

THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

Raftsmans Journal.



S. B. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. CLEARFIELD, PA., MARCH 9, 1859.

THE REIGN OF CORRUPTION.

The Administration of James Buchanan will, through all future time, be regarded as the most corrupt that has ever had the control of our Government.

The Naval Investigative Committee report that the Navy Yards are stocked with political favorites, whose appointment is dictated by democratic members of Congress as a political reward.

The Governor has appointed C. D. Hineine, Superintendent of Public Printing, in place of O. Barret, removed, and the Senate has unanimously confirmed the appointment.

A bill to increase the salaries of the Judges of the State was killed in the Senate to-day by a close vote.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has a nice little tax bill to settle—evidently, as appears by the following extract from a communication lately made by the Auditor General to the Senate:

For tax on capital stock, per act of April 29, 1844, from September 1, 1849, to the first Monday of November, 1857; the said tax estimated under the provisions of the fourteenth section of the act of March 30, 1811, except the year 1850, for which the company furnished the necessary data to determine the proper amount of tax.

Table with columns: Cap. st'k pd. in. Mills. Tax. Rows include years 1849-1857 with corresponding values.

CREDIT.—By payment to treasury, Jan. 31, 1857 \$42,065.32 By payment to treasury Dec. 17, 1857 31,597.62

Balance due Commonwealth, \$207,064.98 How would you like the handling of that amount of the ready? [Wouldn't mind 'handling' it into our own pocket, thank'e.—Eo.]

The report of the House Committee on the case of John A. Searing, a Democratic member from New York, shows that he refused to report, as a member of the Committee on Claims, upon a certain claim or allow it to be paid, until he had been allowed a certain percentage upon it.

The report in the Seaman investigation establishes a collusion between the superintendent of public printing and the public printer, by which the engravers, lithographers, contractors for paper and the like, were systematically black-mailed and the government as systematically plundered.

The debate in the Senate on Monday a week shows that a contract amounting to \$50,000, which ought not to have cost over \$5,000, was given to the office of the Philadelphia Pennsylvania, in which a certain Senator has, or had at that time, an interest, and that it was a part of the consideration that one-half of the profits should go to sustain the President's organ, the Washington Union, and that the Assistant Secretary of State also came in for a share of the spoils.

And this is but a beginning of the developments. The next Congress will have the chance of ferreting out many other instances of villainy. These, however, are enough to make any man whose love of honesty and fair dealing yet remains, detest an Administration that permits and countenances such wholesale corruption and profligacy.

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.

Special correspondence of the Raftsmans Journal. MARCH 5, 1859. S. B. Row, Esq.—Dear Sir: The local legislation amounts to very little.

An act has passed incorporating a company to build a bridge over Clearfield creek at Alexander's Ford.

Mr. Blood has introduced a bill to vacate and take from the Company the charter of the Susquehanna and Waterford turnpike.

The Farmer's High School is an institution, Simon, in which I do not believe. I think it is a kind of a private speculation got up for the benefit of a few at the expense of the many.

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The House passed a bill to-day divorcing a daughter of Capt. Blair, of the Commercial Hotel, Philadelphia, from the bonds of matrimony, into which she had entered without the knowledge or consent of her parents, with one Priestly, her father's bar-keeper, who is represented as being a gay youth of thirty, while she has reached the ripe age of thirteen years and nine months!

A grand legislative ball comes off at Cover-

ly's on Tuesday evening, which is to be, according to common rumor, a *recherche* affair.

There is a bill before the Senate to increase the pay of Adjutant General Wilson to \$1,400 per annum. Death—certain death, stares it in the face.

The members of the House voted to sustain their pluck, but some of their constituents will give them *rats* about the latter part of next summer.

Mr. Row—A system of raftering, known as "splashing," has been introduced on the river. In other words, some of those who own dams retain the water until their dams are filled, and then suddenly let off the water, which enables them to float what lumber is in or below the dam, some distance down the river.

From a letter accompanying the above communication, it appears there are more inconveniences arising from splash floods than we thought there were.

At a meeting held here this week for Educational purposes, several short speeches were made; all tending to awaken a deeper interest in the education not only of the young, but also of those of riper years.

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PENNSYLVANIA ITEMS.

PREPARED FOR THE "RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL." DAUPHIN COUNTY.—On the 23d Adam Smith, freeman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, at Bailey's Station, died under circumstances that led the neighbors to think he had been poisoned by his wife.

At Newport Mrs. S. asked for arsenic to kill rats, but was refused; she had purchased some there before, and also sought for it at Harrisburg. She started for home the night of that day, at Duncannon offering a premium to any one who would drive her home, as her husband was very sick.

On the night of the 23d, some provisions were stolen from the "Indiana House," and several persons in the town had clothes that were on the lines drying, carried off.

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CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

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Treasury notes was authorized, 30 to 22. The amendments added are to abolish the franking privilege and to increase the rates of postage.

The House agreed to suspend the rules. The President's veto to the Agricultural bill was received, and on a vote the count was, Yeas, 105; Nays, 96—not two-thirds for it, and so the bill was rejected.

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