

VARIOUS MATTERS.

From the Hartford, Connecticut, Review.
Perilous Adventure—Daring Intrepidity—Praise Worthy Revencence.

Information reached this city yesterday morning, that several families who lived in dwellings situated on the meadows above the city, were prevented from reaching the shore in consequence of the rise of the freshet; they were driven into the upper apartments of their houses, and the water still rising, had reached them there—their lives were threatened, and in their distress they called loudly for assistance, but with a faint prospect of obtaining any. The river at this time was full of driving ice, the water had risen to a fearful height, and it seemed folly and rashness to attempt a rescue of the suffering and unfortunate beings. At this critical juncture, and when their situation appeared to all who witnessed them from the shore, and heard their cries for 'help,' to be almost hopeless, nine young gentlemen of this city volunteered to make an effort to save them. With this determination they furnished themselves with some light boards and ventured out on the floating cakes of ice, leaping from one body to another, and frequently preventing themselves from sinking by laying their boards across the loose pieces of ice, then laying themselves down at full length and paddling with their hands in the water.— Thus after a long and tedious, as well as fearful attempt, they succeeded in reaching the dwelling. Here they found four or five families in a most distressed condition, some having been driven into their garrets for safety and expecting every moment to be carried away by the flood. They then with that deliberate caution and prudence which is seldom exhibited in the daring acts of young men, carefully planned measures which should be the safest and surest method of their reaching the shore. And after a second hazardous journey on the driving ice, they succeeded in preserving three families from a watery grave, among whom we saw one poor decrepit female, upwards of eighty years of age. Such disinterested acts of humanity call loudly for the esteem and praise of the public, and should never go unrewarded.

The Richmond Enquirer introduces the following scene in an obituary notice of George E. Harison, a son-in-law of Mr. Ritchie, who was a wealthy planter:

"On Sunday last we saw the bed on which his remains were resting, surrounded by his slaves—not the domestics of his house, who were all devoted to him, but by his field hands. It is impossible to do justice to the scene. They were dissolved in tears and pouring forth the most piteous wailings. A very intelligent slave, in whose arms his master accidentally died, and who spoke of it with an intensity of feeling which would have done honor to any man, was addressing his brethren in the most plaintive terms: 'Well may you weep—you have reason to weep—you have lost not only your master, but your friend and your father.' The interment scene of the next day, baffles any description which we could give of it. The negroes of his own and his brother's plantations, of both sexes and of all ages, flocked around the grave—all comfortably clad, in a snow storm. Tears groans, all the manifestations of the utmost distress were poured forth over the closing grave of their master. They bid him 'good by'—they called him their friend and their father.

"Mr. H. has remembered them in the kindest terms in his will. It speaks of them by name—makes the most humane and liberal provisions for them specially, and enjoins his executor to treat them all with every kindness, and points out the manner in which it is to be done. He has bequeathed also \$500 to the Colonization Society."

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

A Case of Divorce.—M. L. S. Cathfield called for the consideration of the report of the committee on grievances, on the petition of David Frost, praying that the marriage ties, if any exist between him and Eveline Willis, may be dissolved—and the House agreed to entertain the report, (which was adverse.)

A debate ensued, on a motion to recommend, with instructions to report a bill of divorce.

The facts as proved, were these. The wife of Frost, after their marriage, refused to live with him, declaring her "unconquerable repugnance to Frost."

It further appears, says the Albany Argus, from a letter written by the bride to a former suitor, subsequent to the marriage, that the true secret of her "repugnance" was a prior attachment to the aforesaid suitor—who, it was averred in the course of the debate, had contrived the plan of the marriage with Frost, to get the lady off his own hands; a plan to which the lady was induced to assent, upon the assurance of said suitor, that he would be in attendance at the ceremony, and before "the word" was spoken, would step in and claim her as his bride; but that, failing to do so, the ceremony went on, the bride having lost all selfpossession, being unaware of what she was doing, &c. &c.

The question on recommitting with instructions was put and carried—ayes 76, noes 36.

So the committee were instructed to bring in a bill of divorce.

Mathias the imposter again.—This notorious scoundrel is again at his tricks of imposition, as we learn by the Little Rock, Arkansas Advocate. He made his entrance into that city with all the sanctity and assurance of a "man of God" and with a black flowing beard which the noblest son of Israel might envy. But alas! how are the mighty fallen! In less than six hours after he entered the city, Sampson like was he shorn by the unbelieving sons of Arkansas; and with his beard went his spirit of prophecy. He bore his loss like a martyr, and without attempting to teach or preach, took leave of that sacrilegious community in two days after, fully convinced that his case was an exception to that passage of the scripture which says, "No prophet is without honor, save in his own country and in his own house."

A Chapter of Disasters.—The Trenton Gazette states that, a few weeks ago, a son of Gideon Hult, near allentown, fell into his father's mill-pond, while sliding on the ice. One of his brothers was near, and went to his assistance, but broke through the ice himself. A third and fourth brother and then the father, attracted by the cries of the drowning boys, ran, one after another to save them; but they too fell through the ice. The father and one of the boys extricated themselves, but were unable to rescue the others.

At the funeral of these boys, the carriage of their uncle was dashed to pieces, the horses becoming restive, and the uncle's collar bone broken, or dislocated. Those who had been in this carriage got into another, which was also overturned and broken, and the horses ran against the vehicle of another uncle, upset it, and threw out those who were inside, without, however, injuring them seriously. It was reported also, says our informant, that the father of the boys, on returning from the funeral found his house on fire.

Suicide.—A deplorable case of suicide took place at the house of William Walters, near Marksborough, on Sunday, the 20th ult. Mr. W. had been to Newark, and was returning on Saturday, when a stranger accosted him, near Stanhope, and requested permission to ride with him, and desired shelter until he could procure employment. He was charitably accommodated. In the night he was heard by the family praying fervently, which he continued until about 4 o'clock, when he arose, as did also the family. He paced the stoop until breakfast was called, of which he partook, and then passing out of the door, threw off his hat, and plunged headlong into the well. He was a Swede by birth—about 38 years of age, and said he had been one year and nine months in this country.

The Russian countess Branitska, recently deceased, left an immense fortune behind—a million pounds sterling in specie was found in her chateau; she had sixty millions of rubles in the Bank of Russia, and on her estates were one hundred and thirty thousand peasant slaves. Yet so gripping was the old miseress, that, after a visit to Paris, (where she found human hair sold at a high rate) she had the heads of all her female slaves shaved, and the hair shipped to France, from whence a handsome return was transmitted to her.

Newspapers in New York.—In the city, there are twenty-nine daily and semi-weekly; twenty-six weekly; three semi-monthly; seventeen monthly, including foreign reprints. In other places, out of the city, there are two hundred and five, of all kinds. In the whole State there being 288, of which 190 are political, and the remainder literary, philosophical, religious, philanthropic and neutral.

MEMPHIS, (Tenn.) Jan. 4.
Ice Bridge across the Mississippi.—At Randolph, about 60 miles above Memphis the ice has clogged the Mississippi, and formed a bridge of about ten miles in length; the effect of which, we learn, has been to swell the river above some three or four feet. Many have been crossing the river on the ice. Flat boats were wedged in, and their cargoes carried on shore over the cakes. Even cattle were taken on shore on planks laid upon the ice. The heavy rains of the past two or three days will very soon dissolve the icy ligament that now connects together the States of Arkansas and Tennessee.

A company for the erection of a bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis, have petitioned to be incorporated by the Missouri Legislature. The capital is to be 1,000,000 dollars, and the bridge will have thirty stonepiers.

Great Field.—Mr. Ebenezer Batchelder Jr. of Canterbury, raised the past year, forty seven bushels of carrots on six square rods; making twelve hundred fifty three bushels and one third to an acre.

Libel Suit.—During the political canvass before the late election, A. G. Sage, editor of the Lehigh Patriot, published a libel against David R. Porter, for which he was prosecuted. On Tuesday the Grand Jury found unanimously a bill for a criminal libel.—A. Sen.

'Come here, you mischievous fellow.'—'Wont you lick me, father?' 'No.' 'Will you swear you won't?' 'Yes.' 'Then I wont come, father; for parson Alwood says, he that will swear will lie.'

THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.



BLOOMSBURG:

ATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1839.

APPOINTMENTS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY.

By the People.
 DAVID PETRIKIN, of DANVILLE, Member of Congress.

WILLIAM COLT, of DANVILLE, Member of the Legislature.

By the Governor.
 VALENTINE BEST, of DANVILLE, Prothonotary, and Clerk of the several Courts of Columbia County.

PHILIP BILMYER, of LIBERTY, Register and Recorder.

By the Canal Commissioners.
 DAVID N. KROWNOVER, of LIMESTONE, Supervisor of the first division North Branch Canal, from the junction at Northumberland, to the head of the first lock above Berwick.

JOHN SHRINER, of NORTHUMBERLAND, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Supervisor second division North Branch Canal, from the head of the first lock above Berwick to the Lackawanna, including the Lackawanna feeder.

LEVI L. TATE, of BERWICK, Collector for the port of Berwick.

By the Secretary of State.
 EVAN O. JACKSON, of BERWICK, Clerk in the Secretary's office, Harrisburg.

By the Attorney General.
 JOHN COOPER, of DANVILLE, Deputy Attorney.

By the Marshal of the Western District.
 The appointment of Deputy Marshal is supposed to be held in the pocket of a certain personage of Danville, ready to be given to him who will serve him best next fall; therefore we cannot announce the name of the fortunate applicant at this time.

By the above list, it will be seen that not a single appointment has been given to the centre portion of this county, but are all located at the extreme ends, and all particular friends of the Danville interest. Was there any design in this? or has it happened without any preconcerted understanding to prevent the centre portion from obtaining any appointment whatever. We are aware that we touch upon a delicate subject, in speaking of these appointments, but when an act of such gross injustice has been committed towards so large a portion of the democratic party as that of the middle interest, it is our duty, as a public sentinel, to inquire into the source from whence such injustice flows. From that duty we will not flinch. That this section of the county has been designedly ill treated by the Governor, or by a majority of the Board of Canal Commissioners, we do not believe; but we do believe that the appointing power has been misled and imposed upon by some interested and designing individuals with a view of advancing their own private interests, without any regard to the welfare of the party. The fact is the interest in Danville have made use of the nominal influence obtained last fall in consequence of their hypocritical professions of friendship and fair play, to destroy those who gave them that influence. All local questions were abandoned, under an express promise that the victory should not be claimed by any particular interest, and that no advantage should be taken of the power thus given. But it seems that this confidence was misplaced, as the whole interest of the southern portion of the county has been brought to bear for the express purpose of defeating every candidate brought forward from the middle section; and they have succeeded to their hearts content. They have all they asked for, but not having candidates enough of their own in the field, to cap the climax of their ingratitude, they must needs go into Northumberland to obtain a man, that they might defeat every candidate that was not of their kidney.

The word devil says parson V—, is mean any way you can fix it.—Remove the d, and it is evil, change the e, and it is vile, remove the v, and it is il, remove the i, and the l, itself has the sound of hell!

The new county again.—We give publicity to the communication of "Jackson" not because we adopt his views with regard to the new county, but because we are willing to give all parties a hearing, that the real grievances of all may be redressed.—The burthens imposed upon the upper townships in consequence of the present location of the courts of this county, are heavy we know, and that they should feel a desire to better their situation in some way, is to be expected, we are only surprised that there should ever have been any difference of opinion or of action, upon the subject of removal, in the northern section, as it was that division which defeated the former application. We trust that another effort will soon be made to obtain their rights, and we feel assured that if there is a united action among those interested in pressing their claims, they would be granted. Should a removal be effected, then no one will deny but that those living in the upper townships would be much better accommodated, and their interest much better served than they can possibly be by becoming members of the proposed new county. We hope therefore, that they will not consent to be included within its limits, but immediately make a united and vigorous effort to obtain their just rights and privileges from those who now wrongfully withhold them.

A New Recipe for making Friends.—Sign a recommendation to office for the first man that applies—give the second a private letter of introduction, urging his claims—and to the third give a remonstrance against all others, and contend that he is the only man that will give satisfaction. In short, cry good lord, good devil to all. Repeat this dose a few times, and you will never want friends when certificates will be of service to you.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The proceedings of the Legislature have not been of sufficient interest to induce us even to make a synopsis of its proceedings. Almost the whole time has been occupied in receiving and referring petitions, and acting on private bills and bills of incorporations. A bill making the following appropriations has passed both houses:

To the North Branch extension, Tunkhannock line,	\$115,000
Tioga line,	115,000
Erie Extension, Shenango line,	150,000
Coneaut line,	100,000
West Branch, Sinnemahoning extension,	30,000
Rail-road to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia,	30,000
To repay the money borrowed from the U. States Bank and Harrisburg Bank, to repair the breach on the Juniata,	380,000
Wiconisco feeder,	40,000
Ordinary repairs,	300,000
	\$1,260,000

The bill authorises the Governor to borrow \$1,280,000 on permanent loan, at a rate of interest not exceeding five per cent. per annum.

The Harrisburg Reporter of Tuesday, speaking of the proceedings of Legislature, says:

In the House of Representatives, on Saturday, after a very long debate, the amendment proposed to be incorporated into the bill supplementary to incorporating the Wyoming Coal Company—in relation to the liability of stockholders, was passed. The provision and yeas and nays thereupon follows:

"Provided that the stockholders of the said company shall be liable in their individual capacity for all debts in proportion to the amount of stock by them severally held; provided the corporate property of said company shall be insufficient to pay the same; and provided further, that this act shall not take effect, unless the said company shall accept the provisions thereof, and advise the Governor of the same under their corporate seal within fifty days after its passage."

Messrs. BUTLER and COX, demanded the yeas and nays on this amendment, which were yeas 45, nays 43, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Andrews, Benty, Brittain, Carothers, J. Cunningham, Dare, Douglass, Evans, Fegely, Flenniken, Foster, Gorgas, Helfenstein, Heston, Hill of Berks, Hoge, Jones, Keim, Kerr, Longaker, Loy, M'Claran, M'Dowell, M'Elwee, M'Kinstry, Morton, Morrison, Park, Penniman, Pentrose, Purviance, Ramsey, Reynolds, Roberts, Schooner, Shearer, Snowden, Sprout, Strohecker, Walborn Work, Yost, Zailin, Hopkins, Speaker—45.

NAYS—Messrs. Barnard, Barstow, Bruner, Butler, Carpenter, Cassell, Chandler, Cole, Colt, Coolbaugh, Correy, Cox, Crabb, Crispin, Diller, Ephram, Fisher, Gratz, Haulin, Hegins, B. G. Herr, Hill of Westmoreland, Hinchman, Hutchins, James,

Katlewell, Kintzie, Konigmacher, Montelius, Mortimer, Nesbitt, Pray, Richardson, Ritter, Sheriff, Smith of Franklin, G. R. Smith, T. S. Smith, Spackman, Sturdevant, Wey, Wilcox, Woodburn—43.

The section as amended, was then adopted and the bill was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

On Monday the House then went into committee of the whole on the supplement to the act incorporating the Wyoming coal company, and struck out the provision making the stockholders personally liable for the debts of the company, when the committee rose, and the House concurred in the amendment. On motion of Mr. SNOW, DEN, the further consideration of the bill was then postponed until to-morrow.

A resolution has passed the Legislature; by a vote of 59 to 30, appointing a committee of one from a county, to take into consideration the propriety of removing the seat of government from Harrisburg, and to receive proposals from any city, county, town or borough, to erect within the same suitable buildings.

For the Columbia Democrat.
BARGAIN'S SALE—NEW COUNTY, &c.
 MR. WENN.

It is well known to yourself, and to the public generally, that petitions are before the Legislature for the erection of a new county, to be composed of parts of the counties of Luzerne, Columbia and Lycoming. All action upon this subject has been had through regularly organized meetings of the people; regularly convened, and ample publicity has been furnished of those proceedings, through the columns of your and other papers. In the several meetings which have been holden, and in all other proceedings which have been had, the utmost caution, it is believed, has been observed as to unreasonably requesting any thing but right, or unjustly compromising the rights of any section of the country, or even of any individual in any section of the country. It appeared to the gentlemen composing the several meetings which have been holden upon the subject, and to the petitioners, as it has often and uniformly to observant strangers, that nature had not only designed this valley between the mountains as a place where, with the exertion of industry, every facility was presented for the acquisition of wealth, but, as a place too, where justice might appropriately erect her temple.

The natural resources of this valley when fully developed, are not probably surpassed by any of equal extent in the commonwealth. Smaller portions, more fully developed, may, at this moment, present more invitations to the speculative man; but extend their territory to the same limits of the proposed county of Jackson, and what can they boast that we do not possess; or what inducements can they offer to the real capitalist, equal to those of this valley. Mauch Chunk, for instance, rich in her coal mines, and rich, too, in the industry and enterprise of her citizens, is surrounded for many miles by a sterile and almost barren country. The support of her operators must be derived from another quarter. And whence is it derived? From information received from one in the employ of the Mauch Chunk company, it is reduced to a certainty, that two townships within the proposed limits of the new county, furnish more than any other country of the same extent. Is not this, then, a region favored by the industry of its inhabitants and the productiveness of its soil? We have also coal, both of the anthracite and bituminous qualities, which ages cannot exhaust. Iron ore of the finest qualities, and to an unknown extent, is also within our limits. Forests of the finest timber spread upon a portion of our soil, and a water power unrivalled in the same extent of territory, is rarely to be found.—With these advantages is it singular that we should wish to emerge from our minority, and bring into activity those energies which manhood or independence can only give.

We have asked to be independent as a county. We have proposed limits which cannot compromise the interests of any living within them, unless they would by a deathlike grasp, bind people contrary to interest and contrary to feeling, we do not believe. Our proceedings have left the way open for other townships, not associated in our petition, to petition for themselves, and become a part of our juridical compact.—That it would be for their interest to do so we do not doubt. Their volition however, is their own; their agency is free. We invite, but do not attempt to coerce. Our plan is based upon the utmost liberality.—The voice of the people is to decide the location of the seat of justice. Not a whisper has been heard in any of our conven-