoped that our dear sister, Virginia, may suffer no violation of her honor from any of the doings of this designing *Letcher.* Let him be looked after.

PREPARATORY STEPS FOR STARVATION.—Virginia threatens non-trading intercourse with the North. Are our Virginia friends accustomed to go naked, and to exist on short commons?

☞ See advertisement of Dr. Sanford's Liver Invigorator and Family Cathartic Pill, in another column.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE LADIES HOME MAGAZINE for January, 1860, is a beautiful number. There are thirteen illustrations, the principal one of which is a finely designed and artistically executed steel engraving, entitled, "The Young Artists." The colored fashion plate is one of the neatest we have yet seen in this usually excellent magazine, in that line. "Married and Happy," and "Children Measuring their Height with a Branch of Foxglove," are both well executed engravings on wood. The other engravings are patterns. The literary contents are varied and interesting. In this department particularly, we think that *Home* has no superior, even among the higher priced magazines of the country. Published by T. S. Arthur & Co., 323 Walnut street, Philadelphia, at $2 a year.

THE BRITISH REVIEWS AND BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.—From the publishers, Leonard Scott & Co., 79 Fulton street, New York, we have received "The London Quarterly Review" for October; "The North British Review," for November, and Blackwood's Magazine for November. All the numbers before us, teems with well written articles; but the "North British" is particularly interesting. We do not remember the number of this sterling Review superior to the November one. It contains "State Papers—Memorials of Henry VII.;" "Canning and His Times;" "New Poems;" "Professor B. Powell's Order of Nature;" "Novels—Geoffry Hamlyn and Stephen Langton;" "Students of the New Learning;" "Japan and the Japanese;" "Libraries;" "New Exegesis of Shakspeare;" "Life Boats—Lightning Conductors—Lighthouses;" "The Italian Question;" and "Recent Publications," a series of able criticisms on works damp from the press. We regret that our limited space precludes us from giving even a faint idea of the excellence of this number. As the first of the year is approaching, it is an excellent time to subscribe for one or more of these re-publications. The four Reviews and Blackwood are furnished by Messrs. Scott & Co., at $10 a year, and we firmly believe that the amount could not be more advantageously expended for an intellectual gain, than in subscribing to these unapproachable publications.

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

1859.—Dec.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.	
			D. H. M.	
17 SATURDAY,.....	7 18	4 34	First Q. 2 8 54 m.	
18 SUNDAY,.....	7 19	4 35	Full M. 9 10 17 ev	
19 MONDAY,.....	7 19	4 35	Last Q. 16 4 20 ev	
20 TUESDAY,.....	7 20	4 36	New M. 24 0 51 m.	
21 WEDNESDAY,...	7 20	4 36		
22 THURSDAY,....	7 21	4 37		
23 FRIDAY,.....	7 21	4 37		

Thermometrical Record for the Week.

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

	8	2	7	
	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	
Dec. 10—Saturday,	22°	30°	28°	clear.
" 12—Monday,	36	27	23	"
" 13—Tuesday,	24	27	23	"
" 14—Wednesday,	28	34	34	cloudy.
" 15—Thursday,	32	36	31	"
" 16—Friday,	20	31	23	"

☞ *Skating.*—Shallow streams have become frozen hard and fast, and skaters are enjoying themselves in cutting up "high dutch," and performing other pleasant, graceful and healthful figures, on the smooth surface of the ice.

☞ *Lectures on Astronomy.*—Professor Jones of New York, will commence a course of Lectures on Astronomy, at the Town Hall, Pottsville, on Tuesday evening next. He will illustrate his subject with powerful phantasmagoria, and a large number of astronomical maps.

☞ *Distressing Accident.*—On Tuesday afternoon last, Hannah, daughter of Morgan Morgan, aged 3 years, and residing in Laurel near Minersville street, this Borough, was shockingly burned in consequence of her clothing taking fire while playing at a stove. It happened while the child's mother was temporarily absent in the cellar. The child died on Wednesday afternoon.

☞ *Dangerous Practice.*—The practice of boys sledding within the thickly settled parts of the Borough. We have had an illustration of it, the present week. On Tuesday, a woman, excited, while crossing Second street, was knocked down by a small sled, and so severely injured, that it is problematical whether she will recover. This is so serious a case, that we think the authorities should stop the practice of sledding in the much traveled thoroughfares of the Borough.

☞ *Concert at Silver Creek.*—The members of the Silver Creek Choral Society will give their third annual concert in Silver Creek, on Monday evening, December 26—evening after Christmas. As the concert is given merely to gratify the musical taste of the citizens of that place; as the Society is an able one, and as the price of admission is extremely low, we feel confident that the "New School House" will be crowded on the occasion.

☞ *Masonic.*—The following persons were elected as officers of Page Lodge, No. 270, A. Y. M., Schuylkill Haven, for the ensuing year to commence from next St. John's day. Worshipful Master, Jno. B. Keefer; Senior Warden, Henry Hasel; Junior Warden, Jno. W. Koons; Treasurer, Henry Hasser; Secretary, O. L. Saylor.

The following persons were elected as officers of Swatara Lodge, No. 267, A. Y. M., Tremont, for the ensuing year to commence from next St. John's day. Worshipful Master, Gabriel Drake; Senior Warden, J. A. L. Tice; Junior Warden, Daniel B. Althouse; Treasurer, Isaac Lehman; Secretary, John H. Heilman.

☞ *Pottsville Literary Society.*—A large and intelligent audience was present at the exercises of Tuesday evening last. A lecture was delivered by F. B. Wallace Subject, "Calvin at Geneva." Mr. H. Royer read selections from various authors. A debate then ensued on the question, "Should the Drama be encouraged?" It was ably debated by Messrs. Conyngham and Hazen on the affirmative, and Messrs. Dallas and D. B. Green on the negative. Decided in the negative Mr. Hazen was particularly happy in his remarks, which were highly appreciated by all present.

The Society stands adjourned until after the holidays. The next meeting will be held on the evening of January 3, 1860.

☞ *The Coming Holidays.*—Who has not heard of "the good time coming?" asks our contemporary, the Baltimore *Sun*, and then adds, "happily it is not a myth all the year round. It does come once a year, and is 'coming' now, and everybody assents to that 'good time' as pre-eminently exemplified in the Christmas holidays. Midst all the changes and vicissitudes of life—with all the improvements and enterprises, good and bad—with all the appliances of science and art, practical and visionary, Christmas maintains its distinctive peculiarity—the season of 'good cheer.' And it is scarcely possible to find anybody so inaccessible to the genial influences of the time as to be without a response to the joyous intimations of the Christmas holidays. Ice may have sealed down the streams for the winter, snow may overspread the earth, Aquilonean winds may sing the requiem of the departing year, but the voice of the Christmas, the 'gleam of the red berry, the merry sparkle of the yule-log, (if in imagination only,) the savor of roast turkey, plum-pudding, or humbler fare, the happy intercourse of friends, the memento of love, the appropriate token of the time, exert their potent influence, charm away all untoward conditions of the out door season, and insist upon the happiness and good cheer of universal Christendom.

☞ *Don't fail to see Sixth Annual Announcement,* and brilliant offers, in another column.

☞ *Life has few charms* for the Dyspeptic, which is not to be wondered at, when we take into account the amount of bodily suffering which he endures. By the use of the Oxygenated Bitters, the picture is reversed and the bright side of life appears.

WILCOX & GIBBS'S SEWING MACHINE.—For a long time a necessity has been felt for a single-thread sewing machine adapted to family work.—Numerous experiments from time to time have been made to procure us the desired result; but heretofore all single thread machines have proved nearly worthless, and for this reason great prejudice exists against single-thread machines. Quite recently a new one of great practical value to every housekeeper, has been introduced by Wilcox & Gibbs, combining many of the improvements of the Wheeler & Wilson, Grover & Baker, and Singer machines, while its great peculiarity is the revolving looper, so ingeniously arranged that the needle must always pass through it; thus forming a seam that cannot be pulled apart even if it be cut every few stitches. This peculiarity obviates the necessity of using a double thread, since it renders the work as perfect and durable as the most beautiful hand-sewing. The lesson also, is different from that of any other machine, and saves the operator the trouble of arranging the spool every few minutes, and the machine is so simple and perfect in its construction that it is almost impossible to get out of repair or to make a false stitch.

We notice that the committee of the Franklin Institute, and also the committee of the late State Agricultural Fair, after a severe trial and a close competition, awarded the highest premium to this beautiful and valuable machine.

We advise such of our readers as want a sewing machine to call at the store of R. R. Morris, centre street, Pottsville, sole agent for the sale of these machines.—*Exchange.*

TO DYSPEPTICS.

And all who suffer the tortures which this disease inflicts in one form or another, of its many phases, cure yourselves permanently and speedily by using

The Oxygenated Bitters.

The "Weekly Novellette" of Sept. 18, says:

Dyspepsia is one of the prevailing diseases of our country. This is owing, both to climate and the almost universal habit of eating our meals too rapidly to admit of proper digestion. But in spite of these adverse circumstances, this disease, even when it has become chronic, disappears rapidly by the use of the Oxygenated Bitters, which have been found to prove an infallible remedy.

From the publisher of a widely circulated Magazine.—*Boston, July 1, 1858.*—Messrs. S. W. Fowle & Co.—I have taken three bottles of the Oxygenated Bitters and have derived great benefit from their use. I have been much troubled with dyspepsia, for several years, and found nothing that afforded me any relief until I used the Bitters. I most cheerfully recommend them to all who are afflicted with this troublesome and stubborn complaint.

JAMES ROBINSON, of the *"Student and Schoolmate."*

From Gen. A. C. Dodge, our Minister to Spain.—*Washington, D. C., May 18.*—Dr. Geo. B. Green.—*Dear Sir:*—The *Oxygenated Bitters* with which you were so kind as to furnish me, have a most salutary effect in my case. I was troubled with Dyspepsia for four years, during which time I tried many things, but never met with any so good as your Bitters. I am now in the enjoyment of good health, and I hope, and believe, that all who use the *Oxygenated Bitters*, will find them as serviceable as I have found them.

With high respect, your obt. servant,

A. C. DODGE.

Prepared by SETH W. FOWLE & Co., Boston, and for sale by John G. Brown, J. C. Hughes, and Henry Saylor, Pottsville; C. & L. Huntsinger, Schuylkill Haven; H. W. Provost, Minersville; Ed. J. Fry and McGurgan & Fowler, Tamaqua; H. Shissler, Port Carbon; Paul Barr, Pinegrove; G. Reagan & Son, Tuscarora; Charles March, New Philadelphia; Jonas Rohrbach, Port Clinton; R. H. Irvin, St. Clair; Phillips, New Castle; John Williams, Middleport; and by dealers everywhere.

December 17, '59 51 4t

☞ **Holloway's Pills.**—Health depends upon purity of the blood which it passes into the veins to circulate through every fibre of the frame. If the digestion be impaired and the liver torpid the vital fluid will be partially deprived of its nutritious principle, and charged with morbid matter which may produce any variety of disease. The sure remedy in such cases is Holloway's Pill. They at once restore the vigor and activity of the stomach and liver, purge all acrid matter from the secretions and the blood, relieve debility, languor and pain, remove all the premonitory symptoms of acute disease, and restore the whole system to a perfectly healthy and sound condition.

☞ **The use of** DR. HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS for Dyspepsia, Flatulence, Heaviness of the Stomach, or any other like affection, is second to none in America or abroad. To be able to state confidently, that the "Bitters" are a certain cure for dyspepsia and like diseases, is to the proprietors a source of unalloyed pleasure. It removes all morbid matter from the Stomach, purifies the blood, imparts renewed vitality to the nervous system, giving it that tone and energy so indispensible for the restoration of health. The numerous acknowledgements of its superior excellence and beneficial results, have assured the proprietors that it cannot but prove a great cure to the afflicted, and impart vitality to the thorough system. See advertisement in another column. Dec. 3, '59 4t-1m

☞ **Holloway's Ointment and Pills.**—Frightful consequences ensue from the neglect of scrofula or king's evil in its earlier stages. Loss of sight and of hearing, terrible ulcers, the destruction of the flesh of the face, and dropping off of entire limbs, are among the horrors of this disorder in its worst stages. Even under these circumstances, it may be *arrested* by the powerful *disinfectant* and healing properties of Holloway's Ointment; but it is much better to take the disease in time, and expel from the blood the virus which produces these ravages, before disfigurement and mutilation commence. The Pills should be administered occasionally while the flesh is healing, under the operation of the Ointment. This treatment is infallible for all eruptive disorders, ulcers, tumors, open wounds and indolent sores.

THE GREATEST

Medical Discovery

OF THE AGE.

MR. KENNEDY, of Roxbury, has discovered in one of our common pasture weeds a remedy that cures

EVERY KIND OF HUMOR,

FROM

The Worst Scrofula Down to a Common Pimple.

He has tried it in over eleven hundred cases, and never failed in one case, except in two cases, both thunder humor. He has now in his possession over 1500 unsolicited certificates of its value all within *twenty miles of Boston.*

Two bott