Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1861.

THE TONNAGE TAX.

The Democratic press is engaged in casting odium on the bill which has become a law, entitled "An Act for the Commutation of Tonnage Duties." While the friends of the bill are charged with legislating for a corporation, the truth is, that they only asked that the tax should be stricken off upon terms amply protecting the revenue of the State, and making positive provision for the speedy payment of our crushing debt. The tax which it was proposed to suspend, was never paid out of the treasury of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; but came directly from the pockets of a portion of the producers of Pennsylvania, an unjust and unequal burden upon their industry. By the law the Company reduces its rates, from its tariff which was in force up to the passage of the bill, exactly to the amount of the tax which was repealed; and whatever may be the mutations of trade, it can never advance its charges. This is a great benefit to the people, and to the interests of trade.

The history of this tonnage tax question, in connection with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, is interesting, and we trust, is generally remembered. Under the administration of Governor Pollock, a bill was passed for the sale of the main line of our public improvements, to which he gave his prompt and cordial approval. When, in pursuance of the law, he exposed the main line to sale, one of the Canal Commissioners, slow to surrender so rich a channel of peculation, had tested the constitutionality of the act, and one of its sections had been declared unconstitutional. That section repealed the tax upon tonnage in case the Pennsylvania Railroad Company became the purchaser, at one and a half millions more than the maximum price to other purchasers. To this the Supreme Court did not interpose any *objection*; but the section went so far as to release the Railroad Company from all taxes upon its property for State purposes, and on this point the section was declared very properly, null and void. The works were then offered for sale by the Executive without the right to release any taxes under the bill, and the Railroad Company refused to become the purchaser. It was well known that no man, nor association of men, except the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, could or would buy the main line for $7,500,000. The Executive therefore, gave his pledge to the Company that, if it should become the purchaser of the main line, and thus arrest the plundering of our treasury by a swarm of vampires under the Democratic Canal Board, he would give the force of his official position in favor of the repeal of the tonnage tax, inasmuch as by the sale of our improvements the necessity that created it would cease. True to that pledge, Governor Pollock strongly urged the removal of the tonnage tax, in his next annual message, and took a view of the question which every man who claims to have a liberal and enlightened appreciation of the interests of Pennsylvania, should take to-day, and which we are glad to say, many are taking, after having opposed warmly, the passage of the measure. Communications from respected citizens are published weekly in the journals of the State, giving in their adhesion to the new law as just and equitable; the only opponents being hireling presses of the Democracy, howling over the opportunity lost, in consequence of the compromise between the Company and the State, of plundering it in the future.

As explicit upon this point, we quote from Gov. Pollock's annual message of January 6, 1858:

"The law incorporating the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, imposed a tax of three mills per ton per mile on all tonnage passing over that road, as an equivalent for any decrease in the revenues of the Commonwealth that might arise from the anticipated completion of the road with the business of the main line of the public improvements. This tax is not imposed upon the Company, but upon the tonnage, and is paid by the owners of the articles that transported over the road, the Company acting as agents in its collection and payment to the State. It is virtually a tax upon the trade and commerce of the Commonwealth, and upon the commerce of other States whose productions seek an eastern market over this road; and thus, by increasing the rate of charges and the cost of transportation, the produce of the West is forced upon the competing railroads of other States, and to other markets than our own. The necessity that required this tax, as regards the Commonwealth and her improvements, has ceased. Its continuance can only be justified as a revenue measure. It should be the policy of the State to invite the transmission of the products of other States through her territory, to her own markets; and, therefore, the propriety of relieving the trade and business of the Commonwealth and country from this tax upon it, is respectfully submitted for your consideration."

Equally fallacious is the argument of the opponents of the measure, that the Company is to pocket the accrued tax. It has been collected wrongfully, and after the State had enacted its repeal. The Company has litigated it, and it is still in litigation. As to the tax on through freight, it is thought to be clearly unconstitutional. The Company does not propose to put it into its own coffers.—The bill adopted appropriates it to the completion of certain railroads leading to the main line of the road. It proposes to refund it to the very people who have paid it, by opening new channels for the development of their wealth. This money has been taken from them unjustly, after the faith of the State was virtually given that it should cease; and it can be returned to them in no way so equally and justly as by opening new avenues of transportation, which enhance the prosperity of the whole community.

Favorite threats of the enemies of the repeal, are, a depleted treasury and increased taxes, while they are evidently unmindful of the fact that since the sale of the main line in 1857, we have had no revenue whatever from this tax—for its payment has been resisted on legal grounds—and yet we have never before in the same time paid half so much of the State debt, and our State taxes have been reduced to two and a half mills.

Apart from the manifest injustice of taxing tonnage over one road, while all others are exempted, we come to a point at which it is conclusive that the State is a gainer pecuniarily, by the existing contract with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Under the new law the latter pays more than the amount it owes for the main line with interest, and pays it, too, in a much shorter time than its contract with the State demands. In addition to that, it pays annually, for all time to come, the regular rates of tax upon all its property, which now amount to the interest of near two millions of its bonds. We have thus a certain and steadily increasing revenue from the taxes of this corporation, in addition to its payments to the State for thirty years under the provisions of the present law. By the bill which has created such a furore among interested and reckless partisans, positive provision is made for the payment of our State debt, and under our amended Constitution no future Legislature can divert the means which have been provided. The payments, with the ordinary resources of the Sinking Fund, will entirely cancel the debt in a quarter of a century; and in five years our State taxes will be reduced nearly if not quite one-half. When added to this we have the fact fairly before us, that the Railroad Company is required to reduce its tariff for local freights, being in effect, a relinquishment of the tax to the people—not to the corporation—by compelling a reduction of freights to the exact amount of the tax, we are at a loss to perceive how any just and reasoning citizen can condemn the action of the Legislature in the premises.

It will be remembered that the sale of the main line was resisted quite as fiercely. Impeading ruin was pictured; but what does the history of four years teach? The man now who should propose to restore the improvements to the State, and have a Canal Board, with its horde of plunderers running riot on them, would be regarded as insane.—The name of Gov. Pollock will be cherished by our tax-payers as one of the State's noblest benefactors for disposing of those works; and when the full faith of that measure shall reach fruition, by removing the unjust restrictions upon our commerce and our industry, Pennsylvania will stand forth among the States of the Confederacy with her mighty energies unshackled, second to none in greatness, and surpassing all in internal wealth and substantial prosperity.

THE FORTS.

Every intellectual athlete of the game of chess, is aware that there is a turning point in a well contested match, from which to the "mate," if the moves are well considered and judiciously made, victory is assured. Patience and calmness are requisite, and success is certain. It seems as if that point were reached at this time by the Government, which is engaged in a game with revolution of vastly more consequence than the diversion of an hour to which we refer, but which like that game, requires the exercise of the higher powers of the mind, prescience, calmness, decision.

Before Mr. Lincoln assumed the duties of the Presidency, his influence was exerted to induce Congress not to pass any bill which would indicate that the incoming Administration contemplated any course towards the disaffected States, but one of peace, up to a point when "patience would cease to be a virtue," or be safe. His inaugural as our readers are aware, was firm, but kind, even to tenderness. It was the intention of the President that the South should realize that he contemplated no aggression upon its rights, even if he had the power, which was not the case. Time was given for the operation of the "second, sober thought;" and the Government remained in a condition of "masterly inactivity." The golden opportunity however, was neglected, and we find South Carolina and her sisters of the Confederate States, quite as unreasonable and disaffected as ever, with an evident determination to set forever, at defiance the authority of the Federal Government, within their borders.

The turning-point is reached. We and every man who loves this country as the hope and support of Liberty everywhere, rejoice that the Government is resolved to assume the position compatible with its dignity and honor. It is authoritatively stated that Fort Pickens has been reinforced by the four hundred men on the *Brooklyn*. The Administration is concentrating the navy, calling home all available ships, fitting out vessels rapidly and sending them Southward with sealed orders. Three hundred men have just been sent from Washington to New York, whence they can be shipped South at a moment's warning. Nothing positive is yet known, in relation to the disposition of Fort Sumter; but we have every confidence in the Administration, and believe that a course consistent with safety and honor, will be adopted in the matter. Our Minister to Belgium carries out orders to all our foreign ministers to protest against the recognition of the Southern Republic by any European power. The favorable bids for the new loan, have encouraged the Administration. Besides, there is a host of events, such as an immense Union meeting in California; the determination of Virginia not to secede; Mr. Corwin's mission to Mexico, to head off secessionists in that quarter; the troubles in Texas; Kentucky's protest against obstructing the Mississippi, etc., which show that the Government is gradually but surely, getting the game in hand.

It is quite evident that affairs are assuming a shape in the South, through the determination of the Administration to execute the laws, which must precipitate matters. The policy of the President and his Cabinet, has unquestionably, been as judicious as it was silent, and we believe, that the new moves of the Government on the political chess board, will be a commencement of a series of blows fatal to disunion. The people rejoice, and will support the Administration in its determination to do its duty.

THE TARIFF.

Notwithstanding the charge that the machinery of the new bill which went into effect on the 1st instant, would be too heavy for successful working, no insuperable obstacles have been encountered, and all works smoothly at the respective custom houses. We have examined carefully, the schedules of the three last Tariffs, and find that the rates of the present bill are about the same as those of 1846. On good liquors the rate is not increased. On Iron, the most important change is from *ad valorem* to specific duties, which prevents frauds upon the Government at the hands of importers, and secures a surer measure of protection to the Iron manufacturers of this country. Taking the prices at which the article sold, during the period in which the Tariff of 1846 was in operation, we find that the duty of 30 per cent. under that Tariff, was proportionably, as high, as the duty under the present law. There are therefore, no just grounds for the assertion that the present law is unreasonably protective. The reverse is the case. Let any intelligent man compare the rates of the present law with those of 1846, and with those now in force in England, and he will find that we have an equitable measure; one eminently free from obnoxious features. It is true that there are some unimportant imperfections in the law, inseparably connected with the framing of a bill vast in detail. They however, can be remedied by future legislation. The law is fiercely assailed; but we are confident that with the passing away of the existing political difficulties, and after a fair trial of its merits, that it will be found to afford a fair Governmental revenue, and just measure of protection to our industry.

It is unquestionably, the interest of this as of every growing country, to maintain steadily in operation, until modification is warranted, a Tariff which discriminates fairly in favor of our labor. Opposition to this principle by the Democracy, as a party, defeated it in successive elections in the North, and no Administration has been a success, which favored free trade. The South with its peculiar system of labor, has quite erroneously, opposed tariffs looking to protection, believing that the tendency was to build up the North at the expense of the South. There never was a greater fallacy. Both sections would be equally benefitted. Manufactures would receive an impetus in the South, under a judicious Tariff, which would place her in ten years far in advance comparatively, of the present position she occupies in the Union.—The South is vastly mistaken as to its true interest, when it assumes a hostile position, in place of building itself up side by side with its more powerful Northern neighbor.

EXIT ANOTHER SECESSION PAPER.—The Democratic journals in the North, that have lent their sympathies to the secession movement, are one after another, falling like "leaves in wintry weather." The Washington *Constitution* was the first to expire after Government patronage had been withdrawn from it, and we now record the demise of an equally obnoxious sheet, the Philadelphia *Pennsylvanian*, which happened on Tuesday last. The *Pennsylvanian* was thirty years old, and had sunk more money for its various proprietors during that time, than they probably, would like to acknowledge. Its departure leaves no vacuum, that needs filling. As a newspaper it was surpassed by other journals, and for months past has served merely, as a medium through which secessionists have promulgated their peculiar views. We shall not be surprised now that the Democratic has sunk into a secession party, to see others of its organs soon in the throes of dissolution.

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

1861.—April.	Sun rises	Sun sets	Moon's Changes.	
6 Saturday,.....	5 35	6 29		D. H. M.
7 Sunday,.....	5 33	6 30	Third Q.	3 1 38 m
8 Monday,.....	5 31	6 31	New M.	10 2 0 m
9 Tuesday,.....	5 30	6 32	First Q.	18 1 49 m
10 Wednesday,..	5 28	6 33	Full M.	24 8 21 ev
11 Thursday,....	5 26	6 34		
12 Friday,.....	5 25	6 35		

Thermometrical Record for the Week

P. R. R. & P. Telegraph Office,
Pennsylvania Hall, Pottsville.

Apr.		8 A. M.	2 P. M.	7 P. M.	
30	Saturday,	42°	50°	50°	clear.
1	Monday,	25	35	30	snow.
2	Tuesday,	34	40	36	cloudy.
3	Wednesday,	30	51	44	clear.
4	Thursday,	40	58	47	"
5	Friday,	40	58	48	"

☞ *The Weather* has settled into a fixed and gentle mood.

☞ *Look* out for well executed $2½ counterfeit gold pieces, dated 1858, and lighter than the genuine coin.

☞ *Admitted to Practice*.—On the 19th ultimo, H. Royer, Esq., on motion of John Hughes, Esq., was admitted to practice in the several Courts of this County.

☞ *Entered Upon His Duties*.—On Monday last, Mr. Michael Seltzer entered upon his duties as Steward of the County Alms House. He will, no doubt, make a good and popular officer.

☞ *The Recent Public School Examination*.—We have received, the Report of Rev. S. F. Colt, who examined the classes of the Public Schools of this Borough, last month. It is an interesting statement, and will appear in our next.

☞ *Fruit and Shade Trees*.—Now is the time to plant Fruit and Shade Trees. S. Bannan has a fine assortment at Greenwood Nursery for sale by the hundred, dozen or single, embracing the choicest kinds of Fruit Trees which he has selected with great care, and warranted to be what they are represented, which is an important feature in procuring Fruit Trees.

☞ *Verdant*.—The reporter of the Philadelphia *Press*, who spent twenty-four hours here this week, and made notes thereof for that paper.—If he will sojourn a week here, he may then become competent to write somewhat intelligently, of Schuylkill County.

☞ *At a meeting* of the Philomathic Association of Pottsville, held at their rooms in "Silver Terrace," Friday evening, March 29th, 1861, the following officers were elected to serve the ensuing quarter: *President*—F. W. Lauer; *Vice President*—W. H. Hardell; *Secretary*—J. S. Hawley; *Treasurer*—R. P. Potter; *Dramatic Director*—C. E. Beck; *Curator*—C. E. Kleinert.

☞ *Accident on the Swatara Railroad*.—On Thursday a freight engine on the Swatara Railroad, when on its way to the Donaldson colliery, ran off the track, and was precipitated into a dam over an embankment twenty-five feet high. W. D. Moore, Esq., of Pinegrove, the popular superintendent of the road, who was on the engine at the time, was completely buried amid the mass of ruins, but miraculously escaped with his life, though seriously injured. It is supposed that the accident was caused by a rail having been displaced by an engine that passed over the road a short time before.

☞ *The Hydropult*.—One of the most useful inventions of the age is the hydropult. We believe there is not a family in the United States that would forego its possession if they could appreciate one-half of its advantages. It is not only useful to raise water, wash windows, put out fires, sprinkle gardens and streets, but is the most convenient contrivance ever invented for a variety of bathing purposes. For giving spray or fountain baths, showers or douches, it works admirably. For families, and in hygienic institutions where no steam of water can be made to run through the house, it seems quite indispensable.

☞ *Disreputable Conduct*.—Possibly, the meanest action of which a thing wearing the human shape, can be guilty, is to insult at night, in the street, a woman who is unprotected. We have heard within the week of two occurrences of this character, most alarming to the subjects, and disgraceful to the perpetrator. Last week a lady was most grossly insulted in Norwegian street, east of Coal, while on Thursday night, in Norwegian street west of Second, two young ladies, living in the vicinity, and who were proceeding to their homes, were thrown into the greatest state of excitement by the sudden assault upon them, of a man who emerged apparently, from a stable. The man is described as being tall, and wearing a high hat. There is no excuse for this unmanly conduct, and we hope that the next attempt at insult will bring upon the offender, the penalty of just punishment. If such acts continue, our streets will not be safe at night, for ladies unaccompanied by a male protector.

☞ *Improvement*.—Mr. L. Womelsdorf has demolished the building formerly occupied by him in Centre street, near our office, preparatory to erecting a brick house for store and dwelling purposes. It will be a fine improvement. While the old edifice was being torn down this week, our attention was directed to the fact, that for a number of years a stove-pipe had been introduced into the wall, where there appeared to be a chimney; but where in fact, none existed. The smoke had found its exit, almost unnoticed, through the crevices of the roof. The lath at that point was charred, but being confined, the fire was smothered before it could set on the wood work. It is one of the most remarkable facts of the kind, that ever came under our notice.

☞ *Schuylkill County Alms House*.—The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Poor, was held at the Alms House, on Monday, April 1, 1861. Present, Charles Focht and Wm. Lerch. The Steward reported the following as the census of the House for the month of March:—Number in the House on the 1st of April, 302; same time last year, 316—decrease, 14. Of the above, 83 are in the insane department, 51 in the nursery, and 47 under medical treatment. Admitted during the month of March, 59; discharged, 59; absconded, 1; died, 3; bound out, 1. Lodging and meals were furnished 193 traveling paupers during the month. Outdoor relief was granted to 16 families, amounting to $77 75.

Bills were passed and Orders drawn amounting to $1324 27
Previous issue, 4180 59
Total, $5504 86

☞ *Almost Up to Us*.—Since the promulgation of the fact that one of the "Junior's" hens, laid not long since an egg, weighing a quarter of a pound, friends in various sections of the County, have distinguished themselves in their efforts to induce *their* hens to beat ours. The nearest approach to a beat, is an egg which we received this week from Mr. H. B. Schuck, of Middleport, through the politeness of Mr. Dampman of the Valley Road. The note accompanying the egg is as follows:

MR. WALLACE—*Dear Sir*.—I send you an Easter egg, which was laid by a hen, the property of Mr. George Barnhart, of this Borough.

Yours Truly,
B. B. SCHUCK.

With considerable trepidation—for we were amazed at the size of the egg—we weighed it, and found to our relief, that it fell short of the weight of our heaviest egg, one quarter of an ounce—close enough to warn us to look out for the next egg which comes to hand. We expect to be discomforted yet in the large egg line.

☞ *Temperance*.—At a meeting of Pottsville Section, No. 29, Cadets of Temperance, held March 29th, 1861, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing quarter:

W. A.—Wm. H. Matter; V. A.—Geo. Staats; S.—John Bast; R. S.—Wm. Dyer; T.—J. S. Sillyman; A. T.—Wm. G. Shertel; G.—Oliver Smith; U.—Jacob Hodgson; W.—Thomas Walker; A. W.—Robert Tindle.

Past Worthy Archons.—Robert Chrisman, Chas. T. Palmer, Bernard Reilly, Francis Leib, Geo. W. Dirnan, Albert B. Schantz, Chas. H. Weitzel, Edwin C. Beck.

On and after Wednesday evening, April 3, '61, the Section will meet on Wednesday instead of Friday.

At a meeting of Pottsville Division, No. 32, Sons of Temperance, held at their Division Room on Tuesday evening, April 2d, 1861, the following officers elect, were duly installed to serve for the ensuing term:

W. P.—Samuel J. Jones; W. A.—John Lucas; R. S.—L. J. Martin; A. R. S.—Henry H. Hill; F. S.—James Greenwood; T.—R. F. Potter; C.—Reston Hay; A. C.—Wm. Bidleman; I. S.—Richard Edwards; O. S.—John Robson; Chap.—Wm. Roddisheck; A. Chap.—George G. Boyer.

On and after the above date, the Division will hold their regular stated meetings on Tuesday, instead of Wednesday evening of each week, as heretofore.

☞ *Proceedings of the Borough Council*.—A stated meeting of the Borough Council was held on Tuesday evening last. Present, Messrs. Jones, Focht, Evert, Greenawg, Christian, Kunkle and Boone, with Mr. Mannig in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting, were read and adopted.

The Street Committee reported bridge at Jalapa, finished.

The Special Committee on subject of disputed property, on Centennial Alley, was discharged.

Special Committee on matter of building on Centre street as old burying ground, discharged.

A petition from seventy-two citizens, praying for the removal of the market house, was referred to the Committee on Markets.

Mr. Evert offered the following:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the voters of the Borough of Pottsville to vote at the ensuing Borough election, for or against the removal of the market house; and that the High Constable be and he is hereby instructed to notify the voters, and have a sufficient number of tickets printed, so that they can vote as suggested.

Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Boone it was resolved that a Committee be appointed, to report at next stated meeting, the name of a suitable person, to assess the dogs of the Borough for 1861.

The chair appointed on the Committee, Messrs. Boone, Focht and Evert.

On motion of Mr. Innest it was resolved that a crossing be made at Third and Mahantango streets.

The following bills were read and ordered to be paid:

C. Worman and others,	$14 95
B. Barr,	10 00
Four watchmen,	111 60
Previous issue,	$136 55 6,189 86
Total,	$5,326 21

Adjourned.

☞ *Easter Sunday Festival of Trinity (Episcopal) Sunday School*.—On Sunday afternoon last we witnessed a very interesting scene in Trinity Church. All of the scholars of the Sunday School connected with that Church, together with a large number belonging to Branch Schools in the vicinity of this Borough, were assembled in the body of the Church, preparatory to handing to the Pastor, Rev. Daniel Washburn, by classes, their respective emblems, and yearly contributions for missionary purposes. The children numbering several hundred, occupied the centre rows of pews, while the side pews were filled with adults. The edifice was literally filled with persons. After the evening services, the musical part of which was executed by the "Little" choir, very creditably, the classes advanced in the following order, to the chancel, with their offerings:

No. 1. Teacher, Miss Louisa B. Evans. Name—Fragment Gatherers. Emblem—Basket of Evergreens. Offering—$5 27.

No. 2. Teacher, Mrs. Morris. Emblem—A piece of coral surrounded by moss, and slips of myrtle. Offering—$2 00.

No. 3. Teacher, Miss Gussie Parry. Offering—$1 20.

No. 4. Teacher, Mrs. R. Sillyman. Name—The Rangers. Emblem—A blue satin banner, with four figures representing the seasons; in a sheaf of wheat. Offering—$1 90.

No. 5. Teacher, Miss Martha R. Bannan. Name—Hope Class. Emblem—Cross, Anchor and Heart. Faith, Hope and Charity. Offering—$1 00.

No. 6. Teacher, Miss L. Pomroy. Name—The Gleaners. Emblem—Basket of Grain. Offering—$1 64.

No. 7. Teacher, Miss Ella Berryman. Name—Little Shell Gatherers. Emblem—Moss and Shells. Offering—$1 90.

No. 8. Teacher, Miss Emma Pott. Name—The Messengers. Emblem—Two Doves on a Basket of Ivy Leaves. Offering—$1 50.

No. 9. Teacher, Mr. C. S. Embardt. Name—The Messenger Class. Emblem—A White Lily. Offering—$4.

No. 10. Teacher, Mrs. A. Russel. Emblem—A White Lily, signifying Humility, drooping from a Cross, under which is a Crown of Thorns. Offering—$2 00.

No. 11. Teacher, Miss S. Carpenter. Emblem—A Church within an Enclosure. Offering—$4 43.

No. 12. Teacher, Miss E. Tho. Name—The Lily.—Emblem—A vase wreathed with Ivy, and filled with lilies of the valley. Offering—$2 00.

No. 14. Teacher, Miss C. Lewis. Name—The Fruit Bearers. Emblem—Basket of Fruit. Offering—$2 00.

No. 15. Teacher, Mr. S. R. Whitney. Emblem—The Ten Commandments on two tablets of stone. Offering—$2 84.

No. 16. Teacher, Mrs. Berryman. Name—Nashotah Missionaries. Emblem—A Church. Offering—$4 75.

No. 17. Teacher, Mr. H. C. Bird. Offering—$1 43.

No. 18. Teacher, Miss F. M. Washburn. Offering—$3.

No. 19. Teacher, Miss Amanda J. Sillyman. Name—Bishop Potter Class. Emblem—A Well in a bed of moss, under a tree. Offering—$2 00.

No. 21. Teacher, Miss E. S. Shippen. Offering—$3 73.

No. 22. Teacher, Miss Ellen Sillyman. Name—The Harvesters. Emblem—Field of Wheat, with rake, sickle, etc. Offering—$2 50.

No. 24. Teacher, Miss Tillie Dornan. Emblem—An Altar and a Harp. Offering—$10 00.

No. 25. Teacher, Miss Emma Strauch. Offering—$3.

No. 26. Teacher, Miss Tillie Clemens. Name—Lambs of the Fold. Emblem—A Lamb upon a Bed of Moss.—Offering—$1 10.

No. 27. Teacher, Miss Amanda Sillyman. Name—Excelsior. Emblem—A Golden Gate. Offering—$1 25.

No. 28. Teacher, Mr. M. G. Hill. Name—The Willing Givers. Offering—$40 70.

No. 30. Teacher, Miss Annetta Sillyman. Name—Publishers of Good Tidings. Emblem—A Swan gushing from a rock surrounded by moss. Offering—$2 50.

No. 32. Teacher, Miss Carrie B. Ridgway. Name—The Branches of Christ. Emblem—A Crown. Offering—$1 15.

Infant Sunday School. Teachers, Miss Mary Brooke, Mrs. Gaul, and Miss Lizzie Hartz. Emblem—Spring Blossoms. Offering—$13 00.

Mount Carbon Branch Sunday School. Offering—$15.

Fishback Branch Sunday School. Emblem—A Dove with a leaf in its mouth. Offering—$6 00.

Mechanicsville Branch Sunday School. Emblem—A Corner Stone. Offering—$12 00.

The total amount of offerings, is, $207 51, a sum which speaks well for the interest felt by the pupils of Trinity Sunday School, in domestic missions.

This school is in a highly effective condition, and strong numerically. It is not improbable that the acting Bishop of this Episcopal Diocese, will have an opportunity of seeing the children assembled in church, on the occasion of his approaching visit for purposes of confirmation. He will unquestionably, feel interested in the progress of the school.

ST. CLAIR.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

MESSRS. EDITORS:—On Saturday morning last a horrible accident occurred in Milnes' slope at this place, by which one man was killed. The particulars are as follows: Three men were working in the above slope and upon coupling a loaded car to an empty one previous to hoisting, they neglected to secure the coupling pin as usual. After the cars had been hoisted about 200 yards up the slope the loaded one broke loose, and running back with great velocity caught a laborer named Edward Sparks, who was sitting below, and literally tore him to pieces. His head was cut off and his body mashed almost into a jelly. His heart was found about three yards from his body.

On the succeeding night there was a wake in the deceased's house, at which a man named Downing (a son of Irishman) was present. He got so much in liquor, "oh, be joyful" during the night. He went home in the morning (he lived in the same block,) and upon going to bed it seems kept his pipe lit to have a "bit of a smoke." In trying to light his pipe, he set fire to the mattress of it. There being no air in the room no flames broke out, and when the occurrence was discovered, Downing was already to much suffocated by the smoke. He was despired of life was taken out and the fire was extinguished before much damage was done to the building. Downing lingered until Monday evening, when he went to the way of all things earthly. The building belonged to Mr. J. W. Cake, and, I understand, was insured.

HECTOR.

St. Clair, April 2, 1861.

PORT CARBON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Since my last communication to the JOURNAL, *there has* been another Band organized in this Borough, dubbed the "Port Carbon Harmony Band." This Band is composed in good part of the members of the Social and Cornet Bands of this place; who, under the instruction of their favorite teacher, Mr. H. B Sessinger, are making rapid improvement. Where is the end to be? will ask you. Why, say, that little Port Carbon can easily be outdone in the way of "getting up" Bands, as she now has three, recently organized, all of which are doing extremely well in the way of improvement?

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Port Carbon, April 4, 1861.

[FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.

April 4, 1861.

MESSRS EDITORS:—The bank bill has passed the Senate—not exactly as it came from the hands of the committee, and yet the amendments placed upon it do not change its character. An effort was made by Mr. Mott to engraft a stay law upon the bill, but it was ruled out of order. The amended bill fixes the day of resuming on the 1st of June, instead of the 1st of July, as originally contemplated. This was done in consequence of so many banks declaring that they were ready to resume forthwith. I do not for a moment believe that the bill in its present shape, will pass the House.

Immediately after the passage of the bill, Mr. Mott read in place, an act to provide for a stay of execution in certain cases. Such a bill cannot pass the Senate, and the evidence is that it cannot pass the House is to be seen in the proceedings of that body week before last, when a similar bill was disposed of by postponing its further consideration until the 15th of April next.

To-day they have been discussing an amendment to the Free Banking Law. The object of the amendment was to permit banks that established themselves of this law, to issue small notes, but this provision was stricken out. Some time ago Dr. Fuller read a bill in place in the Senate, to authorize the banks of this Commonwealth to issue small notes. The action of the House thus foreshadows its fate. The people of the State are not disposed to stand an issue of small notes, because the exigency of the times does not demand them—and it is only a few localities that would reap any advantage from such an issue.

The bill for substituting the President and his cabinet, has been presented. It is rather sharp, but still we can congratulate ourselves that it is not as formidable as the one the State of New Jersey was called upon to foot. Our next mint for coining Uncle Abe is $2,155 00. Of this amount, the landlord of the Hotel gets $468, the livery man some $200—$97 50 goes for refreshments at the Continental Hotel, in Philadelphia. The charge, however, which took Senators most by surprise, was an award by the Committee of $100 to each of themselves, for going to Pittsburg and Philadelphia. The bill was most unanimously committed to the Committee on Finance, and it is said in all solidity that the Committee's claims will be carried out, and their offer set down as one of honor and not of profit. You must remember that nearly $800 have already been paid for flag and flag-staff for the dome of the Capitol, and that the bill for incidental expenses incurred by the Celebration Committee is not yet in, and may foot up a total for the day we celebrated, of more than $1000.

The Senate to-day concurred in the House resolution to adjourn on the 18th inst. This will make business very brisk for the balance of the session. Neither the Appropriation bill nor the Apportionment bill have been touched in the Senate—the latter not having yet been reported. The former came over from the House in the early part of the week, but would not be acted upon in consequence of the absence of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance. The Apportionment bill will probably come as complete from the Committee as to require no amendment. In fact, it can stand very little without an entire overhauling and re-construction.

To-day an act was passed in the Senate incorporating the Tuscarora and Buckville Railroad Company. The corporators all live in your Borough with few exceptions.

Some days ago I noticed that Mr. Huhn presented a remonstrance from citizens of Ashland against the act incorporating the Nesquehoning Railroad Company. To-day Mr. Schindel read a bill in place in the Senate incorporating a company by this name. How is this? Is it the same road, or merely some similarity in the name? On Monday, on motion of Mr. Huhn, the Nesquehoning railroad bill was re-committed to the Committee on Railroads.

To-day another bill came from the House purporting to be a supplement to the act selling out the repairing of the public roads in Schuylkill County. This whole question has become such an interminable "muddle" to me that I propose to postpone any thing further under that head until the Legislature adjourns.

The act for laying out a State road in Schuylkill, Dauphin and Lebanon counties, passed a second reading on the Private Calendar of the House on Tuesday.

Mr. Koch read a bill in place relative to Hucksters in Schuylkill County, on Monday.

Yours,
BROAD GAUGE.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

☞ Delaware stud are here.

☞ Mr. William Rice, late of the *Pennsylvanian*, died in Philadelphia on Tuesday last.

☞ Harrisburg talks of getting a steam fire engine.

☞ Following the example of Pottsville, other localities are erecting flags over their court houses.

☞ Miss Martineau is a confirmed invalid, seldom moving beyond her chamber and study.

☞ At St. John, N. B., on the 24th ult., the snow was seven feet deep on a level.

☞ The report that a British and French fleet of war steamers had been ordered for service on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, is discredited.

☞ The total indebtedness of the United States government on the 7th of March last, was $74,-935,299.

☞ The gross amount expended by the Canadian government on the entertainment of the Prince of Wales is, $232,374 23.

☞ A recent philosopher discovers a method to avoid being drowned! "How?—how?—how?" everybody asks. *Never run in debt.*

☞ Professor Bergh, of the University of Halle, claims to have discovered eight new songs of Goethe.

☞ Twotmen had a quarrel in West Chester a day or two since, when one struck an axe into the skull of the other.

☞ There are five living ex-Presidents of the United States—Van Buren, Tyler, Fillmore, Pierce and Buchanan.

☞ The salary of the President is $25,000 per annum; of the Vice President, $6,000; of each member of the Cabinet, $8,000.

☞ Wild bees have been found in California—something unusual for the State which furnishes almost everything else.

☞ There is a bright Chinese editor in Sacramento, named Ye Yune. He writes well; and is fond of the ladies—just now he is in jail for abducting one.

☞ The large engine of the Diligent Fire Company of Philadelphia, built by the famous Pat Lyon, of Pennsylvania Bank robbery notoriety, is offered for sale.

☞ The Emperor Napoleon has added the sum of 10,000f. to that already offered as a premium for the best memoir on the regeneration of human bone broken by gunshot or other small-shot.

☞ The new eight million per cent. loan of the U. States, it is semi-officially stated, will be sufficient for the wants of the Treasury during the present fiscal year.

☞ Gov. Curtin has appointed Hon. U. Mercur to be President Judge of the 13th judicial district, in the place of the Hon. David Wilmot, elected U. S Senator.

☞ Mr. Walker, of the Delaware county *Republican*, Mr. Young of the Tioga *Agitator*, and Mr. Starrett, of the Erie *Gazette*, have been appointed postmasters in their respective towns.

☞ In Erie county, Pa., a woman named Barnes, 105 years old, is living. She is the widow of a Revolutionary Pensioner, and receives a pension.

☞ A young gentleman graduated at Yale College, recently, with a white head and whiskers, who entered with auburn locks and no beard. The change took place in one night, on account of the anxiety incident to a biennial examination.

☞ Bishop McCloskey, who was so seriously injured some time since by an accident on the Hudson River Railroad, has instituted a suit against said Company, and laid his damages at $20,000.

☞ During the past five years cancer destroyed 1,305 lives in Massachusetts of which number 306 were in 1859. The disease is more fatal to females than to males. In England, in 1858, 6,433 deaths from cancer took place.

☞ The salaries of the Ministers to London and Paris are $17,000 each; to Madrid, Berlin, Vienna, St. Petersburg, Pekin, Turin, Mexico, and Rio Janeiro, $12,000; to Chicago and Lima, $10,000; to all other courts, $7,500.

☞ A mate of a vessel was recently tried in Boston, Mass., on a charge of beading up a refractory sailor in a puncheon, and giving him his rations through the bunghole. The defence was that the man was dangerous to be at large.

☞ It is stated that the operations in the coal fields of M'Kean county, Pa., will be commenced, during the coming summer, by an associated company, who intend to make Erie the depot, by shipping from the mines over the Sunbury and Erie railroad.

☞ The Montgomery *Advertiser*, and indeed nearly all the Secession papers, are urging the commencement of war for the purpose of dragging the Border States into the Southern Confederacy. Yet they all oppose coercion—in one direction.

☞ The Savannah *Republican* has discovered that they have Theological Colleges and Law Schools in the Confederate States—one of each things earthly. The building belonged to Mr. J. W. Cake, and, I understand, was insured.

HECTOR.

St. Clair, April 2, 1861.

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