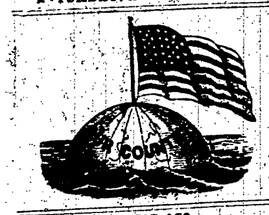
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1862.



A YEAR AGO.

On the 18th of April, 1861, at 8 o'clock in the evening—just one year ago, yesterday—the writer of this, with some four hundred and fifty other Pennsylvanians, entered Washington City. Notwithstanding the fact that the shades of evening were fast settling into the gloom and darkness of night, at the time of the entrance of the troops, we could discern the waving of handkerchiefs from the houses of Unionists, and hear the cheers of joy and satisfaction that greeted the arrival of the first troops to guard the President and the archives of the Government, at a time when the City was filled with traitors; when the District troops were considered unreliable, and when the officers in the Capitol, were in sympathy with the Rebels. At noon, on the 18th, the Pennsylvanians marched amid the anathemas and yells of "welcome to Southern graves," of an infuriated mob, through Baltimore, from one extremity of the City to the other, but the tap of young Bowen's drum, or the step of the men never wavered for an instant, for there was a fixed determination on the part of that little force to press forward in the path of duty, in spite of threats or armed opposition. Weary, hungry and thirsty, for they had tasted no food nor drank since early in the morning, the men were drawn up in line on the evening of the 18th, in the shadow of the Capitol building, and subsequently, under the personal supervision of General McDowell, the National Light Infantry of this Borough, the Ringgold Light Artillery of Reading, and the Logan Guards of Lewistown, were placed in the right wing of the Capitol, and the Washington Artillerists of this Borough, and the Allentown Rifles in the left wing. The effect of the arrival of these troops on the fourth day after the fall of Sumter, and the third after the promulgation of President Lincoln's Proclamation, calling for 75,000 volunteers, was signal. The traitors in Washington were paralyzed at the prompt response; their plans were frustrated, and they shrank from the attempt to seize the Capital. The President and the Secretary of War personally visited the troops, the pioneers of Pennsylvania's hundred thousand men, and taking them by the hands, assured them that if their manhood was soon tried, which did not seem improbable, that they had full confidence in them. They were placed on guard in and around the Capitol, and every door in the basement which had been intentionally left unlocked and unbarred by traitors, to admit more readily, an enemy, were soon under the keen eyes of the volunteer officers, secured. These cases, when reported to Gen. McDowell, elicited surprise even from him, whose habits of self-command allowed him but rarely, to be startled.

These in brief, are the main facts connected with the first arrival of troops in Washington, on the 18th of April last. Pennsylvania wears the honor of having contributed them, while her record since has been second to that of no loyal State, in the number of her citizens in the army, and their conduct on the battle-field. Washington, 18th of April, 1861; Dranesville, Roanoke, Newbern and Winchester, are names that will live proudly in her history.

How remarkable the contrast now presented. A year ago that small band of Pennsylvanians lay in the Capitol at night, upon their muskets, cautioned by their officers to be ready at a moment's warning, to fall into line. Individuals were then almost as important as regiments are now. The pickets of the Rebels were at the Virginia end of the Long Bridge, while a company of United States Flying Artillery guarded the Washington side. These with Lane's company, in which Hon. James H. Campbell carried a musket, and which patrolled the City all night, constituted the sole reliable defence of Washington on the 18th of April, 1861. With at that time, an enemy's country between the Capital and the Free States, and thousands of men ready for any crime, from bridge burning to murder, it was indeed, a dark time. Now our flag floats in triumph, on the soil of nearly all the disaffected States. In the West our victorious troops have penetrated to Huntsville, Alabama, thus outflanking Corinth, Mississippi, while our gunboats are pushing steadily on to New Orleans. Soon the entire Mississippi River will be within our lines. In Virginia the Rebels are being confined to the Peninsula, lying between the James and York Rivers, where they will be defeated if they do not carry out their usual tactics, running. Burnside has a firm footing in North Carolina, while we expect intelligence daily, of the fall of Savannah. All of the boasts of the Rebels, that they would seize Washington, march on Philadelphia, and plant their flag on Bunker Hill, have proved as idle as the baseless fabric of a dream. Real strength, and a righteous cause, have imparted vigor to the Government, and given to its arms success, while the Rebels will soon be driven entirely, into the Gulf States, where they must be crushed by the armies of the Union. A year ago, and to-day! What a contrast! Truly, God defends the Right.

"A TAX-PAYER" in last week's *Standard*, concludes a communication as follows:

> Fellow tax-payers, see to your interests, the coming election, as well for school directors, as for Borough councils, in which equal, and under the present state of things, much reform is needed.

The capital on which a few interested parties have traded so far, in a series of assaults upon the management of the schools of the Borough, is evidently becoming exhausted, when they have to train their pop-guns on the members of the Borough Council. We have for some five years, attended the meetings of the Council, and laid before our readers accurate reports of its proceedings.—From a condition of almost inextricable confusion which characterized the affairs of the Borough at the time we commenced attending regularly, its meetings; from a system of "log rolling," and from anything but a due regard for careful and economical disbursement of the public money, has grown by good management and rigid scrutiny, a state of affairs almost if not unprecedented in the history of the Borough, in connection with its Council. It is due to the energy and integrity of the men who have been in the Council during the past three or four years, to state that they have reduced the Borough tax; that they have lessened the yearly expenditure; that they have redeemed all outstanding Borough orders; that under them work on our streets and culverting have been done better and more cheaply; that the assets of the Borough are more than sufficient to discharge its liabilities; that at the close of the Borough's present fiscal year, there is a snug balance in the treasury, and that last but not least by any means, they have an active and prompt Collector, whose remuneration is hardly up to the mark it should be, in consequence of the amount of the duplicate being less than in former years. This is the character of the present Borough Council, a fact of which tax-payers are well aware, and we only allude to the subject, to show what a dearth of argument prevails among the scribblers of the *Standard*, in relation to the alleged bad management of the public schools of this Borough, when they are compelled to deviate, and attack the Council, which now enjoys as it deserves, the confidence of our citizens. We fully believe that the tax-payers of this Borough will at the annual election on the 5th proximo, make it a point as they have during the past four years, to elect men who have alone in view, in their public action, the best interests of the Borough. We say unhesitatingly, and without fear of successful contradiction, that such a class of men now composes the Borough Council.

BEFORE the adjournment of the Legislature of this State, "An act requiring the resumption of specie payment by the banks," was passed. It exempts the banks from all the penalties of suspension until the first Tuesday in February, 1862, and gives them immunity from all penalties by reason of suspension incurred in the past. The notes of all solvent banks in the State, and the legal tender notes of the General Government, are to be deemed and taken as "currency," "for all purposes, as the notes and balances due from specie-paying banks." Privilege is given to the banks to issue small notes to the amount of 30 P cent. of their capital actually paid in, which is an increase of 10 P cent on their present privileges in this respect.

The provision of the act of 1850, which prohibits the banks from holding stocks to an excess of one-third of their capital, is so modified as not to apply to the loans, stocks or notes of the United States, or of the State of Pennsylvania. That the State interest on the funded debt of the Commonwealth may be continued to be paid in specie or its equivalent, the Treasurer is authorized to call on all banks in suspension to pay into the State Treasury in proportion to their capital stock, within thirty days after the State shall have paid such interest, their rateable proportion of such premium for gold or its equivalent as shall have been paid by the State, and, in default, to sue for and recover the same.

THE BOROUGH ELECTION.—The election for Borough officers will take place on Monday, the 5th proximo, and we cannot too strongly urge upon the citizens and tax-payers of Pottsville, a continuance of the practice so happily inaugurated some years since, of selecting good and reliable men for the different positions in Council and in the Board of School Directors. Of the present composition of Council we speak in an article in another column, which contains incontrovertible facts for the consideration of all. Of the present School Board we can with equal propriety and truth say, and it reflects the greatest credit upon the system of management adopted by that body, that for the time the schools are kept open, and for their intrinsic merit, they are conducted with less expense than the public schools of almost any other district in the State. No fault based on substantial grounds, can be found with their management, and we would hear nothing about the matter at all, if a few parties whose principal occupation is to lounge about taverns, had anything more useful to do. Those with men who itch to finger the public funds, now in honest and competent hands, constitute the mass of the parties that lately attempted to have a bill passed in the Legislature, restricting the School Board in the exercise of its judgment, while many of the persons who signed the petition, have no children and are hostile to the public school system. The bill however, though read in the Senate, was never reported to the House, and fell as it should have done, without serious consideration. It is poor employment, running about abusing men who are doing their best to keep the affairs of the Borough straight, and who strive to conduct matters well and economically; and we believe that at the approaching election these mischievous, interested parties will be signally rebuked at the polls by the tax-payers, who know and appreciate what has been done both in Council and the School Board. At the coming election our citizens should make it a point to select the best men who are willing to serve.

FREEDOM NATIONAL—SLAVERY SECTIONAL.

By the annexed Message which President Lincoln transmitted to Congress on Wednesday last, it will be seen that the Capital of the American Republic has ceased to be a slaveholding City! Slavery is banished by law from the Federal District, and none but fugitives from bondage in slaveholding States, can henceforth be seized therein on the charge of having stolen themselves from white masters. From this hour, the fact that a human being is black or copper-colored does not, at the metropolis of "the freest nation on earth, constitute a legal presumption that he is somebody's chattel, who has no right to his own honest earnings—no right to go at large on God's footstool without a pass from his owner. Whatever mischiefs the Slaveholders' Rebellion may have caused, however mountainous the woes it has heaped on this devoted land, we may thank it for the opportunity to banish slaveholding from that District in which it was conspicuously our National shame, silencing all cavils as to Northern complicity with the giant crime, and causing every republican in the Old World to blush for the recreancy of the Model Republic. Thank God for one wrong redressed—one burning shame washed away!

And this act of National justice, once done, is done forever. The ignorant and fanatical sections of the Free States which are under the rule of political demagogues, are too few to send sufficient members to Congress to vote Slavery back into the Nation's capital. Some will, for party's sake, make a show of objecting to this act of Emancipation; but all must feel that it exalts us as a people in the sight of Heaven and of all just men.

What astonishing progress has been made in a single year. Twelve months ago, Virginia seceded from the Union, and the Governors of Kentucky, North Carolina and Missouri, laughed to scorn the President's request for troops to put down the rebellion just inaugurated by the bombardment and capture of Fort Sumpter. Anderson and his brave band were on their way North; the soldiers of Pennsylvania and of Massachusetts, numbering together, some twelve hundred men, stood alone, shoulder to shoulder, in the Capital, for its defence, and for that of the National integrity; and the Rebellion was everywhere mustering its forces for the sudden seizure of Norfolk, Harper's Ferry, St. Louis, and Washington. Since then, we have lived many years in one, until this day sees slavery banished from the Capital, and Liberty there proclaimed the birthright of every human being. So events march, God overruling and guiding them to wise and benignant though often inscrutable ends. Live the Republic!

The Message of the President is as follows:

> *Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:*—The act entitled "An Act for the relief of certain persons held to service or labor, in the District of Columbia," has this day been approved and signed.
>
> I have never doubted the constitutional authority of Congress to abolish slavery in this District, and I have ever desired to see the National Capital freed from the institution in some satisfactory way. Hence there has never been in my mind any question upon the subject, except only the one of expediency, arising in view of all the circumstances. If there be matters within and about this act which might have taken a course or shape more satisfactory to any judgment, I do not attempt to specify them.
>
> I am gratified that the two principles of compensation to emancipated slaves and colonization are both recognized and practically applied in the act. In the matter of compensation it is provided that claims may be presented within ninety days from the passage of the act, but not thereafter; and there is no saving for minors, *femmes couvert*, insane, or absent persons. I presume that this is an omission by mere oversight, and I recommend that it be supplied by an amendatory or supplemental act.
>
> April 16, 1862. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THE Secretary of War states that the number of Union troops in service is nearly seven hundred thousand.

IMPORTANT ORDER CONCERNING THE SHIPPING OF COAL.—At Philadelphia, on Monday, a despatch was received from the Secretary of the Treasury, directing the Collector of the Port not to clear any vessel with anthracite coal for foreign ports, or home ports south of Delaware Bay, until otherwise ordered. This despatch, being misconstrued on the first report, created quite an excitement in the Stock Board, it being supposed to apply to all vessels, and exciting fears that the Merrimac had got out. From certain facts that have transpired, the order is supposed to be a precautionary measure on the part of the Government to prevent Rebels from receiving supplies of coal via Havana, shipped from Northern ports in barrels, &c.

Since the above had been placed in type, the Philadelphia *Press* publishes the following additional facts in explanation of the reason for stopping the shipment southward, of anthracite coal:

> Much speculation continues as to the reasons which have induced the Secretary of the Treasury to prohibit the shipment of coal southward.—The explanation is thus given: That coal shipped from our Northern ports has been going to the Bermudas, the Bahamas, and Antillas, where it has been on sale to any customer. Some of these have been ugly customers—to wit, privateers and British steamers carrying arms and munitions to the rebels—all of whom have eagerly paid any price to obtain anthracite in preference to bituminous coal. All this for an obvious reason. The steamer burning bituminous coal is visible at sea even when on the very horizon. Its flaring column of smoke is seen even when the hull of the ship is beyond sight, whereas the anthracite coal shows no smoke whatever. The difference in fuel has therefore become a distinguishing mark of the American navy, which uses the latter coal, while British and French steamers use the former. It has been a constant practice of the privateers, and of such contraband vessels as the *Ella Warley* and other traders between Nassau, Charleston, and Savannah, to lay in a stock of anthracite at the British islands, and thus add a most important aid to their means of eluding our cruisers. This game it is, no doubt, the purpose of the Government to terminate. Two, and perhaps more, steamers, laden with arms and munitions for the rebels, are on their way from England, designing either to tranship their cargoes at Nassau, or to up the supplies of anthracite at accessible points. It is, on the contrary, the intention to draw the line so sharply between national vessels on one hand, and rebel and foreign steamships on the other, that the smoke-pipe shall decide whether a doubtful vessel is entitled to approach or pass the blockade. Or, to express the formula colloquially, smoking will not be allowed within the lines.
>
> Another supposition is, that large quantities of coal are sent from this port to foreign ports conveient to the Southern coast. Much of this coal goes in hogsheads, and the belief in some quarters is, that if the coal was intended to remain at the points at which it is shipped direct, it would be sent in bulk and not packed in hogsheads. It is believed in well-informed circles, that the rebels ultimately secure this barrelled coal, and that to cut off their supply of the important commodity is the principal object of the recent Government order.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

"THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE AND REVIEW," is the title of a journal of finance, insurance, manufactures, patents, trade, commerce, mining and railway intelligence, art, joint stock corporation interests, science, general information, etc., published at 712 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, by Whiting & Co., and edited by J. A. Fowler, Esq. The third number is before us. To the banker, miner, mechanic, and in fact to men in all departments of business, this publication is invaluable. It is edited with signal ability.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK for May, contains a steel engraving, entitled "May Flowers," very pretty and appropriate. The May fashions is a beautiful colored plate containing seven figures. The Garibaldi shirt, now so fashionable, is among them. Drawing-lessons, in imitation of lithographs are given in this number. There are numerous and useful pattern-plates, of interest to the ladies. Mrs. Haven's story of "Incompatibility of Temper," is finished in this number. A piece of music, and much interesting literary matter, combine in addition, to render this number fully up to the superior mark at which friend Godey seems determined to keep the Lady's Book. Copies of the May number can be obtained at the book store of B. Bannan, in this Borough.

"JENKINS'S VEST POCKET LEXICON."—This little, convenient to carry, work, by Jabez Jenkins, Esq., of Philadelphia, and published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., is an English dictionary of all except familiar words; including the principal scientific and technical terms, and foreign moneys, weights, and measures. As the compiler says in the title-page, "omitting what everybody knows, and containing what everybody wants to know, and cannot readily find." Upon an examination of the Lexicon, we coincide with Prof. Hart, that its plan combines "many important practical advantages, which cannot fail to make Mr. Jenkins's little book a valuable *vade mecum* as well to the learned as to the unlearned, to those who have other and larger dictionaries, and to those who have none." J. B. Lippincott & Co., Nos. 22 and 24 North Fourth street, Philadelphia, send it postpaid by mail, on receipt of 53 cents in money or stamps.

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

1862.—April.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.
19 SATURDAY,...	5	15. 6	42
20 SUNDAY,.....	5	13. 6	44
21 MONDAY,.....	5	11. 6	45
22 TUESDAY,....	5	10. 6	46
23 WEDNESDAY,..	5	9. 6	47
24 THURSDAY,...	5	7. 6	48
25 FRIDAY,.....	5	6. 6	49

D. H. M.
First Q. 7 7 16m.
Full M. 14 10 6m.
Third Q. 21 1 7m.
New M., 28 6 30m.

Thermometrical Record for the Week.

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

	8 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 P. M.	
April 12—Saturday,	44°	52°	49°	clear.
" 14—Monday,	49	53	51	cloudy.
" 15—Tuesday,	42	57	46	"
" 16—Wednesday,	53	63	62	"
" 17—Thursday,	60	75	72	"
" 18—Friday,	64	77	75	"

☞ *Rev. Samuel Holman*, Chaplain of the 48th Regiment, is in town.

☞ *To-morrow* will be Easter Sunday. At Trinity Church a new *Te Deum* will be sung by the excellent choir.

Services at 10½ A. M., and 3, P. M.

☞ *Howard Potts*, assistant-engineer of the United States steamer *Water Witch*, is in town. His vessel is at Philadelphia.

☞ *The* government has again granted permission to the troops over the Potomac to re-open correspondence with their families and friends.

☞ *Capt. James N. Dowden*, of Company G, 96th Regiment, P. V., has been compelled to resign his position, on account of ill health.

☞ *Mahanoy City*, this County, contains now about two hundred houses. A year since there were only half that number in the place. A bit of California in our midst.

☞ *Removal*.—The store of A. E. Wardle has been removed to Market street, to a very eligible location, where friends and customers are respectfully invited to call and examine a fine stock of goods at low prices.

☞ *Capt. Piersonnis*, Capt. Hoskins, and Lieut. Miller, of the 48th Reg., P. V., who had been here for some days, on furloughs, left town on Wednesday last, to rejoin their Regiment, at Newbern, N. C.

☞ *Death of a Coal Operator*.—Mr. I. P. Voorhies, an energetic operator of this Region, and a resident of this Borough, died on Monday last, and was buried on Wednesday. Mr. Voorhies has been engaged in business here for a number of years, and was universally respected.

☞ *Mr. Nathaniel Loose* is erecting a three story brick building at the corner of Third and Norwegian streets, to be used for a Floor, Feed and Grocery store. The brick building adjoining, now used to carry on said business, is to be converted into a dwelling house.

☞ *Yesterday* being the first anniversary of the arrival at Washington of the first volunteer troops for its defence, among which were two companies from this Borough, flags were displayed at all the prominent points in the Borough. The day was celebrated at Tumbling Run, by a *reunion* of the members of the two companies who are here.

☞ *B. Chambers*, who now occupies the building on Centre street, near Feger's Hotel, formerly used as the Post Office, has been appointed sole Agent in this County, for the sale of Grover and Baker's celebrated Sewing Machines, which are great favorites in every family where they are used. The $40 machine is said to be equal to any sewing machine manufactured. It makes the shuttle stitch.

☞ *Sheriff's Sale of Real Estate*.—There will be sold at the Court House in this Borough, on Monday, April 28, a tract of land in Union township, the property of Isaac D. Lisville; and a tract of coal land with appurtenances, in Tremont township, the property of Charles A. Snyder.

☞ *In response* to the Proclamation of the President, Sunday last was observed as a day of thanksgiving, by the churches of this Borough. Prayers of thankfulness for, and allusions in discourses, to our late victories, were delivered. At Trinity Church before the morning service began, the Star Spangled Banner was played on the organ with thrilling effect.

☞ *Missing*.—Thomas McAndrew, aged 16 years, son of Mr. P. F. McAndrew, has been missing from his home at Ashland, this County, since the 3d instant. A full description of his personal appearance, and of the clothing he had on when he left home, will be found embodied in a Notice in another column. A reward of $20 is offered for any information concerning him. His parents are much distressed at his unaccountable absence.

☞ *Palm Sunday and Passion Week*.—Monday last commenced according to the ritual of the Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches, Holy, or Passion Week, last Sabbath, Palm Sunday, commemorating the entrance of Christ into Jerusalem. The entire week was observed, as usual, with great solemnity, and special services were held on Good Friday, yesterday. With the Jews, this is the week of observance preceding the Passover.

☞ *The New Planet*.—The new planet discovered by Mr. Tuttle at the Cambridge Observatory, on Tuesday morning of last week, is the second discovered by him, and the seventy-third in the order of discovery. The increasing number of these small planets, together with their great diversity of magnitude, seems to lend additional support to the suggestion of the celebrated Olbers, that they are the fragments of a large planet, which at some period of time revolved around the sun between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, where these bodies now do.

☞ *Information not Contraband*.—Now and then we hear of an editor called to account for publishing news in his columns unauthorized by the War Department. It is true, the closest watch is necessary to prevent something occasionally finding its way into print which may furnish undesirable information to the enemy. Upon careful reflection, however, we believe we are infringing none of the rules relating to publishers when we inform our readers that a most desirable place to purchase Glass and Queensware, is at the store of Mr. Houghton, in the Arcade Building, Centre street.

☞ *Public Schools*.—The examination of the Public Schools will be continued next week in the High School Building as follows:

Monday, April 21, A. M.—
School No. 4 M., 3d & 4th classes.

Monday, April 21, P. M.—
School No. 2 M., 1st class.
" " 2 F., 2d "

Tuesday, April 22, A. M.—
School No. 1 M., 5th class.
" " 2 F., 1st "

Tuesday, April 22, P. M.—
School No. 1 M., 3d & 4th classes.

The examinations commence each day at 9, A. M., and 2, P. M, and will be held at the Town Hall.

By order of the Board,
J. P. SHERMAN, *Supt.*

☞ *The Schoolmaster Abroad*.—The following is a copy *verbatim et literatim*, of a Notice posted in a hotel at Mahanoy City, this County. In its line it is quite unique:

> March the 28 the year 1862
> A tract of Lant Fir Sale On Hunters An thirteen ACres of Lant CLeart Lant And good Farm Lant And plenty of Meatow And good Watter And plenty of it And too Big Orchierts And good BuLdings
> And A Hunterd And Aighteen ACres of CoaL Lant More OUr Less, As the MaCalions Mountain And plenty of timber on it
> If thare is Any Botty that Wants to By it Can JaCup
> Com to in ——Valley
> Fir it fir Fir Sale
> CoLumBia County

At the upper end of Railroad street, this Borough, may be seen a well executed sign over a door, with the following inscription:

"Cash fur Rags Bon and ROOPs"

☞ *Schuylkill County Boys in the Battle of Pittsburg Landing*.—It is a remarkable and creditable fact that Schuylkill County has been represented in every great battle of the Rebellion, so far, both on land and water. Her sons have fought at Manassas, Port Royal, Lexington, Springfield, Fort Henry, Donelson and Winchester, and we hear of several that were in the late bloody and desperate battle at Pittsburg Landing. Three young men from this County, are members of Gen. Buell's Body-Guard. Originally intended as a Body-Guard for General Anderson, it was transferred to Buell when he first took command in Kentucky. In the battle of Monday it was most effectively employed. John Weiler, son of a resident of this Borough, was in the Twenty-fifth Missouri, in Gen. Prentiss's Division, which were the troops first attacked by the Rebels. W. W. Brechbill of Donaldson, was in Taylor's Chicago Light Artillery, which was in the first day's fight, and which was so terribly pounded as to be forced to retire with heavy loss. Mr. Brechbill was with the battery at the taking of Fort Donelson, where it did excellent service.—It is supposed that Lieut. L. Snyder, Lieut. W. Bartholomew, and Dr. H. C. Parry, who were in Gen. Buell's column, were also in the Battle, although no letters have yet been received from them, as we are aware, confirming the belief.—Their corps are mentioned in the published accounts, as having been in the fight.

Since the above was placed in type, a letter has been received from Lieutenant Snyder, in which he states that he was in the battle, but was not injured.

☞ *That Flag*.—Our readers will remember that in July last we published the fact that "a greasy mechanic" of San Francisco had forwarded to Mayor Henry a United States flag, to be presented by him to the company that first marched to the defence of Washington city, in April last. The flag was once claimed by three of four companies, all of whom sought to obtain the prize. Unfortunately, the Mayor, who wished that it should only be given to the company justly entitled to it, was unable to come to any decision, and the flag has remained in his possession ever since. Among other military organizations which laid claim to it at that time, was the National Light Infantry, of Pottsville, who to have since renewed their claim, and from what we can learn, are the *legal owners* of the beautiful relic. The National Infantry was the first company to offer its services to the Secretary of War, and the first accepted by him. Under the command of E. McDonald they were among the gallant 450 men that arrived in Washington on April 18th, in time to utterly defeat the machinations of the rebels. The Mayor should give notice that the flag would be forwarded to this company, unless more valid claims can be made by others. In this manner all the claimants might be heard and seen.—*Philadelphia Press, April 14.*

We should like to see the flag referred to brought to Pottsville, and we do not know any Company we would rather see possess it, than the National Light Infantry, of this Borough. But if our construction of the expressed desire of the donor of the flag, is correct, we cannot see why the claims of the Infantry are superior to the Artillerists of Reading; the Rifles of Allentown; the Logan Guards of Lewistown, or the Washington Artillerists, of this Borough, all of which Companies left this State together, and reached Washington simultaneously. The Infantry and Artillerists of Pottsville left the Borough on the same day and in the same train. It seems to us a difficult question to decide, if the intention is to present the flag to the Company that first marched to the defence of Washington.

☞ *Prof. McCoy*, Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory in the Ballston and Albany Law Schools, an orator of commanding eloquence and power, will lecture in this Borough, on Monday evening, 28th inst., on "the London *Times* on the Rebellion and the war against the National Constitution." This lecture has been delivered to delighted audiences, in Washington, Harrisburg, Wilkesbarre, Mauch Chunk, etc., and is spoken of in the highest terms of praise. Prof. McCoy's oration on the death of Daniel Webster, in 1852, was greatly admired and extolled by such eminent judges of eloquence as Edward Everett, Speaker Winthrop, and Secretary Seward. Rufus Choate pronounced it to be "the most adequate to the great subject which he had read." Prof. McCoy has resided at Washington, ever since the first note of alarm to the Capitol. He was Secretary of Cassius M. Clay's Washington Guards, and mounted guard during the dark and perilous days when the Capitol was cut off from the Loyal States. When it was announced that Washington's remains had been removed by the traitors he rode to Mount Vernon to ascertain the truth of the report, and reported to the Government.—He seems to have received inspiration from this visit to the Tomb at that critical period; and his oration is based on the doctrines and maxims of Washington. It was first delivered in Washington City on the anniversary of the delivery of the Farewell Address. It was repeated on the National Fast Day, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, before the President and his Cabinet. It was greatly admired and applauded; and an officer of the Government wrote, that "Aside from its statesmanlike views, and masterly defense of our National Cause—as a display of oratory, I doubt if Prof. McCoy's oration was ever equalled in that magnificent Hall." Upon being invited by some citizens of this State, who heard it twice in Washington, Prof. McCoy has twice repeated it in Lancaster, and *four times* in the city of Harrisburg. We predict for the Professor a brilliant audience here.

☞ *Proceedings of the Borough Council*.—A stated meeting of Council was held on Tuesday evening last. Present, Messrs. Evert, Pitman, Greenawg, Morris, Inners, Klemle, Beveridge, and Focht, President *pro tem*.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted.

The Street Com. reported in favor of granting the request of C. Baber and others, that property holders on Canal and Union streets, between the railroad and Mauch Chunk street, be compelled, to curb and pave. The Com. reported progress on Nichols street; and on petition to Court to appoint viewers on widening East Norwegian street at George.

The Com. on Fire Apparatus reported repairs needed to Good Intent Engine house, and was instructed to make them.

The Com. on Ordinances reported adversely to petition of Mr. Rossegarten praying for privilege to erect a wooden awning over his pavement at Centre and Mahantango streets. The same Committee reported amended Market ordinance, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in hand-bill form, in both the English and German languages.

A petition from lot-owners and residents on First street, Jalappa, praying for the opening and grading of that street, was read, and referred to the Street Com.

A communication from Benj. B. McCool, proposing to make out the Borough tax-duplicate for 1863, was read and referred to the Com. of Finance and Accounts.

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

A communication from the County Commissioners asking for the cutting down of Third street at the County buildings, was read and referred to the Street Com. with power to act.

Mr. Inness offered the following:

Resolved, That Mr. Brady, Chas. Lesser, David Phillip, Wm. Bottomly, John Buck and Charles Lord, holding property on Nichols street, be notified to move their buildings and fences on said street within the street lines.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Market House be instructed to rent no stall at a less rate than ten dollars per annum, and that these now occupying stalls, who refuse to pay at the rates mentioned, be dispossessed of the same.

Adopted.

A statement of paid and unpaid Borough taxes of parties now out of the limits of the Borough, was submitted by the Collector. On motion it was resolved that the Collector be credited with the amount stated, and that he be instructed to remit to the parties enumerated, the respective amounts collected from them.

The following bills were read and ordered to be paid:

B. Evert,.....	$1 25
Chas. Kehrer, (for Safe,).....	275 00
E. O. Parry,.....	25 00
J. D. Mennig and others,.....	48 93
Schuylkill Co. Lumber Company,.....	28 58
B. Reilly,.....	1 25
Previous issue,.....	$380 03
	8,512 04
Total,.....	$8,892 07

Adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS OF COURT.

REPORTED FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

An adjourned court has been in session during the last week engaged in the trial of civil cases. The following cases were disposed of:

William Wenrich and Henry Pfeifer, trading, &c., vs. Samuel Hefner.—This was an action on a book account and promissory notes for cattle sold by the plaintiffs to the defendant. The case has been tried three times before, and each time reversed by the Supreme Court. The jury rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs, for $201 97.

Thomas H. Shollenberger, to the use of Mary Maix, vs. The Lycoming Mutual Insurance Company.—Covenant to recover from the Insurance Company the amount of the policy of an insurance effected on a coal breaker for $2500, and which was burned down on the 25th of Sept., 1860. The Company resisted the payment of the claim on two grounds—both of a technical character—first, that the plaintiff had not made a particular statement of the loss, under oath, within thirty days after the fire,—and the next, that the plaintiff had not paid up his assessments in full on his policy after demand made by the Company's agent. The plaintiff in reply alleged that as the whole of the breaker had been burned down, which cost from $17,000 to $18,000, and as a statement to that effect had been made and sworn to, that the statement was as full and particular as could reasonably be required; and further, that he was forcibly for a more particular statement within the thirty days was waived, by the conduct of the Company itself, acting through its agent, who had prepared a statement and affidavit, but which required alteration before being sworn to. The plaintiff further alleged, that the defendants having subsequently received and accepted the amount of the assessment from Shollenberger, that they were thereby precluded from setting up the non-payment of the assessment as a defence. The court charged in favor of this view of the case, and the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff for $2996 66.

Caroline B. Kline vs. Edward S. Bland.—This was an appeal from a Justice of the Peace. The plaintiff claimed $85, a balance due on book account. The defendant admitted a portion to be due, but claimed that he had paid $35 87 of the amount for which he had receipts. He produced two receipts in the handwriting of Benj. Bosworth, for C. B. Kline, and he proved that Bosworth was in the habit of transacting business for the plaintiff and collecting money. The jury found a verdict for plaintiff for $35 45.

(Conclusion of cases next week.)

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AGAIN.

EDITORS MINERS' JOURNAL: As the Spring election approaches, the Public Schools and the Board of School Directors of our Borough appear to be attracting some attention; at least, one would suppose so, judging from the numerous scribblings in the two distinguished Democratic organs of the town. It is positively amusing, not to say ridiculous, to notice the various ways in which the subject is discussed, and how, in one breath another individual self-interest leaks out in each communication. Each one has his "axe to grind." One wants to serve the public by having teacher's salaries reduced, as a good salary, and one laboring for years in that capacity in various districts of the County, until none will have him any longer, from his utter unfitness for the profession. Another has a son ready to have the same, and others, his relatives, whose are now employed in the Public Schools, increased, and also to depreciate others who are not relatives, but who are quite equal, if not superior, as teachers. Another, who has a large and liberal mind, and who has the public welfare deeply at heart, does not at all like the old fogy notion of paying taxes for the support of schools, and is somewhat in principled against paying taxes of any kind whatever. Then, again, another wants to be a School Director, and become famous all at once, and help to ferret out the most learned in the present Board of Directors. And yet another wants to sell a lot of ground to the Directors, at a very *moderate* price. And perhaps the most anxious of all are a few hungry and sorry politicians, who would fain be ready to take charge of the building fund now in the possession of the Board, &c., &c. In every article that has recently appeared in the *Mining Register* and *Democratic Standard*, on the subject of the Public Schools, one or more of the above *interests* has been represented. A flimsy covering of some sort, it is true, is thrown over it in each case, but, generally, so very shallow as to be ridiculous in appearance, that the most simple may see through and understand it. The most laughable and comical, however, of all, is the communication by "Literary Tax-payer," that appeared in the MINERS' JOURNAL of last Saturday week. The old envy comes out so "jolly green," (as the artful dodger would say,) with his sentiments expressed, that one is half tempted to believe that the intentions of the writer are honest and praiseworthy. He starts up as by the touch of a magician's wand, and "Behold, he had bright visions of selling his lot at the moderate sum of 3,000 to 4,000 dollars. Since that decision, those visions have (to me, very naturally) obscured. *Before*, the School House "palaces" might have been tolerated for teaching the "common children" in; *since*, any kind of dirty and wretched house might answer very well for; the common people, in fact, are not worthy of more, it is, that the best concerted schemes of the most cunning of men are often brought to nothing! The good old Bible, in his apparent innocency, seems just, and right, and true for the time, to have made the discovery that the people ought not to be educated, and especially the commoner sort. At least, they ought not to have much education, from the fact, as recorded in the Bible, that "a little learning is a dangerous thing." Now, our old friend, the "Heavy Tax-payer," should know better than to put forth the doctrine of the old fogy, who believes that no education to the common people at this time of day. It might do to prate thus under autocratic governments, or in some remote wilderness or frontier, in which the schoolmaster had never yet penetrated, but what man, not in his dotage, would talk thus in Pottsville, in 1862? Besides, who would decide or draw the line between the common people and the uncommon people? Our friend would require another Board of Directors to do that.

Now, Messrs. Editors, and *Mentors*, the Public, I beg to say, that all the clamor and "bubbub" so kicked up about the Public Schools, amount to nothing but sheer humbug, and is, in reality, not worth any notice at all—there's nothing in it! As I said before, each one has his own "axe to grind." Any sensible man will see through the whole by a moment's reflection. We have twelve respectable citizens chosen as Directors by the people in their respective wards in the Borough. They do not receive one cent of compensation for their services, and most of them are heavy tax payers themselves. I speak advisedly, too, when I assert that not one of them desires any boon from the school fund, or otherwise by virtue of his being a Director. These are facts which every one knows, or ought to know, and may know, too, with very little trouble, if he chooses to inform himself. Such being the case, what earthly object could the Directors have in view by imposing heavier taxes on the people than is really necessary? There is no object or inducement whatever; it is ridiculous to talk about it. It turns out that we are desirous to have the School and other taxes put at the very lowest notch, and especially at the present time, and I, as a "heavy tax-payer," have full confidence in the Board of doing so. Our Public Schools are good schools, and it has taken years to build them up to their present high standard of excellence.—They let us see, by a too niggardly policy in the immediate reduction of the teachers, pull down the character of the schools. Good teachers should be *fairly* paid, just as much so as any mechanic or professional man; who do their work well. And whether is it better to have good schools or bad ones? I wish as much could be said for our school-houses as our schools! With the exception of the school-house at the foot of Sharp Mountain, we have not one which can be called a School House. Dirty, crowded, filthy looking places, and absolutely unfit to put in even the very common people's children in! But Tax Winkle tells about "common children" in; since, any kind of dirty and wretched house might answer very well for; the common people, in fact, are not worthy of more, it is, that the best concerted schemes of the most cunning of men are often brought to nothing! The good old Bible, in his apparent innocency, seems just, and right, and true for the time, to have made the discovery that the people ought not to be educated, and especially the commoner sort. At least, they ought not to have much education, from the fact, as recorded in the Bible, that "a *little* learning is a dangerous thing." Now, our old friend, the "Heavy Tax-payer," should know better than to put forth the doctrine of the old fogy, who believes that no education to the common people at this time of day. It might do to prate thus under autocratic governments, or in some remote wilderness or frontier, in which the schoolmaster had never yet penetrated, but what man, not in his dotage, would talk thus in Pottsville, in 1862? Besides, who would decide or draw the line between the common and the uncommon people? Our friend would require another Board of Directors to do that.

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