A few short SPECIAL NOTICES will be inserted judiciously under this head, at 50 cents per line, single insertion; 30 cents a line for every subsequent insertion.

BANNAN & RAMSEY.—Booksellers and Stationers, Printers and Binders, 168 Centre Street, Pottsville, Pa.

Miners' Journal.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1870.

THE MINERS' JOURNAL is issued every Saturday morning, and furnished to subscribers at $2 75 per annum, in advance, or $3 if not paid in advance.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.
3 Copies to one address, $7 00 | 15 Copies to one address, $30 00
5 " " " 11 00 | 20 " " " 45 00
6 " " " 13 00 |
To News Dealers $4 25 per 100 Copies, cash.

To Ministers and School Teachers we will furnish the JOURNAL, by mail, at $1 50 per annum, in advance; otherwise at full rates.

THE DAILY MINERS' JOURNAL is published every week-day morning, saturday's excepted.
TERMS—Ten cents per week, payable to the carrier or agent by whom it is served.
BY MAIL—Payable in advance, one year, $5 00; six months, $2 75; three months, $1 50.

DAILY AND WEEKLY MINERS' JOURNAL, $7 50 per annum, in advance; $4 00 for six months.

BANNAN & RAMSEY, Publishers.

OUR INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS.

SPECIE PAYMENTS—THE CURRENCY—FUNDING THE NATIONAL DEBT.

THE business of the country will always be fluctuating so long as uncertainly prevails with regard to the currency of the country. We ought either to ignor gold as a basis for the issue of paper; prepare for a resumption of specie payments, or pass a resolution that it is inexpedient to resume at this time, under existing circumstances. This would settle the question for two years at least, until another Congress was installed.

The great obstacle to an immediate resumption is the state of our foreign commerce, which causes a constant drain upon our coin which is exported as rapidly as it is produced in our country. An examination of our foreign commerce shows that since 1847, after the repeal of the tariff of 1842, the balance of trade has been so largely against us, that we have lost upwards of NINE HUNDRED MILLIONS IN COIN, and about ONE THOUSAND MILLIONS IN BONDS OF VARIOUS KINDS; and this drain of coin and bonds, is going on ANNUALLY AT THE RATE OF ABOUT ONE HUNDRED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. We have in fact lost all the coin that the country has produced since 1848.

We firmly believe that the country has lost its coin, bonds, and wealth, that would have been created under the tariff of 1842, if it had been continued, a sum equal to our present debt.

It would therefore be madness to attempt to resume specie payments, until this foreign drain is checked. If it were made it would destroy values to the amount of hundreds of millions of dollars, and the debtor class would be shorn of a large portion of their substance, and thousands would be ruined. But with prudent legislation on the part of Congress, resumption can easily be brought about without destroying values, without reducing the currency materially, and also without deranging or prostrating business.

It is understood that the tariff is to be re-adjusted at this session of Congress, and it ought to be one of the first objects of legislation. When adjusted, add the following section to the bill:

"Be it enacted, that whenever the imports shall exceed the exports of the country, independent of coin, for any fiscal quarter of any fiscal year five per cent., the Secretary of the Treasury, by giving ten day's notice at the different ports of entry, shall increase the duties upon such foreign manufactured articles ten per cent until the exports exceed the imports five per cent, (exclusive of coin.) And also, when the exports (including bullion not coined,) exceed the imports ten per cent; in any fiscal quarter of any fiscal year, independent of coin, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to reduce the duties five per cent. on the grade of goods, until an equilibrium is established, of which reduction ten day's notice shall also be given."

Bullion is seldom used in this country, and as our States and Territories will be producing largely beyond our wants after a resumption, we have embraced bullion among the products for exportation.

This section would at once check the drain of coin, and it would soon accumulate at home in large quantities. The premium on gold would recede as it accumulated, and the banks and the Government could resume safely with not over one-third the quantity of coin in their vaults than would be required under other circumstances. It is notorious that as gold becomes plenty, but few want it; but as it becomes scarce, all are rushing after it.

This section gives no additional power to the Secretary of the Treasury. He is now subject to, and is controlled in his actions by law, and under this section he could only act when certain contingencies arise under the law.

In England and France they have sliding scales: but there the National Banks are the instruments in raising the rates of interest when importations are excessive, and lower it as they diminish. We have no such national regular of interest, and therefore we substitute the Secretary of the Treasury as our regulator, who is also controlled by the Government, the same as the banks of England and France are regulated by their Governments.

The fluctuations under such a system, would not be as great as many suppose, not as great in fact as occurs in European countries. Only a few years ago, the bank of England, in order to check excessive importations, gradually raised the rate of interest from 2 to 10 per cent in a period of about 14 months, while the prices of products changed but little; but excessive importations were checked. It is uncertainty that causes fluctuations in prices, and products are sacrificed; but when it is known that there is a power that can be exerted in favor of creating an equilibrium in our foreign trade, prices will not fluctuate to the same extent as they do now, but remain more stable, because the producer knows that no necessity exists for making any sacrifice.

The power to reduce duties is also given to the Secretary of the Treasury, because there may be times when our exportations may exceed the importations to such an extent as to drain too much coin from those nations with whom we are trading, and thus impoverish them to such an extent as to destroy for a time these foreign markets for our products. Previous to 1857, our importations were so excessive, that when the crash came, those nations that had sold largely to us of their products, for which we could not pay, suffered almost as much as we did in the break down; hence the necessity of checking to some extent, excessive exports as well as imports, to keep our foreign commerce in a healthy condition.

The knowledge that our Secretary possessed such power, would have a tendency to regulate our foreign commerce, and it would be watched closely by all importers. The Secretary will receive the returns of our importations and exportations every quarter, and the State of the trade will only be known to him, until the notice is given. It may perhaps be necessary to reduce the notice to 5 instead of 10 days, so that no orders can be given by cable for goods to arrive before the expiration of the notice.

The resumption of specie payments, is a question of vast importance to all the producing interests of the country, and Congress is bound, in legislating on the subject, to protect the business of the country so that the transition from paper to a coin basis will bear as lightly as possible on the community. Such a measure however, is absolutely necessary to effect a resumption, while the premium on gold is so variable, and when once permanently established, the sliding scale may be dispensed with afterwards, if not required any longer.

After the banks and Government has resumed, with their issues based on the property of the country, no person will want gold. The duties can then be paid in paper; the interest on the public debt will be paid in paper, except to foreign holders, because none will desire to be troubled with gold, when he knows that his paper dollar is just as good as his gold dollar, and resumption will not be looked upon with dread, because it can be perfected without curtailing the currency, deranging business materially, or destroying values. This is certainly a consummation devoutly to be wished for.

THE CURRENCY.

Intimately connected with regulating our foreign commerce, is the volume of our currency. A redundant circulation nullifies all protection in enhancing values beyond what a healthy business requires, while a diminished currency operates directly the opposite. The present mode of distribution by Congress is arbitrary, and unjust to large sections of the country. To obviate the difficulty, free banking is urged by many, and it would be but little improvement on the present system; and would also be attended with all the evils of the old State bank system. There would be no limit to the issues, and it would engender a spirit of speculation and overtrading which so frequently sweeps the country. The argument that supply and demand will regulate the currency, is very fallacious, because when free banks are organized, whether wanted or not, they will not retire from the field without a great struggle, and all the evils will be inflicted on the community long before the regulation is accomplished. Such is always the result where an unlimited issue of currency is permitted. *It is just as necessary to fix a limit to the volume of currency, as it is to stamp the value of a dollar in coin as a basis for currency.* A much better plan would be to limit the issue of currency to the wealth and business of the country, say, $1 in currency to $30 of the assessed value of the real and personal property of the country. On an estimate of say two hundred billions, this would give a volume of currency equal to $733,000,000, which would be ample for business and development. If however hereafter the assessed value of the real and personal property should be found to exceed the above sum, when returns are received from every section of our country, (they having been interrupted in the insurrectionary States during the rebellion,) the proportion might be increased to $1 in $35, or say $1 in $40. We are not wedded to particular figures, as the object is to make a fair basis to start upon. It is only the principle that we contend for.

As the idea, which has been broached of withdrawing a portion of the banking capital from the States that have now more than their proportion, would be attended with disturbing elements, we would commence issuing to the States that have not their proportion up to the limit, and gradually cancel the greenbacks paid into the Treasury, if the volume of currency should be extended beyond the limit, by this increased issue of National Bank currency.

By this mode of issuing and distributing the currency, based on wealth and business, each section of the country would receive its fair proportion of currency, and the banks of issues would be located in the different States and Territories throughout the country, and not be confined to the money centres on the sea-board, and the issues sent to the South and West. This is a feature that ought to commend itself to the serious consideration of the representatives of the Southern and Western, as well as all the other States now deprived of their portion of currency. To these sections it would be far preferable to a free banking system; because the free banks would nearly all be located in the money centres near the seaboard, and would send their issues South and West as is now done. But the mode of issue and distribution we propose, will secure the location in the different States and Territories in proportion to wealth and business, and the banks must be located there. Every person knows the advantages of having banking institutions located in his neighborhood, because it always forms a nucleus for increasing the business and prosperity of the location, if it is possessed of any advantages whatever. And on this principle it might be distributed proportionately to the wealth and business in each Congressional district in the country, but this would hardly be required.

One of the great advantages of this mode of issue and distribution is, that it will expand as wealth and business expands without any disturbing legislation whatever. The assessments of real and personal property is made every three years throughout the whole country, and by taking the last period of three years, and make the annual average increase, the issues could be thus annually increased up to that limit, by granting charters to additional banks in the States entitled to the increase, if there were applications for banks up to the limit. All applications for bank charters could be filed in the comptrollers office, and then granted according to date of application when the State is entitled to an increased issue of currency.

We all know the disturbing tendency that frequent legislation has on the business of the country, and therefore it ought to be avoided as much as possible. On this principle no further legislation would be required, except perfecting the bank charters, and providing for the keeping of the issues at par throughout the country.

It would also give great security to investments in the productive industry of the country. Business men would know that the volume of currency could not be extended beyond a certain limit, and that it would expand as business and wealth expands. They need not hesitate in investing millions of dollars with perfect safety in any branch of business, because no expansion could take place in currency beyond the limit, and consequently no contraction would be necessary; and the business community would be relieved entirely from the periodical contractions and expansions that sweep the country, and carry ruin and desolation everywhere.

An expansion of the currency beyond the wants of the community, which took place under the State Bank System, and which would be sure to follow a Free Banking System, always nullifies tariff duties, and leads to excessive importations. This, also, would be checked under this system of issue.

This plan is most respectfully suggested in the interest of the productive industry of the country, and has met the approbation of many of the largest producers to whom it has been submitted.

FUNDING THE NATIONAL DEBT.

This is a subject which is intimately connected with the questions discussed above. We believe that those who demand the funding of our indebtedness now, at a lower rate of interest than 5 per cent. are in error. Ours is a new and vastly extended country—interest rules higher here than in any other commercial country. It is destructive to the national interests of any country to banish its bonds to foreign lands, and thus constitute a constant drain in the shape of interest. The immense debt of England, amounting to $40,000,000,000, is not felt much because it is all held at home, and the interest circulates among its own people. It would be to the interest of any country to pay one per cent. more interest, and have the debt at home, than to fund it one per cent. lower and send it abroad where the annual interest must follow. We would, therefore, convert the 6-20's into coupon bonds for a period of forty years as follows: Paying interest at 5 per cent. for 10 years—4 per cent. for 10 years, and for 20 years, 4 per cent. free of taxation, and both interest and principal payable in coin. As the 10-40's fall due in 1874, amounting to upwards of $194,500,000, the Government could pay them off out of the sinking fund created in the meantime, and the 6 per cent. bonds payable in 1881, amounting to upwards of $283,500,000, could also be paid off out of the sinking fund within that time. There is nothing to prevent the Government in the meantime from purchasing its securities in the market, whether due or not, as she is now doing.

The English Government, if she could refund all her present indebtedness at 2 per cent abroad, instead of 3 per cent. at home, would spurn such a proposition as anti-English, and instantly reject it. For our Government to do the same, would be not only anti-American, but would show a great want of sound and enlightened statesmanship.

There would be no difficulty in funding the 5-20's at this rate of interest, and they would be sought after by the present holders both at home and abroad. We would also fix the rate of interest on all bonds held by the National Banks at 4 per cent., by taxing them to that limit, in addition to the present taxes imposed upon them, if they would refuse to accept such bonds in lieu of those they now hold.

If these questions were disposed of by Congress at the present session, in accordance with these suggestions, it would allay many sectional prejudices that now exist, and the progress of our country in population, wealth, power and fame, would be unparalleled in the history of nations.

NOTE.—Since the above was written, we observe that Commissioner Wells estimates the wealth of the country at twenty-four billions in currency. We also observe that the Hon. Mr. Sumner, in his bill presented in the Senate on Wednesday, so far as it treats on the same subject, contains many of the above ideas. He proposes to limit the currency arbitrarily; we propose giving it an expanded limit. He proposes basing the distribution on population; we propose basing it on wealth, which would give the money centres their proportion of currency, which more population would not. By his arbitrary limit he gives in currency $12 50 per capita, which is too small, and does not expand as business increases. On our plan the issue of $1 in currency for $40 of property would give $15 per capita, and $1 on $35, $17 per capita. The circulation of England is from $18 to $19 per capita, and in France about $22 per capita. Our circulation ought not to be less than $15 per capita at the lowest estimate, and $17 would not be too much in the opinion of many persons conversant with the wants of the country.

READING RAILROAD REPORT.

WE make the following condensation of this report for our readers:

The following tabular statement in detail, for each branch of traffic, shows the comparative results of the year:

	1869.	$287,606
Travel, 330,835 passengers		1,415,723
Merchandise, 1,231,586 tons		6,252,224
Coal, 3,571,874 tons		29,158
Mail		107,234
Miscellaneous		
Gross receipts		$8,791,937
Gross expenses		6,162,511
Net profits		$2,629,426

	1869.	Per ct.
Travel, 45,754 pass	$1,184,008 Inc.,	$136,400 19 9-10
Mdse., 1,672,738 tons	1,378,625 Inc.,	243,300 21 5-10
Coal, 1,299,457 tons	8,846,240 Inc.,	2,094,016 33 5-10
Mail	29,170 Inc.,	69 7-10
Miscellaneous	69,342 Inc.,	37,292 35 3-10
Gross receipts	$11,329,291 Inc.,	$2,416,444 27 5-10
Gross expenses	6,378,313 Inc.,	773,802 11 6-10
Net profits	$4,326,069 Inc.,	$1,702,642 64 8-10

Gross expenses, including renewal fund, rents of lateral roads, taxes, &c., in the year 1869, were 70 3-100 per cent. of gross receipts.

Gross expenses, including renewal fund, rents of lateral roads, taxes, &c., in the year 1869, were 61 53-100 per cent. of gross receipts.

The receipts and expenses per passenger and per ton have been as follows:

1869.		
Per passenger, cost $1 76 7-10	received	$2 98 5-10
Mdse., per ton, cost 85 6-10	received	1 18
Coal per ton, cost 91 6-10	received	1 74 8-10
1868.		
Per passenger, cost $1 44	received	$2 73 7-10
Mdse., per ton, cost 59 7-10	received	1 11
Coal, per ton, cost 83 8-10	received	1 63 8-10

The results of the year's business, as condensed from transportation and income account, may be stated thus:

Receipts over cost of working the road	$4,332,068 51
Balance of interest account	$216,065 02
Loss on Mahanoy Railroad	179,225 54
	$36,839 48
	$4,368,929 00
Interest for 1869	752,903 05
Construction for 1869	590,105 73
	1,122,017 78
	$3,276,911 19
Dividend fund of 1869	$1,021,573 79
Reserved fund, 1869	1,416,704 67
Deduct dividend and tax	505,181 21
	$3,732,100 40
Dividend fund for 1868	
July dividend on $27,569,619 32	$1,381,980 96
	140,514 88
	1,522,495 84
Taxes on dividend	76,717 50
	$2,276,241 50
Jan. dividend on $27,027,180 28	1,451,153 41
Taxes on dividend	186,886 23
	1,634,511 24
Balance of reserved fund	$637,742 32

This shows an increase in the capital stock during the year of $1,383,439 96. The charge to construction account during the year is only $569,105 73. The report also announces that they propose adding to the bonded debt during 1870 and 1871, $5,000,000.

The coal tonnage was 4,239,457 tons, an excess of 524,772 tons over 1868.

The rolling stock is equal to the transportation of about 130,000 tons of coal per week, which is to be increased for the transportation of 140,000 tons a week.

The Perkiomen Railroad has been completed a distance of 11 miles. The Colebrookdale has been completed from Pottstown to Mount Pleasant, 13 miles.

They have subscribed for 1200 shares of the Pickering Valley Railroad in Chester county, and will guarantee the stock to build the road 11 miles and then lease it.

The Pinegrove and Lebanon Road is completed to the Lebanon county line, and will be extended to Lebanon early this year.

The Shamokin and Trevorton Road has been completed, and the line from Port Clinton to Topton, where it connects with the East Penn, Road leased by the Company for 99 years, has been put under contract.

The total length of the Reading Road and connections now built and leased, including sidings comprise 1142 miles of single track road.

During the year just closed, rolling stock of the value of $1,142,286 58 has been added to the property of the Company, as follows:

1,061 eight-wheeled cars, built by the Company		$ 666,753 67
10 passenger engines, built by the Company		116,562 09
Work on one engine, built by the Company		4,151 65
10 first-class engines, bought of M. Baldwin & Co.		142,000 00
153 cars, bought of East Pennsylvania Railroad Company		92,185 72
14 first-class engines, bought of East Pennsylvania Railroad Company		140,500 00
Total		$1,162,286 53

The statements accompanying this report will show the entire extent of the property now held by the Company during the year; of the entire amount of which $15,992 85 has been added to capital account, $569,105 73 has been charged to income account, and the balance will be found included in the items embraced under the head of assets in the Treasurer's general account.

During the last seven years the capital of the Company has been increased by stock dividends, all

From the above deduct the amounts	$12,968,070 77
based upon the purchase of bonds by the sinking funds	1,655,211 71
Balance	$10,953,359 06

This sum of $10,953,359 06 of aggregate stock dividends has, however, been issued as a representative of $17,567,474 of actual net earnings invested in permanent improvements. The health of Mr. Charles E. Smith, the late President of the Company, became so seriously impaired that in April last he felt obliged to resign his position, in order to visit Europe with the hope that a year's relaxation from the cares of business would effect a cure. During his absence, at his request and that of the managers, Mr. Franklin B. Gowen, who has been for several years one of the counsel of the Company, consented to accept the Presidency, and was accordingly elected to fill the office by the Board on the 24th of April last.

By order of the Board of Managers,
FRANKLIN B. GOWEN, President.

Philadelphia, Jan. 8, 1870.

The change has not damaged the interests of the road, but it would greatly damage them if Mr. Smith were restored to the Presidency of the Road.

After the passage of the usual resolutions the following officers were elected:

President, Franklin B. Gowen.
Directors, Wm. M. Wilkinson, A. E. Borie, R. B. Cabeen, J. B. Lippincott, John Ashhurst, Stephen Colwell.
Treasurer, Samuel Bradford.
Secretary, William H. Webb.

MINERS' PROTECTIVE BILLS.—We publish in to-day's JOURNAL the Schuylkill County Bill for the safety and protection of miners, and also the Bill presented to the Legislature by Mr. Turner, of Luzerne. As Mr. Turner's Bill repeals all that is inconsistent with it, of course it interferes with the Schuylkill County Bill in many respects. With a few amendments added to the Schuylkill County Bill, we believe it would be preferable to that of Mr. Turner's. As we have heretofore stated, we would prefer having one good bill passed for all the counties. But this is not absolutely necessary, if it is thought that the difference in the coal strata in Luzerne, which in many instances lie nearly flat, would require a different bill. In that case the Schuylkill County bill could be amended in a few respects, and also embrace the counties of Northumberland, Columbia and Dauphin within its jurisdiction with two deputy Inspectors, one of which should act as clerk.

Those directly interested had better examine the two bills, and make the necessary suggestions. Now is the time to act, while it is before the Legislature.

We will next week point out what amendments ought to be made to the Schuylkill County Bill, in case it is decided to retain that Bill for Schuylkill, independent of the other counties.

THE copperhead organ in a recent article on "County Reforms" states in its criticism on the action of Conrad Seltzer, Esq., the late County Treasurer, in compelling collectors of State and County taxes, to settle up their duplicates, that in some instances collectors have been served with writs before their duplicates had expired, and without any previous notice. This is an untrue statement. In every instance Mr. Seltzer gave the delinquent timely and repeated notice, before proceeding to have process served upon him.

During the two years that Mr. Seltzer held the office, he collected tens of thousands of dollars from delinquent tax collectors, some of the accounts running back as far as twelve years, thereby earning the gratitude and good wishes of the tax payers of the County. Can Mr. Hendler, who was in the office six years immediately preceding Mr. Seltzer, show as good an official record? Is not Mr. H. rather envious of the general praise bestowed upon Mr. Seltzer by the community, and of the title which the latter has justly won, of being the "Model Treasurer of Schuylkill County?" Is it not there *where the shoe pinches?*

THE Legislatures of the following-named States are now in session: Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Louisiana—15.

THERE is a Wisconsin bullock in Philadelphia, to be killed next Tuesday, that weighs 4,200 pounds.

C. F. & J. B. DIEHL, commission merchants of Philadelphia, are under bonds to answer a charge of embezzlement.

SENATOR SUMNER'S BILL.—The following are the principal features of Senator Sumner's Bill:

He proposes funding $500,000,000 of the 5-20s at forty years at 3 per cent., redeemable by the Government at any time after forty years, $300,000,000 at 4 per cent. redeemable after forty years, and redeemable at any time after twenty years, principal and interest payable in coin and free from taxation. He proposes to redeem $400,000,000 of the greenbacks by funding them into bonds as above, leaving $300,000,000 of greenbacks unfunded. He proposes to increase the issue of National Banks from $300,000,000 to $400,000,000, and provides that the additional issue shall be distributed among the States according to population, if demanded, and from every dollar new issues made one dollar in legal tenders is to be cancelled—and the banks that have deposited 6 per cent. bonds from circulating are required to deposit the 4 per cent. issues in their stead, and if they refuse to do so within three months after being notified to do so, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to deduct the difference from the interest to which they are entitled.

These are the principal features of the Bill, together with details for carrying it into effect.

JUDGE PEARSON sentenced a horse thief at Lebanon last week to five years and eight months in the Eastern Penitentiary.

CINCINNATI has a prospective $20,000 breach of promise case.

EDITORIAL NOTINGS.

—The Yukon river in Alaska is the third largest river in the world.

—The NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER, Mr. Alexander Delmar, proprietor, is dead again.

—Japan has not indemnified our Government for aggressions upon our commerce.

—In fifty libel suits instituted against newspapers, in the last ten years, the gross amount of money collected was only $5,000.

—Col. Aaron Wilber of Savannah, is dead. This chief mourners are sundry life insurance companies in which he had policies, amounting to $170,000.

—The value of real and personal property in San Francisco is $106,414,029. The current expenses last year were $1,837,025; interest $148,283; total, $1,985,308.

—Reuben Field, a Missourian, is getting his name in all the papers as a mathematical prodigy by mentally squaring 145,145,145,145 in three minutes. In other respects Rube is ignorant and tough.

—The United States deputy marshals in Kentucky estimate that at present over one hundred persons are residing out of the State who have fled to avoid detection and arrest for violation of the revenue laws.

—Railway post offices are operated on 37 lines, extending over 7,240 miles. Two steam boats—one in process of three lines and 482 miles over 1868. The number of clerks was 324, at an annual cost of $384,300.

—The fur business in Minnesota has been very lively of late. The catch of muskrats is much larger than that of last season, and greater than for a number of years past. Investments in traps have yielded a good return this year. The Scandinavians are nearly all trapping, and have been very successful.

—Every citizen of France aged 21 years has a right to address petitions to the Senate, and the average number sent each session is 600. The majority of them are grotesque. There was one last year in favor of a tax on bachelors, and another providing that the first three children might be tattooed at the Mairie with a serial number, so as to facilitate their identification in the event of their turning out criminals.

—The annual mortality statement of Dr. Snow, Superintendent of Health at Providence, is a very favorable exhibit of the health of the city during the year 1869, the deaths being 1,254 in an estimated population of 60,500, being one death in every 23.93 persons, a slight increase of mortality, owing to the prevalence of epidemic diseases, the chief difference being from scarlatina, which gave 138 decedents, an increase of 68 over 1868.

—The number of immigrants who arrived at the port of Boston in 1869 was 34,784, against 20,381 in 1868, and 16,013 in 1867. They were of thirty-six different nationalities, though most of them came from Ireland (8,716), England (7,381), Nova Scotia (6,029), Germany (3,764), and Scotland (1,427). Six thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight were under fifteen years of age, and 22,526 were between fifteen and thirty-five.

—The lucky Fort Edward (N. Y.) milliner to whom her influenced lover, a young, English nobleman, left $17,000,000 at his death, some months ago, hailed from Glover, and is the niece of Daniel Drew, of that town.

—The match between Heenan and Sayers will not take place, as the latter has declined to fight. The affair is therefore abandoned, and she is informed by her agent in London that an installment of $5,000,000 of this snug little bequest will be forwarded the present month. She is represented as being a lively, sensible girl, and not likely to be upset by this straggling freak of fortune.

—It is stated that Chief Justice Chase has written letters to such reform members of the Ohio Legislature as he has known would vote upon them the importance of ratifying the Fifteenth Amendment. The Chief Justice is exceedingly anxious that Ohio should ratify the amendment, and is said to be using his personal influence for that purpose. In connection with a gentleman a few days ago, he said he would be very much disappointed if the Ohio Legislature did not ratify the amendment. The thought, from his knowledge of the reform relaxation from the cares of business would effect a care. During his absence, at his request and that of the managers, Mr. Franklin B. Gowen, who has been for several years one of the counsel of the Company, consented to accept the Presidency, and was accordingly elected to fill the office by the Board on the 24th of April last.

—Suicide of a Woman in Hamburg.—The Hamburg Times says that Mrs. Elise Fichthorn, wife of a merchant in Hamburg, committed suicide on Saturday morning last. Her husband was engaged in the canal at the rear of their house, and she obtained possession of a boat in the yard. She was observed in the act of jumping in by a young man, who drove out before assistance could be obtained. Mrs. Fichthorn, in a melancholy manner, parted from her several years past, and was supposed to have become slightly deranged previous to committing the act of self-destruction. She leaves a family of children.

The following is a list of unclaimed letters remaining in the Pottsville Post Office, January 15, 1870:

Allen Chas D	Lodg Conrad	Sullivan John O
Assessor of	Mosier John B	Shaefer Jacob
Adam William	Mosher John A	Semple James
Bashore T J	Mosher John	Speakman J
Best Catharine	Miley John	Saville Nathan
Bash Sarah	Moyer Jos K	Snider Simon
Bolton Thomas	Michel John	Spohn Wm
Bondy James	Morgan Marx	Smeltzer Mrs J
Boody John	Miers Sarah	Shilley Miss E
Eleir Joseph	Mowery M	Schell Mary
Eckel F H	Miller Mrs M O	Sweeney Mary
Elavy John	Post Sebastian	Umphry Johnson
Francis Sarah	Reichard Levi	Urich Nicholas
Hannamaker B	Row Thomas	Vernoy Dr S
Hill Ben F	Rosenberger M	Wineland A
Hooper Annie E	Robertson Kate	Williams David
Jones Harry	Saul Charles	Whittaker W H
Kline Abe	Shields David	& Co.
Kremer W H	Shive Daniel	Willman Ada
Kenady Mary	Schenk Geo B	Zwoyer Kate

To the Ladies.—Gowen Post, No. 23, G. A. R., of this Borough, is desirous in about a fortnight, of reproducing the drummer Boy of Shiloh, in even a more creditable manner than before. The success of the piece is jeopardized, however, we are sorry to say, by the inability of the Post so far to obtain the requisite number of ladies to represent the speaking characters. Some two or three ladies have, kindly, feeling an interest in the charitable objects of the Order, consented to appear. But several more are needed, and the Committee of Arrangements, of which Captain E. R. Leib is Chairman, would be exceedingly happy to receive the names of volunteers, so that the piece can be fully cast, and the rehearsals go on.

The piece is now being played in Reading a second time, to crowded houses, and if Gowen Post should be aided in this matter as is desired, it can be made equally a success here.

Proceedings of the Borough School Board.

—A stated meeting of the Board was held on Wednesday evening, Jan. 12, 1870.

Present—Messrs. Edmonds, Fox, Snyder, Little, Hoover, Hodgson, Derr, Shaefer, Sigfried, Huntzinger, and Smith, *President*.

The Committee on philosophical instruments reported the arrival of four boxes of beautifully finished apparatus, all in perfect order.

Miss Sarah Hill was elected teacher of the Orchard school, in place of Miss Guthrie, married and resigned, and her salary fixed at $32 40 per month.

The Superintendent's monthly report for December was submitted, showing the whole number on the rolls, 1741; average attendance, 1516; per cent., 87. This is exclusive of the two night schools—No. 1, whole number, 85; average, 33; per cent., 42. No. 3, whole number, 76; average, 19; per cent., 53.

The following bills were ordered to be paid:

Foust & Weiser	$ 4 66
David Beveridge	25 00
First Reformed Church	17 50
Winfield Christian	1 09
D. L. Christian	75
J. R. Wood	27 90
Wm. Bickel & Son	2 00
Ritchie & Son	416 98
Stichter & Son	29 35
P. W. Shaefer	8 44
Bannan & Ramsey	42 05
Hendler & Co	2 50

The following bills were referred to the Finance Committee, to be paid if found correct: Adam Steinel, $9 75; L. C. Thompson & Co., $77 72; H. B. Smith, $7 00.

The Board then adjourned.

Jottings.—The weather is very cold again.

New counterfeit fifty cent notes are in circulation.

Col. Conner will remove to Ashland to reside, about the first of February.

The late Ladies' Fair for the benefit of the M. E. Church, in Tremont, netted the Church over $600.

Mr. William Foger, of Pinegrove, has been appointed Mercantile Appraiser for Schuylkill County.

The late Fair of Hooker Post, Ashland, realized $1,700 for the charity fund, clear of expenses.

The tavern of A. Branagan, Railroad street, was injured by fire on Monday, caused by a defective stove pipe.

The public practisings of the choir of Trinity Episcopal Church will be given on the first Saturday evening of each month.

This section of Pennsylvania is quite unhealthy. Scarlet fever, diptheria and typhoid fever are the prevalent diseases.

Daniel Webster Lodge, K. of P., Mahanoy City, contains 160 members in good standing. The new officers were installed on Monday evening last.

John Hogan, the little boy who was shot in Mahanoy City last week by Wm. Muldowney, is dead. Muldowney has been committed to await trial.

The application for a new trial in the case of Rev. Samuel Nankervis, convicted at the late December sessions of murder in the first degree, was argued on Monday last. The Court holds the matter under advisement.

The Tremont News says that the colleries of Miller & Graeff, at Lower Rausch Creek, and Mr. Heil, at Strongville, have been idle for a week or two, owing to the excess of water in the slopes, produced by the recent rains.

A complimentary supper was given on Thursday night at the American House, by the Banks of this Borough, to the members of the Associated Banks of Eastern Pennsylvania. The supper was fine; prepared by Mr. W. W. Reed, the popular proprietor of the American, and very competent caterer.

A meeting of the soldiers and sailors of this County was held in the hall of Gowen Post, on the evening of the 9th inst., in reference to Bounty, land matters, and also for a Soldiers' Home in Pennsylvania. In reference to the latter matter it is proposed to hold a meeting of the Posts of the County at an early day.

We recently mentioned that the Philadelphia Conference of the M. E. Church would meet in Pottsville at their next session. We understand that the time of meeting is the 16th of March, and Bishop Simpson will preside. Let our citizens offer their homes for the entertainment of the ministers now, that all the arrangements may be completed in ample time.

The compositors in the various printing offices of this Borough have obtained from the International Typographical Union a charter for 4 subordinate Union, to be known as the Schuylkill Typographical Union, No. 123. The members will hold their first stated meeting this evening, at 7 o'clock, at Railroad Hotel, for the election of officers. This makes the first typographical Union ever established in this County.

Rev. D. D. Thomas, of this County, a respected Welsh citizen, called on Commissioner Wilson, of the Government Land Office, in Washington, on Tuesday, and presented to him an introductory letter from Gov. Geary. Mr. Thomas laid before the Commissioner some interesting facts relative to his countrymen, and another friendly interview will be had shortly making further steps toward inducing a large class of Welshmen to emigrate to this country.

Correspondence.

IN ALL CASES, letters and correspondence addressed to this office, and intended for publication, must be read in the name of the writer attached,—(not that we shall publish it, but for our information,)—and be written on one side of the paper only. Otherwise, they will go into the waste-basket. EDS. JOURNAL.

HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 14, 1870.

Never in the history of our State politics, was so much spirit evinced, or such a determined and persistent effort made to secure the control of the keys of the treasury vault for the year commencing "on the first Monday of May next," as was shown in the contest which resulted on last Tuesday in the selection of General W. W. Irwin, of Beaver County, for the responsible position of State Treasurer. From the moment that General Irwin was pushed, with "gentle force," by the intrigues of the silk-gloved manipulator of the Corporation funds in the last Senatorial fight, from the position which had, for three previous years been occupied by Kemble, of Philadelphia, it was apparent to the political observer that a fight had been inaugurated, the continuance of which would bring with it results fraught with danger to the Republican party of the State. That idea has been partly realized, and the event of Tuesday has left the party, through the intense selfishness of some of its leaders, and the puerile gullability of some of its legislative exponents, shorn of a portion of the strength which is necessary to the continuance of the good work which it inaugurated, and, so far, successfully carried out.

That the Democracy should gloat over the division in the party, and that they should hasten to take advantage of the situation, is not to be wondered at; nor is it strange that the friends of Mr. Mackey should, under the circumstances, vent their disappointment in bitter invective, and pour out their feelings through the columns of the press in manner which time and reflection will cause them to deprecate. That the action of the dissenting Republicans, looking at it in a partisan light, was unwise and impolitic, is true beyond doubt, and no well-wisher to the cause, no matter how warm may be his feelings for the successful candidate, can for a moment tolerate or sustain that course which, if pursued, would be fatal to the existence of any party.

Concerning the candidates themselves, they are personally unobjectionable, and entertain for each other the highest esteem.

Both have shown that eminent fitness for the high trust, and both, notwithstanding the studied calumny of enemies and the subsidized press, have engineered the affairs of the Treasury Department so honestly, conscientiously and successfully as they ever have been or ever can be under the present political system. The late report of Mr. Mackey, a perfect gem in its way, will bear us out in the assertion so far as he is concerned.

Both parties are radical Republicans, and both of them are guided by political circumstances beyond their individual control.

Mackey takes his defeat good humoredly, and expatiates on it like a philosopher, which he is.

The course pursued by Senators Lowry, Kerr and Billingfelt in the present subject of misadjudication, Lowry, we are afraid, is politically lost to us, yet we may be mistaken. The old fox is cunning, and may eventually come out all right. More eccentric than ever, he excited the risibilities of the members on Tuesday last by voting persistently for Bishop Simpson for State Treasurer. The old man, judging from the tenor of some of his declarations, is somewhat nettled on the score of not being recognized as the leader of the Republicans in the Senate.

Kerr's actions are strange, but so far as Billingfelt is concerned, we have not the least fear. He has some old-fashioned ideas of honesty which are not at all appreciated in Legislative circles, and his conscience has not yet been seared with the fires of party rancor. Trust me, he will be true to his party when his convictions tell him that his party is following the course marked out by right and justice.

Hon. Charles Buckalew, who shone in the United States Senate like a rush light, shines in the Senate of Pennsylvania like a sun, and illuminates with his presence the whole political atmosphere. A Senatorial pop-gun at Washington, he is a Legislative thunderer at Harrisburg. His late speech in the contested Findley and Scull case was a brilliant affair, and threw the somewhat lengthy remarks of Senator Wallace, the leader of this party in the Senate, in the shade.

Though Findley has been adjudged to the seat in the Senate, yet in the contest which will ensue, it is confidently asserted that he will be ousted, and Scull, the rightfully elected Senator, seated in his stead.

The session which has been fairly inaugurated, bids fair to be a lengthy one, and the many important political issues at stake will keep alive the interest.

Extensive preparations are being made for the inauguration, and the city will be, if the weather is propitious, crowded with strangers from a distance.

The Governor's message has had the effect of calling down the indignation of the House on the Executive head, and it shows it by refusing, on the score of economy, to have printed for the use of the members 5,000 extra copies of the message, and to increase the salary of the Governor to $7,000 per annum. Foolish House!

SCHUYLKILL.

THE C