Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1865.

THE TRUE RECONSTRUCTION POLICY.

There can be no question that it is desirable to have the States late in Rebellion "rehabilitated;" their representatives in their proper places in Congress, and the South fairly on its journey of material resuscitation and improvement. But the astute minds of the country; and men intimately acquainted with Southern character, advise the nation to move cautiously in this matter, lest the existence of the principles which have been successful after years of war and great sacrifice, be jeopardized. Truth cannot with safety, compromise with error. Justice cannot afford to strike hands with injustice. The people of the South it may be, are willing to accept cheerfully, the changes that war has brought to them; they may be willing even to accord to the freemen in their midst the rights of freemen, but until they give practical evidence in their public convocations; in the staunchly loyal character of their representatives-elect to Congress, and in their treatment of freemen, that they can be trusted, we should make haste slowly to admit into Congress the members from the Southern States.

The Hon. Schuyler Colfax, who was Speaker of the House of Representatives in the last Congress,—who will we presume, be reelected to the position he adorned—a statesman whose opinions are entitled to great respect, has little faith in the professed loyalty of the South, and thinks that the results of the war should not be trittered away by a re admission of Southern members until security for the future has been amply guaranteed. On Saturday evening Mr. Colfax made a speech in Washington, in response to the compliment of a serenade. As his remarks embody the true policy of reconstruction, and state the position of the President, we publish them at length, as follows, confident that they will be approved by every honest friend of the country:

MY FRIENDS: I thank you for the pleasant serenade with which you welcome me on my return hitherto the sphere of public duty. Since I left here I have traveled many thousands of miles over the plains and mountains of the Pacific slope, and up that coast to the British Possessions, in the extreme Northwest; but I will not detain you with any allusions to the scenery of incidents of my journey, as I have already promised to speak in regard to them in this city next month. My thoughts more naturally turn this evening to the auspicious condition of our country now as compared with the closing of the last Congress. Then a hostile flag waved over cities and forts and camps and navyyards, and we went home in March to assist in raising the troops called for by the President. Now there is peace over all the land, and the flag of the Republic waves unquestioned over every acre of our national domain. (Cheers.) We never knew the value of our institutions until the hour of their peril. If we had failed, there would have been no resurrection from the dead of liberty. But, thanks to heroic defenders, no Gibbon will write the history of America's decline and fall. (Cheers.) I shall hail the day when all the States shall revolve in their appropriate orbits around the central Government, and when we can behold them "distinct as the billows, but one as the sea." But we cannot forget that history teaches us that it was eight years after the surrender of Yorktown in the Revolutionary War, though our fathers were of one mind as to its necessity, before the Constitution was adopted and the Union thus established. It is suspicious that the ninetieth Congress I have seen during my knowledge of public affairs, meets next month, to settle the momentous questions which will be brought before it. It will not be governed by any spirit of revenge, but solely by duty to the country. I have no right to anticipate its action, nor do I bind myself to any inflexible unalterable policy. But these ideas occur to me, and I speak of them with the frankness with which we should always express our views. Last March, when Congress adjourned, the States lately in rebellion were represented in a hostile Congress and Cabinet declaring war and making ready for the destruction of this country. It may not be generally known, but it has been repeated to me, on the testimony of members of the so-called Confederate Congress, that Gen. Lee, the military head of the Rebellion, declared last February, in his official character, that the contest was utterly hopeless, but that their Congress and Cabinet determined to continue the struggle, and 20,000 men fell after that time on both sides in the battles around Petersburg, Richmond and elsewhere. Since the adjournment of the United States Congress, not a single rebellious State voluntarily surrendered, not an army laid down its weapons, not a regiment abandoned their failing cause; but the Union armies conquered a peace, not by compromise or voluntary submission, but by the force of arms. Some of these members of the so-called Confederate Congress, who at our adjournment last March were struggling to blot this nation from the map of the world, propose, I understand, to enter Congress on the opening day of its session next month, and resume their former business of overthrowing the country they struggled so earnestly to ruin. They say they have lost no rights. It seems as if the burning of the ships of our commerce on the ocean, starving our prisoners on land, and raising armies to destroy the nation, would impair some of these rights until their new governments were recognized by Congress. (Cheers.) The Constitution, which seems formed for every emergency, gives to each House the exclusive right to judge of the qualifications of the election returns of its members, and I apprehend they will exercise that right. Congress having passed no law on Reconstruction, President Johnson has prescribed certain action for these States, which he deemed indispensible to their restoration to their former relations to the Government. I think this eminently wise and patriotic. He declared first, that their Conventions should declare the various ordinances of Secession null and void—not, as some have done, merely repealing them—but absolutely withdrawing force and effect. Second, that their Legislatures should ratify the Constitutional Amendment abolishing Slavery, lest that one cause of dissension and rebellion might be utterly extirpated. Third, that they shall formally repudiate the Rebel debt, though by its terms, it will be a long while before it falls due, as it was payable six months after the recognition of the Confederacy by the United States. (Cheers.) This reminds me of an old friend in Indiana, who said he liked to give his notes payable ten days after ensuing date. (Laughter, and cries of "Good," "Good.") But there are other terms on which I think there is no division among the loyal men of the Union. First—That the Declaration of Independence must be recognized as the law of the land, and every man, alien and native, white and black, protected in the inalienable and God-given rights of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Mr. Lincoln, in that emancipation proclamation which is the brightest wreath in his chaplet of fame (cheers), not only gave freedom to the slave, but declared that the Government would maintain that freedom. (Applause.) We cannot abandon them and leave them defenseless at the mercy of their former owners. They must be protected in their rights of person and property, and these freemen must have the right to sue in courts of justice for all just claims, and to testify that they have security against outrage and wrong. I call them freemen, not freedmen. The last phrase might have answered before their freedom was fully secured; but they should be regarded now as freemen of the Republic. (Loud and enthusiastic cheers.) Second—The amendments of their State Constitutions, which have been adopted by many of their Conventions so reluctantly, under the pressure of dispatches from the President and Secretary of State, should be ratified by a majority of their people. We all know that but a very small portion of their voters participated in the election of the delegates to those Conventions, and nearly, if not all, the Conventions have declared them to be without any ratification by the people. When this crisis has passed, can they not turn round and say that these were adopted under duress by delegates elected by a meager vote under Provisional Governors and military authorities, and never ratified by a popular vote? And could they not turn over the anti-Lecompton argument against us and insist, as we did, that a Convention thus made by the people may have effect, but no moral effect whatever? Third—The President can on all occasions insist that they should elect Congressmen who could take the oath prescribed by the act of '62; but in defiance of this, and insulting the President and the country, they have, in a large majority of instances, voted down mercilessly Union men who could take the oath, and elected those who boasted, that they could not, and would feel disgraced if they could. Without mentioning names, one gentleman elected in Alabama by a large majority declared in his address to the people, before the election, that no iron pen of history would record the emancipation act as the most monstrous deed of cruelty that ever darkened the annals of any nation; and another avowed that he gave all possible aid and comfort to the Rebellion, and denounced the Congress of 1862 for enacting such an oath. (A voice—"Put them on probation.") The South is filled with men who cannot take the oath, he declares. "I have not voluntarily taken part in the Rebellion." Every conscript in the Southern army can take the oath because he was forced into the ranks by conscription, and every man who stayed at home and refused to accept a civil or military office could take that oath; but these were not the choice of the States lately in rebellion. Fourth—While it must be expected that a minority of these States will choose for years, perhaps, their feelings of disloyalty, the country has a right to expect that before their members are admitted to a share in the government of this country, a majority of the people of each State should give evidence of their earnest and cheerful loyalty, not by such speeches as are so common that they submitted the issue to the arbitrament of war, but that they are willing to stand by and fight for the flag of the country against all its enemies at home or abroad. The danger now is in too much precipitation. Let us rather make haste slowly, and we can then hope that the foundations of our government, when thus reconstructed on the basis of indisputable loyalty, will be as eternal as the stars. (Applause.) In President Johnson I have unbroken confidence—I cannot forget that in the Senate, at the opening of the Rebellion, he was the only Southern member who denounced it as for its objects, and that he was faithful among the faithless. (Applause.) Nor do I forget that when on his way from the capital to his home, insulted though he was at many railway stations, he never faltered in his devotion to the Union. Nor can I forget his speech when Military Governor of Tennessee, to a mass meeting of the colored men at Nashville, in which he declared that all men should have a fair start and an equal chance in the race of life, and let him succeed who has the most merit. You all remember his speech to the colored regiment of the District of Columbia, where he repudiated that stereotyped declaration that this "is a white man's country alone," and insisted that it was theirs also. You remember also his remarks to the South Carolina delegation, that the only right system was to protect all men, both white and black, and that if they got general principles right, details and collaterals would follow. We all remember, too, his earnest dispatches to these Southern Conventions in settling the Richmond elections, when a disloyal Mayor and Common Council were chosen, and that he has signed the death warrant of every one who has been convicted of conspiracy. The great Union organization of the country carried the nation successfully, aided by our heroic defenders through the perilous crisis of the past four years. Our beloved martyr President leaned upon it in the darkest hours. It stood by the national cause unfaltteringly. It voted down the Chicago platform, which declared the war to be a failure, and demanded a cessation of hostilities. The people have the whole power of the Government in its hands, executive, legislative and judicial, and reassured it by the brilliant victories of this Fall. Let us emulate the example of its friends in all the States. Let us study unity in the light of duty, and I believe the Executive and Legislative Departments of the Government, when they compare views together, will cordially cooperate in the great work before us all, and so act that the foundations of our Union, wisely and patriotically reconstructed, shall be eternal as the ages, with a hearty acceptance by the South of the new situation. I spoke to believe that under a system of paid free labor and respecting the rights of freemen, the South will move forward in a career of prosperity, wealth and progress unparalleled in its previous history. It has a more genial clime than we have in the cold North; a wider range of production, for it has cotton, tobacco, rice and sugar, which command such high prices now in the markets of the world, with boundless water-power, almost entirely unimproved. Did now of the shiftless system of slave labor, it will, with its long circled arm, rival us in the race of prosperity. In conclusion, I can but echo the words of our departed President: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, but with firmness do the right as God gives us to see the right, and all will be well."

Mr. Colfax is too pure a man and patriot, to be actuated in these suggestions by aught but the welfare of the Republic and the happiness of its inhabitants. No partizan motive prompts the words of warning embodied in the above. They are spoken for our good, and we believe that the people of the North will receive them in that spirit and that the coming Congress will be more guarded in its action than if they had been left unspoken.

In more fiery but equally earnest language come also, similar warnings from the able, honest, faithful, patriotic Governor of Tennessee, Mr. Brownlow. No man is more thoroughly conversant with the temperament, character and aims of the Southern people than Gov. Brownlow, himself a Southern. His fears of impending trouble in consequence of the unsubdued spirit of the rebels, are expressed in a letter recently written to the Cincinnati *Gazette*, and which is now attracting much attention from the prominence and reliability of the writer. The Governor says:

In a word, the rebels of the South have by no means abandoned this long cherished idea of *separating the government*. They are looking to this end; and more, they are *organizing* with a view to this result. They do not propose to dissolve the Union by the use of the sword and bayonet. They have tried this in a wicked war of four dreary years, and signally failed. Their purpose is to accomplish their infernal plans through the ballot box in Congress, and they look to the Copperhead Democracy and other northern traitors to aid them. Thank God, the recent elections at the North have blasted their hopes for the present, and taught them that the real people, the loyal masses of the great North, are all right.

The great question for the future are in the good-sense, the obstinate loyalty and determined purpose of the Republican majority in Congress. I pray God they will not admit rebels into Congress indiscriminately, because they have taken the amnesty oath or obtained the Executive pardon. As President Johnson said, let them occupy the back seats for a few years.

I am one of those at the South who believe this war has closed out two years too soon. The rebels have been whipped, but not whipped enough.

For saying these things I expect to be abused by all rebel paper South, and by all traitors and doughfaces at the North. Let them say out; I am able to stand their abuse. I am for the American Union, regardless of the hate of sections, the war of parties, or the malice of individuals.

These extracts will convince our readers we think, that the coming Congress of the United States will have important duties to discharge, duties which must claim the earnest conscientious attention of the members and be discharged with due regard for the rights of the people. We have hopes that the action of Congress in this and kindred important matters will be such as to meet the approbation of every loyal citizen.

THE SUPREME BENCH OF PENNSYLVANIA.—The Supreme Court of the State of Pennsylvania, consists at present of George W. Woodward, Chief Justice, and William Strong, James Thompson, John M. Read, and Daniel Agnew, Associates. The term of Judge Woodward will expire in 1867, the term of Judges Strong and Thompson in 1872, of Judge Read in 1873, and of Judge Agnew in 1878. Should Judges Strong and Thompson both be on the bench when Judge Woodward's term as Chief Justice expires in 1867, they will have to draw lots for the Chief Justiceship. There will be no election for Supreme Judge until 1867, when Judge Woodward's term expires, unless a vacancy should sooner be created by death or resignation.

THE pirate Shenandoah arrived at Liverpool on the 6th inst. The English naval authorities have taken possession of her, and Captain Waddell and his crew are out on parole. The English journals recommend that the Shenandoah be given to the American Government. Though the letting of the piratical captain and crew of the Shenandoah go at liberty on parole is not liked, the opinion seems to be, that no serious trouble will grow out of that business, particularly if the suggestion of the London TIMES be acted upon, namely, that all of them be tried for piracy by the English Courts. Of the transfer of the vessel herself to the United States, there is no doubt.

THIS YEAR the various crops in the United States are as follows:—Wheat, 198,522,829 bushels; rye, 19,543,905 bus.; barley, 11,291,286 bus.; oats, 225,225,295 bus.; corn, 704,427,853 bus.; potatoes, 101,032,095 bus.; hay, 28,538,740 tons, and tobacco, 185,316,958 pounds.

Local Affairs.

Weekly Almanac.

1865.—Nov.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.
25 SATURDAY,	6 58	4 36	Full M. 3 3 7 mn'g
26 SUNDAY,	6 59	4 35	Last Q. 10 0 49 mn'g
27 MONDAY,	7 0	4 34	New M. 18 6 4 mn'g
28 TUESDAY,	7 1	4 34	First Q. 25 10 3 even'g
29 WEDNESDAY,	7 2	4 33	
30 THURSDAY,	7 4	4 33	
1 FRIDAY,	7 5	4 34	

Colliery Wanted.—See advertisement elsewhere.

To-morrow.—Forty-eighth Sunday of the year and twenty-fourth after Trinity. Day's length, 9 hours and 24 minutes.

Deep Snow.—The snow on the summit of Broad Mountain, on the turnpike between Fountain Spring and Weiler's tavern, is a foot in depth.

Sentenced.—On Thursday of last week Hugh B. Riddle, a boatman, tried for killing another boatman named Thomas Haggerty, at Mt. Carbon last July, and convicted of manslaughter, was sentenced to five years imprisonment in the Prison of this County.

*We learn that an interesting meeting is in progress in the Baptist congregation. Several have presented themselves as inquirers and one or two await Baptism. The meetings are held in their mission house, 3d above Callowhill St., and will be continued every evening through the coming week.

*A very delightful and successful concert was given by the St. Clair Band in St. Clair, on Tuesday evening last, assisted by the Union Choristers of St. Clair and the Mozart Vocalists of Pottsville. We are gratified to learn that our singers made a favorable impression and were warmly applauded.

*A portion of the Fifth United States Cavalry, under command of Major E. H. Leib, now stationed at Nashville, The Sixteenth United States Infantry, in which Capt. Bartholomew of this Borough, is an officer, is also stationed there. We are glad to learn that Major Leib has been brevetted Lieutenant-Colonel. The commission of Major Leib is dated March 18, 1865. We hope to hear soon that he has been promoted by being brevetted Colonel, for he is a worthy officer.

A Good Idea.—Mr. Robert C. Hill, who is now effecting many insurances in this County against accidents, now sells on the departure of every train on the Reading Railroad from this Borough, tickets to insure against accidents, good for one or more days. For twenty-five cents a traveler gets a ticket good for twenty-four hours, and in case of injury during that time he will receive $25 a week until well, and his relatives, $5000 in case of death from accident. No traveler should start on a journey without one of these tickets.

"New York Theatre."—This company composed of twenty-one performers who have played recently with great acceptability in Harrisburg and Reading, opened at the Town Hall in this Borough last evening with "Colleen Bawn." The theatre is under the management of Messrs. J. P. Sherry and G. W. Harrison. There was a fine audience present. To-night the "Hidden Hand," dramatized from Mrs. Southworth's story of that name, will be played with an excellent cast. The farce of "Paddy Miles" will conclude the performance. The company will perform each evening during the coming week, in attractive novelties.

Unknown Man Found Dead.—On Friday of last week the body of an unknown man about 35 years of age, was found dead on the towpath of the Canal, at Schuylkill Haven. He was about five feet, six inches in height; sandy hair, and had on an army blouse. It is thought that he had been in the service. On one of his fingers there was a ring of white metalic substance, probably silver, on the inside of which the initials "A. B" are engraved. An inquest was held. From the appearance of the body it was evident that while intoxicated the night before, he had fallen on his face, been stunned, and had suffocated in a puddle of water. It is thought that he had been boating on the Schuylkill Canal. The body was interred in the Alms House burying ground.

The Pottsville Debating Club was again well attended on Monday evening last. Mr. H. D. Torrey's humorous poem on "oil" was well received and much admired.

The discussion of the question "Is man the artificer of his own fortune?" was concluded.—Messrs. Muntz, Burlingame, Ber. Reilly and Torrey sustaining the affirmative and Messrs. Langdon and Miller the negative. The judges decided in the affirmative.

On next Monday evening, Capt. Edward L. Hartz will deliver an introductory lecture, preparatory to a course of lectures explanatory of some of the most important campaigns of the late Rebellion.

The question "Is there more to admire than condemn in the character of the English people?" has been selected for discussion.

In Mahanoy City on the 4th inst., Walburga, wife of Ferdinand Gaubert, while sitting in a chair after a supper, died suddenly after a fit of coughing. She was a woman who had always enjoyed excellent health, and we presume she ruptured a blood vessel while coughing.

Change of Passenger Time on the Reading Railroad.—By reference to an advertisement in another column it will be seen that the time of starting passenger trains on the main and branch roads of the Reading Railroad, in this County, has been changed, to take effect on and after Monday next. The Philadelphia trains will leave Pottsville at 6.45 and 8.30, A. M., and 2.45, P. M. On Sunday leave Pottsville at 8.00, A. M. The Schuylkill Valley train for Tamaqua leaves Pottsville at 6.45 and 11.00, A. M., and 7.15, P. M. On Sunday leave Pottsville at 2.00, P. M. For the rest of the changes we refer the reader to the advertisement of the Company.

*In Tamaqua on "hallow-eve" night, a man named John Gillespie, was shot, and died last week from the effects of the wound. The *Journal* says:

A post-mortem examination of the body was made by Drs. Schirner, Boyle and Hunter; and death was found to have been caused by a *minie* rifle ball, which had entered the left breast, perforated a rib, passed through the left lung, broken the shoulder-blade, and lodged in the back, below the left shoulder. A number of boys have been arrested and held to bail, charged with having been concerned in the shooting; but the one who is supposed to have committed the deed fled the day following, and has not since been heard of.

Murderous Assault in Pottsville.—On Monday night last four desperate young Irish rowdies from Mount Carbon, who belong to the fraternity known in Philadelphia as "Killers," attacked a son of Mr. Alexander S. Kline, near the corner of Centre and Market streets, this Borough, and stabbed him in the neck. The young man bled profusely, and sought surgical assistance from Dr. Halberstadt. If the blade of the assassin's knife had penetrated a little deeper important blood vessels would have been severed with probably a fatal result. The assailants made their escape, but we trust that they may be arrested and punished. This is another evidence of the lawlessness which characterizes this wretchedly ruled County.

Gross Outrage.—On Monday afternoon last when a passenger train on the Mine Hill Railroad from Ashland to Westwood, stopped at the Glen Carbon station in Cass Township, a young Irishman entered the cars, and not having a ticket, as the rules require, he was put off of the train by the conductor. The man when he reached the ground drew a pistol and fired at the train, evidently intending to shoot the conductor. The bullet belaced the car by the side of the conductor. Hon. Charles Frailey of this Borough, was sitting, and was buried deep in the wood, but fortunately did not pass through. Had it done so it might very probably, have killed Mr. Frailey. The ruffian then pursued his way into the adjoining woods, but managed to effect his escape. Under Copperhead rule in Schuylkill County there is no safety from murderous assaults in any section of it. We seem to be at the mercy of a set of law defying scoundrels, whose acts are characterized by the Copperhead organ here as the innocent ebullitions of men who are only "fighting their way through life." It is not surprising that crime is rampant in a section where a paper can be found to defend it and its perpetrators.

Fine Improvement in Mahanoy City.—Among the many improvements that mark the progress of Mahanoy City, none are more creditable to the enterprise of the projector, than the Grant Iron Works, Thomas Wren, late of the firm of Wren & Brother, Pottsville, proprietor.

The machine shop and foundry are 134 feet in length by 55 feet in width. The pattern shop is 54 feet long by 54 feet in width. All are of stone with slate roofs. The smith shop is 60 feet long by 30 feet wide with slate roof. The smith fires are driven by Alden's patent fan. The cupola in the foundry is a feet diameter and is driven by one of Dampfe's patent fans, which discharges. The cupola and fan are of sufficient size to make castings from 6 to 8 tons in weight, with great ease. The crain in the foundry is of sufficient size and strength, with heavy gear wheels, to lift 15 tons. The machinery is driven by a 20 horse power engine. The main shafting in the machine shop is supported by cast iron columns, and the said shafting is of wrought iron, 3 inches diameter, which drives the lathes, drills, machine, drill press, and screw cutter, with belts from same shafting to drive pattern makers' lathes and saws in the pattern shop. The works are built on the main street in Mahanoy City, and adjoining a branch railroad has been built by the proprietor to accommodate the works, which connects with the Reading and Lehigh Valley Railroad, so that machinery can be shipped to all points, and material be brought by railroad to the works from any part of the State. The works are now prepared to build all sizes of engines, pumps, coal breakers with the different operations required for the coal region requires. Also rolling mills, hot and cold blast furnaces and machinery of all kinds. Mr. Thomas Wren is well known in this County as a practical mechanic, has resided for many years in the midst of our coal region. We have no doubt that his old friends will continue their patronage to him in his new enterprise in Mahanoy City.

Proceedings of the Borough Council.—A stated meeting of Council was held on Tuesday evening last. Present, Messrs. Strauch, Reed, Dressler, Heffner, Nagle, Dobson, Cochran and Focht, President.

Minutes of last stated meeting were read and adopted.

The Street Committee reported as follows, to wit:

197 feet of culvert over the Norwegian Creek above High Street has been completed at the following cost, according to the calculations of your committee:

Amount for masons and labor	$824 53
" " furnishing stone	664 07
" " lime	42 15
" " hauling lumber	9 00
	$1,539 75

The lamp and watch committee reported lamp at 10th and Norwegian streets, removed to 11th and Norwegian streets.

Statement of the Borough Treasurer was read and filed.

On motion of Mr. Heffner the clerk was instructed to notify widow McQuade to repair her McMullen house, situated building in 11th street, where standing upon the street, and also to notify property holders in Railroad street to remove their buildings where standing upon the street.

Petition of Benjamin Evert was read, and on motion of Mr. Heffner the street committee was instructed to pave property of John McBarron in Market street, to the width of at least four feet.

Petition of John C. Conrad and others was accepted and filed.

Mr. Heffner offered the following, which was on motion of Mr. Reed, laid over to next meeting, viz:

Resolved that the lamp and watch committee be instructed to place a lamp at 10th and Norwegian streets.

On motion of Mr. Reed it was resolved that the ordinance committee be and are hereby instructed to draw up an ordinance to prohibit persons riding or driving horses and other animals in turning corners of streets within the Borough of Pottsville at a faster gate than a walk under penalty.

The following committees were continued to wit:

Street committee on removing hog and goat pen; also on paving in Coal, Callowhill, High and Market streets.

Finance Committee on bill of Jacob Reed.

Special Committee on building culvert in Railroad street, below Union.

The following business in the hands of committees, was laid over:

Committees on markets on subject of forestalling, marketing, &c.

Committee on ordinance on subject of fining vagrants, &c.

Bills read and ordered to be paid, viz:

Street hands	$175 05
Culvert pipe	150 84
J. Madara for stone	405 92
Adam Shertle, 6 mo. salary	100 00
Danl Hill, Jr., sharpening picks	1 50
	833 31
Previous issue	10,109 91
Total	$10,943 22

On motion adjourned.

Visit of Distinguished Gentlemen to the Schuylkill Coal Region—A Serenade and Speeches.—On Tuesday last, Hon. John Sherman of Ohio, Chairman of the Committee of Finance, in the United States Senate; Hon. Alexander Ramsey, late Governor and now United States Senator from Minnesota; Hon. Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania, Messrs. David Wells and Stephen Colwell United States Revenue Commissioners; Morton McMichael, Esq., Manager of the Philadelphia "Press," R. H. Derby, Esq., of Massachusetts, and other distinguished gentlemen, reached the Mansion House, Mt. Carbon, visitors to our Coal and Iron Region, and guests of the Reading Railroad Company.

It having been arranged to serenade the visitors, at 8 o'clock in the evening a large number of our citizens proceeded to the Mansion House, with the Pottsville Cornet Band. After several beautiful airs had been played, the visitors appeared upon the piazza.

Mr. Sherman was introduced to the assemblage by Lin Bartholomew, Esq., and spoke as follows:

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—I am sure I express the feelings of every one of these gentlemen when I return their hearty thanks for this compliment. We came to take a hasty view of the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania, and we are especially indebted to the gentlemen by whose invitation we have been able to do so. We knew of their great value from dry statistics and from history, but a personal inspection has given us a higher conception of the untold wealth buried under your soil. Pennsylvania is particularly fortunate in possessing almost exclusively anthracite and petroleum. We do not envy you these treasures, for we know that we are joint owners with you; it is a part of our common country. A blessing once not come to any of us but it is shared by all. These coal fields have helped to build new ships and to run them. They enabled us to maintain a blockade unparalleled in extent. This coal has produced the munitions of war by which we have conducted and triumphantly carried out a great war. It is a power more potent than even the three hundred thousand brave soldiers of Pennsylvania; and now that the war is over we look to these coal fields to enable us to accomplish new victories of peace and industry.—They must yield the motive power to again extend our commerce in the world, to run our railroads, and to develop, enlarge and extend the vast manufactures of a great people.

We count largely on the coal, iron and oil of Pennsylvania to develop her resources. We want cotton and wool; we want, let me assure you, we do not come to find new sources of taxation, but rather to see how far you can be relieved from taxation. We are now collecting more from the people than is necessary for the changed condition of affairs. During the war the Government was compelled to resort to the utmost limit of taxation, but I am happy to say that the business of Congress will be, after rearing peace upon the basis of universal liberty, to relieve ourselves from taxation no longer necessary.

In making this reduction we naturally look to those articles the chief cost of which is low labor, the foundation of wealth, and should be as free from burdens as the air. The cheerfulness with which all classes and occupations have paid taxes during the war, and the duty of Congress to lessen and equalize the taxes now. I confidently anticipate that in a short time duties on imported goods, a moderate income tax, and taxes on luxuries will enable us to honorably perform all our obligations. This is no time for me to allude to political topics, but I trust you will agree with me that it is the time to cultivate kindly feeling among all shades of political opinions, and an intense nationality.

We have a President in whose patriotism we can confide. I hope he will yet gain the same good will that it is said Pennsylvania had for Andrew Jackson. I feel that it is his desire, as it is yours and mine, that our country may improve all the advantages which Providence has given us by the development of our internal resources, by the protection of our industry, and by the harmony and unity of our people. The time will come when all of the North, South, East and West will feel that the dangers of the late war were just as necessary to our national growth as the revolutionary war or the war of 1812, and we all feel that now the war is over that our policy is "peace and good will to all men."

After Mr. Sherman concluded, loud calls were made for Governor Ramsey, of Minnesota, who made the following speech:

MY FRIENDS—After an absence of twenty-one years from this section of the State, I gratefully accepted the invitation to visit your enterprising county, when as a candidate for Congress, in the years 1843 and 1844, I received the generous support of a large and respectable portion of your people. I beg to assure you that for that support in my advent into political life, I shall never cease to be grateful. In these years your population has largely increased, and now you rank among the most populous counties of the State.

Towns and villages have sprung up where then nought but the dense forest was to be seen; railroads have penetrated every portion of your county; mining and other enterprises have vastly increased until, in addition to being one of the most populous, you are one of the wealthiest counties of the State. But with all this vast growth, you are but entering upon a future that will eclipse the anticipations of the most sanguine.

Your staple, coal, is as essential to the growth of the country as is the glittering gold of the far West. Yes, more so. Every day the demand for this element of power will increase. You have the ability to furnish from your inexhaustible mines all that is wanted to your own great prosperity and that of the country at large. The duty of the General Government is to provide for the ordinary expenses and for the interest on the public debt, should so far discriminate in favor of our home manufactures as to collect much of her revenue from foreign importations. Such a policy, I am satisfied, will meet the hearty approval of every part of the country. With all your prosperity, there may be those among you who desire a change, and to such I would advise if they seek a fruitful soil and a healthful climate, to come to Minnesota, the most desirable of Western States.

Governor Ramsey was followed by General Simon Cameron in the following remarks:

I have come here, my Pennsylvania friends, after a long absence, to look at the improvements in your coal regions, and I have been delighted to see everywhere the evidence of great improvement in your physical well-being and augmentation of your wealth. I have passed over the Mine Hill road into the Mahanoy valley, which was a wilderness when I first saw it, and is now occupied by a population of over twenty thousand people, who produce millions of dollars of wealth every year, and who have a young city four ded only six years ago, and which now contains a population of over six thousand people.

From Mine Hill I passed through a tunnel more than twelve hundred feet in length and coming down the Little Schuylkill, returned to Mount Carbon, having made a circuit in one day of a county that contains more mineral wealth than any other of equal area on this globe. From this mine of mineral wealth the world has drawn the last year more than four millions of tons of coal. The county of Schuylkill now contains a population of more than two hundred thousand people, who first came here a little more than a dozen years ago. It cannot but contain more than three thousand people. Its exports certainly did not amount to one thousand dollars a year, but its growth can be traced to one cause, and that is the Little Schuylkill county sent to market last year amounted to more than twenty millions of dollars. At the beginning of the Rebellion which has been so successfully put down, the Government was threatened by Southern Rebels, who fancied Capital of our country were raised in Pottsville.

During the whole of the war it was the coal of Schuylkill county and the Schuylkill valley that enabled the Government of the United States to crush the Rebels; who, with such formidable power, prepared a war of conquest over the Democracy of free labor and freemen. While you have some men in this county who, during the war proved themselves unworthy of the name of American citizens, there has been no interest in the country more zealous to sustain the Government than the producers of Pennsylvania coal.

There is no part of the world in which the poor man has a fairer chance to rise from poverty to wealth, than here. I know no portion of country in which so many men have become proprietors of great properties, rising from the ranks of laborers. They owed, and will hereafter owe their rank and their success to the free government which we live. Some but a short time ago, it would have been worthy to support such a Government would fail to sustain and foster it.

In this great country of ours nature has been prodigal of her gifts; she has filled our mountains with mineral wealth, and has covered her valleys with richest soil. All we Americans need here to make us all over our country happy and prosperous, is a government which will secure to us the protection of the labor of our working men. We have only to guard the day's work and month's work of our laboring men, and see that they have the highest protection of education. To prefer the associate method, that is—1st, pronounce at sight; 2d, analyze into letters; 3d, give their primary sounds. A slate and pencil are necessary articles in teaching spelling. After some discussion on the subject, the floor was yielded to Mr. Hannah who discussed the subject of Elementary Reading. He called attention to the questions of pupils in class, and suggested the idea of securing a healthy position while engaged in reciting. He dwelt at length on the cultivation of the voice; thought much attention should be paid to drills on the elementary sounds.

The County Superintendant then announced an entire new feature in the Institute of this County. He said that it was another experiment which he hoped would succeed, that, as a preparatory step he would pronounce a certain number of words for the members to spell each day. Mr. Rauh then pronounced one hundred words (which appeared in Normal Speller, which were spelled by the members of the Institute, after which, adjourned to meet at 7½ o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Committee being disappointed in procuring a lecturer for this evening, the time was occupied in the discussion of the following topics: Should corporal punishment be inflicted in the public schools? How can the co-operation of parents be secured? After the discussion, which was quite interesting, the President announced that the Rev. Dr. Plumer would lecture before the Institute the next evening. Adjourned.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION.

Institute called to order by the President. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Patterson. Minutes of previous day read and adopted. Mr. Newlin then instructed the Institute in the methods of conducting exercise in Elementary Arithmetic. He thought enough attention was not given to this subject in public schools. He illustrated with blackboard exercises, which were instructive and interesting particularly to the younger members. He thought it would be a great advantage to our schools if Boards of Directors would introduce one of the several valuable elementary works on this subject in lieu of the larger books now in use, both as an item of economy to parents and real good to the pupil. Mr. Lippincott of New York, then asked to be allowed to give the Institute fifty words to spell, and offered as an inducement, a set of Sanders' New Union Readers or a set of Robinson's Mathematical Works, to the one missing the fewest words, which was granted him.

Mr. Van Pelt then followed with the subject of Mental Arithmetic. He called a class out, and gave a practical illustration of the manner of conducting the subject.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Institute convened at the proper time. Mr. Danenhower proceeded with the next business, which was a discussion of the Primary Reading Lesson. He prefaced his remarks with a few remarks, and gave some suggestions in regard to position, and manner of conducting classes in this branch of instruction.

Mr. King then pronounced fifty words to be spelled by the Institute as previously arranged. The majority of the members engaged in the contest for the prize, which was awarded to Miss Louisa Allison of Schuylkill, she missing only two words out of the fifty. After this Mr. Newlin pronounced one hundred words to be spelled. Mr. Crothers then moved that the Institute adjourn on Friday morning at 11 o'clock, to afford the teachers an opportunity of visiting the Female Grammar School Building of Pottsville, so kindly opened to them by the Directors and Superintendent of the Borough. The time of adjournment was fixed at 4½ instead of 5 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

America was sung by the ladies and gentlemen, after which the session was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. McCullough. Dr. Plumer was then introduced and delivered an able, eloquent and interesting address on General Education. He was attentively listened to and heartily applauded. The Doctor is an earnest advocate of female education, which shows that he is up with the times. After the lecture, the discussion of the topics of the last evening was resumed and continued about some length.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

Institute convened at 9 A. M. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Patterson. Mr. Passmore who was appointed to conduct an exercise in Geography yielded to Mr. Apgar of Philadelphia, who took up the subject and handled it in a very interesting manner. He thought many drawing to be the best means of fixing facts in the mind, and gave some valuable hints in this particular art. Mr. Rauh then resumed his Spelling Class, subject of Orthography. He gave his method of presenting the subject to advanced classes. Mr. Rauh has made this subject a specialty, and is undoubtedly an able advocate of it. Discussion was deferred for want of time. The Institute adjourned at 11½ A. M., to visit the new school building on Centre St., Pottsville. This is the finest school edifice in the State, and speaks volumes of praise for the enterprise of Pottsville. It is furnished with the latest and most approved styles of school furniture.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Institute called to order by the President. Minutes of previous day read and adopted. An exercise in penmanship by Prof. Manson, of Boston, was first in order. Mr. Manson is a beautiful penman and gave some valuable suggestions on the subject.

Mr. Sherman, assisted by Mr. Flint of New York conducted a grammar exercise. Mr. Sherman's remarks were good. He illustrated his logical analysis of the English sentence. After a short recess, the spelling was resumed. Mr. Rauh pronounced one hundred words which were spelled. Some miscellaneous business was transacted, and the Institute adjourned to meet at the Court House, at 7½ P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Exercises opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Patterson. Prof. J. P. Wickersham of the Pennsylvania State Normal School at Millersville, was then introduced, and delivered an elaborate discourse on the project of "American education for the American people." He started out by saying that the principles and issues of our government, are attracting the public attention more at present than ever before. Our government differs from all others. It has nobler and higher ends to attain than has yet been reached by any people. Questions of vital importance, not only to our own people, but to the world, are to be settled and that by the American people; and they can be reached in no other way than by getting, at the principles that underlie our federal government. When these questions are settled it will be found that ours has no parallel in the history of governments. Education and its relations to government, in common with other questions, is presenting itself to the public mind. If we are a peculiar people, and we surely are, then must we have a different system of education from other people. We must have an "American education for American people." What are its characteristics? 1st, It must be popular. It must come up from the people! As our government is a growth so must our education be. The people must make, plan and conduct it. 2d, It must be universal. We must extend it to all classes, conditions and colors. 3d, It must be free, free as the air we breathe. It is every body's birth-right. Every child is born with a mind, and that mind should have opportunity for growth just as the body has. 4th, It must be comprehensive, affording to all an opportunity for development. It should be a grand leveling up process. Everybody should be benefited by it. The speaker was applauded by the audience several times during his discourse.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The Institute held a business session this morning. The Committee on Resolutions, reported the following:

1st RESOLVED, That the teachers here assembled, feeling it a duty to labor earnestly in any cause that is calculated to advance their own improvement and the general improvement of mankind, heartily endorse the Teachers' County Institute.

2d RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of this Institute be requested in their selection of the time and place of convening next year, to give preference to that borough which offers the best and fullest accommodation to the members in attendance, and in which it is likely the greatest interest can be awakened on the part of