

WEST BRANCH FARMER

From the American Agriculturist.

Qualities of Lime—No. 2.
Lime is slightly soluble in water, a property which is so essential to enable it to undergo in itself and effect in other matter, those chemical and mechanical changes before alluded to. The solvent power of water upon lime is in the inverse ratio of its temperature. At 32° water dissolves 1-656 of its weight of lime; at 60°, 1 778; and at 212°, 1 1270; and as the ordinary temperature of water in soils seldom exceeds 60°, and frequently is near 32°, it follows that in this condition, it acts with nearly its maximum influence on lime.

Another property of lime, we have no doubt is true, though in the yet imperfect state of agricultural science, we are not absolutely certain of it; and if true, it is of incalculable advantage in promoting the growth of vegetation and, that too from the gratuitous supplies derived from the atmosphere. When lime is mixed with damp manure and rich vegetable loam, in the shade, it condenses nitric acid, which immediately combines with the potash of the manure, forming nitrate of potash (saltpetre). That this operation is going forward in rich calcareous soils, hardly admits of a doubt, especially when shaded by a rank vegetable growth, and occasionally stirred in the process of cultivation. The value of both nitric acid and nitrate of potash to vegetable nutrition, has too often been tested to admit of doubt. Professor Johnston in his ingenious and valuable essay on lime, published in the *Highland Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*, in which many of the probable beneficial operations of lime are detailed, corroborates this opinion and attributes not only the formation of nitric acid, but ammonia, also, "at the expense of the free nitrogen of the atmosphere, from the presence of calcareous matter in the soil."

There is a great difference in the value of the various limestones for agricultural purposes. When burnt, some contain considerable proportions of phosphate of lime, the remains of innumerable infusoria, coprolites, and some species of the coral, the aggregation of ages of insect and other animal remains, in the indefinite past. Phosphate of lime is the principal fertilizing material of bones, and enters into the composition of every vegetable; its importance must therefore be readily appreciated. And this is the reason why one species of limestone yields what is termed lime, but which is really quicklime associated with the phosphate, so much more valuable for agricultural uses than others, which approximate more nearly to a pure carbonate. Many of the limestones of Kentucky and other parts of the Union, and more frequently the marls, yield a larger percentage of phosphate of lime; and wherever such are attainable, their application to soils is attended with the best results. The yield of fertile lands is augmented, and the recalcification of worn out soils is speedily accomplished where such a dressing is used. There are other limestones which yield only an impure lime, mixed with considerable quantities of other minerals or earth, of no utility for agricultural purposes.

Oyster-shell lime, or that derived from other shell fish, both of marine and freshwater origin, is generally superior for agricultural purposes, to such as is derived from other sources; not only from its containing nothing but what is useful, but especially as yielding a noticeable quantity of phosphate.

Magnesian lime has its value in agriculture. This is apparent from the analysis of the ashes of all vegetables. None are without magnesia. Wheat contains about 0.9 per cent.; barley almost 2; the bean and pea nearly as much; and their straw and the clovers and lucern, from 2 to 3.5. Besides contributing to the food of plants, its alkaline properties act on soils and manures in a manner similar to lime, but in a more intense degree. Wherever applied, therefore, it must be in quantity considerably less than when the pure lime is used.

The effect of lime upon crops is to mature them earlier, and give a fuller, healthier growth. The best sugar plantation in Louisiana, which gives the largest average yield of sound, convertible juice, has great quantities of muscle shells, in every stage of decomposition, scattered throughout the soil. Wheat is found to be fuller and heavier when grown on well-limed or calcareous soils. The stalk is not so liable to rust or mildew, and it yields a lighter, cleaner straw. The potato rot, which has devastated not only fields, but whole countries, has in many instances, been checked or wholly prevented by the use of lime. Lime seldom or never does injury either to the soil or crop, unless applied in excess; and in nearly all cases, its application is attended with the best results.

The application of lime may be made either after burning or grinding, but the former is by far the most speedy in its effects. In this case, it is reduced to an impalpable powder, it may be a thousand times finer than by the most efficient artificial grinding, so much more perfect are

the chemical operations of nature than the mechanical ones of man. In consequence of this minute division, every particle of the lime is brought into intimate contact with the soil and exerts its full influence; while the unburned though finely-divided limestone may require many years, and probably centuries of them to yield all its benefits. The difference to the soil is analogous to that of an animal swallowing unbroken grain and cooked meal. In the former case, the grain may possibly be voided before digested; in the latter, every particle of the farinaceous nutriment has been developed by the expanding heat, and is thus ready for immediate assimilation by the stomach.

It is important to secure the maximum benefit of lime, that it be kept near the surface. Air, moisture, heat and light are all important agents in effecting chemical changes in the soil; and these are only to be found at or near the surface. From its greater weight, there is a constant tendency to sink, not only from the operations of the plow, spade, &c., but from the washing of rain, the operations of moles, earth worms, and insects, besides such portions as are dissolved and carried down. This consideration should induce a frequent application of small quantities, say 20 to 40 bushels per acre, as often at least, as once every three to five years. And to secure its immediate action, which is not felt for one or two years, it may be intimately mixed with four or five times its bulk of rich turf or loam, and allowed to remain for a few months or a year, when it will be ready at once to commence its work of regeneration in the soil, besides yielding a valuable manure in the rich loam with which it has been mixed.

The Fire Annihilator.

Mr. Phillips, the inventor of this new apparatus, recently gave an exhibition of its powers to a large company assembled at the London Gas Works, Vauxhall. After some preliminary remarks on the vast losses from fire, amounting annually, in the three kingdoms, to \$2,000,000, and the inefficiency of water in quenching a furious conflagration, he set fire to a compartment of a large open building filled with partitions and temporary joisting of light wood, drenched with pitch and turpentine and hung with rags, soaked with the same combustible. The flames ascended roaring with such violence as to repel the spectators to a distance of forty feet, reaching, apparently, beyond all remedy by water—when Mr. P. with one of his hand machines, somewhat larger than a good sized coffee pot, from which a volume of gas and vapor was discharged, extinguishing the flames in "half a minute;" and then to prove that there was no noxious quality in the resulting air, immediately walked through the building with a lighted candle in his hand.

A company has been formed to manufacture these new style of fire engines; which, if they answer as well in practice as they seem to do in experiment, will soon make their way to this country, and find their field of operation in subduing flames, and putting out fire-riots.

Decayed Grain Injurious to Stock.

There is great danger of feeding to animals, diseased or decayed food of any kind. Some species of decay are not injurious, others are positively dangerous. The rot in the potato of late years, has in many instances, not diminished the fattening properties of the root, as it was the tissues or nitrogenised portions of it that were decayed, while all the starch, from which the fat is principally formed, remains unimpaired for sometime after the commencement of rot.

So it is frequently with grain. The starch is little liable to decomposition, or disease, and is only induced to it, by the proximity (close juxtaposition) of the albuminous (nitrogenised) parts, which communicate incipient fermentation, which, under favorable circumstances, rapidly proceeds to destructive decomposition.

The ill effects of this species of food is shown in the fact quoted by a correspondent—that a steer fed upon it became paralyzed, and a change was essential to prevent this terminating fatally. We have known a choice herd of swine swept off by feeding on what that had been damaged by leakage on ship board. To insure safety under such feeding, a person must know just what he is about, and the precise quality and condition of the article he is feeding.

The editor of the Worcester, (Mass.) Tribune says, he in company with others, have examined the discovery at Mr. Paine's house, who lights and heats his whole house with cold water; and that the light surpasses anything he ever beheld—more like sunlight than anything else; that the intense heat of the flame serves for warming a room, and to cook a dinner, or for any use to which a fire is ordinarily applied; and that there is a great saving of wood and expense.

Season for Felling Resinous Trees.—Any time during this month, or the next three months following, all kinds of pine, larch, and other resinous trees may be cut, as the pores of their wood will be filled with resin, which serves to increase the strength and durability of their timber.

To get credit—be punctual. To preserve it, don't use it much.

Terrible Sickness at Rio de Janeiro!

The fast sailing, clipper built ship Grey Eagle, Capt. Donley, from Rio Janeiro, arrived in the Delaware, below Philadelphia, on Tuesday, after a very short passage of 32 days.

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 4, 1850.

The yellow fever commenced here about the middle of December last. It manifested itself in the harbor and city at the same time. At first it was looked upon as an aggravated form of the "Polka Fever," which prevailed here some three years ago, and gave but little alarm. But in one month, its ravages had been so great, that much apprehension was felt; numbers fled to the mountains; and the impression became general that for the first time the Yellow Fever had made its appearance in the city and port of Rio, so long and justly celebrated for health.

At the first, Danish, German and Swedish shipping suffered most in port, but in a short time it spread to American and English—indeed to all vessels of every flag, and in every part of the harbor.

There have been times, for weeks at a time, that there were not seamen enough in health to man half the vessels in port. What number of seamen have perished here during a few months past, I have not as yet had the opportunity of knowing. The number, however, must be very great.

Scores of vessels have lost every soul on board. Many have left with a new crew, and in a few days returned again with only men enough to get the vessel back, and frequently bereft of the captain, and one or more subordinate officers. At one time out of eighty custom house officers, engaged as guards, &c., only eight remained to do the work. And to day it is no better among the shipping. In a few days the steamer New World lost eleven of her men and her only passenger.

In the city and its various suburbs, the fever has been equally if not more fatal. All classes have suffered, but poor native residents and foreigners have mostly fallen victims to this unexpected destroyer. Entire families have been swept away in a few days. Strangers passing a few weeks at Rio, have been arrested and perished, both on shipboard and shore. California vessels from England and America, stopping here, have suffered much. Passengers exposing themselves by going ashore, have taken the fever in a short time and found a grave long before reaching the gold region.

Government some time ago, prohibited the ringing of church bells and the interment of the dead in the niches of churches and other public buildings. For a long time no report of deaths was made; but now an official report has been made of the aggregate mortality since the commencement of the epidemic, and it amounts to 14,000 deaths of this fever in the harbor and city in the last three or four months. The estimate is now 300 daily, and no abatement either on shore or in the harbor.

On Monday evening of this week, the remains of Maj. T. S. Morgan, Secretary of U. S. Legation, and the only son of Gov. Kent, American Consul, were buried at the English Cemetery, Gamboua.

Such are a few instances of the terrible scourge now prevailing amongst us. But hundreds of heart rending cases remain to be told.

Doctors have been particularly unhappy in the treatment of this disease. Simple treatment and good nursing have proved far more successful.

Capt. Amity and Capt. Harris, both of them in command of American California bound ships, had died. A report had arrived that there had been great mortality on a U. S. store ship after leaving Rio. This we fear, is the Lexington, which was at Rio at the last account. One commercial house had twelve clerks down with it at once, and many houses had to be closed.

A Good Provision.

One of the provisions of the Constitution of California is as follows:—*Every law enacted by the Legislature shall contain but one object; and that shall be expressed in the title.* This is an excellent provision, and was intended to guard against Legislative "log-rolling," which seeks to combine several objects in one Omnibus bill, so called. We of Pennsylvania have suffered more from this characteristic manner of getting bad measures through under false names, than any other State. It is an infamous system, and is not surpassed in desperation and cunning by any modern invention of those who live by their wits.—*Danville Democrat.*

New Spark Arrestor.

A spark arrester, three to four feet in height for locomotives and other steam engines, has been invented by A. Addis, of Lycoming County, Pa. It will pass sparks through, over and into water, and drive out smoke only. It can be constructed to use three, four or five fires. Locomotives with this spark arrester on them can pass under bridges, run into cities, towns and villages without any danger of setting fire to bridges or buildings. The flues and water can be graduated to any size and length that may be wanted according to the capacity of the locomotive or engine.—*Weekly Organ.*

The Chemung Bridge, at Elmin, and two stores, were burnt on the 23 inst.

News & Notions.

WANTED—The editor of the Register wants one thousand new subscribers. So do we; and we hope "want will not be our master."

The Berwick Telegraph, 9th inst., says there is a breach in the Canal at that town which will stop navigation a few days.

The word *Debt* is the initial letters of "Dan Every Body Twice." And *Credit* means—"Call Regular Every Day—'I'll Trust."

During the week ending the 17th ult., seven deaths from cholera and two from small pox occurred in Cincinnati.

Gen. Cass' motion to withhold all diplomatic intercourse with the Austrian Court, was voted down, 17 to 23.

M. Bodisco, the Russian Minister to this country, about whom so much noise was lately made by certain American journals, arrived at New York on Thursday, in the Cambria.

There were 8,000 California emigrants at Weston, St. Joseph's, Mo., at last accounts, and one boat in descending the Missouri river met twenty-nine going up, all crowded with overland adventurers.

A great many people like an "independent press," which always chimes exactly with their own opinions; but a truly honest press must differ from somebody.

The election of Speaker cost the United States about \$50,000. The Louisville Democrat says: "Corn ought to be high when a Cobb bears such a price."

They have got some witches down in Stratford, Ct., that beat the Rochester knockings all to pieces. They turn things topsy turvy, and in one instance tore the seat of a boy's trousers entirely off. The age is progressing.

OFFICIAL—It is astonishing how much wisdom can be compressed into three lines; for example: "The most useful sign painters in the world are publishers of newspapers—advertise your business in the papers, if you would draw custom."

A marriage was performed at Quincy, Ill., a few days since, brought about as follows: A gentleman in Kentucky saw the daguerotype likeness of one of the far ones in Quincy—went over, wooed, won, and married her.

Philip White, a soldier of the Revolution, died in Camden county, N. J., on the 22d ult., at the advanced age of 104 years.

The Furnaces in York, Lebanon, Clarion, and Armstrong counties, are nearly all "blown out," or in the hands of Sheriff's.

James Brown, Esq., formerly Prothonotary of Wyoming county, in returning home from Tunkhannock a few days since, with his wife and daughter, attempted to ford Bowman's creek, in his carriage. The carriage upset, Mr. Brown and daughter were rescued, but Mrs. Brown perished.

On the 2d inst., 2,240 shares of Delaware & Hudson Canal Company stock sold in New York at prices ranging from 163 to 166 per cent.

The Garrison abolitionists were mobbed on Monday evening, in the Talencastle, at New York, by Capt. Rynders and the Empire club. The saintly Rynders took offence at Garrison's denunciation of the American churches!

The Legislature of Pennsylvania has chartered a college for the medical education of females, to be located in Philadelphia, and it is believed to be opened some time in October next. It is understood that Elizabeth Blackwell, M. D., who is now continuing her studies in Paris, is talked of for the chair of surgery.—*Balt. Sun.*

Gen. Sam. Houston, on his recent visit to Tennessee gave it as his "private opinion" that "every rascal who attends the Nashville Conv. ought to be hung with a great rough halter."

The price for telegraphic dispatches has been reduced one half on the Morse line between New York and Portland.

An old man of 60 or 70, in Sussex county, N. J., murdered his young wife, of 27, on the 2d inst., through a fit of jealousy.

The grain in the vicinity of Pittsburg is said to look well.

The brothers Montesquieu, at St. Louis were admitted to bail on the 20th ult., Gozlave in the sum of \$10,000, and Raymond \$20,000. Bails were entered, and they were provided with lodging at the hospital.

A great number of policemen have gone up the river, at the request of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, to put down a disturbance going on there, between the "Fardowners" and the "Corinthians," employed as laborers upon the Company's works.

The Rochester American warns all persons engaged in getting up "mysterious rappings" in other places, that it is an infringement of the patent, which is secured to Rochester.

The Bap. Free Mission College for Colored Youth has opened at M'Grawville, N. Y., with 100 pupils.

The Virginia and Michigan Constitutional elections have resulted in favor of the Democrats.

The papers from every section of the county, and especially of Maryland, are noticing the prospect and appearance of the wheat crop, and which, upon the whole, is highly favorable to an abundant harvest.

The Austrian government has offered 20,000 ducats reward, to the person who shall present the best locomotive engine, for use on the Soemmering railway.

Gen. Sam Houston was to speak at the temperance meeting, last Friday evening, at the New York Tabernacle.

The President has given the appointment "at large" of Cadet at West Point, to son of Dr. J. B. Wright, (an eminent surgeon of the U. S. Army,) to fill the vacancy made by the death of the son of Hon. Mr. Hillson, of Alabama. The young gentleman is a native of this State, and now resides at Wilksbarre.

THE CHRONICLE.

H. C. HICKOK, Editor.
G. N. WOODEN, Publisher.
At \$1.20 each in advance, \$1.75 in three months, \$2 paid within the year, and \$2.50 at the end of the year.
Agents in Philadelphia—Y. B. Palmer and E. W. Carr.

Lewisburg, Pa.
Wednesday Morning, May 15.

As the Editor is at Court, all the sins of this Chronicle must be credited to the Printer.

We think the Telegraph must be "out of order," as we have had no "despatches" from New Berlin. We are informed however that the Whig County Convention of yesterday appointed ROBERT V. GLOVER, of Hartleton, Representative Delegate to the State Convention, and concurred with the appointment of Col. ALEXANDER K. M'CLURE of the "Junia Register" as the Senatorial Delegate.

Moreover, the Mail from Harrisburg and Philad. yesterday utterly failed as far as Lewisburg was concerned; consequently we pretend not to have the latest news.

Thanks to Gov. Johnston, Hon. Messrs. Daniel Webster, David T. Disney, and Jos. Casey, Washington, and Messrs. Sifer and Cunningham, Harrisburg, for Pub. Doc. Also to Senators Cooper, Sturgeon, and Frick, for nothing.

Farmers!

Do not forget, this busy season, to pen an article now and then for the Chronicle. Original articles in this paper we frequently see copied into better journals—and we therefore are confident your efforts are judicious and well received.

In another column will be found the report of the Committee of Thirteen, which the Senate appointed to concoct a log-rolling bill to settle all questions connected with the Slavery question in the National Councils. The Committee had (of course) a majority of Southerners; and of the Northerners, Mr. Bright, of Ind., owns slaves in Kentucky, and the "greatest regret" of Mr. Dickinson of N. Y., is, that he "was not born in Old Virginia." From such a committee, Liberty had nothing to expect, and is not, therefore, disappointed.

When the great Compromiser, Mr. Clay, had presented the Report, six of the thirteen Committee-men—Messrs. Cooper and Phelps from the North, and Messrs. Berrien, Clemens, Downs, and Mason from the South—arose and declared their dissent in whole or in part from the recommendations of the report. The South want more concessions still, and expect to find dough-faced cowards enough at the North to get them.—The success of this omnibus plan, even in the Senate, is doubtful.

Montour County.

The Governor having signed the bill to divide Columbia county, this new county will organize by the election of its officers next fall. Montour county comprises Danville, Anthony, Derry, Limestone, Liberty, Mahoning, Franklin, about half of Madison and of Roaringcreek, and about a third of Montour and Hemlock—or the Southern half of Columbia county. It is a narrow strip—probably the smallest county in the State—but rich, and with the energy of Danville (its seat of justice) will make a respectable county. The old County Buildings will doubtless answer for a time as well as new. The number of Taxables in Montour is about 2500, leaving 4100 in Columbia. It is to be hoped the result may preserve the State from any further annoyance and loss in the prosecution of the thirty-five years' contention between *Dan and Bloom.*

Cesar's Head.

It seems the description we gave some weeks since of this almost unknown but magnificent monument of Almighty power and grandeur, was particularly accurate, as we find that the "Keewee Courier" of Ap. 26th, (published in its immediate neighborhood, at Fickens Court House, South Carolina), copies our article in *extenso*, accompanied by the following editorial statement:—"Our fourth page contains an editorial from the Lewisburg Chronicle, in which the wonders of Cesar's Head, and the grandeur and glory of the mountains around are sketched with a graphic hand; but none can paint like nature, and therefore, the most finished description must fall short of expressing those ideas of unfathomable depth, and of illimitable space that overwhelm one when he gazes from the giddy heights of Cesar's Head. "Our Pennsylvania traveler appears to have lost his way, having been driven to the necessity of ascending the Mountain by a circuitous and dangerous route, and for fear that some of our readers might meet with the same accident, we take this occasion to say to them that there is a turnpike road, somewhat circuitous 'tis true, but by no means dangerous, crossing the very apex of the mountain in the immediate vicinity of which open the hospitable doors of the 'Cesar's Head Hotel,' kept by that most incomparable of publicans, B. Hagood."

The "Home Journal," New York, commences a New Series on the 1st July next, from which time they will publish an increased edition sufficient to supply all new subscribers.

[We trust the "H. J." will also be more successful in reaching this office, as per agreement. The same hope for "Fitzgerald's City Item."]

The Tariff

is a question of National concern, and we hope the day may soon arrive when it will be treated as such, and not as a party football. We clip the following paragraph from a recent letter of "Observer," a correspondent of the Philad. "Ledger," a radical "Free Trade" paper. We are of opinion the proposed modification of the Tariff to which he refers would meet the views of the mass of the people in this State:

"The revenue from customs, for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1850, exceeds already the estimates of Mr. Meredith, for the whole year, by more than half a million of dollars. It will probably reach between thirty-six and thirty-eight, perhaps forty million of dollars. This has not been a 'famine year'—and the phenomenon must therefore be explained on a new principle. There is, nevertheless, a strong party in Congress, who want to see home valuations introduced to protect the revenue against frauds, and to give the American manufacturer or iron master the benefit of the experience of a certain number of years, by fixing the value of the dutiable article, according to its average price for a certain period. This will not interfere with the principles of the Tariff of 1846, and yet prove satisfactory to many who are now partially opposed to it."

New Exchanges.

"Berwick Telegraph," Berwick, Col. Co., Pa., by J. M. Snyder, Democratic.
"Pettigill's Reporter," Boston. Endeavoring to procure a complete list of all the newspapers in the U. S. Hope he may live to get it.
"Keewee Courier," Pickens C.H., S.C., has one printer and two editors—a small sheet at that—mildly but decidedly Calhounish.
"Lewisburg Gazette," Marshall county, Tennessee. Strongly, pathetically for the Nashville Convention, and opposed to the Administration.
"Asheville Messenger," Buncombe county, N. C., Whig. We copy a few short items:

"WANTED.—A large quantity of plaster is wanted at this office, to draw the advocates of the Nashville Convention to a head. Also, a like amount of adhesive plaster, to hold them together; for recently the 'place' of meeting has been mooted, and many of its friends are falling off.

"Mr. Smith, near Helicon Springs, Ga., while attempting to arrest a Mr. Austin, was shot, and one of the party immediately shot Austin, who is dead, and Smith not expected to survive.

"Of 33 papers in this State, 20 have spoken against the Nashville Convention; several are silent."

"The 'Banner,' Fairmount, Marion Co., Va., rejoices in the sight of a steamboat—(up the Monongahela from Pittsburg, we 'reckon';)—also, in the arrival of a young Mr. Morris, who with its maternal ancestor is justly regarded as worthy of more attention than the paper from the elder Mr. M.

The "Lewisburg Chronicle," Greener county, Virginia, (Whig) dons a new dress. We like the suit and the spirit of our namesake, but as it is the junior, wish it would form an alliance that would give it a new name.

JENNY LIND is the next personage to make the American "upper tandem" folly-mad, and "the rest of mankind" their servile imitators. *Jenny Lind* lats and bonnets, parasols, pants, and ploughs, gloves and gawgaws, songs and small-talk, will be "the rage"—and the "Swedish Nightingale" the goddess of popular idolatry. Her "showman," Mr. Barnum, will doubtless make more than any Californian hopes for, and millions of money be squandered that might be much more profitably or honestly applied.

"Graham" for July, and "Sartain" (we believe "Godey" also) have portraits of the charming songster—the first two of which we have received; they do not resemble each other minutely, and a friend states that neither look like the "original" painting in Philadelphia.

The Williamsporters we learn are making great preparations for the coming Democratic State Convention, which meets at that place the 20th inst. Private accommodations are to be provided for man and beast—the streets to be deprived of every superfluous pile of rubbish—all the children's faces to shine like a May morning—in short, it is to be the "greatest day, and more to it," than the 'Empire' has enjoyed since the era of the Editorial Convention.

The Romantic Wedding published by us some time since, has taken the tour of "all the papers," but we observe that in its progress its credit has been "transmogrified" from plain "Lewisburg Chronicle" to the "Louisville Courier!" This reminds one of Byron's definition of

"Gloomy"—To be bored through with a cannon ball, and your name so misapprehended in the list of killed that your own mother would not know it!"

Mr. J. F. E. HILLEN, recently of New Berlin in this county, we see it stated has in course of publication a work entitled "Landscape Drawing Book—chiefly from Nature." In 24 No's., each containing 4 plates, at 19 cts per No., or \$4 for the whole, one-half in advance. We hope it may be successful. (At Philad.)

There have recently been nightly attempts to break into stores, from Milton as high up as Williamsport, but with very little success. Merchants and house-keepers in other quarters should increase their vigilance and precautions.

By the laws recently passed, the people of this State will next Fall vote for The Amendment to the Constitution, One Canal Commissioner, An Auditor General, and A Surveyor General. The people of each county, in addition to their other officers, will next Fall elect A Prosecuting Attorney, and A County Surveyor.

Travelers

Will find the "American Railway Guide" a valuable auxiliary in planning or prosecuting journeys. It is published monthly by Curran Dinwiddie, at the "Path-finder" office, No. 123, Fulton St., New York—price not stated, but we should guess at 25 cts per No.

Mr. SHARP's double-toned musical voice has called out large audiences up and down the West Branch, and created much interest.

From California.

Four steamers with 300 passengers and Two Millions in gold have arrived.

It is stated that the State Government were about seizing the money in the hand of the Collector of Customs, and setting up an Independent Government, but that Com. Jones would resist the measure.

The Oregonians—ficers and all—were mostly in California, digging gold. Business was dull—rents, wages, &c. were coming down.
Election for Sheriff, &c., was going off when the last steamer left.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Bickell, the new State Treasurer, entered upon the discharge of the duties of that office on Monday week. Asa Dinwiddie, Esq., has been re-appointed chief clerk of the office.

The committee appointed to investigate the official conduct of Mr. Ball, late State Treasurer, has at last made a lengthy report, exonerating that gentleman from any remissness of duty in the discharge of his official functions.

Conference Committees had been appointed on the Apportionment and Appropriation bills, which it was believed at our latest date would agree upon details, that would be accepted by both parties.

The Apportionment Bill gives Union, Juniata and Mifflin, one Senator as at present; but makes Union and Juniata a Representative District with one Representative only. This is hard for Union county, which is entitled to a Member in her own right; but the bill is in other respects so nearly just, that it is thought it will pass the House as it has the Senate, and become a law.—A speedy adjournment of the Legislature will follow.

P. S. The "Keystone" of yesterday says the Apportionment Bill has passed the House also by a vote of 48 to 42.

U. S. CONGRESS.

A Census Bill has passed the House, making 233 the number of Representatives.

Report of the Select Committee.

The Select Committee of Thirteen reported on the 6th inst., as follows:

1. The Committee are unanimously of the opinion that new States may be formed out of Texas, but should be left to the people of that State; such new States should be admitted without any objection on account of the exclusion or permission of slavery.

2. The Committee recommend the passage of the bill reported by Mr. Douglas for the admission of California into the Union as a State.

3. The Committee also think it quite necessary that territorial governments should be furnished for the Territories of Utah and New Mexico. They recommend that the bill for the admission of California and the Territorial bill should be incorporated in one measure.

4. They report as an additional section to the California and Territorial bill a provision determining the boundaries of New Mexico and Texas. The territory to be included in New Mexico, claimed by Texas, is to be purchased from the latter State.

5. The Committee report a section to be added to Mason's bill, in relation