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HUNTINGDON, PA.

Thursday Morning, May 6, 1852.

J. SEWELL STEWART—Editor.

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V. B. PALMER

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FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN 1852,
WINFIELD SCOTT,
OF NEW JERSEY.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT IN 1852,
JAMES C. JONES,
OF TENNESSEE.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,
JACOB HOFFMAN,
OF BERKS COUNTY.

William Dorris, Jr., Esq., presented us last week with a beet, grown in his garden last year, about two feet in circumference. It appeared about the size of the butt-out of an ordinary saw-log.

The School Directors of the Huntingdon borough School District have made the following selections of teachers for the ensuing school year:

High male school, James S. Barr; primary male school, Lyman Smith; high female school, Miss Scheyler; primary female school, Miss Ellen Drayton; primary male and female school, Miss Elizabeth Fisher.

The first canal boat this season, from New York, arrived at Buffalo on the 1st May.

Our friend, Daniel Hogmire, had his name changed by an act of the present Legislature, to DANIEL H. HUYETT. His numerous friends will please observe the change.

The General Conference of the Methodist E. Church assembled in Boston on the 1st May. Bishop Waugh was elected President.

Mr. Clay, some days, has been gradually sinking, and his friends apprehend the worst.

Hon. Charles Andrews, representative in Congress from Maine, died last Friday, aged 38 years.

Col. Doniphan, of Mexican war fame, has been nominated by the Whigs of Missouri, as their candidate for Governor.

There is now a tolerable prospect for summer. We hope Nature will soon put on her fancy dress, and look like a lady. She has been outrageous good taste long enough.

The Legislature adjourned on Tuesday the 4th inst.

The Broadtop Railroad Bill passed both Houses, and, we understand, has been signed by the Governor. We will endeavor to give a synopsis of it next week.

The steamship Pacific, from Liverpool, is in. She brings about \$65,000 in English gold.

The long prevalent drought in Ireland begins to excite considerable alarm among farmers. No such drought has been known, at this season, for twenty years.

France continues quiet. The Patrie says that the number of persons sentenced to transportation, throughout France, amounts to 6000.

The Crescent City has arrived, with nearly three millions of gold from California. The yield of gold at the mines has been immense.

Emigration from South America and China to California continues brisk. An outbreak has occurred in the Klamath country between the Whites and Indians, and a general Indian war is apprehended. The floods in the up river country have entirely subsided, and the prospects of the miners were never better. The late winter was very severe both in California and Oregon.

Pennsylvania Railroad over the Allegheny Mountain—and Portage.

In order to avoid the necessity for making two rival railroads across the Allegheny mountain, at places in sight of each other, the President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has made the following propositions to the Board of Canal Commissioners:

1st. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company to haul over the Allegheny mountains, between Hollidaysburg and Johnstown, after the canal navigation opens in 1854, all freights in cars of transporters doing business on the State canals, for one dollar and twenty-five cents per ton (exclusive of State tax on tonnage) for the whole distance between these places.

2d. The State to haul freight passing over the Columbia Railroad in cars of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, at not exceeding two cents per ton per mile, including road, motive power, and wheel tolls, and passengers at the rates charged by said Pennsylvania Railroad Company for similar travel over their road, with a deduction of twenty per cent. for the use of cars and transportation expenses, for first class passengers, and thirty-three and one-third per cent. for emigrant and other travel.

The Canal Commissioners reply, that if they had the power, they could not accede to the proposition, principally, because it would make a gap in the main line of the State improvements; but they make the following proposition to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company:

"That if the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will abandon the construction of a road over the mountain, and make suitable connections with the State works, the Board of Canal Commissioners will bind the State so far as they have the power to do so, to pull their tonnage over the mountain, at the rate of \$1.20 per ton, being a less rate than that at which you propose to carry for the State. This difference in charge, however, is not more than equal to the difference in favor of the grade on the State work. The board would much prefer this arrangement, because it would leave the main line of the public works unbroken, and retain its management within the control of the State.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,
JOHN A. GAMBLE,
President.

The correspondence here ends; but the Pennsylvania Railroad Company are taking the necessary steps to construct a double track on their road from Huntingdon to Johnstown, and have authorized funds to be borrowed for the purpose. During the scarcity of water which occurs every season in the canal between the mouth of the Little Juniata and Hollidaysburg, a large amount of business might be diverted from the canal to the railroad at this place or near Petersburg.

Farmers Look at This!

The opponents of American industry—for such is the name which must be given to those who are opposed to giving it that protection and support which are necessary to its full development—the opponents of America are in the habit of alleging that their policy is favorable to the farming interests of the country. If there be any who have been misled by this specious plea, let them read the following article from the Boston Courier, and correct the error:

We request our National Legislators to look at the agricultural interest, and mark how it has suffered under the operation of the present tariff. The subjoined table shows the decline in the exportation of bread-stuffs since the tariff went into effect:

1846-47	\$27,000,000
1847-48	19,500,000
1848-49	23,700,000
1849-50	12,200,000
1850-51	8,100,000

It is quite unavailing for the advocates of Free Trade any longer to call in question the fact the tariff of 1846 has completely falsified the predictions of its authors. These men assured us that it was made for the benefit of the American farmers. Its practical operation has been for the benefit of foreign laborers. We may import foreign manufactures, foreign luxuries and foreign superfluities as much as we please, but Europe will take nothing but our hard cash for them, except on extreme compulsion. Famine alone rendered flour and corn more acceptable to Great Britain than gold and silver for a short time. The famine over, she calls for our gold again, and she gets it. Let our Legislators look to it, and estimate how long it will be before the cheap labor of Europe, encouraged by an anti-American tariff in America, will break down the manufacturing enterprise of our country and drain it of the metal which constitutes the basis of its monetary system.—Penn. Dem.

"Barkis is Willin."

Mr. Buchanan thus responds, in a recent letter, to the wish of a friend that he may be the next President:

"I thank you most cordially for your kind wishes in my behalf in regard to the Presidency. Should the Democratic party of the country elevate me to that most exalted station on earth, I shall endeavor to perform its duties honestly and successfully; if not, I trust I possess sufficient Christian philosophy to enable me to bear my fate with cheerful and contented resignation. In truth, so far as I am personally concerned, I feel no anxious and ambitious longings for the prize, though if it should come, gratitude to the American people will ever be engraven on my heart."

The tone of cheerful submission in which the Pennsylvania bachelor anticipates a fate which it is wickedly insinuated he only fears won't come, reminds us of an anecdote related of Gen. Cass by Sam Houston, during the exciting week preceding the Baltimore Convention of '48.

Sam, it will be remembered, then stood a pretty fair chance of being "Polk-ed" into the nomination under the operation of the two-third rule. Meeting the Senator from Michigan on Pennsylvania Avenue one fine morning, the hero of San Jacinto "buttoned" him for a brief comparison of rival hopes.

"Well, General!" said Sam, "I suppose you are prepared to start on the road towards the White House."

General Cass. "Well, really, I must confess it looks as though I should be compelled to turn my face in that direction.—I am heartily tired of public life, and have no aspirations for the Presidency. And, besides, you know my wife is a member of the church, and she dreads the thought of the White House. But if the Convention force the nomination on me, I shan't back out and desert the party, much as I would prefer the selection of any body else who can successfully uphold the Democratic banner."

Sam. Ah! Yes! yes! General. You remind me very forcibly of a boy down our way, who went home one night awfully corned. His doting mother, poor soul! was much grieved at his condition, and, in tones of deepest concern, inquired "how on airth he had fallen in so bad a habit?"

"Wa-al mother," hiccuped Bill, "I was [hic] down at the cor- [hic] ner, and the poli- [hic] ticians forced it on me."—This was not sufficiently clear to Bill's mother, who, urging her son not to add falsehood to indiscretion, repeated her question.

"Wa-al, now," said Bill, as a ray of penitence broke upon his clouded mental vision, "the truth is, mo- [hic] ther, Dic- [hic] Jones forced the cus- [hic] sed stuff down my [hic] throat, and I took it [hic] d—d easy."

Just then General Cass started down street, leaving his button and Sam Houston behind—the latter's mouth spreading the while into a most indescribable grin.
[N. Y. Times.]

BUCHANAN VS. CASS.—A Washington correspondent says that "a handbill has been printed somewhere in Pennsylvania, and sent in large numbers to Washington and about the country, designed to show that Cass could not be elected, if nominated. It is attributed to the Buchanan men of Pennsylvania. It shows that Cass was in a minority of four hundred and fifty thousand of the popular votes of the Free States, at the last election. Again, the handbill shows that Cass approved Mr. Clay's animadversions upon Gen. Jackson, in 1826, and insinuates that President Adams appointed him Governor of Michigan in consequence. Whether true or not, that looks bad for Cass, too, for the 'Boys' revere the shade of 'Old Hickory'; and if Gen. C. does not explain the little note to Mr. Clay on the occasion referred to, more clearly than he has ever explained the Nicholson letter, he may hang his harp upon the willow."

A BIG PILE OF IRON.—There are now thirty thousand tons of iron lying at Dunkirk, N. Y., waiting shipment to the West, mostly destined for Ohio, and there is daily more receiving. And all British iron at that!

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Whig Convention of North Carolina has elected delegates to the National Convention favorable to Mr. FILMORE for the Presidency, and Mr. GRAHAM for the Vice Presidency.

STATE AGRICULTURAL FAIR.—The Carlisle Herald says that the committee entrusted with the selection of a place for holding the next State Agricultural Fair, have decided upon accepting the proposition made for the same, by the citizens of Lancaster.

Inundations of the Mississippi.

The Secretary of War has recently presented to Congress some interesting papers in the shape of reports of the surveys and investigations relative to the inundations of the Mississippi River, made by Col. Albert, Chief Topographical Engineer, Lieut. Col. Long, of the Topographical Engineers, and Charles Ellet, Jr., Civil Engineer.—The most important of these papers is the report of Mr. Ellet, in which the subject is treated of at length, and with the practical skill and research which distinguish Mr. E. He traces the increased frequency of the inundations to what are known as "cut offs" in the river, and proposes two modes of remedying the evil. First, by making additional outlets for the waters of the river during freshets, adapted to relieve the river when it should rise to a given height, and so constructed as to avoid abrasion from the action of the discharging water. Second, a judicious system of dykes or levees, or a combination of both, according to circumstances and localities, with the accessory means of controlling the flood by artificial reservoirs in the mountain gorges near the heads of the principal streams.

The levees, which are recommended by Mr. Ellet to protect the river coast below the Red River, will average eight feet in height, and four hundred and fifty miles in length, and would involve an expenditure in their construction of \$2,500,000. This, however, would not protect the country above the Red River, and would be incompatible with the drainage and reclamation of the Delta at the mouth of the Mississippi.

The injurious effects of the periodical floods of the Mississippi, Mr. Ellet shows, are increasing, and must continue to increase and extend up the river, from the working of causes which are indicated.—These causes, he says, will continue to operate, and cannot fail in a few years to bring great distress throughout the delta of the Mississippi, from the mouth of the Ohio to the Gulf of Mexico. The State of Mississippi, it is argued, is unable to contend against causes which thus threaten to deluge the whole Valley of the Mississippi, and the National Government must be looked to for the prosecution of an enterprise which requires unity of design and energy of execution. The suggestions of Mr. Ellet are concurred in by Col. Albert, with the exception of the proposed system of reservoirs, which Col. A. thinks would not have any effect on the inundations of the river.—Balt. American.

DREADFUL STEAMBOAT DISASTERS.—The steamer Prairie State, while rounding out from her landing at Pekin, on the Illinois, between nine and ten o'clock, on the morning of the 25th ult., collapsed the flues of her larboard boiler, killing, scalding, and wounding some twenty persons, mostly hands on the boat and deck passengers. The boiler blew out both forward and aft, and but for a quantity of hay stored in the engine room, the loss would have been much greater. The head engineer, named Wilson, was but slightly wounded. An assistant was instantly killed. The steamer afterwards caught fire, but the flames were soon extinguished by the crew of the steamer Avalanche which was on the point of landing a short distance off, and came to the assistance of those on the Prairie State. Captain Sprigg thinks the killed and missing are mostly the crew of the boat.

The steamers W. B. Clifton and Chickasaw came in collision above Evansville, Ohio river, on the night of the 25th and the latter sunk immediately. It is reported about twenty lives were lost. The Chickasaw had on board a locomotive, for the Memphis railroad.

It is also reported that the Poetiae, No. 2, sunk in the Missouri river, the boat having broken in two.

The steamer Beacon, bound for Montgomery, Alabama, with a full cargo, mostly provisions, sunk on the night of the 25th, on Lake Ponchartrain. The passengers and crew were all saved, but the greater part of the cargo will be lost.

A Company has been formed at Conshohocken for the purpose of making a kind of glass-ware from the refuse cinders of the "Merion Blast Furnace." They intend to manufacture coffins, table-tops, mantels, door knobs, flagging, as well as kitchen and other utensils. This is putting the cinders to a good purpose.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.—Flour \$4.25. White Wheat \$1.00 per bu., Red 95 cts. Rye 73 cts. Corn 64 cts. afloat. Whiskey 21 cts. Money is very abundant, and large sums are offered for investment at 5 1/2 and 6 per cent.—easily obtained at 6 per cent.

Congressional Apportionment Bill.

The bill to apportion Pennsylvania into districts for the election of twenty-five members of Congress, is now a law, and is perhaps about as strange a piece of legislation as ever emanated from our Legislature, distinguished as it has been for doing strange things. The Districts as laid out are as follows:

I. Southwark, Moyamensing, Passyunk, in the county of Philadelphia, and Cedar, Lombard, Spruce and New Market Wards, in the city of Philadelphia.

II. The city of Philadelphia, excepting the wards before mentioned.

III. Kensington and Northern Liberties, in the county of Philadelphia.

IV. Spring Garden, Penn District North Penn, Kingsessing, West Philadelphia, Blockley, Richmond, Unincorporated Northern Liberties, Bridesburg, Aramingo, in the county of Philadelphia.

V. Montgomery county, and Bristol township, Upper and Lower Germantown, Upper and Lower Manayunk, Frankford, Roxborough, Byberry, Lower Dublin, White Hall, Oxford and Moreland, in the county of Philadelphia.

VI. Chester and Delaware.

VII. Bucks and Lehigh.

VIII. Berks.

IX. Lancaster.

X. Lebanon, Dauphin and Union, and the township of Lower Mahoney, in the county of Northumberland.

XI. Schuylkill and Northumberland counties, except Lower Mahony township.

XII. Montour, Columbia, Luzerne and Wyoming.

XIII. Northampton, Monroe, Carbon, Pike and Wayne.

XIV. Susquehanna, Bradford and Tioga.

XV. Lycoming, Sullivan, Potter, Clinton, Centre and Mifflin.

XVI. York, Perry and Cumberland.

XVII. Adams, Franklin, Fulton, Bedford and Juniata.

XVIII. Somerset, Cambria, Blair and Huntingdon.

XIX. Westmoreland, Indiana and Armstrong.

XX. Fayette, Greene and Washington.

XXI. Allegheny county, except that part which lies north-east of the Ohio, and north-west of the Allegheny river.

XXII. Beaver, Lawrence and Mercer.

XXIII. Butler county, and that part of Allegheny county, not included in the 21st district.

XXIV. Venango, Warren, McKean, Clearfield, Elk, Forrest, Jefferson and Clarion.

XXV. Erie and Crawford.

An Electric Clock.

The Boston Journal describes as one of the curiosities of the age, an electric clock, recently completed by Mr. N. Farmer, on an entirely new principle, and pronounced by scientific men to be the most perfect and simple of any. All wheel work in the time keeping part, is dispensed with; therefore all friction is overcome. The time keeping part of the clock is simply a pendulum, and electro-magnet, and two armatures. The vibrations of the pendulum break and close the circuit of electricity, while the combined action of the electro-magnet and armatures keep it in motion.

It is a clock that runs without weights or springs or anything of the kind. Its moving power is a galvanic battery, which requires a small quantity of sulphuric acid once or twice a year; or if the workmanship of the clock is delicate, a copper plate buried in the ground will keep it in motion. There is no friction to be overcome save the suspension points of the pendulum, and the two armatures. Hence it approaches the nearest to perfection as a time keeper of anything in existence. One hundred or a thousand clocks all over the city, all ticking at the same instant, and keeping the same time, may be carried by one pendulum.

The following is a classification of the social condition of the people of France, taken from the last number of the Westminster Review:

Millionaires,	50,000
Rich Men,	200,000
In easy circumstances,	5,500,000
In modern circumstances,	4,200,000
Gaining a decent but uncertain living,	6,000,000
Gaining a scanty and uncertain living,	16,000,000
Living in extreme indigence,	5,000,000
Paupers, thieves and prostitutes,	4,000,000

INTERESTING RELIC.—The copy of the Bible used on the occasion of the admission of General Washington to the order of Masons, was exhibited to the brethren assembled at a meeting of the Lodge of Virtue, held in the Albion House, Manchester, England, last month.

TELEGRAPHIC.

The Homicide Case at Columbia.

COLUMBIA, April 30.—Considerable excitement was created here, yesterday afternoon, by the appearance in our borough of Deputy Marshal Snider, of Harrisburg, accompanied by police officer Ridgley, of Baltimore, and Mr. Stansburg, for the purpose of capturing a colored man, alleged to be the slave of the latter gentleman. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the party proceeded to a lumber yard at the southern extremity of the town, where the negro was engaged in piling lumber, and his arrest was attempted by the two officers. Smith, the alleged fugitive, tried to make his escape, when in the struggle officer Ridgley drew a pistol and discharged the contents through his neck, in the region of the carotid artery. Smith fell instantly dead.

Much excitement being produced, Ridgley then stated that he should deliver himself up to the authorities, but upon the arrival of the borough officers at his hotel he was found to have escaped. It was then stated by some of the bystanders that he was seen going over the Columbia Bridge at a rapid pace, and no doubt reached the half-past four o'clock train for Baltimore.

Officer Snider took the cars for Harrisburg at 7, P. M. He had been under temporary arrest, but was liberated by the officer without an examination. Deputy Coroner Fisher held an inquest upon the body of Smith, and a verdict was rendered in accordance with the above facts. Smith leaves a wife and two children. He had resided in this borough about eighteen months. The above facts have been gleaned from the statement before the Coroner's jury.

HARRISBURG, April 30.—Great excitement prevails in Columbia, and there is much feeling here in relation to the killing of the slave there yesterday. The Governor has been apprized of the transaction, and will probably be called on to make a requisition on the Governor of Maryland for the surrender of the officer on the charge of murder.

Appointment of Supreme Judge.

HARRISBURG, April 30.—Gov. Bigler has appointed Hon. George W. Woodward to the vacant seat on the Supreme Bench, vacant by the death of Judge Coulter.

The Earthquake, Yesterday.

BALTIMORE, April 30th.—The shock of an earthquake, which was so distinctly felt yesterday at Washington, was also very sensibly felt in this city, Frederick, and other places in Maryland.

Clerks Discharged.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—The discharges of about forty temporary Clerks from the Census office, were made out to-day, to be handed them on Monday, and to take effect on Wednesday.

PERSON SECRETED.—On Sunday morning, a moderately well dressed man, aged apparently about twenty-five years was found alone in the Library of the President's mansion, where he had introduced himself unperceived. On being questioned as to the cause of his being there, his replies, were those of a person non complicitis. He strenuously refused to give his name or place of abode. It is thought, however, that he is from Philadelphia.—There being no place in the district adapted to the reception of persons of unsound mind, he was necessarily committed to the county jail until further discovery shall be made respecting him.—Wash. Intelligencer.

The Bank of England covers five acres of ground; employs nine hundred clerks; and should a clerk be too old for service, he is discharged on half-pay for life. There are no windows on the street; light is admitted through open courts; no mob could take the Bank therefore, without cannon to batter immense walls. The clock in the centre of the Bank has fifty dials attached to it. Large cisterns are sunk in the courts, and engines, in perfect order, always in readiness in case of fire. The Bank was incorporated in 1694. Capital £1,000,000, or \$90,000,000.

EFFECTS OF LOCOFOCO RULE.—The Sheriff of Clarion county advertises that he will offer for sale on the first day of May, sixty nine separate pieces of real estate, embracing NINE furnaces, several mills, and many well improved farms. The description of this property fills nearly six columns of the Clarion Register.

An Earthquake shock was experienced in Pittsburgh on Thursday last—also in Philadelphia. The mountains press so heavily on this country that it would be hard to shake.