

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

The number of Post Offices in the United States at the close of the year ending June 30, 1849, was 10,747, there having been 924 established and 339 discontinued within the year, making an increase within the year of 586.

The number of postmasters appointed within the year ending June 30, 1849, was 6833.

Of that number, 2782 were appointed in consequence of resignation; 183 were appointed in consequence of death; 254 were appointed in consequence of changes of sites of offices; 2103 were appointed in consequence of removals; 11 were appointed in consequence of commissions expired and not renewed; 26 were appointed in consequence of commissions renewed; 23 were appointed in consequence of becoming Presidential by income exceeding \$1000; 921 were appointed in consequence of new offices.

The number of mail routes in the United States on the 1st day of July, 1849, was 4,043, and the number of contractors 4,100. The length of these routes was 167,703 miles.

On those routes the mail was transported 42,547,069 miles, at the cost of \$2,428,515.

The gross revenue for the year, ending June 30, 1849, amounted to \$4,905,176 98, derived from the following sources:

Table with 2 columns: Source of Revenue and Amount. Includes items like 'From letter postage', 'From newspaper and pamphlet postage', 'From miscellaneous items', etc.

The expenditures during the year were, for Transportation of mails, \$2,577,409 71

Compensation to postmasters, 1,320,931 34

Ship, steamboat, and way letters, 86,174 45

Wrapping paper, 23,936 03

Office furniture, 4,219 69

Advertising, 61,813 32

Mail bags, 20,802 38

Blanks, 20,276 71

Maillocks, keys, and stamps, 4,586 50

Mail depredations and special agents, 21,228 00

Clerks for post offices, 317,218 36

Miscellaneous payments, 70,437 00

Post-office laws & regulations, 81 75

Excess of gross revenue for the year, \$426,127 15

The whole number of letters charged with postage passing through the mails the past year, reckoned on the postage received, agreeably to a basis heretofore approved, amounted to sixty-two million.

It has been said that the newspaper and pamphlet postage is not in proportion to the cost of their transportation; but it is not to be therefore understood that any increase of that postage is proposed. It has long been regarded as sound public policy to promote the circulation of these publications by cheap postage, and it may be advisable to proceed further in this policy, especially in promoting their circulation in the vicinity of their places of publication, provided no decided injustice be done to the post-masters within the same vicinity.

The most obvious and prominent feature now in our postage is the double price, ten cents, charged on all single letters carried over three hundred miles. The reduction of this ten cent postage, and charging all single letters at five cents each, would much simplify the manner of accounting, and render the same both more facile and perfect—would remove the dissatisfaction arising from the great difference in the postage in different offices, even in the same vicinity, but separated by this arbitrary line; and would promote and encourage the correspondence and intercourse, by mail, between the most distant parts of the country, which most need and demand it, in precise proportion as their other means of intercommunication are slow and unrequited.

The Murder of Dr. Parkman.

The verdict of the coroner's inquest upon the mutilated remains of Dr. Parkman was rendered on Thursday afternoon, charging Prof. John W. Webster with the murder. The investigation lasted ten days, and a very large number of witnesses were examined, but their evidence, covering some eighty pages of folio, is withheld by instruction of the Attorney General until the meeting of the Grand Jury, who are to institute further investigations in the case, and report during the month of January next. The following is the verdict.—Phila. Daily News.

SUFFOLK, ss.—An inquisition taken at the city of Boston, within the county of Suffolk, the 13th day of December, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, before Jabez Pratt, Esq., one of the coroners of said county, upon the view of sundry parts of the body of a dead man, viz: thorax, kidneys, pelvis, two thighs, left leg, and sundry bones there lying dead, by the oaths of Osmyn Brewster, John L. Andrews, Pearl Martin, Thomas Resticauz, Lewis Jones, Harum Merrill, good and lawful men who being charged and sworn to inquire for the commonwealth when, why, & by what means said dead man came to his death, upon their oaths do say that they all have been demonstrated to be parts of one and the same person; that these parts of the human frame have been identified and proved to be the remains and parts of the dead body and limbs of Doctor George Parkman, late a citizen of said Boston, aged about 60 years; that he came to his death by violence at said Boston on the 23rd day of November last, or between the hours of one and a half of the clock on the afternoon of that day, about which time he entered alive and in good health into the Massachusetts Medical College building, situated in North Grove street, in said Boston, and the hour of four of the clock in the afternoon of the thirtieth day of November last, when a portion of said remains were found concealed in and under the departments of Doctor John W. Webster, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex, in said College building, in which building the residue of said remains were afterward discovered; that he was killed in said College building by a blow or blows, wound or wounds inflicted upon him with some instrument or weapon to the Jurors unknown; and by means not yet known to said Jurors; and that said blow or blows, wound or wounds, were inflicted upon him, and said means were used by the hands of said Doctor John W. Webster, by whom he was killed.

In witness whereof, the said Coroner and Jurors to this inquisition, have set their hands and seals, the day and year above said. Jabez Pratt, Coroner. Osmyn Brewster, Fr'n J. L. Andrews, sec'y Pearl Martin, Thomas Resticauz, Harum Merrill, Lewis Jones.

From the Boston Transcript of Friday. We learn that Prof. Webster's appearance to-day is precisely the same which it has been of late—that although he has read the finding of the coroner's inquest, it has not disturbed him in the least, and he remains perfectly calm and self-possessed. He is in good health, and apparently quite contented in his situation, and satisfied with the treatment which he receives from the officers of the jail.

It has been reported that his cell was better furnished and his fare more sumptuous than other prisoners. We are informed that his accommodations are only improved by the allowance of some foot-mats, but it is true that his food is furnished by his friends from Parker's restaurant in Court Square.

Prof. Webster's time is wholly employed in reading an epistolary correspondence with his friends. Although it is understood that Hon. Franklin Dexter has declined to act as counsel for defence, he is still admitted at the jail as such, in connection with Edward D. Sohler, Esq.

One Crime prevented by Another.—The Lafayette (La.) Courier, of November 23d, says that an old and substantial farmer of that county, named David Jones, recently became enamored of a young woman, the wife of a neighbor, named Cantwell, and notwithstanding the remonstrances of his friends, determined to elope with her. Accordingly on Sunday evening, 11th ult., he told his wife of his intention, and that he was going to meet the woman at a certain place, about a mile from his residence, whence they intended to elope.

His wife endeavored to dissuade him, saying that she feared it was only a plot to get him from home with his money, and rob him; but he persisted, and about ten o'clock mounted his horse and started. On the following morning he was missing, (although Mrs. Cantwell still remained at home), and some were of opinion that he had gone off alone; but traces of blood found near the place of assignment, aroused the suspicion in the minds of his neighbors that he had been foully dealt with, and a search was made for him. He was soon found shot through the heart, with a rifle ball; and robbed. The husband whom he attempted to injure has been arrested on suspicion.

It is said to be no uncommon thing to find beautiful girls in the State of Maine, running wild, subsisting on berries and acorns. When a girl wants to get married she makes for the woods, where she roves about until a young man goes out on a wife hunt. He catches sight of a girl, and gives chase. She runs, and the young man throws a lasso, by which she is caught. He then takes her on his shoulders, carries her to the highway, where he has a carriage ready, ties her feet and hands together, and takes her home. A minister is sent for and they are married. The knot being tied, the young woman becomes perfectly docile and submissive.

Pennsylvania and her Resources.

We copy the following condensed view of the resources and prospects of Pennsylvania from Bicknell's Reporter, an able commercial paper published in Philadelphia. It is gratifying that the condition of the great central State of the Union will justify such a flattering picture of her capacity and prospects from a journal of such high character, and one entirely free from political bias.

OUR STATE, OUR POSITION, AND OUR RESOURCES.—There is no part of the Union more richly endowed with the natural resources of permanent prosperity than the State of Pennsylvania. Although this is a subject which has frequently occupied the columns of the press, we propose to consider it in a single and comprehensive view. The geographical position of the State is, in the first place, highly favorable to the successful prosecution of commercial enterprises, while it is situated midway between the North and South, with an open navigation from its shores to the valley of the Mississippi, through the Ohio river and the northwestern lakes, and also to the ocean. Its climate is mild and healthful, and our public works, composed of railroads and canals, traversing its most important sections, constitute convenient avenues for the transportation of every species of merchandise, both to and from the Atlantic cities.

Pennsylvania possesses as the basis of its resources, a broad and public domain, yielding all the products of the middle States in great abundance, abounding in large quantities of lime, especially adapted to the fertilization of the land. And it will hardly be questioned that agricultural enterprise is here prosecuted with a skill and success which renders its market equal to any in our own country or in Europe.

But it is in the great amount of its mineral wealth that the State is made especially distinguished from any other part of the country. The vast beds of bituminous and anthracite coal which it contains, and its mines of iron, render its resources much greater in this respect than any other State in the Union. It is, we presume, generally known that the great mass of the anthracite coal, which is here mined to the annual amount of about twelve millions of dollars. The other species also supplies a large quantity to the manufacturing enterprise of Pittsburgh and other places. Indeed, our vast supplies of coal and iron, render Pennsylvania the prominent workshop of the country. In order to be convinced of this fact, we need only to look at the industry of the State which is employed in mining and manufactures, and the amount of coal and iron raw and manufactured, transported to the city of Philadelphia.

The progress of the coal trade of the State is a subject of some interest and importance. From a pamphlet, which would appear to be entitled to credit, since it was prepared by an associate editor of the *Miner's Journal*—a paper which is largely devoted to the interests of the coal and iron trade—we learn that as early as the year 1776, several loads of anthracite coal were despatched down the Susquehanna, it having been used in the shops of blacksmiths previous to that period. Companies for mining and transportation were soon formed, and in 1820 three hundred and sixty-five tons were first sent to market. In order to exhibit its advance for the last four years, we subjoin the following table, for which we are indebted to public documents:

Table with 2 columns: Years and Tons. Shows an increase from 2,002,877 tons in 1845 to 3,063,503 tons in 1848.

There is, also, in Pennsylvania, an abundant water power which operates or propels numerous manufacturing establishments of woolen and cotton, and in the amount of those products which are furnished, the Keystone stands among the most important States. It is distinguished, also, for the skill and elegance with which the more ornamental kinds of mechanical work are here executed. It moreover possesses in its quarries of pure white marble, a material peculiarly adapted to architectural decorations, and of no little value, when we consider the prospective improvement of a State which now possesses an amiable, industrious, moral, and reflective population of nearly two millions.

The Brothers Montequion and the Homiades. At St. Louis. The deplorable and almost incomprehensible event which produced so much sensation in the public mind at St. Louis a few weeks ago, and which has excited equal sensation and grief in France. The last steamer, brings out from Mr. Rives, our minister at Paris, a letter of his own to Senator Benton, with many letters and official documents to himself, and others to the Senator Benton, Senator Cass, and the Hon. Mr. Winthrop on the subject of this most melancholy occurrence. These letters make known the fact that the father of these young gentlemen, (the late Count Montequion) labored under insanity, and destroyed his own life two years ago, and that their elder brother is now insane in Paris; and hence raise the irresistible inference that inherited insanity must have broken out in the two brothers at St. Louis.

All the letters speak of them in the same terms, as being remarkable for the amiability of their characters and their "mild and inoffensive manners;" that they came to the United States for information and recreation, and especially to see the Western country, and with ample means and credit. They descend from a family in France not only of great historic name, but distinguished for private virtues. The celebrated Duke De La Rochefoucauld, Liancourt, author of the "Maxims," is their grandfather on the mother's side; the present Duke De La Rochefoucauld writes in their behalf as his nephews.

The General Oudinot, (Duke) of Reggio, and General Arrighi, (Duke) of Padua, also writes in their behalf as relations.—The Count Montequion himself belonged to the distinguished and amiable family of the same name. Many Americans in Paris, among them Mr. Wm. H. Spinwall, of New York, also writes and with all the deep feeling which the view of the agonized condition of the unhappy mother and relations so naturally inspires. These letters and official attestations are all forwarded to St. Louis, to have their effect in explaining a transaction which seemed to be incomprehensible.—National Intelligencer.

The Printers of Ohio.

A Convention of Editors and Publishers recently assembled at Columbus, Ohio.—Edward R. Campbell of Cincinnati, was called to the chair. The following propositions were laid before the Convention:

- 1. For a law for preserving at each county seat files of the newspapers printed in the county.
2. To make such papers competent evidence to prove notices contained in them.
3. That legal notices shall be published in at least two papers in the county, if there are so many.
4. For a law providing for the completion of the documentary history of the State, and its publication.

The Convention resolved that the present system of postage is unjust to the western press, and that Congress be memorialized to provide for carrying papers thirty miles free, and to prohibit the carrying papers out of mail to places where there is a post office.

The Convention also referred to a committee a series of resolutions, asserting—

- 1. That they would not receive apprentices, unless regularly indentured, nor for a less period than five years.
2. That they will employ no one as a journeyman, except he has served a regular apprenticeship.
3. That a State Typographical Association should be formed.
4. That gratuitous advertising has become an onerous tax, and that all kinds of notices should be charged as advertisements, and if done for transient persons, paid for in advance.
5. That they disapprove and will discountenance ill-natured personalities in editorial intercourse; and observe the amenities and courtesies which should mark the intercourse of gentlemen.
6. To decline gratuitous advertising for Eastern Magazines and mammoth weeklies.
7. That the publication of long patent medicine advertisements, for a great length of time, ought to be discouraged, except at the regular rates of charge.

The Sentence of Mills the Seducer.

Jonathan Gibbons Mills, who some time since was convicted of seduction in the Quarter Sessions of Dauphin county, and in whose case motions in arrest of judgment and for a new trial, were made by his counsel, has been sentenced, and all motions overruled, by Judge Parsons. The sentence was in the case of seduction, imprisonment for three years in Dauphin county Prison, costs of prosecution, and a fine of \$100. In that of the two attempts to procure abortion, one year on each indictment, with costs, making five years solitary confinement in all. In the two cases of fornication and bastardy, of which he was convicted, the usual penalty was imposed. Before sentence was passed, Mills read a long statement to the Court, detailing his past life, and in justification to himself. From it appeared, he was born in Chester county, learned the printing business in the Record office in West Chester; then studied dentistry in the same town, after which he removed to Danville, and married; his wife dying he came to Harrisburg, his operations here what he did, and what he received is written above.

Later from Santa Fe. Sr. Louis, Dec. 11. Dates from Santa Fe, to the 30th of Oct. have been received at this place, which brings further accounts of Indian depredations. The troops had taken five Apache prisoners who had been offered in exchange for Mrs. White and daughter.—Mr. Aubry had also offered, in addition, the sum of one thousand dollars.

Information had been received, that thirty-six California emigrants had recently been killed by the Indians, near the Copper Mines. The troops stationed near El Paso, had started in pursuit of the enemy; but, at last accounts, had not met with them. Three Mexicans had been killed at El Paso, on the 6th of October, and several others were reported to have been murdered near Santa Fe. The Indians were daily committing fresh depredations, and had become quite hostile to the emigrants. Dates from Chihuahua, to the 30th of September, represent the cholera as raging fearfully at that place. Not less than 75 to 100 deaths were occurring daily. A new Fort called Fort Barkley had been established on the Moro river; and Lieut. Simpson had selected a site for a fort in Navajo county.

AWFUL DEATH.—A workman engaged in a planing mill in Syracuse, N. Y., was caught in the machinery, on Friday last, which whirled him round with great rapidity and tremendous power—his arms and legs at every revolution striking the knives of the Planer! In one minute his legs and arms were torn from his body, and scattered in thousands of fragments about the building, some of which were thrown out of a window into the river!—and as soon as the machinery could be stopped, his limbless trunk fell to the floor, utterly denuded, save the cravat about his neck.

THE DOLLAR.

Clearfield, Pa., Dec. 21, 1849.

E. A. PENNEMAN, Esq., of Philadelphia, is urged in several influential quarters for the office of State Treasurer.

The Harrisburg Union takes a decided stand in favor of JOHN S. McCARTHY, of Clarion, for Speaker of the next House of Representatives of this State.—Mr. McC. is yet a young man, but he has abilities that bid fair to elevate him among our foremost statesmen.

Our snow has almost entirely disappeared, giving place to an abundance of mud. The river has been quite high since Monday, the result of the late rain. This will fill many of the streams and start a number of saw-mills that have been standing almost entirely idle for several months for the want of water.

A Convention composed of Iron-masters was recently held in Pittsburg, at which strong resolutions were adopted, urging upon Congress a specific instead of an ad valorem duty on iron imported into this country. In plain English, they ask a protection of from 20 to \$25 per ton on common bar, and from 10 to \$12 on pig metal, instead of the protection of thirty dollars on the hundred dollars' worth, as is now afforded by the existing tariff.

Improvements in Newspapers.

It is particularly gratifying to see the almost universal improvement that has taken place among the country newspapers of Pennsylvania within the last year or 18 months. Pennsylvania can now boast of a more numerous and neatly printed platoon of Country Newspapers than any other State in the Union. Among the latest improvements of this kind that have come under our observation, is that of the *Lycorning Gazette*, which now presents a really handsome and model-like appearance.

Our Mails—Truly Provoking.

For about one week, previous to the beginning of this week, the mail passed through this place east and west every other day. This was a good arrangement, and one by which we received a daily mail, allowing a delay at Curwensville from the evening till the next morning.—But now another change has been made, by which the mail goes west in the evening, and returns the next morning, without bringing any thing except what is carried past our office the evening before in the through mail—or unless it is that which has laid at Curwensville some 36 hours. For instance: Last Tuesday by the mail from the east, we received four papers. The next morning, by the mail from the west, we received some twenty—rather more than usual—all eastern papers, and some of which should have reached us the Friday previous. Is not this too provoking?

There are heavy complaints made in many quarters about the disarrangement of the mails, and certainly we never had so much reason to complain before.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

No Speaker Yet.

We have the proceedings of Congress up to and including Saturday last—being the twelfth day spent in the effort to elect a Speaker. On Wednesday of last week, W. J. Brown, (dem) of Indiana, received 112 votes, and waiting only two to elect him; but just as they were about proceeding to another ballot, which would no doubt have resulted in his election, it was discovered that he had been making disgraceful overtures to the Free Soilers, in order to procure their support. He had pledged himself to Wilmot that if elected Speaker he would constitute the Committee on the District of Columbia, on the Territories, and on the Judiciary, in a "manner satisfactory to him and his friends." This discovery defeated Mr. Brown's prospects for Speaker, prevented the organization of the House, and has also destroyed Mr. Brown's reputation as a high-minded and honorable man. On Friday last a motion was adopted that no further debate be allowed until the House is organized. So that now the members can do nothing but vote. The 47th ballot took place on Saturday. Mr. Boyd, (dem) of Kentucky, had 86 votes; Mr. Stanley, (whig) of North Carolina 56 votes; the balance of the 226 members were divided among various candidates. The House then adjourned over till Monday, when it was presumed that an election would be made.

The Senate, on Saturday, resolved to appoint a Committee to wait on the President and inform him that they were ready to proceed to the consideration of Executive business, and then adjourned over till Monday. Letter writers from Washington, speak with much confidence that many of the appointments of President Taylor will encounter serious opposition from some of the leading Whig Senators.—Should this be the case we may expect lots of excitement.

Important to Mill Owners.

The following paragraph was handed to us, with a request to give it a place in our columns, for the information of those of our citizens who are using "Reaction Water-wheels" in their mills. While we cheerfully comply with that request, we are not to be understood as endorsing the justice of the claim of Parker to damages for alleged infringements of his patent.—On the contrary, we think that if the existing laws relating to the granting of patents, and the rights of patentees, sustain his claim, as is to be inferred from this decision, it is high time that those laws were so altered or amended as to protect the innocent.

A number of our saw-mill owners have lately been such before the U. S. District Court, at Pittsburg, for the use of these wheels, and the case referred to below is said to be analogous, covering the whole ground. How this may be, it is not for us to say. Those more immediately interested must see to it. A patentee should be protected in his rights, to the end that he may be rewarded for his labor and genius, and for the good he has conferred upon the community.—But does it not sometimes happen that too much is claimed and granted by these letters patent? If so, we are much mistaken if this is not one of that character.—Parker's patent seems to invest him with all the rights pertaining to the discovery of the principle of reaction water wheels, and would also seem to preclude any further improvements upon that principle. If this is a correct view of the case, we feel very certain that the District court will not sustain the demands of the claimants.

Important Decision.

We noticed, in the *Daily News* of the 21st inst., that the case of Parker vs. Hulme, the trial of which occupied the U. S. Circuit Court, for two weeks, has finally been determined in favor of the plaintiff—the jury returning a verdict in his favor of \$75. This action was instituted for the recovery of damages resulting from the infringement, by Hulme, of Parker's patent for horizontal percussion, and reaction wheels. We are led to believe, from the extraordinary efforts made by the defendant, and those who had opposing claims, that this was made the test case, and consequently that Mr. Parker's right is permanently and definitely settled. We understand that Hulme was assisted in his defence by Messrs. Rose, Hotchkiss, and several other gentlemen, who are interested against the Parker claim. The case was tried before Judge Kane, and we understand, has been reported in full, and will shortly be published by the plaintiff, in pamphlet form.—Brookville Star.

ORPHANS' COURT SALE.

By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of the County of Clearfield, will be sold at public sale at the Court house in the borough of Clearfield on Monday the 4th day of February, 1850,

100 ACRES OF LAND.

situate in Brady township, beginning at a "lickety" thence by land of Levi Dale west 145 perches to a Linwood tree, thence by land of Jared Ingersoll north 116 3/4 perches to a post, thence by land of Michael Crow, Jr., east 145 perches to a post, thence by land of John Garney, east 116 3/4 perches to the place of beginning, being part of the Casper Saiver tract and known by No. 195, and the same premises which C. Howe by deed conveyed to Samuel McGarr, recorded at Clearfield, in Book E, page 141.

Purchase money to be paid on confirmation of sale by the Court.

MICHAEL HOLTEMAN, Admr of Samuel McGarr, Clearfield, Dec. 13, 1849.

PROPOSALS.

SEALED Proposals will be received by the Commissioners of Clearfield county on Monday 31st December, inst., for furnishing and taking care of the court house, &c., during the ensuing year. Also for the office of Clerk of the Board for the year 1850.

Attest W. A. WALLACE, Clk. Dec. 14, 1849.

TO THE PUBLIC.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Henry Hegarty of Woodward township, Clearfield county, duly appointed my agent, and all persons indebted to me by Notes or Book accounts, without respect to date, are required to pay the same to the undersigned, or to the subscribers, and to do so on or before the 1st day of the next February term. Any money paid to Richard or James Hegarty, on my account, after this date, will be considered void. WM. PHILLIPS, copied Nov. 24, 1849.