

# STAR OF THE NORTH.

R. W. WEAVER, EDITOR.

Bloomsburg Thursday March 1, 1855.

## THE SENATORIAL CONTEST.

Has resulted in a draw game at Harrisburg, and certainly very little to the credit of the collective wisdom of the State. But while much of manliness and honor has been proscribed and lost, much has also been saved for the state. Good men have been allowed and carried along by the strong current of corruption; and the frailty of human nature has been illustrated in the sad wreck of character and honor. But the state is saved from some shame and dishonor in the future. And these purifications of the political atmosphere are as necessary as the storms which convulse the physical world. In a popular government like that of the United States circumstances and accident often throw weak men (and sometimes wicked ones) upon the surface of public affairs; and some open trial is necessary to test the true character this mortal and expose its baseness before it gains too general currency.

Thus, in the accidental convulsion of parties last fall all manner of men were thrown up for the top stratum; and where these had no basis or solidity of character they must wear off before the way can be reliable and safe.

Men like Cameron are called forth by the spirit of the times; or rather, the craftiness of such men uses the accidents of the times, and moulds them to its subtle and mean designs. It is only when business grows in rank luxuriance that such men find their food and wax fat. To one man they promise favors, to another they grant them. One tool they buy with money, for another they trade. To one of their creatures they give money, to another who, like some few in this region, is brain to have neither influence, character nor brains worth buying, a small loan is made; and the spiritless, whining sycophant is kept in his fawning mood by some such bauble as Simon sees will tickle his fancy and keep him in humor to do the dirty work that may become necessary. If the trickster has only meant for the useful hoards and mastiffs of his pack, he will know that the ignoble cur will bark and growl quite as well over a bone. They have no soul to follow in the chase of their master, and only skulk lazily along behind to pick up the rotten fragments left scattering in the trail from the feast of the swiftest footed pursuers. In fact, they have not the courage to own their master; and while they bark for "Charles," they snap only at the game that "Simon" and his pack are trying to bound down.

Our neighbor Cook of the *Duaneville Democrat* is awakening to the evils perpetrated by the *Nickersons* under the cloak of darkness, as the following paragraphs from his last paper testify.

"Many of the abuses, which have crept into the order, will not be remedied until they let day-light into them. Demagogues and designing men, always seek the shelter of secrecy, where honest men are not able to expose their machinations."

"The members of the Legislature, who bolted the Know-Nothing Caucus, modestly inform their constituents of the whig and democratic party, who elected them, that the old parties has become too corrupt, and, therefore, they had sought a better and more virtuous one in the "American organization." According to the specimens, which have been exhibited at Harrisburg this winter, we fear they have got out of the frying-pan into the fire. For our part, we think there is still some little virtue remaining in the old leaven of the whig party, and we point with pride to the few remaining Whigs in the Legislature, against whose honesty not a breath is whispered."

## Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad.

We understand that a "Committee of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad Company" is in New York, soliciting a subscription of two hundred thousand dollars to their stock, for the early completion and equipment of their road. This is an extension of the Lackawanna and Western Railroad, from Scranton, down the Lackawanna and Susquehanna, the entire length of the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys, and is intended to bring on the Lackawanna and Western road, the coal mines at all points below Scranton, and intended for an Eastern market. The Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Road is designed also to be a carrier of the Wyoming coals to the markets below, especially the large iron works in Columbia and Montour counties. At Scranton it intersects the Lackawanna and Western, and at Bloomsburg the Catawissa, Williamsport and Elmira. The Board state that \$500,000 have been subscribed, the work of grading and bridging put under contract, and that \$200,000 more of stock, with a small amount of bonds, will enable them to finish and fully equip 36 miles of road, which shall open a direct communication with both of the great seaboard cities. The whole work for a single track is to cost about \$25,000 the mile.

THE UNITED STATES MAGAZINE is a periodical of which we have several times taken occasion to give our favorable opinion. It contains good reading, and a great deal of it for one dollar a year. The book is well printed for reading and preservation. J. M. Emerson, and Co., New York, are the publishers.

Dr. Francis C. Harrison has taken up his abode in town, and we observe he has already his hands full of patients. There is a good opening in town for another intelligent physician of character, and the Doctor seems likely to fill the want.

OUR PAPER next week will possess interest for every class of readers. Among other things it will contain a large engraving, and a poetical contribution of some merit.

Our thanks are due to the Hon. H. B. Wright at Washington, and Messrs. Buckalew, Maxwell, Hickok and McLean, at Harrisburg, for favors.

The Harrisburg Herald says the most strenuous efforts have been made for the pardon of Dr. Beale, but that after a full hearing of the case, Gov. Pollock positively refused to grant a pardon.

The Rev. E. N. Lightner has accepted a call from the Episcopal Church at Danville, and has entered upon his duties.

The Iron Masters of Pennsylvania will hold a Convention in Philadelphia on Tuesday the 6th of March.

H. Brewster, the missing treasurer of the Glendon Rolling Mills, at Boston, has "turned up" in California.

Mayor Voltz, of Pittsburg, has determined to enforce to the fullest extent the laws prohibiting the sale of liquors and the performance of worldly employment on the Sabbath day.

## Swindler in Limbo.

J. W. Holbrooke, the projector of a fraudulent gift enterprise at New York was lately arrested at the instance of Messrs. Viescher & Schell, who had advertised largely for him, and whom he attempted to defraud of their pay. He is held to answer his trial.

## Conviction and Imprisonment of Lottery Dealers.

ALLENTOWN, Pa. Feb. 21.—The trial of the managers of the great Catawissa Lottery, was concluded today, with a verdict of guilty against the defendants. Nathan Frederic was fined \$6000 and costs of prosecution, and to stand committed until the sentence be complied with, and William Gross fined \$3000 with costs, and to be committed until the fine be paid. Both were committed in default of payment.

## A REFORM LEGISLATURE!

Do the people know that the present "reform Legislature" sits only four days in each week! Such is really the fact, and we will explain how the thing is done. The regular hour for meeting is 11 o'clock, and the House has a standing rule, to adjourn every Saturday at 12, until Monday afternoon at 3. The Senate does the same, two Saturdays out of three. This gives the members who live near Harrisburg, an opportunity to spend Sunday at home, and affords all a chance which they seem eager to embrace—to retire during Saturday night and Sunday, in Philadelphia. But many of them start off on Saturday morning and don't get back to Harrisburg until Monday evening, leaving no time for either day's session; and thus two days, or one-third, of every week, are actually lost, for all the purposes of the public business. This is a fair specimen of the economy and reform which the people were promised upon the advent of the Know-Nothing administration!

## The People Speaking.

The Democrats of Orwigburg (Schuylkill county,) and vicinity held a meeting on the evening of the 19th inst., at which the following strong and pointed resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we deeply regret the course pursued by Charles Frailey, Esq., one of our representatives at Harrisburg, in voting for Simon Cameron for U. S. Senator; and that we feel it a duty to ourselves and our friends to denounce his course as a base violation of all honorable obligations due to his party and his constituents.

Resolved, That Charles Frailey, Esq., has in our opinion dishonored the high post which he now occupies as a representative and a politician, and that too in the face of all the speeches and pledges he gave in opposition to Know-Nothingism, or as hetero-dox them, *Nix Ifsors*, previous to his election. This course has a little too much of the *Crem-Colored Horse* for our taste, and we considered him unworthy the name of a Democrat.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Democrats of Lebanon county, was held in the Borough of Lebanon, on Saturday evening last, for the purpose of denouncing the course of their Representative, W. A. Barry, in voting for Simon Cameron, the Know-Nothing candidate, in violation of his pledge made at the time of his nomination and previous to the October election.

The true Democrats of Northampton met at the court-house in Easton on the 20th inst., and passed a series of spirited and honest resolutions censuring Senator Fry for absenting himself from the Democratic caucus, and instructing him and the two members of the Lower House from that county to vote against Simon Cameron from first to last. Col. Hutter, the radical editor of the *Argus* reported the resolutions. A gang of rowdies from a Know-Nothing lodge attempted to disturb the meeting, and one of them proposed a Cameron resolution. But the President of the meeting informed him that he was not recognized as a Democrat.

At Pittsburg all the newspapers have taken a stand against Cameron. On the evening of the 24th an indignation meeting was held. About 300 persons, principally Whigs and Americans, were present, and a series of resolutions favoring a western candidate for Senator, but naming none, were submitted, but not acted on. Mr. Smith, one of the Representatives from Allegheny county was present, and rose, amidst loud calls, and defended himself lustily for his support of Mr. Cameron. During his speech he was frequently greeted with hisses, applause, and taunting cries. Subsequently Mr. Foster, editor of the *Despatch*, offered a series of resolutions which recommended a new man, untainted with politics. They were adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

## Correspondence of the Star.

From Harrisburg, Feb. 22.—The bill to erect Snyder county out of Union passed second reading in the Senate yesterday, by a vote of 11 to 10.

In the House the bill to provide for the publication of the general laws of the State in the newspapers of the several counties was reported back with an adverse recommendation.

The legislature will abolish the Northern District of the Supreme Court, which heretofore held its session at Sunbury. The counties will be assigned to the Middle or Harrisburg District, except Columbia and Montour, which, at the request of Mr. Bucklewe were annexed in the bill to the Eastern District, holding its session at Philadelphia.

It is denied here that the Know-Nothing seceders offered to the Democratic caucus to support Woodward for the Senate, promising to secure for him 42 votes, besides the old line Democrats. But it is certain that while the Democratic caucus was in session, Mr. Price came to the door and said if Woodward was nominated there he would be supported by the seceders and Whigs. How far he was authorized to make such promise I cannot learn; but he has the reputation of being the most honorable Whig in the legislature. Some versions of the proceedings report that the only agreement and conference between the Democrats and seceders was to obtain an indefinite postponement of the Senatorial subject in the legislature. Certain it is that Cameron had good friends in the Democratic caucus.

The bribery committee is in session. L—man and B—k are out of town. The committee have been examining some witness and enough to show that the local popularity of corruption at this time is not all gone. One young Harrisburg lawyer has been questioned very closely as to what he knew about the following letter; which the committee now hold.

## SATURDAY MORNING.

Jacob H—, Esq.—Last night Mr. Herr placed in your hands \$900, for which you pledged yourself to certain things. How these things were done for Dr. Jayne is unnecessary to say; but six you will remember you made a proposition. Now sir, Dr. Jayne repudiates and condemns this transaction. I do not resort to threats; but I desire you to return \$400 to Mr. Herr before 12 o'clock to-day, the \$500 you can retain. There may not be any resort to law if you do this; but another and more effectual means of redress. I make no comments on your conduct under the circumstances; but shall wait in patience to hear from you or Mr. Herr.

## Respectfully,

D. R. FANTER.

Another witness John Weidman, a lawyer of Lebanon, was examined, and according to testimony it would seem that Mr. Cameron, if elected, is expected to secure the passage of Madison county. He stated that Rutenhouse, a member from Montgomery county, residing in Pottstown, had an interview with him at the opening of the session; that he was bitterly opposed to Cameron; that he subsequently changed his views; and became a friend of Cameron; and that the change was brought about by the assistance of Cameron's friends to support the new county of Madison.

If the proposed law in relation to bribery was now in force the people would get some rich chapters of life at the capital.

The probabilities are that no United States Senator will be chosen by the present legislature.

## FENN.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 27th.—On the first ballot to-day, Quiggle, Hoge, Platt and Stockdale left Mr. Buckalew and voted for Cameron. But seven other gentlemen who had previously voted for Cameron left him and went among the scattering. The subject is postponed until the first Tuesday in October.

It is generally understood here that Mr. Maxwell went into the anti Know-Nothing caucus, held on the subject of Senator and voted for Cameron! How true this is I can't tell.

## PENN.

On last Tuesday the Legislature of this State made another attempt to elect a U. S. Senator.

The hall and lobbies of the house were crowded to excess, many ladies being present. Much excitement prevailed throughout the town, and an unusual degree of interest was manifested in the proceedings.

## FIRST BALLOT.

FOR SIMON CAMERON—Messrs. Crabbe, Cress well, Frazier, Fry, Haldeeman, Hendricks, Hoge, Killinger, Platt, Quiggle, Sellers and Shuman of the Senate, and Messrs. Barry, Beal, Caldwell, Catledge, Clover, Crawford, Cresswell, Cummings, of Philadelphia, Cummins of Somerset, Donaldson, Eyster, Fletcher, Frailey, Free, Gross, Guy, Haines, Hubbs, King, Kirkpatrick, Krepps, Luna, McConkey, McConnell, Morrison, Mose, North, Palmer, Reese, Rutenhouse, Ritter, Sallade, Shivers, Smith of Allegheny, Smith of Blair, Stetley, Stockdale, Surtwauld, Weddell, Wood, Yorkes, Zaigler, and Suong, (Speaker,) of the House.—55.

FOR C. R. BUCKALEW—Messrs. Browne, Goodwin, Hamlin, Jamison, McClintock, Sager, Walton, Wherry and Heister, (Speaker,) of the Senate, and Messrs. Baker, Bush, Christ, Craig, Dougherty, Dunning, Dugan, Fry, Johnson, McLean, Maxwell, Orr, Thompson and Wright, of the House.—23.

Scattering, 52.

There being no choice, Mr. Frailey moved to go into a second ballot, which was agreed to, and resulted as follows:

Cameron,	54	Maynard,	6
Buckalew,	23	Morris,	1
Veech,	2	Williams,	4
Wilnot,	5	Kunkel,	1
Stevens,	4	Black,	1
Irwin,	4	Buffington,	9
Jones,	6	Brady,	1
Howe,	2	John J. Pearson,	1
Conrad,	7		

There being no choice, a third ballot was taken which resulted very much like the second. Cameron having 55, and Buckalew 23 votes.

On the result of the third ballot being announced, Mr. Browne moved to adjourn until the 1st Tuesday in October next.

Mr. Haldeeman moved to amend, so that when the Convention adjourns, it adjourn to meet to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Browne's motion was then agreed to—yeas 66, nays 65.

Mr. Buckalew voted for Browne's motion, and Mr. Maxwell voted for it.

The joint convention then adjourned.

## Educational Department.

**Educational Convention.**  
The teachers, directors and friends of education in general are invited to meet at the Court-house, in Bloomsburg, on Saturday the 10th of March next, at 10 o'clock A. M. to participate in the formation of a Teacher's Institute of Columbia county, and to take into consideration such matters as may be for the best interests of the cause of education.

WM. BURGESS,  
J. G. FREEZE,  
ABIA JOHN,  
Committee of Invitation.

## THE STUDY OF AGRICULTURE.

As much knowledge is required to make a good farmer as a good clerk; and while society needs some men in the departments of literature, clerkship and oratory, there is quite as much need of others who shall be trained to a scientific knowledge of the chemical process by which grains and fruits grow, and the circumstance under which the growth of each can be improved, and the bounties of nature developed and enjoyed. The farmer who understands enough of agricultural geology to know for what grain or product the constituent ingredients of his soil are best adapted, and enough of agricultural chemistry to know what ingredient his soil lacks to make it as fruitful as the best, enjoys great advantage over his neighbor. Every boy who rambles over the hillsides and through the fields can understand the illustrations in the study of agriculture, and in a number of states it is taught in the common schools. In New Hampshire this is the case, and books treating of the elements of that science have been ordered to be supplied to the pupils.

In Vermont the legislature, at its present session, authorized the purchase by the State of a sufficient number of copies of Waring's "Elements of Agriculture," to secure full introduction of a study into every school under the State supervision. In this State no legislative action is necessary, but it will not be long until agriculture will be more taught in our common schools than book-keeping.

Richard Bedford, the County Superintendent of Sullivan, in his last year's report to the School Department of this State calls attention to the subject in such judicious and sensible remarks as we are well pleased to extract.

The Superintendent will pardon the freedom which I take, in this my first report, if I should most respectfully suggest for the consideration of the Department, the importance of introducing the study of agriculture into our common schools, in the rural districts of the State. The King of Sparta being interrogated, "What things he thought most proper for boys to learn?" answered, "those things which they expect to do when they are men."

Our professional men, our mechanics, and artisans, spend from seven to fourteen years, in making themselves acquainted with the respective professions and callings which they are intending to pursue, when they become men of mature age. Is it not the manifest duty of the State, to provide for the introduction of the study of agriculture into our common schools, in the rural districts of the State. The King of Sparta being interrogated, "What things he thought most proper for boys to learn?" answered, "those things which they expect to do when they are men."

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## Wages of Teachers.

From the report of the State Superintendent we gather the following list of the wages of teachers per month in the several counties.

County.	Males.	Females.
Albany	17 67	10 69
Bradford	14 90	7 21
Butler	18 63	10 18
Cambria	22 50	18 57
Clinton	22 14	14 53
Columbia	19 00	11 26
Fulton	16 95	15 83
Huntingdon	20 31	15 21
Lancaster	19 00	15 00
Lebanon	22 44	14 03
Mechanicville	22 50	18 57
Montgomery	22 50	18 57
Northampton	22 50	18 57
Northumberland	22 50	18 57
Oriskany	22 50	18 57
Richmond	22 50	18 57
Schuylkill	22 50	18 57
Snyder	22 50	18 57
Tioga	22 50	18 57
Union	22 50	18 57
Warren	22 50	18 57
Washington	22 50	18 57
York	22 50	18 57

## The Contract.

The following figures present the operations of the common school system in Pennsylvania during the first and last for the last years of its action. It was first adopted in 1836.

	1836	1853
No. of Districts	987	1,531
No. of Schools	3,284	9,507
Time Schools were open 4m. 3d.	5m.	5m.
No. of Teachers	3,483	11,220
Average monthly Salary of Male Teachers	\$18 34	\$19 25
do Female Teachers	11 96	12 03
No. of Scholars	139,604	474,535
Av. No. per School	41	42
do cost of Teaching per	\$1 06	1 29
Scholar per month	\$1 06	1 29
State Appropriation	98 70	184 390
Tax levied	207 105	1,021 337
Expense for School		
Houses	111 803	147 516
Other annual expenses	103 079	815 901

## A Letter from an old Teacher.

The following letter has been handed us to by John G. Freeze, Esq., and will possess interest for the teachers of this county. The author has had many years' experience in the business of teaching, and a few years taught in this town. Though old in years, he is ardent and zealous in the progress of education; and keeps up to the spirit of the age in its improvements.

Respected friend—I understand by a letter from a friend who was present at an Educational Convention in Bloomsburg on the 17th inst., that a Columbia County Teacher's Institute was duly organized at that time.

I may inform thee that I am still engaged in the vocation of teacher, my present location, Schuylkill county, where Teacher's Institutes have for some time been in successful operation, and the services of teachers properly appreciated, and much better remunerated than in my own school district at the present time.

I think we may confidently anticipate, that an increase of interest upon the subject of education in the minds of the people generally, as well as the infusion of spirit of emulation among the teachers of the county, will be found among the important and very desirable fruits resulting from a Columbia county Teacher's Institute. My present purpose however is, to state, as my own belief, that a more general circulation and diffusion of the valuable information upon the sciences, as well as the advanced and improving condition of the Public Schools in other parts of the State, as embodied in the "Pennsylvania School Journal," would prove a stimulant, and valuable auxiliary in promoting the good work of Education in our County.

I have been in the receipt of the "Journal" now about eight months, and find that each succeeding number increases in interest in proportion to the advancement, improve-

## MARRIED.

On Thursday, March 1st, in Bloomsburg, by the Rev. D. J. Waller, Mr. JOHN FENSTON, of Lycoming county, and Miss SUSAN BARKLEY, of Bloomsburg, Col. Co., P.

On the 16th inst., by A. Ammerman Esq., Mr. PETER EVELAND, to Miss JANE GOLDEN, all of Fishingcreek township, Col. Co.

## DEED.

In Bloomsburg, on the 16th inst., MARY ALVARETTA, daughter of Cyrus and Clarissa Fry, aged nearly two years.

The infant's soul has taken flight, So young the left, so soon to meet, Her sister's spirit there.

In Epp, Columbia county, on Sunday evening, the 11th of February, Mrs. ALZABETH CASE, wife of Nathan Case, aged about 45 years.

In Greenwood township, Columbia co., on Thursday, February 1st, Mrs. SARAH, wife of James Patterson, aged about 50 years.

In Bloomsburg, on Tuesday evening last, MALINDA, eldest daughter of Samuel and Sarah Shive, aged about 5 years.

God in his wisdom has recalled The precious boon his love has given, And though the sparkling moulders now, The gem is cast in bright Heaven.

ment, and prosperity of the Schools in the different sections of the State. I therefore take the liberty to request, that, as a friend to the School System, and the diffusion of a liberal education among the people, they will exert their influence at your next meeting, to prevail upon the Teachers present, as well as other friends of education, to subscribe for the "Journal." Published monthly by T. Burrows, Lancaster City, Pa., at \$1.00 per year in advance.

My present engagement is a fine month's term, Mineersville, Schuylkill county, and will not close before the first of June, salary \$32.00 per month.

I congratulate the teachers and friends of education in our county upon so favorable symptoms of future encouragement, as the establishment of a Teacher's Institute in the County seems to indicate; and shall endeavor, if health permits, to be present, at some at least, of the future sessions of the Institute.

Respectfully thy friend,  
JAMES STOKES.

## Geography in Schools.

In visiting schools we have been disappointed to find a number in which geography is not taught, and it is highly desirable that a change should be made for the better in this respect. It is a study that requires but very limited reflective powers, and is more addressed to the eye than the reasoning faculties. Therefore a scholar can take up this subject before he can do much in reasoning out a result intelligently.

An excellent work on geography has lately been published for beginners, though it includes all the physical geography that most scholars carry with them through life. It is called the "Primary Geography," prepared by S. S. Cornell, and is published by D. Appleton & Co., New York, at 50 cents a copy. It is easy to teach and easy to learn. It contains twelve colored maps, and some seventy illustrative engravings. The lessons are followed by reviews; and to the work is appended a pronouncing vocabulary, containing the names of all the natural and political divisions used throughout the work. It is to be followed by an "Intermediate Geography," and that by a "High-school geography and companion atlas."

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