

**DEMOCRAT.**

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR"

**BLOOMSBURG:**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1845.

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS.**

Pursuant to public notice, a meeting of the citizens of Bloomsburg was held at the house of Charles Deobler, on Saturday evening, Nov. 1st. The meeting was organized by appointing DR. J. RAMSAY, President, and A. D. COOL, Secretary.

The object of the meeting was stated in a very neat and appropriate manner by Dr. J. Ramsay, after which, upon motion of William McKelvey, a committee of five persons was appointed to view the several proposed sites for the erection of the new public buildings in the town of Bloomsburg & report to the next meeting the conditions upon which the said tracts of land are offered or may be obtained. Whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed: Daniel Snyder, William McKelvey, George Weaver, Barclay and John M. Chamberlain.

On motion of William Neal—Rev. D. J. Waller, Eldings Barclay and Dr. J. Ramsay, were appointed to prepare a draft of the buildings to be presented to the county Commissioners for their approval.

A form of the subscription to be circulated for the purpose provided for in the 'Removal Bill' was presented to the meeting and approved of.

On motion of William McKelvey, it was agreed that a committee of five be appointed to hold the Books, procure subscriptions and serve as a building committee. The appointment of said committee was left to the chairman, who appointed Jacob Eyer, Daniel Snyder, Wm. McKelvey, Dr. J. Ramsay and Leonard B. Rupert.

On motion agreed that the next meeting be held on Saturday evening the 15th inst. at the house of C. Deobler.

On motion resolved—That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the 'Columbia Democrat' and all other papers in the County willing to publish them.

On motion adjourned.

J. RAMSAY, Presr.  
A. D. COOL, Secretary.  
Bloomsburg, Nov. 1st, 1845.

**Catawissa Rail Road.**

It will be perceived, by a notice in another column, that a meeting of the Stockholders of this Company is to be held in Philadelphia, on the first of December, to choose their officers for the year ensuing. We understand that the stock has lately changed hands, and that the road is soon to be completed, to the Susquehanna River. The Road has been purchased by a company of wealthy gentlemen on account of the inherent merits of its location, and as the cheapest and only feasible route from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River, and from thence to Lake Erie, and not like other projects we wot of, for the purpose of merely advancing the interest of land speculators, stock jobbers, and shrewd villages, which have nothing more to recommend them than puffs of wind, hills, valleys, tunnels and inclined planes. The road is already graded for about forty miles from the Susquehanna river and requires but about nine miles more grading to connect it with the Little Schuylkill Rail Road, and thus make a continuous Rail Road from Philadelphia city, to the Susquehanna River, emptying into the heart of the Iron Region. The company have also a charter for, and surveyed, a route up Little Fishing creek, to Wilks report, a distance of about forty miles, which passes through a valuable iron and coal region, without any very deep cutting, tunnels or inclined planes. This portion is to be commenced, as soon as the road is completed to the River at Catawissa. Thus it will be seen that while the interested gentlemen below are fighting about their committees and reports, the Catawissa Rail Road is silently, though steadily progressing to completion upon its own merits, & we have no hesitancy in predicting that before they get their Rail Road transferred from paper, we shall have Locomotives puffing by us at the rate of forty miles an hour.

Mr. Buchanan—The Washington U. S. Journal says:—The political friends of the present Secretary of State, in Pennsylvania protest most freely and unequivocally against his leaving his present position. It is understood that he has fully determined to retain the situation he now holds—so at speculation as to who will be his successor is idle and vain.

A Rail Road Convention has been held at Williamsport for the purpose of completing the Williamsport and Elmira Rail Road and to urge the making of a road from Williamsport to Philadelphia city. We are glad to see them waking up to their interest at that place, and we hope they will neither sleep nor slumber until the Williamsport and Elmira Road is completed, as we can assure them, from the knowledge we have of the matter, that a road will soon be completed from Williamsport to Philadelphia, the only practical & feasible route, by the way of Fishing creek valley and the Catawissa Rail Road. To this road, the eye of the capitalist are now turned.

**BLOOMSBURG, IRONDALE FURNACE.**

This Furnace is continuing to do an excellent business, having made, upon an average for the last three weeks, one hundred and fourteen tons of No. 1 iron per week & in one week, one hundred and ninety tons, were made, using less than two and a half tons of ore and a half tons of coal, and a half ton of Limestone to a ton of metal. This is making more iron & using less material, we believe, than was ever done in the same time, by one anthracite furnace of 14 feet boshes, in this country. The other stack will be completed and put in blast in a few weeks.

**A SNAKE WITH TWO HEADS.**

The Salisbury (N. C.) Watchman has a story about a snake with two heads, which is said to have been found by Mr. S. G. Fempton, & his brother Elam Templeton on the farm of the latter in Iredell county. The heads were at each extremity of the body, and were perfectly formed, says the Watchman. The reptile measured five feet five and a half inches in length, and was of a black color.—The Watchman tells the story with much apparent earnestness, and wishes to know what naturalists have to say about this odd serpent.

An orphan boy, of some 12 years old, living at Smithland, mouth of the Cumberland River, Tenn, while fishing recently, found a number of genuine pearls among some mussel shells, which he had gathered. Ignorant of what they were, he threw them all away except one, which he kept because it was 'so big, white and pretty.' It is supposed to be worth at least \$500. The best of it is, he offered it to a gentleman for a few cents, but he, suspecting its value, refused to take advantage of the child's ignorance, engaged to have it sold, and the proceeds invested for his education.

A French cook, at the Louisville Hotel, who kept a pair of big rattlesnakes in a box in his room, went to them on Saturday and found one of them at large. He undertook to kill the snake with a large knife, but the reptile bit him on the finger. The Frenchman whittled his finger down to the bone, and then disposed of the pair of snakes for \$8.

It is stated that the first instalment on five new railway schemes in France, recently paid in, amounted to about \$80,000,000.

Mounjoy, an English peacetrain, has undertaken to walk fifty miles in thirteen hours, 20 miles backward, for six successive days.

**OREGON AND SLAVERY.**

The Oregon Legislature has taken measures already to keep themselves free from the evil of slavery. The Legislature have passed an act declaring that slavery shall not exist in Oregon, and the owners of slaves who bring them there are allowed 3 years to take them out of the country, and in default the slaves to be free. The act also prohibits free negroes or mulattoes from settling or remaining in the country, and requires them to leave in two years, and in default to be hired out to the lowest bidder who will bind himself to remove them from the country for the shortest term of service and within six months after the expiration hereof.

Mr. Samuel Higgins, of Scarborough, Me., lately a premium for the best farm in the county. Among his crop were six acres of wheat, yielding 110 bushels, equal to \$121.

Mr. George Long, of Quincy, lost his life by slipping on a rock, which had died. He had a small puncture on one hand, and it is supposed, during the operation, accidentally vaccinated himself with some of the poisonous matter as the arm soon began to swell, and the whole system soon indicated. He lingered less than a week in the most agonizing pain.

**COMMUNICATION.**

It has taken three centuries to develop the powers contained in the herbs which compose the Brandreth Pills. These celebrated Vegetable Pills for one hundred years have been made.—The American public have found them deserving of patronage, and it has been and is liberally bestowed upon this medicine. Now, however, no sooner is a new advertisement written by the Doctor but it is at once cut out of the paper, & Brandreth; taken out & Indian, or some other name substituted, indicative of some other medicine some literary thief for its parent. Nearly all the Pills at present before the public, are made by men who for years lived by counterfeiting the Brandreth Pills, and have only taken to present speculation, since Dr. Brandreth compelled them to abandon that method of jeopardizing the lives of their fellow citizens.

The analysis of all these pretended vegetable medicines, show a large proportion of Crude Antimony in their composition, and it appears they rely entirely upon this mineral poison, for the purgative effect. It is a very easy thing to detect mineral in pills of any kind.

**HOW TO DETECT A MINERAL IN PILLS.**

Take a pill supposed to contain a mineral place it on a shovel over a red clear fire—if there is mineral in it, it will not lose its shape. It is thus with the Indian Pills, and many others before the public. The advantage of these pills in case of war would be very great, as they not only retain their shape, but remain red hot a long time after they are taken from the fire. Even boiling them with sugar will not change their shape a bit—you cannot hurt the shape of these pills. It would be well if they were as harmless to those who are very injurious making the patient exceedingly subject to St. Vitus' Dance and Epilepsy. Probably very little of these pills are sold, so the injury is not so great. I have also tried the Brandreth Pills, by the same, and other methods, and find them purely vegetable. When tried by the fire, they change to a carbonaceous mass, after giving off a great quantity of flame. The one may be considered the medicine of Life, the other, fire proof pill or Messenger of Death. This communication it is hoped will cause those persons who are agents for these new untried pretended remedies, to make their own experiments upon them, and if they sell them after, not to forget to label them poison.

Some of the papers state that fears have been entertained until lately that Lake Erie was falling so much as to become below the level of the canal at Buffalo. This lake is 863 feet, Lake Ontario 231 feet, and Lake Superior 643 feet above tide water.

A very good change has been wrought in the public mind at the East, relative to the nature of prison discipline, and that the separate confinement, and moral influence of the Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania are finding favor with almost all philanthropists and public officers, who have inquired into the comparative merits of the various systems.

**ANOTHER OREGON RUMOR.**

The last Rumor from Washington, is that Mr. Peckaham, the British Minister at Washington, finding there is little hope of adjusting the Oregon question either by promise or seduction, has proposed to leave the whole territory in its present condition for twenty years, under the joint protection of England and the United States, and with the stipulation that at the end of said period the inhabitants may attach themselves to either country, or erect themselves into an independent sovereignty, as they may prefer.

Mr. Webster, says that it is etiquette in China for one guest at the social board to feed another, and he declares that the Chinese love the strong liquors of the barbarians.

The Springfield (O.) Republic of the 10th ult says that a gentleman in a ride of a day and a half, on horseback, on the line between Indianapolis and that place, met one hundred and forty-one movers' wagons, averaging five or six persons each.

Mr. M. Hudson, of Hartford, has manufactured a single sheet of paper for the Hartford and Danbury Railroad Company, in which he received \$25. It is to be used in drawing a profile of the road. It is 25 feet in length and 6 yards wide.

The Indians are going for education. It is stated that there are now four female boarding schools among the Chictaws, sustained mainly from public funds of that nation.

**From the Trenton (N. J.) Emporium. JAMES BUCHANAN.**

A Statesman is a matter of rare occurrence in America. We have hosts of political lawyers, but few, very few trained and educated Statesmen. The Congress is, that our halls of legislation are filled with men who have words & arguments at command, but who discuss grave subjects of high national importance, with the subtlety and hair-splitting of accomplished advocates, instead of displaying those broad and liberal views which are taken by enlarged and enlightened minds who have thrown off the trammels of special pleading, and that blind regard for precedent, which is the chief boast and stumbling block of the legal profession. The greatest lawyers and greatest judges have from these causes, offered the most signal instances of entire failures as Statesmen.

In the Senate of the United States within the last few years, the Democratic party has had four statesmen of the first class, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Wright, Col. Benton, and Mr. Buchanan—all men of the highest order of intellect, who had shaken off and forgotten the petty niceties of the law, which form the capital of the successful lawyer, and who were dealing with those great principles of political science which influence the destinies of millions, and with external and internal questions of national policy, affecting the happiness and the prosperity of the people of America and the peace of the civilized world. Of one of those gentlemen we propose to say a few words.

Mr. Buchanan is a native of a neighboring state. He was bred a lawyer, worked hard at his profession, and soon acquired a handsome fortune, which allowed him to follow the natural bent of his mind and to devote himself to the study of politics in its most enlarged sense. Mr. Buchanan had been a member of the State Legislature when very young and had early entered the halls of Congress, where he soon distinguished himself as a strong and vigorous thinker. He wisely determined to give up the practice of the law before it had bound and fettered his intellect with iron bands of legal precedent. No man has ever been more successful in this effort, and for the last fifteen years the people of the United States have forgotten entirely that he was a member of the bar, and have only recognized him as a statesman and patriot, who was devoting his best energies to the welfare of his fellow-citizens and to the extension of those great principles of civil & religious freedom, which lie at the root of our republican institutions.

In the early part of Gen. Jackson's first term, he sent Mr. Buchanan to Russia, where he formed an advantageous treaty, and during his stay abroad he became practically acquainted with the interests and feelings of the principal nations of Europe. His diplomatic skills as well as his congressional talents were acknowledged by all. After his return in December, 1831, (we think) he was elected to the Senate of the United States of which dignified body he continued a most distinguished member, until called to the highest office in the gift of the executive, by President Polk. It is during this portion of his political life, that Mr. Buchanan has displayed his peculiar qualities as a statesman. He mastered and elucidated all the great questions of banking, currency, finance, assumption of State debts, the North-South boundary, Texas and Oregon, the last of which remains under the peculiar charge of the department of which he is the head—in the great question of the day and for future settlement of which the Union looks to his presence, his success and his acquaintance with the subject of aiding the President in bringing it to a successful issue.

Mr. Buchanan's intellect and grasp of mind have improved most rapidly, and he has fifteen years, and has appeared no longer exhibit the dry and hard characteristics of the professional man, but are remarkable for their pure and idiomatic style, and for the statesman-like enunciation of the highest principles of political science.

For his present post he is peculiarly fitted, for he possesses, in a high degree all these great qualities which point him out for the highest office in the gift of the people, and to which, at some future period, they will undoubtedly call him. He is safe, calm, and judicious in counsel, essentially American in all his feelings, thoroughly versed in all our foreign relations, and yields a penance to any of his predecessors.

Mr. Buchanan is the contribution of the Democratic State of Pennsylvania to the Cabinet of the President of the Republic. He is its acknowledged head, from his pre-eminent talents and his long and brilliant services as a Democratic leader. The Democratic party is entirely satisfied with the whole Cabinet of Mr. Polk. It was well not to prematurely select, its members all admirably fitted for their respective parts, and any change would be unwise, and would weaken the stability of purpose and weaken the hold of the administration on the Democracy, and countenance the allegation of internal dissension made by its political foes.

**NEW COUNTERFEIT.**

Very skillfully executed counterfeit \$10 gold pieces, U. S. currency of the year of 1840, have been put into extensive circulation, we learn from the U. S. Gazette. They may be detected by their ring, which prove their being made of some white metal. The die by which they have been stamped, is well engraved & without 'ringing' the counterfeiters will not be readily detected.

**CHINESE FRIGATES.**

Capt. Cooyghame in his new work called 'The Opium War,' says the Chinese are beginning to imitate the Europeans in many things. They have already launched a fine frigate built by an American, of beautiful model, which will no doubt be a fine sailor. For some few years the Chinese must be dependent upon Europeans, or their half-caste offspring in the East for managing this vessel, but so clever and intelligent a race will not long be left in the lurch when, once having thrown aside the threshold of their prejudices, they submit to be taught by those for whom they showed so utter a contempt. Other frigates are also, we understand, being built.

Major Cummins recently went to the Caw village in Western Missouri, to pay the annuity and found them sick and dying they had lost all their horses by disease and on the prairies were found a great number of dead deer and cows.

**NEW NOTION.**

A speculative Yankee notionizer is desirous of sinking a shaft through the centre of the isthmus of Darien down to the subterranean current supposed to exist in that locality, and which influences the gulf stream by its force. On this shaft he will construct a large water wheel to work horizontally, having a large drum above the surface, for an endless chain to work upon; then construct a railroad straight up the mountain from either ocean, to meet at this stationary engine, and the work of extending the area of freedom is done. Eureka.

**A RICH BEGGAR.**

A correspondent of the Journal of Commerce tells a story of an old man who died last summer in Paris, at the advanced age of eighty-five. He was a perfect miser. He came to Paris accompanied by his son, about three years since in the most abject state of poverty. They depended entirely upon the charity of their neighbors for subsistence, and were in the daily habit of begging from door to door for something to support them. One of the neighbors, having missed seeing the old man for a few days, went in search of him, and found him just breathing his last in a miserable hovel, destitute of necessities. He was lying on a heap of straw in one corner of the hut without any covering. In the same place was his son, about 16 years old, with scarcely a rag to cover him, crying most piteously. On asking the reason, he said that his father had been without food for more than 2 days, and that he had not a sou to purchase any. Observing near the straw a large iron-bound chest, he inquired what it contained. The son replied that his father had told him it was full of iron. He then proposed selling it and having procured a key, they opened it but what was their astonishment on finding it filled with gold pieces (coin of Louis XVI) instead of iron, amounting to all in one hundred and fifty thousand francs, (\$30,000). It was supposed the old man had accumulated this large sum by begging. His son became almost insane on the receipt of this fortune, but he amply rewarded the neighbor who had assisted him.

**EVIDENCE OF CHARACTER.**

A young woman, brought before the Boston police lately, alleged in defence of her respectability, that she was acquainted with all the lawyers in New York! She was instantly committed for six months.

The Big Gun which was made in England and the Pineconer has arrived in New York in one of the packets.

Bishop M. Coskrey is about to leave Detroit to discharge the Episcopal functions in the diocese of New York, in consequence of the suspension to Bishop Onderdonk.

In Curing Beef, a farmer at the West says—I have used saleratus in place of saltpeper, and I never had better beef.

**CENSUS OF BOSTON.**

The taking of the census, by order of the City Council of Boston, is nearly completed, and the result, according to the Transcript, will not vary much from 115,000. Population in 1840, 93,338.

**NATURAL CURIOSITY.**

A white chicken, with four legs, is now in the possession of Mr. Richard Drott, of Georgetown, D. C. This freak of Nature is the more curious as it is alive and well.

**SHORT PRAYERS.**

One of the shortest and most comprehensive prayers of modern times, said Sir William Wyndham, is that of a soldier before the battle of Rhenheim. 'Oh! God! if there be a God, save my soul, if I have a soul. Bishop Aterbury who was present said he could produce a prayer as concise as that, and in similar circumstances, but he thought in a much better spirit. It was that of a pious soldier, uttered immediately before an engagement. 'Oh! Lord, if in the hour of battle I forget thee, do not thou forget me.'

**PROGRESS OF ILLINOIS.**

The census of Illinois, as far as returns have been received, shows a very rapid increase in population since 1840. The increase in that State will exceed 200,000 in five years. Judging from the returns already made, Illinois now contains over 700,000 inhabitants. The returns from the General Land Office show that over \$60,000 acres of Government lands have been sold in Illinois within the last eight months; and the probability is that a much greater amount has been sold to actual settlers by non-resident land holder.

**REVIVALS OF THE DELUSION.**

Wallace Smith, of Patchogue, N. Y., a convert of the Millerite delusion, in compliance with an imaginary command of the Lord to slay five persons, a few days since attempted to murder his wife, who was only preserved by the interference of the neighbors. He was committed to prison.