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Miners' Journal.

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1870.

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OUR NATIVITY, &c.

SOME of the ignoramuses who are robbing the workingmen of Schuylkill County to line their own pockets, and live in idleness on what they can wring from their suffering dupes, have been industriously circulating that we are an Irishman by birth born in the North of Ireland, and have denied our country. This is another funny idea, and we presume it was hatched in the fertile brain of Siney or Sweeney, and his man Friday, who whenever seen together always bring forth something brilliant. It is Siney here, and it was Sweeney near Manchester, England, as currently reported. If it is any satisfaction to these curious people, we will inform them that the senior editor of this paper was born in Union Township, Berks county, Pa., and that both his parents were born in the adjoining township in the same county. Whether our grandfather was born in the United States, we cannot state—but the fact that we, and our parents were both born on the soil of the United States, we have a pretty strong claim to the title of an American citizen by birth. Our father was a farmer and taught school in the winter. He died when we were only about 9 years of age, and our mother died when we were about 17 years of age. At the age of 17½ years, we entered the office of the BERKS AND SCHUYLKILL JOURNAL at Reading, then published by the late Major George Getz, and served as an apprentice to the printing business until we were 21 years of age. We then worked as a journeyman printer in Philadelphia, whenever employer, the late Mr. Johnson, proposed to us, as he found us pretty steady, to learn a branch of the stereotyping business, offering us full wages while doing so, with a prospect of making at least 50 per cent. advance when we became proficient. Just as we were prepared to receive the advanced wages, after two months' trial, we received an offer from Mr. Getz to enter into co-partnership with him in publishing the BERKS AND SCHUYLKILL JOURNAL. We gave up our situation and returned to Reading, after an absence of a year and a half, but was satisfied then that the partnership would not be conducive to us, from changed habits; and in April, 1829, we visited Pottsville, and found the MINERS' JOURNAL establishment in the hands of the Sheriff. We had then a cash capital of $350, $25 of which we inherited, the balance we had saved, borrowed $500, and purchased the MINERS' JOURNAL establishment for $800, which left us $50 cash to commence business with. The paper then had about 250 subscribers, and the material in the office including the hand press, was not worth over $250.—With the assistance of a journeyman and a boy we published the paper for two years, finding it difficult to make both ends meet, particularly in 1831, which followed the speculations of 1829 and 1830 when the shipments of coal were increased from 47,000 to 79,000 in 1829, and 89,000 in 1830, causing a general crash; and breaking up nearly everybody. In 1831 there was a general stampeding from the region, making the exit out equal to the rushing in in 1829 and 1830, many leaving bills unpaid which they could not meet. As that time lotteries were legal, and the editor of the JOURNAL, in connection with another person, purchased a lotttery ticket—we each drew $1200, and with this we liquidated debts against the establishment which up to that time we found it difficult to meet owing to the inability of those indebted to us meeting their payments, and, the JOURNAL establishment was saved from the almost general wreck that followed.—From that period it has been going on increasing ever since in subscriptions and patronage, until to-day, with only one or two exceptions, numbers more subscribers than any paper published in Pennsylvania out of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. It has encountered all kinds of opposition during this period, but opposition so far has only tended to strengthen and increase its patronage, simply because we publish an Independent Journal and have never suffered any particular clique or interest in politics or business to control it, and it has never been devoted to advance any peculiar personal interest in defiance of the interests of others.

About 1842 a paper calculation was handed us showing that we could make considerable money by embarking in the mining business, with a very small investment. We were inexperienced, and became a partner in the coal business with a friend, which was carried on by our partner, and we attended to our own business as usual. In reply to all inquiries as to the progress of the business, there was always a very plausible excuse given for drawing more money in, and it would surely pay the next year, when suddenly the whole thing collapsed carrying us also in the general wreck. Through the aid of a friend we managed to retain the establishment, but we lost 12 years' business and had to work hard for three more years to extricate us from this difficulty. In 1854 the printing office was set on fire and burned, and we lost about $5000 again. A few years afterwards we lost about $2000 more by the failure of a person we established in business in Lebanon. Independent of these losses, we also lost other sums from $1 up to $1000, amounting in all to not less than $40,000 during the time we have been in business, which, if we had now, would make us feel very comfortable. When misfortune came we did not set down and pine, but went to work again, and we should like to see the person who has worked harder than we have from the commencement up to the middle of 1867, when we took a little recreation, owing to failing health, and since then we have relaxed a little, but are still in the business, so far as head work is concerned.

Independent of these losses we have accumulated a little property, a considerable portion of which yields us no income, and consequently we are not yet able to retire from business and give place to others.

During the whole period we conducted the JOURNAL, we never sought political offices, nor would we ever hold one so long as we conducted the JOURNAL. We have been solicited to take offices, and twice lucrative offices were tendered us when they would have been of service in a pecuniary point of view, but we declined them. Nor have we urged our political friends for office, consequently we have not stood in the way of other political aspirants—but mere political tricks we have always despised. Our aim has been to publish an independent paper, advocating every measure calculated to advance our domestic industry and secure to labor its just reward, freely expressing our opinion upon all questions without fear, favor or affection, and we now challenge either friend or foe to show that during the whole period of 41½ years, that we ever received one dollar for advocating any measure whatever, either political or otherwise, in the columns of the MINERS' JOURNAL.

It is also said by some that we are opposed to foreigners. Those who read the JOURNAL know better. We were opposed to Know Nothingism, because it was unjust to foreigners, making no discrimination between good and bad—and there is not a reader of the JOURNAL who has brains believes such trash. But if foreigners do not act right, and forget the hospitalities that have been extended to them in this country, and become insolent and array themselves against our laws and institutions, we will condemn them as quick as we would any other person. As a family is a nation on a small scale, and we gave hospitality to a person from abroad, so long as he behaved himself, we would treat him kindly, and contribute to his wants and comforts, &c.—but if he were to set himself up in our household and attempt to rule our house and those in it, we would not hesitate to kick him out, if we could, as unworthy of the home we gave him, and so would anybody else who understands his just rights, and has any spirit. But the best evidence that we are not hostile to foreigners is, that we married an English lady, the granddaughter of the late Mrs. Sherwood, about 13 years ago, and who had only been in the country about four years when we married her. A's speak louder than words.

We presume this short history of our life will show that we were not born in the North of Ireland—never denied the country of our nativity—that we are not very hostile to foreigners—that we have been a hard worker all our lives—believe in labor, and have always been its advocate, and it ought to put to the blush the lazy, loafing scoundrels, who by their stupidity or knavery, are robbing and damaging the cause of labor more than all its combined enemies could, in their utmost efforts do, and then turn round and denounce us as enemies of the laboring classes. What next?

FREE TRADE IN ENGLAND.

ITS TRIAL A FAILURE.

THE movements now making in Great Britain in favor of again adopting the Protective Policy, are becoming so important that it is not only becoming a subject of discussion in the leading journals of the country, but able writers are issueing pamphlets and books, pointing out the depressing effects that Free Trade is having upon nearly all the branches of industry, in consequence of the cheaper labor and increased facilities for manufacturing which have sprung up in France, Belgium, Germany and Switzerland under their protective policies, and the cheaper labor which prevails on the continent, where the laborers do not indulge in the same luxuries as they do in England, and can consequently work cheaper—but in proportion as they do protect their industries, does wages advance even in these countries.

Sir EDWARD SULLIVAN, Bart., has recently published a work entitled, "Protection to Native Industry," which is having a large circulation in England, and the National Organization recently established at Chicago to further the interests of protection to home industry and labor, have resolved to re-publish it in this country for general circulation. The following is an extract from the work which speaks for itself:

"Owing to custom, education, habit of life, climate, national peculiarities, cheaper lodgings and food, and other causes, the Belgian, French, German, and Swiss operatives can work and do well, educate their children, and live altogether respectably and contented, at wages varying from 30 to 50 per cent. below those required of the English operative.

This applies to nearly all our industries, more especially to those requiring long hours, patience and industry, rather than to those requiring great physical exertion.

For instance, the proportionate difference in wages between Continental Europe and ourselves is more observable in watchmaking, spinning, weaving, paper-making, cabinet-making, millinery, lace, gloves, boots, shoes, etc., etc., in the fabrication of luxuries of all kinds, than in iron-working, mining, engineering, and other laborious trades and occupations.

Now there is no mistake on this point whatever. In nineteen out of twenty manufacturing industries the German, French, Swiss, and Belgian operative will work cheerfully at a rate of wages varying from 30 to 50 per cent. below that required by the British operatives in similar employments.

The above is the comparative scale of wages in England and on the Continent has been very clearly illustrated, since these pages were written, by the very-satisfactory memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce to the Foreign Office and Board of Trade, reported in the TIMES of the 13th ultimo, and by a most interesting little work just published by Mr. James Samuelson, called "The German Workingman," and which every one who takes an interest in the subject should carefully read. It appears by the former that the earnings of a weaver at Roubaix, in France, are from 2 francs to 2½ francs per day of 12 hours, or 10s. to 12s. per week of 72 hours; while they are from 15s. to 20s. for 60 hours' work at Bradford. The articles move as rapidly at Roubaix as they do at Bradford, consequently each weaver could do 30 per cent. more work at Roubaix than at Bradford. Mr. James Samuelson goes more closely into the subject, and gives a comparative statement of wages in England, Elberfeld, Munich and Zurich, which I have taken the liberty of copying:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING FOR ARTISANS.

	England. s. d.	Elberfeld. s. d.	Munich. s. d.	Zurich. s. d.
Average daily wages, Men only	5 6	3 0	2 0	2 0
Bricklayer	5 6	3 0	2 0	2 0
Cabinetmaker	4 8	2 2	1 8	2 0
Upholsterer	5 0	3 6	—	—
Weaver	3 6	3 0	—	—
Locksmith	4 8	2 1	2 1	—
Spinner	4 0	2 10	—	—
Average cost of bread usually eaten, per lb.	2d.	1d.	1d.	1½d.
Meat, per lb.	6d. to 9d.	6d.*	8d. to 9d.	† Beef, 5d. Veal, 7½d
Good beer, quart	5d.	1d.	1½d. or 1½d.	1d. or 1½d. (wine, 6½d.
House rent, per week	5s. to 6s.	3s.	1s., 8d.	1s. 2d.
Clothes, Sunday suit	about £3	£1 15	£3	—

REMARKS.—The working day abroad is 12 working hours. In England the average is 10½ hours.

In Switzerland consideration may be considered free, and the charge elsewhere is very trifling.

*Eaten daily. †Not eaten by poorer workmen, who eat sausages. (Wurst.)

This immense gulf between British and foreign wages is patent to every one who will take the trouble to go into the question. It would not be very difficult to give the causes of it; but I am now treating of its results, not of its causes.

Twenty years ago the English had better and, cheaper fuel, better and cheaper machinery, far larger capital, superior practical and technical education and experience than the rest of Europe put together; and these advantages more than balanced their higher wages. In spite of high wages, the English manufacturer and operative then had a monopoly of many industries that have since spread rapidly among the manufacturing communities of Europe. Many articles that they then produced cheaper and better than the rest of the world can now be produced as well and as cheaply by other nations.

Increased confidence, the spread of mechanical knowledge, the magnificent effect of an additional circulation of gold, the effect of steam navigation in equalizing the rates of transit, and the price of commodities, have removed many of the advantages England then possessed. The manufacturers and operatives of France, Belgium, Germany, and Switzerland can now get their raw material at the same price as we do, and can deliver their manufactured article in our markets as cheaply as we can. They have now as much capital, as cheap fuel (or nearly so), a good deal of it English, as much technical and mechanical knowledge, as cheap and and as good machinery (most of it also actually English or copied from it) as we possess in this country—all these things, therefore, being equal, they have still an advantage of from 30 to 50 per cent. in wages; and it is this difference that enables them in almost every article to compete with us in our own markets.

Roughly speaking, the proportionate cost of labor in the production of any manufactured article is from 30 to 40 per cent.—say half its market value. A difference of wages, therefore, to the extent of 25 per cent., represents a difference on the total cost of the article of one-quarter of the wages expended on it. Now, supposing any article costs 24s. one-half of which, or 1s., is expended in labor, a difference of 25 per cent. in labor means a difference of one-fourth of 1s., or 3d., or 12½ per cent. on the cost of the article; but as a rule the difference between English and Foreign labor varies between 35 per cent. and 50 per cent. It is in no case less than 25, and in nineteen cases out of twenty nearly 50, and, therefore, the total difference in the item of cost between English and foreign articles of manufacture would be more truly represented by 35 per cent. than by 12½.

All other conditions equal, the Foreign operative must either raise his wages from 30 to 50 per cent., or the English operative must lower his to the same extent, before they can be said to be equally weighted in the international race. But it is of no use the English operative waiting for the Foreign operative to raise his wages, if at the same time he raises his tariff also! This has been the practice in America; operatives' wages have been steadily rising, but consequently have risen the customs duties on the goods they produce. It does not require a conjurer to tell us that English wages cannot be lowered 30 per cent., or Foreign wages raised in the same proportion in a day."

The argument applies with much greater force in favor of Protection to labor and industry in the United States against England, than in England against the Continent. In France, the wages are about one fourth lower than in England, and in Germany and Switzerland they are less than one-half the wages in England. While we pay in our office a good compositor from $2 75 to $3 50 per day, a good compositor in Frankfort, Germany, receives from 40 to 50 cents per day in gold. The wages in the United States will average from one-third to one-half more than wages paid in England—and the ocean rates of transportation are much less than inland transportation—in fact a ton of coal or a ton of iron costs less transportation from England to New York, than from Pottsville to New York. And as the great bulk of manufacturing establishments in England, and on the Continent are near the shipping ports and are seldom over 150 miles in the interior of the country from water communication, they possess great advantages over us. Now, if labor abroad is one-fourth to one-half the rates paid in the United States, how in the name of common sense can we keep up the price of labor in this country if we do not protect our labor and the articles produced from our labor, from the products of the cheaper labor of Europe? We must either lower labor here or abandon home productions in the United States, unless we give ample protection to home labor and home productions. This, every man who has but an ounce of brains, ought to understand—and if he does—is not the man who edits a paper, professing to be devoted to the interests of the workingmen, and refuses to advocate protection to our labor and industry, an enemy to the working classes? That under such circumstances by protecting the product, you only protect the capital of the producer, and do not protect labor, is so bare-faced a falsehood that we should suppose that none but a fool who supposed he was addressing fools like himself, would dare to make such a declaration in the hearing of intelligent persons without being hissed off the stand. Yet such a declaration was made by Hendrick B. Wright, the Prince of Demagogues, to the workingmen a few days ago at Wilkesbarre.

THE best fight yet made by the Republicans of Kentucky to redeem that State from Sham-Democratic rule will be made next Fall, and, with the aid of the colored vote, it may be a successful one.

WORKINGMEN'S PAPERS AND PROTECTION TO OUR INDUSTRY.

DURING the last twenty years especially, quite a large number of papers professedly devoted to the interests of the workingmen, have been started in this country. As far as we have observed their course on matters pertaining to the interest of the working classes, not one of them advocated Protection to American Industry, on the maintenance of which rests good wages and their continuance and stability. This question is one of vital importance to American workingmen, because in Great Britain the average rate of wages is little more than one-half of what it is in the United States; in France it is but little more than one-third; while in Germany it is only about one-fourth. Remove Protection from our products which require it as against this low priced labor, cheap capital and abundant machinery of Europe, and how would the interests of our workingmen be affected? Even more disastrously than those of Europe. Their condition would become positively worse than that of the European workingmen, because the advantages they possess here, if taken away, would be felt more keenly by them—and the want of which in England has already pauperized more than one in twenty of her population, and is driving them by scores of thousands to this country.

Strange to say, in the face of the importance of this principle to American workingmen, none of the papers started ostensibly in the interest of workingmen have advocated it. And the fate of the mass of these papers has been uniform—a brief career. Started in the majority of instances by demagogues and selfish leaders seeking their own personal aggrandizement, they have been used as tenders for the so called Democratic party, until finally sold out, bag and baggage to that party, in order to secure offices for these leaders.

Some years since there was a paper published simultaneously in Chicago and Philadelphia, professedly in the interest of the workingmen of the country. We observed that the paper was opposed to Protection, and feeling an interest in the cause of labor in this country, we wrote to Mr. Sylvas, President of the National Labor Association, on the subject, pointing out to him the great mistake of a paper published in the interest of American workingmen, opposing a principle so intimately connected with their prosperity and welfare, and without which they would be degraded below the wretchedly paid labor of Europe. Mr. Sylvas courteously replied to our letter, informing us that the course of the paper on this subject was guided by the platform of the Association, the principles of which did not provide for the advocacy of Protection. This was the excuse given for not laboring for Protection at that time through the Chicago and Philadelphia organ.

Since that period two papers professing devotion to the cause and interest of workingmen, have been started in the Anthracite Coal Regions. These papers say that they are in favor of Protection to American Industry; that the workmen must receive good wages, etc., yet they decline to advocate the principle in their columns because, as they say, it is a political question. The maintenance of this policy is the securing of good wages to our workingmen, the foundation of steady, permanent, remunerative labor, and when it is in operation labor is in demand and makes its own terms. Surely in the interest of the workingmen this is the policy for these workingmen's papers in these Regions to advocate. Their conductors not doing it, induces us to believe that they are insincere in their assertion that they are friends of the workingmen. We judge a man by his acts not merely his words. In the interest of Free Trade, British gold has been and is yet lavishly spent in this country. It had reached Wells's dorimitory in the Treasury Department at Washington, where up to the 30th of June, the Free Traders had held high court, and to some extent the press has been subsidized and paid to advocate Free Trade. In these coal regions it is quite convenient for the papers published professedly in the interest of the workingmen, to ignore the principle of Protection, and say that they will not touch it because it is a political question; but the Editor of the MONITOR, for instance, has not always been consistent in this matter of eschewing politics while conducting a workingman's paper, for we remember that last year, while editing such a paper, he accepted a nomination for office from the Republican party.

We refer to the fact of the almost uniform and consistent hostility of so called workingmen's papers to the principles on which rest the prosperity of the interests of workingmen, as evidence of the mischief such organs work in labor organizations. A man who says that he is in favor of a measure and yet dare not or will not advocate it, is worse than an open enemy. We must say that in an editorial experience of over forty years, we have never known any of this class of men who were really friends of workingmen. They have generally been led and used by demagogues, for their own selfish political purposes, and against the true interests of labor. Every workingman should doubt the honesty of the man, be he an editor of a professed workingman's paper or not, who talks one way and acts another.

THE STATE CONSTITUTION—ITS AMENDMENT.

THE matter of calling a Convention to revise the Constitution of our State should be discussed more by the people and press in consequence of its necessity and importance. We should follow the excellent example of Illinois, which by a large popular majority has just adopted a new Constitution, which is imbued with the most advanced principles of freedom and republican civilization, and the controlling idea of which is to shield the people against the abuse of legislative power. We should move in the matter in the interest of reform, and to remove three-fourths of the corruption which seems to be inseparable from the operations of the present Constitution. The mere politicians need not be looked to to move in this matter, for reform and protection of the interests of the people do not enter into their views. The press and people therefore, must be looked to to take the initiative in the matter, and see that the representatives in the next Legislature are instructed to vote for a Constitutional Convention.

Repeatedly during the past few years have we urged action in this matter. Last winter we offered a suggestion in connection with it, which met the views and approbation of some of the best legal minds in the State. It is a recognized fact that the system of electing judges is a mistake; but that it will not do to retrograde by going back to the system of appointment of judges. We must in this age progress not go backwards. We therefore, propose that in this matter the Constitution be amended so as to have two law judges elected in each judicial district, one by each party, the same as jury commissioners are now elected, which plan works well and satisfactorily, keeping the matter as it does free from partizanship. By adopting this system, the present associate judges who are neither useful nor ornamental, could be dispensed with, and thus without entailing any additional expense on the State, the judicial business would be better attended to and the election of the judges removed, as it should be, from partizanship. The plan recommends itself for its fairness and feasibility, and is one of the many improvements which might be introduced into the new Constitution.

The following abstract of the most important provisions of the new Constitution of Illinois, we extract from the TRIBUNE:

The new Constitution provides for a Senate of 51 members and a House of 153 Representatives; and also requires that each member of the General Assembly, in taking the oath of office, shall swear that he has not paid or offered to pay, in the form of a bribe, any money or other consideration to secure his election, and that he will not accept any consideration of value for any vote he may give or fail to give, or for any official act he may do. The State is to be divided into fifty-one Senate Districts, each entitled to three Representatives, and for the election of such Representatives each voter is to be entitled to three ballots, all of which he may cast for one person, or he may divide them up between two or three candidates, as to him shall seem good.—This system if adopted, does not go into operation till 1872.

Special legislation is substantially prohibited by a provision which forbids the enactment of a local or special act, the object of which can be reached by a general law. The authority of the Legislature to increase the State debt, except for war purposes is limited to a quarter of a million. The pay of members of the Legislature is to be fixed by law, and all perquisites, as stationery, &c., are limited to $30 per annum for each member. The minority representation principle is made to apply to the election of directors of incorporation. All fees established by special laws are to cease on the adoption of the Constitution. No railroad company is permitted to consolidate its stock with any competing company. A two-third vote is required to override a veto of the Governor, while under the present constitution a bare majority may do so. All State officers are to receive salaries, without perquisites or fees, which salaries shall not be increased during their terms of office. County authorities are prohibited from levying a tax in excess of three-quarters of a cent upon each dollar of valuation, except to pay existing indebtedness, without a vote of the people. City, township, school district, and other municipal corporations are also limited in their authority to levy taxes; and the State and municipal corporations are prohibited from lending their credit to private corporations or individuals. The State, county, city, and township corporations are prohibited from taking stock in any railroad or other corporation, and from making appropriations of the public funds to any church, or of contributing to any way to sectarian purposes.

Before closing this article on the necessity of action in this matter of amending the Constitution of this State, we might remark that we are gratified to state that during the past few years there has been a growing independence of spirit among the press of the State on the subject of needed reforms. Before the late war, the press to a great extent, impaired its influence and power for good, by tying itself to political aspirants to bolster up personal ambition and gain. Such is not now the case to nearly so great an extent, and we have hopes that all the pressing reforms will be effected in the immediate future through its instrumentality mainly aided by a people determined to protect themselves against the usurpations of a perverted and abused legislative power.

THE LABOR QUESTION.

THERE is great and material difference between the status of labor and of the laboring man in Europe and in the United States. In Europe to be born a laborer is with rare and marked exceptions to the rule, to remain a laborer during life. And this is the history of succeeding generations of laboring men there. They have no aspirations beyond the station in life which they fill, and they labor as little as possible in that for the low wages which they receive. The future to them has no possible prospect of elevation above their peasant, semi-serfdom condition. There employers are looked upon as taskmasters who try to get out of their work people as much work for as little pay as possible. In this country the workingman occupies a more ennobling position. Here all men who conduct themselves honestly and well, stand on an equality. The laboring man can entertain aspirations of becoming an employer, of becoming wealthy, and even reaching the Presidency of the United States. Assuredly. There are unnumbered instances of this in the history of the Republic. The reader does not need go beyond the boundaries of Schuylkill County to find instances of men coming from Europe to this country poor, settling in our midst as miners and blacksmiths, and becoming wealthy and influential citizens. Look at the cases of the Messrs. Johns and Kear who, when they first came to this County worked by the day for wages as miners, and who died millionaires. Also at that of our well known and respected fellow citizen, Benjamin Haywood, Esq., who came trudging into this County with a pack upon his back, and who is to-day one of the most influential citizens of the State. If we look at the three men who last filled the Presidential chair, we find that Abraham Lincoln was originally a woodcutter and rail-man: that Andrew Johnson was a Tailor, a good one we suppose although a bad President, while U. S. Grant had been a tanner. These are the instances which rise before the workmen, and hundreds of others of similar significance, urging our workingmen to better their condition and to rise in the scale of wealth and influence as others have done before them. This constitutes the difference between the European and American workingman.

Now in the midst of these natural and praiseworthy aspirations, can be seen the leaders of the Workingmen's movement here, some of whom have scarcely warmed their new places in this country after coming from the old, and of whom it is said that they left their country for their country's good, trying to prevent a competent, skilled workman making more than the lazy drones, and if they do, the surplus shall go into the treasury of the W. B. A. to help support the leaders who if they were compelled to work for their living in place of getting fat salaries, could not earn a decent day's wages. The attempt to clog the action of skilled workmen by such resolutions as the following which were passed lately, shows how mischievous some of these leaders are to the real interest of labor:

Resolved, That on and after the 15th day of July, no person shall constitute a lawful day's work for all members of this Association in the Anthracite coal field.

Resolved, That each branch and district shall regulate their average earnings so as not to exceed over $3 per day on basis of 1869, with the privilege of twenty-five cents per day for gangways and wet and dangerous places.

Resolved, That those places who do not reach the low wages, shall be on equality with the rest, with one exception—those working on the Carbondale regulations—but the eight hours to be enforced without distinction in all the districts.

During the debate in the meeting which adopted these among other resolutions, it was understood that what the good miners made over $3 was to be paid into the W. B. A. treasury, a proportion of it to go of course to support the leaders in their idleness.

Such a spectacle as that which this community now witnesses we never saw before. There are periods when suspension to regulate an overstocked market may be wisdom and prudent. But such an attempt as that noted above to circumscribe and hamper skilled labor for the benefit of the lazy drones and unskilled workmen, is not only unjust to the best workmen, but it is tyrannical. We know that the mass of the miners do not approve of the course of the leaders, nor of the majority of the delegates to the meetings, who themselves working at full wages on the basis, vote against the reduction very naturally but against the real wishes of the mass of the Germans, English, Welsh, and in some sections where they are not overawed, of the Irish miners. A vote taken by ballot among them to-day, would result in "go to work."

In this state of affairs we feel mortified that the community does not as one man, rise and send these false and mischievous leaders whirling out of the County or into the penitentiary, where for the mischief they have done to business and the interests of the working classes, they richly deserve to be sent. If the proper spirit existed in the community in regard to tolerating longer the operations of the men who are thus acting to the great detriment of all classes, they would not be permitted to remain twenty-four hours longer in the County, for they are public as well as private enemies.

THE REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER, with all his eloquence and eccentricity, because all men of genius have more or less of it, is also a great wag. He made a very peculiar, interesting and becoming speech on the Fourth of July, in Connecticut, in the presence of President Grant, General Butler, and a number of other celebrities who were present, which occupied about 15 or 20 minutes. In speaking of the army, he said:

"I refer you to any nation on the face of the globe, no matter how rich or extensive, who could in so short a time muster a million of soldiers, as the North did, and nearly the same number in the South. When the people thus determine for laws they get them; when they determine their policy they carry it out, and when the people say war, there is no other government on the face of the earth like a free government to make an army. If you have the officers prepared. God forbid that old West Point should go down—that is your standing army.—Put West Point down, and you either become feeble or else you are obliged to enlist twenty thousand men to uphold the government. Educate officers and you can dispense with the army, for it takes but a little time to discipline the men and put them into perfect organization.—Educate the officers, or you must substitute for them a standing army. They are cheap too.—There is no body of men less warlike than military officers (laughter), therefore are we not in danger from them. I set out to make that sober, but I could not resist the temptation. I do assure you I had not McClellan in my thoughts. (Great laughter.)"

After uttering a sentiment in favor of freedom in everything, which did not please a person in the crowd, he concluded as follows:

"I see a man carping there (pointing to a man in the crowd), and it puts me in peril. I will shut up. If I linger any longer I shall give the untruth to what I said in the beginning about General Butler, and I know already by advance that he is getting impatient at this long speech of mine, and, therefore, proud as I am to be associated with General Butler on this platform, and joyful as I should be to stand on the platform he once day expects to reach (laughter), I do not think it is fair for me, as I have got a profession already and have got along pretty well in life, to stand in his way. I want him to have a fair bearing and a good chance, and I will stop now, although the most eloquent part of my speech was that which was yet to come. (Great applause).

THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS.

SINCE the discharge of Delmar from this department of the Government, which had fallen into great disrepute owing to the dishonesty and blundering of the former occupant, Mr. Edward Young became his successor and he has redeemed the character of the Bureau. He is busily engaged in furnishing correct and reliable statistics on various subjects which are of great interest, because they are as correct and as reliable as such statistics can be made. We are also happy to announce that Wells has followed Delmar into the Democratic Free Trade Party, which shows conclusively that they were the paid emissaries of free traders, and palmed upon the Government and friends of our domestic industry. The British Free Traders, operating through the League at New York, stop at nothing so long as they can find corrupt tools to suit their purposes.

We penned the above in consequence of the following announcement:

COST OF LABOR AND SUBSISTENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—A document on this subject of about 72 pages, prepared by Mr. Edward Young, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, for the Special Commissioner of the Revenue, is now in type and nearly ready for distribution. It contains tables of the average weekly wages paid in the various industrial establishments of the United States from "Agricultural Implement Factories" to "Woolen Mills" in the respective years of 1867 and 1869. The tables are the result of inquiries made of the proprietors of the respective establishments.—This division embraces about 30 pages.

Several pages are devoted to the wages paid in the leading mechanical employments, from blacksmiths to wheelwrights; in every State and Territory in the Union, giving the average daily rates, with board and without board, in the respective years 1867 and 1869, and a recapitulation by sections. About twelve pages are devoted to this branch. The average daily and monthly wages of both inexperienced and ordinary hands, including farm and other common and domestic labor in Summer and in Winter, with and without board, in each State and Territory of the Union are given for the respective years of 1867 and 1869, also a recapitulation by sections. To complete the preceding tables of wages, the average cost of provisions, groceries, fuel, and leading articles of dry goods, as well as of house rent and board are given in each State and Territory for the years 1867 and 1869, also a recapitulation by sections—the list embracing 19 distinct items; a statement showing the average weekly expenditures of workingmen's families in the manufacturing towns of the United States, and another giving the average income and expenditure of similar families in Belgium.

To ascertain whether the high rents paid by workmen were justified by the increased cost of building, inquiries were addressed to leading builders in various cities and manufacturing towns, asking the cost in 1861 and 1869, respectively, of the various materials, as well as of labor, employed in the erection of dwellings for workingmen. The result shows the increase in the cost of materials to have been 58 per cent.; of labor, 103 per cent., and of building 64 per cent.

The following comparison of the average weekly wages paid to persons employed in woolen mills, in England and the United States, in the years 1868 and 1869, respectively, is taken from the table on wages in woolen mills:

Occupations.	Average Wages, gold value. England. s. d.	U. S. d.	Per cent. in favor of U. S.
Wool sorters	8 4	9 7	19.76
Wool washers	6 11	5 9	17.88
Carders	6 10	5 3	12.46
Overseers	12 6	9 00	29.45
Pickers	5 10	5 00	—
Jackers	5 10	5 00	12.46
Spinners	8 02	6 00	33.33
Warpers and beamers	6 71	5 67	—
Reelers	7 10	5 67	27.50
Weavers	6 00	4 67	22.83
Burlers	5 75	4 33	32.85
Fullers	6 75	5 33	11.31
Dressers	8 22	5 70	44.57
Finishers	9 17	6 00	19.05

In the preparation of this work, Mr. Young has simply preserved facts and figures, leaving it to the reader to draw such inferences as the data before him seem to warrant.

The above it appears was to be a part of the report of Commissioner Wells, but was not ready in time for his report. We presume he was in no hurry to have it prepared for said report, because the facts it contains are a direct contradiction of Commissioner Wells' former report which he made on this subject. We believe this is the most prominent cause for delay. We had a queer private letter a short time ago, stating that certain things could be done, if they dare—and as soon as they dare, they would be done.—This is all we can say about it, as it was strictly private.

[FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

WOULD I GO TO THY WEDDING?

BY W. B. B.

WOULD I go to thy wedding? No! I, my dear,
Mingling with friends who but gossip and leer,
I could wish *thee* much joy, but not to the groom,
Oh! how could I witness his sealing my doom?

Would I go to thy funeral? No! I my dear,
But in sorrow would linger to shed a sad tear,
And early in spring when the sweet violets bloom,
I would scatter them gently over thy tomb.

Local Matters.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

JULY, 1870	SUN'S RISES	SUN'S SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.	D. H. M.
9 SATURDAY	4 30	7 32		
10 SUNDAY	4 31	7 32	First Q.	1 7 31 ev
11 MONDAY	4 32	7 31	Full M.	12 3 33 ev
12 TUESDAY	4 33	7 31	Last Q.	19 8 37 ev
13 WEDNESDAY	4 34	7 30	New M.	26 9 26 mo
14 THURSDAY	4 35	7 30		
15 FRIDAY	4 36	7 29		

Travel is brisk on the Reading Railroad and its branches.

The census takers have commenced operations in Pottsville.

Pottsville was well represented at the Cressona Park yesterday afternoon.

Bricks are accumulating in Centre Street for Mr. Huntzinger's new building.

Another dry season is prophesied this summer. It is very slow about coming.

Jones' Band officiated at the corner-stone laying at Schuylkill Haven yesterday.

Why is it?—We learn that but one of the alleged dog-fighters was held to answer the charge at Court.

To-morrow.—Twenty-eighth Sunday of the year and fourth after Trinity. Day's length 14 hours and 55 minute.

A Gipsy Band passed through town on Thursday evening and camped beyond Lawton's Hill. Look out for thieves.

Base Ball.—The Suspension Nine of St. Clair beat the Pastime Nine, of Minersville, yesterday, the score being 41 to 35.

See advertisement of Bons & Raudenbush, wholesale and retail dealers in lumber, corner of 4th and Spruce streets, Reading, Pa.

THE Rev. Dr. Vincent, of Philadelphia, will preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Pottsville, to-morrow (Sunday) morning and evening.

Sunstroke.—Almost all our exchanges are recording cases of death or prostration from the effects of the extreme heat. The best preventatives are temperance in eating, drinking, and exercise. Keep out of the sun as much as possible; drink but little cold water and less spirits; avoid severe bodily exercise, and you will be apt to weather the "heated term" without serious difficulty.

The Crops.—The farmers in Lancaster, Chester, Bucks, and Lehigh, Lebanon and parts of Berks, are all complaining of a partial failure of the wheat crop this and for several preceding years. These counties used to be famous for their heavy crops of wheat, which was the great staple. Now corn and oats are found to be more profitable crops. Unless things take a turn the farmers of Eastern Pennsylvania will have to give up wheat culture altogether and turn their attention to something else.

A Minersville correspondent sends us the following information:

MINERS EDITORS:—The following is a correct copy of a notice received in the Minersville P.O. by an employee of D. Freiler, brewer of this borough.

CAMP VIGILANCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Lawrence Mannion:—As a friend I wish to inform you that you must stop driving old wagons in this County after this date, if you don't you will be attended to.

This is by order of the Vigilance Committee. It was directed in care of Mr. Wadlinger, brewer, Minersville, S. Q. Schuylkill County, Pa., for Lawrence Mannion.

Hooker Post, G. A. R., Ashland, returns its thanks to Hon. J. Irvin Steel for his donation to the Post of Bates's History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers.

We have no doubt that Gowen Post, of this Borough, would be happy to make similar acknowledgement to Hon. James Ellis for a similar favor for its Library.

The Girardville Accident.—We have received a letter from C. D. W., Ashland, in which it is stated that the accident which occurred to Mr. Evans, at Girardville, was one of that kind that could not have been avoided by any one connected with the train. The engineer, it is alleged by our correspondent, is one of the most careful on the road and was not running his train faster than ten miles an hour at the time of the occurrence. It is said that Mr. Evans attaches no blame whatever to any one except himself.

"Pericles," whose communication is too lengthy for our crowded space, informs us that the Fourth was celebrated with much spirit in Minersville by a procession, headed by the Minersville Cornet Band, dressed in a new uniform, and by some street evolutions by Captain Hugh O'Neal's military company, which attracted much attention. Our correspondent looks forward anxiously to the One Hundredth Anniversary of the day. Well, it will be a great day not only in Minersville but all over the country.

The Census Taker.—Seeing the census takers scurrying round the circle, reminds us of Saxe's amusing ver