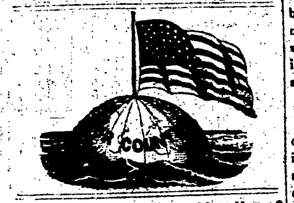
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1862.



A Few Facts for the Consideration of the Tax-Payers of Schuylkill County, and the Members of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

Shall Good Laws be Repealed to Benefit Irresponsible Parties, and injure the interests of this Region?

With no other object, but simply to place the resident and non-resident tax-payers of this County on their guard against attempts now being made to repeal local laws which have saved the County many thousands of dollars, since their passage, we approach the subject.

It is a fact familiar to those posted in the history of this County, that from 1838 up to the passage by the People's Party, in 1859-60, of the Act, "to secure a stricter accountability of certain public officers of Schuylkill County," and "relating to the selling and repairing of the public roads, in certain Townships in Schuylkill County," that township peculations existed here; and that thousands of dollars were lost by the straw bail given by officials.

In the autumn of 1858, Jeremiah Reed, Esq., of this Borough, commenced investigations into the accounts of the townships of the County, in relation to road expenses, and he soon discovered that fraud and corruption existed to a serious extent. The result was, the passage of the Acts referred to, the beneficial operations of which, in the years 1859-60-61, are exhibited in the following Statement, for a copy of which, we are indebted to Mr. Reed:

Statement

Of the cost of the repairing of the old public roads, and the grading of the new r ads in the following Townships in Schuylkill County, for the years 1858-59 and 1860, (the expenses of the Township Collectors and Treasurers not included,) and also the amounts that the repairing and grading of the old and new roads in the same Townships sold for to contractors, for 1861:

CASS TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		$8801 38
" 1859,		4336 14
" 1860, old roads,	$321 00	1099 00
" " new "	778 00	
" 1861, sold for,		577 00
BUTLER TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		8037 02
" 1859,		4176 96
" 1860, old roads,	888 40	1096 40
" " new "	208 00	
" 1861, old roads sold for,	695 00	1095 00
" " new "	400 00	
NORWEGIAN TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		3569 92
" 1859,		2476 04
" 1860, old roads,	1124 92	1274 42
" " new "	149 50	
" 1861, old roads sold for,	590 00	859 00
" " new "	269 00	
FOSTER TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		3247 64
" 1859,		1573 19
" 1860,		618 62
" 1861, old roads sold for,	472 00	1082 00
" " new "	610 00	
RELLY TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		2707 68
" 1859,		1608 46
" 1860,		575 41
" 1861, sold for,		439 00
NEW CASTLE TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		2160 89
" 1859,		2638 62
" 1860,		1081 59
" 1861, sold for,		615 00
MAHANOY TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		2648 27
" 1859,		2636 38
" 1860, old roads,	1473 00	5356 00
" " new "	3883 00	
" 1861, old roads sold for,	1290 00	3700 00
" " new "	2410 00	
SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		3082 66
" 1859,		2727 78
" 1860,		1110 82
" 1861, old roads sold for,	1235 00	1740 00
" " new "	505 00	
EAST NORWEGIAN TOWNSHIP		
For 1858,		913 58
" 1859,		915 61
" 1860, old road,	715 15	1602 90
" " new "	887 75	
" 1861, sold for,		549 00

Sold for in

	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.
Cass,	$8,801 36	$4,336 14	$1,099 00	$877 00
Flythe,	8,037 02	4,176 96	1,096 40	1,095 00
Norwegian,	3,569 92	2,476 04	1,274 42	859 00
Foster,	3,247 64	1,573 19	618 62	1,082 00
Reilly,	2,707 68	1,608 46	575 41	439 00
New Castle,	2,160 89	2,638 62	1,081 59	615 00
Mahanoy,	2,648 27	2,636 38	5,356 00	3,700 00
Schuylkill,	3,082 66	2,727 68	1,110 82	1,740 00
E. Norwegian,	913 58	915 61	1,602 90	549 00
	$34,959 02	$23,409 05	$13,814 96	$11,046 00

Here we have a saving in nine townships, under the Acts referred to, of $21,144 06 in 1860, over 1858, and a still greater saving in 1861, yet the proportion of new roads was smaller in 1858-59, than in 1860-61.

In 1858, some work was done on new roads in Norwegian and Foster Townships; but in neither Township, in Mr. Reed's opinion, should the new work have cost over $500.—In 1859 there was no work done on new roads in any of the Townships.

In Mahanoy Township there was a large amount of new roads for 1860-61, in consequence of improvements in that Township.

From the above Statement it will be perceived what has been saved in this department alone, to the tax-payers of the County. Were we to penetrate all the departments affected by the existing laws, we should still find the same result,—saving on the expenditures of the past.

Yet in the face of this correction of notorious abuses, the existence of which in former years, retarded improvements, and the expenditures of capital in this Region, an attempt is now being made in the Legislature, to repeal the Act of February 17, 1859, "entitled an Act, to secure a stricter accountability of certain public officers in Schuylkill County."

We cannot believe that the attempt will be successful; but if it should the prime movers in it, will sink into obscurity beneath the indignation of the outraged tax-payers of the Schuylkill Coal Region.

GOVERNMENT FINANCES.—The Committee of Ways and Means has reported a Bill authorizing the issue of $100,000,000 of U. S. notes in sums not less than $5, without interest, for the payment of all dues to the Government, which notes are made a legal tender for all debts. These notes when presented in sums of $50 and upwards, are convertible into Government Bonds, bearing six per cent. interest, redeemable at any period after twenty years. The bill also authorizes an issue not exceeding $500,000,000 of bonds, in sums not less than $50, to fund Treasury Notes and the floating debt of the United States, bearing 6 per cent. interest, redeemable at pleasure after a period of twenty years.

The banks generally, object to the issue of the one hundred millions of small notes as a legal tender, believing that if they take them on deposit, at par, it will displace their own issues, and lessen the profits of business.—This will unquestionably, be the effect to a considerable extent; but then the Government must have funds to crush out this rebellion, and as the banks cannot extend any further aid to the Government, it would be a suicidal policy on their part, to discredit these notes, and cripple the Government in its financial measures. All parties must expect to make some sacrifices in sustaining the Government, and anything that partakes of a hostile character towards it, must suffer to some extent. The banks ought to continue to sustain the Government even at a sacrifice, in the present crisis, and they will not be the losers in the end, because by sustaining the Government they sustain their own customers and the community at large. A depreciated Government currency is a great curse, and if caused by the action of the banks, it will rouse a tremendous opposition against these institutions throughout the country.—Some of the city journals suggest that the Government remunerate the banks for the loss of circulation, by using these notes. This would be better perhaps, than that any collusion should take place between the banks and the Government—but our impression is, that if the banks were to recommend to Congress the adoption of Secretary Chase's plan of a National Currency, and gradually use the Government Currency by a withdrawal of their own issues, the Government bonds would be absorbed to a great extent; the Government be aided in its financial policy, and they would not be called upon to use a currency in their business from which they derive no advantage.

REPUBLICANISM AND ARISTOCRACY.

The American Revolutionary War was a contest between despotism and Republicanism; a war of the few by means of mercenary hordes, to rule the many. The success of the Americans in that war, was the first decided victory of Republicanism, destined to reflect powerfully, on older nations, in the history of the world. The liberal measures which have been adopted in Europe during the present century, are indirectly the fruit of the tree of Liberty, whose roots are firmly embedded in the soil of this Western continent. This Republic has therefore, been watched by the governing powers of Europe, especially those of maritime importance, with fear and jealousy. While the masses of men who know the value even if they do not experience the great privilege of Liberty, have ever accorded to this country, their warmest sympathies, their rulers and the nobility, with but few notable exceptions, are bitterly hostile to our institutions, based as they are, on the will of the people.

Where an aristocracy, founded on wealth, hereditary power, or human slavery, exists, there the dignity of free, intelligent labor is degraded, and the white mechanic and laborer is held in contempt, as unfit to have a voice in the Government. The leaders of the States now in Rebellion against this Government, used for years, the most insulting language when speaking of the mass of the Northern people, terming them "mud-sills," "white slaves," "greasy mechanics," etc.—Such sentiments come only from the most inveterate aristocrat and enemy to Republican institutions—the reflex of an opinion entertained by despots the world over, that the lordly few were created to govern the many.

This war which the slave aristocracy has inaugurated, is but a continuation of the American Revolution. Then our forefathers fought against despotism, to establish their rights as men. Now we fight against an equally arrogant, if not more determined despotism, Slavery, to perpetuate the rights of man, under a Republican form of government.

None appreciate this fact more keenly, than the men of foreign birth, who in the ranks of the Union army, now face the foe along our extended military line of fifteen hundred miles. They know the blessings of Liberty, and none fight more gallantly in every battle against the myrmidons of Slavery, than the German, Scotch and Irish element of our Army.

As Liberty was victorious in the Revolution, so will it be now—

"Truth crushed to earth, will rise again:
The eternal years of God, are hers:
While *Error*, bound in chains,
Dies amidst its worshippers."

SECRETARY STANTON.

The new Secretary of War enters vigorously upon the discharge of the duties of his position, and seems already, to be a terror to those who would make money out of their country's needs. An application at his Department for a contract to manufacture fire arms called forth a sharp reply, to the effect that the Secretary of War intended to discover when, where, and how the arms already in actual service were to be used before turning his attention toward a fresh supply; and, moreover, that he was determined to devote his energies to setting in order for efficient motion, the army across the Potomac, leaving contracts to rest for a time. On Tuesday, upon his own invitation, he held a conference with the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War. At his request the further consideration of the military nominations now pending before the Senate, was suspended until March 1, to give him an opportunity to scan, and, if need be, scale the list. No further appointments in the army, of any kind, except the promotion of men actually in the field to fill vacancies, will be made until March. He suggested some necessary legislation, and got from the Committee their best impressions derived from their investigations in regard to the conduct of the war. Within his Department the Secretary on Tuesday abolished the fence barriers which Mr. Leslie erected in the upper halls, and imperatively repeated an order to which the time honored doubt was interposed, that the head of the Bureau might object to it. "It shall be done, Sir. There shan't be any objections to it, Sir, for it is right."

He also laid down a few rules of business which people, with proclivities to Washington, had better study. First, he will do no business whatever at his house, and receive no man whatsoever who comes there on business. Mr. Cameron was nearly killed by the merciless bores who began on him at daylight. Second, letters and written communications will be attended to the first thing in the morning when they are received, and will have precedence over all other business. Third, six days in the week have heretofore always been surrendered to Congressmen, in all the Departments. Mr. Stanton will set apart Saturday to them. Monday he will give to all other people whose business requires a personal interview. Fourth, to carry the war to a speedy and successful issue Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday will be given to the war and nothing else. The Department will, on those days, be closed to all business not connected with active operations in the field. Fifth, to save army officers from becoming loafers, and to compel them to attend to their commands, Mr. Stanton has determined to strike from the list all those who frequent Washington save on the orders of superior officers, and on military business exclusively. Tavern haunting is henceforth a crime.

This is well. From these evidences of the Secretary's energy, and determination to devote the greater part of his time to the public service, the happiest results may be anticipated.

THE NATIONAL CURRENCY.—Secretary Chase's plan for a National Currency, is gaining ground daily among the people, and as soon as it is understood thoroughly, the people will demand its adoption by Congress. The people already realize the advantage of the circulation of Treasury Notes of the denomination of $5, $10, and $20, which are of equal value throughout the country, for the payment of debts; and if a currency department was established in the Treasury at Washington, authorized to issue notes for our Banking Institutions throughout the country under proper restrictions, based upon a deposit of Government Stock, which the banks could use instead of their own notes for the transaction of business, the advantages would be almost incalculable to all classes of the community. Now a stockholder in the large mass of these Banking Institutions, depends entirely on the business of the Banks for his dividend, but if Government Stock is substituted as a basis for the issues of currency, six per cent. interest is received on this Government Stock, and if the Bank clears only three per cent. in addition, over all expenses, his dividend would be equal to nine per cent. per annum. It is the opinion of eminent business men, that such a currency system would be superior to any now in existence in any commercial country in the world, while the stockholders in such Banks would realize quite as much, if not more profit than they now do under the present system, with greater safety to themselves, as well as to the whole business community, and the people generally. We will next week publish some Notes giving a history of Banks, together with the advantages of this system over all others, from a pamphlet recently issued at Washington, prepared by a practical financier. These Notes will be found quite interesting to those who take an interest in the currency question, which is one of the most important now before the people for their consideration.

REDUCTION OF SALARIES IN THE NAVY.—The Bill reported in the Senate, reducing the salaries of all Naval Officers, has caused some flattering; but it is evident that while the Rebellion lasts, reform and retrenchment in expenses, must be the order of the day, and must be carried out in all departments of the Government. This the people demand, and those who oppose it, will find their services dispensed with by the voters. The Engineers in the Navy take great exception to this bill, not so much on account of the proposed reduction, which they are willing to submit to in common with all others, provided the reduction extends to all departments, but this bill proposes a change in the grade, to which they do most decidedly, object. They believe there is as much science and skill displayed in this department of the Navy as in any other, and they cannot conceive what motive should induce Congress to change their grade, unless it is at the instance of some of the old leaven of Aristocracy which characterizes some of the old fogies in the Navy, because Engineers find it necessary to *learn* their business to make them proficient in their profession.

JOHN TYLER is dead, at Richmond, Va, aged 72. The *Tribune* thus sums him up:—"He was tall and thin in person, deferential and pleasing in address, empty minded and hollow hearted."

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE January number of "The American Journal of the Medical Sciences," filled with papers and cases of great interest to the medical profession, is on our table. This invaluable quarterly is published by Blanchard & Lea, of Philadelphia. Price, five dollars a year.

THE February number of Godey's Lady's Book, contains sixty one engravings, sixty contributions, and over one hundred pages. "Winter" is decidedly one of the best illustrations ever published in the Book. The double sheet fashion-plates are a peculiar and excellent feature of this Magazine, while the pattern plates in each number are numerous, and highly appreciated by the ladies. The author of Miss Shimmons has a new story in this number; also Mary W. Janvrin, Mrs. Haven and Kate Harrington: Aunt Sophia pays another of her agreeable visits. Friend Godey warns the public against "R. Spalding," an impostor, who professes to be an agent of the Lady's Book. Mr. Godey has no agents. Copies of the February number can be obtained at the book store of B. Bannan, in this Borough.

THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC for 1862, the most complete political register, in this style, published, has been received, and can be obtained at B. Bannan's book store in this Borough.

COMPLETE BOOK FOR INFANTRY OFFICERS.—We have seen nothing for the use of Infantry officers, to equal in brevity and comprehensiveness, a little book just published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., of Philadelphia, entitled, "The Field Manual for Battalion Drill." It contains the exercises and manœuvres in the school of the battalion, arranged in tabular form. It is translated, and adapted to the United States Service by Captain Henry Coppee, late instructor in the West Point Military Academy. Prominent merits of this manual, are its simple and easy form, and portable size. In our opinion, no officer in the service, however competent for his duties, should be without a copy of this little work. To give correct commands, and at the right time, must strike every officer as important, besides having proper knowledge of movements. This book meets the desideratum in a more complete manner than we have yet seen achieved by any work of similar character or pretensions.

THE KNICKERBOCKER MAGAZINE for February, contains Sunshine in Thought; A Storm Picture; Chapter on Dogs; Adrienne's Augusta; To Sleep; Letters and Science under Louis XIV.; Left Behind; Flowers of Paradise; Crushed Flowers;—Alarum; Revolutions of Wall street. By Richard B. Kimball, Esq.—The Battle ground of Tippicanoe; Literary Notices, and the ever popular Editor's Table. This is in every respect, an excellent number. We observe that the publisher, J. R. Gilmore, 532 Broadway, New York, furnishes the "Knickerbocker" and "Continental Monthly" for one year at four dollars. Both are first-class magazines.

THE FEBRUARY ATLANTIC MONTHLY has the following table of contents:—Battle Hymn of the Republic, by Mrs. Julia Ward Howe; Agnes of Sorrento, by Mrs. H. B. Stowe; Our Artists in Italy, by the late Paul Akers; the Experiences of the A. C., by Bayard Taylor; Snow, by T. W. Higginson; A Story of To-day, by the author of "Life in the Iron Mills;" Methods of Study in National History, by Professor Agassiz; Love and Skates, by Theodore Winthrop; Midwinter, by J. T. Trowbridge; Ease in Work, by Rev. D. A. Wasson; at Port Royal 1861, by John G. Whittier; Fremont's Hundred Days in Missouri, by William Dorsheimer, late Secretary of Gen. Fremont; Mason and Slidell, a Yankee Idyll, by James Russell Lowell; Reviews and Literary Notices.

The article by Professor Agassiz is illustrated. Already these articles begin to form one of the most instructive and valuable series ever published in a magazine. Lowell has a capital "Biglow Paper" on Mason and Slidell. These papers will be continued in each number of the *Atlantic*, during the present volume. Love and Skates is finished and a good thing it is, and seasonable. Miss Howe's Battle Hymn is as follows:

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored:
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps:
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps:
I have read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps:
His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel:
"As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal:
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on."

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat:
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat:
Oh, be swift my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant my feet!
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies, Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.

Copies of the February number of the *Atlantic*, can be obtained at B. Bannan's book store in this Borough.

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

1862.—Jan.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.
			D. H. M.
25 SATURDAY,.....	7 16	5 8	
26 SUNDAY,.....	7 15	5 9	First Q. 7 5 46 ev
27 MONDAY,.....	7 14	5 11	Full M. 15 5 54 ev
28 TUESDAY,.....	7 13	5 12	Third Q. 23 1 36 m
29 WEDNESDAY,..	7 12	5 13	New M. 29 9 49 ev
30 THURSDAY,....	7 12	5 15	
31 FRIDAY,.....	7 11	5 16	

Thermometrical Record for the Week.

P. M. & P. TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
Pennsylvania Hall, Pottsville.

		7 A.M.	2 P.M.	9 P.M.	
Jan.	18—Saturday,	30°	35°	30°	cloudy.
"	20—Monday,	36	37	37	rain.
"	21—Tuesday,	34	33	30	cloudy.
"	22—Wednesday,	29	35	34	"
"	23—Thursday,	28	36	34	"
"	24—Friday,	30	33	30	"

More snow this week, added to the general fence of the sleighing, which is now "tip-top."

A Sabbath School Exhibition and Concert will be held in the Port Carbon M. E. Church, on Friday evening next, 31st inst., commencing at 6½ o'clock.

Dewees's Hemmer and Shield," for hand-sewing, a useful and labor-saving invention, and sold low, can be obtained at A. E. Wardle's store Centre street, adjoining Feger's Hotel.

On Tuesday last, bunting was flung to the breeze, from hotels and private houses in the Borough, in honor of General Schenck's victory at Somerset, Ky.

Workmen are engaged on the line of the Schuylkill Navigation, cleaning out the dams, and otherwise putting the canal in order for its opening the coming Spring.

During the coming month, a large amount of glass and queensware will be sold at low prices, and premiums given, by George B. Baughman, at his store, Centre street, Pottsville. For particulars, see advertisement.

Madame Anne Bishop.—The musical public will be gratified to learn that the distinguished vocalist, Madame Bishop, will give a Concert in this Borough, shortly; possibly, if her arrangements permit, on the evening of the 3d proximo. Mr. E. Seguin, son of the late popular bass, and said to inherit to a great extent, his father's musical ability, accompanies Madame Bishop. The programme of the Concert will be duly published.

Mr. John M. Crosland, of this Borough, is among the workmen on a strike at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Mr. Crosland endeavored to induce the men to go to work, until a definite answer to their demands was received from the Navy Department, but failed. On Monday he was appointed on a committee to go to Washington, under the following:

Resolved, That a committee of *two* be appointed to proceed to Washington and to wait upon the Secretary of the Navy and the members of the Naval Committee of Congress, for mutual explanation, and adoption of such rules as will secure to the workmen their past standard of wages.

The Murder of Miss Bavor.—In our last we stated on the authority of a Mifflintown paper, that a criminal named John Ezra Lovering, recently executed there, had confessed the murder of Adaline Bavor, in Berks county, and of a man in Tuscarora Valley, this County. Our item attracted the attention of the editor of the Juniata *Register*, published at Mifflintown, who in his issue of Wednesday last, thus comments upon it:

"Levering "confesses" to no such thing. He says in his confession that he was under suspicion at one time of being connected with the murder of Miss Bavor, but declares that he knew nothing about it. At the time the murder happened he was cruising on board the Plymouth, and did not hear of the murder until months after it occurred. Neither did he murder a man in Tuscarora Valley, Schuylkill County. There is nothing of the kind to be found in his confession. The murderer or murderers of Miss Bavor are still running at large, unwhipt of justice.

Substantial Improvement in New Castle.—We were interested the other day, in examining a brick building recently erected in New Castle, this County, by Messrs. Ephram and Robert Phillips, Jr., near their old tavern stand, and occupied by them. The cellar which is fine and spacious, is ample for the storing of their heavy goods; the first floor is well fitted up for store purposes, while a fine hall leads to a large number of rooms on the first and second floors, well adapted for hotel use. Situated as it is at the foot of the Broad Mountain; in the midst of some of the finest scenery in the Region, it struck us that this would be a quiet, delightful Summer resort for some of our city friends who during the heated term, run into the country for a whiff of fresh air, and mountain rambles. At any rate, the Messrs. Phillips have made an improvement in New Castle, which does them great credit, and they will always be found on hand at their new store, with A No. 1 dry goods, groceries, and provisions.

The Dangers of "Coasting"—Frightful Occurrence in Minersville.—Only last week, a son of Wm. Hill, tinsmith, this Borough, was almost killed in Minersville street, this Borough, in consequence of a sled, on which were some men coming in contact with him. We have now to record a frightful accident from the practice of "coasting" in the streets of the boroughs of this County.

In Minersville on Tuesday last, as Franklin Hesser, aged 9 years, was with some other lads, coming down one of the streets which cross a railroad siding, on a sled, it struck a single car loaded with coal for local use, which was just then running in. Hesser was thrown under the wheels of the car, and instantly run over, his head being almost severed from his body, and crushed. The Coroner held an inquest on the body the same day, and a verdict was rendered in accordance with the facts. The unfortunate lad's father is in the employ of the Government, as a wood cutter. His mother resides in Minersville.

Schuylkill was erected into a County from Berks, in 1811, and attained its ratio for representation in the Legislature, in 1829. In 1829, this County had 1 representative; in 1843, 2, and it now has 3. In 1829 Berks County had 4 representatives in the Legislature. That County now has the same number as Schuylkill, a remarkable fact, illustrative of the progress of the Coal Region in population.

The number of taxables in Schuylkill County, at stated periods, was as follows:

Years.	*Taxables.*
1815,	1,614
1822,	2,045
1829,	2,751
1836,	4,700
1843,	8,086
1850,	12,867
1857,	19,380

Berks County was as follows:

Years.	*Taxables.*
1794,	5,511
1808,	7,580
1815,	7,391
1822,	8,866
1829,	10,202
1836,	11,743
1843,	13,701
1850,	16 262
1857,	19,648

Proceedings of the Borough Council.—A stated meeting of Council was held on Tuesday evening last. Present, Messrs. Bittle, Heffner, Strauch, Pitman, Ebert, Focht, Gressang, Derr, Beveridge, and Boone, President.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted.

The Street Com. was discharged from the matter of removing house of Joseph Gowen in Norwegian street, the owner having removed it.

The Com. of Lamp and Watch, reported in favor of erecting a lamp in Laurel street. The report was accepted, and Committee instructed to erect the lamp.

The Special Com. on subject of bridge across the Schuylkill, between this Borough and Palo Alto, reported that upon consultation with the Borough Solicitor, in reference to the matter, he suggested to the Com. to secure the services of competent engineers, to examine the bridge, and determine whether it is "go d and substantial," or not. If not, in the Solicitor's opinion, the Borough would not be liable for the amount ($500) appropriated by the Council, towards its construction.

On motion of Mr. Focht, the resolution of previous meeting, in relation to this matter, was reconsidered; whereupon Mr. Pitman offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to confer with the County Commissioners, in relation to the Palo Alto bridge, be authorized to procure the services of R. A. Wilder, H. K. Nichols, Walter Chilson, or other competent persons, to inspect the bridge lately constructed at Palo Alto, and report to Council whether the same is a good and substantial structure.

On motion of Mr. Gressang, it was resolved that the sum of $100 be appropriated, to relieve the necessities of Mr. Jacob Brill, who was injured by the premature explosion of a cannon, on the 4th of last July, while assisting to fire a salute in honor of the day, under the auspices of the Borough authorities.

A petition from James O'Neal, claiming damages for injuries sustained by his sleigh in Railroad street near High, in consequence of the bad condition of a gutter, was referred to the Street Committee.

On motion of Mr. Focht, an appropriation of $50 was made to the Rough and Ready Fire Company.

A statement of the Borough accounts, was read by the Clerk.

The statement of the Borough Treasurer was read, and ordered to be filed.

Mr. Focht offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Lamp and Watch be instructed to ascertain the number of gas lamps frozen in November and December, and not in use; the length of time frozen and not used, and render the account to this Council.

Adopted.

The following bills were read and ordered to be paid:

Pottsville Gas Company,	$158 40
Saml. Chrisman,	15 00
E. A. Holt,	2 00
Supervisor and Street Laborers,	21 95
Rough and Ready Fire Co.,	50 00
Jacob Brill,	100 00
	$347 35
Previous issue,	7,303 66
Total,	$7,651 01

Adjourned.

THE COAL BURNING PASSENGER ENGINES OF THE READING RAILROAD COMPANY.

The *Reading Daily Times*, in publishing "City Sketches," in a recent number of which a paper is devoted to the Reading Railroad depot and machine shops of that place, with deserved reference to the inventions of James Millholland, Esq., under whose superintendence two of the finest coal burning passenger engines in use in this country, the "Hiawatha" and "Minnehaha," were built for the Reading road.

In speaking of one of Mr. Millholland's improvements, the paper referred to, states:

"But one can say nothing from alluding to the Water Grate, a patent for which has been obtained by Mr. Millholland. The following advantages may be thus stated.

"It is the most economical grate in use, as the big cog-wheel by which the water tubes are arranged admits the greatest amount of air to the burning fuel, necessary for its complete combustion, as well as the necessary amount of internal moisture to create the inches to heat the water passing through them, while their inclination insures the rapid ascension of heated water into the body of the boiler, thus being a heater, and owing to the current thus formed keeps the water square comparatively clean.

"It is the cheapest grate. The coal being but very little more, whilst its durability very far exceeds that of the cast iron grate. For example—a cast iron grate, for a locomotive, costs in material $25 00 and lasts two months: a water tube grate costs in material $25 00, and lasts three years, or longer than the fire box, will last, the cost for fitting being about the same in both cases.

"As an evidence of the importance attached to and the utility of this highly practical and essential improvement, it is right to add, that the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company has upwards of seventy-five of their engines fitted with this grate. The "Hiawatha" ran up to 6th of January in the present year, 82,031 miles, with this, and is to still in excellent condition. Another has run 69,236 miles with the water grate, when the fire box being worn out the engine was taken into the shop to have a new one put in. The old water grate tubes were planted out and put in again and has since run 22,512 miles, making a total of 68,168 miles, the water grate being still in good order.

The following table of experimental trips of the "Minnehaha," between Philadelphia and Pottsville, during fourteen days of September, 1860, and the description of this fine engine are interesting:

Experimental Trips of the Coal Burning Locomotive "MINNEHAHA," with Schuylkill County Anthracite Coal.

Date 1860.	Trains.	Time. Actual.	Time. Deduct.	Cars.	Coal. lbs.	Wood. lbs.	Water. Gallons.	Evaporation.	Use of water per minute.	Use of coal per minute.
Sept. 13	Philadelphia to Pottsville,	3.34	44	6 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2000	576	1648 00	10,258.24	8.11	21.50
" 14	Pottsville to Philadelphia,	3.34	44	6 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2000	576	1648 00	10,258.24	8.11	21.50
" 15	Philadelphia to Pottsville,	3.34	44	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68
" 17	Pottsville to Philadelphia,	3.42	47	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68
" 18	Philadelphia to Pottsville,	3.36	44	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68
" 19	Pottsville to Philadelphia,	3.42	47	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68
" 20	Philadelphia to Pottsville,	3.36	44	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68
" 21	Pottsville to Philadelphia,	3.42	47	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68
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" 27	Philadelphia to Pottsville,	3.36	44	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68
" 28	Pottsville to Philadelphia,	3.42	47	7 to Reading, 6 to Philadelphia,	2405	600	2271 50	15,253.11	7.68	26.68

Wood raised at 1 ft. 50 per cord (cubic) 1,121 cubic. Coal raised at 1 ft. 50 per ton (equal) 1,121 cubic. Cost of coal per mile, 2.08 cents.

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