

SCRAPS OF NEWS.

Effect of Labor.—It was lately stated in a lecture delivered before the London Royal Institute by Mr. Dens, that a watch consists of 992 pieces, and that forty three trades, and probably 215 persons, are employed in making one of these little machines. The iron of which the balance spring is formed, is valued at something less than a farthing—this produces an ounce of steel, worth 4 1-2d, which is drawn into 2250 yards of spring wire, and represents in the markets 13l. 4s; but still another process of hardening this originally farthing's worth of iron renders it workable into 7650 balance springs, which will realize, at the common price of 2s 6d each, £945 5s. the effect of labor alone.

The poor white wretch who married the negro a short time since in Boston, has been tried for bigamy, and convicted almost instantly by the Jury. The magistrate who performed the marriage ceremony for this precious couple, was it seems cheated into the disgusting act. The fair one besmudged her face so as to look like a negress, and the certificate of the publication of the banns stated them to be *people of color*. The woman has a husband now living in Lowell.

A bill to abolish imprisonment for debt has passed the Legislature of Connecticut. The vote in the lower House was—ayes 164, nays 16.

A new Club has been started in London, called the "Jim Crow Club." The members have presented our countryman, Mr. T. D. Rice (the original *Jim Crow*), with a splendid silver goblet bearing an appropriate inscription.

Useful Receipt.—We every day hear complaints about watery potatoes. Put into the pot a piece of lime as large as a hen's egg; and how watery soever the potatoes may have been, when the water is poured off, the potatoes will be perfectly dry and mealy. Some persons use salt, which only hardens potatoes.

Sir Charles Vaughan, the late highly respected representative of his Britannic Majesty at Washington, has been appointed Minister to the Court of Austria, in the place of Lord Ponsonby.

A valuable copper mine has been discovered in Amherst county, Virginia. The vein of ore is more than five feet in width, and more than one hundred tons have already been dug out, some of which yielded at least sixty per cent.

Literary Property.—Mr. Hood, in an article of singular humor, states that the phrase "republic of letters" was hit upon to "insinuate that taking the whole lot of authors together, they have not got a sovereign among them."

An interesting trial took place at Lowell, on Wednesday, before the Supreme Judicial Court. The prisoners were Michael Moneyhon, and Michael Wain, two boys, the elder only 13, and the younger 10 years old, for arson, in burning the almshouse in Cambridgeport, on the 29th of July, 1830. The punishment for the offence is death. The children are both orphans, and foreigners. They pleaded guilty, but the plea was not recorded, and counsel assigned them. The jury were out some hours, but could not agree, and were discharged. They will, of course be tried again.

The New York Herald says that the amount of specie, which was shipped from that port for Europe by the packets of the 8th inst. is estimated by the bullion brokers at \$480,000.

A Ferocious Bandit.—A monster named McGuire, in Jackson co. Illinois, has been arrested for stabbing and killing a woman who lived with him in a shantee in the woods, in the capacity of wife. McGuire pursues hunting, and is said to have disposed of several women in the same manner. He was once hung up by a bridge under the Lynch law, and cut down on the supposition that he was dead; but he only feigned death, and was soon at his villainous work again.

The mail arrives at Rochester in 52 hours from New York. Its progress is to Albany by steamboat, 140 miles, in 12 hours—delay at Albany 4 hours; from Albany to Utica by rail road, 96 miles, 6 hours; from Utica to Rochester 120 miles 20 hours. Total, 356 miles in 52 hours.

Mingo Again Victorious.—We learn that this favourite Pennsylvania horse was again victorious on the Trenton course on Friday last, leaving Lady Childen and Camisid in capital style. It is said that \$25,000 were offered and refused for Mingo, immediately after the race.

Some years since an individual was tried before one of the courts of North Alabama; on a charge of an assault and battery. He was ably defended by a young lawyer, who at the close of his speech, made use of the following pathetic and appropriate language: "Let the humble ass crop the thistle of the valley! Let the sagacious goat browse upon the mountain's top! But, gentlemen of the Jury, I say, *John Crandle is not guilty!*"

The Rose.—Our fair friends may not all of them be aware, that the beautiful flower which they have so long regarded as the emblem of beauty and love, is the habitation of myriads of gay and happy creatures, which sport upon its velvet leaves; nor that it is the soil on which other plants vegetate and grow. They need not, however, be alarmed on learning that such is the fact, for the former are ever lost to vision by being enveloped in a flood of rays, which emanate from the brilliant eyes that beam upon them. By a little comparison of the size of the shrubs that germinate and flourish upon the leaves of the rose, it will be perceived that no great fear need be apprehended from them. They are so minute that it would require more than a thousand of them to equal in bulk a single plant of moss; and if we compare a stem of moss, which is but one sixtieth of an inch in diameter, with some of the trees of South America, which are 20 feet, we shall find that the bulk of one will exceed that of the other, 2,985,984,000,000 times; one of those trees would exceed the rose leaf plant in size one thousand times that enormous sum! But little do we think when we are fingering the soft petals of the rose, and snuffing its aroma, that we crush a forest of plant, and inhale, perhaps, thousands of the tiny inhabitants of that beautiful world.

Wetting Bricks.—The following excellent hints are from the N. Y. Sun.

Few people except builders, are aware of the advantage of wetting bricks before laying them. A wall twelve inches thick built up of good mortar with bricks well soaked, is stronger in every respect than one sixteen inches thick built up dry. The reason of this is that if the bricks are saturated with water they will not abstract from the mortar the moisture which is necessary to its crystallization, and on the contrary they will unite chemically with the mortar, and become almost as solid as a rock. On the other hand, if bricks are put up dry, they immediately take all the moisture from the mortar, and leave it too dry to harden, and the consequence is that when a building of this description is taken down, or tumbles down of its own accord, the mortar falls from it like so much sand.

WHOLESGOME ADVICE.

For a fit of Idleness.—Count the tickings of a clock: do this for one hour, and you will be glad to pull off your coat the next, and work like a negro.

For a fit of Extravagance and Folly.—Go to the work-house, or speak with the ragged and wretched inmates of a goal, and you will be convinced of your error.

For a fit of Ambition.—Go into the church-yard, and read the grave stones—they will tell you the end of ambition. The grave will soon be your bed-chamber, the earth your pillow, corruption your father, and the worm your mother and sister.

For a fit of Repining.—Look about for the halt and the blind, and visit the bedridden, and afflicted, and deranged; and they will make you ashamed of complaining of your lighter afflictions.

For a fit of Despondency.—Look on the good things which God has given you in this world, and at those which he has promised to his followers in the next. He who goes into his garden to look for cobwebs & spiders, no doubt will find them; while he who looks for a flower, may return into the house without the one blossoming in his bosom.

SNAKE FIGHT.

On Saturday last Mr. John Foster, who resides near the Washington Print Works, in this town, discovered near his house a large black snake; he seized a billet of wood and pursued him some twenty yards to near a small tree, when the serpent turned, raised himself in an upright position, and prepared to act upon the defensive. He threw the billet of wood and missed him, whereupon his snakeship came at him full tilt, his mouth thrown open, and with his fiery eyes and forked tongue exhibiting all the venom of his species. Mr. F. seized a small stick, and as he came up made a pass at him, but he dodged it and gave back. This was repeated several times, the snake all the time with his eye steadily and piercingly fixed upon that of Mr. F. After some two minutes spent in this way the snake suddenly vanished, "and," says Mr. F. "as quick as thought I beheld him upon the limb of a tree, about ten feet above my head, and in the very act of springing upon me." The distance from the ground to the extremity of the limb where the serpent prepared for a leap, could not have been less than twenty-five to thirty feet, and yet Mr. F. had only time to change the direction of his own eyes ere they met the keen gaze of the serpent in his new position. He then called to his brother to bring him a loaded gun, keeping his eye upon the snake until he was shot dead from the tree. Before they left the spot a still larger one appeared, much more venomous than the first, being determined to revenge the death of its mate. This one they also killed; she measured 5 feet 7 inches in length, and 3 1/2 inches in diameter. The mate was 5 feet 2 inches long, and 3 inches in diameter.

A Good Defence.—There are THREE points in this case, may it please your honor," said the defendant's counsel. "In the first place, we contend that the kettle was cracked when we borrowed it. Secondly, that it was whole when we returned it; and thirdly that we never had it."

TRUE INDEPENDENCE.

We extract the following as a sample of the ingenuity and courage of our worthy prototype, Benjamin Franklin. We certainly lack both his ingenuity and principles of economy; but so far as our abilities have extended, we have never yet permitted an infringement upon the liberty of our press. The rich and the poor are upon an equality in our estimation; and when the former attempt to bring us into their measures by threats & menaces, we can assure them, that they "bark up the wrong tree." WE are also rich—rich in opinion and action—because we are a citizen of that government which declares all men free and equal; and which recognizes no title of dignity to those tyrants who would use their wealth to oppress and injure their more honest and more respectable neighbors. We commend the article to the careful perusal of our readers.—*Columbia Democrat*.

Independence and Economy are more intimately connected than people generally seem willing to admit. The man who can "cut his coat according to his cloth"—who can satisfy his appetite with cheap, though at the same time nourishing diet—has little dread of overtrading, suspensions, or the thousand other evils to which he who has not the power of self-control is constantly exposed.—What though such a man have been accustomed all his days to the solids and the delicacies of roast beef and plum-pudding, he can dispense with them at any time they are found to disagree with his finances; and it is far better to have even the pudding alone—aye, and without the plums, too—than to go to bed in debt, for a sumptuous dinner. No matter how honest a man may be, how pure soever his intentions, the moment he becomes involved in debt, that moment he sacrifices his real independence—he ceases to entertain that don't-care-a-straw-for-trouble kind of feeling, which can buoy up his spirits to endure every privation, and pilot him safely into the haven of contentment. The frugal Franklin furnishes a notable example of that independence which economical habits can achieve for their possessor. We have an anecdote in point—it will perhaps be new to most of our readers; if it be not, it is among those things which will bear repeating. Did it possess no other quality, the wholesome lesson it teaches cannot be too frequently given:

The day previous to the Revolution, while walking in the streets of Philadelphia, he was thus abruptly "brought to" by a jolly son of Neptune—

"I say, shipmate, is your name Ben Franklin?" "Yes." "Are you the man that invented the saw-dust pudding?" "Yes." "Then for God's sake don't learn old F—our owner, how to make it, for he'll feed all his crews on nothing else."

The story of the saw-dust-pudding, *aliter dictum*, wheat-bran pudding, was originated somewhat after this fashion;—Franklin conducted an independent paper in Philadelphia, which had given offence to a certain class that wanted to rule every body their own way, and the leaders of this party (some fifteen or twenty,) informed him that he would be frowned down unless he submitted to their curb. He proposed to explain, and fixed the time at his own house, where the gentlemen were invited to dine. On the day appointed, he requested Mrs. F. to employ two pence in the purchase of a peck of wheat bran, and to make two puddings of it, one for each end of the table, as he was to have fifteen or twenty friends to dine with him. When the company met, the table without any other dishes, and having been seated, each person was helped to his slice. Their curiosity led them to try it; they examined each others countenances, and were soon satisfied with their fare.

"Friends, will you be helped to more?" inquired the host.

"No, no," exclaimed they all, as with one voice, "we have had enough. But what means all this?"

"Why, it means to tell you," replied the philosopher, "that these two puddings cost two pence; and fifteen friends say they have had enough. Know, then, that as long as Benjamin Franklin can satisfy fifteen friends with two pence, he never will sacrifice the independence of his paper."

A Profitable State Prison.—The present number of convicts in the Connecticut State Prison is 207. The balance of convict labor over the expenses presents a gain of \$7,438 94. The profits of the prison since its establishment have been \$5,750 45 over its entire cost, together with all the improvements and alterations, and the land connected with it. The aggregate net income which it has paid into the state Treasury is \$121,833 65! The number of prisoners received this year has been 57—last year 66. It is only prisons which flourish now-a-days, and if any body can make them profitable, it is the shrewd people of Connecticut.

At a temperance meeting not long since in London, one of the speakers predicted, that in the course of a century, a brewer's *wash tub* would be exhibited in the British Museum, as a great curiosity.

In ONE YEAR hence Bank Wigs will have no more power than such people should have. Mind that.—*Columbia Dem.*

THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.



BLOOMSBURG:

Saturday, June 24, 1837.

A Boy from the neighborhood of Berwick, calling himself *Silas E. Walton*, came to this office on Friday evening the 16th inst. and engaged, on trial, to learn the art and mystery of printing. He remained here until Monday evening, when he suddenly disappeared, and has not been heard of since. We would be thankful for any information respecting him, whether dead or alive; and whether it comes from himself, or any body else. We feel very uneasy respecting him; and if he should be employed as a *Journeyman* in any of the neighbouring printing offices, we would thank the editors to communicate the fact, by mail, and thus free our minds from any anxiety on his account. He is about 17 years old—well clothed, and carries a good countenance.

The Supreme Court for the Northern district of Pennsylvania will commence its annual session at Sunbury on the 10th of July.

The stolen horse advertised in our last by Mr. Henrie has been recovered; but the thief is still at large. The Harrisburg "Reporter" says that that neighbourhood is infested with a gang of horse thieves; and we perceive that an association is being formed for securing the property and apprehending the thieves. Such an association should be formed in every county in the state.

ANTI-BANK CONVENTION.

Isaac Slenker, Esq. Col. Samuel Baber, John Bower, Henry C. Eyer, William Hays, Joseph Stilwell, Daniel Beckley and John Snyder, have been selected by a democratic meeting to represent Union county as Delegates in the Anti-Bank State Convention at Harrisburg on the 4th of July next. Several counties have chosen delegates; but we are apprehensive that there will not be such a representation of the various counties as would be desirable; and, if so, we should rather it had been called at a later day. There is a perfect harmony of feeling and unity of purpose in the democratic party on the subject of Banks; but conventions are so frequently called together now-a-days, that it is difficult to get those who feel an interest to leave their homes and incur the expenses for that purpose. If a later day had been named—say after haymaking and harvest—we should have better hopes of a general representation of all the counties.

THE CONVENTION.

Our readers will perceive by the following letter from our correspondent, that a very material amendment has been effected in the 8th section of the 2d article of the constitution. We rejoice at this first evidence of a real determination to comply with the wishes of the people in lopping off objectionable and aristocratic features, and curtailing the immense patronage of the executive.

HARRISBURG, June 16, 1837.

Dear Sir: We acted yesterday on the 8th section of the 2d article of the constitution, in which section the standing committee had reported no amendment, except requiring the concurrence of the Senate on Executive appointments. A variety of propositions for amendments were submitted, and the time of the committee of the whole for five days past was consumed in discussing them. Yesterday morning Mr. READ, of Susquehanna, introduced an amendment to the pending amendment of Mr. BELL, of Chester, which amounted to a substitute of the section; report of the committee, and the pending amendment. It is as follows, viz:—

SECTION 8th. He (the Governor) shall appoint a Secretary of the Commonwealth during pleasure, and he shall nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint all judicial officers of Courts of Record, unless otherwise provided for in this Constitution.—Provided that in voting on executive nominations, the Senate shall sit with open doors, and the vote shall be taken by ayes and nays.

The proposition did not meet the individ-

ual views of all the Reformers, but it consolidated them better than any previously made, and they voted *en masse* for it. The following are the yeas and nays, on its adoption:—

YEAS—Messrs. Banks, Barclay, Bedford, Bell, Bigelow, Bonham, Brown of Northampton, Brown of Philadelphia, Butler, Clarke of Indiana, Cleavinger, Cramer, Crawford, Curl, Darrah, Dillinger, Donagan, Donnell, Earle, Farrelly, Fleming, Foulkrod, Fry, Fuller, Gearhart, Gilmore, Grenell, Hamlin, Hastings, Hayhurst, Helfenstein, High, Hyde, Ingersoll, Kelso, Kennedy, Krebs, Lyons, Magee, Mann, McCahen, Miller, Myers, Nevin, Overfield, Purviance, Read, Ritter, Ritter, Rogers, Sellers, Scheetz, Shellito, Smith, Smyth, Stuekel, Sweland, Taggart, Weaver, White, Woodward—61.

NAYS—Messrs. Agnew, Ayres, Baldwin, Bardollar, Bayne, Biddle, Brown of Lancaster, Carey, Chambers, Clarke of Beaver, Clark of Dauphin, Cline, Coates, Cochran, Cope, Cox, Craig, Crum, Cunningham, Darlington, Denny, Dickey, Dickerson, Dunlap, Forward, Harris, Henderson of Allegheny, Henderson of Dauphin, Heister, Hopkinson, Houpt, Kerr, Konigsmacher, Long, Maclay, M'Call, M'Dowell, M'Sherry, Meredith, Merrill, Merkel, Montgomery, Pennypacker, Pollock, Porter, of Lancaster, Reigart, Royer, Russell, Saeger, Scott, Serrill, Sill, Snively, Sterigere, Stevens, Todd, Weidman, Young, Sergeant, President—58.

The convention then took recess till 4 o'clock.

In the afternoon some amendments were offered by way of addition, which were only intended to consume time, to avoid which Mr. McCahen, of Philadelphia, called the previous question, (which by rule may be done.) It was sustained by a majority of 2 or 3.—So now we have made an amendment in spite of all united opposition.

Mr. STEVENS made some very strange remarks on the subject of the alteration as follows. After the above vote had been taken the 9th section came up. Amendment was offered by Mr. Heister. A motion was made that the committee rise. Not agreed to. Some catechetical debate took place in which Mr. Dunlop asked Mr. Merrill "what is felony?" (Laughter.) He then enquired "what is not felony?" (Additional laughter.) A motion was made that the committee rise. Objected to. Mr. Stevens then remarked that he thought the committee should rise, because it is customary in all deliberative bodies to adjourn on being informed of the death of any of their members, in order to afford the survivors an opportunity of reflecting on the solemnity of the scene. That now by a vote just taken the Convention had solemnly destroyed the venerable instrument which has secured the liberties of the people of the Commonwealth for 47 years by a meagre majority of 3 votes, and therefore the committee ought (he thought) to rise in order to afford the members a chance to meditate on the sacrilegious act, &c. and went on to sing the requiem long and loud. Mr. Mann suggested the propriety of ordering crape to be worn on the left arm of members. This debate made confusion more confused. The committee rose in disorder and the convention adjourned.

This morning the 9th section came up. Mr. Heister's amendment pending which was to require the Governor to communicate his reasons annually to the Legislature for granting pardons, &c. Mr. Merrill moved an amendment to the amendment which required the concurrence of the Senate in granting pardons in sundry cases. Not agreed to. Another was moved by Mr. Brown which went to require the Court to recommend persons applying for clemency, &c. Not agreed to. The vote on Heister's amendment was taken and negatived by a small majority. HAYHURST voted nay—SMITH aye. Another amendment was proposed by Mr. Earle: "In cases of capital conviction the Legislature by law duly enacted, shall have the power to commute punishments." Not agreed to; only three rising on the call for a division.—Mr. Craig offered an amendment to the section—"Provided that a recommendation signed by the commissioners of the county shall be first presented to him." Not agreed to. The 10th section came up. No amendment. Section 11 no amendment, 12 no amendment, 13 no amendment, 14 remains under consideration, with amendments pending.

In haste, &c.

The South Carolina Canal and Rail Road Company, have been fined four hundred and ninety-five dollars, with interest from January 31st, 1835, in favor of Jacob Burn, whose barn was set on fire and destroyed with its contents by sparks from the locomotive of the Rail-Road.