

THE STAR OF THE NORTH

R. W. Weaver Proprietor.]

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

[T

VOLUME 6.

BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1855.

NUM

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Bloomsburg, Pa.
DAVID LOWENBERG.
 CLOTHING STORE, on Main street, two doors above the 'American House.'
SIMON DREIFUSS, & Co.
 CLOTHING STORE in the 'Exchange Block,' opposite the Court house.
EVANS & APPELMAN.
 MERCHANTS—Store on the upper part of Main street, nearly opposite the Episcopal Church.
S. C. SHIVE.
 MANUFACTURER OF FURNITURE AND CABINET WARE.—Waterroom in Shive's Block, on Main Street.
A. M. REPERT.
 TINNER AND STOVE DEALER.—Shop on South side of Main street, below Market.
JOSEPH SWARTZ.
 BOOKSELLER. Store in the Exchange Block, first door above the Exchange Hotel.

R. W. WEAVER.
 ATTORNEY AT LAW.—Office on the first floor of the "Star" Building, on Main street.
SHARPLESS & MELICK.
 FOUNDEES AND MACHINISTS. Buildings on the alley between the "Exchange and "American House."
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 TAILOR.—Shop on the South side of Main Street, first square below Market.
MENDEHALL & MENSCH.
 MERCHANTS.—Store North West corner of Main and Market Streets.
HIRAM C. HOWER.
 SURGEON DENTIST.—Office near the Academy on Third Street.
M'KELVEY, NEAL & CO.
 MERCHANTS.—North-east corner of Main and Market streets.
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 MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN STOVES, TINWARE &c.—Establishment on Main street, next building above the Court-house.

HENRY ZUPPIGER,
 CLOCK and WATCHMAKER, south side of Main street, above the Railroad.
 Every kind of disorder in jeweled or other newly invented Escapements faithfully repaired.
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 ANY Justice of the Peace wishing to purchase a copy of Purdon's Digest, can be accommodated by applying at his office.
Justices of the Peace
 AND CONSTABLES can find all kind of blanks desirable for their use, in proper form, at the office of the "Star of the North."
BRADY & BROWN'S
EAGLE HOTEL,
 No. 139 North Third Street, above PHILADELPHIA.
 BRADY A. BRADY. GEORGE H. BROWN.
 [June 8th 1854-ly.
BLANKS! BLANKS!! BLANKS!!!
 DEEDS, SUMMONS, EXECUTIONS, SUBJENAS, and JUDGMENT NOTES, doper and desirable forms, for sale at the office of the "Star of the North."

THE AMERICAN PICK.
 FOURTH VOLUME.
 This illustrated comic weekly, published in the city of New York, every Saturday, is about to commence its fourth year. It has become a favorite paper throughout the United States. Besides its designs, by the first artist, it contains witty editorials of character, and will carry cheerfulness to the gloomiest residence. Its variety renders it a favorite in every family.
 It contains each week, a large quantity of tales, stories, anecdotes, scenes, and witticisms. The "Recollections of John C. Calhoun, by his Private Secretary," will be continued in the Pick until finished, and then a copy will be sent free to every subscriber whose name shall be upon our mail book. Each yearly subscriber to the Pick will receive the double-sized pictorial sheets for the Fourth of July and Christmas, without charge. Each of these pictorial sheets contains over 200 splendid designs.
 The subscription price to the Pick is \$1 each in advance. Six copies for \$5. Three copies for \$10.
 Letters must be addressed to
JOSEPH A. SCOVILLE,
 No. 26, Ann street, New York.
 Jan. 4, 1855.

NEW GRIST-MILL
 AT
MILL GROVE!
 THE subscriber has refitted his Grist-Mill at Mill Grove, near Light Street, Columbia county, and is ready to grind all kinds of grain. He has three runs of stones, and the Mill will work to general satisfaction. A competent miller has charge of the establishment, and the patronage of the public is respectfully solicited.
THOMAS TRENCH.
 Mill Grove, Sept. 9, 1854.
DRAWER GOODS. Spotted Swiss, Bog Jaconet Mull, Cambric, Swiss Muslin Bishop Laines, sale Bard Muslin just received at the Store of
MENDEHALL & MENSCH

THE STAR OF THE NORTH

is published every Thursday Morning, by
R. W. WEAVER.
 OFFICE—Up stairs, in the new brick building on the south side of Main street, third square below Market.
 TERMS—Two Dollars per annum, if paid within six months from the time of subscribing; two dollars and fifty cents if not paid within the year. No subscription received for a less period than six months; no discount permitted until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the editor.
 ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding one square will be inserted three times for one dollar, and twenty-five cents for each additional insertion. A liberal discount will be made to those who advertise by the year.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly.

(CONCLUSION.)
 The general law of 1819, with amendments and modifications, was re-modeled by the last Legislature. The most material parts of the old law, which were omitted in the new, where the substitution, the endorsement and sectarian features. The former was rejected because of the unnecessary multiplication of officers which it authorized, and the conflict which perpetually arose between the committees and directors; and the latter, because in manifest hostility to the true intent of the common school system. These provisions, which seemed to contemplate a separate school establishment, under sectarian patronage, although controlled by the common school directors, were originally engrafted upon the acts of 1836, and 1838, and were again re-enacted in 1849. They were very properly stricken from the system by the law of last session. Should efforts be made in the future, at similar innovations, a come whence they may, it is hoped they may be promptly rejected. The system, to be effectual, must be simple and uniform in its operation. Special legislation, inconsistent with the general law, applicable to particular localities or districts, to answer temporary or partial ends, always has, and always will embarrass the administration of the general system, and should for this reason be carefully avoided. The integrity of its forms, not less than the means to sustain its operations, should be constantly maintained, and sacredly cherished by the government.

A new feature in the system, adopted in the law of last session, creating the office of County Superintendent, has not, as yet, been fully tested; and there evidently exists some diversity of opinion as to the wisdom of the provision. It is already very obvious, at least, that its beneficial workings must depend mainly upon the character of the agents selected to carry it into operation. Competent and faithful Superintendents may produce the happiest results; whilst the agency of the ignorant or inefficient will be attended by the reverse consequences. In order to give this new feature of the law a fair trial, it will be necessary, therefore, for the directors, in the respective counties, to select Superintendents with sole reference to their adaptation to the duties of the station.

Of the many obstacles in the way of the complete success of our Common School system, the one most prominent, and most difficult to remove is the want of competent teachers. In some communities, I regret to say, the system has fallen into comparative inefficiency, because good teachers cannot be found; and in others the most vexatious consequences have arisen from the employment of the illiterate and incompetent. Nothing could exercise a more prejudicial influence; indeed, between a very bad teacher and none at all, the latter alternative might, in many instances, be preferred.—This deficiency is clearly manifest, and hard to obviate. Some of the best minds of the State have been occupied and perplexed with it; and until recently no general and practicable plan for its removal has been devised.

The plan of granting permanent professional certificates, by officers skilled in the art of teaching, and eminent in literary and scientific acquirements, to teachers who satisfactorily pass a thorough examination in the several branches of study which the act of May, 1854, requires to be taught in every district, and also in the art of teaching—is already obviously effecting decided improvement in this regard, and it is believed will be the means towards placing the profession upon a high and firm basis. Normal schools, it is urged, could in addition, to some extent, supply the deficiency, but the expenses of such an institution would be heavy.

The source of this difficulty, it is clear, can be traced, in a great measure, to the want of a proper appreciation in the public mind, of the position and business of a teacher. The profession, for this reason, in addition to the absence of fair compensation, has not been attractive. Indeed, it has scarcely been regarded as a profession at all, but rather as a preliminary step to some other pursuit. Well-directed efforts have recently been made to change the general sentiment on this point, and I rejoice in the belief that these have not been in vain; and that the day is not far distant, when the profession of teacher will be equal to the aspirations of the most ambitious of our people; when its distinctions, dignities and pecuniary rewards, will command the time and attention of the most gifted. I can see no reason why this state of feeling should not prevail, why the profession of teacher should not rank in honor and profit with the other learned professions; why the science

of developing the human intellect—of giving scope and force to mind—of elevating the moral faculties of our race—of controlling the passions and tempering the desires should not be esteemed as highly as those professions and callings whose ornaments have received all their capacity and polish at the hands of the comparatively humble and ill rewarded teacher.

I earnestly recommend the common school system to your guardian care, as the most sacred of all our institutions. The offspring of a constitutional injunction on the Legislature—the extension and perpetuity of its usefulness, is the plain duty of all.—Resting at the very foundation of the republic, and making the ignorant wise.

I confidently anticipate for it, a day of greater perfection and wider influence. No better object can engage the attention of government, or consume its means, than the education of the people in the most comprehensive sense of the term; embracing the use of letters, the cultivation of the moral faculties, and the diffusion of christian truth. In this we have the surest guarantee for the perpetuity of our republican government, and for the enjoyment of civil liberty and religious freedom. Such an education may be safely claimed as the most potent means of preventing crime—of increasing individual happiness and national dignity—of promoting christianity and civilization—of extirpating moral and political evils—of elevating, dignifying and adorning our social condition.

Our various charitable and reformatory institutions—so creditable to the State, and which, in their practical operations, have done so much for the relief of suffering humanity—will claim the continued care and bounty of the Commonwealth.

The State Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburg, under its present efficient control and management, meets the just anticipations of its wise and benevolent advocates. Its humane and benign agency in ameliorating the condition of the unfortunate class for whose relief it was designed, can be judged by no ordinary standard. The benefit of such an institution rise above every preliminary estimate.

The omnibus system—a pernicious mode of legislation, by which the most opposite measures, good and bad, are thrown together in one bill, and under one title—was, I rejoice to say, entirely broken down and discarded by the last General Assembly. The volume of laws for 1854 contains no acts of this character. Each law embraces but a single subject, and that indicated by its proper title.

The 55th section of the act providing for the expenses of government for 1853, authorized and required the Governor to sell the State arsenal at Philadelphia, and apply the proceeds of such sale towards the purchase of another site, and the erection of a new building; and restricting the expenditure to the sum reserved for the old property. The building and lot were readily sold for \$30,000. The selection of a new location, and the erection of another building, presented a far more difficult task. I readily discovered that the sum thus appropriated was entirely inadequate to accomplish the end in view. The price of a similar location would leave but a meagre sum with which to erect the building. Under all these circumstances, I have not felt authorized to attempt to carry out the law, and would respectfully suggest the propriety of increasing the appropriation for this purpose.

The report of the present able and energetic Adjutant General will inform you of the condition of the military affairs of the State. This department of public affairs, I regret to say, has been in a confused and declining condition for several years. The public Librarian has called my attention to the fact, that the law reports of twenty-two other States have been regularly received by this, and that no provision has ever been made, on our part, to reciprocate this courtesy and generosity. I respectfully suggest the propriety of authorizing some officers of the government to procure the necessary copies of the Pennsylvania reports to supply those States who have so generously added to our library.

The registration act, I respectfully suggest, has essentially failed to accomplish the end designed, and should be repealed or amended. A record so incomplete and imperfect can do no good; but may really do harm. It has already cost the State about \$25,000, to which there must be annual additions. The object is a desirable one, but I am confident it can never be attained by the mode contemplated in this law. It is a subject of constant complaint by registers and physicians, and only such registration is made as compulsory, in order to legalize letters of administration.

By the 67th section of the appropriation law of last session, the Secretary of the Commonwealth was authorized to continue the publication of the Archives to the year 1790. Under this authority, the selection of documents from 1793 to 1793 has been made, and the tenth volume, containing this matter, will be ready for distribution before the close of the session. Two additional volumes will complete the work as originally designed.

The councils of Philadelphia, by an ordinance passed in October, 1852, dedicated the necessary ground in Independence Square to the erection of a monument commemorating the Declaration of Independence; and tendered the possession of the premises to the representatives of nine or more of the original States.

Since that time, the States of New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Georgia, and Pennsylvania, have signified their willingness to accept the proposition on the terms indicated by the councils, and to participate in this patriotic work. Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and the two Carolinas have taken no action on the subject.

I cannot refrain from again expressing my unabated solicitude for the success of this movement. If American history furnishes a single event worthy of commemoration by an monument, the Declaration of Independence is that event. In moral grandeur it is without a parallel, and stands above all others for the mighty influence which it has exerted upon the political, religious and social condition of mankind. It has been justly said, it ushered in a new member into the family of nations and electrified all Europe. It opened new relations of people and government, by teaching the one how to resist and conquer oppression, and the other the absolute necessity to the continuance of recognizing and respecting the rights of humanity. From that time forth, a new vital and quickening spirit has pervaded the world. Thrones have been shaken, empires have been overturned, society has been convulsed, blood and carnage have desolated the earth; but still the intelligence and souls of the people of all Christendom have been so vivified, elevated and expanded, to a comprehension of their rights as will never be obliterated or forgotten; but will advance, enlarge and increase, until that moral and social preparation for the appreciation and enjoyment of liberty shall be effected, which in the divine economy, is so indispensable to the permanence of free institutions.

As the third generation of that posterity, for whom the men of the revolution chiefly labored and suffered, and died, it is peculiarly fitting that we should erect such representations of their great and controlling acts as shall speak to our own hearts, to our children's hearts, and shall testify to God and the world that we appreciate and reverence, and would disseminate the mighty truths and principles which brought our nation into existence, which constitute its very life, and of which it seems designated by Providence to be the special depository and protector.

I believe we should have a monument to perpetuate the remembrance of the great event, from which such manifold and inestimable blessings have sprung; some imperishable memorial of our gratitude to the authors of the Declaration of Independence; to the heroes who participated in the mighty struggle; an enduring witness of the great things done amongst us and for us; an emblem of the origin and principles of our government; some distinguishing mark of the place of the nation's birth; consecrated temple of liberty, about which unborn generations of Americans may meet and renew their assurances of fidelity to the principles of the Declaration and to their natural offspring—the Constitution and the Union. I am for this work most earnestly; and I trust that Pennsylvania will not permit it to fail; but that it may be pressed upon the attention of the original thirteen States, until each and all shall evince a willingness and determination to participate in the erection of this glorious structure. To this end and I respectfully suggest to the General Assembly, by the propriety of again calling the attention of the original States to the subject, by resolution or otherwise.

In closing my last communication to the General Assembly, and terminating my official relations with the people of my native Commonwealth, I may be indulged in a brief and general reference to her present proud position as a member of the great family of States, and to the patriotism, integrity, and general prosperity of her citizens. The advantageous geographical position of Pennsylvania, with a fine harbor open to the Atlantic, and another connecting her centrally with the magnificent chain of western lakes, spreading their arms and arteries through every portion of her territory—all added to her fertile soil and inexhaustible deposits of valuable minerals—present a combination of the natural elements of greatness, scarcely equalled in our own or any other quarter of the globe. These have made her an attractive field for the science, industry, and enterprise of man; and all her natural advantages have been cherished and cultivated, until she has reached a condition of varied wealth and positive prosperity. Her system of internal improvements will safely compare with those of any sister State, whether in regard to completeness in construction, or the extent of country which they traverse. Nor have the higher hopes of humanity been disregarded by our statesmen, and the people at large; as the liberal provisions for common schools, academies and colleges, and our numerous crowded churches attest; while, at the same time, the various Asylums for the insane, and for the unfortunate of all classes and conditions, and Houses of Refuge, for the reformation of the wayward and erring, silently, yet surely bear witness that the cause of benevolence has always found effective advocates within her borders.

In physical improvement and population her progress has been steady and rapid.—In the days of Gov. Snyder the erection of a bridge over the Susquehanna river, and the

construction of a turnpike road was the subject of executive exultation, and a matter of congratulation among the people. Now her whole surface is checkerboarded over with roads, canals and other highways. Then the whole revenues of the State amounted to but \$450,000. Now they exceed five millions. Of the four large States her per centage of increase in population, since 1840, is the greatest; and she has besides excelled the best of her sisters in the production of wheat, iron and coal. Her population numbers nearly as large as all the States at the time of the Revolution. The present value of her real and personal estate exceeds \$350,000,000. Her annual production of coal is worth in the market over twenty millions. Her great interests of agriculture, manufactures and commerce are rapidly extending.

She has, in addition, a history, of which we may be proud. Within her limits was found the birth-place of Independence—that sacred spot where was first declared those great truths which lie at the foundation of American nationality. In the maintenance of those truths, she bore a glorious part. Her contribution of men to the field, and money to the treasury—of talent and wisdom to the Congress of the Colonies, were not surpassed by those of any other State. It was her sons who crossed the Delaware in the dead of winter, under the lead of Washington, and for a time turned the tide of war. Again, in the struggle of 1812, for the rights of American citizenship, and in that of 1846, for American honor and progress, she contributed with a profuse generosity. The contest amongst her sons was not as to who should have the privilege of going into the field. Bearing this honorable part in matters of foreign war—she has had a no less enviable participation in allaying domestic strifes. Whenever the exigency seemed to require it, she has stood firmly by the Constitution and the Union, and ever contended for the rights of all sections of the country, and all classes and denominations of the people.—Such is our State. To live and die within her limits, and to have borne even a very humble part in her civil service and in her history, I shall ever esteem as a proud privilege—one that as it draws nearer to its close, swells my heart with gratitude to her people, at the recollection of the numerous proofs of confidence I have experienced at their hands.

The failure of my constitution to the character and happy condition of our beloved Commonwealth, and of the gratitude I have expressed, leaves no room in my bosom for even a lingering regret at a decision of my fellow-citizens, which is soon to relieve me from the cares and labors of a public life. Its transient excitements have already been forgotten, and its allusions, if any, forgiven. I shall resume my place in the ranks of the people, with a calm consciousness of having always sought to advance their best interests to the extent of my ability; and of never having yielded my convictions of right, either in subservience to any selfish purpose, or any narrow and unworthy prejudice.

Having adverted to various subjects of congratulation, in regard to the public affairs of my own State, I may be indulged in a brief reference, also, to the happy aspect of our common country, and the elevation it has reached among the nations of the earth, in the light of liberty, and through the workings of its benign institutions. Who amongst us, and throughout this broad land, does not experience at this moment, and at every moment, in his own condition, and the condition of those who surround him, the influence and benefit of our happy Union, and the well considered compact by which it is sustained. A basis of calculation, exhibited by past experience, will give our country a population of thirty millions in less than ten years from the present time—of eighty millions in thirty years to come—and of one hundred millions at the close of the present century! But mere numbers are of no moment, compared with moral elements in a nation's greatness. The vital strength and stability of the United States, as a people, consists in the substantial interest which each individual has in the permanency of those glorious institutions, which were baptised in the blood of our revolutionary struggle, and handed down to us as the sacred legacy of our fathers. Peril, or destroy these, and we peril or destroy the share of sovereignty and equality which they were designed to secure, alike to the highest and poorest, to the highest and humblest in the land. The experience of more than three-fourths of a century proves, I am persuaded, that the American people, in the main, truly appreciate the beneficent structure and beautiful operation of our republican system. We have been assailed by an insidious and open hostility from abroad, and have, at times before the present, been encountered by both the concealed and palpable spirit of faction at home; yet the Constitution still stands as widely and firmly riveted in the affections of the honest masses of American freemen, as at any former period of our history.

The more fruitful sources of our national prosperity, undoubtedly consist in the freedom, industry and intelligence of our people; and in the rich natural resources of our country, united to an advantageous commercial intercourse with a warring world.—But there is one element which we should cherish as more potent than all these: it is the protection and encouragement afforded by the union of the State, under an adequate

and stable government. To the virtue of our citizen, under the blessing of Heaven, we are more indebted as a people, than to any other circumstance or relation. No one who has studied our history, and marked the spirit in which our Union was formed, can avoid the conviction that our government so far as concerns the stability of this confederacy, must be one of opinion rather than force. Born in compromise and conciliation, it must be cherished in the same spirit; it must present itself to every member of this republic in the welcome guise of friendship and protection—not in overbearing pride, or as wielding the strong arm of power.

We have before us the plain written compact of our fathers, to which they reflectively consented and subscribed, and so bound us who have succeeded them. Its blessings and its benefits have been felt throughout long years of unexampled prosperity. If we would change any of its provisions, let us, with at least common honesty and manliness, pursue the mode of amendment which is pointed out with admirable precision, in the noble instrument itself. But until this is done, those amongst us, who, from whatever motive, or under whatever pretext either openly repudiate and of its plain provisions, or covertly renege under the cloak of a secret organization, seek to violate its spirit, or avoid compliance with its clear behests, dishonor the faith of their fathers, and deny their own palpable and solemn obligations. Eschewing these views, which the least degree of complacency, the continued and embittered excitement of one section of the country against the domestic institutions of another; or the more recent organization of secret societies throughout the Union, based upon doctrines of exclusion and proscription, utterly at war with our National and State constitutions, and obnoxious to the liberal spirit of American republicanism? What admirer of the venerated father of his country, but must now feel, with resistless force, his solemn warnings against secret societies for political ends, as placing a powerful engine in the hands of the selfish and designing, and enabling them not only to acquire power unworthily, but also to sap and destroy the most sacred principles of our government?

In these reflections upon certain political organizations, if I rightly comprehended my own motives, I am actuated by no mere partisan jealousy or resentment. Were I to say less at the present moment, I should stifle my clearest convictions of right, and shrink from a duty I owe to the people of Pennsylvania, who have so generously sustained me in various public relations in the past. Nay, more I should, by silence in this regard, fall properly to reflect that constancy and unswerving faith which our noble Commonwealth has ever evinced towards the principles of our national compact, in reference to the freedom of conscience and universal religious toleration; and also to the wise doctrines of popular and State sovereignty, and the inherent right of self-government.

During the brief period which remains of my official term, I shall readily and cheerfully co-operate with the General Assembly in all proper measures, to advance the public weal; and I earnestly invoke upon our labors, and the labors of those who may follow us in our public vocation, the kindly care and keeping of that Great and Beneficent Being who holds the destinies of nations as well as of individuals, as it were, in the hollow of his hand, and without whose continued smile there can be neither national or individual prosperity.

WM. BIGLER.
 EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
 Harrisburg, Jan. 3, 1855.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT OF THE EGYPTIANS.
 The Egyptians of old punished their by execution; treachery by cutting out the tongue. Murder was a capital offence. So also was a neglect to help a person attacked on the highway, when assistance could have been rendered. Parricide was treated with the most dreadful severity, the criminal being put to death with every variety of torture.

Parricide was capital; and false accusers were condemned to undergo the same punishment which the innocent accused would have suffered if convicted.

A breach of the law of Amasis, which obliged every Egyptian once in the year to show to a magistrate his manner of life, was punished capitally; and if the party could not prove himself to be in some honest employment, the consequences were the same.

Adultery was punished with a thousand lashes as the man's penalty, and on the part of the woman by cutting off her nose.—This was by no means a mild sentence; yet we are told that adulteries were not uncommon among the Egyptians.

LIQUOR LAW AMENDMENT IN RHODE ISLAND.
 Previous to the adjournment of the Rhode Island Legislature, an important amendment to the Liquor Law was passed, authorizing the arrest, confinement and fine of any person found drunk in any of the towns of the State; but, if such intoxicated person shall disclose the name of the person who furnished the liquor with which he got drunk, and shall give evidence against said person, he may be discharged from imprisonment; and persons furnishing intoxicating liquors, giving or selling, are liable to prosecution. The vote for the bill stood 43 yeas to 42 nays.