



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. 36.

SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1853.

OLD SERIES, VOL. 14, NO. 10.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN.

THE AMERICAN is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum in advance. No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid. All communications or letters on business relating to the office, to insure attention, must be POST PAID.

TO CLUBS.

Three copies to one address.	\$5.00
Seven " " " " " " " "	10.00
Fifteen " " " " " " " "	20.00
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One Square of 10 lines, 3 times, every subsequent insertion, One Square, 3 months, Six months, One year, Business Cards of Five lines, per annum, Merchants and others, advertising by the year, with the privilege of inserting different advertisements weekly, Larger Advertisements, as per agreement.

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

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

Refer to:
P. & A. Rowland,
Lower & Barton,
Somers & Snodgrass,
Reynolds, McFarland & Co.,
Spring, Good & Co.,
Philad.

HENRY DONNEL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
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.—11.

M. L. SHINDEL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
SUNBURY, PA.

December 4, 1852.—11.

DOCTOR I. W. HUGHES,
Office on Broadway, near the Episcopal Church, Sunbury.

Sunbury, May 14, 1853.—11.

SLAYMAKER & HASLETT,
Columbia House,
Chestnut Street below 7th,
PHILADELPHIA.

Board \$1.50 per day.
Phila., May 28, 1853.—11.

N. M. Newnam's
Beatty's Row, Norwegian street, Pottsville,
Penna.

Plumbing Shop,
HAS CONSTANTLY ON HAND A SUPPLY of all sizes of Lead Pipe, Sheet Lead, Black Tin, Bath Pans, Shower Baths, Hydrants, Hose, Double and Single Acting Pumps and Water Closets; also, all kinds of Brass Cocks for water and steam, Brass Oil Cops, and Globes for Engines. All kinds of Copper Work and Plumbing done in the neatest manner at the shortest notice.

N. B. Cash paid for Old Brass and Lead.
Pottsville, Aug. 27, 1853.—11.

THE DEAD BROUGHT TO LIFE!
Old Sunbury rising out of her sleep of many years.

The Iron horse snorting and blowing has aroused her sleeping energies and infused new vigor into her prostrate system. One of its first effects is seen in the vast amount of new and fashionable goods, just now arrived at

I. W. TENER & CO'S STORE.
Their stock is elegant and varied and well worth seeing; eye, and buying too at the prices they offer them; all are respectively invited to inspect and purchase.

Sunbury, Sept. 10, 1853.

WM. MCARTY,
BOOKSELLER,
Market Street,
SUNBURY, PA.

JUST received and for sale, a fresh supply of

EVANGELICAL MUSIC
for Singing Schools. He is also opening at this time, a large assortment of Books, in every branch of Literature, consisting of

Poetry, History, Novels, Romances, Scientific Works, Law, Medicine, School and Children's Books, Bibles; School, Pocket and Family, both with and without Engravings—and every variety of Binding. Prayer Books, of all kinds.

Also, just received and for sale, Purdon's Digest of the laws of Pennsylvania, edition of 1851, price only \$6.00.

Judge Reads edition of Blackstone's Commentaries, in 3 vols. is, formerly sold at \$10.00, and now offered (in fresh binding) at the low price of \$6.00.

A Treatise on the laws of Pennsylvania respecting the estates of Decedents, by Thomas F. Gordon, price only \$1.00.

Travels, Voyages and Adventures,—all of which will be sold low, either for cash, or country produce.

February, 21, 1852.—11.

NOTICE,
BANK OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

The Directors of the Bank of Northumberland give notice that they intend to apply to the next Legislature of this Commonwealth, for a renewal of its charter with the same capital, and with its present title and privileges. By order of the Board.

JNO. TAGGART, Pres.
June 25, 1853.—6m.

NOTICE
is hereby given, that application will be made to the next Legislature of Pennsylvania, for the incorporation of a company, with discounting privileges, to be located in the borough of Sunbury, in the County of Northumberland, with a capital of One hundred thousand dollars, to be called the "Savings Bank of Sunbury."

Sunbury, June 25, 1853.—6m.

LEATHER.
FRITZ & HENDRY,
Store, 29 N. 3d street,
PHILADELPHIA.

Morocco Manufacturers, Carriers, Importers, Commission and General Leather Business.

WHOLESALE & RETAIL.
Manufactory 15 Margaretta Street,
Phila., August 20, 1853.—11.

FRESH Vanilla Bean of a superior quality just received and for sale by
June 4, 1853.— H. B. MASSER.

POETRY.

THE POOR VOTER ON ELECTION DAY.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The proudest now is but my peer,
The highest not more high;
Today, of all the weary year,
The week is strong to-day;
Today, alike are great and small,
The nameless and the known;
My place is in the people's hall,
The ballot box my throne!

Who serves to-day upon the list,
Beside the served shall stand,
Alike the brown and wrinkled list,
The gloved and dainty hand!
The rich is level with the poor,
The weak is strong to-day;
And sleekest bread-crust craves no more
Than homespun frock of gray.

To-day let pomp and vain pretence
My stubborn right abide;
I set a plain man's common sense
Against the pedant's pride.
To-day shall simple manhood try
The strength of gold and land;
The wide world has not wealth to buy
The power in my right hand!

While there's a grief to seek redress,
Or balance to adjust,
Where weighs our living manhood less
Than Mammon's wheat dust,—
While there's a right to need my vote,
A wrong to sweep away,
Up! cluted knee and ragged coat!
A man's a man to-day!

Biographical.

ANDREW JACKSON.

From the Southern Literary Messenger.

It is vain to deny to Jackson a title to greatness. He achieved great things, and won a succession of splendid triumphs, unequalled in the history of any man, save one, of his generation. He achieved them, not by the force of accident—but because of the power within him. It is idle to discuss the ability or the merits of a man, who, in different, and these the highest departments of human enterprise, succeeds, not in one department, or as to one measure, but in all departments, and in all things, throughout a long succession of years and of struggles, against the greatest and most various opposition. Such successes do not come by chance. But if we will not take this general conclusion, let us look to particulars. What did he accomplish? He raised himself, in a profession the least aided to his genius; of all others, at a time of life when men of real merit are only preparing themselves for local distinction, to the office of Attorney General and of Judge, and when the scene changed from peace to war, he rose at once to the post of General, and, in a few months, won the most brilliant successes and the brightest laurels of the war, and placed himself side by side with the great captains of the world. He took his seat in the Senate of the United States; he was soon the strongest candidate before the people for President, bearing the palm from the veteran politicians and established statesmen of the country. Defeated in the house by politicians, he turned defeat into victory, and established upon a sure and lasting ascendancy. He was lifted by the strongest tide of personal popularity to the first office of his country, and held power against an opposition more powerful than ever before assailed an administration. But he did much more than this; he impressed his name and character upon the country more deeply than any man, the father of his country only excepted, ever did before him. He gave a fresh and awakening influence to the popular mind—taught, more effectively than Jefferson, the masses their power; threw off the influence of old politicians, and started the government and the people onward in a new and more impulsive career. He opened a new era in American politics, with new measures, new ideas, and new policies. He founded a party more permanent in its organization, more lasting in its duration than any before established—giving its own line of statesmen and its own course of policy to the country; a party from which was to rise a stronger influence upon the world and the indefinite increase of the wealth, territory and population of the republic. He consolidated the strength and energies of the government; made it formidable, feared and respected by foreign powers; inasmuch that he addressed the head of the second power of Europe with the imperious tone of a rich creditor pursuing a balking bankrupt, and forced him to a settlement of a claim upon an open threat of chastisement. He found a confederacy—and left an empire. He altered the monetary system of the government—struck down the Bank of the United States—raised up and sustained the State Banks, and finally threw them up as so many windmills; and, for a time nearly abolished the whole credit system of a great trading people. He struck down the doctrines of States' Rights in their sanctions and substance, and in their strongholds, and with them, the flower of the disciples of that school to whom he had owed his elevation, in great part; and established national doctrines and ideas which placed the government on the basis vainly contended for by Washington and Marshall. He subdued the Senate. He placed his rejected minister at its head; it rebuked his course. He made it draw black lines around its records; and he raised up another, if not two, Presidents to rule after he had withdrawn from office; and continued after his retirement, and to the close of his life, the ruling spirit of his own party.—This he did without the aid of politicians;—he needed no conduit between himself and the people. He operated directly upon the public mind; indeed, the most popular

THE DIVISION OF TIME.

Many ages must have elapsed after the creation of the world before any method of computing Time, or of dating events, was brought into established use. At a very early period time was measured by the revolutions of the moon, the seasons, and the successive returns of labor and rest; but so late as the age of Homer a formal calendar seems to have been unknown as a guide to history or a register of events.

The division of days into weeks is the most ancient mode of marking time, and probably took place at the Creation. The next division was that of months, which appears to have been in use even before the Flood. The months were marked by the revolutions of the moon, consequently were lunar months.

The highest natural division of time is into years. At first a year consisted of only twelve lunar months. It is supposed that this method of reckoning was in use as early as the Deluge, and that it continued for many ages after. But this was a very imperfect mode of computing time, for a lunar year was nearly eleven days shorter than a solar year; hence the months could not long correspond with the seasons. And even in the short space of seventeen years the winter months would have changed places with those of summer.

The calendar which is now generally adopted in the Christian world was instituted by Romulus. His year began on the 1st of March, and continued only ten months, or about 304 days, hence was very imperfect. Numa gave the year 355 days, added two more months, and transferred the beginning of the year to the 1st of January. But this was still making the year too short.

When Julius Cæsar obtained the sovereignty of Rome, he found the months had changed from the seasons, and in order to bring them forward to their places he formed one long year of fifteen months, or 445 days. This has been called the year of confusion. It ended January 1st, forty-five years before Christ. From this period the Julian year of 365 days and 6 hours commenced. The common year continued only 365 days, but once every four years the 6 hours amounted to another day, and this day was added to 23d of February, or the sixth calends of March, which was to be reckoned twice hence this year was styled Bissextile, or Leap Year.

The Julian year, however, was still imperfect, for the earth performs its annual circuit round the sun in 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 45 seconds; hence the solar year was shorter than the Julian, or civil year, by 11 minutes, 14 seconds, which in 130 years amounted to a day.

In the course of time this inconvenience became too considerable to be unnoticed, Pope Gregory XIII. substituted a new calendar, called the Gregorian Calendar, or new style. It was published in March A. D. 1582. Ten days had now been gained by the old mode of reckoning, and these were struck out of the month of October following, by reckoning the fifth day of that month the fifteenth.

And in order to prevent the recurrence of a similar variation in time to come, he ordained that one day should be added to every fourth year as before, and that from the year 1600 every fourth centennial year should be received as leap year, and the other three centennial years as common ones. Thus the years 1700, 1800, 1900, 2000, etc., are to be reckoned as common years, and 1600, 2000, 2400, etc., as leap years. Even this correction is not absolutely exact, yet the error is so small as to hardly vary one day in a thousand years.

The mode of computing time as established by Gregory is called New Style, and that by Julius Cæsar, Old Style. The New Style was adopted by Spain, Portugal, and part of Italy on the same day as at Rome, and in France on the tenth of December following, which was reckoned the twentieth day.

But in Great Britain this change was not adopted until September, 1752, when 170 years had elapsed since the Gregorian alteration consequently a little more than another day had been gained. It was therefore enacted by Parliament that eleven days instead of ten, should be stricken out of the month of September, 1752. On the second day of that month the Old Style ceased, and the third day was reckoned the tenthenth.

The same act Great Britain changed the beginning of the year from the 25th of March to 1st of January.

The time for commencing the year has usually been determined, among different nations, by the date of some memorable event, such as the Deluge, the Incarnation of Christ, etc.

The Egyptians began the year with the autumnal equinox. The Jewish ecclesiastic year began in the spring, but in civil affairs they retained the epoch of the Egyptians.—The ancient Swedish year began about the time of the winter solstice. The Turks and Arabs commence their year about the middle of July.

When Romulus began the year of March, he named the last four months according to their position. The names September, October, November, December, designated their order—seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth.—But Numa changed the beginning of the year to the 1st of January without altering the names of the months; hence they do not now correspond to their order in the calendar.

Owing to these changes in the modes of reckoning time, if we wish to ascertain a what date in Old Style would a certain day in New Style correspond, or what date in

THE LATE MALIGNANT FEVER.

The Medical Examiner for November, and the Quarterly Transactions of the College of Physicians, have a very satisfactory and authentic history of the fever recently prevailing in the neighborhood of South street wharf. The bark Mandarin, which it is supposed brought the fever, arrived at the Lazaretto on the 12th of July, from Cienfuegos, having lost two men by fever on her passage.

The first case of suspicious fever was on the 19th of July, the day before the Mandarin left her position at Lombard street wharf. A young man whose stand was at South street wharf, took sick and died. The next case was that of a captain, whose brig lay at Lombard street wharf, and who slept on board the brig, and took his meals at the Champion House. He took sick on the 20th. The next was the son of Mr. Koehler, who lived with his father at the Champion House. The next the keeper of the Red Bank Ferry house, and his wife, in the same vicinity. Up to July the 27th, there were seventeen cases, of which eleven died. There were only eight of these cases which exhibited black vomit, and they all perished. In the month of August, there were twenty-seven additional cases, presenting in all respects, evidences of Yellow Fever, twenty-three of which died. In eleven of the thirty-four deaths a post-mortem was made; in all of which the yellow or ochre-colored liver was detected in whole or in part. In all of them the "coffee grounds" fluid, or melanic blood, was found, either in the stomach or intestines, with other evidence of a pernicious form of fever. The mortality being fearful, being 80 per cent, or five to one of recoveries.

The disease still continued to prevail till the 7th of October, when the last case occurred. During this period of eighty days there were one hundred and twenty-eight deaths, equal to 75 per cent, or one death in every 1 1/2 hundredths. These include every variety of the disease, called respectively, Yellow, Malignant Remittent and Typhus Interferens fevers. Out of these 170 cases, 147 were distinctly traced to the immediate vicinity of the infected district of which South street wharf was the centre.

Several other scholars testified to the same detail of facts. Gillmore, a gunsmith, testified that Ward got the pistols at his store, and that he had loaded before he started out.

Mr. Mathew Ward, here implicated, is a young married man, son of Robert J. Ward, one of the wealthiest men in Kentucky. He is also the brother of Miss Sillie Ward, the belle whose divorce case made so much talk a few years ago. Mr. Ward has also some literary reputation, having published a book entitled "English Items." Mrs. Wm. H. G. Butler, is a native of Indiana. He was one of the best educated men in the Western country, and one of the best and most successful teachers. Three years ago, he was a delegate from the American Peace Society to the World's Peace Convention, at Frankfort-on-the-Maine. After his return, and since he established the Louisville High school, in association with Professor Sturges, he was again offered the situation of private tutor in Mr. Ward's family.

A Pennsylvania Yankee publishes the following advertisement in the Dylestown Intelligencer. We copy it without change:

To Money Lenders and Speculators.—I want to pay my debts, and as the only means I can devise to get money without suing, I have resolved to expose to public sale, at the Court House, on Tuesday, the second week of court, (when there will be a good many politicians about,) a large number of unsettled book accounts, and the like number of notes of various dates and amounts. Many of them against nice young men who wear good clothes, drive fast horses, and pay particular attention to the ladies—and of course are No. 1. Some against men who think they do you a favor if they buy your goods and never pay for them—they are No. 2.—Some against men who promise to pay tomorrow. They are not quite so good. But a full and complete printed catalogue of the names, dates, and amounts, will be distributed on the day of sale. Conditions, cash.

R THORNTON.
N. B.—The above accounts will be open for settlement until the day of sale.

TO ANGLINE.
I dearly love the singin' bird,
And little buzzin' bee,
But dearer far than all the world,
Is thy sweet voice to me.

O! very deep is daddy's well,
And deeper is the sea,
But deepest in my bosom is
The love I have for thee.

Them smile on me, Dear Angeline,
To make my heart feel light,
Claim the big dog and I will come
A courtin' Sunday nite.

Just in Time.—The Treasurer of Stark county, Ohio, walked into the bowels of Dwight's Bank, at Massillon, to the tune of \$10,000 the very day it suspended. He came armed with those pistols, pick-axe, crowbar, and the people, and made the securities for the bank pay over without bursting a bolt.—It is considered about Cleveland, that the concern is very much mixed, and the ability to pay over 50 per cent. is questionable.

In the city of Houston, Texas, it is said that \$75,000 is annually spent in intoxicating liquors. The population consists of about three thousand white inhabitants.

A REMARKABLY VICIOUS WHALE.

The Edgerton Gazette published the following particulars relative to the attack upon and final capture of an ugly whale, by a boat's crew from the ship Hector, of New Bedford, furnished by Capt. Thos. A. Norton, who was the first mate of the Hector at the time:

"In October, 1852, when in lat. 12 S. lon. 80 W, the ship 90 days from port, we raised a large whale. The joyful cry was given of 'there she blows!' and every thing on board at once assumed an aspect of busy preparation for the capture. The boats were lowered, and the chase commenced. When we got within three ships' length of him, he turned and rushed furiously upon us. He struck us at the same moment we fastened to him. He stove the boat badly, but with the assistance of sails, which we placed under her bottom, and constant bailing, she was kept above water. The Captain—John O. Morse—came to our assistance. Told him he had better keep clear of the whale— but he said he had a very long lance, and wanted to try it upon the rascal. Capt. M. went up to the whale, when all at once he turned upon the boat, which he took in his mouth, and held 'right up on end' out of the water, and shook it all to pieces in a moment. The men were thrown in every direction, and Captain Morse fell from a distance of at least thirty feet into the water. Not being satisfied with total destruction of the boat, he set to work and 'blew up' the boat kegs and lantern kegs, and whatever fragments of the boat he could find floating upon the water. At this stage of the 'fight,' I told Capt. Morse, that if he would give me the choice of the ship's company, I would try him again. It was desperate work to all appearance, and up to this time the vicious fellow had had it all his own way. The Captain was in favor of trying him from the ship, but finally consented for us to attack him again from a boat; with a picked crew, we again approached the whale, now lying perfectly still, apparently ready for another attack, as the event proved. Seeing our approach, he darted towards us with his mouth wide open, his ponderous jaws coming together every moment, with tremendous energy. We gave the word to 'steer all,' which was obeyed in good earnest. As we passed the ship, I heard the captain exclaim, 'there goes another boat!' She did go, to be sure, through the water, with all speed, but fortunately not to destruction. The monster chased us in this way for half a mile or more, during most of which time his jaws were within six or eight inches of the head of the boat. Every time he brought them together the concussion could be heard at the distance of at least a mile. I intended to jump aboard if he caught the boat. Told Mr. Mayhew, the 3d mate, who held the steering oar, that the whale would turn over soon to spout, and that then would be our time to kill him. After becoming exhausted he turned over to spout, and at the same instant we stopped the boat, and buried our lances deep in his life." Our conviction of the frame followed, and all was still. He never turned us more. We towed him to the ship, fried him out, and took ninety barrels of oil from him.

When we were cutting him in, we found two irons in his body, marked with the name of the ship Barclay, and belonging to the mate's boat. We afterwards learned that three months before, when the same whale was in lat. 5 S. lon. 105 W, he was attacked by the mate of the ship Barclay, who had a desperate struggle with him, in which he finally lost his life."

Capt. Norton, at the time of the adventure with this whale, had "seen some service," but he freely confesses that never before nor since, (though he has had the buttons bitten off his shirt by a whale,) has he come in contact with such an ugly customer as this "rogue whale," as he was termed in sailor parlance. He seemed possessed of the spirit of a demon, and looked as savage as a hungry hyena. Our readers may imagine the effect such an encounter would have upon a crew of 'green hands.' During the frightful chase of the boat by the whale, their faces were of a livid white, and their hair stood erect. On their arrival at the first port they all took to the mountains, and few if any of them have ever been seen since.

Capt. Norton informs us that a whale was never before known to attack a boat before being struck. In this case the whale had evidently experienced much trouble from the irons left in his body, and to the first opportunity which presented for revenge. Taken altogether, we think this will rank high among the whaling stories of our day.

A gun for duck shooting has been imported from England by a gentleman of Baltimore. This handy little plaything is only 8 feet in the barrel, 5 feet in the stock—one foot and a half across the breech, and an inch and a half across the muzzle! It takes two Irish men to lift it.