

STAR OF THE NORTH.

Bloomburg, Thursday, April 25, 1850.

V. B. PALMER, general newspaper, subscription, and advertising agent, N. W. Corner of Third and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia.

E. W. CLARK, U. States newspaper agent, Third and Walnut sts., opposite the Exchange, Philadelphia.

GEORGE PRATT, 164 Nassau street, New York, will receive and receipt for subscriptions, advertisements and job-work. Advertisements left with him on Tuesday will appear in our paper of the same week. All orders or job-work left with him will be attended to immediately.

Democratic State Central Committee

The members of the State Central Committee are requested to meet at McKibben's Merchants' Hotel, in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the first day of May next, at 3 o'clock, P. M., to take such action as may be necessary to secure the nomination of candidates for the offices of Auditor General and Surveyor General, by a Democratic State Convention, those officers being made elective by Act of Assembly. A full attendance of the Committee is earnestly requested.

J. GLANCY JONES, CHAIRMAN.
G. G. WESTCOTT, Sec.

Democratic papers throughout the State please publish.

Brigade Appointments.

The following are the Staff officers of the Columbia county Brigade 9th Division P. M., each bearing the rank of Captain.

Wm. B. Kipp, Brigade Major,
Joseph P. Conner, Brigade Quartermaster,
Conrad Bittenbender, Aid-de-Camp.

Hon. A. McClintock Young was on last Wednesday chosen Clerk by the House of Congress in the place of Mr. Campbell, deceased. The Free-soilers this time voted Democratic.

Gen. John A. Purviance the present Auditor General and John Laporte Esq., the Surveyor General decline being candidates before the people next fall for the offices they hold.

Charles Gearhart the young man who was arrested in Ohio some months ago upon a charge of robbing the post-office at Danville, escaped from the custody of the U. S. Marshall at Howardville Centre Co., on the night of the 12th inst. He complained of being sick, and when he had thus induced the Marshall to take off his irons, he took the first opportunity to elude that officer's vigilance and escape. The Marshall immediately offered a reward of \$150 for the apprehension of the young man, and he was again arrested a few days afterward.

Wm. Mulholland, the Irishman against whom an indictment for stabbing was pending in the Quarter Sessions of this county, escaped from jail early on last Thursday night.

MONTOUR BILL.

The following is the vote given in the Senate on last Thursday on the Montour bill on final reading.

Yeas—Messrs. Brawley, Cunningham, Drum, Fernon, Frailey, Ives, Jones, Koenigsmacher, Lawrence, M'Caslin, Malone, Mulholland, Sadler, Sankey, Savary, Sterrett, Streeter and Best, Speaker—18.

On Saturday, on the motion to reconsider the above vote the test was as follows:—

Yeas—Messrs. Crabb, Cunningham, Darsie, Frick, Haelett, King, Koenigsmacher, Lawrence, Malone, Mathias, Savary, Shimer, Stine, Walker—14.

Nays—Messrs. Brawley, Drum, Fernon, Forsyth, Frailey, Fulton, Huges, Ives, Jones, M'Caslin, Mulholland, Packer, Sankey, Sterrett, Streeter, Best, Speaker—16.

Lackawanna Coal.

The New York Express says, such has been the demand for this coal during the past winter, for steamers for California, &c., that although the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company had reserved 60,000 tons for winter use at Rondout and in New York, yet the supply is now entirely exhausted, and they are reluctantly obliged to notify their customers that they can furnish no more till the arrival of new coal by their canal early in May.

Sale of Water Power.

It is announced publicly by Mr. Thomas Bennett, Supervisor of the West Branch Division, Pennsylvania Canal, that sealed proposals will be received by him at the Collector's office, Dunnsburg on Monday the 27th May next, for the sale by the State of the surplus water at the South and of the Queen's Run Dam, at the out-letlock on the Bald eagle side at Lockhaven, and also at Lock No. 1, Jersey Shore. The right to use said surplus water, will be conveyed by the State for the term of fifty years—rent payable Semi annually—and subject to the provisions and conditions of the Act of Assembly on that subject, passed 8th May 1841.

The new Mayor of Pittsburg having had a drunken man before him who had been picked out of the ditch, before a rum tavern, dismissed the prisoner, but fined the tavern keeper five dollars.

The Editors of the Lancaster Literary Gazette says she would as soon nestle her nose in a rat's nest of swine to see how a man with whiskers to kiss her.

Letters from the Emigrants.

We have been kindly furnished with the following interesting letters from a California emigrant—Mr. Benjamin Lodge a young man formerly of this county, a son of Mr. Jonathan Lodge of White Hall. The first gives an interesting account of travels in the wilderness, and is dated:—

Fort Laramie, July 21st 1849.

"We are now encamped near the Black Hills, and so far, I like the expedition well. I weigh 130 pounds heavier than when I started. We did well in getting Spanish mules for our journey; for they have improved in flesh and spirit. We have passed 200 teams since we started; and I think have been very fortunate in commencing our journey late in the season, for the cholera followed those who travelled along here early. I have not seen a case of it since I left the Missouri River. That stream was very high when we crossed it, and we were carried down some two miles in crossing. We journey to some twenty miles per day, and have on some days gone 40 miles. I would advise emigrants to either pack, or take a very light wagon, for heavy wagons appear to be plenty here, and good ones worth from eighty to a hundred dollars have been sold for \$2. Some emigrants have burnt their wagons and we find the iron scattered about. The Laramie river is a swift and beautiful stream, some three feet deep and 200 feet wide. I found some small particles of gold 10 miles west of Fort Kearney. They were as thin as gold leaf and not larger than a pin head. It appears that the gold was washed from near the Rocky mountains. Some comes from the south fork of the Platte River. I have seen nearly 1000 Indians since I started. They all appear friendly, but want presents. Red blankets and chewing tobacco trade best with them. They have many fine horses and mules. One of our men traded one blanket for an Indian pony. I shot one buffalo the other day, which would have weighed 1600. It was fat, and as good eating as any beef.

We have passed 100 graves on the plains, of those who died of cholera. Some bodies have been dug up from these graves by the wolves, and the bones scattered about in every direction."

The second letter is from the gold region as follows:

DEER CREEK, December 18th 1849.

Dear Brother—

I am stopping in the gold mines this winter, 100 miles East of the city, on Deer Creek. I have not yet had time to get to the city. We found pasture rather scarce after we left Fort Laramie. I left my wagon on the desert and packed off through. It will not pay to bring a wagon over the Sierra Nevada mountains. In some places it is as much as an animal can do to climb down the cliffs, and we were compelled to unload our wagons and let them down with ropes. The only way to travel is to take a couple of mules to a man, and pack through with nothing but clothing, blankets, provision and gun. I am mining on the banks of the Deer creek, and my proceeds average an ounce and a half of gold per day. The highest sum earned by my work one day here was \$42. Since the 3d of October I have earned about \$800 by mining and working at my trade. Deer, (from which this stream takes its name) are fat and excellent eating. I killed two which I sold for one dollar a pound, realizing 200. Flour is worth \$150 per cwt—potatoes \$2 per pound—fish \$1 per pound—butter \$3 per pound—sugar \$1 molasses \$50 per quart—coffee 50c—pork \$1.25. Teaming from the city to this place costs \$1 per lb. There is no snow yet in the valley, but plenty on the mountains. With two comrades I live in a little log cabin. One of my comrades says he has taken out \$1600 in one day—of ten as much as \$200. I have found two or three pieces of metal among my gold, which I think are platinum, though I have not yet tested them. Four miles up the creek are the dry diggings where out of one rich ravine alone \$100,000 have been taken in one day. One man washed out 32 ounces in gold.

Many of the emigrants who were first this fall to get into the mountains have already accumulated fortunes and returned to the states. Many others have brought their families here with the intention of settling down. The country here does not seem adapted to farming. The hills are of red color, and in wet weather it is almost impossible for a horse or a mule to travel over them. I have hired out mules as high as \$8 per day, each. Indians are quite as plenty here as gold. They often live for a long time on the emigrants' horses and cattle which they steal, but seem also to form a large share of their food. These are more abundant here than in any other place I ever saw. A number of the Missouri emigrants have brought negroes with them, but the Indians, having no affection for the colored gentlemen as neighbors, have lately killed several of them. From present indications I should think these Indians will yet become troublesome to the white emigrants.

BENJAMIN LODGE.

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"Is a nephew to Mr. Kline—has known him well. Has heard him deny his children since his wife's death; before that always called them his. He has two children, both daughters, and both married. One about 40 years of age, married to Joseph R. Morris; the other 28, married to Abner Welsh—Heard him say they had tried to poison him at Mr. Welsh's two or three times, by putting something in his coffee. Heard him say the moon was the mother of all living—that Jesus and Christ were twins, and that every man was Christ. That he had thrown away Christ and believed in the great God who made heaven and earth, and then had got help in one night so he could walk up stairs without his cane. He said there always were witches, and if there were none now, he wondered what had become of them—Always treated his wife kindly until her last illness. Have heard him since her death denounce her as a bad woman. Believe him to be of unsound mind and incapable of taking care of his property. He owns 2 farms in Orange township, worth over \$5,000. He generally quotes scripture for his religious views."

Hon. J. Covanokan sworn—

"Has known Mr. Kline since 1834. In September, 1849, he wanted me to write a will for him. He then denied his children. Had before then acknowledged them: He also wanted a deed written for one farm, with name of grantee blank, as he did not know to whom he would convey it. Put him off, and did not do his writing. He said that his daughter and a girl at his house put poison in his coffee at two different times. He denounced his wife, who was then dead. I think he is insane and not capable of taking care of his property."

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"Was at the old man's vendue in August, 1849. He objected when his daughter bid on articles, and got very angry. Some persons were talking near the stairway, and he came up enraged, and said they were conspiring against him. Became so angry he frothed at the mouth. He showed a partiality in having property knocked off to certain of his brother's children. The creditor refused to sell his land, and the sale ended—Think he is not a sane man nor capable of taking care of his property and family."

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"Was also examined as to the events and incidents at the vendue."

John B. Edgar sworn—

"He wanted me to whip his son-in-law and offered 50 acres of land to have it done; on a subsequent occasion offered 25. Do not believe him to be of sound mind."

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"Mr. Kline came to me in February, 1849, stated he was going to will his property to myself and two others; if we would not accept it he would go to Jersey and give it to some one there. In April, 1849, he gave a case with a will written, and it was executed in presence of others. He came back again in June, stated he was going to sell his property, and wanted advertisements written. I put him off. Some time after he told me his property was advertised, and he wanted me to attend the sale and bid off the homestead farm. Said I might give my note at the sale, and he would afterwards give it up to me. I did not go. After vendue he came again, said he was going to cut me short for not attending vendue. Said he was going to give Mrs. Oyer 10 acres. The last week in August he came again; showed me blank deed for mansion farm, said he intended it for me; said he was going to make deeds for all his land. He repeated this to my brother John. We put him off and nothing was done. After vendue he told me he had a notion of getting a new wife, had one in view. He said her son-in-law had consented by giving him his buggy. He is in his eightieth year."

Mrs. Margaret McCowan sworn—

"When his wife was sick he asked me and others to run a race with him across the kitchen. We declined. He then ran as fast as he could, and stamped as he went. He used asafetida to keep off evil spirits. He had it in a bag around his neck: have seen it in his drawers of tobacco on the window."

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