PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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PITTSBURGH.

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 25, 1851.

EXTENSION OF THE MONONGAHELA SLACKWATER IMPROVEMENT.—It is doubtless in the recollection of most of our readers, that the Legislature of Virginia has passed a law granting a charter to a Company to build a Slack Water Navigation on the Monongahela river, from Fairmont, where the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad crosses that stream, to the Pennsylvania State line: and that by this act the State has agreed to take three-fifths of the amount of stock necessary to complete the work, as soon as the other two-fifths are raised by private subscriptions. The sum necessary to complete the work is about $200,000—leaving $80,000 to be raised to secure the aid of the State in the work. We have now a fine slack water improvement to Brownsville; and we believe the company owning the improvement are willing to complete it to the State line, so that all that is necessary to secure a steamboat navigation to Fairmont, open at all seasons of the year, is to raise a sum sufficient to secure the charter and the three-fifths from the State of Virginia. There is some danger, however, that the extremely favorable charter from Virginia will be lost unless it is secured by the requisite private subscriptions immediately, as the Convention to Reform the State Constitution, which is now in session, will probably incorporate into the new Constitution a clause preventing the State hereafter from subscribing to the stock of any Company. If the charter is not secured before the new Constitution is adopted, it will fall to the ground, and the conditional three-fifth subscription will be lost.

In order to lay the whole matter properly before the people of Pittsburgh, who are deeply interested in this improvement, a special meeting of the Board of Trade, we understand, will be held this evening, at which time A. J. O'BANNON, Esq., will be present to place the whole matter in a proper light before our citizens. We trust he will have a large audience, and a favorable hearing.

It is unnecessary for us to add any thing in relation to the importance of this work to Pittsburgh. Those who know any thing of its geographical relations to this city, are aware that it will open up to us a very extensive and productive country, and greatly increase our trade and commerce with Western Virginia.

CRIME AND ITS PUNISHMENT.

The admirable success which attended the efforts of the police of Allegheny city in breaking up a gang of counterfeiters and putting them in a way of meeting their just deserts, and also in apprehending depredators upon the property of their neighbors is a matter of sincere gratulation.

The commission of criminal offences of almost every kind, has for some time been alarmingly frequent. Now, however, we may hope for a better state of things. The present is a time which calls for a severe administration of justice, not in the spirit of vindictiveness, but that the terror of the law may restrain the vicious, whether in depredations upon the property of the citizens, or in disturbances of the peace.

It is not for us to dictate to those who have been chosen to administer justice; but we may be permitted to express our approbation of the evidently stern determination of the proper authorities to punish crime severely; and we may, we think, further express the hope that the pardoning power will be used with great discretion.

The signing of petitions for pardon is often rather an act of easy, unreflecting good nature, than the result of a clear conviction of right and duty. So far as it is what we have intimated, it is wrong. It inspires hope where there ought to be none, and it places the executive of the State in a painful dilemma. Here are men whom he knows and respects, asking for what he knows he ought not to grant. In *general* terms, we ask him to be firm, and permit the penalty of the law to be fully dealt out; but in *particular* terms, we ask the opposite. It is inconsistent, and ought not to be. Let us be firm in matters of this kind, and we will have little cause to find fault with the Governor.

CONNECTICUT BLUE LAWS.

Dr. Riddle in his sermon before the New England Society, took occasion to stigmatize what are usually known as the "Blue Laws of Connecticut," as a caricature. But within a few days the *locum tenens* of the Commercial Journal has undertaken to defend the veracity of the historian through whom we have been enlightened on that subject.

We had supposed that even here, the distinction between the actual legislation of Connecticut, and the famous code alluded to in Dr. Riddle's sermon, would be universally recognized. But it seems that we have supposed too much, and there is, at least, *one man* so ignorant, as to confound these things, and so reckless as to expose his ignorance by publication, and try to bolster it by authority.

"The Blue Laws of Connecticut," technically and familiarly so called, are a suppositious code, in which the rigidity and severity of puritanic legislation, of which De Tocqueville gives a specimen, are caricatured. very much in the mode that Washington Irving, takes off the Dutch in his "History of Knickerbocker." They were written about the period of the Revolution, and by a person who espoused the Tory side of politics, in that day. The caricature has not the good humor of Knickerbocker, but evinces the malignity of personal feeling and wounded pride.

We presume in New England man who was asked to give his authority for such a statement as Dr. R.'s sermon contains, about "the Blue Laws," would feel very much as a New Yorker, to whom "the History of Knickerbocker" was quoted, as veritable fact. One of these Yankees speaks thus on the point. "How many people in these United States confidently believe that the famous code, entitled, 'the blue laws of Connecticut,' once had a place among the statutes of this Colony? Yet our fathers knew nothing about them. *They are a sheer fabrication*, for which the world is indebted to 'Peter's history of Connecticut,' the work of an Episcopal clergyman of this colony," (the author is a Connecticut man,) "who, in the beginning of the revolution, sided with the enemies of his country, and fled from the indignation of his neighbors to England, where he employed his time in writing a history, so full of gross falsehoods, that the greatest charity can imagine nothing better in its defence, than to suppose it was not intended to be believed."—Hall's "Puritans and their principles," introduction, page 17. Also, "Kingsley's Historical Discourse at the 200th Anniversary of settlement of New Haven."

If this "well read" local editor will persevere in confounding the early veritable legislation of Connecticut, with "Blue Laws," he need not quote "*De Tocqueville*," for he will find the code itself, from which these extracts are taken, in Barber's "Historical collections," in the Young Men's Library; "Historical collections of Connecticut," page 90.

BISHOP HUGHES, THE POPE, AND THE PITTSBURGH CATHOLIC.—Bishop Hughes, on his route to Rome, preached in London. His discourse, which has been published, contains the following passage:

"In America, as here, the Catholic Church is looked upon with suspicion and dread. There is, perhaps, as much prejudice there as here, but yet the idea of meeting this antagonistic Church with any other arms than fair open argument never enters into any one's mind. All is there free. And if it should be suggested by any one, that any measure should be taken by Congress to stop the progress of our religion, there is not a man *of any religion* that would not stand up and say, "let the Catholic religion prevail through the land, if it cannot be arrested by fair argument—if it cannot be stopped without having recourse to the force of law."

This testimony is creditable to both the Bishop and his country; and nothing can be more true. But what a vast contrast is presented between the United States and Rome, where one little chapel for the accommodation of American residents and strangers will not be tolerated.

But again, compare what Bishop Hughes says with the following paragraph from the Pittsburgh Catholic of last week. It is an extract from the article which we published in part several days since.

"For our own part, we never alluded, in any way, to the opening of the Protestant Chapel; but we take this opportunity of expressing *our hearty delight at its suppression*. This may be thought intolerant, but when, we would ask, did we ever profess to be tolerant to error, or to advocate the doctrine that error ought to be tolerated. On the contrary, we hate error, we detest it with our whole heart and soul, and we pray that our aversion to it may ever increase. We hold it meet, that within the walls of the Eternal City, no worship abominable to God should be publicly adopted; *and we are sincerely glad that the enemies of Truth are no longer allowed to meet together, openly as such, in the Capital of the Christian World.*"

We invite attention to an article in another column, from the Indiana State Sentinel, as showing the great importance of pushing forward our great rail road to the West with all practicable speed; and also as showing the spirit of enterprise which now animates that new and thriving commonwealth.

SCARCITY OF CHANGE.—It seems we were all at fault about the cause of the scarcity of silver coins. The source of this difficulty has been discovered at last: and the honor of the discovery belongs to Mr. Jackson, of Philadelphia county, a locofoco, and a member of the House of Representatives. In his preamble and resolution (given in the letter of our Harrisburgh correspondent) the great discovery is set forth.

Well may we exclaim, "Poor Pennsylvania!" when such blockheads as this are sent to make her laws and manage her affairs.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL PROBLEM.—It has been observed that persons who have lost a limb, or part of one, are at times very much troubled with an intolerable *itching* in some unreachable part of the fingers or toes of the extremity which is lost. A case of this kind lately presented itself to us for advice, which, being a little out of the common course, we have thought proper to give our readers. A young man had his hand amputated just above the wrist, on account of having shattered by the bursting of a gun. This happened some two years since, and the deficiency is supplied by a wooden hand.

At times he tells us that he has the most intolerable itching between these wooden fingers; in fact, insupportable, and, to use his own words, he would give a hundred dollars for the chance of giving them a scratching. At other times he has much pain where the fingers should be, and he can only obtain relief by altering their position. When free from the pain or itching, he can discover no difference between that hand and the sound one. He can will the fingers of the lost hand to act, and they seem to obey. At times the ends of the fingers are quite numb and cold; being partly flexed, he feels that he has not the power to extend them. There are other phenomena connected with this case, which, with those we have given, would be very difficult to account for on physiological principles.—*Boston Medical Journal.*

One day we were sitting in company with a friend who, a *few months* before, had the misfortune to lose his leg. It had been amputated within a few inches of the hip joint. Observing from the muscles of his face that he was suffering pain, we inquired about it. He said he was subject frequently to sudden and very acute sensations of pain *in the toes of the foot which had been amputated.* We talked over the matter at the time, and arrived at the conclusion that the remainder of the nerve which had formerly conveyed sensation from the toes to the brain, being still living and active, was suffering some violence or pressure, or perhaps had formed a sympathetic relation with the new flesh which covered the stump, and thus conveyed a sensation of pain to the brain, precisely like that which it was originally intended to convey.—*P. Gazette.*

THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE.

The following paragraphs, from a leading article in the North American, will be read with interest. We like their bold, generous tone; but we most emphatically dissent from the proposition of any physical intervention in the affairs of Europe. It might be right, but it would not be prudent. We are a great people—the expression is no longer ironical—but powerful as Brother Jonathan may be, let him not put his foot into that vortex. Young, and strong, and vigorous as he may be, were he to become entangled in that quarrel, he would be dragged down.

A firm and decided expression of our principles, such as Mr. Webster gave to the Austrian Minister, and the late treaty with Switzerland, are all very good; but beyond this, and similar acts, it would be unwise to go. We may, however, be dragged into the struggle in spite of all precautions; but that would be a very different matter from seeking to embroil ourselves.

At the time of the old French Revolution, many ardent but indiscreet patriots were anxious to make common cause with the French; and nothing but the firmness of Washington saved the country. We have seen long since that it would have been a ruinous step. Let us embroil ourselves now, and before we know where we are, we may find ourselves the allies of another Napoleon.

American democracy and European democracy are very different things. Here it is a well established principle, rendering a calm obedience to law; there it is the wild phrensy of a captive who has just broke loose from his keepers. What use he will make of his liberty is yet to be seen. He does not know himself. Should the despotic governments of Europe be overthrown, the people will find themselves in a *transition*, not an *established* state; and all the democracy there yet is of that kind. No doubt, in time they will settle down under free institutions similar to ours; but France has not done so yet, and she is not likely to do so for a long time to come.

"Nothing is more certain than that the people of this country are bound to stand by, and will stand by the cause of popular liberty, against all its foes, whenever and wherever they have the power to do so. That cause is theirs cause; and however they may adhere to their established policy of avoiding entangling alliances, and refusing to meddle with the intestine affairs of foreign nations, the law of self-interest and self-defence will require, as it will justify, their interposition in all cases affecting the security of the principle on which their institutions rest, and threatening their rights of trade and commerce. They cannot permit themselves to be excluded from the theatre of Europe, however unwelcome their presence may be to the adherents of legitimacy and the claims of royal rulers. They have already asserted the right in the case of Hungary; and they have laughed, as it became them to laugh, at the idle remonstrances of Austria. They will sympathize with every people there who struggle to shake off the yoke of servitude; and they will recognize every newly liberated government which has the ability to maintain itself in independence against its former masters.

In the case of the Helvetic Republic, they have a direct and peculiar interest in seeing it uphold its nationality and freedom; and they have the same right to league with it, if necessary, for its defence, as the Kings have to unite for their mutual protection against foreign aggressors. It would be monstrous to suppose they could behold with indifference a combination of potentates to destroy that ancient republic, because it is a republic, and because the latter are resolved that republican feeling shall no longer exist where they have the power to put it down. Such a combination would be nothing short of a coalition, virtually, against the United States; and we betide our royal friends when they shall embark upon such a desperate adventure. The great Republic of the West, however, has reached that point—and there is not a statesman in Europe who does not now understand it—at which it is incapable of being endangered, while it is capable of being dangerous. Power is always respected. Austria may remonstrate, and other States may little relish our interference; but the time has come when the voice of the American government can make itself heard, in Europe, even when speaking of European affairs.

We make these remarks in the strong persuasion that the danger of Switzerland has passed away,—however menacing may seem to be the condition of things around it,—and that it owes its safety to the spirited act and wise precaution of General Taylor's government in sending a diplomatic agent thither to negotiate a treaty of alliance and commerce with the countrymen of Tell and the descendants of the heroes of Granson and Morat. This was, as we say, the first recognition by the United States of their elder sister of the Alps; and it was a very meaning and important act, and was so understood not only by the Swiss authorities, but by the surrounding governments. No measure could have been better timed, or fraught with happier consequences to the interests of Switzerland. It placed the American republic by her side, and between her and those who would make her their prey. It placed the former there in anticipation of the day of evil designs, of which the execution is not now likely to be attempted upon light ground. From that moment the idea of a combination among the great powers against the Helvetic republic has invoked the peril of a complication with the United States, which it is neither the policy nor the interest of those powers to provoke. By that act of wise diplomacy, in fact, Switzerland has been protected from a certain danger, and the United States placed in their proper position among the civilized powers on the stage of Europe.

FROM THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Discoveries in South Africa—Progress of British Civilization.

The bark Ocean Wave, Captain Cutler, arrived at this port, this morning, from Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, December 1. The missionary ship Washington Albion, from Boston, for India, sailed from Cape-Town on the 12th of November. The news from the interior shows that there is considerable turbulence prevailing among the different native sovereignties or tribes, and that this fact was causing injury to the settlement in different ways. One of the frontier papers states that about two hundred lives were lost last year, by the collision of different savage tribes, and that similar results will follow in successive years, if the impetuosity of the bararous people be not stopped. This, we suppose, is intended as a hint for the annexation to British sway of the disturbed districts.

The Cape Town *Mail* gives an account of the proceedings at a session of "Boer's Road," or Assembly. One of the members proceeded to argue against resistance to the English and Queen Victoria as impossible. He was interrupted by cries from the other members of "he's mad, turn him out," and the unfortunate member was forthwith turned out neck and heels.

Discoveries are daily making in regions beyond what was denominated the frontier. Among others, travellers have arrived from the Zulu country. In some places it was fertile and beautiful, with vegetation luxuriant; in others the land was barren, with not a tree to be seen for miles. The chief food of the inhabitants is milk, rice, and sweet potatoes.

In one place, a party of travelers came to the kraal of one of the principal Zulu chiefs, called the Amatees Eu-zuma. Here they were hospitably entertained for four days. Cozam, the chief, rejoiced in the possession of twenty wives, all of whom were daily dismissed to the labors of the field, except one favorite dark beauty, who seemed exempt from this unfeminine occupation. A cup bearer, too figured at the festive board, reminding the travelers of Pharoah and the kings of ancient times—a tall, stalwart native, whose head was bound with a large shawl, in Oriental style.

The natives use black earthenware cups. These cups were so beautifully glazed, and of such curious workmanship, that the travelers were surprised to find that they were manufactured by the natives.

The kraal or hut of the chief was surrounded for miles with those of his relatives.

About one hundred of these vassals were summoned upon one occasion and despatched to hunt buffaloes.

Large crops of mealies, sweet potatoes and Caffircorn were seen, as well as immense quantities of sugar cane.

An expedition of about forty volunteers, headed by the English Crown Prosecutor, had, under pretence of stopping the incursions of the "Bushmen," invaded the territory of an old Chief, the ally of the English, seized eight hundred of his cattle, and several of the Bushmen boys as captives, and required him to cede all his unoccupied territory to the British, all because he had not prevented the incursions of the Bushmen. The sale of the old chief, discontented at the proceedings, had fled in terror over the frontier.

Discoveries of considerable magnitude have, according to the Cape Town *Mail*, been shed over the geography of the interior of Africa. The substance of it is, that the great lake before reported discovered in South Africa, although receiving the waters of several rivers, has no outlet to the ocean. About seven day's journey to the north of this lake a ridge of very high mountains crosses the continent, and beyond it a new "river system" commences, the streams all flowing to the north, and ultimately to the ocean.

It is one of these streams, say the accounts, that Maralaskatre and his tribe have made a temporary resting place. This chief, some twenty five years ago, was in subjection to a Zulu tyrant, named Chaka, residing near the eastern coast, south of the latitude of 28° Escaping from the domination of his merciless master, he fled with a large body of adherents over the mountains to the northwest, spreading devastation around him as he passed.

He was driven still further northward by the Boers, who, in their turn, were pushed forward by the advancing civilization of the English. Thus, Maralaskatre, with his ferocious legions, have been retiring continually towards the equator, leaving behind them a deserted country, swept of inhabitants, by his destructive march. He has now intervened at least a thousand miles from the point at which his wanderings commenced, at least a quarter of a century ago.

Still his indefatigable pursuers dog the steps of the retreating Zulu, and have already begun to rout him from his latest lair in the centre of the continent. The Cape Town *Mail* hazards the conjecture that, before another quarter of a century shall have elapsed, the whole interior of South Africa, to the equator, will be occupied by civilized communities of the European race, and probably under the dominion of Great Britain. Among the discoveries in the new land of promise are ivory in considerable quantities, and many other articles of commercial value.

The Anglican, Independent, and Baptist clergy have published a declaration protesting against the proposed assumed by the State on the government of the churches. The Episcopal clergy, while repudiating the control of the secular government, make no objection to receiving their salaries from that government. The Baptist and Independent ministers reject alike the control and wages of the State.—*Boston Traveller, 16th.*

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

"THE HOUSAHAS: a tale founded on facts. By D. H. Barlow, A. M. Philadelphia: published by Grey & Buck." This is a pleasantly written tale, designed especially to show the propriety and utility of Life Insurance.

"JOSEPHINE: or the Elfet and the Escape.—By Grace Aguilar," author of various tales well known to the public. For sale by H. Miner & Co.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette

THE COAL TRADE OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA, AND NEW MODE OF TRANSPORTATION.

MR. WHITE.—The coal trade of Eastern Pennsylvania is undoubtedly very large, and we have very full statistics as to its amount and value. The trade in Bituminous Coal in West Pennsylvania is also very large and is continually increasing, but it is a matter of regret that we have no statistics of its amount, value, or its annual increase.

Last year for the first time the shipment of this coal eastward by the canal became important in amount, and there is a very strong probability that it will annually increase. Already, I observe, in your paper an advertisement from the theatre of Europe, however unwelcome their presence may be to the adherents of legitimacy and the claims of royal rulers. They have already asserted the right in the case of Hungary; and they have laughed, as it became them to laugh, at the idle remonstrances of Austria.—They will sympathize with every people there who struggle to shake off the yoke of servitude; and they will recognize every newly liberated government which has the ability to maintain itself in independence against its former masters.

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From the National Intelligencer.

In consequence of the misrepresentations which have been circulated in reference to the following paper, which is now being signed by Members of Congress, we have been permitted to publish it for the information of all who desire to know the truth about it:

"The undersigned, members of the thirty first Congress of the United States, believing that a renewal of sectional controversy upon the subject of slavery would be both dangerous to the Union and destructive of its objects, and seeing no mode by which such controversy can be avoided except by a strict adherence to the settlement thereof effected by the Compromise Acts passed at the last session of Congress, DO HEREBY DECLARE their intention to maintain the said settlement inviolate, and to resist all attempts to repeal or alter the acts aforesaid, unless by the general consent of the friends of the measures, and to remedy such evils, if any, as time and experience may develop. And, for the purpose of making this resolution effective, they FURTHER DECLARE that they will not support for the office of President or of Vice President, or of Senator, or of Representative in Congress, or as member of a State Legislature, any man, of whatever party, who is not known to be opposed to the settlement aforesaid, and to the renewal, in any form, of agitation upon the subject of slavery."

WORK FOR THE SEASON.

Winter Ploughing.—There are many periods of the winter, when, from the mildness of the weather, ploughing may be done. All such period should be availed of to break up any very still, intractable clays, that may be intended to be put in spring crops. By exposure to frosts, when broken up, such lands become greatly improved, and lose much of their tenacity of character, are more easily worked, less expensive to till, besides being rendered better adapted to the production of crops. But this melioration in texture, can only be expected where the soil is not ploughed wet nor too dry, when ploughed. If too wet, the furrows turn up like so many masses of mortar, requiring an entire season's working to disengage them; if too dry, the ground breaks up in indurated lumps, almost unsusceptible of reduction to any thing like proper tilth. The proper time for breaking up such lands in winter, is when it is tolerably moist, when the quantity of water is just enough to impart a pleasant degree of cohesiveness to the soil, to enable the ploughman to turn his furrow slices without difficulty.

Lands ploughed at this season, should be lapped, at an angle of almost forty five degrees, so as to expose the greatest surface of the upturned earth to the action of frost, and to form conduits between the furrows for the free and uninterrupted passage of the water; they should also be ploughed deep

Surface drains.—Careful hands should be made to drain fields in winter grain, examine the surface drains, and remove all obstructions to the passage of water—this should be often repeated, so as to prevent any accumulation of water upon the young plants, which, always exert the most unfriendly influence, being frequently the cause of what is termed winter killing; ground surcharged with water, being more liable to be operated upon by the contracting and expansive powers of cold and heat, than when such is not the case

Working animals.—These of every kind should be treated with care and attention. Warm stables properly ventilated; good fare, regularly dispensed to them; well litered stables, currying and rubbing down night and morning, and water three times a day, are great promoters of health and at no season of the year is such treatment and care more needed than at this, when the poor animals have to perform their daily labors under every degree of inclement weather

A mixture of equal portions of ash, lime, and slaked lime, should be given 5 oz each time, to each beast

Fencing. if not already gotten out, should be forthwith felled and hauled to the barn, to be worked up in bad weather, into posts and rails, by the hands

Fire wood—If a supply for the year has not already been secured, push forward, and do so in order that it may be hauled into the yard before the roads become cut up, as to operate to our injury on the teams.

Gates.—We repeat our advice of last month have every pair of bars on farm instituted by a good gate the latter looks best, is best, saves time, and is the cheapest

Milch cows should have warm stalls, and plenty of litter, be generously clothed, and receive at least twenty one pounds of good hay or fodder per day, be watered before each meal, and receive the salt mixture thrice a week.

In calf cows and heifers should receive full allowance of good hay, be watered and otherwise treated like milch cows, with the exception of the slops, which should not be given to them until a few days before calving

Breeding Mares—Treat these as we advised last month.

From the Working Farmer.

HIGH FARMING.

The English journals are filled with experiments of high farming, and all agree that fair remunerative profits can only be realized by such practice, while it is generally admitted that farming alone, will render less ample protection unnecessary. If this be true of England it will not work in the United States. We have not been provided with quantities of manure with thorough cultivation, better results can be realized even with the first rotation of crops, than by the ordinary slipshod system of farming.

On the farmers not see from past experience what must be the result of longer continuing the exhausting process? Do they not know that one half of the farms of our country are worn down so that the average crop of Ohio is two thirds per acre, when it was 30 years ago, and that the average wheat crop of New York is no more than fifteen bushels per acre. We have quoted from Dr. John Cocke, of Princeton, has raised 52 bushels of wheat per acre, that Allen Middleton, of Greenwicks, N. J., and many others, have raised one hundred and twenty four bushels of wheat per acre, and indeed that all who pursue high farming properly are rendering their land more valuable for future crops

We are surprised at hearing those who have neither tried nor investigated the truths of high farming assert that it costs too much. Those who have tried it know better; the excess of profits are always many times greater than the excess of expense

A manuring upon what requires one hundred horse power to run a less machinery, might as well do it by nothing, man enough to perform the whole labor in addition to a steam engine, as for a farmer at this day to refuse the lights of science as applied to agriculture

We have visited many farms during the last three years, and advised modes of measuring culture, &c., based on the chemical constituents of the soil, and we venture to assert that to every case the improved mode of culture has more than paid our subscriptions for services. Not is it necessary that we should be employed, for every farmer who has an analysis made of his soil, and reads the Working Farmer attentively, is capable without the advice of any one, to farm with profit. We should be glad to publish the English articles on the subject, but at this time they are so much mixed up with the local politics of the day, which our readers have no interest, that we cannot use them.

We last year had a piece of ground in our own neighborhood, which was worn out and had refused to yield. We winter we made an analysis of the soil, and found it short of chlorine, phosphate of lime, potash, and ammoniacal matter. We manured this piece with a compost costing one dollar and thirty one cents per acre. The chlorine and soda were supplied by common salt, the phosphate of lime, potash and ammoniacal matter by Peruvian guano, and the solution of the compost was effected by the use of charcoal dust and plaster of Paris. We have now a crop of corn standing on this land which will yield certainly more than 50 bushels shelled corn per acre; and after measuring, we hope to be able to report a much larger crop, and think too without the proper preparation of the ground by subsoil plowing, &c., as on our own farm. We invite our readers to visit and see this field for themselves.

SABBATH EVENING.

BY G. D. PRENTICE.

"Tis holy time. The evening shade
Steals with a soft control
O'er nature, as a thought of heaven
Steals over the human soul;
And every ray from yonder blue,
And every drop of falling dew,
Seems to bring down to human woes
From Heaven a message of repose.

Oer you tall rock the solemn trees,
A shadowy groupe, incline
Like gentle nuns in sorrow bowed
Around their holy shrine;
And o'er them now the night winds blow
So calm and still, the music low
Seems the mysterious voice of prayer
Soft echoed on the evening air.

The mist, like incense from the earth,
Rise to a God behaved,
And o'er the waters moves in rest
The Holy Spirit moved:
The torrent's voice, the wave's low hymn
Seem the far notes of seraphim,
And all earth's thousand voices raise
Their song of worship, love, and praise.

The gentle sisterhood of flowers
Bend low their lovely eyes,
Or gaze through trembling tears of dew
Up to the holy skies;
And the pure stars come out above
Like sweet and blessed things of love,
Bright signals in the eternal dome
To guide the parted spirit home.

There is a spell of blessedness
In air, and earth and heaven,
And nature wears the blessed look
Of a young saint forgiven;
Oh, who, at such an hour of love,
Can gaze on all around, above,
And not kneel down upon the sod
With Nature's self to worship God!

FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

Destructive Fire in Market street—Several persons injured.—Last evening, about half past eight o'clock, a fire broke out in the large produce depot of Acheson, Rommell & Co., No. 378 Market street, above Tenth, which completely destroyed that extensive establishment, all the way through to Hunter street. There was said to be an immense quantity of flour and other produce in the place, and the loss must have been heavy. Not even the books were rescued.

The liquor store and dwelling of James Grier, adjoining, on the west, was in imminent danger, and sustained some damage. Mr. Grier died suddenly on the afternoon, previous, and the corpse had to be removed to a house on Hunter street, at the rear. The distress of the family, under the circumstances, may be imagined.

On the East, the depot was separated by an alley from a frame building, No. 385, occupied by E. Lye, Herb Doctor. A portion of the side and back wall of the depot fell across the alley, crushing in the house of Dr. Lye. Henry Lye, a son of the Doctor, who was assisting to remove his father's things, was caught under the ruins, and would have been killed, but for a bed that

Young Lye had to be literally cut and sawed out. The most conspicuous among the persons engaged in saving him were John Layer and S. Neff, of the Marshal's police, of Moyamensing, and Lt. Wm. Nutt, of the Marshal's police of the Northern Liberties. Officer John Layer dragged Lye from his perilous situation, and he was fortunately found to be unhurt. Officer Layer especially distinguished himself by his noble and praiseworthy conduct.

Mr. Wm. Hale, tailor, No. 378 Market street, who came voluntarily to assist in extinguishing the flames, was crushed by the rear wall. He was dreadfully hurt internally. The firemen and police carried him to the house of the Diligent Engine, corner of Tenth and Filbert streets, where he was attended by Dr. S. S. Brooks and other physicians. It was thought that he could not possibly survive.

Mr. Thomas Wardle, dentist, Tenth st., near Vine, who was on Mr. Lye's house, had one of his legs broken. He was conveyed to his residence by some of the Marshall's police from city and Spring Garden. Several firemen, we regret to say, were injured, yet none of them, we are glad to state, were seriously hurt.

When the walls of the depot fell, myriads of sparks were scattered over the house tops for squares. The roofs were luckily wet, or many of them must have taken fire. The surrounding properties were saved by the powerful exertions of the firemen, aided by the citizens and persons, who adopted the precaution of wetting their roofs.

Police Marshal Keyser, with a large body of his officers, was promptly on the ground, and rendered the most efficient service in the preservation and protection of property. The City Night Police, under Captains Weaver, Loudenslager, Kerfoll, and Fox, were also present in strong numbers, and worked vigorously and faithfully in removing, saving, and guarding property.

The fire first appeared to proceed from the second story of the depot, front. The whole building was very soon enveloped, and its contents involved in devastation.

A report prevailed on the ground that a member of the Good Will Engine was killed. After diligent inquiry, we were unable to ascertain whether such was the fact or not. The members of the company, at a late hour, had not learned positively whether such was true or false. The general impression was that the report was not correct.—*North Amer.*

LEGISLATURE OF KENTUCKY.—A bill has been introduced into the Legislature of Kentucky, to take the sense of the people of the State respecting subscriptions to the Louisville and Nashville railroad. It is the first proposition under the new Constitution for an appropriation by popular vote. A bill was passed by the House providing that bills or notes falling due on the Fourth of July, Christmas, or Thanksgiving Day, shall be considered due on the *succeeding* day, and that a note at four months shall run for 120 days before the days of grace.

OHIO—THE LAND OF BREAD.—The quantity of wheat which Ohio raised in 1850 is set down at *thirty millions of bushels*—an amount sufficient to supply not only all the wants of that State, but leave a surplus of eighteen millions of bushels. The consumption of each individual is about six bushels annually. Ohio has about two millions of inhabitants; consequently twelve millions of bushels are enough for the consumption of the State. Allowing the price of seventy five cents per bushel, and the overplus is worth over thirteen millions of dollars. In addition to this, the corn raised is equal to one hundred bushels to each person in the State. The surplus of these two articles is equal in value to twenty five millions of dollars. This shows what an agricultural State with fertile land can do, when its labor is not diverted into unprofitable channels, or interfered with by bad government.

A TERRIFIC THUNDER STORM.

On the 29th of May, 1630, on the day on which Prince Charles—afterward Charles II.—was born, a bright star appeared, and shone the whole day. In 1636, the plague, as the forerunner of the troubles which were to follow, appeared in London, and raged with great severity.—"Upon Sunday the 21st October, 1638, in the parish church of Wydecombe, near the Dartmoors in Devonshire, there fell suddenly, in time of divine service, a strange darkness, so that the people there assembled could not see; and as suddenly, in a fearful and lamentable manner, a mighty thundering was heard, the rattling thereof did much answer the sound of many great cannons, and terribly strange lightnings, therewith greatly amazing those that heard and saw it; the darkness increasing more and more, till no man could see his neighbor, so black as midnight was the darkness. Then the extraordinary lightning came into the church, so flaming, that the whole church was presently filled with fire and smoke, the smoke of the sulphur very boisterous, much like unto the scent of brimstone, which so affrighted the congregation, that the most part of them fell down into their seats, and some upon their knees, some on their faces; and some upon one another, with a great cry of burning and scalding, they all giving themselves up for dead, supposing the last judgment day was come, and that they had been in the very flames of hell.

"The minister of the parish, Master George Lyde, being in the pulpit, or seat where prayers are read, however he might be much astonished thereat, yet through God's great mercy had no other harm at all in his body; but to his much grief and amazement beheld afterwards the lamentable accidents whereunto he giveth this testimony.—And although himself was not touched, yet the lightning seized upon his poor wife; fired her ruff and linen next her body, and her clothes, to the burning of many parts of her body in a very piteful manner. And one Mistress Bitford, sitting in the pew with master Lyde's wife, was also much scalded; but the maid and child sitting at the pew door, had no harm. Another woman, adventuring to run out of the church, had her clothes set on fire, and her face not only strangely burned and scorched, but had her flesh torn about her back almost to the very bones. Another woman had her flesh so torn, and her body so grievously burned, that she died. One Master Hill, a gentleman of good account in the parish, sitting in the pew next by the chancel, had his head suddenly smitten against the wall, through the violence whereof he died, no other hurt being found about his body; but his son, sitting in the same seat, had no harm, nor saw his father when he was hurt, this by reason of the darkness. Master Pearson, who was churchwarden, and Master Richard Reynolds; his head was cloven, his skull rent into three pieces, and his brains thrown upon the ground scooped out whole; and the hair of his head, through the violence of the blow at first given him, did stick fast unto the pillars and wall of the church, and in the place a deep bruise into the wall, as if it were shot against with a cannon or bullet.—Many other persons were then blasted and burnt, and so grevously scalded and wounded, that since that time they have died thereof.

"And as all this hurt was done upon the bodies of men and women, so the hurt also that was then done unto the church was remarkable.—There were some seats in the body of the church turned upside down, and yet they which sate upon them had little or no hurt. Also a boy sitting on a seat had his hat on, and near the one half thereof was cut off, and he had no hurt. And one man going out at the chancel door, a dog running out before him, was whirled about towards the door, and fell down stark dead. Also the church itself was much torn and defaced; and a beam also was burst in the midst, and fell down between the minister and clerk; and hurt neither; and a weighty great stone near to foundation of the church was torn out and removed, and the steeple itself was much rent. And where the church was much rent there was least hurt done unto the people; and not any one was hurt by the falling of wood or stone, but a maid of Manaton, which came thither to see some friends; whom Master Fryud, the coroner, by circumstances, supposed she was killed with a stone.

There were also stones thrown from the tower, and carried a great distance from the church, as thick as if a hundred men had been there throwing; and a number of them such weight and bigness, that the strongest man cannot lift them. Also, one pinnacle of the tower was torn down, and broke through into the church. The terrible lightning having passed, all the people being in a maze, so that they spake not one word. By and by one Master Ralph Rouse stood up, and saying these words, "Neighbors and friends, in the name of God, shall we venture out of the church?" "If is best to make an end of prayers—for it were better to die here than in another place;" but they looking about them, and seeing the church terribly rent and torn, durst not proceed in their public devotions, but went forth of the church. And as all this was done within the church, and unto the church, so without the church there fell such store of hail and such hailstones, that for quantity they were judged to be as big as turkey's eggs; some of them were of five, some of six, and some of seven ounces weight."

THE NICARAGUA CASE.—Our Washington correspondent writes:—

"The Secretary of State has had several interviews lately with the British Minister, who it is said, disavows any knowledge of the steps which rumor asserts Mr Chatfield has taken in apparent hostility to the spirit and wording of the late treaty, with great Britain It is certain that Mr Chatfields conduct all along has been strangely at variance with the open professions of notoriety Sir Henry Bulwer, but of Lord Palmerston; and this circumstance cannot be satisfactorily explained unless by the recall or the obnoxious agent. The whole matter as far as England is concerned, resembles the attitude of a boatman looking one way and pulling another The resolution of inquiry by the Senate will probably have the effect of putting an end to this apparently dishonest policy. If England really intends to carry out the provisions of the treaty, it is time she gave some indications other than negative to that effect.

"Mr. Squier, the late eccentric Charge to Central America, is here."—[Pa. Ecq

FLORIDA U. S SENATOR ELECTED.—The Washington Southern Press of yesterday has a despatch from Tallahassee; dated the 19th instant, which says:

Mr. Mallory, democrat, of Key West, was elected on Wednesday last U. S. Senator, over Mr. Yulee, by a consolidation, of the whigs with the disaffected democrats.

Desirable Suburban Residence for Sale.

THE subscriber offers for sale the house and grounds where he now resides, situated on Park street, below Trenton, in Allegheny, and about 25 minutes walk from the market of this city. The lot is 140 feet front on Park st., running back 252 feet, to an alley—containing nearly one acre of ground, and is bounded on every side by large open lots, adorned with trees and shrubbery. The house is neatly new, large, and exceedingly well arranged, having a front of 50 feet, and a depth of 72, and contains fourteen rooms, besides halls nine feet wide. It is built in the best and most durable manner, and has a fire-proof roof, and contains all the modern conveniences. Two pumps, with an un