

H. B. MASSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE, MARKET STREET, OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Literature, Morality, Foreign and Domestic News, Science and the Arts, Agriculture, Markets, Amusements, &c.

NEW SERIES VOL. 1. NO. 30.

SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1851.

OLD SERIES VOL. 12. NO. 4.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN.

THE AMERICAN is published every Sunday at TWO DOLLARS per annum in advance...

H. B. MASSER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, SUNBURY, PA.

Business attended to in the Counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming and Columbia.

NEW STORE AT HOLLOWING RUN. At the Cross Roads, near J. D. Conrads, Lower Augusta.

J. R. KAUFFMAN

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public generally, that he has just received and opened a new stock of goods...

DRY GOODS.

Stocks, Cassimeres, Shawls, Merinos, &c. Summer wear of all kinds—Muslins, Calicoes, &c.

GENERIC OF ALL KINDS.

Shawls, Cloves, Tea, Molasses, Spirits, &c. Also—Wholesale and Retail.

SPRING AND SUMMER CLOTHING.

EVERYBODY should embrace this opportunity to buy his CLOTHING for the Men, Youth and Boys...

DRESSES AND BROOK COATS.

Just clothed, from Dublin, &c. Tweeds, &c. &c. together with a great variety of Boys' Clothing.

FURNISHING GOODS.

Consisting of Shirts, Collars, Handkerchiefs, &c. all of which are made to order...

Allen's Condensed Reports of Terms.

JUST Published, and for sale by the subscriber, the second volume of Allen's Condensed Reports...

NATIONAL HOTEL, SHAMOKIN.

The subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public generally, that he has opened a new Hotel in the town of Shamokin...

JAMES H. MAGEE

AS removed from his old stand, No. 118 Vine street, to No. 52 Dillwyn St., bet'n Cal'hill & Willow,

BROWN SQUAT, PORTER, Ale and Cider.

FOR HOME CONSUMPTION OR SHIPPING. N. B.—Coloring, Bottling, Wire and Bottles, Vinegar, &c. For sale as above.

Lycoming Mutual Insurance Company.

DR. J. B. MASSER is the local agent for the above Insurance Company, in Northumberland county, and is at all times ready to effect Insurances against fire on real or personal property...

JUSTICE'S FEE BILLS.

For sale by H. B. MASSER, Sunbury, April 26, 1851.

SELECT POETRY.

From the Journal of Commerce. The Husband's Dream.

Last night I had a dream, my love, That you were with my bride...

I dreamt of the school-house, And with the sound of bell, Each joyous shout and face came back...

The village church-tow, there it stood As when, in the gone days, We'll, we heard the good old man...

I mingled with dear friends once more Delighted with their talk, But now, alas, they've disappeared...

There I would thee, dearest one, A maiden young and coy; While much around reminded me...

With youthful ardor in my suit, I all too early pressed; But you—oh, I cannot say it—...

As if to show that both were right, Time shall succeeding prove; Though flowers fade in forest glade,...

Literary Anecdotes.

From Arctia's Cyclopedia of Anecdot.

HABITS OF AUTHORS IN COMPOSING AND CORRECTING.

ISOCRATES, VIRGIL, AND CASSIUS.—The ancients were particular in their corrections. Isocrates, it is said, was employed...

After a labor of eleven years, Virgil pronounced his *Æneid* imperfect. Dio Cassius devoted twelve years to the composition of his history...

There is a middle between velocity and torpidity. The Italians say, it is not necessary to be a stag, but we ought not to be a tortoise.

NOT TO LEAD A FAULT.—An old French writer, more remarkable for originality of thought than for grace of style, was once reproached by a friend with the frequent repetitions to be found in his works...

SALMASIUS AND HORNS.—Salmasius used to read and write in the company of his wife, and amidst the noise of his children, without inattention.

HOMER'S LEVITIAN.—Aurely has minutely preserved for us the manner in which Homer composed his *Levitan*. It is very curious for literary students...

THOMPSON'S MATHS.—Among literary men, some have been eccentric in their method of composing and studying.

DEAR CARLES used to lie in bed, very frequently, for twelve or fourteen hours in the day, with the curtains drawn.

ROUSSEAU and Pope procured some of their best thoughts in bed. Mr. Zard, the historian, always composed by candle-light.

MUCH of this is folly. Nature has constituted human beings so similarly, that what is consistent with common sense, and suitable for one man, would be found adapted for all...

PASCAL, MILTON, SHRETTLE, THOMAS, AND NEWTON.—Pascal subjected his letters to the inspection of the members of his college, and every advantageous alteration that was suggested was introduced...

Sometimes Milton would dictate a certain number of lines, and then recite them to one-half the quantity.

SHRETTLE, Duke of Buckingham, wrote an essay on satire, which was altered and amended so much, that at last, like the stocking of Aristotle, it became a new thing.

The commencement of the History of Thuanus is said to have cost the author an immense deal of labor.

Sir Isaac Newton informed Bishop Pearce that he had written his *Chronology of Ancient Kingdoms* sixteen times.

BLOOMERS IN LONDON.

For several days past three young and beautiful ladies have astonished the 'entireties' of Brompton Square and its neighborhood by appearing in the full Bloomer costume...

The Quintus Curtis of Vangelas occupied his thirty years; generally every period was translated in the margin five or six several ways. Chaplain and Conant, who took the pains to review this work critically, were many times perplexed in the choice of passages...

BUSSETT.—Whenever Bussett, Bishop of Meaux, had to compose a funeral sermon, he read Homer in the original Greek, to raise his style of composition to the due elevation of his subject...

BALZAC.—Balzac, the first writer in French prose who gave majesty and harmony to a period, it is said, did not grudge to bestow a week on a page, and was never satisfied with his first thoughts.

MALIBRAN, DE, HOBBS, THOMAS, AND BERTON.—Some profound thinkers could not pursue the operations of their mind in the distraction of light and noise.

MILTON SAYS OF HER MIND.—A schooled and naked apartment, with nothing but a desk, a chair, and a single sheet of paper, was for fifty years the study of Buffon; the single ornament was a print of Newton placed before his eyes...

FENELON AND GIBSON.—Voltaire tells us of Fenelon's *Telemaque*, that the middle-aged author composed it in his retirement in the short period of three months.

INTELLIGIBILITY.—It would be well, both for the public and the writers themselves, if some authors would adopt Lord Falkland's method before publishing his works, who, when he doubted whether a word was perfectly intelligible or not, used to consult one of his lady's chambermaids...

ROUSSEAU AND POPE.—Rousseau, who was full of enthusiasm, devoted to the subject of his thoughts the long, sleepless nights of his nights, and meditating in bed, with his eyes closed, he turned over his periods in a tunnel of ideas...

GRACE ELISON, a veteran soldier, died on the 26th inst., on board the U. S. Receiving Ship Ohio, of disease of the heart, after an illness of only fifteen minutes.

SAM SLICK SAYS, writing from England: "After all, they haint got no ludger corn here; they can't raise it, nor punkin pies, nor quinces, nor pe-wants, no silk-worms, no nothin'!"

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AN ELECTIONEERING GEM.

One of the greatest electioneers of the age is Mr. Daniel R. Russell, a candidate for auditor in Mississippi. His mode of electioneering is to deal with the 'sovereigns' with the most blunt frankness...

Ladies and Gentlemen: I rise—but there's no use of telling you that; you know I am up as well as I do. I am a modest man—very—but I have never lost a picayune by it in my life.

Candidates are generally considered as amiable, but they are not; they are the politest men in the world, shake you by the hand, ask you how's your family, what's the prospect for crops, &c., and I am the politest man there is in the State.

Those ladies who speak against us show a want of independence of thought I appeal to any gentleman walking behind a lady wearing the present costume on a muddy day, whether this (putting forward her left foot slightly) or that, elevated as it sometimes is, has the superior claim to delicacy...

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REMARKABLE AUTOMATON TREE.

We had an opportunity, says the *Wolverhampton Herald*, (Eng.) of inspecting, at the bazaar of Mr. Cheetham, on Thursday last, automaton, as novel in its action as it is beautiful in design.

The following sketch of a late speech delivered by him must have puzzled his opponent to reply to:

Ladies and Gentlemen: I rise—but there's no use of telling you that; you know I am up as well as I do. I am a modest man—very—but I have never lost a picayune by it in my life.

Candidates are generally considered as amiable, but they are not; they are the politest men in the world, shake you by the hand, ask you how's your family, what's the prospect for crops, &c., and I am the politest man there is in the State.

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THE BAIT DAY.

The day is dull, and dark, and dreary; I rub, and the wind is never weary; The waves still cling to the mouldering wall.

My life is dull, and dark, and dreary; I rub, and the wind is never weary; My thoughts still cling to the mouldering wall.

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A PATRIARCH.

There is a lamplighter in that city who has had between 25 and 30 children, and raised them all. He had five sons who fought through the Mexican war, and came back sound and well.

THE FAWN-BROKER'S HARVEST.—A Welsh paper asserts that 150,000 watches have been pawned and sold in Wales, for the purpose of finding funds to pay the expenses of a journey to and from London to see the great Exhibition.

DESTRUCTION OF DEAD LETTERS.—On Wednesday morning, Mr. Swartzman, of the Dead Letter office, destroyed one hundred and sixty-four five bushels bags of dead letters, the accumulation of three months.

NOTHING can be more foolish than a lie which parents have, that it is not respectful to set their children to work.

SOME thirty ladies went on a picnic excursion at Cincinnati, last week, all of them dressed in the Bloomer costume.

GOV. MARCY.—A new candidate for the Presidential Chair appears in Governor Marcy, who has been named for that office by some of the New York politicians.

A GIANT.—The Ohio State Journal gives an account of a huge specimen of humanity, a giant, which it avers is one of the greatest living curiosities extant.

HUNGARIAN EXILES.—Eighty-one Hungarian exiles, recently arrived in this country, left New York on Saturday morning for their future home at New-Buda, Gov. Ulysses' settlement in the wilds of Iowa.

A FLOWER FOR A LOVER'S BETTON.—A lady's cheek is described as the poetical abode of the Rose; but we are not told what kind of Rose. When an ardent lover steals a kiss, we suppose it is a "Cabbage Rose!"

LOW PRICE OF GRAIN.—The Salem (N. J.) Standard complains of the low price of grain and the scarcity of money in that county, and ascribes it to the absence of manufacturers there.

THE Hon. Daniel Webster has written a beautiful letter to Miss Catharine Hayes, in acknowledgment of a letter of introduction which Miss Hayes brought to Mr. Webster from a distinguished lady in England.

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