



# MOUNTAIN SENTINEL.

EBENSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1850.

THE SENTINEL, has much the largest circulation of any paper published in this county—and as an advertising sheet offers 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.

The Democratic State Central Committee, which met at Buehler's Hotel on the 29th ult., have fixed upon Williamsport as the place of holding the next State Convention to nominate a Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner, and the 19th of June next is the time appointed. This is in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Convention which assembled in Harrisburg in 1848.

In our last in announcing the appointment of State Agents on the Portage Road, we committed an error relative to the names of some of the gentlemen appointed. The following is, we believe, a correct list of the names of the gentlemen appointed.

James McIntyre, Joseph Kemp, S. S. Barr, O. H. Traugh, Wm. M'Farland, Vincent Phelps and C. Seely.

Gov. Johnston has appointed A. W. Benedict, Esq., of Huntingdon, Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth, in place of A. L. Russell, Esq., appointed Secretary.

### Awful Explosion.

#### About One Hundred Lives Lost!

The Pittsburg Post of Tuesday contains the intelligence, received by telegraph, of an awful explosion which occurred in New York on the 4th inst., by which about one hundred lives were lost. The explosion took place in the boilers of Taylor's machine shop and printing press manufactory.

The first floor of the building was occupied as a hat manufactory. On the second and third floors Mr. Taylor had six heavy power presses in operation, and in the fourth story was a book bindery. The boilers were in the cellar. About 150 persons were employed in the building at the time, of which it is supposed that not more than fifty escaped.

Simultaneously with the explosion, the whole building was raised six feet from its foundation. It fell with a terrible crash. At the time the despatch was sent, thirty dead bodies had been taken from the ruins, and was supposed that sixty or seventy more were still in the ruins. The bodies taken out were mangled in such a terrible manner that it was utterly impossible to recognize them.

### The New Apportionment.

We learn from a private source that the committees of the Senate and House on the Apportionment of the State have agreed upon a bill to be presented for the action of the Legislature. In this bill, *Cambria* and *Indiana* counties form one representative district, and send two members; and *Cambria* *Huntingdon* and *Blair* are thrown into one senatorial district. We can scarcely believe this, but if it is true, in the event of the adoption of the bill *Cambria* would indeed be nowhere. If the Committees on Apportionment are disposed to act so unjustly towards *Cambria* county, our only hope is that the democrats of the House will defeat the passage of the bill, or have it so amended that if we must be attached to some other county that it be to one a majority of the citizens of which entertain the same political opinions as our own. But we protest against joining our identity altogether, and being swallowed up by such a benighted den of whiggery as *Indiana*. This connection would be even worse than that with *Somerset*, and we sincerely hope that the House will do better than the committees. We could not have expected worse had the whigs had a majority in both branches of the Legislature, and consequently the privilege of carrying everything their own way. But as our intelligence relative to this disposition of *Cambria* may be incorrect, we will defer any further remarks until we ascertain the facts of the case.

We sincerely hope and trust, however,

that our Representatives in the Senate and the House will use all their influence and exert themselves to the utmost to give us a separate representation. We are much more entitled to it now than we were at the last apportionment, and we think it nothing more than justice that we should have it.

### Appointments by the Canal Commissioners

William English, Superintendent of the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad.

*Weigh Masters*—John Kline, at Philadelphia; John Dunlap, at Lancaster; Thomas Welsh, at Columbia; Robert Vaughn, at Portsmouth.

*Cargo Inspectors*—Richard R. Young, at Philadelphia; Eli Overdeer, at Lancaster; J. C. M'Kissick, at Columbia, L. P. Kinsey, at Bristol.

*Agents Phila. and Col. R. R.*—John Rankin, Jas. A. Cunningham, Isaac G. Waterbury, Lewis Trauck, James Hunter, Charles Brady, A. F. Hambricht, Thomas M'Michael.

Randall M. Maddock, Inspector of Cars Philadelphia and Columbia R. R.

B. M. Harvey, despatch agent at Plane John Kulp, keeper out-let lock at Col. umbia.

### Dissolution of the Union.

We are sorry to learn that this has become a common topic of conversation in Washington city, among members of Congress and others. A few northern and southern fanatics are actively engaged in fanning a flame which is calculated to weaken & perhaps destroy this glorious Union, endeared to every true American heart by the glories of the past and the brilliancy of its future destiny. The north is endeavoring to force the passage of the Wilmot Proviso, and the south threatens the Union if such is done, and are preparing to hold a convention at Nashville to consult relative to what is best to be done. We cannot regard these movements in any other light than as being merely one of those storms which is to test the permanency of the Union and to prove to the world that it is capable of riding safely through every gale it encounters.

We have closely observed the course pursued by Wilmot and his colleagues, and we cannot bring ourselves to believe that they are actuated by any other motives than those of demagoguism. They are merely creating a storm on which they hope to ride into power, perfectly regardless of the consequences to the welfare of the American people and the preservation of the American Union. No man in his sober senses, and who is at all acquainted with the subject, will for a moment admit that there is the least possibility of slavery ever being recognized or sanctioned by the people of California, New Mexico or Deseret. Then why does the north urge the adoption of the Wilmot proviso? All the south asks is non-intervention in relation to the subject of slavery in the territories. They contend that Congress has no right to interfere with the wishes of the people on that subject; that it belongs exclusively to the inhabitants of those territories to determine under what institutions they shall live, and that they have the right, in the formation of their constitutions when asking admission into the Union, to declare whether slavery shall be recognized or not. We believe that the south is right, and that the north is wrong, and the north must therefore back out of its present position.

It is madness on the part of the north to endeavor to maintain a position that is not sanctioned by right and justice, and we hope to see every man who has the welfare and permanency of our Union at heart, but who has for a time permitted his prejudices to get the better of his judgment, speedily unite in a general effort to frown down any attempt calculated to weaken or destroy the confederation. By this means our Union will safely ride thro' the storm that now threatens its dissolution, and coming generations will look back upon the course pursued by such men as Wilmot, Garrison and Giddings with feelings similar to those with which every American regards the conduct of the traitor Arnold.

Walter Savage Lander gives it as his opinion that, within two centuries from the present time, the Anglo-Saxon tongue will be spoken throughout the hemisphere, and over the greater portion of the world; that Rio Janeiro and Valparaiso will become eventually the two greatest cities of this hemisphere, and that their populations will vie with each other as to which speaks the English language with the most purity. This prophecy is by no means chimerical or extravagant. The elder Adams, the second President of the United States predicted more than sixty years ago, that the Anglo-Saxon tongue would be spoken all over Europe and America.

It's cold! It's very cold!

Correspondence of the Mountain Sentinel.  
HARRISBURG, Jan. 28, 1850.

Dear Sir:

The Legislature have done a great deal of business, principally however of a local nature. A bill is now before the house, which excites considerable interest.

It is an act relative to the Philadelphia and Reading railroad company, prohibiting creditors from collecting bonds of claims for the space of twenty years. The company, I believe, is insolvent, and a claim of \$13,000 is about to be collected by levying upon their personal effects, which has induced the other bond holders or a large portion of them to come here and ask for a passage of an act of this character. The bill passed the Senate without difficulty, but meets with strong opposition in the House. Upon the second reading of 3d section Mr. Cessna of Bedford, offered an amendment, which, if passed, will prevent the company from accepting the bill, and upon which he addressed the House at length, and with much ability.

Mr. Cessna speaks with much force and fluency, and if I mistake not, will prove to be one of the most talented, and active, among the young members of the House, for I must confess there are a great many young members, while at the same time they are men of very good capacity. This bill may not be disposed of for two or three days. Many of our best democrats are supporting the bill, and I am not prepared to say but what the circumstances are of such a nature as warrant them in doing so; but I do think the principle is a bad one.

A resolution was offered on Saturday and passed, which took up the session of that day, and produced an animated discussion between the two political parties. The Commonwealth, it appears, purchased two locomotives from Norris, Brother & Co., and at the proper time they called upon Mr. Ball, for payment which was declined, upon the ground that the funds must be retained in the treasury to pay the interest without resorting to a loan, in order that the fame of Mr. Ball as a financier might be trumpeted forth, and thereby bolster up the administration of Governor Johnston. Honest creditors cannot receive their just dues until such time as Mr. Ball sees to fit pay them, notwithstanding the money has been specifically appropriated and is now in the treasury. Similar claims I have no doubt remain unpaid in your section of the State for the same reason. The Board of Canal Commissioners submitted the matter to the Legislature accompanied by a letter from Norris, Brother & Co., after the reading of which Beaumont, moved for a committee of five to investigate with power to send for persons and papers. This produced a terrible fluttering among the whigs, while they resorted to every method to stave it off.

Your member, Mr. Smith, acquitted himself very well, in favor of the investigation as also Mr. Rhey of Armstrong. The yeas and nays were frequently called up by the whigs, with the view of taking up the time of the House till the hour of adjournment. But all would not do. Their sensitiveness on the subject only excited the suspicions of the democrats the more, made them doubly determined to pass the resolution before adjournment. The hour was near at hand, and Allison of Beaver on the floor speaking to time, when Hastings of Jefferson, who by the by is a very active member, and quick as a steel trap, moved for the previous question and was sustained. Here they flustered and floundered, and the hour of one o'clock having arrived while the vote was taking on the previous question, they rose to a point of order, when the Speaker decided that the House could not adjourn while a vote was taking. Smyser and Allison flew at their manuals, Killinger of Lebanon, (who is entirely out of place here without a *guardian*) appealed; but upon ascertaining from his superiors that the Speaker was correct, it was withdrawn, and they sunk back in their seats, allowing the resolution to pass by a strict party vote, and I have no doubt with the mortification that the motion of their Ball would be brought to a halt.

Yours truly

*Manufacture of Iron*—It is stated that Dr. Wall, of London, has discovered and patented a process for manufacturing steel and iron through the agency of electricity, which promises to cheapen immensely the cost of their production, and at the same time improve the quality of the metal. It has been tested at several of the leading iron furnaces of Maryland and Virginia, with the most satisfactory results.

*The Varioloid in Cincinnati*.—The Cincinnati *Nonpareil* of the 17th says: "It is estimated that 6000 persons, or nearly one fifteenth of the whole population, have had the small pox or varioloid during the last four months. It is spreading to a considerable extent in Covington and Newport. Like the Cholera it bears a milder form now than it did in 1832—3 when it followed in the wake of that dreadful scourge."

### A Capital Letter.

We commend the following able letter of Col. Wm. Bigler to the careful attention of our readers. It was written in answer to a letter of invitation to attend a celebration of the Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans in Lock Haven, Pa. As Col. Bigler has a reputation as a statesman and a man of business inferior to the none in the State, his remarks relative thereto should receive the serious consideration of the members of the Legislature, and the people of Pennsylvania generally.

CLEARFIELD, Jan. 13, 1850.

GENTLEMEN:—I have your flattering favor of the 1st inst., inviting me on behalf of the Democracy of Clinton County, to join them at Lock Haven, on the 8th inst., in celebrating the approaching anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. A slight indisposition, which has confined me to my room for a few days past, will prevent me availing myself of your kind invitation, which I very much regret; for it would afford me especial pleasure to meet our democratic friends of Clinton at the "festive board," on an occasion so well calculated to awaken interesting and gratifying reminiscences.

I need not speak to you of the military career of the hero of the event which you meet to commemorate; of his skill, his bravery, his untiring vigilance, his toils, his victories and his final triumph at New Orleans. These are part of our national history, are familiar to all, and have long since assigned the name of Jackson to a high place in the temple of fame. As the beneficiaries of his useful life, enjoying the blessings of his labors, we may very properly commemorate an event which distinguished him at once as a brave, skillful, and patriotic General, and reflected the highest honor on the American arms.

There are, however, features in the civil career of this great man, still subject to the tests of time, which, in my opinion, may be appropriately and advantageously contemplated. Indeed his whole career as President of the United States is full of lessons of wisdom and instruction. Although not regarded by some as a political philosopher, or as having as thoroughly studied the problems of Government as some other distinguished American statesmen, his heart was fully imbued with the pure principles of Democracy and his impulses, therefore, were always correct. His elevation at the intellectual, moral and social elevation of the mass of his fellow citizens; unceasingly resisting the natural current of power from the many to the few, protecting labor, industry and enterprise against the encroachments of capital and monopoly, desiring always to give general and equal prosperity to all classes of the people and "special privileges to none." His sagacious mind readily comprehended the right, and his clear judgment and "iron will" always enabled him to obtain it in the least objectionable mode. Thus foreseeing the inevitable ills to result from a continued existence of the United States' Bank, he determined, against the judgment and wishes of many of the most intimate friends, to reject its charter. The justice of this decision is now readily admitted—every year's experience, from that time to the present, has served to demonstrate its wisdom and patriotism. He more fully foresaw the dangerous tendencies of such an institution, with its means of concentrating the monetary power of the country, and completely comprehended its baneful influence upon our political institutions, than any other man in the Union.

May of those who regarded its existence as indispensable to the prosperity of the country, looking upon it as the great regulator of the currency, and of foreign and domestic exchanges, have been forced, by time and experience, to treat the proposition as an "obsolete idea." Another remarkable evidence of Jackson's great sagacity and patriotism, was presented in the truthfulness with which he foretold the ruinous consequences of a wild and almost unlimited credit system, then being engendered by an excessive issue of bank paper. Respect for his admonitions would have saved the country much subsequent disgrace and suffering. But his views, as given to the New York panic committees, were scouted by the merchants, speculators, and bankers of the country—they went on in their wild career, and finally became the victims of their own folly; which broke upon them in the shape of a commercial revulsion, the like of which I sincerely hope the country may never again be called upon to endure. There are very few at this day who would be willing to assail the anti-Bank and anti-monopoly doctrines of Gen. Jackson.—The baneful influence of corporations and special privileges on the rights and position of the working masses is shown by the experience of the world. Every species of monopoly and special privilege tends to facilitate the passage of power and wealth from the many to the few; and may we not fear that too great facilities for concentrating monetary power of the country may lead it to approximate the old feudal standard system in a tyrannical and absolute control of the rights and prosperity of the people? It should be the business of American statesmen to resist this tendency, and see that the blessings of Government, like the dews of Heaven, are made to descend alike upon all. Indeed, in a mere commercial view of the subject, all experience seems to demonstrate, that where banks of issue exist, the restrictive policy in reference to their privileges, the amount of their issues—the full liability of those who are to

reap the advantages of the business of banking, is the true policy for the people. There is no danger of the country suffering from a want of banking—the danger is all on the other side. An excessive issue of bank paper never fails to enhance the nominal value of property, goods and commodities of the country above a true standard, thus engendering a spirit of monopoly and speculation, and these bring in their train a whole horde of lesser evils on society; and certainly no more efficient mode of defeating the protective feature of a Whig tariff can be devised; and yet our Whig friends are at the same time the advocates of big banks and high tariffs. My experience as a business man leads me to believe that the more closely we confine our Bank issues to the actual wants of wholesome trade, the more certain and ample will be the rewards of labor, and the more reliable will be the prosperity of the country; certain I am, that in the ratio that we depart from this principle, we lessen the security of the public in the case of Bank paper, and increase the chances of injury to the innocent. The channels of our circulation in this part of our State are now polluted with all kinds of foreign and domestic trash in the similitude of small bank notes which are not unfrequently made the means of injury to the unwary; and it does seem to me, that the present time when we are receiving large accessions of the precious metal of California and elsewhere, and when the gold dollar is being extensively coined and thrown into circulation, would be a most auspicious period to begin the good work of substituting coin for bank paper below ten dollars. I am well aware that with the small issues of surrounding States forced upon us, there would be some difficulty in carrying this idea into practical operation but no worse state of affairs than the present could be produced, and might we not hope that our sister States, seeing the good effects of such policy would follow our example, and thus release the people of all from great inconvenience and no inconsiderable loss. As disease always attacks the weaker parts of the human system, so the diseases of our system of currency in the shape of counterfeits and discounts, always fall upon those who are least prepared to detect the imposition or to bear its injuries. Within my business circle, I venture the assertion, that there is not one man in ten who has not got more or less of this small worthless trash on hand, for which an equivalent has been given. This is an evil that deserves consideration. But, gentlemen, I am worrying you with a long letter about matters you understand much better than I do.

I am deeply sensible of the honor conferred upon me by your invitation, and by your kind allusions to my own personal and political character. You will please accept for yourselves, and those you represent, assurances of my high regard, and allow me to subscribe myself, very truly yours.

W. M. BIGLER.

*Retrocession of the District of Columbia to Maryland*.—We see that the Senator from Illinois, the Chairman of the Committee on Territories, has made a movement towards the further retrocession of part of the district of Columbia. He is right, but he does not go far enough, for he ought to retrocede the whole, including the city of Washington, and the public buildings, and thus prevent any further expenditure of the public money upon this hopeless and useless bit of national extravagance. This would render unnecessary, his additional proposition, to give a local legislature to this little big city of some 20,000 souls, including therein the peculiar favorites of our Southern brethren, who seem to think the air we breathe is not wholesome unless sweetened by the balmy breath of negro slavery.

The United States owe already \$900,000, the remnant of a large debt, assumed by the nation for the immature improvement of Georgetown and Washington.

We go for entire and total retrocession, and a removal of the seat of the national Government to Pittsburgh.

Let the Senator from Illinois propose this, and Pennsylvania will back him with her two millions and a quarter of free people.

These questions would have been settled long since, except for certain parties, such as "a northern man with southern principles," which is, however, better than "a northern man with southern interests."—*Spirit of the Times*.

### Eloper in High Life in Lowell.

The upper circles in Lowell have been excited in the highest degree, by the development of two elopements among the upper ten of the city of spindles. The parties are none of them out of their teens, and manifested very little of the romantic, excepting perhaps the fight, in the case of that very little boy, Cupid.

The first affair came off one week last Friday. The gay Lothario was John H. Atkins, aged 19, son of the editor of the Lowell Courier, and his inamorata, Miss Jane Hoffman, daughter of Oliver P. Whipple, Esq., the well known powder manufacturer, who is estimated to be worth \$150,000. The girl is his only daughter, very pretty, and is only fifteen years of age. They proceeded to Nashua, and were married at that place.

The other affair came off on Tuesday last. The gentleman is a Mr. Charles Dunbar, of the age of 19, and his lady, Miss Eliza Waugh, daughter of John Waugh, a contracting machinist, said to be worth some \$60,000. The girl is only 16, and went with her lover to the lovely vil-

lage of Tewsbury, in this state, where they were married.—*Boston Herald*.

### Mr. Clay's Resolutions.

"Whereas, it being desirable, for the peace, concord and harmony of the Union of these States, to settle and adjust, amicably, all questions of controversy between them arising out of the institution of Slavery, upon fair, equitable and just basis; Therefore,

Resolved, That California, with suitable boundaries, upon her application be admitted as one of the States of this Union, without the imposition by Congress, of any restriction in respect to the exclusion, or introduction of Slavery within those boundaries.

Resolved, That as Slavery does not exist by law, and is not likely to be introduced, into any of those territories, acquired by the United States, from the Republic of Mexico, it is inexpedient for Congress to provide, by law, either for its introduction, into, or its exclusion from any part of said territory; and that appropriate territorial governments ought to be established by Congress, in all said territories, not assigned within the boundaries of the proposed State of California, without the abolition of any restriction, or condition, on the subject of Slavery.

Resolved, That the Western boundary of the State of Texas ought to be fixed on the Rio-del-Norte, commencing one marine league from its mouth and running up that river to the Southern line of New Mexico, thence with that line Eastwardly, and so continuing the same direction to the line as established between the United States and Spain.

Resolved, That it be proposed to the State of Texas, that the United States will provide for the payment of all that portion of the legitimate and bona fide public debts of that State, contracted prior to its annexation to us, and for which duties of foreign imports were pledged by said State to its creditors, not exceeding the sum of—dollars, in consideration of the duties as pledged, having been no longer applicable to that object, after said annexation, but having thenceforward, become payable to the United States, a d upon condition, also, that said state shall, by some solemn and authentic act of her Legislature, or of convention relinquish to the United States any claim which it has to any part of New Mexico.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to abolish Slavery in the district of Columbia, whilst that institution continues to exist in the State of Maryland, without the consent of that State,—without the consent of the people of the District, and without a just compensation to the owners of slaves within the District.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to prohibit, within the District of Columbia, the Slave Trade, and trade in Slaves bro't into it from States or places, beyond its limits, either to be sold therein as merchandise or to be transported to other markets without the District of Columbia.

Resolved, That more effectual provisions ought to be made by law, for the restitution and delivery of persons bound to service or labor in any State, who may escape into any other State or Territory of this Union.

Resolved, That Congress has no power to prohibit or obstruct trade in slaves between slaveholding States; and that admission or exclusion of slaves brought from one into another of them, depends exclusively upon their own particular laws.

"These resolutions," said Mr. Clay, "involved no sacrifice of any principle; they were founded upon a basis of mutual forbearance and concession—concessions not of matters of principle, but of feeling merely."

### The British Debt.

There appears an able review in *Blackwood*, for December of the British National debt, its causes and effects, which conveys some very instructive lessons to legislators, the world, 'as well as the rest of mankind. It is remarkable how rapidly wars and national extravagance brought up the debt of Great Britain. In 1688 James' whole revenue amounted to a little over two millions of pounds sterling, and at this charge he kept together a strong and well appointed fleet, and an army of nearly twenty thousand men. The nation was comparatively free from taxation, prosperous, and the people well fed. The poor rates amounted to £300,000 yearly.—When William and Mary were proclaimed, there was no such thing as a national debt. William's legacy was sixteen millions four hundred thousand pounds of debt, at an annual charge to the nation of one million three hundred thousand pounds. At Queen Ann's death the debt amounted to fifty-four millions, and the interest to over three millions being nearly double the whole revenue of James. At the close of George the Second's reign, the debt amounted to one hundred and forty millions of pounds, and just one hundred years after the introduction of the funding system, it reached two hundred and fifty-two millions, with an interest of ten. Twenty-two years later that amount was trebled. The population of England has trebled since James' time, and the poor rates reach the sum of seven millions, no proof of the superior comfort of the people of the present day. The interest alone of the public debt amounts to twenty-eight millions. With the funded debt over the stock exchange, the monied interest, public gambling, extravagant living, lotteries, bubbles, baseless speculations, and all the frauds and injustice which ruin a nation, corrupt its morals, and load it with taxation, for the benefit of a few.