



The Lehigh Register.

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Allentown, Pa.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1851.

We are under continued obligations to our friend David Laury, Esq., of the House of Representatives, for valuable legislative documents.

Fatal Accident.

It is our painful duty again to record a distressing accident that happened on the 20th of February at the iron bed of Mr. Phoon Al... in South Whitehall township, Lehigh county, in which one of the workmen, named Edward Bartz, lost his life.

It appears that a number of men were engaged in uncovering the ore bed, while the unfortunate three, were at work under the bank. The continued heavy rains of late softened the ground in such a manner, that a portion of the bank gave way, in which a large stone was contained, striking the breast bone of Bartz, and instantly killing him and seriously injuring Bartz, by fracturing his collar bone, and slightly wounding Allender.

Introduction of Shinplasters.

The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Daily Sun says: "Nearly all the eating houses and saloons in the city are now issuing shin-plasters for various amounts—from six cents and a quarter up to fifty. Some of them are done on simple cards; others on bank note paper in the form of bills, and beautifully engraved. For instance, ex-allyman Mercer, at the corner of Nassau and Ann streets, issues plain cards, while the proprietor of the Tontine Coffee House gives very handsome bills in exchange, in every respect resembling bank bills. The fifty cent shin plaster looks quite like a \$50 bill, at a short distance. The paper is of the finest description, and the engraving done by the best bank note engravers.

We have before us a sheet containing a dollar's worth of them, viz: one for fifty cents, one for twenty-five cents, and two for twelve and a half cents each. The engraving of the plate cost \$200. It is beautifully executed. The fifty cent one contains on the right hand side the figure of a ship coming into port, with another in the distance outward bound, on the left side is the figure of a female with scales in her right hand, suspended over barrels lying at her feet, while her left holds an eagle emblem surrounded by an eagle, entwined with a cornucopia, and underneath a number of bales.

The twenty-five cent shinplaster has a well executed female figure emerging from the waves, and the twelve and a half cent one has a female figure on the right hand side, in a sitting posture, surrounded by trees and fruit, and the horn of plenty lying at her feet; while on the left is an exact representation of a Spanish or Mexican shilling.

Silver Mining in Mexico.

During the year of 1850, according to Mexican authorities, there were extracted from all the mines in Mexico, silver to the value of \$30,000,000, which is a pretty considerable amount; and from this it may be inferred, that the country enjoys undisturbed tranquility, and all its industrial operations and enterprises are adequately protected and encouraged, this amount might be and would be greatly increased. And if the mines of quicksilver discovered recently in California should turn out to be as rich as they are supposed to be, the consequence will be a great reduction in the price of that mineral. It will fall probably to two thirds or to one half the present price; and should that take place, then silver ores that are now too poor to yield a remunerating amount of that metal, will become valuable, and this new source of metallic wealth will add perhaps \$10,000,000 to the aggregate amount of the silver raised; so that the whole will not fall anything short, it may be, of \$40,000,000 per annum, the tranquility of the country being pre-supposed.

Should Mexico yield \$40,000,000 per annum, the annual quantity raised on this continent might be \$60,000,000. But this product, large as it is, will not be sufficient to maintain the equilibrium between gold and silver as now established, should California continue to furnish the enormous quantities of the first, as she has done for the last two years; and that she will, and more, many believe, and believe too, that the supply will be permanent, that is, that it will last for an indefinite number of years, and certainly for a great many. If this be so, then silver must rise in value, or gold must fall, which, for all practical purposes is immaterial. And when this disturbance gets to be inconvenient and embarrassing, then the wise men who make and unmake the laws must set themselves to work and contrive out a remedy for the evil when it comes. Some think it is now on us; others think not. We are in doubt ourselves, as to whether it is or not.

Newspaper Change.

The Philadelphia Spirit of the Times has changed hands. Messrs. L. F. Currie & Co. have become the purchasers, and merged it into the Pennsylvania Statesman. It has been stripped of its old dress and now makes its appearance on beautiful paper and elegant type, making it one of the handsomest penny papers in Philadelphia. It is ably conducted, and promises to defend the Democracy as it was promulgated at the Baltimore Convention.

The Telegraph.

For the information of our readers, we annex an alphabetical list of the Telegraphic letters, or characters: A . B . . . C . . . D . . . E . F . . . G . . . H . . . I . . . J . . . K . . . L . . . M . . . N . . . O . . . P . . . Q . . . R . . . S . . . T . . . U . . . V . . . W . . . X . . . Y . . . Z . . .

Frost in the Delaware.—The late ice freshet in the Delaware, caused considerable damage to the Delaware Division, carrying away about 100 feet of the dam below New Hope, and several bridges.

Gold Uncoined.—The New York bank note list says: "The amount of uncoined gold in the New Orleans Mint is three millions, making ten millions in Philadelphia and New Orleans waiting for coinage. The New Orleans Mint turned out from the 18th to the 31st January, \$610,000 in gold and \$74,900 in half dollars.

Education Meeting.

The Lehigh County Association of Teachers, Directors, and friends of education convened in the basement of the German Reformed Church in Allentown on the 23d of February, 1851, at 1 o'clock.

The meeting was called to order by the President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The committee that had been appointed to wait upon the Commissioners and Mr. Line, reported that they would not release us from the claim, but that they believed the demand exorbitant, and consequently reduced it to \$200. After some discussion it was decided that an order be granted for said amount under protest.

A part of the last report of the State Superintendent was read by Mr. R. C. Chandler, and on motion a committee of three were appointed by the President, to draw up a set of resolutions upon said report. Messrs. R. C. Chandler, George Gates and F. J. Mohr were appointed said committee. The committee withdrew, and in a short time returned with the following resolutions, which were read, discussed and adopted as amended:

Resolved, That the able report of the State Superintendent of Common Schools, presents subjects that should receive earnest attention from every friend of popular education.

Resolved, That the appointment of District Superintendents is wisely recommended, and that the necessity for them is becoming daily more and more imperative.

Resolved, That the recommendation to reduce the number of Districts from 6 to 3 meets our hearty approval.

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Association much of the incompetency of teachers, at present so general a cause of complaint, would in a great degree be corrected by the establishment of Teachers' Seminars, under the control of District Superintendents, as recommended in the Report.

Resolved, That the incompetency of teachers, whether mentally or morally, is not to be charged upon the system; that the appointing power should pay great attention to the moral character as to the intellectual capacities of the candidate for the post of instructor.

Resolved, That a State Agricultural School, wisely instituted and properly conducted, could not fail in producing beneficial and lasting results.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions, as adopted, be sent by the Corresponding Secretary to our Representative at Harrisburg, to the State Superintendent, and also to the different County Associations in this State.

On motion, a special meeting of this Association will be held in this place four weeks from to-day.

Resolved, That at said meeting the following question be discussed: Which would be preferable—A Superintendent for each Congressional District, or one for each County?

Resolved, That the Standing Committee procure speakers to deliver lectures at our next meeting.

The following subject was then presented for discussion: What part, and how much of the time of children attending school, should be spent in recess, or recreation, and how much in study during each day?—the age of the child being taken into consideration.

After an animated debate, the question was made the subject of an essay, to be read at the next meeting.

On motion the meeting adjourned to meet again on the 23d March, at one o'clock P. M., in the basement of the German Reformed Church.

JONATHAN REICHARD, President.
E. Moss, Secretary.

Religious Progress.

The progress of Christianity, not less than improvements in the arts, discoveries in science and the advances in civil liberty, has left its indelible stamp upon the last half century. In the last 50 years the moral aspect of the world has undergone a complete change. The missionary zeal of the Romish Church has been rivaled by the followers of Luther, and nations of which we are ignorant in 1800, now rejoice in the light of the gospel and the blessings of civilization. Then China and India were known only for their commercial importance; no one had heard of Nestorians and Armenians; Africa was thought of only as the producer and bazaar of human flesh, the Islands of the Pacific—that great moral Dead Sea—was known only for the cannibalism and many different other enormities of their inhabitants, and no one dreamed of reclaiming them to humanity, much less impressing them with the image of God. Fifty years have passed and what a change! Two thousand missionaries have been sent to different heathen countries, 7,000 native assistants have been employed in teaching and preaching, 4,000 churches have been organized, composed of 250,000 converts. 3,000 schools have been established embracing 250,000 children, and all this on a soil which was a moral waste—where there was not a missionary, a school, a church, a convert! At the commencement of the century there were four millions of copies of the Bible, now there are thirty millions; then the scriptures had been published in fifty languages, now they exist in two hundred languages and dialects; then they were accessible in languages spoken by two hundred millions of mankind, now in tongues and dialects spoken by six hundred millions.

Com. Jones Suspended.—The verdict of the Court Martial upon Commodore Jones is disclosed. He is suspended for five years; half that time without pay, chiefly for speculating with the public money in California gold dust. The President approves the judgement.

The best way to get rid of a beggar is to offer him work.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

HARRISBURG, February 21, 1850.
SENATE.

On the 18th, Mr. Shimer presented a petition from the proprietors of the Allentown Iron Works, praying for the passage of a law prohibiting the establishment of taverns not already licensed, within half a mile of the iron works.

On the same day, Mr. Shimer presented a petition from the German congregation of Moore township, Northampton county, praying for authority to sell certain real estate.

On the 19th, Mr. Shimer presented a petition from the congregation of United Brethren at Bethlehem, praying for an act of incorporation. On the same day, Mr. Shimer read a bill in place to incorporate the congregation of United Brethren, commonly called Moravians, at Bethlehem, Northampton county.

On the 21st, Mr. Frailey presented a petition praying for the construction of a railroad from Mount Eagle to Tremont; and a remonstrance against the laying out of a State road from Seibersville to Palo Alto.

Mr. Savery, (of Committee on Corporations) reported with amendments, the bill to incorporate the congregation of United Brethren of the borough of Bethlehem.

On leave given at this time, Mr. Shimer read in his place and presented to the chair a bill to incorporate the board of brethren of the church of the United Brethren, most generally called Moravians.

On the 18th, the bill to divorce Daniel Gross and Barbara his wife was debated by Messrs. A. E. Brown, D. Laury, and W. Lilly in favor, and Mr. Bowen in opposition. The testimony was ordered to be read, but before it was completed Mr. Penniman moved to postpone its consideration for the present; which was agreed to.

On the 18th Mr. Shimer presented a bill to incorporate the Farmers and Mechanics' bank, at Easton.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the Free Banking bill in committee of the whole. The bill was passed to a second reading, and then postponed until Tuesday next, the 26th.

HOUSE.

On the 19th, Mr. O'Neill (of Judiciary committee) with a negative recommendation, reported a bill to change the time of holding courts in Lehigh county.

On the same day, Mr. Laury introduced a bill to incorporate a company to make a road from Norristown to Shmerville; and a bill to restrain the sale of liquors within certain districts of the Allentown and the Crane iron works, in Lehigh county.

The bill to re-annex the county of Montour to the county of Columbia, came up in order, on third reading, and passed finally—yeas, 48; nays, 37.

On the 20th, Mr. Laury presented a petition for a law to prevent the sale of liquors within certain bounds of the Allentown and Crane iron works, and one from Hiram B. Yeager, a brigade inspector, for relief.

On the 21st, Mr. Laury presented a supplement to the act relating to executions, passed January 1845.

On the 18th a supplement was presented to an act authorizing the laying out of a State road from Allentown to Jonesburg, and to repeal an act relating to road laws in Jefferson county.

Christians Sentenced to Death.

Madagascar.—In June last, eight thousand Christians at Imreba, being assembled together one evening, in different places, engaged in religious exercises, were all arrested and condemned to death. Eighteen of them had already been executed, when all the rest found means of escape, fled to the palace of the prince, and implored his protection. The prince took them under his care. The fact having come to the knowledge of the queen, she ordered her grand marshal and first minister, Rainharo, to convey her orders to the prince, her son, to surrender all these Christians for execution. The grand marshal proceeded to intimate this order to the prince, who refused to obey it, declaring that the Christians were under his protection, and that if any one had the hardihood to force his palace, with a view to their seizure, he would put him instantly to death.

High words then took place between the prince and the grand marshal, the latter intimating to the former that he was acting in open rebellion to the queen, his mother. The prince becoming impatient, and having strong motives for resentment against the grand marshal drew his sword and aimed a blow at his head. It struck him on one side of the head, and cut off one of his ears. The generals present came to the rescue of the grand marshal, as the prince was about to put an end to him. When the queen heard of what had taken place, she quashed the whole affair, fearing a revolution at Imreba, for she knows that all the Anko youth are partisans of the prince, and that he is beloved by all the people and the army. The Christians are now in safety, and assemble themselves together in the evening, the government shutting its eyes upon everything.

Heavy Damages.—The jury of the Court of Common Pleas of Dauphin county, in the case of James Gillmore vs. George Beatty, returned a verdict on Friday, of \$1,600 in favor of the plaintiff. The suit was instituted for damages for personal injuries occasioned by falling into the cellar of a new building, which had been left open.

A Weighty Family.—Mr. William Robinson of this town a few days since slaughtered a brood of eight pigs, at nine months old; whose united weight was twenty-five hundred and eighty-seven pounds—averaging three hundred and twenty-three pounds each. The mother slaughtered at the same time weighed five hundred and nine lbs. This is considered a fair achievement out this way; and Mr. Robinson is waiting to hear from some one who has gone over this mark in number and weight.—Niagara Courier, Lockport, Niagara County, N. Y.

Benton for President.—Several Democratic papers in Indiana urge the nomination of Colonel Benton for President. Since the defeat in Missouri, some who previously recommended Gen. Lane, now support Col. Benton.

Great Excitement in Boston!

At Boston, last Saturday, Shadrach Wilkins, a writer, was arrested as a fugitive slave, belonging to John Deeree, a Purser in the U. S. Navy. The case was heard before the U. S. Commissioner, and was postponed till Tuesday. Wilkins remained in the Court room, in the custody of officers. A mob of blacks rushed in, knocked the officers down and secured the prisoner, and hurried him off.

The U. S. Deputy Marshal, P. Riley, Esq., has published an affidavit, relative to the rescue, in which he charges the Mayor and City Marshal with neglect of duty. Warrants were issued for the arrest of the rioters, and on Tuesday, two of them, both blacks—A. Thompson and John Fry—were arrested. Thompson is said to be the ring-leader of the riot. Fry was liberated on bail in the sum of \$3,000. On the same day, Charles G. Davis, a young lawyer, and Edward Wright, the editor of the Chronotype newspaper, were arrested upon the complaint of U. S. Attorney Lunt, charging them with aiding and abetting the escape of the fugitive slave from the Court House. They were taken before U. S. Commissioner D. F. Hulbert, and gave bail in \$3,000 each to appear for hearing.

The case was brought up on Tuesday, according to adjournment, when the Deputy Marshal accounted for the non-appearance of the prisoner, by a deposition stating the fact of his rescue by a mob, and escape. The Commissioner thereupon decided that further proceedings under the warrant should be suspended for the present. So the matter rests.

Tragedy in Kentucky.

The following letter which we find in the Frankfort (Ky.) Commonwealth, gives the particulars of a horrible tragedy:

Owensboro, February 9, 1851.
The vicinity of Owensboro was last night the scene of a most bloody and fatal tragedy. Abner Estes, and his brother in law, H. B. Estes, living near neighbors, had quarrelled, and last night about dark the former walked over to the residence of the latter, and announced that he had come to effect an amicable settlement of their difficulty. H. B. Estes expressed his entire willingness, and invited Abner into the yard. So soon as he entered, however, he made hostile demonstrations, and advanced rapidly upon H. B. Estes, brandishing a large knife, who, stepping into the door, seized his rifle. The gun wanting a cap failed to fire. A brief struggle ensued between the parties over the gun, but H. B. Estes succeeded in keeping it, and ejected his assailant from the house. Abner approached the house from an opposite door, and was fired at by his antagonist, but it did not retard the rapid advance of Abner; he then drew from his pocket a six-barrel revolver and fired twice.—Abner Estes still advanced upon his adversary, and seizing him with the desperation of frenzy, he buried his knife deep in his abdomen, lacerating the viscera and inflicting a frightful and fatal wound. The assassin, when he had done the deed, bounded off into the darkness, and it was supposed he had escaped unhurt. He was found next morning, in an adjacent field dead.

The writer had just returned from the scene of blood. The spectacle beggars description. In an open field, distant fifty yards from the place of combat, cold in death, lay the giant form of one of the combatants, clothed with gore, the three balls having taken deadly effect—the "pitiless storm" pouring down upon him in torrents, his death-dealing knife by his side, and his eyes strained to their utmost tension, still glassy with rage. H. B. Estes is dying at the time of writing. A tragedy so sudden, so bloody and fatal, has appalled the whole community. They have both left wives and children to mourn their loss. Abner Estes was a man of abandoned habits.—H. B. B. Estes was a quiet, unobtrusive man, a good citizen.

Gold Medal for Mr. Clay.

The "California Courier" states that Messrs. Jacks & Brothers, jewelers, of San Francisco, have prepared a magnificent Gold Medal of appropriate design, intended for presentation to the great Statesman to whose exertions on her behalf, California owed, to a great extent, her admission into the Union. The medal is about three inches in diameter, and is said to be a gem. On one side it represents the lone star of California admitted into the constellation, and surrounded by the other thirty stars arranged in a brilliant circle around the margin. On the center star there is fixed one of the most beautiful specimens of white quartz increased naturally with gold—an appropriate representation of the riches of the State. Around the rim is a rich border composed of native specimens of rough gold taken from every placer in the country from Oregon to Los Angeles. The other side of the medal bears the following inscriptions.—(California admitted, Sept. 9, 1850. Presented to Henry Clay by Jacks & Brothers, City of San Francisco, Oct. 20, 1850.)

Supreme Judges.—John M. Read, Esq., of Philadelphia, and Charles W. Hedges, Esq., of Louisville, are recommended in several quarters as suitable candidates to be nominated for Judges of the Supreme Court, by the Democratic State Convention.

Silver Coins.—The committee to Congress has as yet done nothing with a view to keep the silver coin in the country. If Congress does any thing, all it will do probably, will be to make the coins weigh something less than is now the premium for silver.

MARRIED.
On the 23d of February, by the Rev. Joshua Yeager, Mr. John Erdman, of Upper Saucon, to Miss Anna M. Roth, of Hanover township.

On the same day, by the same, Mr. Benjamin Klader, to Miss Maria Ochs, of East Allentown.

On the 23d of February, by the Rev. S. K. Brobst, Mr. Adam Strifass, of Hanover, Lehigh county, to Miss Rebecca Roth, of Allen, Northampton county.

On the 18th of February, by the Rev. Mr. Meensden, Mr. Abraham Yellia, of North Whitehall, to Miss Susannah Zerch, of Allen township, Northampton county.

Exploration of the Interior of Africa.

One of the missionaries to Liberia lately made an exploring tour of 253 miles on foot into the interior. He passed through thirty villages of the Goulass, Drays, Quecks, and Candoes. In his report he says: "Such a country as we passed through in that missionary tour, I have not seen surpassed in either of the fifteen West India Islands which I have visited, from Trinidad to Tortola and the Virgin Islands. It is an elevated, mountainous country. Ranges of mountains, running most generally parallel with the line of coast—from Northwest to Southeast—rise up before the delighted eye of the traveller, convincing him that he is no longer in the land of burning sands and deleterious swamps, such as are encountered in proximity with the shores, but in quite another region. And such are the gradual undulations of its surface as would greatly facilitate the objects of agriculture. There are few, if any, very steep acclivities—nothing like the bold, precipitous mountains of our Eastern States. Beautiful and extensive valleys lie at the base of these mountains, which gently slope down to the level country lying between them.

"It is a well watered country. During the eight hours' travel which we were frequently obliged to perform in a day, we never walked more than two hours or two and a half at one time, without coming up to some beautiful stream of cool and very pure water, either a tributary of the St. Paul's or some other of the many smaller rivers which intersect that African Cannan. And here it may be proper to add, that my attention was directed to an examination of the adaptation of these streams to the purpose of machinery, sites for mills, &c., and I hesitate not to affirm, that within the Goulah country especially, any number of the most eligible situations may be found, where, at any time during the year, good water power may be obtained, for any of the purposes which an enterprising community of agriculturists and mechanics may require. My journey was performed in the very middle of the dry season, and yet we found plenty of water in the different streams.

"It is a well timbered land. Through an extensive forest of acres of miles which lay in our return route, I was so struck with the gigantic trees of immense height, which reared their towering heads and united their luxuriant foliage in forming above us one dense and rich canopy, that I called the attention of the colored ministers of the Liberia Annual Methodist Conference who accompanied me, to this evidence of the richness of the country which God had given to the Africans, and to which their exiled brethren were invited by so many powerful considerations. I measured several trees, and my journal, kept at the time with scrupulous exactness, records 23, 21, 25 feet as the circumference of many of them within six feet of the ground. Let me remark, that the variety and superior quality of the wood found in these forests, and indeed all along the borders and around the settlement of Liberia, from Grand Cape Mount to Cape Palmas, or Maryland, cannot be excelled any where within the Torrid Zone. From a species of poplar, soft and adapted to all the purposes for which the white pine is used in America, up to the oak, a variety of mahogany, a beautiful species of hickory very abundant at Cape Palmas, the iron wood, the brimstone, susceptible of a polish for furniture of surpassing beauty, and many others, an almost endless supply may be found.

"It is an exceedingly fertile soil. The immense undergrowth of shrub and vine interwoven around the giants of the forest, so thick, so impenetrable, without much effort, and through which a foot path only conducts the traveler, is the best proof of this. But the grains, roots, fruits, vines of the tropics, all consecrated here, and may be raised with a degree of comparative ease, a rapidity of growth and an abundance almost incredible. I have stood erect under the branches of a cotton tree in a Goulah village, as they spread forth from the main trunk, laden with bolls, and supported by forked sticks to prevent their being broken down by their own weight, and found, on measuring, that the tree covered a space of ten feet in diameter. On examining the staple, as the ripened bolls burst into maturity, it was found as good and equal in the fineness of its fibre to the cotton of any country. As to coffee, I will only borrow the words of the report as a comment of themselves: 'Coffee of a quality superior to the best Java Mocha is raised in Liberia, and can be cultivated with great ease to any extent.' It is a country where tobacco, that great article of commerce, may be cultivated in any quantity with great success.

"But the region in the vicinity of Liberia is one of great mineral wealth. This remains for Science to fully develop, but we may confidently arrive at this conclusion from what has been discovered. Of the gold coast your Committee says right, when they assert that 'England has received altogether \$200,000,000 of gold from Africa. Liberia is adjacent to the gold coast.' But I would speak of what is better than gold—iron. And such is the purity of the iron ore obtained by the natives of Africa immediately in the vicinity of Liberia, which they describe as being abundant, that they have no furnaces; they need none. All their rude agricultural and warlike instruments are made by them of ore so pure that when heated it becomes at once sufficiently malleable to admit of being wrought into any shape or form. They make knives, bill-hooks, war cutlasses, spears, axes, hoes, &c. out of this ore, without the process of smelting.

The Duel between Stanley and Inge.—Washington, Feb. 24, P. M.—Quite a stir was created here, on account of a report that Mr. Stanley, of North Carolina, and Mr. Inge, of Alabama, had crossed the Maryland line, and had a meeting. From what I can learn from the tongue of rumor, one shot was fired—nobody hurt; and a reconciliation took place. Mr. Stanley was accompanied by Mr. Ashe, of North Carolina, and Mr. Inge by Gov. Brown, of Mississippi.

Arrangements are being made for an early removal of the Farmers' Bank of Schuylkill County, from Schuylkill Haven to Pottsville.