

VARIOUS MATTERS.

From the Reporter.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT BILL.

The appropriation bill, has passed by the committee of the whole in the house of representatives, for continuing the internal improvements of the state, seems to meet with general favor. It was not reached yesterday on second reading, previous orders having occupied the whole morning; but it is believed it will pass both houses this week by a large majority, and without any material alteration.

The policy of suspending the works for a time, and limiting appropriations to repairs merely, has been seriously urged both by a portion of the press and the legislature.—We have uniformly dissented from this proposition. We have gone and still go, for a speedy completion of the lines, as the best system of economy and finance. It is true the market for the sale of stocks is dull but that disadvantage is counterbalanced by the abundance of provisions, and consequent cheapness of labor. Besides Pennsylvania never failed to obtain the means to carry on her improvements, although every administration since that of Joseph Hiester, seemed times to have reached a fatal crisis in an exhausted treasury and credit. She will not now fail, if she is not abandoned to despondency by her statesmen. Her real estate is worth \$600,000,000 at the lowest estimate. We believe it is worth double that sum, taking into account her minerals, her valuable timber, her salt, her water-falls, her numerous towns, her magnificent cities, and more magnificent internal improvements. She therefore furnishes a basis for public credit, that entitles her to any amount of loans she may require. And her character for good faith and punctual compliance with engagements—never violated herebefore in a single instance—is a security to her loan holders, that in the nature of things, must insure her the full confidence of capitalists in every country. If she has a fault, it is too brave a spirit of enterprise in her population. That may lead her to undertake too much at once, to trade beyond her present means, relying on her abundant resources to meet all emergencies which may not clearly have been foreseen. But if this be her fault, if accompanied by inflexible integrity, and a courage that meets difficulties when they occur, and never leaves till they are overcome. The consequence is temporary embarrassment occasionally, but the end is clearly seen to be permanent prosperity, and power.

There is no absolute necessity for halting in the progress of execution in the lines of public works, on account of embarrassment in the money market, and in such case the policy of doing so is ill founded, when it is apparent that a direct loss to the commonwealth must follow, both on the unfinished sections, and the interest on their cost.—We know that the objection to the work is made that the tolls are less than the interest on the public debt, and from this the argument is deduced that the whole scheme is but a source of indebtedness. But the premises and argument are fallacious since a large portion of canals on the North and West branches and the Erie Extension are unfinished and unproductive whilst their cost is included in the public debt. The Delaware Division is said to pay six per cent. This is a finished work.

The New York Canals are said officially to pay, nine per cent. They are finished works. New York although successful in so great a degree is not content, but determined to enlarge her canals at a very heavy expenditure, showing not only their utility but productiveness to the treasury. Ours have already enhanced the real property of the State one hundred per cent. They have effected this advance on property whilst in an unfinished state, stopping short of the Lakes; the New York line, and our own sea port as a water communication.—What may not be expected of them both as a source of revenue and public prosperity when they shall penetrate the regions on the western waters, the States South and North of us, and the fields of coal and iron in our own interior. What when we shall have opened up our mineral wealth, and thrown it as freight upon our canals destined to the markets, anxious to give us value for it, North, East and South of us? What then will be their influence on real estate and on the condition of the people; and what then will be the state debt compared with such ability to pay it without inconvenience? Men who have looked over our glorious Pennsylvania and found near one-half freight with bituminous coal and iron ore, the mountains East of the Susquehanna, full of anthracite, and iron, with abundance of wood and limestone, and all the valleys fertile in agricultural products, do not hesitate about their answer. To finish the improvements without delay is the leading policy of the state in their judgment.—It is clearly so in ours, and therefore are rejoiced at the prospect of passing the bill before the Legislature.

One thousand bushels of wheat were sold at Bridgeport, Ohio, opposite Wheeling, the other day, for twenty-five cents per bushel. Amidst all the accounts which come from the west, respecting the fall in prices of flour and grain, we do not perceive any great diminution in the prices here. And in the general depression of business, we in this quarter would like to receive some of the benefits of the decline in prices, if we are obliged to hear so much on the subject. Boston Times.

GRAND SPECULATION !!

The office of Clerk of the Court, at Cincinnati, producing a yearly income of \$10,000, is to be conditionally disposed of for four years, the present incumbent being promised a superior office, after the 4th of March next, worth \$25,000 a year, besides perquisites. The conditions upon which the clerkship will be disposed of, are, first, that in four years from the said 4th of March next, the office shall be surrendered back to the present holder; and, second, that if he shall not obtain the new office promised him, at the time aforesaid, which is exceedingly doubtful, then the proposed sale of the said clerkship shall be considered void and of no effect.

N. B. As the expected office has heretofore been repeatedly promised to one Henry Clay, and said promise has never been fulfilled, it is but too evident, that little reliance can be placed upon such promises. The probability therefore is, that the engagement, in the present case, will not be complied with.

For price, terms of sale, and other particulars, apply to William H. Harrison, at his office in Cincinnati, sign of the pedicoot, or the "log house," falsely so called, on his farm at North Bend. All letters to him must be sent post paid, or franked, as the advertiser is very poor. The Atlas and Commercial Gazette are requested to copy this, and to send in their bills to old Nick, the town-pump, or the chairman of the Committee of Public Safety, Boston.

N. B. None need apply, except thorough modern whigs. Descendants of the old revolutionary Tories will be preferred.—Boston Post.

What is the Democratic Principle?—It is a principle founded in humanity, guided by benevolence, and looking to the other progressive improvement and happiness of the whole human family—a principle, which ever seeks to protect the weak, to elevate the depressed, and to secure the just and equal rights of all—a principle, which is in harmony with pure religion, that establishes the love of God, as the first law of morality—a principle, which, by listening to the voice of reason as it breathes through the people, bows reverently before the dictates of justice, while it spurns at the despotism of man—a principle, which gives the highest security to property, by giving security also to labor; in the enjoyment of the fruits of his own industry—a principle, which is free from envy and narrow jealousy, and cheerfully acknowledges the benefit of cultivated intelligence and of experience, while it respects, as the paramount fountain of freedom and order, the collective will that includes all the intelligence of the community—the will of the people.—Governor Morton of Massachusetts.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

A fire broke out between 1 and 2 o'clock this morning, in the building occupied by Messrs. LANGTREE and O'SULLIVAN, and THOMAS ALLEN, as printing offices for the Democratic Review and the Madisonian.—Before the fire companies reached there, the fire had made such progress as to leave no hope of saving the building, or any considerable portion of the printing materials in it. Messrs. LANGTREE and O'SULLIVAN saved most of the stereotype plates of the Madison papers, and about 1,000 copies of the first volume of the work; the other two volumes we believe, were entirely destroyed. The edition was 1,800 copies, three volumes to each, valued at from \$10,000 to \$12,000.—They were insured for \$6,000; and their property destroyed is estimated at from \$15,000 to \$18,000. The materials of the Madisonian office were all destroyed, and no insurance on them. They were worth, we suppose, from \$6,000 to \$8,000. The roof and the upper floor of the Medical College were burnt; insured for \$3,000; and it will require that sum, it is supposed to repair it. The Baptist Church was injured to the amount of \$500 or \$600. A frame soap factory was entirely destroyed, worth, probably, between \$500 and \$1000.

It is not ascertained how the fire originated. Some of the hands in the Madisonian office were at work until after 12 o'clock; and the fire had made great progress when discovered, about half after 1 o'clock. But the prevailing opinion is, that it occurred in Messrs. LANGTREE and O'SULLIVAN'S office.—Washington Globe.

Hard Cider.—It is true that Harrison never lived in a log cabin. He never did—from his birth he has been nursed in the lap of ease and affluence—born of one of the most wealthy and most princely families, sons and son-in-law have ever fattened in office, and at this time Harrison is in one of the most profitable offices in the State—owner of one of the most princely estates in the West, extending for miles along the banks of the beautiful Ohio. As to his living, there never has been a day in his house when his cellars were not stocked with well racked cider, but with the best of brandies and old wines. As to log cabins, the only ones he has never been familiar with, are those of his tenantry, of whom he has a goodly number.—Adv. and Journal.

Law.—The N. Y. Evening Signal is very severe on law and lawyers; the first they consider a species of gambling, and the last a species of pick-pockets. One of the principle editors is a lawyer, and, by natural inference, may not have formed his opinion from mere observation.—Ledger.

An Amalgamation Picture.—A bill concerning intermarriages between whites and blacks, being before the Massachusetts Legislature, one of the members rose and delivered himself as follows:

"Mr. Speaker—I shall vote in favor of this bill, simply because I do not wish to see a law on the statute book, regulating a mere matter of taste, for such I consider to be the whole question of 'intermarriage between persons of different' color. It is purely a matter of taste, and if my friend from Nantucket wishes to marry a black, blue or green wife, I am content that he should have full liberty to indulge his preference for either color. All I request of him is, that when I happen to pay him a friendly visit, at the island, he will not ask me to kiss his milk and molasses children!"

More Steamboat Disasters.—The steam boat Selma, Capt. Blood, was recently snatched on her way from New Orleans to St. Louis. The passengers and crew were saved, but the cargo and all the baggage was lost. The scene was one of great distress and peril; and many of the females were compelled to leave the wrecked vessel only half clothed. Several gentlemen were still worse off. The party remained up to their knees in water all night, and were taken off in a steamboat next morning. The Ravel family were on board and lost in cash and dresses \$20,000. A Miss Carcus lost all her earnings for the season, as a danseuse, by the disaster. Cargo estimated at 100,000.—Spirit of the Times.

From the Tallahassee Star, 29th ult.

The Indians at work.—There would seem to be no end to the incursions and depredations of our savage foe. Let the troops start a scout in Middle Florida, and the enemy at once takes foot for the West, and with a quickness almost illusory, they are scalping and butchering on the banks of the Apalachicola. Anon, they return to the very strong-holds of our army, and invade the sanctuary of the camp and tent! Our latest intelligence is, that a train of government wagons, consisting of six, was captured by twelve Indians, between Forts Mcomb and Baker, a few days ago, and one sergeant mortally wounded. A sergeant was fired on near Fort Pleasant, in the neighborhood of Colonel Davenport's camp, and escaped barely with his life; and also, that an Indian camp had been discovered within about four miles of Colonel Robert Gamble's residence, where they had left their fires burning, and appearances which indicated that some four or five cattle had been slaughtered. These depredations have all been committed in the immediate vicinity of where the troops are most thickly stationed—in that portion of country which is considered as most securely guarded! How are those vagabonds to be whipped and subdued! We ask for information.

The Philadelphia National Gazette of Wednesday evening says, a woman employed as nurse in a colored family named Gaines, residing in Exchange Place, is in custody for poisoning three of the children. The mistress of the family is ill, and the woman yesterday brought her a custard, desiring that she would eat of it, which the mother declined. Afterwards the custard was taken to the children who ate of it.—One of them, an infant two years old is now dead, and a post mortem examination has been made. It is believed that arsenic was put in the custard. Two other of the children are dangerously ill.

An extra from the Austin (Texas) Gazette, received at New Orleans, contains a letter written to the editor of the Gazette by an American in Mexico, stating that he saw David Crockett alive in a mine in Mexico. The circumstances detailed given an air of plausibility to the statements, and render it not improbable that the hero of the Alamo is still alive. At any rate the story must have received credit at Austin, or it would not have been published, as a coarse jest or hoax on the very spot almost where the heroic backwoodsman is supposed to have fallen.

A letter from New Orleans to the Balt. Patriot says:—"There is some excitement about a curious transaction of our largest commercial houses. It seems that on Friday last their notes laid over for the first time, and on that day one of the members of the firm purchased about \$50,000 worth of cotton, which he was to pay for in a day or two afterwards; and as soon as the purchase was made, the cotton was again transferred to another, at a low rate, for cash, and the money from the broken firm to the original holder was not forthcoming. The report is that the case will be brought before the Criminal court."

Lusus Nature.—The last Alton (Ill.) Telegraph gives an account of a couple of monsters, which were produced on the 24th ult., by a sow belonging to a gentleman of that place. One was a curiously formed pig, with two heads, the rest of the body being perfectly natural internally and externally. The other was a pig with one head and two bodies, still more curiously formed. The editor of the Telegraph says he has seen them, and they are the greatest curiosities which have ever fallen under his inspection.

Only two members of the Michigan Legislature are natives to the State.

THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR"



BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1840.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION—1840.

FOR PRESIDENT,

MARTIN VAN BUREN.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

AND THE

CONSTITUTIONAL TREASURY.

ELECTORAL TICKET.

JAMES CLARKE, of Indiana, } Senatorial

GEO. G. LEIPER, of Delaware, }

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Col. John Thompson | 12 Frederick Smith |
| 2 Benjamin Mifflin | 13 Charles McClure |
| 3 Frederick Stovoe | 14 J. M. Gemmill |
| 4 Wm. H. Smith | 15 G. M. Hollenback |
| 5 John F. Steinman | 16 Leonard Poutz |
| 6 John Dowlin | 17 John Horton jr. |
| 7 Henry Myers | 18 William Philson |
| 8 Daniel Jacoby | 19 John Morrison |
| 9 Jesse Johnson | 20 Westly Frost |
| 10 Jacob Able | 21 Benj. Anderson |
| 11 Geo. Christman | 22 William Wilkins |
| 12 Wm. Shoener | 23 A. K. Wright |
| 13 Henry Dehuff | 24 John Findeley |
| 14 Henry Logan | 25 Stephen Barlow |

It is so seldom that we meet in the Danville Intelligencer, with an article giving praise to any improvement out of that immediate vicinity, that we copy with pleasure, the following just and merited compliment to our neighbor of the Roaring creek Furnace. Although Mr. Best, in this case, does not refuse to pay due deference to "Water Power," yet he forgets to mention the fact, that the ore used in this furnace is transported from Bloom, nine miles, when the works are located within four miles of the Danville ore, because our ore is so much richer that it will bear the additional land transportation.

ROARING CREEK FURNACE.

On Monday last we had the pleasure of a visit to this improvement on Big Roaring Creek, near the North Branch of the Susquehanna river, in Cattawissa township.—The Furnace is to be drove by water, and a better site for the application of water power could nowhere be selected. The stack is the most substantial and beautiful one we ever seen; it is founded on a solid rock, and the tail race is cut through rock. The buildings for the reception of ore, fuel, &c. are spacious, and well arranged for the comfort and convenience of the workmen when engaged in feeding the Furnace. It is designed for the use of Anthracite as a fuel and is just ready for blast; it will therefore in all probability, be the first Anthracite Furnace in blast, in Columbia county. Thomas Boyle & Co. are the proprietors of this promising enterprise, and the works have been erected under the Superintendence and direction of E. Y. Farquhar, Esq., who is now actively engaged in completing the final arrangements for business operations.

CONNECTICUT ELECTION

Has terminated, as was expected it would, in favor of the whigs, by a small majority. The last Legislature of that state, passed a "Registry Law," and it is said that about 5000 democrats refused to Register their names and, of course were not allowed to vote.

The Hon. Thaddeus Betts, United States Senator, from Connecticut, died at Washington City a few days since.

A disastrous flood occurred at Johnstown R. I. a few days since. A stream passing through town, upon which were situated several factories, having become swollen by a heavy rain, a dam to a large reservoir gave way, carrying with it two or three factories, and several dwelling houses, and drowning about 30 persons. Twenty of the bodies have been recovered.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Up to Wednesday had not passed an appropriation Bill. Every proposition having been voted down. No action in the house had been had upon the small bill law, none upon the apportionment bill. The Legislature were to adjourn on Thursday last, as they had passed a resolution appropriating money to pay themselves, it being almost the only act that they have consummated during the session.

THE DEAR POOR.

The Whigs, now, when on the eve of an election, are very chimerical in their profession of friendship for the poor, and talk much of equality. They are ready to take a poor man by the hand—associate with him—feast with him at the same table—they do not offer him the "fragments," for nothing is too good for the dear poor.—They work for his good, and for his alone. But their whole course show that their professions are hypocritical, like the Crocodile's tears, shed only to draw their victim within their grasp, as their acts, heretofore, speak the language of the Pharisee, "stand by, I am holier than thou." At any other time, they are not worthy to feast with the ruffe shirt gentry,—when they have picked the meat, the poor may pick the bones.—The "fragments" are good enough for them. We have been led into these remarks, by reading the following accounts of the preparation for a whig festival, at Buffalo, in 1838, which we have clipped from a whig paper published in this county, that year. After reading it, who can doubt, regard the whigs have for the poor, when they are so willing that the bones left at their feasts should be picked by them.

"The Whig Festival at Buffalo, on Wednesday must have been a splendid affair. The arrangements for the celebration were of the most expensive character.—The feasting and drinking also was to be upon a grand scale. The following is a part of the Bill of Fare:

- 1 Ox roasted whole; 1 Black Bear, do.
- do.; 2 "Whole hogs;" 30 roasted Pigs,
- 100 do. Turkeys; 200 do. Chickens; 20 do.
- Geese; 30 Rounds Beef, 1200 pounds; 20
- Rumps do.; 30 Boiled Hams; 100 Beef
- Tongues; 100 pounds of Sausages; 200 do.
- Head Cheese 2000 Loaves of Bread; 40
- Barrels Beer, 30 do. Cider; Butter; Cheese,
- &c. in proportion.

Minute Guns were fired during the time occupied in moving from the churches to the field.

At evening, there was to be a general illumination of the houses, hotels, and stores of such citizens as pleased.

The remains of the dinner were to be removed to the Whig Committee room to be bestowed upon the poor.

Massachusetts.—The democratic convention of this state, have placed in nomination—For President, Martin Van Buren; Vice President, James K. Folk; Governor, Marcus Morton; Lieut. Governor, Nathan Willis.

Virginia, Tennessee and Mississippi, have nominated Messrs. Van Buren and Polk.

Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana and Missouri, have nominated Messrs. Van Buren and Johnson.

ALABAMA.—Messrs. Van Buren and King.

GEORGIA.—Messrs. Van Buren and Forsyth.

All these nominations are to be submitted to the Democratic National Convention, which meets at Baltimore on the fourth of May next.

In a suit to recover damages for injury done to a pair of horses hired to a party of young men on the Sabbath, which was recently brought before the District Court, Judge Strood, Philadelphia, ordered a non-suit to be entered on the ground that contracts made for labor to be performed on the Sabbath were illegal.

THE HARRISBURG CHRONICLE, has passed from the ownership of E. GUIER, into the hands of HENRY MONTGOMERY. Mr. Guyer has our best wishes for his future good luck, in any occupation he chooses to engage in.

British Squadron.—There are now on the West India and North America station, one line of battle ship, nine frigates and nineteen sloops, mounting five hundred and twenty-two guns, and manned by five thousand four hundred and ninety-six men.

More Specks of War.—The Buffalo Advertiser states:—"That instructions had been given for the immediate erection of a line of black houses, extending from Fort Erie, opposite to that city, to Chippewa, a distance of about 20 miles.

Definition.—"Log Cabin."—A large, elegant white, framed house, from 80 to 100 feet in front with numerous out-houses in the midst of one of the most beautiful farms in the State of Ohio.—Phil. Statesman.

BANKS are to the commercial community what drags are to the individual. They sometimes may prevent a sudden failure; but, if frequently resorted to, and long persisted in, they stimulate business only to hasten its destruction.

At a sale in Beaver county, some days since, a lot of Oats was sold at four cents per bushel; Hay at 50 cents per ton; and Potatoes at six cents per bushel. This, however, was a forced sale.