



MOUNTAIN SENTINEL.

EBENSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1851

The Sentinel has much the largest circulation of any paper published in this county...

The unavoidable absence of the editor will, we trust, be sufficient apology for the lack of editorial matter in to-day's paper.

State Treasurer.

Gen. JOHN M. BICKEL, of Schuylkill county, was on Wednesday last re-elected by the Legislature to this important post.

There were but two candidates, Mr. Bickel, and Ner Middleswarth. The vote stood—

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Bickel, 73; Middleswarth, 50.

Canal Commissioners' Report.

We have received a copy of the report of the Canal Commissioners, which is a very business like document, and presents a very satisfactory account of the present condition of the Railroads and Canals of the Commonwealth...

The gross receipts on all the lines of Canal and Railroad belonging to the Commonwealth, for the year ending the 30th Nov. 1850, amounted to \$1,768,309.46...

The relaying of the Columbia Railroad is urgently recommended as necessary to accommodate the increasing trade thrown upon it.

Numerous and important repairs have been made upon the Allegheny Portage Railroad during the year, and the extraordinary repairs to the inclined planes authorized by the appropriation at the last session of the Legislature, are now in progress...

From the surveys made by Robert Paries, Esq., it is believed that a practicable route, at comparatively low grades has been obtained, by which all the planes upon this road may be avoided.

The work upon the North Branch Canal is progressing, and an appropriation for the completion of this improvement, at the earliest possible period is recommended.

It is estimated that the receipts from tolls for 1850 will amount to \$1,800,000.

We shall endeavor to publish the report hereafter, which cannot but be perused with interest by the tax payers of Pennsylvania, and goes far to prove that these public works are ultimately destined to be as advantageous to the State, as contemplated by their projectors.

New Hampshire Convention.

A resolution was proposed to be amended in this body a few days ago in such a manner as to disapprove of the fugitive slave law and the bill fixing the Texas boundary. The attempt was defeated by the following decisive vote: ayes 18, noes 155, majority 137. Honor to New Hampshire! She is as firm as her own granite hills.

Our thanks are due Major JOHN LINTON for a copy of the rates of toll to be charged on the Pennsylvania Canals and Railroads, from and after Jan. 1, '51.

From the New York Globe. New York and Pennsylvania—Governors Hunt and Johnston.

It is a significant fact that two whig governors of the two most important States should, at this juncture, (as if by concert) recommend a modification of the fugitive slave law. Governors Johnston and Hunt both unequivocally demand that this law should be modified in several important particulars.

Why this recommendation? Has not the new law been demonstrated to be better adapted to the protection of the rights of the freeman than the law of 1793? Did any whig governor ever recommend that the provisions of this latter act should be changed? Why, then, when the act of 1850 is so much more favorable to the fugitive, do these functionaries demand its modification?

In the great State of Pennsylvania, fortunately, the legislative department is in the hands of the democracy. Resolutions, sound, national, and breathing a conservative attachment to the constitution and the Union, may confidently be looked for from the Pennsylvania legislature.

The following extract from Judge Sharkey's letter, should command the attention of all parties. It shows that the danger is by no means passed by:

Thus stands public opinion now, and if things continue in their present state, I have no doubt our convention will be a conservative body, probably by an overwhelming majority. But in view of the existing feeling, it is easy to foresee that this prospect might be changed entirely by the action of the present session of Congress. We acquiesce in the admission of California because we believe the Constitution was not violated, and not that full justice was done to the South.

There is no division of opinion on this subject. The most conservative men will not pause then; and I say this advisedly and with as much devotion to the Union as any one entertains. I have heard but one opinion on this subject—all men of all parties speak the same language.

Further abridge the right of the South would be fatal to the Union. And the same consequence will follow if the Fugitive Slave bill cannot be enforced? Thus it will be seen that the Northern people hold the destinies of the nation. They can put down the abolitionists—we cannot yield any further.

Many of us are prepared to make allowances for the agitation of a few fanatics in particular localities—it is nothing more than we have expected—but these things are used here by the press to excite the public mind, which is not in the best condition to look dispassionately at passing events of that character.

We are not yet desponding, though we see the danger, but will struggle on, hoping that we may avoid that catastrophe which, of all others, is most to be dreaded.

I have thus, my dear sir, given you a general outline of the state of things in Mississippi, and I believe it is a true one. Your knowledge of the people of the State will aid you in judging of the probable course of things from what I have said.

Your friend and ob't serv't, W. L. SHARKEY.

ANDREW JACKSON.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.—One of the productions which the printing controversy between Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Rives has rescued from oblivion, is a speech, delivered some years since by Mr. Rives before the Democratic Association, in Washington city.

It is so generally known that General Jackson was a man who, above all others, took responsibility in peace or in war, that that word brings to the minds of the people of this country his name almost as certainly as the letters which spell it.

The printer prints from the rough draught of the President's message, and often gets part of the copy before the message is completed. I invariably went after the copy and took the proofs back to the President myself, which gave me an opportunity of knowing all about who wrote and who were consulted about them.

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to who wrote General Jackson's messages, and, also, who attended to them after they were written.

When I went after the annual message which demanded of the French King, (Louis Philippe) the identity due to citizens of the United States by the French government, I found Maj. A. J. Donelson, then General Jackson's private secretary, and a clerk belonging to the State Department, (Mr. Derrick,) comparing the copies to be sent to both branches of Congress with the rough draught.

Major Donelson made a stammering reply, saying: "General, the Cabinet had a meeting, and agreed to soften this a little. I cannot alter it in time for Congress, and Mr. Rives is here waiting for the message, and if he does not get it shortly, he cannot have it printed in time, and continued to stammer on reading it."

Articles for the World's Fair.

We have lately seen in print a statement that up to a very recent date, but two articles designed for the London Industrial Exhibition of 1851, has been deposited at the government store house in Brooklyn, designed for the reception and storage of such articles.

Already the Central Committee have official information from these local agencies, that seventeen States have despatched a portion of the articles, which they desire forwarded to London, to place on the seaboard the most convenient for shipment to New York.

From New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, we have reaping machines, which, with the assistance of two or four horses, and two men or boys, will perform the work of twenty men, and with a material saving of the grain. From the same States, we have numerous varieties of the plough, from which it is believed the husband-men of our mother land may take useful lessons in the great science of turning up the soil; machines for sowing and planting grain, maize and esculent roots; and noticeable improvements upon former instruments for performing the various processes required to prepare those products for the granary or storehouse of commerce.

South Carolina sends superior parcels of cotton, rice, and turpentine, of her own growth; a phaeton carriage, a palmetto cane, baskets, and other "notions." Truly this is practicable and sensible. What is the meaning of that phaeton carriage of South Carolina? Phaeton would ride in the chariot of the sun, and guide the coursers which no mortal hand could govern, and was dashed down to darkness and remediless ruin for his pains.

maintained her reputation that way, in the selection which her committee have so far made of specimens of what her people are doing. Instead of sending prodigious stalks of hemp, enormous ears of corn, an obese porker, or a race horse, Kentucky challenges the competition of the ingenious world in a planetarium and in bed quilts.

Missouri will enforce her claim to an abundance of mineral resources, by presenting a mass of 400 pounds of pure ore from the iron mountain. New Jersey will make a still more imposing mineralogical demonstration through the medium of a block of zinc, 16,000 pounds in weight.

From the N. Y. Globe.

Mr. Seward's Cue—A Union Party.

No one at all acquainted with the man for a moment believes that the appearance of having given up the game of agitation is the genuine purpose of Mr. Seward. The oil which floats upon the surface of the water must soon be dissipated as the presidential election comes nearer and nearer.

The truth is, no man of the same sentiments stands in Mr. Seward's way. From Lloyd Garrison to Horace Greeley, his path is unobstructed. White and black stand aside at the sound of his chariot wheels. But how long can this continue?

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One of the sublimest things in the world, is plain truth.

Silver Coin. We recently alluded to the fact that the scarcity of silver change was seriously felt at the New York Post Office. The Postmaster of that city who sought for relief at the U. S. Mint, by asking for gold dollars in exchange for coin of larger denomination, has received the following letter on the subject.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, January 13, 1851.

Sir—I have had referred to me a letter of yours to the Post Office Department, in which you refer to the want of gold dollars in your office, and suggest your desire to exchange for them, at the Mint, American coin of the larger denominations.

I can think of but one means by which in a perfect regular manner, we would furnish you with these coins, which is by the Treasury Department drawing on our bullion fund for the requisite sums payable in gold dollars.

The difficulty in regard to small change has grown entirely out of the variance in the value of silver, as compared with gold by which it has become profitable to hoard and export the most valued metal, silver, and employ gold as a preferable medium in the payment of debts.

Very respectfully, your faithful servant, R. M. PATTERSON, Director, Wm. Brady, Esq., P. M., New York.

ARRIVAL OF THE UNITED STATES SHIP PREBLE.

Longest Cruise on Record—Great Mortality—Visit to Japan—Release of American Prisoners.

The United States Ship Preble, Com. Glynn, arrived at New York on Thursday, from San Francisco, via Valparaiso, after a remarkable cruise. She sailed from New York in 1846, as a convoy to Stevenson's regiment. After the Mexican war, she went to China stopping at several ports of the Sandwich Islands.

On her way to Japan, the Preble touched at the Loo-Choo islands; a kingdom in themselves, yet dependencies of Japan. For gentle dignity of manners, superior advancement in the arts, and general intelligence, the inhabitants of this group are by far the most interesting unenlightened nation in the Pacific ocean.

Fleets of boats, crowded with soldiers, shortly after began to arrive, and from that time until the Preble left they poured in one incessant stream, day and night. Each squadron of boats had banners, or ornamented with distinctive symbols and devices, which were transferred with the troops to their encampments on the elevated shores, surrounding the anchorage of the Preble.

It was in the face of this array, and with a cordon of boats drawn around the ship, that negotiations were carried on for the release of American citizens, from an ignominious and cruel imprisonment of nearly seventeen months. Against these men the Japanese urged not the slightest charge, except the difficulty they had in building prisons and cages strong enough to hold them.