

HUNTINGDON JOURNAL.

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to General Intelligence, Advertising, Politics, Literature, Morality, Arts, Sciences, Agriculture, Amusement, &c., &c.

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HUNTINGDON, Pa., FEBRUARY 10, 1846.

Whole No. 474.

THEODORE H. CREMER,
Printer.

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BANK NOTE LIST.

Rates of Discount in Philadelphia.

Banks in Philadelphia.	
Bank of North America	par
Bank of the Northern Liberties	par
Bank of Penn ^y W ^h ship	par
Commercial Bank of Penn ^a	par
Farmers' & Mechanics' bank	par
Kensington bank	par
Schuylkill bank	par
Mechanics' bank	par
Philadelphia bank	par
Southwark bank	par
Western bank	par
Moyamensing bank	par
Manufacturers' and Mechanics' bank	par
Bank of Pennsylvania	par
Girard bank	par
Bank of the United States	25

Country Banks.

Bank of Chester co.	Westchester	par
Bank of Delaware co.	Chester	par
Bank of Germantown	Germantown	par
Bank of Montg ^y co.	Norristown	par
Doylestown bank	Doylestown	par
Easton bank	Easton	par
Farmers' bk of Bucks co.	Bristol	par
Bank of Northumberland	Northumberland	par
Honesdale bank	Honesdale	par
Farmers' bk of Lanc.	Lancaster	par
Lancaster county bank	Lancaster	par
Bank of Pittsburg	Pittsburg	par
Mechanics' & M ^{an} uf. bk.	Pittsburg	par
Exchange bank	Pittsburg	par
Do. do. branch of H ^{ollidaysburg}	Hollidaysburg	par
Col ^l a bk & bridge co.	Columbia	par
Franklin bank	Washington	1 1/2
Monongahela bk of B.	Brownsville	1 1/2
Farmers' bk of Reading	Reading	par
Lebanon bank	Lebanon	1
Bank of Middletown	Middletown	1
Carlisle bank	Carlisle	1
Eric bank	Eric	2
Bank of Chambersburg	Chambersburg	1
Bank of Gettysburg	Gettysburg	1
York bank	York	1
Harrisburg bank	Harrisburg	1
Mechanics' bk of Pottsville	Pottsville	1
Bank of Susquehanna co.	Montrose	35
Farmers' & Drovers' bk	Waynesborough	2
Bank of Lewistown	Lewistown	1 1/2
Wyoming bank	Wilkesbarre	1 1/2
Northampton bank	Allentown	no sale
Berks county bank	Reading	no sale
West Branch bank	Williamsport	1 1/2
Towanda bank	Towanda	no sale

Rates of Relief Notes.

North Liberties, Delaware County, Farmers' Bank of Bucks, Germantown	psa
Berks Co. Bank	50
All others	1 1/2

HUNTINGDON CABINET & CHAIR WARE ROOM.

Cunningham & Burchinell respectfully inform the citizens of the borough and county of Huntingdon, the public generally, and their old friends and customers in particular, that they continue to carry on business in their new establishment, one door east of the north eastern corner of the Diamond in said borough, where they are prepared to sell wholesale and retail, all articles in their line of business; such as:

Sideboards, Secretaries, Sofas, Seltens, Bureaus, workstands, card, pier, centre dining and breakfast tables; High, Field, French, and Low Post

BRDSTEADS. ALSO—Every variety of **Chairs,** such as *Rush seat, Cane seat, Barb. Bent, Baltimore, Straight back, Boston pattern, & Common Rocking Chairs, together with*

VENETIAN BLINDS, of all colors, qualities and sizes; and Paper Hanging of various patterns and qualities. N. B. Coffins made and funerals attended either in town or country, at the shortest notice. They keep a splendid **HEARSE** for the accommodation of their customers. Nov. 29, 1845.

J. SEWELL STEWART,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
HUNTINGDON, PA.

Office in Main street, three doors west of Mr. Boy's Jewelry establishment. February 14, 1845.—t.

STRAY COW.—Strayed from the subscriber, living in the borough of Alexandria, more than a month ago, a red and white spotted cow, with a white face, and a mark on one of her horns, nearly the shape of an O. Said cow is near calving, or probably has calved by this time. Any information that could be given, respecting said stray, would be thankfully received by the subscriber. **THOMAS MITCHELL**
January 15, 1845.

BANK BONDS to Constables for State of Execution, under the new law, just printed, and for sale, at this office.

POETRY.

"To charm the languid hours of solitude,
He oft invites her to the Muses' lore."

From the St. Louis Reveille.

Song of the Editor.

BY JOHN BROWN.

Sit! Sit! Sit!

From matin hour till twilight gloom,
He's a fixture there in his dusky room—
Away the moments flit,
And the world outside, with jays and din,
Moves gaily on—but the world within
Is labor and toil, and care!
No turn-knave he in the weary day,
But the turn that shows the pivot's play,
As he turns his easy chair!

Think! Think! Think!
In the smith's bright forge the fire glows,
But the smith himself the bellows blows—
Unheard the hammer's clink!
Not so the fire that lights the brain
Of him who wears the galley chain,
Or makes the press-gang go:
He must flash with light, and glow with heat,
With quill in hand his brain must beat—
But never indulge a blow!

Write! Write! Write!
Tho' fancy sear on a tired wing,
She must still her tribute celestial bring,
Nor own a weary flight!
And reason's power's and Mem^y's store,
Must prove their strength, and bring the lore
Of antique, and sage and mystic lore,
For these to the uttermost to hit and parry,
Must go in to-morrow's leading article—
Of argument—wit—statistic!

Lie! Lie! Lie!
If he happen to be a party hawk,
He must echo the yell of the greedy pack,
And shout the demon cry!
To honor's appeal he must never hark,
But aim, aim like Death, at a shining mark,
As he speeds the poison dart!
And then, when the battle so fierce is o'er,
And the victor's appropriation the captor's store,
Their thanks shall be his part!

Clip! Clip! Clip!
No 'cabbing' shears his hands doth hold,
But those with which the current gold,
By lawful right he'll clip—
The 'Devil' is gone, but he will not fail
Of a prompt return with the 'morning mail'—
A basket full of 'exchanges'—
And then the editor opens and skims—
Accidents—leaths—decoeri—wills—
As over the world he ranges!

Paste! Paste! Paste!
With a camel's hair brush, and a broken cup,
He gathers the scattered paragraphs up,
And sticks them on in haste:
'The Devil' appears, with a grin and a bow—
'Please sir, they're waitin' for copy now'—
He says, in accents solem:
'The foreman thinks he's soon impose
The outside form with scraps of prose,
And the leader may be a column!'

Pay! Pay! Pay!
The 'world' is done work on a Saturday night
And bounds with a step of joy delight
To his wife and babes away!
But round the editor, see! a score
Of honest 'journs' who tease him sore—
And he may not be uncheerful:
'Tho' bright is the wit that can furnish there,
The means to relieve them all from care,
By shelling them out the 'needful'!

From the Weekly Argus.

The little man Jake.

BY LEBBEUS.

Folk say I've got a little man,
No more my heart does ache;
Folk say he's small, 'tis all they can,
I love him, he's my JAKE.

O how some girls do fret and cry
You'd think their hearts would break:
'Tis I can tell the reason why—
Because they've got no JAKE.

Young maids a lesson take from me,
While young be wide awake;
For all our old maids must agree—
That's hard to find a JAKE.

Many fair men are happy now,
Whom I refused to take;
A silly girl was I, I trow,
But fortune gave me JAKE.

Since fortune hath thus favor'd me,
In dreams, or when awake;
I vow I cannot happy be
When absent from my JAKE.

To a Child with Flowers.

BY R. S. S. ANDROS.

Let thy life be like the flowers,
Springing in their wild-wood bowers!
Springing, seen not and alone,
From still nook and mossy stone;
Starting up by silver rill;
Slumbering 'neath the shadowy hill;
Hidden in the tangled grass,
Noted scarce by those who pass,
Sweeter here than sweetest sound,
Breathes their fragrant breath around!

Let thy life be like the flowers,
Springing in their wild-wood bowers!—
Gleams may darken up the sky;
Angry winds go sweeping by;
Patter down the chilling rain;
Yet mid all they ne'er complain,
But from out their quiet nooks
Scatter smiles and pleasant looks;
Searching thus the hearts of all,
Sweet content, what'er befall.

POVERTY.—Is poverty a crime? Certainly, it must be so, for we see the rich rascal courted, his offences forgotten! while a poor man, with no stain upon his character but poverty, is shunned and of no repute! There is a redeeming grace in gold which hides all iniquity.

SPEECH

BY

MR. BREWSTER,

OF HUNTINGDON COUNTY,

In the House of Representatives, February 10th,

Against the Bill for the erection of Blair county out of parts of Huntingdon and Bedford.

MR. BREWSTER rose and said:

MR. SPEAKER:—It is with some degree of pain, sir, that I appear before you in the attitude of a public speaker. I have never been accustomed to it, and especially do I feel on the present occasion, and before the present assembly, that embarrassment which is so natural, so peculiar to my constitution. But, painful as it is, and unaccustomed as I am, I yet feel myself impelled by a high and imperative sense of duty to my constituents, to raise my puny arm in opposition to the passage of this bill. I feel strongly inclined to say something on this question, besides merely casting my silent negative upon it. That the town of Hollidaysburg has grown up to be a place of considerable note and importance, is a fact that I am quite free to admit. That the people themselves are an enterprising, energetic, and generous people, I am as willing to subscribe to. I am happy to have some acquaintances there, with whom I have had intercourse of a most pleasing and friendly character; neither am I going to deny their right to seek for themselves and their town all that emolument—all that advantage—and all that aggrandizement of which their locality is susceptible, yet when the question arises, whether we shall erect them, together with a few adjoining districts, into a separate county, at the expense and sacrifice of so many other highly important and conflicting interests, I am compelled to demur and object. Were the division a matter of very general utility—were the people generally of that section of the county really laboring under any great inconvenience or disadvantage as they now are situated, or were it a subject of growing and very general discontent, that they have not been stricken off, then would there be some good grounds why we should grant the prayer of the petitioners.

But, sir, I believe that on a careful examination and review of the petitions, remonstrances, and documents, presented here from time to time, this will be found not to be the fact. The people of Hollidaysburg are, sir, the grand central, moving principle of this panorama. The project originated there, and that is still the centre from whence every other minor operation proceeds. It is a fact too notorious to be overlooked or mistaken, that there are mainly a few property holders in the town of Hollidaysburg and its immediate vicinity, who urge this project so strenuously. And not only, sir, is that the case, but many of them are property holders, by virtue of that right conferred upon them through or rather under the Sheriff's hammer. Property inherited by them under the most ruinous and disastrous circumstances to the original owners. Sir, they would gravely ask this legislature to grant a law, or act by which this property, thus obtained, is to be enhanced to perhaps four-fold the price at which they bought it. This would be speculation indeed. This would be speculation with a vengeance. To understand this matter fairly, we must be made aware of the fact, that a reversion or pretty general bankruptcy has taken place for the period of two or three years gone by, in the town of Hollidaysburg, and that property there has in a great measure changed owners. The town under the auspices of the public works advanced rapidly, but like many other towns within my knowledge, it outstripped its own facility; it overreached its own local resources, and hence the reversion of which I speak. And hence, also, the reversion to that speculation of which I have given you but a faint outline. Land jobbers and speculators, and overgrown monied individuals, some of whom are no doubt, at this present time within the range of my voice, having watched these operations with an eagle's eye, have pounced upon the sacrificed property of a suffering community, bought up at half its real value, and these are the individuals—these the people, generally speaking, who ask for the division contemplated by the bill now under consideration. Why, sir, were it proper, or were it necessary, I could mention the names of individuals living in the very borough of Huntingdon, where as a matter of course, a division is strongly opposed, who by the exercise of that influence and authority which set of men always hold over another, have got up petitions, signed by persons living in the immediate vicinity, and for aught I know, some of them living in the very borough, praying for this division. One of the petitions I had the honor of presenting to this honorable body, was one of that character. Another petition I had the honor of presenting, praying for the erection of new county to be called Blair was got up in my own immediate neighborhood, hence, I can speak about it with certainty and precision. A gentleman I find has been at the head of it, with whom I am personally well acquainted. He is an iron master, and has the lease of a furnace, which will expire in a short period from this time, when, according to his own declarations, he is going to leave. This gentleman, who is a renter where he now is, has a wealthy father living in the upper section of the county, somewhere in the vicinity of Hollidaysburg, consequently it may be easily seen where this gentleman's feelings and where his interests tend. Now, sir, when I looked over the names to this gentleman's petition, did I find the names of the landholders, the tax payers, the merchants or the judicious mechanics to it?—No, sir. But I found a large proportion of them to

be his own furnace hands. His wood-choppers, his wagoners, together with sundry others over whom he holds an influence, but who do not collectively pay \$50 tax in the course of a year. And since I am on the subject of petitions, I may as well advert to two other petitions I have had the honor of presenting. They purported to be petitions of sundry inhabitants of the borough of Shilshersburg. Now, sir, Shilshersburg is the town where I live, when at home, hence I know, or ought to know all about their wishes and their feelings on this subject, and what, forsooth is their plea, that they ask for this division? Not, certainly, that they can be benefited immediately by the erection of this new county of Blair, for Shilshersburg is more than twenty-five miles from the nearest border of this proposed new county. No, sir, this cannot be the plea; but the idea is, that if a new county is stricken off above, the town of Huntingdon being no longer near the centre of the remaining part, will cease to be the county town, and that Shilshersburg from its central position will become that favorite spot called the seat of justice.

To show how correct I have been in my opinions in regard to their reasons for division, I shall here read an extract from a letter which my friend Mr. Morrison of the Senate, received from a certain gentleman of the borough of Shilshersburg, in answer to some interrogatories, he (Morrison) put to him in relation to this matter. The extract read thus: "We think in some future day we can get a new county off the lower end of Huntingdon, Bedford, and part of Franklin counties, and then we may stand a good chance of getting the county town here."

Now, sir, were I selfish in this matter; were I willing to sacrifice that trust committed to my care, on the altar of selfishness or individual emolument, the course pointed out to me would seem to be that of favoring or advocating this Blair county scheme; but, sir, I have a duty to perform—I have a trust resting upon me that rises far superior to these selfish considerations, and I trust that no sinister or selfish inducement, however great and alluring, will tempt me to swerve from that upright straight forward course, which a high sense of obligations will inspire.

The Hollidaysburg people complain of the distance they have to travel in going to, and coming from the present county seat. That distance according to the best information I can obtain is 28 miles. There is one road by which they can go in 24 miles, but we shall put down the distance at 28 miles, which is the distance on the turnpike.

Now, sir, if this distance should seem long to any one, let him consider the distance of many other county seats from some of their borders. There are very few of the counties I presume but have extremes farther off than this, and this distance complained of by the Hollidaysburg people dwindles into mere insignificance when compared with the distance and difficulties, some of the inhabitants in other sections of Huntingdon county have to travel in visiting the county seat. The inhabitants of the whole South-eastern border or base of the county are obliged in getting to Court, &c., to travel a distance of from 35 to 40 miles. Not only have they to travel this distance but they have to travel over roads that are often bad—roads that wind through gaps and mountains, crossing creeks and rivulets, that are often swollen and sometimes impassable on account of ice or some other cause.

Here, sir, would be grounds of complaint—here are grievances indeed—here are difficulties and inconveniences to overcome of which they know nothing, and to which they are not subjected, and, sir, were a division to be granted at all on the ground of distance from the county town, the people on this border of the county have much better claims than those of Hollidaysburg. Again: this distance of 28 miles about which they complain, will be very much diminished in our estimation, when we consider the travelling facilities that are afforded to the people of Hollidaysburg, in their intercourse with the seat of justice. Hollidaysburg is situated at the head of the Juniata Division of the Pennsylvania Canal on which are placed comfortable and pleasant Packet boats, which pass upwards and downwards every day during the navigation season; besides this there is the great northern turnpike road, which diverges from this place, passes through the towns of Huntingdon and Hollidaysburg, and on to Pittsburg; this channel of intercommunication is also open to them continually, and on one or the other of these modes of conveyance can the people of Hollidaysburg be accommodated every day in the year, with a direct, safe and convenient passage to the seat of justice.

Another plea held out by the people of Hollidaysburg is, that suits have accumulated on the county docket, and that the issues upon these suits have been tardy and long delayed. This plea however plausible, is more feigned than real—more for effect than a real grievance. That a good many suits remain on our county docket, I am not about to deny; but, sir, this is in part to be attributed to a certain want of despatch in our judicial proceedings, and in part to other causes. It is notorious to all that our courts do not manifest that prompt and energetic characters for business, which ought to distinguish the legal proceedings of our judicial bodies, and which our did manifest under former and better auspices. Where, or to whom the fault is to be attributed, I take not upon me to say. I would only say, that from what I can learn, the fault should be distributed over a good deal of ground, and that the parties in the suits, as the judicial tribunal itself, and perhaps the gentleman of the bar ought all to sustain a share of this blame.

According to the best information I could obtain on this subject, (and I have been careful and diligent to inform myself on all subjects connected with this unpleasant affair,) these suits are generally speaking of a trifling and unimportant character, and that any that are of importance remaining unissued have been, and are purposely delayed and kept back at least one of the parties concerned, fearing that the result or issue would not be such as to meet his approbation or wishes. Not only is this the fact, but in the long catalogue of suits which are or will be paraded here for effect, are a large amount of judgments or liens against property which are merely entered up for security against bankruptcy, and cannot fairly and legitimately be set forth as proper suits to appear on the trial list; and that all I have stated on this head may assume the character of indubitable truth. I would here state that I have known our courts at periods not long since, to be dismissed at an early stage of their sessions, and our jurors and commissioners still to pay as before, and all the appendages and expenses of a court and county business, and but one half the means to pay it with, is it not clear that our taxes must consequently be increased nearly one hundred per cent.—and that he who now pays one dollar must then pay nearly two. Again, the immense load of taxation it will inevitably fasten on the citizens of the new county themselves, is a subject that should in my opinion be carefully taken into consideration.—It is true the advocates of this bill will tell us that this will be borne willingly by the people; but this does not answer the objection satisfactorily; it may answer the objection partially, but far from universally. We have positive evidence before us in the Penn county petitions, that the citizens even of this proposed new county are far from being all agreed, or satisfied, or willing to come under this yoke of bondage. A large and respectable portion of them remonstrate against it as strongly and as vigorously as we do. Many of the remonstrances against this new county of Blair were got up in the richest and most tax-paying portions of it—signed by the most respectable and deeply concerned inhabitants within its limits. Why, sir, I had the honor of presenting one petition in the course of this canvass from citizens of Newry and vicinity, a town situated only 2 1/2 or 3 miles from Hollidaysburg, most respectfully and numerously signed, remonstrating against this new county. Here, sir, are a large class of the very bone and sinew of the country opposed to it, and on whom we by the passage of this bill impose an exorbitant tax against their will and consent.—Not only so, but taking into consideration the smallness of the county, and necessarily the scantiness of their means, we impose a tax on them that will be interminable—a burden they can never get rid of—a load they never can shake from them.—Consequently the position assumed, that the people themselves are willing to come under this yoke, cannot be sustained; at best, it is only partially correct. Another consideration which we think has considerable weight in this matter, and which is calculated to awaken in us serious apprehension, is this: that if the division is effected according to the prayer of the Blair county petitioners, and a part of the county be stricken off above, the present county seat will then be entirely out of the centre. The distance from the borough of Huntingdon to one edge of the county, (that is in a direct line,) will then not be more than 5 or 6 miles; whereas, on two other opposite extremities it will be 35 to 40 miles; hence the county will have lost its counterpoise—it will have lost its symmetry and balance. And the next shower of petitions we shall have before the Legislature will be either for the removal of the county seat to a position more central, or praying for another division somewhere along the Franklin county line, where as I have before stated the people are so remote from the present seat of justice. Now, sir, either side of this alternative presents us with a case which we would deplore, and which we would deprecate. We like neither horn of the dilemma. Our county has been at the expense only two or three years ago, of erecting a clever, substantial court house—with all the offices commonly connected with such buildings—suitable and convenient in all respects—and at a cost of some ten or twelve thousand dollars to the county. Our jail is sufficient for all purposes to which buildings of that kind are usually put; therefore, to be obliged in these perilous times, at the whim or caprice of another set of petitioners to perform this labor over again—to sustain this tax—this expense in the new, is really more than we are able to bear.

Some may think that this is a mere imaginary evil I am depicting; that it is ideal, and not likely to occur; but I tell you, sir, that it is no idle picture that I have been portraying. No fanciful creature of the imagination. There are, sir, people just waiting the issue of this Blair county division, and if granted, I have not the least doubt that the next Legislature will be presented with petitions, either for the object of removal, or as I stated before, for a new division at the opposite extremity of the county.

And the common idea is, and the common language is: we will worry, and tease, and torment the Legislature till they grant it. Now, sir, it is high time, in my humble opinion, that the Legislature should undeceive the public mind on this head. Let it be known that it will not be worried into a measure that is not right in itself.

Here are now before us some half dozen projects for the erection of new counties all awaiting the issue of this Blair county bill. And if it is successful, the others will be urged with ten-fold impetuosity and violence; and in a short time we shall behold the sad spectacle of our noble State being dismembered and cut up into little petty fragments—puny, insignificant internal principalities or corporations, possessing neither weight nor respectability.

Again; We have proof irrefragable that several of the townships within the proposed limits of this

This plea of the accumulation of suits is, sir, a mere fallacy—a mere stroke of policy, and is not entitled to that weight which they would attach to it. Another argument made use of, and urged upon this occasion is, in my opinion, vague and altogether fallacious. It is, that a large proportion of the suits that have accumulated on our county docket, originated in, and belong to the apprehension of the county, where this division is asked for, and that consequently they ought to have a court of their own to try these causes. But instead of this being an argument in favor of division, it is, in my humble opinion, an offset against it—a reason why it should not be granted. What is the fair and legitimate inference that may be drawn from this fact or admission. Is it not, sir, that they are a litigious and a contentious people? And shall we, in the solemn capacity of Legislators, grant facilities to litigation? Shall we create law facilities and cast them into the very lap of a law-loving people? Is it not absolutely certain that in proportion to the inducements held out, and presented to the corrupt principles and passions of the human heart, just in the same proportion will the exercises or actions proceeding from those principles, increase and abound. Hence, if the people of Hollidaysburg, at the distance of twenty-eight miles from the seat of justice, have instituted and multiplied suits, so as to crowd the county docket in such a manner that they cannot be gone through with, how would it be with the court of justice brought to their very door.—The inference is, in my opinion, sir, irresistible, and the argument they would build upon this ground, is fairly wrested from them, and may be wielded against them. Another argument made use of, is that Huntingdon county is large, and therefore ought to be divided. Well, we admit that geographically considered, our county is pretty large; but in another point of view, we are not so very large—perhaps not above mediocrity. We cover a pretty large territorial surface. But what kind of a surface is it? Is it not one interminable ledge of rocks from one extremity to the other! One continued expanse of mountains, whether we consider it lengthwise, breadthwise, or diagonally. It is true, this picture is somewhat relieved by the appearance here and there of fruitful valleys, the products of which reward the labor and toil of the husbandman, and even on the summits of these mountains, and along their bases may be heard the sound of the woodchopper's axe—the regular jingle of the miner's shovel, and all the busy din and bustle of furnace operations—yet the general character of the soil is such as I have represented. Hence, although our territorial limits may seem large, yet from the rough and broken nature of our soil, and consequently the absence of farming facilities, our population must always remain thin and sparse. And we never can arrive to that degree of wealth and population to which many of our sister counties may arrive, that are of much less territorial extent than we. And one of the main objections we have to this division is, that it cuts off a large portion of our best soil. Huntingdon county has really none of her good soil to spare—she needs it all—to place her on a par of equality with her sister counties, and I would just remark here by the way, that every remark I have made under this paragraph, with regard to Huntingdon county, applies equally to Bedford. Every one must know that these are two of the most broken and mountainous counties in the State; and we cannot but resist the attempt made by the Hollidaysburg people, as well as we love and respect them, to cut off a considerable section of our choicest and very best territory, and erect into a county of which they are to be the focus.

I have thus, sir, gone over what I conceive to be the principal ground on which the argument is based in favor of this division. I shall now, as briefly as I can, endeavor to advance some of the reasons why we object to it. And, 1st. We object to it on the ground of the increased taxation it will impose upon us. I need not tell you that we have a State debt suspended over us to the amount of some 40 millions of dollars, for the payment of which every individual is, in a certain sense bound. We all, too, very well know (for we individually feel it) that the citizens of this Commonwealth are groaning beneath the immense weight of taxes that are now imposed upon them; and that, too, merely to pay the interest on this debt. Now, I would ask, is it wise, is it politic, nay, is it even just, to increase that load under which we are now borne down to the earth, unless it would be for the attainment of some very valuable object, an object of much greater importance than any contemplated by this bill?

That this division will increase our taxation for county and judicial proceedings, will, I presume, be evident to every one. The entire assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county of Huntingdon was at a recent period \$8,301,946, and the assessed valuation of that part which would be stricken off at the same period was \$3,166,573, leaving a balance of \$5,135,373, or not much more than the one half as the assessed value of the taxable property of the old or remaining part, should this division go into effect. Having therefore still the same round of judicial proceedings to go through (for I presume our courts will not be curtailed or diminished either in number or duration)—having our jurors and commissioners still to pay as before, and all the appendages and expenses of a court and county business, and but one half the means to pay it with, is it not clear that our taxes must consequently be increased nearly one hundred per cent.—and that he who now pays one dollar must then pay nearly two. Again, the immense load of taxation it will inevitably fasten on the citizens of the new county themselves, is a subject that should in my opinion be carefully taken into consideration.—It is true the advocates of this bill will tell us that this will be borne willingly by the people; but this does not answer the objection satisfactorily; it may answer the objection partially, but far from universally. We have positive evidence before us in the Penn county petitions, that the citizens even of this proposed new county are far from being all agreed, or satisfied, or willing to come under this yoke of bondage. A large and respectable portion of them remonstrate against it as strongly and as vigorously as we do. Many of the remonstrances against this new county of Blair were got up in the richest and most tax-paying portions of it—signed by the most respectable and deeply concerned inhabitants within its limits. Why, sir, I had the honor of presenting one petition in the course of this canvass from citizens of Newry and vicinity, a town situated only 2 1/2 or 3 miles from Hollidaysburg, most respectfully and numerously signed, remonstrating against this new county. Here, sir, are a large class of the very bone and sinew of the country opposed to it, and on whom we by the passage of this bill impose an exorbitant tax against their will and consent.—Not only so, but taking into consideration the smallness of the county, and necessarily the scantiness of their means, we impose a tax on them that will be interminable—a burden they can never get rid of—a load they never can shake from them.—Consequently the position assumed, that the people themselves are willing to come under this yoke, cannot be sustained; at best, it is only partially correct. Another consideration which we think has considerable weight in this matter, and which is calculated to awaken in us serious apprehension, is this: that if the division is effected according to the prayer of the Blair county petitioners, and a part of the county be stricken off above, the present county seat will then be entirely out of the centre. The distance from the borough of Huntingdon to one edge of the county, (that is in a direct line,) will then not be more than 5 or 6 miles; whereas, on two other opposite extremities it will be 35 to 40 miles; hence the county will have lost its counterpoise—it will have lost its symmetry and balance. And the next shower of petitions we shall have before the Legislature will be either for the removal of the county seat to a position more central, or praying for another division somewhere along the Franklin county line, where as I have before stated the people are so remote from the present seat of justice. Now, sir, either side of this alternative presents us with a case which we would deplore, and which we would deprecate. We like neither horn of the dilemma. Our county has been at the expense only two or three years ago, of erecting a clever, substantial court house—with all the offices commonly connected with such buildings—suitable and convenient in all respects—and at a cost of some ten or twelve thousand dollars to the county. Our jail is sufficient for all purposes to which buildings of that kind are usually put; therefore, to be obliged in these perilous times, at the whim or caprice of another set of petitioners to perform this labor over again—to sustain this tax—this expense in the new, is really more than we are able to bear.

Some may think that this is a mere imaginary evil I am depicting; that it is ideal, and not likely to occur; but I tell you, sir, that it is no idle picture that I have been portraying. No fanciful creature of the imagination. There are, sir, people just waiting the issue of this Blair county division, and if granted, I have not the least doubt that the next Legislature will be presented with petitions, either for the object of removal, or as I stated before, for a new division at the opposite extremity of the county.

And the common idea is, and the common language is: we will worry, and tease, and torment the Legislature till they grant it. Now, sir, it is high time, in my humble opinion, that the Legislature should undeceive the public mind on this head. Let it be known that it will not be worried into a measure that is not right in itself.

Here are now before us some half dozen projects for the erection of new counties all awaiting the issue of this Blair county bill. And if it is successful, the others will be urged with ten-fold impetuosity and violence; and in a short time we shall behold the sad spectacle of our noble State being dismembered and cut up into little petty fragments—puny, insignificant internal principalities or corporations, possessing neither weight nor respectability.

Again; We have proof irrefragable that several of the townships within the proposed limits of this

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