



DEMOCRAT.

S. S. WINCHESTER, EDITOR.

Tunkhannock, Tues. March 25, 1851

FOR GOVERNOR,
WILLIAM BIGLER,
Of Clearfield County.

The Bridge.

The building of the bridge across the river at this place, was let by the Directors, on Wednesday last to Daniel A. Bardwell of this place, and Col. Wm. W. Jefferies, of Philadelphia. The company have been fortunate in getting responsible, thorough going and efficient men as contractors. Col. Jefferies came well recommended as an old experienced bridge builder. Having been engaged for a number of years in the business, he necessarily brings with him improved skill and much practical information. His partner, Mr. Bardwell, bears the name in this community of being a shrewd, active business man, and well acquainted with the rule of number one, and so far as our knowledge extends, we believe he has never been overestimated. With such men to do the work, we may expect that it will be done well and with great promptness.

The democracy of this county will soon be called upon to select and place in nomination competent and worthy men to fill the various offices. There is to be elected this fall, a Sheriff, Prothonotary, two Associate Judges, Register and Recorder, and Commissioner, beside the Members, &c. The duties appertaining to these offices are of a responsible and important character, and it behooves the party to make selection of competent men and sound and reliable democrats. We want none of the stratified, gutta serena democrats, with which the county is infested, placed in nomination. We make these suggestions thus early as a true sentinel upon the watch tower, to warn the people to be prepared to defend themselves against the plots and counter-plots of the corrupt demagogues that are already at work scheming for their selfish aggrandizement. Democrats of the out-townships be watchful of your rights.

Wyoming Ahead on the Turf.

We were shown a letter the other day by Col. Daniel A. Bardwell, giving an account of the black trotting horse sold by him a short time ago to Wm. S. Wells, of Wilkesbarr. Mr. Bardwell sold for \$300—Wells sold him in a short time for \$500 or \$600, since which, the letter states, he has been sold twice—in Newark and Baltimore—at Newark for \$3,000, and at Baltimore for \$3,000. It also states that he has made time at 2:26—the fastest trotting on the annals of the turf, which places the fame of Wyoming far ahead of all competition for fast nags. Let the high metled chivalry of the South boast of their pure blooded imported chargers; but the fleet footed steeds raised upon Wyoming's classic hills are bound to wear the laurels of victory. This is a great country.

The Pittston Gazette, in speaking of a settlement in perspective on the other side of the river says "it may indeed be considered a central part or suburb of Pittston itself." Which will you have it, gentlemen, the central part or suburb? We don't see how it can be both.

This reminds us of an announcement that paper made not long since of the fact that Dr. Miner, of Wilkesbarr, was thrown from his carriage and severely injured, which announcement commended about as follows:

"We regret to learn that Dr. Miner narrowly escaped a very serious accident."

What, in the name of mercy, have these editors against that excellent physician, that they should regret that he escaped an accident.

Glendon's Rectorial Drawing Room Companion, is one of the most beautifully printed and most interesting family papers we have ever seen. It is printed in quarto form, and issued weekly at Boston by E. Gleason, at \$3 per annum. It is well worth the price.

A notice prohibitory of smoking is displayed in the Crystal Palace, at London, in no less than six different languages.

Correspondence of the Democrat.

Mr. WINCHESTER.—The last communication of "Omicron" (in the *Whig*) or more properly speaking, what he in his legal learning would term a sur-rejoinder, hardly merits a reply from me.—The matters at issue have been sufficiently explained, and it is for the public to judge who has the vantage ground; and it is not for me to claim in a boasting way what the people would not award. "Omicron" claims the victory; but it is one thing to claim, and another to merit. The thief in the crowd often cries "stop thief!" in order to divert attention. The matter is with the community, and with their decision I will be content.

The main point with friend "Omicron" appears now to be whether I am a friend to temperance or not; and as to that I care not what he claims or what his assertions are—it will not change the matter either the one way or the other.

You say "you begin to hope that the homoeopathic doses of gentle rebuke" which you "have administered" to me, "will be productive of permanent good." I am not particularly familiar with the Homoeopathic system of medical science, but believe its practice is to administer the smallest possible doses imaginable, and the smaller the more certain of cure, or the better effect the medicine will have on the disease of the patient. If I am correct, then yours have been truly homoeopathic doses; and when there is no disease, homoeopathy is undoubtedly the best system. You will admit, however, that the dose administered at the Methodist Church was not according to homoeopathy, but must have been under the old or alopathic system.

When I hear a person boasting of his learning, and using high sounding words in order to gain applause, and accusing others of not being versed in the sciences or of making use of ungrammatical expressions, it reminds me of the following story:

A gentleman one day invited a friend to dine with him, and in the course of the conversation that took place, the gentleman boasted a great deal of the literary attainments of his son.

"Why," said he, "he is a graduate of two colleges."

"That," said the friend, "reminds me of a neighbor who had a very fine calf, and it being so promising, he allowed it to suck two cows."

"Well, what was the consequence?"

"It was the greater calf."

As you are the chosen champion in this controversy, I will remind you of the parable of the man who fell among thieves. This Jew, in traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho, was assaulted by robbers, who, not being satisfied with taking his money, stripped him of his raiment and beat him unmercifully and left him for dead; and by chance there came down a certain priest, that way, and when he saw him, he passed down on the other side; and likewise a Levite came and looked on him, and he too passed on. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion upon him, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him upon his own beast and brought him to an Inn, and there lying down upon the oaths and affirmations of Alfred Hine, James Kelly, James Fitzgerald, A. H. Boltz, J. W. Lyman, N. C. Martin, Isaac Osterhout, Daniel Ball; D. L. Peckham, Andrew Gordiner, Washington Stansbury and William Scott, good and lawful men of said county, who bring sworn and affirmed and charged to inquire on the part and behalf of the Commonwealth, when, where and how the said Lydia Avery came to her death—do say upon their oaths and affirmations, that there were marks upon her person that to a casual observer might lead to a suspicion that the said Lydia might have come to her death by violence; but from a close scrutiny and careful examination of all the facts gathered from a large number of medical and other witnesses who were closely examined; the Jury are satisfied that she died from natural causes; and while they so state and believe, they are compelled to say that there appears to have been a lack of kindness and attention, such as should mark the duty of a husband toward a wife upon a bed of sickness.

During the last ten years, the number of slaves in Maryland has decreased five hundred and forty-one.

TEMPERANCE.

Mr. Thomas Ritchie has sold the Washington Union to Andrew Jackson Donelson, late American Minister to Prussia, and General Armstrong, late American Consul at Liverpool. Mr. Donelson is the adopted son of the immortal Gen. Andrew Jackson. From the political associations and predilections of Messrs. Donelson and Armstrong, it is inferred that the Union will advocate Gen. Sam Houston as a candidate for the Presidency.

Township Elections.

Below we publish a full list of the Justices of the Peace and Constables elected in this county on Friday last. The democrats elected ten out of the fifteen Judges.

CONSTABLES.

Tunkhannock Boro.—Oren Baldwin. Leimon—Joseph B. Harding. Windham—Henry W. Fassett. Tunkhannock Tp.—Robert Myers. Eaton—Reed Harding. Mehopany—Benjamin Ross. Forkston—Russell G. Robinson. Northmoreland—George Williams. Nicholson—George E. Phillips. Clinton—Benjamin Cornell. Monroe—W. F. Carle.

Braintim—George H. Gaylord. Exeter—Ransom Coolbough. Washington—George Felker. Falls—Albert Townsend.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Tunkhannock Tp.—C. S. Vasburg, P. H. Walsey. Monroe—M. W. Newbury. Exeter—Henry Gay. Falls—Francis Hough.

Temperance Convention.

In pursuance of a call previously circulated, a large number of the citizens of Wyoming county met in Convention at the Court-house, on Monday the 24th instant, for the purpose of taking action in relation to the passage of a law by the present Legislature by which the traffic in intoxicating liquors should be restrained or entirely prohibited throughout the County.

On motion, JAMES BESTIDDEE of Northmoreland was called to the chair: S. G. BRENTON and THEODORE HART appointed Vice Presidents, and Charles E. Lathrop and M. W. Smith Secretaries. The object of the meeting was stated by Hon. John Brislin, in a brief but succinct manner, after which the meeting was addressed eloquently and argumentatively by Rev. C. R. Lane, Wm. M. Platt, A. K. Peckham, and R. R. Little, Esqrs.

The following preamble and resolution, offered by Hon. John Brislin, were adopted by acclamation:

Whereas, The necessity for the passage of the law designated in the call for this meeting has been superseded by the Act that has already passed the Senate; and Whereas, The provisions of the said Act now pending meet our approbation, therefore,

Resolved, That our Representatives in the Legislature be, and they hereby are, respectfully and earnestly requested to use their best exertions to procure the speedy passage of the Act above referred to as having passed the senate.

On motion of C. R. Lane, Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair, for the purpose of forwarding the names appended to the call for this meeting, to our Member at Harrisburg, together with a copy of the resolution just passed.

The Chair appointed R. R. Little, Wm. M. Platt, and Samuel Stark, 2d, said Committee.

On motion the meeting adjourned. (Signed by the officers.)

Coroner's Inquest.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Wyoming county, SS.

An inquisition indented, taken at the township of Nicholson, in the county aforesaid, the 24th day of March, A. D. 1851; before me, Daniel Newman, Coroner in and for said county aforesaid, upon the view of the body of Lydia Avery, then and there lying dead: upon the oaths and affirmations of Alfred Hine, James Kelly, James Fitzgerald, A. H. Boltz, J. W. Lyman, N. C. Martin, Isaac Osterhout, Daniel Ball; D. L. Peckham, Andrew Gordiner, Washington Stansbury and William Scott, good and lawful men of said county, who bring sworn and affirmed and charged to inquire on the part and behalf of the Commonwealth, when, where and how the said Lydia Avery came to her death—do say upon their oaths and affirmations, that there were marks upon her person that to a casual observer might lead to a suspicion that the said Lydia might have come to her death by violence; but from a close scrutiny and careful examination of all the facts gathered from a large number of medical and other witnesses who were closely examined; the Jury are satisfied that she died from natural causes; and while they so state and believe, they are compelled to say that there appears to have been a lack of kindness and attention, such as should mark the duty of a husband toward a wife upon a bed of sickness.

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Special Legislation.

We have described special, or partial legislation as the violation of a trust, by a Legislature's doing one thing, while only authorized to do another. Analysis of each act of special legislation will show the truth of this definition.

A dozen persons ask for a charter for manufacturing iron. Under existing laws, anybody may manufacture iron, and must do it under legal liabilities attached to any species of business. If he contracts debts in this business, all his property, personal and real, is liable to execution for their payment. So if twenty persons undertake the same business as partners, each putting into the partnership a thousand dollars of his property, the whole property is liable for all the debts of such partnership. This rule is universal, comprehending the whole community, and all kinds of business. But these twenty partners wish to escape from the liability of surrendering their whole property, if it be necessary, to pay the debts of their partnership. They would subject to this duty the common fund, the twenty thousand dollars of the partnership alone; and while thus the partners would extinguish them by paying one-fifth. For this purpose they ask the Legislature for a charter, constituting them a corporation, and consequently making them liable to the laws governing corporations. With a charter, each member of the company guards all of his property which is not put into the partnership, from all liability for its debts; and if these debts exceed the corporate property, the creditors must lose the rest, though each corporator is abundantly able to pay them from his other property. So one may invest a thousand dollars for each. Yet if he have a million other property, not a dollar of it can be taken to pay the eighty thousand by which his corporate debts exceed his corporate assets. Thus a member of a corporation may evade his liabilities while a person not thus fortified must meet and discharge them. Thus a member of a partnership without a charter must surrender his private property to pay the partnership's debts, while a member of a corporation may protect his private property against the corporate debts.

Is this right of protection a special privilege, or a common right? It belongs only to corporators, and is therefore a special privilege. It enables them to do what is denied to all the rest of the community. And this special privilege, this right of doing something denied to all the rest, this right above a common right, is obtained through that special legislation, the grant of a charter. The reader can decide how far this is a violation of that equality in rights which is the basis, the foundation of the body politic, and to preserve and maintain which, sovereign power defines and limits legislative power by constitutions. Public interest may or may not require the limitation of a creditor's right against a partnership, to the property of that partnership, as distinguished from all other property of the partners. We do not discuss that question now. But whatever rule public interest may require, that rule should be universal, equal, should operate upon all alike. If both private and associate property should be so held, a charter should make no difference between one partnership and another, and a Legislature should not be allowed to exempt certain partnerships from the rule. If associate property alone should be so held, the law should exempt alike the private property of all associations. The Legislature should not be allowed to grant this exemption to one partnership or class of partnerships while denying it to all others. Hence no charters should be granted? Whatever is authorized by a charter in particular persons, should be authorized in all by a general law. A charter is special legislation, granting to a few, what is denied all the rest, and as such, is inconsistent with that fundamental principle of democracy, equality of rights.—Public Ledger.

The wife of the chief engineer of the steamer Atlantic was removed to the Lunatic Asylum last week, having lost her reason in consequence of her belief that her husband was lost.

The first trial by Jury took place in Vienna a few weeks since, and a large crowd was present to see how it worked.

Wise Talking.

We seldom meet with so much glorious truth, spoken so briefly, and with so much genuine fire, as in the following paragraph, from Henry A. Wise. It was recently uttered in the Constitutional Convention, now in session at Richmond.

Mr. Chilton, of Faquir, had the temerity to announce the following sentiment of his party:—"We must have an infusion of monarchical and aristocratic principles in order to check pure Democracy."

Mr. Wise responded as follows:—"He is a traitor to his native land, A traitor to mankind, who in a cause That down the course of time will fire the world, Rides not upon the lightning of the sky, To save his country."

I deny here, that there is a particle of aristocracy necessary to the well being or safety, either of person or property. I deny it. I vindicate American doctrines—I vindicate American liberty. Here, standing in the Capitol of Virginia, in this Assembly, representing the sovereignty of the people of Virginia, in the name of my forefathers—in the name of my children—in the name of my own rights—in the name of the dignity of human nature, and the authority of that reason and conscience, which assimilates me to my God, I deny that doctrine, and here repeat it. I thank the gentleman for nerving my sails to this patient labor. Sir, you and I are antipodes in principles. Your doctrines have been for seventy odd years too much regarded. I must speak plainly among our people, and especially east of the mountains of Virginia.—Thank God, every evil cures itself. There was once a day when the aristocracy of Virginia wore white topped boots, and ruffs and powdered hair. There was once a day when white men could stand at the door, with hat under arm, and bow to that aristocracy as it rolled by in Olympic chariot, casting its dust into the eyes of the people; but now, in old Virginia, to be talking about aristocracy, when it is so poor, that none are so poor, as to do it reverence!—[Laughter]

That is just the ticket, Mr. Wise. This gentleman, says the *Ohio Statesman*, was a Whig long enough to ascertain that they live, move, and have their being as a party, only for building up a system of exclusion in favor of their so-called better classes, who shall be supported from the unrequited substance of the masses. He found that the sentiment of Daniel Webster, the worst Federalist since Alexander Hamilton—"take care of the rich, and the rich will take care of the poor," was the ruling sentiment of the Whigs, and Mr. Wise left that party. The above extract shows the soundness and the sincerity of his conversion.

Criminal Examinations.

There is now before the House of Representatives, a supplement, introduced by Mr. Mowry, to the Act providing for the election of District Attorneys, that is designed to expedite the criminal business of our Courts of Quarter Sessions. The supplement provides that the Justices of the Peace of the several counties of the State, before whom any criminal examination shall be had, which is or are returnable to the Criminal Court, or Courts, of their respective counties, shall make up a certified transcript of the whole proceeding in each case, and deliver the same to the District Attorney of the proper county, at least one week previous to the sitting of said court or courts; and all criminal examinations which shall be had before said Justices within said period of one week, shall be returned to the proper District Attorney, in the manner aforesaid, on the first day of said court. Philadelphia and Allegheny counties are exempted from the operation of this section.

Death of Gen. McDuffie.

We learn from the papers of Camden, S. C., that Gen. Geo. McDuffie died on the 11th inst. at the residence of Richard Singleton, Esq., in Sumter. He had been in failing health for a number of years, suffering from a softening of the brain, or some kindred disease, which not only destroyed his physical strength, but seriously impaired his mental vigor. He held a prominent position at the South, and served with distinction as Governor of the State, and as a member of the U. S. Senate.

Sad Occurrence.

On Friday morning last there was an explosion of Fire Damp, in the Washington Company's Coal Mines at Port Griffith, which in its consequences was very disastrous. Two young men were instantly killed, and seven others were injured—two of them very badly. The young men killed, were George and Robert Nesbitt, brothers, recently from Pottsville.

We understand there was a fire in the mine, and with a view to extinguish it, the mouth of the entrance had been closed. On Friday morning, a number of hands were engaged in opening the entrance. After succeeding, the explosion occurred. The two young men killed were thrown some distance—one of them had nothing remaining on him when he struck the ground except a boot on one leg.

A gentleman, somewhat familiar with the difficulties in mines where Fire Damp exists, informs us that there was, in this case, an extraordinary peculiarity. It was discovered some days before that a gas escaped through fissures, into the mine, which, on being ignited, would burn with a constant glare of light, and without explosion. As a precaution, an air shaft was sunk, connected at the lower end with a furnace. From this furnace, a quantity of coal ignited. In order to smother and extinguish the fire, the air shaft and the entrance into the mine, were closed. After remaining closed for some time, both were opened, and the Superintendent went, with a safety lamp, some distance into the mine, and returned, believing the air was pure. The hands were then at work at the mouth of the entrance, the Superintendent having just left them, and walked but a few rods from them, when the explosion occurred. The surviving hands saw no lamp had been carried into the mine, after it was opened, by either of them. It is supposed the explosion may have been spontaneous. It is more probable however, that the fire in the mine had not been extinguished, and that it caused the explosion, after the admission of the air.

We learn that one of the men, who was badly injured, has since died. Another is badly hurt. We understand the latter was hurled through the Engine House, passing through a hemlock board over two inches thick, without the breaking of a bone.—*Wilkesbarr Advocate*.

A Good Hit.

The mania for corporations in this State has become so great that most of the time of the Legislature is taken up in discussing corporate privileges. Every few persons who associate together for the purpose of transacting business, must be incorporated—otherwise their enterprise cannot go on. The following petition presented to the Legislature a few days since, is an admirable bit at this "corporation mania."

To the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly met—

The petition of the subscriber respectfully represents, that he has purchased four acres of land on the side of the Sharp Mountains, and half cleared the same, and has built a small house. As his individual means have been exhausted in this undertaking, and the community surrounding him feel the want of water and his pig is roving at large, he therefore petitions your honorable body to grant him a charter, with a capital of \$200, to be divided into 200 shares of \$1 each, under such restrictions and regulations as your honorable bodies may think proper, for the purpose of enabling him to dig a Well, and erect a Pig Pen, which will be of great benefit to the community in his neighborhood, in procuring water, and protecting them from the depredations of his pig. And he will ever pray, &c.

PATRICK FITZGERALD.

Lehigh Canal.

The Carbon Democrat says:—"We are authorized to state that the water will be let into this branch of improvement, between Mauch Chunk and Easton, today, (15th March.) Should the weather continue favorable, we may anticipate an early opening of the Spring business. The Superintendent, E. A. Douglas, Esq., and assistant officers, deserve great credit for their hasty completion of the repairs and improvements commenced after the closing of the canal last season."

The following is good advice—When the grate is M. T. Then put the