



MOUNTAIN SENTINEL.

EBENSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1859

FOR CONGRESS,
GEN. JOSEPH McDONALD,
OF CAMBRIA COUNTY,
Subject to the decision of the Democratic Congressional Conference.

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 at Philadelphia.
V. B. Palmer, Esq., New York Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Col. Andrew Todd.

We neglected in our last to announce that this gentleman has resigned his commission as Lieutenant Colonel of the Cambria Legion. This step on the part of Col. Todd makes it incumbent on the Brigade Inspector to order a new election for the purpose of filling the vacancy.

The *Johnstown Echo* and the *Holidaysburg Whig* have united in a joint effort to abuse and vilify the Superintendent of the Portage Railroad, and they are playing into each others hands at a great rate. We are glad to see the *Echo* getting into the company to which it properly belongs, as it has been sailing under false colors long enough.

At our latest dates from Harrisburg, no time has yet been appointed for the adjournment of the Legislature. The Apportionment and Appropriation Bills still occupy the attention of the members, and there is no telling when they will finally be disposed of. It is reported in town that a letter has been received in which it is stated that the Legislature will probably adjourn on Friday next. In the Senate the law reducing the pay of the members after one hundred days has been repealed.

Fire!

The residence of Robert Given, Esq., in Westmoreland county, near Centerville was totally consumed by fire on Friday, last. The building, which was a frame one, was discovered to be on fire on the roof about five o'clock in the morning, and in a few minutes after several hundred people were on the ground, but notwithstanding all their efforts to save it, the building was burnt to the ground in the course of half an hour. It is not known how the fire was communicated—by some it is supposed to be the work of an incendiary, and by others that it originated from a stove pipe. Loss \$1,000.

The remarks of Mr. Smith, of the *Johnstown Echo* relative to the late contest for Delegates would lead one to suppose that he thinks the whole affair turned upon the merits or demerits of himself and us, and that he beat us. This is decidedly rich, and his bump of self esteem must be enormous to make him believe for a moment that he is of such consequence to the party of Cambria county. But truth will not permit him to lay this flattering unctious to his soul, and he will find that those who use him as a tool care nothing about him further than will subserve his purposes. He knows that during the late contest his deviations from the paths of truth and political honesty are of the most flagrant character, and he now wishes to appear magnanimous and have the matter hushed up, in order that his sins may be overlooked. But it won't do, Mr. Smith. We are not disposed to ask any compromises with a man so totally lost to all sense of political honor. We shall take occasion in a short time to make some developments which will be calculated to open the eyes of some of the individuals with whom you are acting, and which will place you and them in a proper light before the public. We will also endeavor to expose some of the plans which are now being adopted by your unscrupulous associates to destroy the character of a man who would not permit them longer to prey upon the Commonwealth.

The Alabama arrived at New Orleans from Chagres on the 7th inst., with 100 passengers and \$275,000 worth of gold dust. The news is anticipated by the last steamer from New York.

Plank Roads.
A meeting favorable to the construction of a Plank Road from Jefferson to Ebensburg, was held at the former place on Saturday last, the proceedings of which will be found in to-day's paper. It must be a source of gratification to all interested in the welfare of Cambria county to perceive such a spirit of enterprise and improvement manifested on the part of her citizens. We feel certain that there is nothing that will contribute more largely to the development of the inexhaustible resources of the country than the construction of Plank Roads, and we know that there is not a county in the State that is better supplied with the necessary material. We believe that the principal difficulty in the way of having these roads traversing the county in every direction is the want of having the matter properly tested. Let the people once become sensible of the advantage derived from them, and they will then cheerfully assist in their construction.

The contemplated Road from Jefferson to Ebensburg is one in which all our citizens should take a deep interest. The cost of its construction will not exceed two thousand dollars per mile, and any one, who will for a moment reflect on the subject, cannot doubt that it will be a first rate investment. We have heard of one capitalist who has agreed to take six thousand dollars of stock himself—more than one third of the whole amount required to construct the road. If once constructed, who can calculate the amount of business that would be done on it. We sincerely trust, that this Road, of such vital importance to the interests of Johnstown, Jefferson and Ebensburg will be taken hold of in such a manner by the capitalists and others of our county, as will ensure its speedy completion.

Mr. Geddes, an engineer, gives the following account of the Salina road:

The road is of hemlock plank, four inches thick, and eight feet long, laid on four inch sills. The earth was broken up fine, the sills bedded into it, the surface graded smooth and firm, and planks laid on the sills, care being taken that the earth is up to, and touches the plank at every point. This is very important, for if any space be left underneath for air, dry rot ensues. We did not let out to contractors the construction of the road, for the reason that we were desirous of securing the bedding of the timber perfectly, a thing that my observations in Canada convinced me was not always done when the work was done by the rod.
By doing our work by the day, we not only secured a perfect construction in this particular, but we saved some thousands of dollars in the cost. If you make a plank road, I advise by all means, to do the work by the day, and to put at the head of the business a man competent to engineer and direct the whole business. A variation of a few inches in the line of the road may tell largely in the cost—The estimated cost per mile for a single track, eight feet wide, is \$1,500.

Plank Road Meeting!
A number of the citizens of Summerhill and the adjoining townships, met at the School House in Jefferson, on Saturday the 4th inst., pursuant to a public notice, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety and practicability of procuring a charter for a Plank Road from Ebensburg to Jefferson. There was a good turnout of the people, and there was a determination evinced to push forward the proposed road to a speedy completion.

The meeting was organized by calling WILLIAM PALMER Esq., to the Chair, and appointing John Brawley, R. S. Alexander and Daniel T. Jones Vice President, and Wm. H. Gardner Secretary. The Chair stated the object of the meeting, after which it was briefly addressed by Joseph M. Donald Esq.
On motion the Chairman appointed the following gentlemen to receive subscription, viz: Daniel T. Jones, George C. K. Zahm, John Kean, Gorge J. Rodgers, William H. Gardner and John Pringle.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee, to act as a committee of correspondence, and to take charge of the survey for the proposed road, viz: John Brawley Esq., John M'Farland and Anthony Long. This committee to have power to call a meeting of the stock holders at any time.

On motion,
Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the officers and published in the county papers.
On motion adjourned.

Why are a dead duck and a dead doctor alike? Because they both stop quacking.

Hon. Robert J. Walker.
This distinguished statesman and sound Democrat, being recently on a visit to Harrisburg, a large number of the Democratic citizens of the place joined with the members of the Legislature in a letter inviting him to partake of a public dinner at Buehler's Hotel, at such time as might be convenient to him. Mr. Walker's reply will be found below, copied from the *Keystone*. The editor of that paper prefaces the correspondence by saying:—This mark of public approbation toward Mr. Walker, on the part of our citizens, we consider richly merited. He is a statesman of liberal and enlarged views, whose efforts have not been restricted to any mere sectional or local policy. His course eminently national and American. The bold and manly stand which he took in favor of commercial liberality and reciprocity in trade, in the face of the most powerful array of talent that was ever combined to oppose any measure; and the success with which he carried his measures out and falsified the predictions of his opponents, is one of the most brilliant as well as beneficial achievements for his country ever accomplished by any statesman.

HARRISBURG, April 29, 1850.
Gentlemen—I have received your letter of this date, inviting me on behalf of the democratic citizens of the seat of government, and members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, to a public dinner. For this mark of your kindness, and the approbation you have expressed of my public course in the Senate of the Union, and in the Treasury department, be pleased to accept my grateful acknowledgements, and fervent thanks.

In advocating, during the last twenty years, the re-annexation of Texas, donations to settlers of the public domain, the specie receiving and specie circulating constitutional treasury, the extension of our boundaries to the Pacific, and the great cause of commercial freedom, I sustain measures and principles believed by me to be best calculated to advance the honor, interest and glory of my beloved country.

In passing through this State, there is now presented, everywhere, abundant evidence of great prosperity. Agriculture is blessed with good harvests, remunerating prices, and enlarged markets, commerce and navigation flourish, labor finds ready employment, and generally good wages, whilst nearly every branch of manufactures prosper. If there be any depression in any one pursuit, it is but limited, partial, and temporary, and in a very short period there will be no exception to the general success in every department of American industry. Here, at the seat of government of this State, located on the beautiful Susquehanna, upon whose banks I was born, new and extensive factories are going into operation, and there is every evidence of increasing wealth and prosperity.

The credit of the government has risen to the highest point, and our revenue from customs this year reaches forty millions of dollars. Never had any nation such cause for gratitude and praise to that benignant Providence, which has carried us through so many trials, in war and in peace, to such a height of greatness, prosperity and power. By adhering strictly to the rules of equity and justice, by maintaining peace and enlarged commerce with all the world, by adjusting all our domestic difficulties in that wise, patriotic, American, and Christian spirit, of mutual concession and compromise, in which the Constitution was framed, and all its powers should be administered, we will bound forward in a career of increasing wealth and power, eclipsing in the next half century even the glories of the past. Let us never forget that it was the Union that gave us freedom, that crowned our arms with victory in every contest, that floats triumphantly in every sea the honored ensign of our great republic, and is now advancing us to a height of prosperity and power upon which the world will soon gaze with surprise and admiration. If we could destroy such a union, so fraught with blessings to ourselves and cheering hopes to mankind, we would justly merit and surely receive the retributive chastisement of offended Heaven, and through scenes of internal strife and civil commotion, through fields of war and carnage, thro' towns and cities sacked, and farms laid desolate, amid the ruins of agriculture, commerce and manufactures, our retrograde movement, towards a semi barbarian state, would be far more rapid for the future, than has been our onward career for the past.

I rejoice to believe that Pennsylvania, my native State, will stand by the Union, by encouraging that fraternal spirit which animated her own immortal Franklin, when the government was first established.

In accomplishing this high and holy purpose of preserving the Union, let us all remember, that it was the constitution that made the Union, that the constitution and the Union are one and inseparable, and that in destroying the constitution, we would surely overthrow the Union which rests upon it.
I regret extremely that circumstances beyond my control forbid my acceptance of your kind invitation, but this mark of your regard and confidence will be ever most gratefully remembered by your Obliging friend and fellow citizen,
R. J. WALKER.

To the democratic citizens of Harrisburg and Members of the Legislature.

CONUNDRUMS.—Why is a restless man in bed like a lawyer? Because he lies on all sides.

The Cabinet Investigations.
As there will be a lull in the agitation of the great question of the day—that of slavery, in connection with the new territories—for several weeks, until the compromise committee of the State report, the subject which will now mostly engage the attention of the public press, and the public at large, is the progress of the investigation which is now going on, by a committee of the House of Representatives, on a portion of the cabinet of Gen. Taylor; and also the movement made by Mr. Richardson to create another committee, with power to investigate the conduct of another portion of the cabinet—the Ewing and abolition. The committee on the other section of the cabinet, it seems, have examined a number of witnesses, among whom is Mr. Harriman, a clerk in one of the departments; John G. Clark, the head of one of the bureaus; and various other persons. It is generally supposed that the evidence which has already been given is of a very curious and interesting character and that no other result can follow its publication than the retirement of all that portion of the cabinet who were connected with the Galphin claim, or who had a hand in it in any manner. The resolution proposed by Mr. Richardson, we should guess, from the tone of the organs of the cabinet will meet with a great deal of opposition. But we trust that the House of Representatives will proceed without faltering in these investigations, and make them as broad and general as possible.

It is our firm belief that a more atrocious, imbecile, designing, and dangerous cabinet, have never been in office in Washington, than the present set of men, who got into office by false pretences, and by deceiving Gen. Taylor. Months ago, the very person whom they appointed Minister to Austria, termed them, in the columns of his paper, the most corrupt cabinet that were ever in power, and of perpetrating more nepotism, fanaticism, and rascality, in the distribution of appointments and offices, than any other cabinet from the commencement of the government to that time. This charge was openly promulgated by Mr. Webb, and in the face of that declaration, the same cabinet frightened out of their senses, appointed him as minister to Austria, in order to shut his mouth. Since then new developments have been made, particularly in reference to their passing and allowing claims of a doubtful and equivocal character, which were rejected by previous administrations. Thousands and thousands of dollars, it seems, have been paid out in this way, by order of the cabinet, for the settlement of claims, in which the members of the cabinet or their connections or friends, were concerned. Hence arose the necessity of increasing the appropriations, and of demanding additional supplies, to the extraordinary amount of sixteen millions of dollars beyond the revenue of the country.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Dr. Parkman Alive.
The Boston Post of the 29th ult. says: We received the following letter yesterday, through the post office, postmarked as dated:—

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. April 18, 1850.
To the Editors of the Boston Post:
Gentlemen,—I feel it to be my duty to inform you and through you the public, that Dr. Parkman, who is supposed to have been murdered by Prof. Webster, and for which supposed murder Prof. Webster is now under sentence of death, was in this city on Sunday evening last. He came to this place on a canal boat from Covington and was recognized by a gentleman here who was formerly intimate with him. He accosted him, but Dr. Parkman turned abruptly away, and soon after left in the stage for St. Louis, under the name of A. M. Thiston. The gentleman who knew him is R. W. Dillingham, of this place, by profession a dentist. He is ready to swear to the identity of this person with Dr. Parkman.

Hope that this statement may be of some effect in at least restraining the too hasty execution of the unjust sentence under which Prof. Webster is now lying. I remain, gentlemen,
Yours respectfully,
JOSEPH A. ATWOOD.
No doubt this letter will cause no little trouble to Mr. Littlefield, Dr. Parkman's heirs, and others, who make a fine speculation in consequence of the verdict against Prof. Webster.

Another Mammoth Cave.
A Milwaukee correspondent of the Hartford Courant gives the following description of a western cave:
It has long been known that near Madison, the capital of our State, and 90 miles west of this place, there was a cavern of considerable extent; but it was never extensively explored, until a couple of weeks ago. Then, a party of five men headed by Howel Lumley, Esq., a member of our late Legislature, arranged for a full exploration of the cave, taking with them rations for a week's absence, a canoe, and other needful provisions.

The party were in the cave near 5 days. After exploring in all directions, they finally emerged from the cave, it was by another opening which they discovered, some miles distant from that by which they entered. Mr. L. speaks of the extraordinary vastness of the cavern at different points; its great width, and at one place he supposed the height to be full 70 feet; his impression is, that it extends under much of the two counties of Dane and Iowa, and he is enthusiastic when he refers to the novelties, curiosities, and great mineral wealth which abound within this mammoth of a cavern.
At one point on their route they traversed

ed over and among large masses and blocks which they supposed to be rock, but which proved on examination, to be galena—lead ore of fine quality; this was spread over a surface of 3 miles. Fine specimens of copper ore were discovered, and at one point 11 pounds of native silver were found. They discovered a lake of considerable dimensions, and which in their canoe they partially explored. The greatest depth they discovered on sounding this lake, was thirty-seven feet and four inches.

Later from Florida.
Indians Positively refuse to Emigrate.
—The New Orleans Picayune, of the 22d ult., has news from Tampa Bay to the 27th of April, confirming the late indisposition of the Indians to emigrate. The Picayune says:
"The steamer Col. Clay had just arrived there from Charlotte Harbor, with Capt. Casey, the Indian agent, on board who stated that he has had an interview with Billy Bowlegs, and that the Indians positively refuse to remove from Florida. On Captain Casey asking Billy Bowlegs why he had formerly told them that they would remove he answered, 'that they wished to save their crops, and that they were now prepared for any emergency.' He likewise said that 'he wished to be friendly with the whites, and if the United States wished the Indians to remove further south in Florida they would not object to it, but they would not leave the country.'"

The Savannah Republican has similar information, and says that the Indians agree to surrender to the United States for punishment, any one who may be found North of such a line as may be agreed upon.

Later from Rio De Janeiro—Deplorable Ravages of the Coast Fever.

NEW YORK, May 6.
The barque "Isabella Myne" arrived at this port yesterday from Rio, whence she sailed on March 25th. She brings deplorable accounts of Yellow or Coast Fever at Rio. Several Americans had fallen victims. There had been, however, a mitigation of its fatality. It raged the most among the shipping and lower classes. Many of the natives had died of fright. Several of the foreign mercantile houses had closed, owing to the universal sickness among the inmates; but the American firms had been more fortunate. Many members of both Houses of the Legislature had fallen victims to the disease.
The United States sloop of war "Marion" sailed from Rio on the 18th March, having lost one midshipman and several of her crew with the fever.

The United States ship "Lexington" had sixty cases on her sick list seventeen being of the prevailing fever. Lieut. Vandehurst, of the U. S. N., died on the 17th of March.
The epidemic was pronounced by medical men of experience as not being Yellow Fever, but the kind that usually prevails on the coast of Africa, whence the contagion probably came.
Business generally was very dull at Rio.

Detecting Handwriting.—We find the following in a late number of the Providence Journal:

"The evidence respecting the handwriting of the notes pronounced to have been written by Professor Webster is among the most curious that the recent trial has developed, although there was nothing novel in its nature. Men accustomed to examine handwriting acquire such a wonderful facility that they can detect resemblances through the most labored attempts to disguise and conceal; and not only this, they can tell with great certainty a counterfeit signature, even though they are not familiar with the genuine. Brokers, bank officers and engravers acquire this facility in the highest degree, but they can give no explanation of the manner in which they make the detection. They only say, 'This is a good bill, that is a bad one; I cannot tell why, or how I know the difference, but so it is.' Everything in nature militates against what is false. Every falsehood contains the elements of its own detection, constantly struggling towards the light."

ROBERTSON, the crazy man, who was arrested by order of the Senate for threatening the life of Mr. Clay, has memorialized the President for justice, as follows:

"Thus saith the Lord God. Hear ye, hear ye, for why will ye die; for the soul that sins shall die, saith the Lord God, and die eternally, without hope or tho' of escape from the pit, where the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched. Do you want to go there? If you do not, repent and do my servant, James Robertson, justice, or I the Lord God will pour out my vials of wrath upon you, and you shall surely die, and that immediately—to-day."
Old Zack sent immediately for Clayton, being the member of the Cabinet charged with "foreign affairs."

Another awful Accident—Death of two Women!

St. Louis, May 2.
A dreadful accident occurred last night at Laclede Saloon, on Fifth, near Locust street, to a May Day party.
J. H. Purkett's scholars their parents had assembled for amusement; the first floor gave way carrying down some two hundred persons, breaking through the ground floor, and passing into the cellar, which was half filled with water. A great number were wounded, and some mortally, and two killed instantly—the wife of

John Beakoy, and the wife of Chester W. Pomeroy.

The dangerously wounded are Miss Mary Abbott, expected to die; Mrs. Emanuel Black, both legs fractured, one of them in two places.

SERIOUSLY INJURED.—Mrs. Johnston, teacher; Mrs. Malay; Miss Sullivan, Mrs. Read, wife of late Surveyor General; a piece of wood penetrated her hip and came out at the other side; Miss Virginia Clark, Miss Barlow.

SLIGHTLY INJURED.—Miss Gunn, Miss Mary Pomeroy, Mr. P. A. A. Ladey, Mrs. L. T. Carr, Miss Sarah Knox, Dr. Sykes, Miss Atwood, Miss Carter, Wm. Waters, Mr. Tucker, Miss. Kate Clark, Miss Brewell, Mr. Christopher, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Purkett, principal of the school; and several others—is all 2 dead and 49 wounded.

Ohio Homestead Exemption Law.—The Homestead Exemption Law passed by the last Legislature of Ohio, exempts the family homestead of each head of a family, of a value not exceeding five hundred dollars, made on execution on any judgment or decree rendered in any cause of action accruing after the taking effect of the law. Any head of a family who is not the owner of a homestead, is entitled to hold exempt from execution, or sale as aforesaid mechanical tools, or a team and farming utensils, not exceeding three hundred dollars in value, in addition to the amount of chattel property now by law exempt. The law is to take effect from and after the fourth of July next.

Another Democratic Victory.
The Democracy of the borough of West Philadelphia achieved a glorious victory over the Galphian whigs, on Tuesday last. C. C. Pearson, the Democratic candidate for Burgess, was elected, by a handsome majority, and the Democrats also elected a majority of the councilmen, school directors, &c.

The Galphin claim furnishes a striking history of the result of persevering log-rolling.

It was rejected over and over by the Georgia Legislature.

It was rejected by the House of the United States Congress.

It was rejected by the Senate.

It was passed in an equivocal form by long-rolling.

The principal was paid by the Secretary of the treasury.

The interest was refused by him.

It was refused by Comptroller McCulloch.

It was refused by Comptroller Wittlesey.

It was ordered by Attorney General Johnson.

It was paid by Secretary Meredith.

It was pocketed by Secretary Crawford.

WHEAT.—It is calculated that all the wheat in ports on Lake Michigan to come forward before the next harvest is not more than 620,000 bushels. Last year at the same time there was in store at the same ports 2,185,300 bushels. The deficiency from last year is put at 2,357,500 up to the commencement of the harvest, and grain merchants anticipate a considerable advance in flour by the 1st July. The amount of wheat and flour in store at Milwaukee is said to be not a third what it was last year.

ANTI-RENT TRIALS.—The anti-rent question, which involves the title of the descendants of the Livingston family to some 24,000 acres in Great Lot No. 4, of the Hardenburgh patent, situate in the counties of Sullivan and Ulster, will probably, be tried at the Ulster Circuit, now being held by Judge Watson. The plaintiffs in the case are the children of the late Commodore Ridgely, one of whom is the wife of James Schott, Jr., Esq., of Dundaff, Pa., and another of whom is the wife of St. George Croghan, Esq., of Ulster county; the other plaintiff is Miss Ridgely. The plaintiffs derive title from the late Chancellor Livingston, who was grandson of Robert Livingston, named as one of the proprietors of the Hardenburgh patent, in a partition of said patent, made in 1740, between the proprietors. His interest in the Hardenburgh patent is derived from Johannes Hardenburg, Philip Rokely, and other patentees. The present owners, and those under whom they claim, have been in possession, therefore, of the premises, for nearly 150 years.

The anti-renters, who live upon the premises, and many of whom hold leases of portions thereof, claim that Great Lot No. 4, or a great part of it, is in the Rochester patent; and one of their number having taken a deed under the trustees of Rochester, they all claim under this latter conveyance.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Claims on Portugal.
Lisbon, April 2.—The Minister of Foreign Affairs, has just laid the report of his department before the Cortes:

"With reference to American claims, it states, that the Cabinet had not yet been able to come to any resolution, that it had found it necessary to collect documents respecting those referring to 1814, &c., and that it will do its best to satisfy such claims as may appear to be founded in justice." This is no doubt meant as an answer to the American President's message; and as respects the mode of settlement, I still believe that this Government has proposed the arbitration of some friendly power, as named in one of my late letters.

"Will you have a pinch of snuff?" inquired an exquisite, of a young lady, a few days ago.
"No sir, I thank you," was the reply, "I consider my nose an ornament to my face and not a dust hole."