



# DEMOCRAT.

S. S. WINCHESTER, EDITOR.

Tunkhannock, Tues. March 18, 1851

FOR GOVERNOR,  
**WILLIAM BIGLER,**  
Of Clearfield County.

## North Branch Canal.

We are in the receipt of letters from our able Senator and Representative, in reference to an appropriation to the North Branch Canal. Mr. Sanderson assures us that there will be an appropriation of at least \$300,000, including the balance of former appropriations—and he states that the friends of the canal hope to raise it to \$450,000. This is good news to the friends of this great improvement. Mr. Mowry is sanguine of getting a large appropriation. There is one thing, that so far as these gentlemen are concerned, no efforts will be spared to secure the result so much desired.

## Fire and Loss of Property.

The large stable of Mr. Dull, at Dam No. 3, a few miles above this place, was entirely consumed on last Sunday morning about three o'clock, together with six elegant horses, harness for ten horses, a large quantity of oats, hay, chop, &c.—loss between \$800 and \$1,000. There is no doubt of this being the work of incendiaries. No discoveries have as yet been made as to who were the perpetrators of this most fendish and diabolical act. There is and has been ever since the commencement of the work, a desperate set of fellows about the "big patch," as it is called, who have kept up a constant disturbance which has been of great damage and inconvenience to Snodgrass, Dull, and other contractors in that neighborhood. We are informed that there is rioting and carousing every night, disturbing the well disposed and preventing them from the enjoyment of their necessary rest.

We understand the Sheriff paid them a visit in his official capacity a few days before the fire occurred, but not having a sufficient posse, no arrests were made, which apparent inefficiency no doubt had the effect to embolden the villains, and Mr. Dull having made frequent complaints to the proper authorities to have the laws enforced against them, they took advantage of his absence to wreak their vengeance by committing his property to the flames. We hope no pains will be spared to ferret out the offenders and bring them to justice. It appears to us to be highly necessary that a more energetic course should be adopted towards those vagrants who infest the line of the Canal to excite the otherwise well-disposed, to riot and disorder whenever an opportunity occurs.

## Dental Surgery.

Our readers will see by his card in another column, that their old friend Dr. Grandin, has arrived in town and taken rooms at Mersereau's American House, where he is prepared to do all kinds of work in Dental Surgery. The Dr.'s well known skill and scientific acquirements need no recommendation from us. Many of our citizens have had the opportunity of testing his superior abilities in Dental Surgery. We can therefore with confidence commend him to all who need his services.

The sentiment of the Whig party in Pennsylvania seems to be strong for Gen. Scott for the Presidency. We would suggest to the editor of the *Whig*, in this place to be careful how he breaks ground in the matter, as Mr. Fillmore is also an aspirant for the nomination, and he may remove the editor from the Post-office; so beware, friend Lathrop. Would it not be best for you to come out for Fillmore and take down the abolition caricatures in the Post-office.

We make our acknowledgments to Hon. J. P. Walker, U. S. Senator, and Messrs. Sanderson, Buckalew, Mowry and Rockhow, of the State Legislature for documents.

The delegates to the Judicial Convention from Schuylkill county are instructed for Hon. Luther Kidder and Hon. Ellis Lewis, for the Supreme Bench. These gentlemen rank with the ablest jurists in the country.

The Montour county bill has not yet been acted upon in the Senate.

## S. of T.

The Sons of Temperance turned out in full regalia on Thursday evening last to listen to the address of R. R. Little, Esq. They made a fine appearance. Mr. Little acquitted himself with credit,—one and all expressed themselves highly pleased with his truly eloquent remarks, bold and pointed, yet free from personal attack and billingsgate slang. After Mr. Little concluded, Hon. John Brislin was called upon to address the assemblage which he did in his usual forcible manner. Messrs. Platt and Peckham also made speeches. We are sorry that anything occurred to mar the harmony of the occasion and retard the progress of the good cause, and we regret to be compelled to say that a portion of the remarks we listened to were characterized by the lowest scurrility and abuse. The vilest invective that could possibly be gathered from the deepest recesses of a heart black as night, and steeped in gall and wormwood were hurled forth in every direction. This may be the best way to carry on a work of benevolence and reform, and it may not. Those present and others are as capable of judging as ourselves. In all ages of the world, the fiercer classes of Tories and radicals, that is, the class who do not and cannot reason, have monopolized the whole vocabulary of passion and plentifully distributed around the phrases of malice. This is what is called malignant reform.

Hon. John Brislin arrived in town on Wednesday last, we suppose from Washington; but not having heard anything from him in the way of "public documents" with which the Press is usually favored for the public benefit, we are unable to say.

The *Luzerne Democrat* feels sore on the subject of "Brains." Wonder if the ghost of the late member haunts the memory of the editors of that concern in their slumbers.

The bill abolishing the Canal Board and providing for the election of a Superintendent of Public Works, has been defeated in the House by an indefinite postponement, by a vote of 51 to 40.

The Winchester Methodist Conference Committee on Dickinson College, have directed a new building to be erected costing \$15,000.

The nett proceeds of Jenny Lind's thirteen concerts in New Orleans amounted to the round sum of \$200,000.

*Godey's Lady's Book* for April has made its appearance. This number is embellished with five engravings. Godey pledges himself not to be beaten or even equalled. The May No. is to be a "Star." No. Godey is bound to go ahead.

*Sartain's Union Magazine* for April is a superb number. It contains a great number of original articles. The embellishments are elegant, the reading matter varied and interesting. Single copies \$3 in advance. John Sartain & Co., Philadelphia.

PENNSYLVANIA CANAL.—The *Pittsburg Gazette* of Wednesday says—"The canal is now in fine navigable order, the small breach near Hollidaysburg having been repaired, and passenger boats are daily arriving at and departing from Sharpsburg. Freight boats also arrive at the same place, through from Philadelphia, and the spring trade has fairly commenced."

A WARNING TO SLANDERERS.—A poor girl, named Martha Stock, recovered lately, in the Court of Common Pleas at Lancaster, Judge Lewis presiding, \$1,000 damages of a man named John Neff, for slanderous words spoken by him against the chastity of the plaintiff. One thousand dollars was all that was claimed, and the jury brought in a verdict for the full amount.—*Exchange*.

COLONIZATION IN VIRGINIA.—The Presbyterian Synod of Virginia, at its late meeting held at Winchester, earnestly recommended its members to cooperate with the State, in giving efficiency to the act lately passed by the Legislature of Virginia, appropriating \$30,000 for five years to colonize the free blacks of the State in Liberia. The congregations of the Synod were recommended to take up collections in aid of this purpose. The Synod also approved of the proposal to establish a line of steamships to Africa.

The *Sullivan Eagle* has been removed from Cherry to Laporte, the county seat.

## Correspondence of the Democrat.

Mr. WINCHESTER.—I did not think of again appearing in your columns, but the meeting of the "Sons of Temperance" and citizens, at the Methodist Church to hear an address from R. R. Little, Esq., has made it necessary in order that that event may be chronicled for the benefit of future generations. Upon the whole it was a very creditable affair. The audience was large, and the "Sons" made quite an imposing appearance. The address of Mr. Little was very good and listened to with great attention and manifest satisfaction by the audience. His theme was duty, and he portrayed in strong colors the duty the citizen owes to himself and society to abstain from all that intoxicates. His positions in general were well laid and ably maintained. Mr. Little is a strong and eloquent speaker, his appearance is bold and manly; and it rejoiced me to see him in the position he there occupied, and my sincere wish is that he may always retain that position—a blessing to himself and his many friends.

When Mr. R. closed his address it would have been better if the meeting had adjourned, but some of the "Sons" thought otherwise, and a number of other speakers were called upon to address the meeting. One gentleman took exceptions and undoubtedly great umbrage to the article that appeared in your paper signed "Temperance." He declared that the article was written by a member of the "Division" who revealed their secrets, which is unqualifiedly false. The said speaker claimed to be one of those "Moral Reformers" spoken of by "Temperance" as "moral pests;" he placed the garment upon himself and in his own estimation it fits him, and I am of the opinion that he has judged rightly. "Omicron's" good sense saw that my article was applicable to a certain few and not the whole mass of temperance men. This gentleman has arrayed himself amongst the few, and there let him remain till his better judgment teaches him the error of his ways. He says that in the American Revolution there was but one Benedict Arnold. Had this same elegant speaker lived in the days of the Revolution, and the British had needed his services, there is not the least doubt that there would have been two Benedict Arnolds; and had he been in Judas' place, I opine there would not have been as much delay as there was in the betrayal of the Saviour of the World. In his discourse, politics appeared to be uppermost in his mind. I have marked the course of this gentleman for some time. The main-spring of his zeal is politics. He thinks that he discovers that the "Sons" are a going to take hold of politics, and that they are a formidable body, active and energetic, that will wield a sceptre that he is very desirous of controlling; but I think they will eventually see through the transparency of his hypocritical course. In his speeches both at the Court House and in the Church, he took the ground that "The cunning, artful, wily politician ought to be a Sonny," and why? because there will be a large class of voters among them. Now let me see how he stands affected by this rule. I will form it into a syllogism and see what it proves,—thus, "The artful, cunning, wily politician ought to be a sonny." I am a politician, I am a sonny—ergo, I am an artful cunning, wily politician. There may be fallacy in the above; if so, I am unable to detect it. I think it is proved to the satisfaction of the gentleman without doubt, as he is a very logical and close reasoner. Now if the public will watch the movements of this "Moral Reformer," (I'll not say priest—he don't like the word) in a few months, they will discover the truth of my assertions. Matters will then develop themselves, and that it is politics that he is after and not particularly the good of mankind. Temperance is one of the great measures of the day, the work of real reform is gradual but sure. The steady, sober minded man who holds on his way year after year will accomplish more, much more, for the cause, than these mush room temperance men, who from selfish, interested and sordid motive dodge at the thing once or twice in their lives with red hot zeal, determined to force themselves ahead by forcing every body to adopt their plans of right and wrong, expecting to accomplish all in a week, a month, or year; but finding all their schemes evanescent and visionary, they sink back into their

original position of "let the world take care of itself and the d— I take the hindmost."

I read with care that little spicy article in your paper of last week headed "To those about Town who Understand it," I trust to my own advantage, and I would advise several others to do likewise.

## TEMPERANCE.

## Penn'a Legislature.

Mr. B. nedit, petitions from 85 citizens of Luzerne county, in favor of such change in the license law that no license may be granted for a less sum than \$50; also, from citizens of Wyoming county, in favor of a change in the law licensing beer shops.

Mr. Mowry, petition of citizens of Clinton township, Wyoming county, for a change in the place of holding elections; also, petition of citizens of Wyoming county, for the incorporation of the Wyoming Plank Road company; also, remonstrance of citizens of Susquehanna county, against the removal of the county seat; also, petition of citizens of Falls township, Wyoming county, for a change in their road laws; also, a petition of citizens of Wyoming county, for a change in their license law.

In the Senate, on the 8th inst., Mr. Buckalew presented the bill to incorporate the City of Carlisle, which was read a second and third time and passed, since which the House has concurred in the Senate amendments, and it has become a law.

## Free Banking on State Stocks.

The insecurity of banking, based upon a deposit of State stocks has been lately demonstrated in New York by the failure of several of these institutions. Their notes to the amount of hundreds of thousands of dollars are in the hands of the community, besides other immense outstanding liabilities, all of which will have to undergo a considerable abatement when they are paid, if they are ever paid at all. As in all other bank failures, the inconvenience and loss will bear most hardly upon the laboring classes. Thanks to the small note law, prohibiting the circulation of foreign notes of a less denomination than five dollars, we have none of them amongst us, but we have a great many of a larger denomination. We will be told that they are countersigned and registered in the comptroller's office, and that they are secured by the pledge of public stocks of the State of New York, and of the United States. But all this does not give them currency; they will no longer represent money; and purchase the necessaries of life; but they represent an investment, bearing no interest, and which may, one day this side of doomsday, after long litigation and chancery suits, be paid with a considerable percentage knocked off for contingent expenses.

The creation of banks requires the exercise of the greatest care and discretion. The tendency to speculate, the opportunities afforded by these institutions to secure loans of money upon easy terms and without security, induces men to make application to the Legislature for the extension of these special privileges to them. The object proposed, is to accommodate the business community; the evil complained of, is the insufficiency of banking capital. If there is not enough banking capital to satisfy the just wants of the community, we say that it is far safer to increase the capital stock of old sound institutions of good repute, than to create new banks.—*Harrisburg Union*.

## Mr. Harter's Bill.

As there is no little speculation afloat in regard to the real operations of this bill, as affecting the coal and iron interests of this State, we publish the following, which we are informed by the gentleman who communicated the information he obtained from that quarter from which the construction of the new law is to emanate. The additional duty imposed on iron, as near as can be ascertained, is equivalent to about \$175 cents per ton, which will add from this source alone, to the national revenue about \$500,000 per annum. The leading iron masters profess, under the circumstances, to be satisfied with this increase. The additional duty on coal is about 60 cents per ton.

Mr. Webster, who was invited to partake of a public dinner in Boston, on the 7th of March, the anniversary of his great speech, declined the invitation.

## A CARD—Artificial Teeth.

This peculiar branch of the dental profession has reached an admirable state of perfection, and by the honest and skillful is practised with great satisfaction to the unfortunate.

But the greater portion of the artificial teeth inserted are of a very inferior quality, from the fact that after having been worn in the mouth for a short time only, they absorb the moisture, and become exceedingly offensive; and if per chance they give way, will not admit of passing through the usual process necessary to restoration.

The best in use are the *Adamantine*, or *Diamond Teeth*. These are the kind used entirely by Dr. GRANDIN, Dentist, of New York, who inserts them in the most superior manner, upon gold plate or on healthy roots, from one to whole sets, with or without artificial gums, as the case may require, in the most beautiful, useful, and satisfactory manner.

Dr. G. may be found for a short time at Mersereau's Hotel.

Tunkhannock, March 15, 1851.

## F. E.

On Wednesday night last about half past nine o'clock, the Board Kiln erected by the Presbyterian Church was discovered to be on fire. It was pulled down, and the fire extinguished, without as we are pleased to learn, much loss to the church. We understand no fire or light had been used in the building during several days preceding, which leads to the belief that it was set on fire by an incendiary. It is startling truly, that there is reason to fear, that there prowls about our vicinity, an individual who would apply the incendiary torch. This is the second building that has evidently been set on fire purposely within a few weeks. Fortunately both were so situated as not to endanger in their burning, without high wind, other property.

These occurrences should prompt our citizens to watchfulness, and to an effort to ferret out the offender.

The Engine Companies were promptly on the ground, though there was no occasion for their services. We may add, one Company however did some service. The old Engine, about as big as a box churn, which had been loaned to the boys, was taken by their youthful Company, early to the fire, and being there, the boys amused themselves by extinguishing the embers. They performed very well.—*Wilkesbarre Advertiser*.

## Bounty Land Warrants.

The Washington Republic mentions the case of a soldier with a wooden leg, travelling about the streets of the city, endeavoring to sell a bounty land warrant for 160 acres of land, which the U. S. government had given him, but coupled with a restriction by which he could not make it assignable. The consequence was that he could not sell it, and his own condition would not permit him to cultivate the land himself, of course the bounty was of little benefit to him. Had it been assignable it would have commanded \$130. Congress has made a great mistake in this matter, which is equivalent to depriving the soldier of all the benefits they intended to bestow. We fully agree with the Republic in its remarks, that if the bounty law is designed to be beneficial to the poor, aged, and decrepid soldiers, who have risked life and laid up infirmities in their country's service, the warrants issued under it ought to be made assignable. Not only are assignable warrants the more valuable, but the unassignable warrants are of no value except just to that class of well doing persons with whom it is a matter of indifference whether they are assignable or not. Men in need of the bounty of the Government do not profit by the law. To men who require no such bounty, who can locate for occupancy or sale, and wait for their patents and market for it, it is measurably beneficial in its present shape.

John B. Bratton, Esq., of Cumberland county, has been named as a candidate for Canal Commissioner, in a number of democratic papers. Mr. Bratton is the fearless and energetic editor of the *Carlisle Volunteer*, one of the ablest orthodox papers in the State, and is abundantly competent to perform the duties of Canal Commissioner. His contemporaries of the press have generally noticed the suggestion of his name for that office with high favor.—*Pennsylvania*.

The Bill compelling the N. Y. and Erie Railroad Company to fence in their track, in Susquehanna County, has passed both branches of our Legislature.

## USURY LAWS.

Popular prejudice is very difficult to be overcome. It not unfrequently surrounds an absurdity like a strong wall, and protects it successfully from the attacks of enlightenment and reform. From time immemorial, the taking of usury has been denounced as the trade of the oppressor. Severe penalties have been enacted against it, which modern intelligence have mitigated. The opposition to a repeal of the usury laws rests upon reason, nor can it be supported on grounds of public policy. Why may not a man make as much profit as he can upon his money, as he does upon his other goods? Is there any policy which requires a limit to the increment of interest? The usury laws do not prevent the borrowing of money at usurious rates. This is done freely every hour of the day. And when public sentiment so far condemns a law as to make its violation common, it ought to be abolished.—*Harrisburg Union*.

## Queenston Suspension Bridge.

This second structure which spans Niagara River, has recently been opened to the public. The towers are built on each side, and it is 1043 feet from tower to tower. There are to be ten cables in all, each cable made of 260 wires; each wire warranted to bear 1500 pounds. The cables are firmly anchored in the rock, and pass over two masonry stone towers, some fourteen feet high.

The cables when extended have the shape of a rainbow turned upside down. Instead of the plank and pathway being over the cables, it is under them, and the work to be sustained by iron rods suspended from the cable. The planking is to be 20 feet wide, intended at present for teams. It is said to be the greatest suspension bridge in the world.—*Buffalo Com. Advertiser*.

## Country Papers.

We wish all who are in the habit of taking city papers, in preference to those published in their own county, to read what *Sartain's Magazine* says about Country papers.

"In nothing has there been a more marked change within the last ten years than in the elevation in the character of the country press. Since the general establishment of the Telegraph, they are enabled to anticipate the great city papers in the early publication of the latest news through the interior; and with the increased importance which this gives to their issues, they have acquired a corresponding degree of energy and efficiency in the promotion of all liberal and patriotic undertakings.

Willis, the pantelette connoisseur, shirt-collar oracle, and critic de chemise, announces that there is soon to be a new style of new hats. He boldly intimates that Beebe, a Broadway hatter, will introduce at the World's Fair, next summer, a fashion of hats with no right angles. The crown is to be "rounded off" like the end of a pumpkin, and Hogarth's line of beauty preserved throughout. This style, Mr. Willis thinks, is to do away with the prevailing order of hats—which he calls the "segment of a stovepipe" style. Verily, we have fallen upon strange times.—*Hartford Times*.

A PERTINENT QUESTION.—Children born and bred in a village imbibe rasciness and pop at one and at the same time, and draw in impudence and daily bread in about equal proportions. Our bachelor dignity was never more significantly or severely trodden upon, than one day last week, when making some trifling remark to a pert little mix on the street, she looked up to where we are—enthroned in majesty above a standing collar—and with an air of supreme indifference, screamed, "You think you're great don't you? I'd just like to know whose papa you are?"—*Lycoming Gazette*.

The Wilmot proviso resolutions and restrictions passed last winter in the Illinois Legislature, have been rescinded by a vote of 49 to 11 in the House, and 22 to 2 in the Senate.

CONSUL TO BELFAST.—The President has tendered to H. Jones Brooke, Pennsylvania State Senator from Delaware county, the appointment of Consul to Belfast.

When a Statesman speaks of liberty, he implies the supremacy of the laws—a demagogue means, the caprice of the multitude—a vagabond means, a full license to steal.