

AN ACT to authorize the people of Columbia county to vote on the question of the removal of their seat of Justice from Danville to Bloomsburg.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall, and may be lawful, for the qualified voters who shall be residents and inhabitants of the county of Columbia at the time of the passage of this act, to vote at the next general election upon the question of the removal of their seat of justice from Danville to Bloomsburg, in said county, in the manner following to wit: Those in favor of a removal shall vote a written or printed ticket labeled as aforesaid, & containing the words, 'For a removal,' and those opposed to a removal shall vote a written or printed ticket labeled as aforesaid, & containing the words, 'Against a removal,' the said tickets to be deposited in a box, which shall be provided for that purpose, at each and every of the election polls of said county, and the returns of said election shall be made in the same manner by the return judges as in case of the election of members of the assembly, and if on the meeting of the return judges, it shall appear that a majority of the votes have been given in favor of a removal, then the following sections of this act shall be of full force and effect, but if it shall appear that a majority of votes have been given against a removal, then the following sections of this act shall be null and void. *Provided*, That if within fifteen days after the result of said election shall have been known and officially published, twenty or more qualified voters as aforesaid, of said county, shall take and subscribe an oath or affirmation, before a justice of the peace of the said county, that they believe the result of said election to have been produced by fraud or illegal means, then it shall be the duty of the county, upon being furnished with a copy of any adjoining district and the two associate judges of any adjoining county, to hold a special court at Danville, at such time as may suit his convenience, but not exceeding two months after he shall have been notified as aforesaid, to decide upon any matters of dispute growing out of the holding, conducting, or returns of said election, as well as the legality or illegality of any votes given at said election, and if the said court, after a full hearing of the case, shall be satisfied that the said election has been illegally or fraudulently conducted, it shall be the duty of the president judge thereof, to direct the sheriff of said county to hold a new election within sixty days hereafter, upon giving at least fifteen days public notice of the same, said election to be conducted in all respects as hereinafter directed. *Provided further*, That the sheriff of said county shall, in either manner in at least two newspapers published in said county, and shall also notify the citizens thereof of the election to be held under this act, at the same time and in the same manner that notice is given of the holding of the general election.

Section 2. If a majority of the people of said county shall decide as above in favor of the removal of the seat of justice, it shall be the duty of the governor within three months thereafter, to appoint three disinterested citizens of this state, none of whom shall be residents of the county of Columbia whose duty it shall be, as soon as conveniently may be, after receiving notice of their appointment, to assemble at the town of Danville, in said county, and after being duly sworn or affirmed, shall proceed to view and appraise the court house, jail, and other buildings belonging to the said county, situate in the town of Danville, aforesaid, at a price which they shall deem said buildings worth for county purposes, and shall make out duplicate reports of such valuation under their hands and seals, under the hands and seals of a majority of them, one of which reports they shall deliver to the prothonotary of said county, he shall file the same in his office, and the other shall be deposited in the commission-ers office of said county.

Section 3. That as soon as it can be conveniently done after the valuation of the public buildings of the county of Columbia situate in Danville aforesaid, shall be made the report filed as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the board of commissioners of a county of Columbia aforesaid, and they are hereby authorized and required to take and receive a bond or bonds of indemnity; other securities, payable to them and their successors in office, for the use of the county of Columbia, aforesaid, from such person or persons as may offer and be willing to be bound in the same, conditioned, that upon sale of the public buildings aforesaid, as hereinafter provided for, full amount of the valuation herebefore mentioned shall be realized for the use of said county of Columbia, and in default thereof that they, the said obligor, or obligees, shall make up and pay into the county treasury the full amount of such deficiency.

Section 4. That as soon as the foregoing proceedings shall be fully completed, commissioners for the county of Columbia for the time being, be and they are hereby authorized and required, to take and receive a deed or deeds of conveyance made to them and their successors in office, of any quantity of land not exceeding one acre, in the town of Bloomsburg, in said county, for the use and purpose of accommodating the public buildings to be erected

thereon and for such other purposes as the grand jury or juries of said county, with the approbation of the court, and concurrence of the commissioners of the county, may and shall from time to time order and direct, for the use and benefit of the said county, *Provided* That said land shall be furnished without charge to the county.

Section 5. The said commissioners, when the site aforesaid shall be ascertained and fixed, and the lot or lots of ground shall be conveyed as aforesaid, shall make an estimate of the probable expense of erecting suitable buildings to be of brick or stone for a court house, prison, and county offices and the said commissioners are hereby authorized to receive subscriptions from individuals that may be offered, for the purpose of erecting the public buildings, and also to increase the county rates and levies from time to time, so as to enable them to make up any deficiency in the same necessary to erect said buildings.

Section 6. The said county commissioners are hereby authorized and required to erect, or cause to be erected, on the lot or lots so fixed upon, as aforesaid, suitable buildings, to be of brick or stone, for a court house, prison, and house for the safe keeping of the county records, and cause the same to be built and completed within the space of three years from the time of the passage of this act, and as soon as the buildings are erected and completed as aforesaid, the said commissioners and sheriff of the county, shall cause the prisoners (if any) there confined in the old prison, to be safely removed to the new prison, and the public papers and records then remaining in the public offices at Danville, to be safely deposited in the new building built and prepared as aforesaid, for the reception thereof, and from thenceforth the seat of justice in and for the county of Columbia, shall cease to be at Danville, and the same is hereby removed and fixed at the town of Bloomsburg, in the said county, and the public offices heretofore kept, and the courts of justice heretofore held at Danville, in and for the said county of Columbia, shall be kept and held at Bloomsburg, in the buildings erected for their accommodation as aforesaid.

Section 7. The said county commissioners and their successors in office, be and they are hereby authorized and required to sell at public auction, after due and public notice given, to the highest and best bidder; the old court house and prison, and all other real estate in the town of Danville, belonging to or held in trust for the said county of Columbia, and on the sale thereof to make and deliver good and sufficient titles for the same to the purchaser or purchasers thereof, and to pay the net proceeds thereof into the county treasury, to be applied towards defraying the expenses of said county.

Section 8. So much of the existing laws as pertain to this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

The Canal Commissioners bill, which provides for the election of those important officers by the people, has passed the House by a majority of nearly two to one, and it is expected it will pass the Senate by a very decisive vote. What will be its fate with the Executive, is uncertain.

This important measure of reform, promises to be one of unbounded popularity, and its movers merit not only the gratitude of their immediate constituents, but also of the whole people of Pennsylvania. Elect the Canal Commissioners by the people, and you dam one of the most prolific sources of corruption in the Government; and the tide of Executive influence, which now sets so strongly through the Canal commissioners, polluting in its course every line of our public works, will flow back to its legitimate source, the people,—from whence, as from a pure fountain, it will return to shed its purifying influence over a most important branch of State expenditure.

This important measure of reform was not carried through the House without determined opposition, and on our member Col. WRIGHT, its principal projector and mover, fell the whole weight of the influence brought to defeat it; but thanks to his spirit and energy, he stood firmly, and ably, efficient coadjutors came to his support. Of these, Gen. Rounfort, member from Philadelphia county, stood the foremost, and his able, manly defence of Col. Wright on the floor of the House, merits the gratitude of the Democracy of this district—a feeling they will not be backward to express, whenever opportunities occur to do him honor.—*Wyoming Patriot*.

The National Intelligencer says, 'that among the Executive proceedings in the Senate, towards the close of the session of Congress, was the ratification of a convention lately concluded at city of Mexico, between the diplomatic representatives of the United States and that Government, the terms of which are said to be honorable and eligible to both nations. All the bills and joint resolutions which passed both Houses, and reached the President; are believed to have received his signature, except the Joint Resolution directing payment for the certificates, or awards issued by the Commissioners, under the treaty with the Cherokee Indians.'

Kentucky.—The Senate of Kentucky, by a vote of 21 to 14, have decided that the law of that State, prohibiting the importation of slaves, shall not be annulled.

The last Lycoming Gazette, in reply to the article in our paper, relative to the profits of the Canal and Railroad, has the following:

'In common with nearly every democratic paper in Northern Pennsylvania, we have attempted to vindicate the character of the Canal Commissioners, from the unjust, coarse, ruthless, and indecent attacks of Mr. Speaker Wright and others, and have published such statements which must have convinced every honest, candid, and reflective mind, that our public works, under the present efficient Board of Canal Commissioners, have been managed with great prudence and economy; and, for the first time, been made to yield a revenue to the State, and that, too, in a year of unexampled pecuniary distress and embarrassment.'

We admit that a number of democratic papers have stood forth as champions of the Canal Commissioners, and have made 'unjust, coarse, ruthless, and indecent' assaults upon those who have been advocates of the bill providing for their election. But that 'nearly every democratic paper in Northern Pennsylvania,' has been guilty of such a foul proceeding, is false. On the contrary, the reverse is the case. The bill which has passed the House has been approved and advocated by the Wilkesbarre Farmer, Easton Argus, Columbia Democrat, Perry County Democrat, Newport Standard, Sunbury American, Monroe Democrat, Wayne County Herald, Montrose Volunteer, Wyoming Patriot and Lycoming Sentinel, all of the Northern Pennsylvania, while the Berwick Sentinel and Lycoming Gazette, whose editors are Collectors of Tolls, and Danville Intelligencer and Bradford Porter whose 'political streak' corresponds with a majority of the canal Board, are the only opponents of the bill that we have seen or heard of in the North.

It appears to us really strange, that the friends of the present board of Canal Commissioners, in their zeal to defend and protect them, are constantly throwing out the foulest insinuations against the honesty and integrity of every previous Board! If in a year of unexampled pecuniary distress, the present Board have managed to make the public works yield a revenue to the State, what, in the name of all that is honest, has the old Board of Commissioners done with people's money? Honesty in public officers seems to be such a rare jewel in the eyes of some people, that if they convey the impression that some officers are honest, they will have them kept in office during life!

It is argued by the Commissioners' friends that frequent changes in the Canal Board, are detrimental to the public interest! Raw banks, ignorant of the manner of doing business unacquainted with our improvement system, would destroy more than let us test it.

W. F. Packer and Edward B. Hubley were three years in the Canal Board! Did they save any thing to the Commonwealth? Did they make the improvements yield a revenue to the Commonwealth? Not a dollar! But the first year of a new board—even though 'a year of unexampled pecuniary distress and embarrassment'—when trade was at its lowest ebb, and business was nearly paralyzed—the improvements were made to yield a net revenue, as is claimed, over half a million of dollars! Thus are the friends of the present Board, in order to sustain them, and save them from being 'legislated out of office'—preferring charges of the grossest rascality against the former Board of Canal Commissioners!

We again repeat, that if a new Board have saved half a million in one year—another new Board may save a million—therefore we go for an entire new Board!

The idea of the Butler Herald is an excellent one, and in our mind, tends to explain how it is that we are presented with novel and extraordinary spectacle of our internal improvements yielding a revenue to the state! It was done to prevent their being sold at auction, as was like to be done, unless they would be of some service to the state. And rather than lose their places, and further chance to feather their own nest, they concluded it was best to allow the state part of the proceeds! They concluded it was fair and politic to divide! And to make it appear that the dividend was even far greater than they intended it should be, they made a report of all the receipts of the whole year, and the expenditures for only nine months!

Verily, it would be a wrong—a most grievous wrong, to legislate such men out of office!—'I were a pity that state should be deprived of the services of such 'honest Ingro's!'—*Reporter*.

A Miser.—On Wednesday night last a fire consumed a hut near Doylestown, Pa., wherein resided a person named George Hann. The occupant was a poor feeble old man, and depended upon the charity of the neighbors for supplies of the necessities of life, and on the night of the fire, made his escape and finally was conveyed to the Bucks county Alms house; where eighty four dollars, and seventy five cents were found concealed in various portions of his clothing. This fact induced others to search among the ruins of the building, and the sum of seven hundred dollars, in specie was found and deposited in the Doylestown Bank. The miser is not known to possess any kindred, and in his younger days was a teacher of a school in Northampton county, Pennsylvania.

THE COMET.

As the novel appearance of a comet has been discovered and wondered at a great deal here, we give the following from the New Bedford Mercury, which is the fullest description of it we have seen:

'Its brilliancy was almost equal to that of Venus. Its situation is very near the limbs of the sun; its tail appears about 3 degrees in length.—It may be the comet announced some three months since in Europe; it was then traversing the constellation Draco; be it that or another, it is of rare brilliancy. There are but three on record, of sufficient brilliancy to be seen in the day season. The first was seen forty-three years before Christ, and is called 'a hairy star.' It was seen with the naked eye in the day time. The second was seen in the year 1402, and was so brilliant that the light of the sun, at the end of March, did not hinder people seeing it at mid day, both its nucleus and its tail, were to use the language of the day, 'two fathoms long.' Third appeared on February 18th, 1744 and nearly equalled Venus in splendor, and many persons saw it at mid day, without glasses. It may yet prove that the comet of to day is the same as that of 1402.'

The Recent Congress.—The N. Y. American states of the recent session, that it sat four hundred and fifty days, passed more than four hundred bills into acts, made more than two thousand reports, rejected more bills, had more bills vetoed, lost more members by resignation, lost more death than any previous Congress.—Thirteen have died; seven have lost their wives by death during this Congress, nine have married since their election; twelve or more have lost their children by death during that time; seven Senators, and twelve Representatives have resigned, one had his leg broken; one had his ear bit off in a fight, and one shot and editors calf, as he supposed, for the common-veal.

According to the Madisonian, the appropriations it made for the support of its own members, amount to \$2,031,039 60. The expense to the people has been about five thousand dollars a day, or, estimating a Congressional day at five hours, about a thousand dollars an hour! all this for nothing! All expended in a series of attempts to 'head' Mr. Tyler; and put the thrice, defeated!—Henry Clay—in his place!

THE END.—Parson Miller lately described, in a sermon at Bennington, Vermont, appearances that will probably be presented when his doctrine is realized by the sudden destruction of this world:

'A small bright spot will first appear in the east, which will gradually expand as it approaches the earth. By and by a small cloud will appear before the luminous ball, and between it and the earth. On this cloud will be seen the Son of Man, standing erect, his figure plainly visible to the spectators on the earth. At the sound of the trumpet (or some other signal,) the bright spot having gradually illuminated the whole heavens, the righteous dead shall rise from their resting place, and the risen and the living saints shall together be caught up and meet the Saviour in the air, when they will be instantly changed and clothed with immortality. The Saviour will then present them to the Father, whose presence is denoted by this luminous mass, perfect, without spot or wrinkle. The Father will then give the Saints, by the marriage covenant, as a bride to the Son. They will then be constituted the New Jerusalem, and, together with the Saviour, will descend to the earth, which, during their absence, has been purified, and the wicked burned up, where the Saints will dwell with Christ for ever.'

The following remarks of the Philadelphia American Sentinel, are worthy the head and heart of its talented editor. No man has been more foully aspersed by his political enemies, than Mr. BUCHANAN, and this noble vindication of his character as a public man, by one who has watched all his movements for a quarter of a century, is peculiarly gratifying to the friends of our distinguished statesman;

Senator Buchanan.—Some of the papers are trying to question the propriety of the course of the Hon. James Buchanan during the late war.—We know something about the early history of the Senator, as well as his present high standing in the country; and we take leave to say of him, that in all the stations he has held from the day he entered the legislature of Pennsylvania; up to the present time, he has, on all occasions, proved himself to be a patriot of pure morals and of the first order of talents. We have watched his course for the last twenty five years, and hesitate not to say, that we know of no public man in Pennsylvania who has more thoroughly met the expectations of his friends than Mr. B. As a Senator, he stands in the very front rank. No Pennsylvanian visits Washington city, who does not feel himself delighted, when he sees for himself the distinguished position that Mr. Buchanan occupies among the Senators of the Republic.

Churches in Virginia.—It appears from statistics recently published, that about twenty thousand members were added to the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches in Virginia, during the year 1843.

DEMOCRACY.

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR"

BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1843.

FOR PRESIDENT,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

(Subject to the decision of a National Convention.)

NO APPORTIONMENT BILL

Has yet become a law. The house, a few days since, passed a bill, which went to the senate and was there amended. It returned to the house and was again amended. The senate adhering to their amendment, it will go to a committee of conference. What the result will be it is impossible to conjecture. Columbia, Luzerne and Wyoming constitute a district in all the bills, as they should do.

SNOW STORM.

March has thus far been a winter month. On Monday last, snow fell throughout the day to the depth of six inches. On Thursday morning it again commenced snowing and continued until Friday morning, when there was nearly two feet in addition to the old stock. The wind blowing hard and the snow light, it has rendered the roads almost entirely impassible. The snow in the woods must now be at least three feet, deeper than it has been before this season.

U. S. MAILS.

It is stated that the U. S. mails, during 1842, traversed 11,644,694 miles on horseback, 18,757,036 miles in coaches and 4,424,282 miles by railroad and steamboat during the year ending the 30th June, 1842—total, 34,845,991 miles; equal to 145 voyages to the moon, or 1393 voyages around the world. To go this distance would have occupied a locomotive for 154 years, running at the rate of 30 miles an hour, night and day, Sunday excepted. Who made all these calculations we are not advised, but recommend him to ascertain, by figures, how much more may be made by driving people to cheat the mail, than by inducing them to pay it their pence cheerfully.

There are over twelve hundred applicants for situations of the Custom House under the new Collector already. We are much mistaken if the Judge can remain Blythe under such a boring process.

The whig members of Congress have had a meeting and fixed upon the 3d of May, 1843, for a Whig National Convention, to be held at Baltimore.

The number of persons who applied for the benefit of the Bankrupt Act in the Eastern district of Pennsylvania, from the passage of the law to its repeal, was seventeen hundred and ninety nine.

The Massachusetts House of Representatives have, by a vote of 156 to 141, requested Governor Morton to remove Adjutant General Dearbur, for his conduct in loaning the arms of the State to the Rhode Island authorities during the late civil war in that State.

U. S. Senator.—Governor Fairfield was elected to the United States Senate on Saturday last, by the Legislature of Maine. The Whigs run the Hon. W. P. Fessenden, late M. C. from Cumberland district.

The New Hampshire Gazette, Portsmouth, the oldest Democratic journal in the State, carries at its head the names of John C. Calhoun for next President, and Levi Woodbury for Vice President.

Messrs. Wise and Cushing both intend to return to their districts, and start for Congress immediately. The election comes on in April.

Girard's Will.—The Supreme Court of the United States ordered a re-argument in the case of Girard's will. This will doubtless cause excitement in Philadelphia. It makes the question of the right of the city to the whole of Girard's estate doubtful, whereas before it appeared absurd to question the right of the city to the estate.