

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1854.
SINGLE COPIES OF THE INDIANA AMERICAN can be had at this office, neatly enveloped and prepaid with stamps, at five cents each.

REV. J. W. MELLENDER.
The following "sketch" was taken at the late session of the Indiana Conference when we were sketching other great men, but for several reasons it was not then published:

To omit him in a notice of the "prominent" men of the Conference, would be as the performance of Hamlet, with Hamlet omitted. In one sense he is the most prominent man in the body. He swells out into Falstaffian proportions and there's no blubber about it, its solid bone and muscle. He weighs, we judge by the sight of the eye, some 240 lbs. And every pound is permeated by good humor and genial kindness. Large men are said to be proverbially good natured. Now, that this truly generally, we don't dispute, but some of the most sullen, sulky, cross specimens of humanity we have ever seen weighed 190 lbs. John is not so. We question if ill will ever finds way into his great big heart. It is chock full of generosity and magnanimity.

Do not imagine though, that he is simply what is known as "a good fellow." Individually we hope to escape such a title while we live. Ordinarily it means a negative man who does nothing to displease anybody, never decides on anything, always bows, smiles and is "convinced" by your last remark. A clever fellow he is, and a good one too, but technically, he is not, and never will be a "good fellow."

Mr. Mellender is hard to sketch, big as he is. The negro reported that he had counted all his master's pigs but the spotted one, "that jumped so he couldn't count him." Our subject ordinarily would hold still to be sketched.

As a preacher, some of his eccentricities have prevented his taking as high a position as his talents warrant. At times he is truly eloquent. Some moving sentences as we have ever listened to fall from his lips. His pearls are of the first water, but he is not always sufficiently careful in what he says.

His manner is very eccentric—his gestures are violent, and his body bends in all shapes. His eyes snap and blaze, and his hands fairly fly. Until an audience becomes familiar with his manner, it is constantly mistaking him. This is to be regretted. We are confident that there are men high in position who have not and never had a moiety of his talent. They have a smoother, a more finished manner.

We have heard Mr. Mellender on the subject of Temperance and honestly believe that he has few equals in the State. His charming common sense enables him to present such facts and arguments as most powerfully move plain common sense men. This is a rare gift. Some shoot so high they can't be understood. Others attempt to be very plain and degenerate into twaddle and mere baby talk. He does neither. He presents the whole business as it is, and if he sometimes says hard things it is because it is decided by a hard business. And he has the faculty of showing up its "deep damnation" in graphic style. We have seen him move a whole audience to tears or arouse them to indignation, and he revealed the true operations of the whole business. We know of no man who can do more to carry the State for a prohibitory law than this same man Mellender.

And we hope he will remember that when Bishop Ames read his appointment he gave him a special commission to "lecture on Temperance and against whisky." That is his regular work by authority.

Mr. Mellender is very witty. He makes no effort to bring it, it comes. He reminds one of the boy who said he was so full of teeter he couldn't be still. We have seen some men attempt to be smart at his expense, and never knew them fail to come out second best.

Once however we saw him placed hors de combat. At a State Temperance Convention in Indianapolis a year or two ago, he was sitting on the edge of the platform while a gentleman named Donaldson was speaking.

Carried away with the enthusiasm of the hour, the speaker exclaimed "Indiana will be the first western state to adopt the Maine Law." "No," said Mellender, looking up "so Ohio will beat us." The speaker stopped, looked at him a moment, and said "see here my friend, I want to tell a story for your benefit. A man employed a number of hands to roll logs and wished the job done in one day. Going out, after some hours one of the hands said said to him 'Boss, the logs cannot be rolled in one day.' The 'boss' instantly pulled out half a dollar and handed him saying 'you can leave now, men like you do more harm than good by discouraging the balance.' The roar of laughter which followed this story was joined in heartily by 'John' but he had nothing to say.

One more story—when he went to his appointment from the Conference here, a prudent brother called to see him, and said "Bro M. I hope you

won't say so much about Temperance. Bro. S. last year, injured his usefulness by preaching so much against selling corn to the distillers." "Brother," said Mellender, "which society do you hail from?" "Sinal," said he. "Well brother, I'll beat Sinal next Saturday, and right there I'll begin to thunder on Temperance."

In social life Mr. Mellender is agreeable and pleasant. He leaves behind him a good impression. We wish him a lovely and successful life! We wish him abundant success in his efforts to "succor and to save suffering humanity."

MASSACHUSETTS LIQUOR LAW.
The whisky press are rejoicing over the decision of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts declaring the fourth section of the Prohibitory Liquor Law of that State unconstitutional. But from the following, which we copy from the Commonwealth, it will be seen that the decision is not against the principle of search, seizure, and confiscation, but the method by which it was accomplished by that act. We don't see the Legislature at this or the next session, will remedy the objection:

"Chief Justice Shaw, in the Supreme Court this morning delivered a long and elaborate opinion, concerning in fact, the whole Court, the fourth section of the Liquor Law, which provides for the seizure and destruction of spirituous liquors kept for sale contrary to law, is unconstitutional and void."

The Chief Justice, in commencing, was careful to say that this decision does not affect the validity of other provisions of the statute, various provisions under them having, in fact, been already sustained by the Court. He also fully admitted the power of the Legislature to provide for the destruction of spirits or other property, held for purposes in violation of law. But he said that the Court considered that this fourth section did not provide such protection against searches and seizures, and such a mode of trial as the Constitution guarantees. The Court, therefore, considered this section unconstitutional on the following grounds:

1. That no person was required to be named in the complaint as the owner or keeper of the liquor, complained against.
2. That the section authorizes the seizure of any liquor found on the premises, and not merely that complained against.
3. That under this section a person might be convicted and fined or imprisoned, without any complaint being made against him setting forth any offense.
4. That the section makes no provision for any trial of the offence of keeping liquor for sale; but authorizes a party to be punished for his offence, on a presumption of guilt, unless he proves himself innocent.

This decision is a very important one; but it should not discourage the friends of temperance. The other provisions of the statute, which have already passed the ordeal of the Supreme Court, afford powerful and effectual means of suppressing the sale of spirits. Their efficacy has been already well tested. And this opinion of the Supreme Court itself suggests the mode for providing for searches and seizures of liquor, which shall not be obnoxious to the objections which have overwhelmed the fourth section of the present law. Can we hope for such an amendment of the statute by the present Legislature?

THE GERMAN REFORM CONVENTION.
The following is an abstract of the platform adopted by this Convention at its recent meeting in Cincinnati:

The superiority of the United States over that of any other country, is admitted, at the same time it evidently can be amended.
It recommends the election of the President and Vice President by the people.
Representatives, for dereliction of duty, to be recalled, if a majority of their constituents deem necessary.
Slavery not to be extended beyond its present boundaries, at the present moment, and in the meantime every constitutional exertion shall be made to abolish it throughout the States, in conformity with the "Declaration of Independence," which declares "every man was born free and equal," also unremitting exertion to obtain a repeal of the "Fugitive Slave Law."

The public lands are the property of the people and shall not be sold or given to States or corporations, but shall be used for the benefit of the settler, who shall receive his grant and be protected by the Government. If he be an emigrant from a foreign country having declared his intentions, he shall be entitled to the same privilege as a native born citizen. This to extend to all colors.

As when an European declares his intention to become an American citizen, he abandons all claim to protection from his mother country, so is he entitled as much to be protected by the government of his adopted country as if he had served his time of probation. Hence we demand the interference of the United States Government to protect us, when abroad, from the tyranny of foreign potentates.

The time of non-intervention is past. We are so intimately connected, politically and commercially, with the old world, that we can no longer maintain that position.
A reduction of the salaries of public officers, of every grade, in the General and State Government, is particularly insisted on.

The Pacific Railroad is strongly recommended as a Government work. Freedom of conscience advocated; no religious test necessary for office, or what is termed infidelity, to incapacitate a citizen from being considered a good and truthful witness. The Bible to be no longer considered a text book for schools. The Sunday laws to be abolished, as also the right of the Governors of States to issue proclamations for thanksgiving days.

Catholic ecclesiastics, who are notoriously under the domination of a foreign potentate—the Pope—shall be considered, as they are, anti-republican.
The claims of workmen, in case of

bankruptcy of their employers, to have priority over all other demands. The ten-hour bill insisted upon, as also a modification of the exemption law. The property of employers to be responsible for their debts.
A thorough reform of infirmaries and poor houses insisted upon.

Our public schools are considered as of vital import for the maintenance of our present free and independent system. Universal education being the great bulwark of a republican government, it is therefore proposed that stringent laws shall be enacted, to compel parents and guardians to have children educated, until they arrive at the age of fourteen, and that no proper artificer or mechanic shall take a pupil or apprentice, unless he be provided with a certificate from a public school the scholars of private schools to obtain such certificates also, as a test of their scholastic proficiency. Children whose parents or guardians are too poor to provide for them, to be supported by the State. The perpetuation of the present English and German school system, and in all cases when there shall be a sufficient vote, English German schools shall be erected.

From the Connersville Telegraph.
BROOKVILLE, March 25, 1854.

DEAR SIR:—I have read with interest the first No. of your paper, and enclosed you will find \$2 for it for one year. It is a matter of rejoicing to me that you have the talent, the taste, and the means of getting up so good a paper, but more especially that you have the good sense to charge \$2 for it. I have always deprecated the practice of publishing cheap papers. It has done more to degrade the press than any other obstacle it has had to contend against. In the first place it causes publishers to set up papers on a cheap, trashy plan; and drives the editor and publisher to setting type, instead of preparing, condensing and arranging the news and other matter for the paper. When I see a paper decreasing in price, it looks as if the publisher was hard run to compete with his neighbors, and as a last resort attempts to undersell them.

This cheap system was first started by the trifling cheap concerns of Philadelphia, who had neither literary nor real merit enough to give a circulation; so they resorted to the dishonorable trick in trade of selling a poor article below the market price. The same practice has extended to all parts of the country. Now, I will defy the world to produce a man, who has sense enough to publish a country newspaper, who will dare to say that such a paper can or should be published for less than \$2 per year. Then why do they do it? It is because they have not the talents and wit to make their paper win, except on the ground that they are cheap.

In the next place, the system of publishing cheap papers, drives men of talents from the press, into other departments of business, where honorable competition has not descended to the lowest tricks of the trade.

It is true there are some inducements held out to publishers of country papers to attempt to compete in price with the silly trash of city dollar papers, gathered from the dailies. There are all communities a few poor, stingy souls, who have not the sense to appreciate a good paper—nor country or town pride enough to induce them to take a country paper. These men want a cheap paper—no matter what it is filled with—old or new, chaste or filthy—so it is cheap. The constant grunting and growling of these soulless creatures makes some weak minded publishers believe that if they will reduce the price, enlarge the type, fill up with large heads to their merchants' advertisements, (who also pay only half price) that their circulation will be large enough to pay better. These short-sighted publishers thus decide that there is a large majority of centurion kind in the community.

A real good country paper is a mine of wealth to the county in which it is located. It gives respectability to the people by its appearance; it gives life and energy to business by its bringing before the public in a suitable and sensible way, the advantages of the county for Agriculture, for machinery, for manufacturing, &c. In this way a good country paper adds to every man's farm hundreds of dollars, and yet that farmer will go sneaking into the printing office to get that paper for one dollar, and on failure, send to the city for one. All the harm I wish such a spiritless soul, is that he may live in a country where there is no paper, or where the editor has not talent nor enterprise enough to make his paper desirable, except on the ground that it is cheap.

I never expect to have any thing more to with the Press, as editor or publisher, but expect to estimate papers and editors about as they estimate themselves. We never expect anything new or interesting in a dollar paper. Reading one, to us, appears like eating at the second table. And we hope all sensible publishers will stand up to a fair price, or all retire and let Jackasses have the field in their glory.

Yours, &c.,
C. F. CLARKSON.
S. W. SWIGGETT, Esq.

We publish the above that our readers may see what is the opinion of the oldest editor in the State about the price of getting up a good paper. Our experience agrees with his views. When we took charge of the American our first move was to raise the price of the American from one dollar to one and a half and we only regret that we did not put it at two dollars at once. To this price we must come, or fail to make the paper pay expenses—something no true friend would be willing to allow. As it is, we have lost several subscribers, two thirds of all discontinuances we have had because we will not let them have the paper at the same price that Mr. Clarkson did. He said he saw his mistake, we see ours, and we will correct it as soon as possible.

True, as we could see no justice in charging some men higher than others, we allowed those who had heretofore paid two dollars to take the paper at one fifty. Our terms are uniform but too low.

THE "KNOW-NOTHINGS."
The Delta (New-Orleans) gives the following account of the new secret society which appears to have originated in New York, and to have first shown its teeth at the late State election, but which has since extended itself through most of the cities and some of the principal villages of the Union. The Delta says its adherents in that city are variously estimated at five hundred to five thousand, but are probably not far from six hundred. The nearest Lodge we know of is at Versailles. If the following expose is correct, we hope they will be few and far between in this country. It proceeds:

The objects of the "Know-Nothings," are twofold—part religious, part political; and the ends aimed at, the disfranchisement of adopted citizens, and their exclusion from office, and perpetual war upon the Catholic religion. With these cardinal principles, the qualifications for membership and brotherhood are easily determined. 1st. The applicant for admission to a "wigwam," must be a native born citizen, of native born parent, and not of the Catholic religion. 2d. To renounce all previously entertained political leanings, and co-operate exclusively with the new order.

3d. To hold neither political, nor religious intercourse with any person who is a Catholic; but, on the contrary to use all available means to abolish the political and religious privileges he may at present enjoy. 4th. That he will not vote for any man for office who is not a native citizen of the United States, or who may be disposed, if elected, to place any person or persons in any office of emolument or trust. The latter not being, in the opinion of "Know-Nothings," a "credible witness" in any case save where the oath is administered by his priest.

The "pass-words" and "signs" for admission into the "wigwam" of the "Know-Nothings" are as follows:—The applicant raps at the outer door an indefinite number of times, asking at the close, in a low whispering voice, "What meets here to-day?" (or night as the case may be.) The interrogated immediately replies, "I don't know." To which the applicant for admission responds, "I am one," and forthwith is admitted to a second door, at which he gives four distinct raps, when the door being opened, he whispers to his attendant "Thirteen," and then advances into the body of the lodge.

If disposed to leave before the adjournment of the lodge, the member leaving salutes the President, then the Vice-President, by first placing his right hand on his heart, then letting it fall to his side, whispering to the Guardian as he retires "Thirteen."

If a member requires the assistance of a brother when mixing promiscuously with the public, he places the right forefinger upon the left eye-brow as if in the act of scratching, looking directly at the person whose attention he desires to attract when, if the person be a member, he is bound to respond immediately by a similar sign. If it be desired to know of a stranger whether he is of the initiated, on shaking hands with him the middle finger is placed upon the lowest joint of his finger, next the wrist, with a gentle pressure; when, if he be a member, he will ask, "Where did you get that?" to which he will reply, "I don't know," and the querist will end by replying, "I don't know either."

Nothing concerning the association is to be committed to writing or published, and the most profound silence and secrecy are to be observed by every "Know-Nothing," outside; but everything inside the wigwam is to be imparted indiscriminately to members.

Every member, on admission, swears by holding up his right hand, and pledges himself to do all in his power to put down foreign influence, and particularly the Catholic religion, and in no case to vote for any person for office who is not a "native American citizen;" and no one, with some exceptions, is eligible to membership, unless he and both of his parents are native born.

There are several Lodges, or Wigwams, at this time open—one, presided over by a Mr. H—, at assemblies in a room in the Mechanics' Institute; and another holds its meetings at No. 9, New Basin. There are three degrees to be passed by members; between each interval of three weeks must occur.

The New York Missionary who came here to organize the "Know-Nothings," is styled "Judge-Advocate," and he is charged with like duties in every other city in this section.

As no records are kept, or publications made by the Association, the plan of notifying members of any emergency requiring their speedy assembling by scattering small square pieces of white paper over the banquettes and public thoroughfares, and by nailing them to posts, doors, or other places accessible to the public.

President Pierce, according to Mr. Clemens, thinks of the bill as he does. "But a few days since," says Mr. Clemens, "in a conversation with 'a Northern Senator and myself, he (President Pierce) gave it as his decided opinion that Douglas's bill was 'a proposition in favor of freedom—and 'added that if it should pass, although 'we might absorb the whole of Mexico 'we another slave State would ever 'come into the Union. He expressed 'great surprise at the opposition it met 'with from the North, and equal surprise that the South should be willing to take it."

That will do to tell southern men but it will be hard to make sensible men, in the north swallow any such nonsense. At least they are willing to let matters remain as they are.

MAINE.
Our Cincinnati correspondent, under date of April third says: The Flour market remains dull and inactive. Common grades are not saleable to any extent at 6.25. Extra Flour, for city trade, rates from 6.25 to 6.50. Our city mills are paying for wheat \$1.15 per bushel. Other articles, no change worthy of notice.

Mere Mention.

Who has stolen our Hat Corn? Will Mr. McClure please look after the matter?

Our readers may expect the faithful "Q in the Corner," to keep them posted in all matters of general interest, in JUPES REED'S COURT.

The hail-storm, a few weeks ago, broke more than sixty panes of glass out of the windows in Wesley Chapel, in Whitewater township.

The steamship Black Warrior has been discharged on the payment of a fine of \$8000. This is not the end of this affair.

The Court of Common Pleas for this County is in session. At the time of going to press but little has been done of importance.

The engineer of the New Albany & Sandusky Railroad is on the line in this county permanently locating it.

H. C. Gallion, who returned from the East some days ago in poor health, has been quite sick, but is rapidly recovering.

Professors Wheeler and Fletcher have resigned their chairs in the Asbury University, their resignation to take effect at the close of the Summer session.

The compensation of Post Masters is to be increased ten per cent. This is sensible. Our Post Master should be better paid for his faithful services than he has yet been.

Mr. David Stoops, of Marshall county, and for many years a citizen of this county, died, at an advanced age, at his late residence, on the twenty-first of last March.

Gov. Seymour of New York has vetoed the new prohibitory law. We presume he intends to retire to private life. May he have a good time of it!

The Czar's reply to the last peremptory intimation of England and France, was due on the 15th ult., but it had not been received at the latest date.

We have not heard whether the people voted away the liberties of boards, bulls, &c., at the late election, or not—we guess not, as there are more persons who do not improve stock than who do.

Four readers want to know where to buy goods, let them look into our advertising columns. We never trade with people who don't advertise, unless in case of extreme necessity.

Mrs. Carmichael, who has been rusticated a few weeks at her country residence on Mount Nebo, has returned to the realities of town life. She looks quite well since her sojourn in the country.

In a recent visit to the country we discover that the Wheat that was put in last fall by the drilling machine, looks much better than that sown broad cast. It promises a good crop, the latter only moderate.

Mr. Binkley's communication was received too late for this week. We will take this occasion to say to all our correspondents, that communications must be very short and very important, to be published, if handed in later than Tuesday noon.

The final vote on the new prohibitory law in New York in the House was SEVENTY-SEVEN to TWENTY-SIX. It goes into effect on the first of December next, instead of on the first of May as reported last week.

If we have the right cue to the difficulty between Cutting and Breckenridge, it is, in a nut-shell, that Breckenridge wanted to shoot Cutting because he called himself a Democrat and at the same time opposed the Nebraska bill. That is the doctrine. Shoot the fanatics who oppose the demands of the South.

The Democratic Convention for this county met last Saturday. We have not been furnished with the proceedings. We have at least a thousand democratic readers, and we would like to furnish them the doings of such meetings, but they are not furnished us. Henry, can't you give us an item occasionally?

The British fleet, destined for the Baltic, and consisting of 15 vessels all steamships, sailed on the 11th of March. Another fleet is forming which will sail soon. This will make 44 steam ships, bearing 2200 guns, 16000 horses, and 22000 men, that will have been dispatched to the seat of war. This looks like being in earnest.

Two fools in Congress, by the name of Cutting and Breckenridge, have been talking of shooting each other, to prove to the world that they are gentlemen (!) A report was circulated that they did shoot, and that Breckenridge was shot in the neck. We guess both of them were shot in the neck before the pistols went off.

The Cincinnati Enquirer is down upon the preachers of that city who have petitioned Congress not to pass the Nebraska bill. Good enough for the sinners. What right have preachers to petition Congress? If they want to enjoy the rights of free men let them quit preaching and go to gambling and selling whisky. Then the Enquirer will defend their rights till doom's day.

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM REV. E. G. WOOD.
JEFERSONVILLE, Ind., March 29, 1854.
DEAR GOODWIN:—Here I am, seated in my old split-bottomed chair, in my little study, in the parsonage, where I spend a part of my time in examining books, papers, etc., and where I occasionally write a letter to some of my friends.

This Jeffersonville is yet destined to be something of a town. Some years ago it was thought to have been finished, but recently it is manifest that this was a mistake, for it looks now like they had just begun to make it. You will recollect that I alluded in my last letter to the public improvements that were being made on our streets and wharves. But now I see as the Spring opens, that other improvements are springing up in all parts of the town.

The Jeffersonville House in the lower part of the city is undergoing repairs; I suppose with a view of making it a public house, by the time that the Depot of the Fort Wayne road is completed in that vicinity, and the bridge finished across the river. And beside all these, a large mill is in progress of erection at the head of the falls.

There is considerable talk here on the subject of Temperance. In addition to the usual orders that exist, and the general efforts that are made to carry out the plan proposed and agreed upon at the State Temperance Convention, the Ladies have opened a war upon the traffic. They have drawn up a petition, subscribed by some six hundred Ladies, addressed to the sellers of intoxicating drinks, requesting them to quit the business, and also to the landlords, requesting them not to rent their houses for that purpose. They have then by a committee of Ladies, waited upon every liquor-seller and landlord in the town, and read their petition to them. The final result is yet to be seen. Some of the sellers they say, looked like they were alarmed, others became angry; some promised to quit, but others would not. The landlords generally pledged themselves not to rent their houses for such purposes any more. With the exception of two or three Americans, and one negro, they found all the dealers to be foreigners.

The excellent Chaplain of the State Prison, Rev. Lee Roy Woods, was with us at our church on last Sabbath evening, and at the close of the services, gave us an account of the result of his investigations among the convicts, as to the number of those who had been sober, drunken, or drinking men; and which was, upon their own showing, that out of two hundred and sixty-six, only about forty had been men who did not drink, or who were not drunkards, so that it may be fairly concluded that four fifths of them came there directly, or indirectly, through the influence of strong drink. Is not this another argument for a prohibitory law?

Our merchants are now in receipt of their new stock of goods, and are opening a large business. Some of the houses who do a jobbing business, have to take the time when their neighbors and customers are asleep, to open their goods, as all the day and usual business hours are employed in selling, packing, and forwarding.

It appears from some of your talk in the American, that Brookville is about to put on city airs, as you speak of getting a power press. Take care you don't press the life out of the thing.

As ever, yours, E. G. WOOD.
Press the life out of Brookville! Why, old friend, a town with two straight line railroads passing through it, and with the best water power in the State, can't be hurt by a power press—it can't get along without one.

BROTHER GOODWIN:—A simple rehearsal of the facts in the case, it seems to me, will reconcile the apparent discrepancy existing between your statement and Mr. Binkley's in the last American, as to the position taken by Mr. Edwards and myself, in reference to Mr. Binkley's first article. You say I informed you I did not approve of it. I remarked to Mr. Binkley, on his first reading the article to me, that I thought a change necessary in what occurred to me at the most objectionable portion, that impugning our motives as a minister. Afterwards, both to him and to you, I distinctly stated time and again, that so far as the article reflected upon your moral and ministerial character, I did not approve of it.

For prudential reasons, Mr. Edwards chose to remain perfectly neutral in the matter, and so expressed his intention to Mr. Binkley. Not wishing, however, to be understood by you, or any one else, as lending his sanction to the article as a whole, he observed in conversation with you, referring to the features above alluded to, "I do not wish you to understand me as endorsing those remarks."

Mr. Binkley's assertion that the "Faculty" have taken no action in the matter, is correct. "The Faculty," as such, have taken no action in the case, pro or con.

The freedom with which our names have been used in this controversy, has called forth this note, and I now respectfully request no further reference to be made, on this subject, either to Mr. Edwards or myself.

Yours truly, JNO. W. LOCKE.

Why is rheumatism like a glutton? Because it attacks the joints.

NEW ALBANY AND SANDUSKY RAIL ROAD.

The object of our last article was to show that this road when completed will pay—that it is impossible to construct a successful rival from the Lake to the Falls—that the immense amount of freight and travel from North to South must from interest seek this transit, and that the "way business" itself, from the character of soil and improvements of the country through which it passes will sustain the road.

What will it pay? To correctly answer this enquiry, we must draw facts and conclusions from other and similar roads now completed and in working order—their cost and the income they yield, will furnish proper data for our purpose.

The average cost per mile of eight western roads to wit: Mad River and Lake Erie, Louisvile and Frankfort, Mansfield and Sandusky, Ohio and Pennsylvania, Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland, Terre Haute and Richmond, Hillsborough and Michigan, & Southern with a total length of 1260 miles is \$20,800 per mile finished and equipped with "rolling machinery" complete.

We have taken these eight roads indiscriminately from the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and Indiana, and feel that when we put the cost of this road at \$2,500,000, about \$24,000 per mile, we are making a very liberal and large estimate.

The net annual earnings of ten of the most important western roads taking the receipts of October 1853, as the basis of calculation was 14.22 per cent on the gross capital invested, and all of these roads, yet in their infancy and, but just begun to develop their great resources.

We will take for example the Mad River and Lake Erie road, 91 miles of which, from Huntsville to Sandusky forms a part of our road. The gross receipts of this road from Sandusky to Dayton 167 miles distance, for the month of October 1853 were \$75,048, which is about \$53.92 for each mile per annum. Assuming that our road which will be about 105 miles to the State line, will yield no more than \$53.92 per mile, and allowing 50 per cent, to cover all expenses, which is a very liberal and full estimate, we have the net receipts equal to \$26.06, per mile and \$283,990 as the net earnings of the road per annum.

To build this road we propose to take but one million dollars in subscription to the capital stock, and borrow one million, five hundred thousand, at six per cent, payable in twenty years.

The net proceeds of the road will be as shown above, 283,000, and equal to about 11 per cent per annum on the whole cost. The interest on the loan of one and a half millions is ninety thousand, and when paid leaves one hundred and ninety-three thousand and eighty dollars to be distributed among the stockholders. The entire stock is but one million dollars, as proposed, which will make the annual dividend, about 19 per cent on the capital invested. Thus at a glance will be seen the advantage of building western roads on a large amount of borrowed capital, as the dividend on stock, if built exclusively on subscription, would be but 11 per cent, and if built as proposed, 19 per cent.

It is sometimes urged, as an objection, that the borrowed money will have to be repaid, and thereby prevent dividends to stockholders, and consequently lessen the value of the stock. To obviate this objection we propose to create a sinking fund from the net earnings or dividends of the stockholders of 7 per cent, amounting to \$70,000 per annum, which with the accruing interest thereon, will in the 20 years accumulate a fund equal to the whole sum borrowed. Thus can the entire debt be paid off at maturity and the Stockholders continue to draw annually 12 per cent on the funds invested. These calculations are based on the premises that our road does no more business when completed than the Erie & Mad River road did in the month of October 1853.

What will be its net earnings when in complete operation, connecting the important points of Sandusky Bay and the Falls of the Ohio? With all the advantages it possesses for transportation and travel, from the Southern roads terminating at Louisville and that of the Ohio river arrested by the obstruction of the Falls we predict its net earnings will be double that of the "Mad River and Lake Erie" road, the second year of its operation, and request of our friends to lay away our figures and estimates as a reference.

We think that the road will pay well, is a good and safe investment, and invites our friends to come forward at an early day, and subscribe for the stock.

Your friend,
J. H. F.

MR. WILLIAMSON, formerly President of the Eaton & Piqua Railroad in Ohio; and Mr. JONES, Chief Engineer of the Ohio portion of our Lake and River Railroad, were in town last Tuesday, in consultation with Mr. ANDERSON about the point of crossing the state line, and some other matters of mutual interest. They report every thing very favorable on their end of the road. A part of the road in Ohio, is to be let this month.

A rash and somewhat deluded young man has threatened to apply the Maine Law to his sweet-heart—she is intoxicated him so.

Fighting Train.

CONNSVILLE, APR. 4th, 1854.
CONDUCTOR.
There was much excitement yesterday at the election of Town officers. From the large number we saw staggering around the streets, we should suppose that the groceries had a good time in picking up the stray diners. We do not remember of ever having seen so many drunk in one day—and many "most gloriously drunk." Now who is the most to be pitied—the candidate that gives the man the liquor, or he that is wallowing in the gutter?

Let the good judgment of an interested community speak.

Quarterly meeting in the Western M. E. Church next Saturday and Sunday. Rev. S. T. Gillett P. E. and Rev. Cyrus Natt of Whitewater College are expected to be present.

The Notes of the "Laurel Bank" made their first appearance to-day.