



The Jeffersonian.

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1854.

WHIG STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR. Jas. Pollock, of Northumberland FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER. George Darsie, of Allegheny. FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT. Daniel M. Smyser, of Montgomery.

We invite attention to the prospectus of the "Mercantile Guide," in another column of to-day's paper. The Guide is an excellent paper. A copy of it can be seen at this office.

Hon. Asa Packer, M. C. will please accept our thanks for a copy of part 34 of the annual Message and documents for 1853-4.

Hon. Edward Everett.—This gentleman has resigned his seat in the United States Senate, from Massachusetts, on account of ill health. The resignation is to take effect some time the coming month. It is rumored that Gov. Washburn has tendered the seat to Mr. Choate.

The Bank of New Jersey.—It is stated that the capital stock (\$300,000) of this new bank, to be located in New Brunswick, has all been taken. The new bank it is supposed, will go into operation about the first of July next, under very favorable auspices.

Lambertville, N. J. contains at this time according to accounts recently made 1932 inhabitants, being an increase of over 36 per cent. in four years.

The New Hope Delaware Bridge.

We have heard says the Doylestown Intelligence, frequent inquiries as to what resulted from the sale of the New Hope Delaware Bridge, which was made last winter by the Receivers. We now understand that the persons who purchased it have neglected to comply with the conditions of sale, by failing to make the second payment; and thus forfeited their right to it, and have allowed it to revert to the Receivers. The amount paid down at the time of sale, we understand was about ten thousand dollars, which sum is of course forfeited.

Railroad Accidents Expensive.

It appears from a statement made by the President of the New York and New Haven Railroad Company, that, for damages to life and limb by the Norwalk disaster a year ago, they have paid already \$200,000, and that a further sum of \$200,000 is yet to be paid.

Delaware Canal.

On Saturday last the trade on this canal was fully resumed. The damages sustained by the late high water have been substantially repaired, and the transportation of coal by the Mauch Chunk Company, and Merchandize, &c. by the Lehigh Transportation Company, is carried on with the greatest activity.—Easton Weekly.

Election of Officers of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows.

The election for officers of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, resulted as follows: Grand Master—Thomas Helm; Deputy Grand Master—Caleb E. Wright; Grand Warden—D. Francis Condie; Grand Secretary—Wm. Curtis; Grand Treasurer—F. Knox Morton; Grand Representative—Wm. H. Lambert. There was a warm contest for the office of Grand Secretary. The votes cast for both candidates were as follows: Mr. Curtis 1288; Mr. Bertram 1039.—Majority for Mr. Curtis, 189.

Upwards of 20 deaths by cholera recently occurred on board the steamboat Dresden, which arrived at St. Louis on Saturday week from New Orleans. The victims were all German emigrants.

The Approaching Eclipse.

An Eclipse of the Sun will occur on Friday, to-morrow, which will be visible throughout the United States, and actually annular, at points in the Northern part of the Continent, from Washington Territory on the Pacific, to Maine upon the Atlantic, that is, the moon at these points, at the time of its passage, appearing smaller than the sun, will not cover it, and a bright ring of light will surround its darkened disc. This eclipse was first observed 1313, and has returned since then, thirty-one times, its last occurrence having been in May, 1836.

A black snake, upwards of eight feet long, was killed with a hoe by a laborer, in Nicholasville, Ky., on Monday. He appeared to have dwelt under a barn, and lived upon rats.

Judge Pollock.

The following letter from Judge Pollock to the editors of the Commonwealth, will set aside all the speculation of presses in the State, concerning the intended resignation of Judge Pollock:

MILTON, April 24th, 1854.

DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the 19th inst., has been received. The rumors of my contemplated withdrawal from the gubernatorial canvass, to which you refer, are without the slightest foundation in fact, and certainly were never authorized by me. I do not know their origin; their design is more apparent. Having accepted the nomination conferred, under circumstances so flattering to myself and cordially approving the Resolutions of the nominating Convention, I have neither the will, nor the right to decline. I am prepared to meet the responsibilities of my position, and to sustain the issues made by the Convention. The sale of the public works is a measure demanded by every consideration of interest and public policy, and ought not to be prevented or delayed. Opposition to the Nebraska Bill, is the duty of every friend of freedom and the rights of man. Patriotism, national faith and every principle of humanity, protest against the enactment of such a law. Let the people speak; politicians must hear and obey. Truth will triumph, although vaulting ambition may overleap itself. But I will not enlarge.

Accept my thanks for your kind expression of regard, and believe me to be Yours Very Truly, JAS. POLLOCK.

A Curious Exhibition.—It is said that one of the most interesting departments of the Crystal Palace exhibition is that which is assigned to lost articles picked up by the police. Among these there are about three hundred lace cambric handkerchiefs some valued at \$50. There are also about as many veils, a large stock of gloves, an extensive assortment of babies' shoes and stockings and some hundred articles of jewelry, pieces of which range as high as \$100 in value. Locks of false hair are interspersed with other wearing apparel, and a bottle of brandy occupies a conspicuous position. Specimens of almost every thing which is capable of being lost may be seen there.

As the steamer Lady Elgin was proceeding up Lake Michigan, last week, with a large load of freight and passengers, among which was a collection of animals for exhibition, the helmsman suddenly found it impossible to move the steering wheel. The captain swore and the mate took hold of the wheel but could not budge it, so, at last the engine was stopped, and all hands went below to ascertain the cause of the difficulty, when they found that the elephant—annoyed perhaps by the rattling of the wheel-chains—had wound his trunk round them and was holding them as if in a vice. On the keeper remonstrating with him, he let go, and behaved quite well for the rest of the passage.

Sale of the Main Line.

The Secretary of State of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the law recently passed, invites proposals until the first Monday of July, for the purchase of the Main Line of the Public Works. No bid will be received for less than ten million of Dollars. In consequence of the reduction of tolls by the Canal Commissioners, it is feared that no sale can be effected. The bill authorizing a sale allows the purchasers to charge the same tolls as those charged by the State. The Canal Board, however, very unexpectedly reduced the rates of charges about twenty per cent. before the bill was signed by the Governor, and had become a law—and thereby frustrated the design of the Legislature. To remedy the evil consequence of this unforeseen act of the Canal Board, a bill was introduced near the close of the session to empower the company purchasing the line to increase the tolls ten per cent. This bill went through the Senate and was sent to the House; but that body refused to proceed to its consideration. By this reduction of the toll sheet, the Canal Board have not only jeopardized the sale of the Main Line, but have caused a vast reduction of the State revenues. The truth of the matter is, the State plunderers are determined that the public works shall not be sold if they can help it, and Governor Bigler backed them up in this righteous resolution. To get rid of the public works, therefore, it first becomes necessary to drive away the vultures who prey upon them. The managers of our public improvements are like the horse-leech's daughters—their cry is—'give, give!' but they are never satisfied.

The state of the money market is such as to interfere materially with the business of constructing the important railroads now in course of construction.—The war in Europe so absorbs foreign capital that no extensive sales of our stocks can be effected in that market, and railroad stocks are just now very heavy and drooping at home.

The Sussex Register has entered on its 42d volume, and like good wine its flavor increases with its age.

CURE FOR CORNS.—Mr. Cooper, in his 'Dictionary of Surgery,' has the following infallible cure for corns: Take two ounces of gum ammoniac, two ounces of yellow wax, and six drachms of verdigris; melt them together, and spread the composition on soft leather; cut away as much of the corn as you can, then apply the plaster, and renew it every fortnight till the corn is away.

'A BROTHER OF A BOY.'—The Dublin (Ireland) Freeman states that Owen Duffie of Monaghan county, is 122 years old.—When 116 he lost his second wife, and subsequently married a third, by whom he had a son and daughter. His youngest son is two years old, his eldest ninety. He still retains in much vigor his mental and corporal faculties, and frequently walks to the county town, a distance of eight miles.

Another Confidence Man.

A gentleman named Craig, from Easton, Pa., stopping at the Girard House, was cheated a few days since, out of two gold watches, a valuable diamond breast-pin, and \$200 in cash, by a young man calling himself William H. Stevens, and who gave Boston as his place of residence. Mr. Craig alleges that he met with Stevens previous to his visit to the Girard House, and formed a slight acquaintance with him. Stevens, presuming upon this, managed to ingratiate himself in Craig's favor to such a degree, that when he asked him for the loan of \$200 and his watch for the purpose of making a display, it was at once given to him. Stevens also borrowed a gold watch from Craig's son, and after displaying his jewelry and money for a few hours, took a sudden leave, without paying his bill due the Girard House. A warrant was issued yesterday and placed in an officer's hands, who intends to proceed to Boston, the supposed destination of the confidence man.—Ledger of Thursday.

Mr. Wm. H. STEVENS, the "gentleman" above alluded to, had been stopping at the United States Hotel, in our Borough, since the 14th of March last, previous to his going to the City. He is a young man of about twenty four years of age and of a very gentlemanly address. When he first came to Easton he stated that he was the son of a wealthy broker living in Boston, that he was traveling merely for pleasure, and that he had the interest of \$11,000 per year placed at his disposal, which he was bound to spend among all his friends. He made many other large pretensions and backed them by showing \$100 bank bills, giving champagne parties, galanting the ladies about town, &c., and appeared so "respectable and nice," that the utmost confidence was placed in him, and he was admitted into some of the first families in the place.—Before leaving for Philadelphia however, he called on a number of his friends and made loans of different sums of money "for a few days only," which have not yet been repaid, and in all probability never will be. He is no doubt an old hand at the game. Should he be arrested he will be brought back to Easton for trial.—Eastonian.

Novel and Simple Cure for Blindness.

An American in Paris communicates the following to the Evening Post of this city: I witnessed, the other day, the treatment of some blind patients in the Hospital of the Invalids, which was new and curious to me. The simple steaming for half a minute, or until a little warmth was felt, of the vapor of hydrocyanic acid, in a small phial held to the eye, was all that was done. This process is said to cure the various diseases of the eye as it by magic. One child had been totally blind from six days old; had been taught to read on the raised letters by the humane system taught in the blind school; but it could now see these letters, and it was a curious phenomenon to behold—could equally read them by touch and sight! The only difference was a singular alteration in the tone of voice and pronunciation when reading in the two ways—that by the eye being far more natural, and like the usual reading to which we are accustomed, than the other, which was monotonous, and with an air of difficulty even amid the singular readiness acquired by this method. Other cases there were of the wonderful production of the power of vision to those born blind; but I will select the case of a girl 22 years of age, and therefore fully capable to comprehend and to answer any questions put to her. In utter darkness for thirteen years, she can now see her way, and can distinguish countenances and colors. If possible, a more marked instance of the efficacy of the curative process was exhibited in a young man, who had worked for many years at bookbinding. Inflammation and subsequent eminent treatment, lancing, &c., had rendered him so totally blind that for some time before, and during the first two or three attendances for the application of the prussic acid vapor, he was obliged to be led. But he told me that now he could safely dispense with such aid, and readily discern objects. A gentleman from Canada had been afflicted in one eye with cataract and blindness for ten years. His remark to me was, that when he first came to England he could not, with the diseased eye, distinguish a cow from a horse. He could now see pretty well.

The young man who wouldn't associate with mechanics, is now acting as degree master in the order of wood-sawyers.

County Superintendents.

Among the agencies for the improvement of the Common School, its friends have generally demanded, 1. a separate department of Education in the government; 2. Normal Schools for the due professional training of teachers; and 3. County Superintendents to stir up and unite the efforts of those engaged in and connected with the schools in each county, and to administer efficiently so much of the powers of the system as are strictly professional or depend on the government head. It was most desirable that all these agencies should have been granted at this particular juncture, when there is such a manifest awakening, in every quarter of the State, on the subject of educational improvement. But the Law-making power has willed differently, and only conceded one out of the three demands; and it is now the business of all concerned, so to make use of this new agent as to derive the greatest possible amount of benefit. How shall this be done? is the question. The answer will not be difficult, if the nature of the office and the object to be effected be steadily held in view.

The Legislature have, wisely we think, given the appointment of the County Superintendent to the Directors of the county in which he is to officiate. Parents have always been and ought to be, jealous of the removal of the powers of the common school system further from themselves than the absolute necessities of the case require. Their immediate representatives are the Directors, chosen by themselves, dwelling among, and responsible to themselves. But, it is found by experience that Directors generally either have not the leisure, or are not qualified for the performance of some of the duties assigned to them by law. Among these are the examination of teachers, the regulation of the branches of study and the strict professional visitation and supervision of the schools. Hence arises the necessity of another agency in the system; and hence also the propriety of giving the selection of the agent to the power which is the direct representative of parental authority.

Not only, moreover, is the arrangement in conformity with the nature of the system, but it is one eminently calculated to render the agency itself useful and efficient. The County Superintendent, being the officer and representative of the Directors, will naturally possess their confidence and be enabled to exercise a beneficial influence upon them. His suggestions as to the improvement of school houses, the grading of the schools, and the other numerous improvements which are so much needed, and of which Directors, from want of experience, know so little, will have greater effect, than the same recommendations from an officer placed in antagonism, whether real or supposed, matters not to them. He will be their officer—their representative—his counsel; and in those capacities his powers for good, if he be a man of experience, tact, and common sense, will be almost unlimited.

But while the Legislature saw that, being the administrator of very grave powers heretofore entrusted exclusively to Directors, he ought to be chosen by them, they also saw that, having professional duties of the utmost importance to discharge, he ought always to be chosen from the body of teachers. How else could he discharge his strictly professional duties? As well might a person unlearned in the law hope to properly preside as a judge on the Bench, or a layman fill one of the chairs of theology in a school designed for the education of the clergy. Not only therefore was there an urgent necessity for the provision that the County Superintendent should be "of skill and experience in the art of teaching," but there was evidently a noble design to dignify and elevate the Teacher's profession itself. Heretofore it was rarely named or thought of as a regular occupation, much less as a high and permanent profession. Hereafter—from the date of this school law of 1851—it takes its stand among the learned and honorable professions. The strict examination of teachers and the exclusion from the ranks of the profession of all who do not reach a certain standard, at once establish its grade; and the high mark of the teachers now lawfully constituted officer.—THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT—held out to the honorable ambition of all, will elevate and stimulate the whole profession.

Such, hastily, are the nature and the objects of the office; and the duties of all parties to it are plain: Let Directors select the best and most efficient teacher they can find in the county, and pay him well; and let the teachers of the county honor themselves and their profession, by the hearty, unhesitating support he has a right to expect at their hands; thus even in the absence of normal schools and a State Department of education, such a reformation will be seen, in one short year, as shall justify the establishment of the office, and ensure the grant of all else that may be needed.

The Sections relating to the office of Co. Superintendent, are here added:

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

Sec. 37. That there shall be chosen, in the manner hereinafter directed, an officer for each county, to be called the county superintendent. It shall be his duty to visit as often as practicable the several schools of his county, and to note the course and method of instruction and branches taught, and to give such directions in the art of teaching and the method thereof in each school, as to him, together with the directors or controllers, shall be deemed expedient and necessary; so that each school shall be equal to the grade for which it was established, and that there may be, as far as practicable, uniformity in the course of studies in schools of the several grades respectively.

Sec. 38. It shall be the duty of each county superintendent to see that in every district there shall be taught orthography, reading, writing, English grammar

geography and arithmetic; as well as such other branches as the board of directors, or controllers, may require. In case the board of directors, or controllers shall fail to provide competent teachers to teach the several branches above specified, it shall be the duty of the county superintendent to notify the board of directors or controllers in writing of their neglect, and in case provision is not made forthwith for teaching the branches aforesaid, to report such facts to the Superintendent of Common Schools whose duty it shall be to withhold any warrant for the quota of such district of the annual State appropriation, until the county superintendent shall notify him that competent teachers of the branches aforesaid have been employed. And in case of neglect or refusal of the board of directors or controllers to employ such competent teachers as aforesaid, for one month after notification by the county superintendent that such teachers have not been provided, such district shall forfeit absolutely its whole quota of the State appropriation for that year.

Sec. 39. That the school directors of the several counties of the Commonwealth shall meet in convention at the seat of justice of the proper county, on the first Monday of June next, and on the first Monday of May, in each third year thereafter, and select *in vacuo* by a majority of the whole number of directors present, one person of literary and scientific acquirements, and of skill and experience in the art of teaching, as county superintendent, for the three succeeding school years; and the school directors or majority of them in such convention, shall determine the amount of compensation for the county superintendent to be paid by the Superintendent of Common Schools, by his warrant drawn upon the State Treasurer, in half yearly instalments if desired, and shall be deducted from the amount of the State appropriation, to be paid to the several school districts in said county.

Sec. 40. That it shall be the duty of the president and secretary of the triennial convention of directors, to certify to the Superintendent of Common Schools, the name and post office address of the person elected county superintendent in pursuance of the provisions of this act, and those of all the other candidates who received votes, together with the amount of compensation. Upon the receipt of such certificate, if no valid objection be made, the Superintendent of Common Schools shall commission the person so elected for the term of three years; but if objection be made, within thirty days, to the issuing of such commission, the Superintendent of Common Schools may require such evidence, under oath or affirmation, in regard to the election or qualifications of the person elected county superintendent, as he shall deem necessary, and shall then issue his commission to the person, properly qualified, who shall have received the highest number of votes.

Sec. 41. That it shall be the duty of the county superintendent to examine all the candidates for the profession of teachers, in the presence of the board of directors or controllers, should they desire to be present, to whom they shall first apply in his county, and to give each person found qualified a certificate, setting forth the branches of learning he or she is capable of teaching; and such examination and certificate shall be renewed as often as any such teacher shall be employed in teaching any branch of learning other than those enumerated in his or her certificate, and no teacher shall be employed in any school to teach other branches than those set forth in such certificate of said teacher: *Provided*, That the county superintendent may annul any such certificate given by him or his predecessor in office, when he shall think proper, giving at least ten days previous notice thereof, in writing, to the teacher holding it, and to the directors and controllers of the district in which he or she may be employed.

Sec. 42. That the county superintendents shall annually, on or before the first Monday in June, forward to the Superintendent of Common Schools, the reports of the several school districts of their respective counties, and shall also themselves make an extended report of the condition of the schools under their charge, suggesting such improvements in the school system as they may deem useful, and giving such other information in regard to the practical operation of common schools, and the laws relating thereto, as may be deemed of public interest.

Sec. 43. That until after the election of a county Superintendent, provided for in this act, it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Common Schools, by publication at least three successive weeks, in two newspapers for each county, if so many there be, but if none are published in such county, then by printed notices sent by mail to the secretary of each board of directors of each school district in such county, of the time and place for holding the triennial convention of directors; who shall then and there assemble, and select a presiding officer from one of their number, and the directors then present shall proceed to the election of a county superintendent in the manner hereinbefore provided. The notice that shall hereafter be given of the assembling of the aforesaid triennial convention, shall be by the county superintendent, in the manner above provided. All expenses of giving notices, directed by this section, shall be paid out of the same funds as the salary of the county superintendent.

Sec. 44. That all vacancies in the office of county superintendent, shall be filled by the appointment of the Superintendent of Common Schools, until the next triennial convention of directors; when a yearly existing vacancy shall be filled by election in the usual manner, for the full term of three years.

Six thousand buffalo robes—the first arrival of the season—were sold at St. Louis on Saturday at \$3.61 per robe.

A sporting gentleman in Mobile has offered a premium of \$500 (in the form of a bet) to any man in Alabama who can drive six cats in harness.

A Defence of Polygamy.

A wife of one of the Mormons now a member of the Utah Legislature, named Pratt, writing to her sister in Nashua, N. H., holds the following argument in favor of polygamy. The letter is so well composed that we are inclined to think that a woman, capable of expressing herself in the smooth style in which it is written, could never consent to allow such a mind to lower itself into the indulgence of the animal socialities and sensual gratifications necessarily consequent upon a life of polygamy. If Mrs. Pratt dictated this letter to her sister, who must belong to that school of women who Solomon encountered. "Whose heart is snared, and nets, and her hands as bands. The sinner shall be taken by her."

Here are the extracts:—"For instance, I have (as you see, in all good conscience, founded on the word of God,) formed family and kindred ties, which are inexpressibly dear to me, and which I can never bring my feelings to consent to dissolve.

"I have a good and virtuous husband, which I love. We have four little children which are mutually and inexpressibly dear to us. And besides this, my husband has seven other living wives, and one who has departed to a better world.—He has in all upwards of twenty-five children. All these mothers and children are endeared to me by kindred ties—by mutual affection—by acquaintance and association; and the mothers in particular by mutual and long continued exercises of toil, patience, long-suffering, and sisterly kindness. We all have our imperfections in this life; but I know that these are good and worthy women, and that my husband is a good and worthy man; one who keeps the commandments of Jesus Christ, and presides in his family like an Abraham. He seeks to provide for them with all diligence; he loves them all, and seeks to comfort them and make them happy. He teaches them the commandments of Jesus Christ, and gathers them about him in the family circle to call upon his God, both morning and evening.

"He and his family have the confidence, esteem, good will and fellowship of this entire Territory, and of a wide circle of acquaintances in Europe and America.

"He is a practical teacher of morals and religion; a promoter of general education; and at present occupies an honorable seat in the Legislative Council of this Territory."

"Now, as to visiting my kindred in New Hampshire, I would be pleased to do so, were it the will of God. But first, the laws of that State must be so modified by enlightened legislation, and the customs and consciences of its inhabitants, and of my kindred, so altered, that my husband can accompany me, with all his wives and children, and be as much respected and honored in his family organization, and in his holy calling, as he is at home, or in the same manner as the patriarch Jacob would have been respected had he, with his wives and children, paid a visit to his kindred.

"As my husband is yet in his youth, as well as myself, I fondly hope we shall live to see that day.

"For already the star of Jacob is in the ascendency; the House of Israel is about to be restored; while "Mystery Babylon," with all her institutions awaits her own overthrow.

"With sentiments of the deepest affection and kindred feeling, I remain, dear sister, your affectionate sister,

BELEINDA MARDEN PRATT.
"Mrs. Lydia Kimball, Nashua, N. H."
"P. S. My kind love to your husband, and all inquiring friends."

A German known as Dutch Charlie, was recently murdered in Colorado County Texas. As the body was surrounded by people, an Irishman proposed that those present should successively place their hands upon the body of the deceased, believing according to an ancient superstition used by Sir Walter Scott in St. Valentine's Day, that whenever the murderer touched it the wounds would commence bleeding anew. The suggestion was acted upon, and, says a correspondent of the Richmond (Texas) Inquirer, as soon as a man named Hildebrand applied his hand the blood began to flow. Hildebrand was arrested, and shortly afterwards committed suicide.

Scarcity of hay in the lumber regions of Maine is severely felt this season.—Twenty-five dollars an acre is readily paid, but sufficient cannot be obtained. Cattle will have to take to browse or die, as the snow, at last accounts, was very deep.

Philadelphia Market.

TUESDAY, May 23.—The export demand for Flour continued limited, and the only sales reported are 500 brls, a good brand, at \$3 75 per brl, and 1200 brls extra at \$3 74 1/2. 5000 brls Rye Flour sold at \$5 25 1/2 per brl. In Corn Meal nothing doing.

Grain—There is but a limited amount offering, and prices are steady at \$2 05 per bu. for prime red, and \$2 12 for white, at which some small sales have been effected. Rye is scarce and worth \$1 12 at 13. Corn is in demand and has advanced—sales of 75000 bush yellow, part at 78 cents, part at a price to be fixed.—In Oats no further sales have been reported.

Whiskey—Sales of brls at 26 cents, and hds at 25 1/2 cents.

New York Market.

TUESDAY, May 23.—Flour, &c.—There is more doing in Flour. Sales 5000 brls at \$3 31 1/2 for common to straight State, and \$3 31 1/2 81 1/2 for Ohio and Michigan. Canadian Flour is better, with sales of 1400 brls at \$7 75 1/2 31 1/2. Rye Flour steady; sales 200 brls superfine at \$6 50. Corn Meal dull at \$3 75 for Jersey. Wheat steady; sales 2000 bush led Western at \$2. Rye firm at \$1 12 1/2.—Corn better; sales 46,000 bush at 66a72c, Oats heavy.