

SUNBURY



AMERICAN.

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. 6, NO. 24.

SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1853.

OLD SERIES, VOL. 14, NO. 8.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN.
 THE AMERICAN is published every Saturday at
 FIVE DOLLARS per annum in advance. No paper
 sent until payment is received. No paper dis-
 counted until all arrears are paid.
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H. B. MASSER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
SUNBURY, PA.
 Business attended to in the Counties of North-
 umberland, Union, Lycoming and Columbia.
 Refer to:
 P. & A. Rowland,
 Low & Barron,
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 Reynolds, McFarland & Co.,
 Spring, Goddard & Co.,
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HENRY DONNEL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
SUNBURY, PA.
 Office opposite the Court House,
 Sunbury, Northumberland County, Pa.
 Prompt attention to business in adjoining
 counties.

WM. M. ROCKEFELLER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUNBURY, PA.
 Dec. 13, 1851.—d.

M. L. SHINDEL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
SUNBURY, PA.
 December 4, 1852.—d.

DOCTOR I. W. HUGHES,
 OFFICE on Broadway, near the Episcopal
 Church, Sunbury,
 Sunbury, May 14, 1853.—d.

SLAYMAKER & HASLETT,
OLYMPIA HOUSE,
 Chestnut Street below 7th,
 PHILADELPHIA.
 Board \$1.50 per day.
 July, May 28, 1853.—

Jilworth, Branson & Co.
 IMPORTERS OF DEALERS IN
Foreign and Domestic
EDWARD CUTLER, & C.
 No. 59 Market St., 1 door below 2d St.,
 PHILADELPHIA.
 We are always on hand a large stock of
 every variety of Hardware, Cutlery, &c.,
 at the lowest prices.
 Jilworth, Henry D. Landis,
 del Branson, James M. Vance,
 October 16, 1852.—ly.

HE DEAD BROUGHT TO LIFE!
 Sunbury rising out of her sleep of many
 years.
 Iron horse snorting and blowing has arouse-
 sleeping energies and infused new vigor
 into the system. One of its first effects
 in the vast amount of new and fashion-
 able goods, just arrived at
W. TENER & CO'S STORE.
 Stock is elegant and varied and well worth
 a look, and buying to at the prices they
 offer; all are respectfully invited to inspect
 and purchase.
 Sunbury, Sept. 10, 1853.

WM. McCARTY,
 BOOKSELLER,
 Market Street,
SUNBURY, PA.
 Sent received and for sale, a fresh supply of
EVANGELICAL MUSIC
 Singing Schools. He is also opening at
 me, a large assortment of Books, in every
 line of Literature, consisting of
 History, Novels, Romances, Scientific
 Law, Medicine, School and Children's
 Bibles, School Books and Family Bibles,
 and without Engravings, and every variety
 of Binding. Prayer Books, of all kinds,
 as just received and for sale, Pursons of
 the laws of Pennsylvania, edition of 1851,
 price \$6.00.
 He reads edition of Blackstone's Commen-
 law in 3 vols. 8vo. formerly sold at \$10.00,
 now offered (in fresh binding) at the low
 price of \$6.00.
 Treatise on the laws of Pennsylvania reg-
 ulating the estates of Decedents, by Thomas P.
 n, price only \$4.00.
 Vels, Voyages and Adventures, all of
 which will be sold low, either for cash, or coun-
 dery, 21, 1852.—d.

NOTICE.
 BANK OF NORTHUMBERLAND,
 Northumberland, June 25, 1853.
 Directors of the Bank of Northumberland
 office that they intend to apply to the next
 annual meeting of this Commonwealth, for a re-
 charter with the same capital, and with
 sent title, location and privileges. By
 of the Board.

NOTICE.
 JNO. TAGGART, Pres.
 e 25, 1853.—d.

NOTICE.
 RITZ & HENDRY,
 Store, 29 N. 3d street,
 PHILADELPHIA.
 Sole Manufacturers, Curriers, Importers,
 and General Leather Business.
 WHOLESALE & RETAIL.
 Manufacture 15 Margaretta Street,
 No. August 20, 1853.—ly.

ELRY.—A nice assortment of Gold and
 ver Pencils and Pens, for sale cheap by
 G. ELBERG & CO.
 Market street, opposite the Post Office
 bury, Oct. 8, 1853.—

SELECT POETRY.

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

She may not in the mazy dance
 With jewell'd maidens vie;
 She may not smile so courtly swain
 With soft bewitching eye;
 She cannot boast of form and mein
 That lavish all about her;
 But ah! she has much fairer charms,
 The farmer's peerless daughter.
 The rose and lily on her cheek
 Together lowly twine;
 Her laughing blue eyes wreath around
 The heart a witching spell;
 Her smile is bright as morning's glow
 Upon the dewy plain;
 And listening to her voice we dream
 That spring has come again.

The timid fawn is not more wild,
 Nor yet more gay and free;
 The lily's cup is not more pure
 In all its purity;
 Of all the wild flowers in the wood,
 Or by the crystal water,
 There's none more pure or fair than she
 The farmer's peerless daughter.
 The haughty belle whom all adore,
 On downy pillows lies,
 While forth upon the dewy lawn
 The merry maiden lies;
 And with the lark's uprising song,
 Her own clear voice is heard;
 Ye may not tell which sweetest sings,
 The maiden or the bird.
 Then tell me not of jewell'd fair;
 The brightest jewel yet
 Is the true heart and virtue dwells,
 And innocence is set!
 The glow of health upon her cheek,
 The grace no rule hath taught her—
 The fairest wealth that beauty twines
 Is for the farmer's daughter.

The Wilderness.

From Chamber's Pocket Miscellany.

ELPHANT KRAAL IN CEYLON.

One hot morning in November, 18—,
 we set off from Kandy, for the purpose
 of seeing that interesting sight, an elephant
 kraal, which was to take place the next
 day, eighteen miles distant. Our resting
 place, however, was eight miles beyond;
 and although in this country twenty-six
 miles would be no great ride for a lady,
 yet in a tropical climate it was rather an
 undertaking. However, I must either have
 done so, or given up what I was most de-
 sirous to witness, as we could not secure
 any coolies, or palanquin-bearers, at that
 time in Kandy, they being all engaged to
 carry down the hills, to the kraal, for the
 general and his party. The day was for-
 tunately rather cloudy, and although the
 heat was very great, we had not the direct
 power of the sun to contend with. We
 did not reach Kornegalle till six in the
 evening, as we rested half-way for some
 hours, during the hottest part of the day.
 I was dreadfully tired, so was glad to find
 that the kraal was not to take place the
 next day, but on the one after. It was a
 very pretty as well as an amusing ride,
 the whole country seemed in motion; ele-
 phant-carts and bullock-bandies, loaded
 with furniture and eatables, on their way
 to Cospeletic Orji, where several tents
 were pitched; and for some miles near the
 intended scene of action, the remains of
 fires, broken branches of trees, &c., gave
 the appearance of having recently been a
 gipsy encampment.

On the morning of the kraal, our party
 started at daylight, some on horseback,
 and the rest in an elephant-cart, in which
 we got over the ground pretty well, with-
 out the pace being unpleasant. The greater
 part of the gentlemen arrived at Cospeletic
 the day before, as it was intended to drive
 the elephants into the enclosure in the
 evening, and take them prisoner next day,
 which would have been done easily, near
 the afternoon the herd had come very near
 the entrance. With respect to the kraal,
 it was nothing more than an enclosure
 about 200 yards long, and nearly square
 in form, made with very strong posts, or
 rather, small trees, stuck in the ground,
 and bound together. The inside was a
 thick jungle, with large trees in it, and
 outside the same, excepting where it was
 cleared sufficiently to admit of the fence
 and a path round it. The entrance was
 about ten feet wide, with deep holes ready
 for the stakes to be driven in, the moment
 the poor brutes were entrapped. It was
 covered by a few green boughs, and is gen-
 erally so contrived as to be in a track the
 elephants are in the habit of following.
 I saw several of these paths, and very curi-
 ously they were: some appeared like covered
 archways, where the jungle was high, and
 were so thick, that I could think nothing
 but an elephant could make its way through.
 Kraals are only constructed in parts of the
 country frequented by elephants, and when
 it is known that there is a herd in the
 neighborhood. As soon as the enclosure
 is finished, the elephants are surrounded
 by a crowd of people, who form a circle
 from the entrance of the kraal, and enclose
 them within it. This circle of course is
 very large and varies according to circum-
 stances; in this instance, when we arrived,
 the animals were enclosed in a circle of
 about two miles. Whenever they attempt
 to break through, they are driven back by
 the people, who shout and yell with all
 their might, beat the tom-toms, discharge
 guns, and at night fires are lighted at every
 ten or twelve yards' distance round the
 circle, and this always frightens the ele-
 phants. The natives are most anxious to
 have them destroyed, as they do much
 mischief, particularly to their paddy-fields;
 so that all the kraals the natives in hun-
 dreds volunteer their services, which of
 course are gladly accepted. Government
 gives a premium of £3 for every elephant
 captured.

A very large tree at one end of the en-
 closure was selected for the spectators, on

which, about one-third of the height up,
 was laid a platform, capable of holding
 thirty or forty people, and formed of small
 branches fastened together by what is called
 jungle-ropes, which is nothing more
 than the creepers which are twisted round
 every tree and bush. It is very tough and
 strong, as may be supposed; but I confess
 I should have felt safer with a piece of
 English rope. A very large party of us
 sat down to an excellent breakfast in the
 tent; and the yelling appearing to come
 nearer and nearer, we were advised to
 make the best of our way to the tree, which
 we ascended by a steep ladder, and found
 it very comfortable, as we were completely
 shaded from the sun by an awning of cocca-
 nut leaves. Having gained this command-
 ing point, our patience was tried for several
 hours; for though the elephants were
 often so near the entrance that we could
 see the bushes move, and sometimes their
 ears flapping, they always broke away
 again, till at last about three o'clock, eight
 elephants were driven into the kraal.—
 Then the noise of the people became deaf-
 ening, and their shouts and yells of triumph
 drove the poor creatures on; and we had
 a fine view of them, as they came rushing
 towards us, crushing the jungle in every
 direction. The posts were immediately
 put down at the entrance, and the natives
 stationed themselves all around the fence;
 and whenever the animals came near it,
 they were driven back by howling and
 waving white sticks at them. It is said
 that the elephant particularly dislikes
 white, which is the reason the wands are
 flourished; but perhaps it is that white is
 more conspicuous than anything else among
 the dark green. They were driven back
 several times till they had half exhausted
 themselves, and were then comparatively
 quiet in the thickest cover they could find,
 and all we saw was an occasional shower
 of earth that they tossed over their bodies
 with their trunks. In the course of the
 preceding night, the rest of the herd had
 broken through the watch, and got clear
 off; and the gentlemen were loud in their
 regrets that they had not been driven in
 done, as I think the rush of the elephants
 into the kraal was the finest thing we saw.

Having thus so far succeeded, the next
 thing was to secure them; and for this
 purpose the tame elephants were introduced
 into the kraal. Six very large ones were
 brought in, just under our tree, and began
 breaking down the jungle, and clearing a
 space round the large trees to which it
 was intended to tie the wild ones. It was
 really wonderful to see them twining their
 trunks round some of the smaller trees,
 and with two or three good shakes leaving
 them flat. They sometimes pushed their
 head against a tree, so as to bring the whole
 force of their body upon it, and then down
 it came; as for the brushwood, part of
 which was upwards of six feet high, they
 really mowed it down with their trunks.
 In about an hour's time, the whole was,
 comparatively speaking, clear, and the
 poor herd had no longer any hiding-place,
 but stood all huddled close together in a
 little thicket, about the middle of the kraal.
 There was one very little thing among
 them, not much bigger than a large pig,
 and they seemed to take the greatest care
 of him, keeping him in the centre of them.

Each tame elephant had two men on
 his back—one to guide him, and the other
 to nose the wild ones, which did not seem
 to be much afraid of them, as they allowed
 them to come very near, and then walked
 rather slowly away. One of the tame ones
 then followed, in the most stealthy and
 treacherous manner possible; and when he
 came close enough to the wild one, he be-
 gan coaxing and tickling him with his
 trunk, whilst the men with the noose,
 which is fastened round the tame one's
 neck, slipped off his back with it, and
 watched his opportunity to throw it over
 the hind-leg of the other. He soon did
 this, as apparently the tame one gave the
 wild elephant a poke with his trunk, which
 made him lift his leg to move on; and in a
 moment he was prisoner. While the man
 was thus employed, it was curious to see
 the care which the tame elephant took of
 him, interposing his huge head in such a
 manner that the wild one could not touch
 him; and if he should fail of securing the
 wild elephant, which sometimes happens,
 the tame one puts out his leg for the man
 to mount on his back, and sets off in pur-
 suit again, which is sure to be successful in
 the end.

When the poor animal was noosed, he
 set up a dreadful yell, and tried to escape;
 but that was impossible, for the other tame
 elephants came up and headed him, which
 ever way he attempted to go; whilst the
 one to which he was fastened bent his body
 the way he wished to take him, and pulled
 him along with all his strength to the tree
 to which he was to be tied. When he
 was dragged close to it, the tame one walked
 round it two or three times with the rope,
 till he was quite secure. Another came
 to his other side, and thus he was wedged
 so closely between them that he could not
 make much resistance; and if he did,
 he was immediately thrust at with the tusks
 of both of them. In this way, his legs
 were firmly tied to two trees by great
 cable-ropes.

When the tame ones left him to go in
 search of the others, he began struggling
 most furiously, and moaned and howled
 in a very melancholy manner, frequently
 throwing himself on the ground, and dig-
 ging his teeth into the earth, while the
 tears were rolling down his face. Al-
 though I came on purpose to see all this,
 and should have been much disappointed
 if I had not, still I could not help feeling
 very sorry to see the noble animal suffering
 so acutely. My consolation was, that some
 day he would have the pleasure of doing
 the same to others, for it really seemed a
 pleasure to the tame ones. His cries
 brought back the rest of the herd, which

looked at him through the bushes, but did
 not attempt a rescue, which they often do,
 but took to their heels whenever they saw
 the tame ones turn in their direction.

In this manner they were all secured,
 excepting the little one, as he could not do
 much harm, and always kept close to his
 mother, which was very quiet, and there-
 fore only tied by three legs. A young ele-
 phant is, I think, the drollest-looking
 creature possible. This one was supposed
 to be about three months old, but it made
 more noise than all the rest, and trumpeted
 and charged in great style.

Kraals are now much less frequent in
 Ceylon than they used to be. Some years
 ago, there was one in the town of Kandy,
 in which a good many elephants were taken;
 and a gentleman told me he was present
 at one in Tangalle, where 270 were en-
 closed, which no doubt must have been
 a very fine sight; but of course only a few,
 comparatively speaking, could have been
 taken, the rest must have been killed.—
 There are now immense numbers in that
 part of the island, but still they are decreas-
 ing everywhere, and must continue to do
 so as the population increases, and the
 country is laid more open.

It is dangerous to meet a single eleph-
 ant. He is almost sure to attack you, but a herd
 will allow you to come very close to them,
 without attempting to touch you, unless
 they are irritated by being hunted or fired
 at; but it is a hopeless case if you meet a
 rogue elephant, as a single one is called in
 Ceylon. People tell you that they have
 been dismissed from the herd for miscon-
 duct, and that that is the reason why they
 are always so furious. There is a little
 stream near the kraal at Cospeletic, where,
 some years ago, the *tuppal man* (as the
 postman is called) was killed by a rogue
 elephant early in the morning. The poor
 fellow was told that an elephant was on
 the road, but he did not like to delay, and
 pushed on. Some people, who were not
 far off, just heard the animal roar, and
 as he was strong enough to knock a man
 down, he was tied by the leg in the stall.
 He was afterwards given to the 78th High-
 landers, who brought him home, and was
 made a pet of by the regiment.

The situation of the elephant in his
 stall must be both painful and uncomfort-
 able, and there is often great difficulty in
 fastening him in it; it is made just wide
 enough to admit him, but not sufficiently
 so as to allow of his turning round. There
 is a wide stall on each side, into which two
 tame ones go, dragging their prisoner into
 the middle one, and remain beside him un-
 til he is secured to posts by each of his
 legs. He therefore can do no injury but
 with his trunk, and not much with that,
 as his neck is also fastened to a beam also
 in this irksome position he is kept for forty
 days, without the power of turning round
 or lying down; the only change permit-
 ted is when he is taken down to the water
 to wash, which is done every day; and
 that cannot be much pleasurable to him, as
 he walks between his two tame friends, which
 keep so close to him, that he has very little
 power to move or look about him. Each
 elephant has three men to wait upon him;
 and a native doctor is always in attendance.
 After forty days, he is gradually allowed
 more liberty, and generally in three months
 he is perfectly tamed, and sent down to
 Colombo to be educated. The most cruel
 part of the business is, that he is tied so
 tightly, his legs are full of sores, and quite
 raw. I think this might be obviated with
 a little more care; but as it does not in-
 jure his value, the people do not much
 concern themselves about his sufferings.—
 Sometimes they feel their captivity so
 much, that they will neither eat nor drink,
 and actually die of a broken heart; and
 when a very young one is caught, it must
 be separated from his mother, as after the
 first day or two the poor thing can never
 give it any nourishment. They are fond of
 their young ones, and often the mother
 does not survive the separation, but pines
 away by degrees.

Two of those we saw captured were
 brought into Kornegalle the next evening;
 they were very quietly walking each be-
 tween two tame ones, to which they were
 fastened by strong ropes, which were first
 thrown round the necks of the tame ones,
 and then round those of the wild; their
 hind-legs were also loosely tied together,
 so as to allow of their walking, and it was
 really surprising to see how easily they
 went along. Once only one of them tried
 to lie down, and would not move for some
 time; but his companions at last roused
 him, by poking him well with their tusks,
 and after that there was no difficulty.

We stopped at the kraal the next day
 on our way home, and saw the rest of the
 animals still tied to their trees. One of
 them was remarkably fierce, he trumpeted
 and lashed his trunk about, and tried to
 charge at us as far as the ropes would allow
 him. We heard afterwards that he broke
 his neck on his way to Kornegalle, from
 his violent efforts to break loose; and a
 few days after, the mother of the little one
 was found strangled in her stall, probably
 with her exertions to get at her young one,
 for she was the tamest and gentlest of them
 all. The little thing was brought into
 Kandy in a bullock-cart, and required no
 fewer than fifty men (not Europeans) to
 lift him in. We was given to the general,
 who was very anxious to rear him; and
 for a week or two he seemed to get on

very well, drank twelve bottles of buffalo
 milk in the day, besides eating a quantity
 of rice and plantains; he was very far
 from being tame, and was obliged to be
 tied. However, he died after eight or ten
 hours' illness, without any cause that could
 be assigned, but probably from overfeeding
 and want of exercise. He did take a walk
 with two attendants every morning, but of
 course that was not the same as roaming
 about in his native jungle.

There is one thing about the elephants
 in Ceylon that puzzles every one, and that
 is, whether those with tusks are a distinct
 breed or not. Tusked elephants are very
 rare; and though they are always males,
 still very few have tusks, while herds be-
 long frequently encountered without one
 tusk amongst them. When they do
 happen to have one, the others seem to be
 very proud of him; he is taken the great-
 est care of, and always kept in the centre,
 so that it is very difficult to get a shot at
 him. In no other respects but his tusks
 can he be distinguished from other ele-
 phants, and he is to be met with of all sizes.
 To shoot a tuskier is, consequently, the
 ambition of all sportsmen in Ceylon.

From the North American and U. S. Gazette.
**PENNSYLVANIA COAL FIELDS AND THE
 LAKE TRADE.**
 SHAMOKIN, Nov. 1, 1853.
 Messrs. Editors:—It is to those of our city
 brethren whose knowledge of our boundless
 resources has been gained more from per-
 sonal observation than mere representation,
 that we owe the denizens of the interior must
 look for aid when unfairly dealt with. You
 have ventured among us—have seen, with
 your own eyes, our vast mineral and agricul-
 tural wealth, our projected improvements,
 which are designed to place us in communi-
 cation with the leading markets of the coun-
 try—and have given your readers *bona fide*
 impressions instead of the fictitious eman-
 ations, oftentimes set afloat by persons wholly
 unacquainted with what they write about—
 Your indulgence, therefore, is claimed, for a
 few moments, in the correction of errors, go-
 ing the rounds of papers, that are calculated
 to do this section of the State injustice.

It is assumed, in a comparison between
 the Northern, or Wyoming, coal region and
 the Middle, or Shamokin, region, that the
 former is 57 miles nearer Buffalo than the
 latter is to Erie. Upon this hypothesis is
 based the coal trade of the two points
 named on Lake Erie, and the advantage is
 given to the Wyoming region by the writer
 as follows:

From the Wyoming mines to Buffalo is 247 miles.
 Charge for transportation, at 1¢ per ton per
 mile, \$247.00
 Cost of coal per ton in the cars at the mines, say \$3.00
 Total cost at Buffalo from Wyoming, \$250.00
 From the Shamokin mines to Buffalo is 214 miles.
 Charge for transportation, at 1¢ per ton per
 mile, \$214.00
 Cost of coal per ton in the cars at the mines, say \$3.00
 Total cost at Buffalo from Shamokin, \$217.00

Though it does not appear from this what
 point the writer started at, in the Wyoming
 region, to reach Buffalo in 247 miles, still it
 is fair to presume that his calculation was
 founded upon the construction of a branch
 road from Pittston to Waverly, in continua-
 tion of the contemplated North Pennsylvania,
 or Eastern and Water Gap Railway. If there
 were no barriers in the way of the comple-
 tion of this road, it might be made appear
 that the Wyoming region is a few miles
 nearer to Buffalo than the Shamokin region
 is to Erie; but not by the difference of 57
 miles, as is contended. The building of this
 branch will finally be deemed impracticable.
 For the very good reason that it will be able
 to obtain but a meagre portion of the coal
 tonnage of that region. The North Branch
 Canal, you are aware, runs from Pittston to
 Athens, close by Waverly, with capacity suf-
 ficient to carry all the coal that that section
 of the region can send to western New York,
 while the Lackawanna and Western railway
 —10 miles higher up the valley—will con-
 siderably to Buffalo, already in operation will
 absorb all the trade in its vicinity. This is
 rendered the more certain, from the fact
 that the coal operations of that locality are
 owned and operated by the capitalists of
 New York, who also own and control the
 Lackawanna and Western Road. It is not
 reasonable to suppose that a company thus
 situated could, in any contingency, notwith-
 standing it may be a few miles farther from
 a given point on Lake Erie, be effected by a
 rival interest such as is proposed. Besides,
 the Lackawanna road is of uniform gauge
 with the Buffalo railway, while, for aught
 that is known to the contrary—if the branch
 from Pittston to Waverly is to be a contin-
 uation of the North Pennsylvania road—there
 would be a change in the gauge at Waverly,
 and consequently make transportation neces-
 sary. The proper point, therefore, to start
 from, must be to strike every one, in
 measuring the distance to Buffalo, is Scran-
 ton, the beginning of the Lackawanna and
 Western railway. Taking this for granted,
 Buffalo is just thirty miles farther from the
 Wyoming mine, or, as it may be called, the
 Lackawanna region, than is shown by the
 figures quoted. The following table of dis-
 tances satisfactorily demonstrates this:

From Scranston to Great Bend 52 miles.
 From Great Bend to Shamokin 15 " "
 Shamokin to Erie 20 " "
 Erie to Buffalo 100 " "
 Total miles to Buffalo from Shamokin, 197
 From Scranston to Buffalo 227 " "
 Difference in favor of Shamokin 30 " "

In regard to the distance from Shamokin
 to the heart of the middle region—to Erie,
 the Sunbury and Erie Railway, the writer is
 even more out of the way. Late surveys of
 the Sunbury and Erie route show that the
 harbor of Erie—pronounced the best on the
 Lakes, having an average depth of 20 feet
 water, with an area of six miles square, and

being free from the obstruction by ice ear-
 lier in the spring and later in the fall than
 any other point—is but 269 miles from Sha-
 mon; instead of 304 miles—making a differ-
 ence of 35 miles. With these corrected dis-
 tances, and without taking into account the
 superiority of grade of the Sunbury and Erie,
 which would, of course, greatly lessen ex-
 pense of transportation, let us see how stands
 the relative cost of coal, from the two re-
 gions, on Lake Erie.

From Shamokin to Erie, 208 miles, at a charge of
 1¢ per ton per mile for transportation, the
 cost at Erie would be \$217.00
 From Scranston to Buffalo, 277 miles, at a charge for
 transportation of 1¢ per ton per mile, the
 cost at Erie would be \$250.00
 Total cost at Erie from Shamokin 217.00
 Total cost at Erie from Scranston 250.00
 Difference in favor of Shamokin 33.00

Instead of the 72 cents per ton against the
 region, while in actual distance there is 8
 miles in favor of the Sunbury and Erie
 route.

This changes somewhat the complexion of
 the writer's figures—sufficiently so to give
 a nice advantage to the middle region—
 though it is far less than is claimed, with
 great plausibility, by those who are presum-
 ed to be well versed in the various routes
 leading to the Lakes of the Northwest. Mr.
 LONGNECKER, President of the Philadelphia
 and Sunbury road, in a late report, not only
 shows that the Sunbury and Erie route has
 an advantage, in distance of 35 miles over
 the route from Scranston to Buffalo, over the
 route from Scranston to Dunkirk, 28 miles,
 and over the route from Pittston to Dun-
 kirk, 66 miles; but takes the position that
 the Sunbury and Erie railway can deliver
 coal at Erie at \$4 per ton, with a profit of
 \$1.50; at which rates 10 per cent, on a
 capital of \$15,000,000, would be yielded to
 the Company for the transportation of one million
 tons coal alone. This, it must be borne in
 mind, is simply the revenue derivable from
coal freight, the same cars bringing to the
 east the products of the Lake country, as
 well as the productions of the belt of country
 through which the road passes, some eighty
 miles wide, and carrying to the West, in re-
 turn, the coal of the Middle Region. Such
 Mr. L. shows very plainly, cannot be the
 case with the return cars on the New York
 and Erie road, a portion of which railway is
 used by Wyoming region to reach Buffalo—
 He says:

"The Lackawanna Coal region is not in
 the line or in the course of the New York
 and Erie from Dunkirk to New York—but is
 reached by the road of the Lackawanna Rail-
 road Company, 48 miles in length, and run-
 ning off in a westerly direction from New
 York. The return cars of the New York and
 Erie road could not reach the Lackawanna
 coal fields without going and returning a dis-
 tance of 48 miles, equal to a deflection of 96
 miles. If, therefore the cars or boats carry-
 ing coal from the Lackawanna region go west
 loaded, and return to their coal fields empty
 the consequence is that the distances are
 nearly doubled upon them, as compared with
 cars carrying coal over the Sunbury and Erie,
 which go out loaded, and return not only with
 cargoes paying expenses, but freighted with
 such goods as will pay a more profitable ren-
 derment than the coal carried westward. I
 think it clear, therefore, that in regarding
 your extraordinary advantages in distance,
 and carrying coal as *back freight*, that