

**AGENCY.**  
V. B. PALMER, Esq. is authorized to act as Agent for the 'COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT,' and receipt all monies for Subscription and Advertising at his Agency in Philadelphia No. 59 Pine-street. New York 189 Nassau-street. Boston 18 State-street. Baltimore S. B. cor. Bal. and Cabert-sts. Merchants-Mechanics and Tradesmen may find it in their advantage to advertise in this paper as it is the only one published in the County Seat and has a greater circulation in the county than any other paper published within its limits.

Col. BRANTIS HILL, of Kingston, Luzerne county, has been re-appointed Supervisor on the North Branch Canal.  
JAMES S. CAMMELL, Esq. of Salem, Luzerne county, has been appointed Collector at Berwick.

The just claims, therefore, of Columbia County, to one of these appointments, has been entirely disregarded by the Canal Commissioners. But since they have gone out of the county for a Collector, we know of no one whose appointment we would prefer to that of Mr. Campbell. He is every way qualified for the station, of strict integrity and thorough business habits. He will no doubt do the duties of the office faithfully.

**THE CONVENTION.**

The proceedings of the County Convention on Monday last, were characterized by good feeling and a spirit of harmony. The Resolution in favor of Gov. Shunk was passed unanimously, and it correctly indicates the sentiment of the Democratic party to this county. Our people are satisfied with Gov. Shunk. They believe him to be a man of integrity and ability, and a Democratic firm and true. And as he has shown himself to be faithful and competent, they are warmly in favor of his re-nomination, according to the former usages of the Democracy in regard to Governors. The votes given for Gov. Shunk among us next fall, will be in the full conviction, that they are most worthily and wisely bestowed.

The County Convention held in this place on Monday last, gave us an opportunity of conversing with a large number of gentlemen from all parts of the county, upon the subject of the \$7500 appropriation, and they almost universally condemned the silly opposition of the Danville people to this measure. All agreeing; after viewing the new Court House, that the citizens were doing all that was required of them under the bill, and that the appropriation was to enable the Commissioners to complete certain improvements about the buildings would be saving of great expense to the county hereafter. The facts, the measure is approved generally by the people, and only a few designing individuals out of Danville find fault with it, or have any disposition to oppose it.

**Ms. Wags.**

The following Valentine was received from Philadelphia by a young gentleman from this place. Enclosed in it was a roll of black hog's bristles. I think you will do well to publish it, for I consider it decidedly the richest thing out.  
"Here I send you a lot of my hair hoping in next years hart u will wear, pray inn return be so kind as to send me a lot of yours."

**A White Rat**

Was caught a few days since in the store of L. B. Rupert in this place, where it is now kept alive in a cage. It is entirely white and appears about two thirds grown. We have often heard of white mice, but it we mistake not a white rat is a rare thing.

There now remains no doubt of the re-nomination of Gov. Shunk by the 4th of March Convention. Of the delegates now elected 87 will vote for his re-nomination which is nearly two thirds of the whole number of delegates.

About \$2,500,000 specie was brought to this county a few days since by the Hibernia from England. It is estimated that not less than ten millions will be sent to this county by May. The most of it is to purchase grain from our farmers.

A bill has passed the House of Representatives appropriating three millions of dollars to enable the President to conclude a peace with Mexico. Attached to it is a proviso that slavery shall not exist in any territory that may hereafter be acquired by treaty or otherwise.

**Democratic County Convention**

Pursuant to notice of the Democratic sending Committee, Delegates from the several townships of Columbia County, met in Convention at the house of John Clayton, in Bloomsburg, at one o'clock, P. M., February 15, 1847, for the purpose of choosing Delegates to the 4th of March Democratic State Convention.

On motion, Hon. STEPHEN BALDY, was chosen President of the Convention, and C. R. BUCKALEW and E. H. BALDY, Secretaries.

The following delegates presented their credentials and took seats in the convention.  
Brewer—Conrad Breubender, Jonas Breubender  
Bloom—Charles R. Buckalew, John Robinson  
Briercreek—B. S. Gilmore, Hugh McBride

Catawissa—Stephen Baldy, Isaac S. Monroe  
Centre—John Knorr, Joseph Poles  
Derry—Elias Haas, George Götner  
Fishingcreek—A. W. Kline, G. Mack  
Franklin—Peter Kline, Daniel Zar  
Greenwood—J. H. Ikeler  
Headlock—Samuel Schrock, E. Thornton  
Jackson—John Shultz, John Savage  
Liberty—F. Bus, R. Montgomery  
Limestone—F. McBride, J. Shearer  
Mahoning—E. H. Baldy, T. Brandon  
Montour—John Dieterich, J. McNinch  
Maine—C. F. Mann, A. Kline, Jr.  
Mount Pleasant—D. Ziegler, J. Shipman  
Mifflin—Samuel Cressy, D. Rinebold  
Orange—Isaac Welsh, Alfred Howell  
Rearcreek—A. Brown, J. Yeager, Jr.

On motion, it was Resolved—That the President appoint a committee of seven to report Resolutions.

The President thereupon appointed the following gentlemen—C. R. Buckalew, Amzi Brown, Charles F. Mann, Johnson H. Ikeler, Isaac Welsh, Hugh McBride, and John Dieterich.

On motion of E. H. Baldy, it was unanimously

Resolved—That we concur with Luzerne county in the choice of Hon. Andrew Besumont as the Senatorial Delegate to represent this Senatorial District in the 4th of March Convention.

On motion of Eli Thornton, the Convention then proceeded to the choice of a Representative Delegate to the 4th of March Convention. Upon voting, GEORGE SMITH, having a majority of all the votes was declared elected.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted by the Convention—

Resolved—That James K. Polk, President of the United States, has evinced by his profound statesmanship and devoted patriotism that the Democracy were not mistaken in their choice. That in war and in peace, in embarrassment and in prosperity, our national honor and our interests are pre-eminently safe in his hands.

Resolved—That in the Hon. James Buchanan we recognize the pure and able statesman, the devoted patriot and sterling Democrat.

Resolved—That our anticipations in regard to Francis R. Shunk when he was elected in 1844 have been fully realized. He has made an honest, able and irreproachable Governor, true to his principles and to the expectations of the people. Under his faithful administration the State has been acquiring credit and character, and at home and abroad a thorough confidence in the integrity and intelligence of her rulers established. The Democracy of Columbia are quite willing that this order of things be continued by the re-nomination and consequent re-election of Gov. Shunk, and our Delegates are therefore instructed to vote for him in the convention.

Resolved—That we have the utmost confidence in the Democracy and integrity of the Hon. Daniel Surgenon and that he has faithfully represented Pennsylvania in the United States Senate.

Resolved—That the manner in which James R. Snowden discharged the duties of State Treasurer is highly creditable to himself and to the Democratic party.

Resolved—That the universal prosperity of the country and particularly the high prices at which our Farmers can sell their produce, is a sufficient refutation of all federal falsehoods and slanders about 'general ruin,' in consequence of the Election of President Polk and the passage of the Tariff of 1846.

Resolved—That we regard the war with Mexico as eminently necessary and just, and that we are in favor of the utmost vigor in its prosecution. That we are decidedly opposed to measures having any other object in view.

Resolved—That the measures proposed by President Polk for the due prosecution

of the war are highly important in their character, and such as should have received the speedy action of Congress.

Resolved—That the federalists opposed the war with England and denounced the administration of President Madison as bitterly and unjustly as they now oppose the war with Mexico and the administration of President Polk. That they were then branded as guilty of moral treason, & are they less guilty now?

Resolved—That the charges made by the federalists, that the Administration of President Polk is opposed to Gen. Scott and Taylor and desire to embarrass them in their operations, is about as true as anything we could expect from Mexican allies, and blue light federalists.

Resolved—That the recent battles on the Rio Grande and at Monterey, show conclusively that our gallant army is invincible and can defeat any number of the enemy.

Resolved—That we recommend to our Democratic friends in Congress the propriety of passing a law to compel the federalists to swear allegiance to the country.

Resolved—That we are opposed to that most wild and reckless project the sale of the Public works, and that the vote of our Representative Mr. Pearce upon that, and his votes upon other questions, during the present session of the Legislature, meet our warm approval.

Resolved—That the votes of our Senator Gen. Ross during the present session, are also approved by us; and that we request him to support in all its shapes a project to convey the Public Improvements into the hands of capitalists and speculators, and also to oppose the passage of the deceptive Tariff Resolutions now pending in the Senate.

On motion the Convention Resolved to instruct for Canal Commissioner. And upon voting our Delegates were instructed to sustain JOHN McKEYNOLDS for Canal Commissioner, he having a majority of all the votes given.

On motion, Resolved—That the proceedings of this Convention be published in the Democratic papers of the county.

The Danville people have adopted an ingenious plan of filing up remonstrances. They leave a remonstrance at a public house, in the care of some one, who inserts the name upon it of every person who enters the door. Two gentlemen who went from this place to Danville a few days since found their names upon one of their remonstrances without their knowledge or consent. They have been enabled in this way to get some six or eight hundred names. Doing a great business, truly out of seven thousand Taxpayers.

**THE MAILS.**

The irregularity of the mails on the route from Northumberland to Wilkesbarre has long been a source of annoyance to us, as well as to our community generally, and we cannot longer submit to this negligence without complaining. Nor are we alone in our fault-finding, for the papers all along the route come to us every week filled with complaints in the manner in which the mail is carried. In fact it has been borne with forbearance has ceased to be a virtue, and such a state of things should no longer be tolerated. We last night (Wednesday) received papers printed in Harrisburg on Saturday, and due here Monday. On Monday we, or rather our Postmaster, was blessed with a mail-bag, about the size of a lady's reticule, containing for our place one whole letter. We believe we may safely say that the North Branch stage, on leaving Northumberland, never waits for the one from below; and, to cap the climax, SIXTEEN HOURS are considered necessary to travel the distance from Northumberland to this place, (thirty-two miles.)—Berwick Enquirer.

There is no very late news from the army. We have heard nothing from the 2d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers since they left New Orleans.

The Legislature of New Jersey have taken away the charter of the Plainfield Bank and appointed receivers, of course no person should touch a dollar of its paper. We would also warn our friends not to touch the Lehigh county Bank bills. It is on a branch of the Plainfield Bank.

A resolution has passed both branches of the Legislature of this State to adjourn on the 18th of March.

**From the 'Columbia Enquirer.'**

Mr. B. S. GILMORE:

Dear Sir—I observe in the 'Danville Democrat' of the 5th instant an article which I propose to notice, with your permission, through the columns of the Enquirer. The 'Democrat' professes to give a copy of a remonstrance against a proposed act to authorize the Commissioners of this County to make certain outlays. This remonstrance is drawn in profound ignorance of the subject upon which it professes to treat, and is, in short, a paper of mistaken facts and misapplied declamation.

It is not proposed to repeal any provision of the Removal Bill. It is not proposed to put upon the county any part of the expense of erecting the buildings required and contemplated by that act. But the Commissioners, the Grand Jury and the Building Committee have simply applied to the Legislature to authorize the outlay of a sum not exceeding \$2500 for extra work and to furnish the new buildings. Not one dollar of this proposed outlay is to go for work or materials required by the Removal Bill, and therefore the question discussed in the Danville remonstrance does not exist, and the quotation of Mr. Funston's declarations, &c., are not applicable to the matter in hand.

The fire-proofs are not required to be built by the provisions of the Removal Bill. The act says that the buildings shall be of the most approved plan, but it does not say of what kind they shall be, except that they shall be of brick or stone. In fact a requirement that the new buildings should be fire-proof was deliberately and intentionally kept out of the bill by the Legislature. When that bill was upon its passage in the Senate, an amendment was offered requiring that the new buildings should be fire-proof, and after a discussion of some length, it was voted down. So the Senate declared that the bill should not require fire-proof buildings. (See Senate Journal, 1845, pages 214 and 215.)

It is highly expedient, and in fact necessary, that fire proofs should be built, and economy is consulted by their erection in connection with the Court House. If they were built hereafter, from the fact that accompanying buildings would be necessary, they would cost four or five times as much as by the present arrangement; and the county, in the mean time, would suffer inconvenience for want of them.

The remonstrance as printed in the 'Democrat' blunderingly speaks about a 'sale,' and says that \$2500 are asked for it! There are THREE fire-proofs in the Court House, the three pairs of double doors, to which alone cost near \$200 & the appropriation is not to pay for a 'sale' at all, nor even exclusively for the fire-proofs. What blundering!

Mr. Editor, I cannot avoid adding, that objections in the present instance, come with a very ad grace from the Danville people, who no longer ago than 1837 tried to get the county taxed to put up fire-proof buildings at Danville. Over eleven thousand dollars are now raised by subscription, and this \$2500 appropriation for extra work and furnishing the buildings is just and necessary, and does not conflict in the slightest degree with the Removal act.

**A CITIZEN.**

**Gambling.**—In the Pennsylvania Legislature a few days since, a Bill was passed unanimously, for the suppression of gambling. The bill makes gambling a penitentiary offence, authorizes the officers of the law to break open houses on search for gambling apparatus, upon the oath of any person made for the purpose before the Justice of the Peace and also subjects the offender to heavy fines for breaches of the law. The bill also provides, that if any person shall invite another to a place of gambling, he shall be held personally responsible for all losses the person thus invited shall sustain, and be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars, nor less than fifty dollars.

The commerce of the New York canals last year amounted to \$115,735,750. The trade of the canals is half equal to the commerce of the U. States with the whole world.

**The Ten Regiment Bill.**

This act being now signed by the President, we give a synopsis of its ten sections.

1. Authorizes the raising of ten new regiments one of dragoons and nine of infantry, to be placed on the same footing, in all respects, as the other regiments of the regular army, except that they are enlisted only for the war. One or more of these regiments may be equipped as voltigeurs and as foot riflemen, and be provided with a rocket and mountain howitzer battery. The President may alone commission such of the officers below the grade of field as are not commissioned during the present session of Congress.

2. The term of enlistment to be only during the war.

3. The President and Senate may appoint an additional major to each regiment of the whole army—these majors to be taken from among the captains.

4. Each regiment shall have a regimental quartermaster, to be taken from among the subalterns. Pay, two dollars a month additional, and forage for two horses.

5. Officers, musicians and privates, authorized by this act, shall be discharged at the close of the war with Mexico.

6. Each of the ten regiments to have a surgeon and two assistant surgeons.

7. Authorizes the officers composing the councils of administration of the several regiments constituting a brigade, either regular or volunteer, to employ a chaplain who shall receive \$750 per annum, one ration and forage for one horse. Chaplains now attached to the regular army, wherever stationed, required to repair to the army in Mexico, whenever a majority of the men at the post where such chaplains are stationed shall have gone to join the army in Mexico. A refusal works forfeiture of office.

8. Authorizes the President and Senate to appoint two additional surgeons and twelve assistant surgeons for the army.

9. Gives each non-commissioned officer musician and private, either of regulars or volunteers, enlisted or mustered for twelve months, serving in the present war, and killed, honorably discharged, discharged by reason of wounds or sickness, or dying of wounds or sickness, a warrant for 160 acres of public land. In case of death, the warrant to go first to widow and children—second, father—third, mother. Children, if minors, authorized by guardian to sell the claim to land, made before the issuing of the warrant, shall be valid, nor shall the claim to land be liable for debts incurred before the issuing of the warrant. Lands not to be taken from land on which there is settlement or pre-emption right. Claimants may receive Treasury scrip for \$100 in lieu of the 160 acres, if they choose, said scrip to bear 6 per cent. interest, and be redeemable at the pleasure of the Government. Soldiers received into service since the commencement of the war, for less than twelve months and duly serving their term or honorably discharged shall have forty acres of land or \$25 in scrip; with like provisions of heirship. Bounty lands not intended for volunteers who were accepted but not marched to the seat of war.

10. Authorizes the President and Senate to appoint from among the officers of the army-four quartermasters with the rank of major, and ten assistant quartermasters with the rank of captain.

In connection with the above bill, the Adjutant General has advertised officially that all non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, now in service, or who may be enlisted during the war with Mexico, and obtain an honorable discharge either by expiration of the term of enlistment, or for disability incurred in the service, shall receive 160 acres of land, to be located in one body upon any of the public lands, or shall receive bounty scrip to the amount of one hundred dollars, bearing six per cent interest, payable semi-annually, and redeemable at the pleasure of the government. Another instruction from the Adjutant General's office is that three month's extra pay will be given under the act of July 5, 1838 only to those who re-enlist for four years into the company or regiment in which he formerly served. For all enlistments 'during the war,' however, a bounty of \$12 is given besides the land or scrip above referred to.

**State Convention.**

The Native Americans will meet in convention, at Harrisburg, on the 23d inst., for the purpose of nominating candidates for Governor and Canal Commissioner, and giving the Federalists—who meet on the 9th of March next, for a similar purpose—an opportunity of making a selection from their ticket.—Harrisburg Union.

**The Ten New Regiments.**

Considerable interest is felt in relation to the nominations for officers of the new regiment, which were to be sent into the Senate by the President yesterday. It is stated that under the bill just passed, four companies will be received from Maryland and one from Delaware, from New York seven companies, New Jersey three, Rhode Island one company, Maine three, New Hampshire two, Connecticut two, Vermont two, or one regiment from New England. Probably Ohio and Pennsylvania will furnish a regiment and North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, one conjointly. The mounted men will be taken from the Western States Tennessee and Kentucky.

**Mr. Ritchie Expelled.**—The U. S. Senate has finished its war upon the press by expelling Mr. Ritchie, the editor of the Washington Union, from the floor of that house. If the same promptitude of action exercised against editors and reporters were shown in reference to measures of national importance, particularly those relating to the War in Mexico, we have no hesitation in saying that the people would be much better satisfied with the proceedings of Congress. No one doubts the right of either house to deprive a reporter, who is guilty of misrepresenting its proceedings, of the privilege of the floor, and in some cases incorrigible by other means, it may be expedient to do so. But the expulsion of Mr. Ritchie is an act of a graver character. He was not guilty of misrepresentation in a report, his offence was in exercising the right common to all the press though sometimes greatly abused, that of commenting upon the public acts and speeches of the members of the Senate. Mr. Ritchie had a seat on the floor, granted by the Senate, but that imposed no other obligation upon him than is imposed upon a reporter who receives the same favor—that of fairly representing the acts and opinions of the members when speaking of them. By accepting this privilege he relinquished no right of opinion that he possessed before, or of freely commenting upon any of the acts of the Legislature and the course of the members. Therefore he was under no obligations for any personal favor from the Senate of speaking otherwise than as he thought, and allowing the correspondents of his paper to do so. If it were meant to punish him for his opinions, the Senate in denying him a privilege, exercised a power very doubtful—that of punishing the press by subjecting it to other liabilities than those that the law has imposed. Editors of newspapers are amenable to the laws for abusing their privileges, and Senators and members of Congress have the same recourse as any other citizen to those laws for the protection of their personal or official reputation. If these laws are found to be insufficient they can be altered and additional restrictions be adopted, which will tend to curb any undue license in the press.—Ledger.

**Abolition of Slavery in Delaware.**—The Select Committee of the Delaware Legislature to which was referred the petitions of a number of citizens, praying the abolition of slavery in that State, have reported a bill in accordance with the views of the petitioners. For many years slavery has been merely nominal in Delaware, and the Committee is of opinion that if now abolished, in a few years it will necessarily become extinct.

**Reward for Deserters.**—Thirty dollars reward has been offered by Capt. Wilson and Naylor, for each of the following named persons, who deserted at New Orleans, from the Second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, viz: Company C—Joseph McClelland, George M. Bell, Daniel Snyder, William White and William S. K. z—Company G—John M. Dubocier, Andrew M. Springer, George W. Carey, Sidney H. Decker, Benjamin Spurr, Richard Thompson, Thomas Knox, James Kelly, Samuel B. Smith, Edward D. Geddis and John M. Campbell.

By Article 123 of the Army Regulations, a reward of \$30 will be paid to any person who shall apprehend and deliver a deserter to an officer of the army at the most convenient post or recruiting station.

**Plainfield Bank.**—Charter Repealed.—We learn from Trenton that the Legislature of New Jersey has unanimously repealed the charter of the Plainfield Bank, to take effect immediately. The Legislature has appointed receivers to settle the business. The Legislature appointed a committee to investigate it, and they reported that the Bank had but \$82,000 of available funds to redeem \$150,000 bills with.