



The Jeffersonian.

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1855.

Ourselves.

The May term of the Monroe County Courts will commence on Monday, the 28th inst., and give such of our country friends as may be in arrears to for subscription, advertising or job work, an opportunity of either calling personally and settling, or sending us the amounts which they severally owe. We are in want of money and we hope our patrons will not forget us.

It is now more than fourteen years since the Jeffersonian passed entirely into our hands, during the whole of which time we have most assiduously labored to make it a valuable and interesting journal.

Godey's Lady's Book.

The May number of Godey's Lady's Book, has been on our table for some time. It is praise enough to say, that it fully sustains the previous high reputation of the magazine.

Dividends.

The Easton Bank has declared a dividend of 6 per cent, and the Farmers and Mechanics Bank 5 per cent. for the last six months, payable to the stockholders on and after the 10th inst.

Senator WALTON returned home, from Harrisburg, on Thursday evening last. He looks well, appears in fine spirits, and we have no doubt, would be pleased to meet all his friends, old clients, and as many new ones as may feel disposed to give him a call.

V. B. PALMER's American Newspaper Agency is removed from N. W. corner of Third and Chestnut Streets, to Brown's New Iron Building, N. E. corner of Fifth and Chestnut, Philadelphia.

Proke Jail!

William Bailey, who was committed to Jail in this place, a few weeks ago, on a charge of stealing a horse belonging to Mr. Gideon Burritt, of Pocono township, made his escape on Tuesday evening last, by loosening a number of stones in the wall, thereby making a hole sufficiently large to enable him to make his exit.

Bailey is an Englishman, about 40 years of age, about 5 feet 6 inches high, has lost the sight of one eye, and of sandy complexion.

Sheriff SHAFER offers a reward of \$30 for his apprehension and delivery to the Jail in this place.

Foreign News.

Late foreign news announce that the cholera has broken out among the French troops at Sebastopol and was raging severely. Some very suspicious messages are passing between Austria and Prussia. The Vienna Conference had broken up.—Lord Palmerston had announced in Parliament that in these conferences Russia had submitted no counter proposals, and simply rejected those of the Allies. The telegraph, however, of a date subsequent to this announcement, tells us of an additional conference, at which Russia submitted propositions which were immediately rejected.

The telegraphic communication between London and the Crimea is now complete, and a message has been received thereby. The Emperor Napoleon is about to set out for the Crimea. His camp equipage is said to have already gone there. It is said that Gen. Pelissier will supersede Canrobert.

Judge McClure on the License Question.

The following extract is from a recently delivered opinion of Judge McClure of Pittsburgh, who has refused to hear any application for license in Allegheny county:

"The very first section of the act of April, 1855, enacts, that all laws, or parts of laws, inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed." There is no law in existence, making it the duty of the Court to grant any license under any circumstances.—Now, the Court is as much bound to disregard repealed laws, as it is to obey those that are in force. Here, then, multitudinous laws and parts of laws, the mass and accumulation of more than a century, guiding and directing the action of the licensing power, are all swept away in a moment, for each and all of them "are inconsistent with the provisions of the act of April, 1855. A tavern license is not a license to keep tavern; it is a license to sell intoxicating drink. An application is made for a license; the Court is satisfied of the fitness of the applicant, the sufficiency of accommodation, the good repute of the signers to the certificate—that such tavern is necessary to accommodate the public, and entertain strangers and travelers. Now, these were very good reasons a year ago, but they are no reasons now. The law that made these reasons has been repealed—their legal existence has ceased, and no court at least can re-enact them. The letter and the spirit of the act of April, 1855, is the total abolition of the retail license.

Nothing but a good life can fit men for a better one.

Mr. Editor:—Upon the induction of the members of the present Town Council into office, it was confidently believed, by many, that a firm, consistent and judicious administration of our borough affairs, would be the result. Has that expectation been defeated? Does the sequel so far, show nothing, but imbecility in the discharge of official duty, and a stolid disregard of the expressed wishes of the public? Who, charges that a neglect of official duty, in the estimation of some men, is deemed a matter of small moment, and that a set of men, who can deliberately abuse public confidence, are not fit to fill any station of public trust and responsibility? Who alleges that a gross dereliction of official duty implies not only abuse of public confidence, but violates all sense of honor, justice and propriety, and smacks strongly of a disregard of the solemn obligations of official oaths? Echo answers who!

We presume no man has back bone sufficient to prefer such charges against our honorable and sagacious board of Common Councilmen, but some are so lost to a sense of propriety, so dead to the maxims of courtesy and exhibit such a wanton disregard for the dignity of high official functionaries, as to enumerate some instances of misfeasance and nonfeasance, upon the part of that highly esteemed and honorable body. Now we wish to refute these asseverations, and vindicate official merit from groundless aspersions.

1st—It is alleged "that heretofore it has been the practice, of publishing annually the Borough ordinances, giving every citizen a fair notice of their several provisions. That the present Council have neglected to do this, and the result is that every citizen does as he pleases—in ignorance of them, with no exaction of penalties, &c." In answer to all this, we would say, that the Councilmen have adopted the old and well known maxim of the Roman law, *Ignorantia juris, quod quisque, tenetur scire, neminem excusat*, and that their refusal to exact the penalties for the violation of the ordinances, does infinite credit to their forbearance and magnanimity.

2d—It is alleged "that Main Street is filled with enormous and unsightly heaps of stone and dirt, reminding them of the defenses of the Allies, before the walls of Sebastopol." Upon examining the maps and charts of the military operations, in the Crimea, we acknowledge the aptness of the comparison, but we must not overlook utility. Any one can drive on a good road, but it takes a good reinsman to tack down main street, in its present condition; and the public are under many obligations for the rare opportunities offered them of becoming proficient in that art. Not only this, but the boys can indulge in that most pleasant and exhilarating of juvenile recreations, to wit: "hide and seek." And making high places still higher and low places still lower, many little mud holes are formed here and there, which will greatly relieve the minds of anxious mothers, as those of their children that have a penchant for piscatorial pleasure, can sit on the the pavement in front of their doors and amuse themselves by catching tad-poles during the summer months.

3d—It is charged "that a Forge Cut has been excavated at the lower end of town, at an expense of several hundred dollars, where the road was good enough before, to the damage of certain residents and non-residents, whilst a mean old rotten bridge, in the very centre of town is left wholly untouched, where man and beast are liable hourly to break their legs and necks." We have no doubt as to the power of the administration to cut through the hill, but we have some misgivings as to their authority in leaving quite so bold a shore in front of contiguous lots; and with regard to the old bridge, it is presumed that rational beings have sufficient discretion to take care of themselves, and if a horse should get his leg or neck broken, why "it serves him right, he has no business to be a horse."

4th. That "the Town Council have neglected or refused to repair the jumping off place, at the end of the pavement in front of the Female Seminary, where almost nightly, ladies are pitched unceremoniously into the gutter."

In answer to the fourth specification, we beg leave to say, that our City Fathers don't pride themselves upon their gallant spirit of knight-errantry, and it matters little to them who receives bruises, lacerations or contusions, as long as Burgundy Pitch and Pears Mans Plasters are so readily obtained.

"This much we say in exculpation of the "Government," and we submit this elaborate defence to the calm and dispassionate consideration of an enlightened public, and invoke their lasting gratitude upon the members of the Town Council, for the very able manner in which they have discharged the responsible duties devolving upon them as such. But if our defence, should be deemed worthless and unsatisfactory, why then our advice would be to the Council to resign the powers, as it is said, they have so grossly abused, into the hands of the people who gave them, and save the pains and penalties of an indictment that is daily threatened.

DOWN TOWN.

Provisions.

Potatoes have declined in price suddenly and heavily, after having reached a most preposterously high figure. To what this is owing, we cannot exactly say. By many it is attributed to the large importations of foreign and domestic potatoes from every point where the article was to be had at reasonable rates, and it is supposed that the sudden fall has been adopted by the potato conspirators with a view of putting a stop to the importations. During the recent protracted duration of high prices, it is a fact that potatoes brought from Bermuda and other distant places, were constantly sold here in our retail markets at lower rates than those of domestic growth. When it is considered how much the cost of importation is, and the various profits which must be made on the article before it reaches the hands of consumers, the reader may judge for himself what reason there was for the recent enormous charges for the home product. We think there can be little doubt that this community has been for many months victimized by a trade conspiracy, the object of which was to enhance and maintain at an unprecedentedly high rate, the prices of an article which has become of almost absolute necessity as part of our daily food. We believe that there are, and have been, plenty of potatoes here, and in most other places of the country, and that the reports of scarcity have been manufactured for a special purpose. We have just passed through one of the severest winters ever experienced in Philadelphia, when thousands of industrious workmen were thrown out of employ, and great distress prevailed among the poorer classes. At this very time, when the hearts of the benevolent felt keenly the necessity for exertion, in order to relieve the suffering, a set of sharpers have kept up the prices of many articles of food so high, as to add very greatly to the general distress. The butchers at one time actually found it necessary to refuse to buy beef cattle beyond a certain price, and they assured the community that the prices were kept up by designing speculators. And for a considerable period many persons found it cheaper to live on poultry than on beef! The potato speculation has now been carried on through several successive seasons, and with such a degree of profit as to induce the repetition and aggravation of the offence. There is some credulity as to the statement that large quantities of potatoes have been lying stored away; but it is notorious that on a former occasion not a few of the over keen farmers, who raised crops of this article, kept their cellars full of them all through the winter, in hopes of prices reaching a certain mark, and at last were obliged to sell them at a great reduction. It might seem that such experience would be sufficient to teach men better; but it is well known that the speculators make enough at the high prices which they force to enable them to lose a part of their crop or sell the surplus at diminished prices. What can be done we do not know, but that there is a necessity for some penal measures must be evident. One thing ought to be looked on with suspicion. We allude to the croakings about bad crops of potatoes and scarcity of beef cattle, which are annually got up by interested parties for special purposes, and palmed off on public credulity through the newspapers.—*Phila. North American.*

A Hungry Carpet Bag.

The Buffalo Express relates an amusing incident which occurred at Erie a few days since. A gentleman left Cleveland for New York at an early hour in the morning without his breakfast, and being very hungry, upon the arrival of the train at Erie, entered the dining room, and placing his carpet bag upon a chair, sat down beside it and commenced a voracious attack upon the viands placed before him. By and by the proprietor of the establishment came around to collect fares and upon reaching our friend, "Dollar, sir!" "A dollar!" responded the eating man, "a dollar—thought you only charged fifty cents a meal for one—eh?" "That's true," said Meanness, "but I count your carpet bag one, since it occupies a seat." (The table was far from being crowded.) Our friend expostulated, but the landlord insisted, and the dollar was reluctantly brought forth. The landlord passed on. Our friend deliberately arose, and opening his carpet bag, full in its wide mouth, discoursed unto it, saying, "Carpet bag it seems you're an individual, since you eat—at least I've paid for you, and now you must eat,"—upon which he seized everything eatable within his reach, nuts, raisins, apples, cakes, pies, and amid the roars of the bystanders, the delight of his brother passengers, and the discomfiture of the landlord, phlegmatically went and took his seat in the cars. He said he had provisions enough to last him to New York, after a bountiful supply had been served out in the cars. There was at least \$8 worth in the bag—upon which the landlord realized nothing in the way of profit. So much for meanness.

Size of London.

London extends over an area of 78,029 acres or 122 square miles, and the number of its inhabitants, rapidly increasing, was some 2,362,239 on the day of the last census. A conception of this vast mass of people may be formed by the fact that, if the metropolis were surrounded by a wall having a north gate, a south gate, an east gate, and a west gate, and each of the four gates was of sufficient width to allow a column of persons to pass out freely four abreast, and a permanent necessity required the immediate evacuation of the city, it could not be accomplished under four-and-twenty hours by the expiration of which time the head of each of the four columns would have advanced at no less a distance than seventy-five miles from their respective gates, all the people being in close file, four deep.

Nine thousand shad were taken at one haul at Hoke's shore, Havre de Grace, Md., on Tuesday last, and at Vandivers shore, eight thousand were caught.

STROUDSBURG BANK.

The following are the closing proceedings, in the Legislature, in connection with this bill. It will be seen that Senator WALTON left nothing undone, consistent with honor, to secure its passage.

Mr. Walton said, however reluctant he might feel in asking the Senate to pass this bill, after the Governor has seen proper to interfere with his veto, yet he felt that he could not discharge his duty to his constituents, as their representatives on this floor, without doing so. He was very much gratified indeed, when this body was pleased to give it their support, and pass it with a larger majority than any other application of the kind has passed this winter; he must say he was surprised to find the Governor thought it to be his duty to interpose any objections against it. As to the reasons contained in his veto, it was not now his purpose to speak. It was sufficient however for him to say. This bank was asked for by the citizens of those counties (Monroe and Pike), with more unanimity than any other bank application before this Legislature. Not a single objection was openly made, any secret objection to which my attention was not called, he presumed had no more effect with the Governor in withholding his sanction, than it had with him in giving it his support. He wished, however, in justice to himself, to correct one misstatement, which has been circulated in his county, to wit:—That he gave consent, that the Governor might veto the Stroudsburg Bank, if he would sign the Mauch Chunk Bank. This he pronounced false and utterly void of truth. There was no understanding of the kind between the Governor and himself; it was therefore due, as well to that officer as himself, at this time as well as upon this particular occasion, to pronounce that report untrue. That he did all in his power openly and honestly to secure the passage of this bill, as many Senators on this floor would bear testimony.

Mr. Crabb. Yes, that is so.

Mr. Walton, and that he pressed the matter also before the Governor, as far as was consistent for him to do so. He did hope that in view of the wants and necessities existing in those counties for, and the relief and assistance this Bank would afford them, the unanimous voice with which it was asked for, and the evident necessity, that every one who is acquainted with our locality must see there was for such an institution, he had, he thought, reason to hope the Executive would have given it a more favorable consideration.—His objections, however, are on record, and he said it came far short of convincing him, or the grounds he assumed of carrying conviction to his mind.

He therefore hoped that this bill would become a law; they have no banking capital in these counties. No banks chartered this winter could afford them a particle of relief; no more than if every dollar of the new banking capital granted was to be used in the city of Philadelphia.

He said it was true they lived on the borders of the State, and heretofore have never derived any benefit of all the canals and railroads, and other public improvements of the Commonwealth, for which they have been heavily taxed and willingly paid, and yet are yearly bound to help pay, while other sections of the Commonwealth, are reaping its benefits.

This is the only legislation of importance to us, that we have asked for years. Our peculiar situation and wants being known, we had a right to expect it would be granted us. Are we to be disappointed? We claim to be Pennsylvanians, yet we are compelled to go to other States for assistance and favors to carry on our business, which should be furnished by our Legislature at home. Again, allow me to express the hope that this bill will become a law. Should it not, however, he would have the consolation of knowing that he had done his duty and his whole duty, to his constituents, and to them he would gladly return and settle the account of his stewardship.

Mr. Taggart said, he was sorry to be compelled to vote against the wishes of the Senator from Monroe, especially when he appears to have the matter so much at heart. That Senator knows, that after himself, no one in the chamber more deeply regretted his disappointment than he did. In the early part of the season we forced discrimination upon the Executive, by passing everything in the shape of a Bank bill that came before us. It was now our duty to sustain that discrimination. He, nevertheless, highly esteemed the zeal and ability displayed by his friend from Monroe, in his advocacy of this measure.

Mr. Walton said, it was true the gentlemen from Northumberland had rendered him very essential aid in passing the bill, for which he felt under many obligations, as well as his constituents, he and himself, although on opposite sides of the House, have been on the most intimate terms, and he regarded him as a valued friend, yet he was sorry to learn that he could not now vote for this bill as heretofore, notwithstanding the veto of the Governor.

Mr. Hendricks remarked, that it was perhaps just for him to say, that although he had voted for the bill on its final passage through the Senate, he felt constrained now to sustain the veto of the Governor. He was satisfied that in consistency with the rule marked out by the Governor, in his inaugural address, to govern his action on the question of new banks. He could not sign both this and the bill for the incorporation of the Mauch Chunk Bank. He had voted for both, but was satisfied the Governor could not sign both, but would be obliged to discriminate between the two. He thought it was understood that, as the Governor could sign but one of the bills, the Senator from Monroe should be consulted as to his preference, and should have his choice. He was sorry he was obliged to vote against the Senator now, but felt it to be his duty to do so.

Mr. Walton said, his friend from Schuylkill was mistaken in his position,

it was as he understood proposed to the Governor, that as there was two applications for banks in his district, that it was due to him as the Senator, if the Governor could not see proper to grant both applications, that he should be consulted and have his choice, yet he never was consulted upon the subject, and had no intimation that either Bank was to be vetoed until that veto was read in this chamber. This fact the Senator from Northumberland can bear me out in.

Mr. Taggart said, that although it was understood the Senator should be consulted, he was satisfied he was correct in stating that he had not been.

Mr. Haldeman said, he felt constrained to sustain the Senator and vote for the bill, and gave as his reason, that the veto did not assume that there was no necessity for the Bank, but that he only discriminated between the two. He chose to exercise his right to discriminate also; and feeling that there was a necessity for a Bank in that section of the State, he would vote for the bill.

The veto was then taken and the bill fell, (two-thirds necessary,) as follows:—Yeas 7 nays 16.

YEAS—Messrs. Haldeman, Hoge, Jamison, Mellinger, Sager, Skinner and Walton—7.

NAYS—Messrs. Browne, Ferguson, Frazer, Frick, Hendricks, Jordan, Lewis, Piatt, Pratt, Price, Quiggle, Sellers, Shuman, Taggart, Wherry and Hiestler, Speaker—16.

Decisions of the State Superintendent.

The following decisions by the State Superintendent may be read with interest, as well as to prove to be an item of useful information to many.

"Directors not to be contractors." It is a violation of the school law and sound policy, for a Board of Directors to enter into contract with one of their number for the erection of school houses. Such contracts are wrong, upon principle, and the Superintendent cannot hold them otherwise than illegal and void.

"Directors not to be teachers." No person can serve as Director and Teacher at the same time. One office or the other must be surrendered.

"County Commissioners to furnish information as to taxable property." When the Directors are at a loss to know what are proper subjects of taxation for school purposes, they should, under the 29th section of the school law, call on the County Commissioners for the desired information.

"Maximum of Assessment." The highest assessment that can be made upon taxable property for school purposes, is thirteen mills to the dollar.

"Amount of tax on persons, trades and occupations." If the assessed value of person's trade or occupation be less than \$200 it is not taxable at all for school purposes. If it be valued at from \$200 to \$250, the tax should be 50 cents. If it be valued at more than \$250, the tax should be 50 cents, and then in addition to 50 cents, one per cent, on every dollar of the valuation above \$250; and this is the highest limits which the law authorizes in this particular.

"Farmers are exempted from an 'occupation' tax, by the 32 section of the Act of the 29th April, 1844 (pamphlet laws, 1844, page 497,) and the Superintendent has no control over this subject.

"What single freemen are taxable." It will be seen by the III. Act of April 15th, 1834, (pamphlet laws 1834, p. 512,) that the poll tax on 'single freemen' is only applicable to such single freemen, above the age of 21 years, as shall not follow any occupation or calling," and not to unmarried men generally."

Registered Letters.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The Post Office Department has passed a series of instructions for the guidance of Post Masters, in receiving valuable letters for transmission by mail. The plan is to go into operation on the 1st of July, on and after which letters can be registered and receipted for upon a fee of five cents being paid. Extraordinary care is to be taken to ensure their safe delivery.

The instructions require all letters alleged to be valuable to be registered at the office of mailing, on payment of a registration fee of five cents, and entered in a receipt book kept for the purpose, and kept separate from the regular accounts of mails received and sent. The receipt book is to be kept by the postmaster, or a person specially designated by him for that service, and all registered letters to be receipted for on delivery at the office of their destination.

What does it cost to Fence the Country.

The amount of capital employed in the construction and repair of fences in the United States, would be deemed fabulous were not the estimates founded on statistical facts, which admit of no dispute.—Belknap, a well-known agricultural writer, says:—

Strange as it may seem, the greatest investment in this country, the most costly productions of human industry, are the common fences which divide the fields from the highways, and separate them from each other. No man dreams that when compared with the outlay for such unpretending monuments of art, our cities and towns, with all their wealth left far behind. You will scarcely believe me when I say, that the fences of this country cost more than twenty times the amount of specie that is in it.

Parson Brownlow, of the Knoxville Whig, publishes what he calls the abridged gospel of Know-Nothingism, as follows:—Foreigners and Roman Catholics may all ride in the chariot of American freedom. But the Americans must drive.

THE POSTAGE LAW.—A cotemporary remarks that the new law puts an effectual damper on anonymous letters. Those who send them are now compelled to pay out three cents, which to such mean souls, imparts a much greater pang than their effusions can possibly inflict on any one else.

The Kansas outrage, though planned by Missourians, was not entirely achieved by them, for the Missourians of the border are not sufficiently numerous for such a purpose. They therefore raised a fund of \$20,000 with which they hired four hundred persons to go from Kentucky, and over two thousand from other States. Each man had his passage paid to Kansas and back, and received one dollar a day besides, while their leaders got from ten to twenty dollars. This army of hirelings was required to be well armed, and was so. The violence of its members was but a part of the services for which they were paid. Such are the statements of a recent letter from Lawrence City, Kansas.

Barnum Out-Barnumed.

Some short time ago, a Rev. Mr. Dagnal inserted an advertisement in the newspapers stating that he suffered for four years from nervous affections, but that he had discovered a certain cure, which, in compassion to those who were suffering from the same cause, he wished to make generally known. He only asked that a letter, postpaid, should be sent to his address, and he would send the remedy free of charge. Now, although their was humbug on the very face of this announcement—since nothing could have been easier for the revered gentleman, whose bowels of compassion were moved in behalf of his suffering fellow-creatures, than to publish the remedy instead of the advertisement, and thus save the applicants postage, and himself the trouble of reading and writing so many letters—many among our gullible community open their eyes in wonder and gratitude, and sent on to the Rev. Mr. Dagnal's address the post-paid letters, asking for the sovereign remedy. Then came out the "cat under the meal bag." Mr. Dagnal replies by return of mail, in a printed letter, that the extract of St. Ignatius Breeze—a violent poison, containing large quantities of *nuxvomica* and *strychnine* is the remedy. This information calls forth a second letter, asking how such a dangerous medicine is to be used. To this second letter Mr. Dagnal replies that he has made a preparation to meet all nervous cases, and sells his pills at forty for one dollar, and if forty do not cure, another dollar will purchase forty more. Was there ever such a bare-faced humbug—such a mockery of philanthropy—as this displayed by the Rev. Mr. Dagnal? The remedy is worse than the disease in unskillful hands. Professor Monker, of Baltimore, sent for a box of those pills, and upon analyzing them, found them to contain a large portion of deadly poison.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Singular Case.

A singular case of circumstantial proof of a nature so curious and remarkable as well as conclusive in its bearing on the result of the trial, took place in our courts on Monday last, that we deem it worthy of notice. Certain parties were on trial under an indictment for hogstealing.—The hog had been traced to its place of concealment in a barn or outhouse, and found disemboweled, cut up with the hair on, and packed in a bag. In the bag a handkerchief was discovered which seemed to afford a clue to the perpetrator of the crime. A witness in the case who was supposed to be familiar with the properties of the prisoner, was first shown a similar handkerchief to the one found, and declared his belief that it did not belong to the prisoner. The one found with the stolen hog was then showed to him and he pronounced it the property of the prisoner. He was asked by the Court how he identified it. He said that the handkerchief was a peculiar one, having a round patch in the centre of it, and the only one with such a central patch which he had ever seen, hence his confident identification of it. The circumstances was deemed conclusive by the jury and the prisoner was convicted. The end was not then however. The friends of the prisoner by way of retaliation, perhaps, charged the witness with sheep stealing! He was indicted on their information and after trial found guilty by the jury and will do doubt undergo the same penalty with the swine felon.

When rogues fall out, whether honest men get their own or not, the secrets of rascality are apt to be exposed and the concealed villain brought to justice. It is seldom we are favored with a such a curious instance of erimination, resulting in the success of both parties. Their mutual gratification at the success of their cross fires must be solacing in the extreme.—*Eastonian, May 5th.*

How the People of England Lived till 1750.

The Scientific American, in its last issue, says:—

"In the days of Queen Elizabeth, substantial diet was confined chiefly to persons of rank and wealth. A plowman was often compelled to dine on water gruel. The food of the laborers was coarse and deficient; their clothing was incomparably more so, and their lodgings were rude, dirty, and uncomfortable. The houses even of the wealthy were mostly destitute of glass windows and chimneys. The floors of the peasants' houses were of clay, and filled with the accumulated filth of many years. The luxury of linen was confined to rich and high born.—Their woollen cloth was all of domestic manufacture. Tea and coffee, and, to a great extent, sugar, were unknown.—Beer was the universal beverage. The higher classes of society lived chiefly on salted meats. The common people seldom ate meat in any form. The ordinary fare of workingmen then would produce a riot in a work house now. Potatoes and turnips appeared about this time.—In earlier ages, the people fed entirely on bread and meat. As late as 1750 out of a population of six millions, in England and Wales, one-half were sustained by rye, barley and oats. Now, the same class of persons are consumers of wheat. The use of the potato, as the principal article of food has been confined to a few districts."