



MOUNTAIN SENTINEL.

EBENSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1849.

The Sentinel, has much the largest circulation of any paper published in this county—and as an advertising sheet affords superior inducements to merchants and business men generally. Those desirous of making use of this medium for extending their business can do so by either sending their notices direct, or through the following agents.

John Crouse, Esq., Johnstown.
E. W. Carr, Evans' Buildings, Third st. Philadelphia.
V. B. Palmer, Esq., New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Attention is directed to the new advertisement in to day's paper. It will be seen that our friend P. S. McCloskey, Esq., has opened a house in Johnstown for the accommodation of his friends and the public. He is a clever fellow and deserves, and we hope will receive, a liberal share of public patronage.

Proposals will be received at the office of the Superintendent on Friday the 4th day of January next for furnishing the Portage Railroad with the horse-power wood, coal, materials, &c., necessary for keeping the road in successful operation during the season of 1850.

Besides these, there are the Sheriff's Sales, Register's Notice, Administrator's Notice &c., &c. Read them.

Central Railroad.

It is gratifying to learn that the work on this great Pennsylvania improvement is rapidly progressing. Operations have briskly commenced on the contracts recently let at Johnstown, and we learn that the road on the east side will be completed as far as Waynesburg this week. Recently a meeting of the Board of Directors was held in Philadelphia, at which it was reported that the total receipts for transportation of freight and passengers on so much of the road as is open, during the months of September and October, were \$14,802 76; while the expenditures during the same period amounted to \$3,405 37—leaving an excess of \$11,397 39 which is equal to 4 1/2 per cent. interest upon the amount expended in the building and equipment of that portion of the road. Of course the profits will increase as the road is extended, and affords a cheering prospect that it will be a very profitable investment for the stockholders.

CUBA.

Highly Important Movement!

The Washington Globe of Saturday last contains the following important announcement relative to the contemplative revolution in the Island of Cuba. It will be seen that the patriots of Cuba are determined to proceed in their work of releasing their Island from the tyranny and oppression with which it has been ruled, notwithstanding the formidable barriers which have been thrown in their way.

To the Editors of the N. Y. Herald:

The undersigned beg leave to avail themselves of your widely distributed columns, to announce to all who may be interested in such announcement, that, by appointment from General Don Narisco Lopez, well known in the United States as well as Cuba, as the head of the late projected revolution for the liberation of that island from the oppressions and degradation of its present condition, they have accepted and undertaken, in concert with General Lopez, the duties and responsibilities of a "Patriotic Junta for the promotion of the political interests of Cuba." Without infringing on the laws of this country, by the present announcement, or contemplating hereafter any action which they will not stand prepared to justify before all tribunals, human and Divine, they feel that it is alike due to their cause and their country to stand forth openly to meet all the responsibilities which attach to their undisciplined hopes, aspirations, and course, at the same time that they are enabled to serve as a centre for correspondence, with a view to concert, to the thousands of noble spirits who, in all sections of this Union, sigh to behold the slavery and sufferings of Cuba, and long to contribute any aid, honorably and legitimately in their power, to her relief.

This honorable trust, associating the undersigned, for the purposes indicated, with the illustrious patriot and chief who will preside over the Junta, they have accepted as a duty not to be declined; profoundly distrustful, indeed, of their own ability or worthiness, but supported by the conscious rectitude of their motives, and by an unhesitating confidence in the favor of Heaven and in the generous sympathies of the noble and free American people.

The Junta Promovedora de los Polit-

icos de Cuba, will shortly establish itself at the city of Washington, to which city may be addressed, directly to Gen. Lopez, (post paid), all correspondence of its friends—box 51, Post Office.

With great respect, your ob't ser'vts,
Ambrose Jose Gonzalez, of Matanzas.
Jose Sanchez Yznaga, of Trinidad de Cuba.

Cirilo Villaverde, of Havana.
J. M. Macias, of Matanzas.
New York, December 5, 1849.

The New County of Conemaugh.

Upon a more mature reflection, we have come to the conclusion that our Johnstown friends committed an error in the boundary they have adopted for their proposed new county. We think they have been entirely too liberal in their demands, and we are happy in being able to point out their mistake before it is too late. We therefore suggest with all due deference, that the turmpike be adopted as the northern boundary of the new county—affording, as it does, a much better line than the one they have proposed. It is so plain too, that it would at once avoid any difficulty on the part of the citizens in determining in which county they resided.—The balance of Cambria would be sufficient, we suppose, to satisfy the friends of Pine county, and thus it will be perceived, that we will be able to supply the wants of our friends on both sides of the county. It is true that by this movement Cambria might be numbered among the "things that were," but that is a matter of no consideration when weighed in the scales against the modest wishes and demands of the friends of new counties.—And besides this, Cambria always was an insignificant county, and should never have been erected; and if her dismemberment will satisfy our southern friends, she will have died in a glorious cause. A most unpardonable error was committed at the time she was erected, in placing Johnstown at one end of the county—an error so flagrant that we are utterly astonished that it has never before been discovered; and we think it nothing more than an act of justice that our Legislature should embrace the earliest opportunity of rectifying this grand mistake of our forefathers by a total dismemberment. By doing this, they might administer a slight *salvo* to the wounded honor and pride of the good citizens of Johnstown, and make amends, in a small degree for the errors of the past.

In case Cambria should be stricken off from the list of counties, it may be matter of serious enquiry what will be done with our new Jail and Court House. But we hope this difficulty can be settled to satisfaction of all parties. The Court House will make an admirable Church, and the Jail is capable of being converted into an excellent School House. Those residing on the north side of the turmpike in the borough of Ebensburg, however, will have the privilege, which must be distinctly granted in the bill erecting the new county, of attending church in the Court House, whenever they see proper. This demand, so reasonable in itself, will not, we sincerely hope, be denied them by our disinterested neighbors of Johnstown. There may, perhaps, be a few other demands made on the liberality of our benevolent neighbors of the south, in case they should succeed in getting a new county, such as hunting squirrels in their territory, fishing in their streams, &c., &c., but they think it scarcely necessary to have it mentioned in the Act, as we feel confident that our southern friends will grant these privileges by an order of their Court.

California.

We are indebted to our old friend Col. JOHN W. GEARY, Chief Alcalde of the city of San Francisco, for a copy of the "Constitution of the State of California," formed by the Convention recently assembled in that territory preparatory to their admission into the Union. The Constitution is founded on most liberal views, giving the largest freedom to the people compatible with a due regard to the protection of person and property.—The following extract from the Address of the Convention to the people of California may be interesting to our readers in conveying an idea of the difficulties they had to encounter in the formation of the Constitution and the policy proposed to be adopted for the government of the country.

"In establishing a boundary for the State, the convention conformed as near as was deemed practicable and expedient to great natural land-marks, so as to bring into a Union, all those who should be included by mutual interest, mutual wants and mutual dependence. No portion of territory is included, the inhabitants of which were not or might not have been legitimately represented in the convention under the authority by which it was con-

vened; and in unanimously resolving to exclude slavery from the State of California, the great principle has been maintained, that to the people of each State and Territory, alone, belongs the right to establish such municipal regulations and to decide such questions as affect their own peace, prosperity and happiness.

A free people in the enjoyment of an elective government, capable of securing their civil, religious and political rights, may rest assured these inestimable privileges can never be wrested from them, so long as they keep a watchful eye on the operations of their government, and hold to strict accountability, those to whom power is delegated. No people were ever yet enslaved, who knew and dared maintain the co-relative rights and obligations of free and independent citizens. A knowledge of the laws—their moral force and efficacy, thus becomes an essential element of freedom, and makes public education of primary importance. In this view, the Constitution of California provides for, and guarantees in the most ample manner, the establishment of Common Schools, Seminaries and Colleges, so as to extend the blessings of education throughout the land, and secure its advantages to the present and future generations. Under the peculiar circumstances in which California became a State—with an unexampled increase of population, coming from every part of the world, speaking various languages, and imbued with different feelings and prejudices, no form of government, no system of laws, can be expected to meet with immediate and unanimous assent. It is to be remarked, moreover, that a considerable portion of our fellow-citizens are natives of Old Spain, Californians, and those who have voluntarily relinquished the rights of Mexicans, to enjoy those of American citizens. Long accustomed to a different form of government, regarding rights of person and of property as interwoven with ancient usages and time honored customs, they may not at once see the advantages of the proposed new government, or yield an immediate approval of new laws, however salutary their provisions, or conducive to general welfare. But it is confidently believed, when the government as now proposed, shall have gone into successful operation, when each department thereof shall move on harmoniously in its appropriate and respective sphere; when laws based on the eternal principles of equity and justice, shall be established; when every citizen of California shall find himself secure in life, liberty and property—all will unite in the cordial support of institutions, which are not only the pride and boast of every true hearted citizen of the union, but have gone forth a guiding light to every people, groping through the gloom of religious superstition or political fanaticism. Institutions, which even now, while all Europe is agitated with the convulsive efforts of nations battling for liberty, have become the mark and model of government for every people who would hold themselves free, sovereign and independent."

Literary Gazette.—We have neglected to notice the change which has taken place in the control of this paper. The establishment has been purchased by Lydia Jane Peirson, A. Eshleman and P. H. Gochbauer, by whom it will hereafter be conducted. Many improvements have been made in the appearance of the paper, and the literary department being under the control of Mrs. Peirson, who is widely known as one of our best authoresses, it now ranks among the best literary papers of the day. Both as an agricultural and literary journal, it is entitled to a liberal and extensive patronage.

Congress.

We have intelligence of the proceedings of Congress up to last Monday evening, at which time they had been unsuccessful in the election of Speaker. On Friday last the democrats released their nominee Mr. Cobb of Georgia, but made no other nomination, and last intelligence every man was voting as he seen proper. The whigs still stick to their nominee Mr. Winthrop, but cannot control a sufficient number of votes to elect him. There is no telling when an organization of the House will be effected, and of course no Message will be received until that is accomplished. The following is the result of the three last ballottings on Monday:

	29th	30th	31st
Winthrop, of Mass. Whig,	102	103	101
Potter, of Ohio, Dem.,	79	77	78
Wilmot, of Pa., Free Soil,	6	6	6
Boyd, of Ky., Dem.,	5	4	5
Richardson, of Ill., Dem.,	1	1	—
Green, of Mo., Dem.,	10	12	10
Geary, of Tenn., Whig,	5	5	5
Miller, of Ohio, Dem.,	3	4	3
Brown, of Indiana, Dem.,	2	2	2
M'Willie, of Miss., Dem.,	1	—	—
Stanton, of Tenn.,	1	1	1
Durkee,	1	1	1
Bowden,	1	—	—
McLean, of Md., Dem.,	1	—	—
Harris, of Ala., Dem.,	1	—	—
Meade, of Va., Dem.,	1	1	1
Kaufman,	1	—	—
Bayly, of Va., Dem.,	1	1	2
Cobb, of Geo., Dem.,	—	5	5
McQueen,	—	1	—
Colcock,	—	—	1
Total,	219	224	224

Failure to Pay the Appropriations on the Public Works.

We learn by the last Harrisburg Key-stone that the hands in the employ of the State in the Parksburg shop on the Columbia Railroad turned out last Thursday and refused to work on account of not having received their pay for several months. This is a pretty state of affairs it must be acknowledged, and is disgraceful in the highest degree to the character of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Whig Treasurer, in order to swell the amount remaining in the Treasury at the end of the fiscal year, has evidently withheld the money appropriated by the last Legislature to the payment of the debts contracted by the State on her public improvements.

On the 30th of November last, there were remaining in the Treasury of the appropriations made for the Columbia road and Portage road, the sum of \$178,599, which is due to the creditors of the commonwealth, and which should have been drawn and disbursed long since. Out of this sum \$102,895 belong to the creditors on the Columbia road, and \$75,704 to those of the Portage Road. We hope this matter will be properly investigated, and those guilty of such disgraceful proceedings held up to the indignation of the people.

Washington Daily Globe.

We acknowledge the receipt of the first numbers of this excellent paper, published in Washington City by John C. Rives, at five dollars per annum. It is very beautifully printed, and contains a large amount of reading matter. It is designed to give full reports of Congress free from party or political prejudice, and those wishing to receive the proceedings through the medium of an independent journal, will find the GLOBE well worthy their favor and patronage.

For the Mountain Sentinel.

Mr. Editor.—Dear Sir: It is but a short time until the Senate and House of Representatives will convene in this State, and observing, from the election returns, that the democrats wield a majority in both branches, the consequence will be the choice of democratic officers to preside over their deliberations during the session. For years past the Senate has been officered and ruled by the Federal party, in the persons of Gibbons, Williams and Darrie—the most bitter, vindictive and malignant Federalists that ever disgraced a seat of honor.

From a long, intimate and personal acquaintance with Judge Fraley, of Schuylkill county, I think him a gentleman possessing all the necessary qualifications for Speaker of the Senate. His experience in legislative matters is equal, if not superior, to any other member of that body, besides being distinguished for his courtesy towards his fellow-men, at all times governed by the highest sense honor, together with all the energy of character and business habits so well calculated to facilitate their deliberations and render general satisfaction to the democracy throughout the State. His selection would be a well merited compliment paid to the democracy of that infested district which placed the apostate Bill Johnston into power that he is only capable of disgracing.

For the Sentinel.

Tariff Duties and Protection.

No. 1.

Now that the attention of politicians throughout the Union, is being called to the subject of tariff duties and protection, and large meetings of capitalists, are held for the purpose of forcing, if possible, on Congress the adoption of whig measures of financial and protective policy, it is the duty of the people—the farmers, mechanics and laborers whose hard toil must produce all the revenue and protection in which politicians speculate, to take cognizance of the measures proposed to be adopted—to inquire into their nature and practical bearings, and if found to operate, or capable of operating against the interests of the producing classes, at once to repudiate them.

That tariff duties are but a contrivance to tax labor instead of property, and that protective tariffs are but contrivances to tax labor for the benefit of capital are matters which have long since been understood by leading politicians of all parties—the democrats generally opposing such measures because they have this tendency, and the whigs supporting them for the same reason. But it must be confessed that the producers, in general, whose labor must support the whole, have paid too little attention to the real nature and bearings of our tariff policy, and are in fact robbed and their earnings plundered by it without their knowledge or consent.

For the benefit therefore of those who have not yet taken the trouble to inquire into the practical bearings of tariff duties and protection, the following numbers are written—truth being the sole object of inquiry, without regard to factional or party prejudices.

The subject of taxation has in all ages been considered one of the most delicate and difficult questions that come within the duties of civil legislation, as well on account of the difficulty of adjusting laws for the equitable distribution of taxes, as

the reluctance with which they are generally paid.

Taxation has distinguished into two sorts; namely, direct and indirect. A direct tax is that which is levied directly on property and estimated according to the value of the property for which it is paid.

When we consider that by far the greater part of our legislative expenses is incurred in legislating and making laws for the protection of property, and comparatively little for the protection of labor and poverty, it is but reasonable to suppose that property should pay the expenses which are thus incurred almost exclusively for its own benefit. But the wisdom of the world has long since learned to overlook these plain principles of reason and justice and has contrived by what is called indirect taxation to saddle the burthen of governmental expenses on the shoulders of labor and productive industry.

A direct tax falls on the property of the wealthy, and they being the powerful and influential, as well as in most cases the legislators and maturers of laws, self-interest impels them to oppose the levying of taxes on their property, and their opposition is regarded as more formidable than that of any other class of men. It therefore becomes necessary, as is supposed for the peace and harmony of society, to employ an indirect mode of taxation, by which a revenue may be extorted from the laboring and industrious, whose ignorance, in general, it is supposed, will prevent them from knowing that they pay it, and whose want of power and influence will render their opposition harmless if even they do know it. Hence has arisen that form of taxation known by the name of tariff or revenue duties. Instead of assessing a direct tax on property for the support of government, a duty is levied on the necessities of life, which are imported into the country in the way of trade and commerce. This duty is paid at the port where the merchandise is landed, and there goes into the public treasury, by which the expenses of government are paid, and the property of the wealthy eased from taxation.

We thus see government supported by an indirect tax and it may be a legitimate subject of inquiry, for those who have not made politics their study, to inquire who ultimately, and in reality pays this tax. It is not the importer, for he adds the amount of the duty paid to the price of his merchandise, and charges it to the wholesale dealer. He in turn charges a profit on the original cost of the article and a profit on the duty he has paid on it, to the retail merchant. The latter charges the amount of all these put together, and a profit on the whole, of from 25 to 50 per cent. to the consumer. Thus all who consume the merchandise (nine tenths of whom are productive laborers) pay the original cost of the articles—a duty on the same—a profit on the duty to the wholesale merchant and a profit on the duty and profit both to the retailer. All these the consumer confounds together, at the retailer's counter, and pays them without ever dreaming that he pays a tax at all. And herein is considered the superior merit of this mode of taxation, since men pay it, without knowing that they do so, and consequently do not complain.—This is the ground taken by Judge Blackstone in its favor, and many of our own statesmen support it for the same reason. But notwithstanding all this, the principle is in itself wrong, oppressive and unjust, and should be repudiated by every friend of justice and common honesty.

A part of every poor man's earnings is taken from him in the shape of an indirect tax, while in most cases, he is utterly ignorant that he pays any tax, and in so far the practice of this policy is a species of financial stealing, and is in truth and justice as widely apart from equity and justice, as the depredations of the highway robber or the midnight thief. And it is manifest that if the mass of our citizens understood the nature of this contrivance to rob them of their earnings without any adequate recompense, they would never consent to it; and yet our learned jurists boast most vociferously of the justice and benignity of our laws, that will suffer no man's property to be taken from him without his consent. What a mockery of common sense, as well as of truth and justice.

JUSTICE.

ONE MONTH LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

Arrival of the Crescent City, One Million and a half in Gold Dust. Encouraging Accounts from the Mines. Evacuation on board the U.S. Frigate Savannah. The Ships Susan G. Owens and Mason at San Francisco.

New York, Dec. 7, 1 1/2 P. M.
The Steamship Crescent City, Captain Stoddard, arrived here about noon, brings dates from San Francisco to the 2d of November.

The Crescent City has on board 160 passengers, and J. P. Judd, Minister to the King of the Sandwich Islands, accompanied by Alexander Libihio, heir apparent to the Hawaiian throne, and his brother Lot Camehamheha. The object of Mr. Judd's visit to the United States and Europe at this period, has reference to the late outrages of the French at the Sandwich Islands, the particulars of which appeared in this paper some time ago. Mr. Dillon the French Consul, as our readers know, came on to this Island since the dispute alluded to, and took his passage to America to go on to France to lay the whole affair before his government.

The Crescent City has in freight about one million dollars in gold dust, in addition

to about \$400,000 in the hands of passengers.

The accounts from the mines continue encouraging. Gold was still found in abundance.

The health of the mines are generally good, with the exception of some who are subject to slight attacks of dysentery.

It is estimated that there are at least 80,000 persons at the mines.

Vessels continue to arrive in large numbers from the United States and all parts of Europe. There are now about one hundred British vessels in the bay of San Francisco.

Thirteen hundred passengers passed through Chagres on the 25th and 26th ult.

There are not now over 100 passengers at Chagres awaiting passage to California. The Isthmus is perfectly healthy, and travelling good.

The ships Susan G. Owens and Mason arrived at San Francisco on the 12th ult.

Brevet Capt. Warner lost his life on the 27th of September, while engaged in ascertaining the feasibility of a railroad route to Oregon through the head sources of the Sacramento. His party of eight men were fired upon by a large body of Indians. He and two of his companions were killed.

The prospectus for a religious paper, to be called "The Watchman," is published in the San Francisco papers. It is, at first to be published monthly, and the issue increase in frequency as circumstances warrant, prices 25 cents per number of eight quarto pages, or one sheet.

The U. S. frigate Savannah, sailed for Monterey, on the 25th ult. On the 24th ult., the United States' sloop of War St. Mary, sailed from Canton, touching at the Sandwich Islands. The following United States' vessels of war are now anchored in the bay opposite the town, viz: Sloop of War Warren; Schooner Ewing; Propeller Massachusetts. Many desertions have occurred.

A naval execution took place on board the United States' frigate Savannah, on the 23d of October last. The parties charged with mutiny, and attempting to murder one of the officers of that vessel. The names of the mutineers were John and Wm. Black, both Englishmen, shipped some time since at Valparaiso, in the U. S. schooner Ewing. There were five persons implicated, but the above named men having confessed the crime, and acknowledged their guilt, the other three were sentenced to hard labor for the remainder of their term of service, viz: three years.

Gen. Reilly has issued the following proclamation in reference to the new Constitution, which is published in the papers before us.

To the People of California.

The delegates of the people assembled in Convention, have formed a Constitution which is now presented for your ratification. The time and manner of voting on this Constitution, and of holding the first general election, are clearly set forth in the schedule; the whole subject is therefore left for your unbiased and deliberate consideration.

The Prefect (or person exercising the functions of that office,) of each district will designate places for opening the polls and give due notice of the election in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and Schedule.

The people are now called upon to form a government for themselves, and to designate such officers as they desire to make and execute the laws. That their choice may be wisely made, and that the government so organized, may secure the permanent welfare and happiness of the people of the new State, is the sincere and earnest wish of the present Executive, who, if the Constitution be ratified, will, with pleasure, surrender his power to whomever the people may designate as his successor.

Given at Monterey, California this 12th day of October, A. D. 1849.

B. RILEY.

Bot. Brig. Gen. U. S. A. and Governor of California.

Delaware and Slavery.

We gave a paragraph a day or two since from the Wilmington, Delaware, Republican, to the effect that slave owners there were selling off their slaves as fast as they could—first into Maryland, thence to the South, to prevent loss from their running away. Now this, it seems, is not so. The North American says:

"Slaves are not sold to the South in Delaware, for the simple reason that the laws forbid it; nor do they often run away—a circumstance which we might almost ascribe to the fact, that there are scarcely any there to do so. In reality, they have, and they have long had, in operation, in Delaware, a system of laws the wisest and most effectual, perhaps, ever devised for the gradual and silent extinction of slavery; the basis of which is a statute rendering it a misdemeanor, punishable by heavy fine, to sell a slave out of the State; while the superstructure consists of acts giving the strongest encouragement to the practice of manumission. The number of slaves in Delaware, in 1840, was 2,605, and these were slaves only in name, the vast majority—probably, three-fourths, or nine-tenths, as estimated by different intelligent Delawarians—being manumitted, and therefore, not slaves at all, and the remainder nearly all old people whose masters would be delighted to have them run away, since they would thus relieve the former from the legal obligation of supporting them."

Excellent sleighing on the mountains.