

to move upon the ground; but how graceful is my make! how well turned my limbs! how highly finished my whole body! how great my strength! how astonishing my speed! I had far rather be confined to one element and be admired to that, than be a Gooose in all."

ELK ADVOCATE

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BY P. W. BARRETT.
Ridgway, Pa. Nov. 25th 1865.

Preserve the Peace the people's rights maintain
Unshaken by party and unshaken by gain
Pledged to Truth, Liberty and Law.
No force against us and no force shall we use.

S. M. PETTENGILL & CO.
ADVERTISING AGENCY
119 Nassau St., New York
and 10 State St., Boston
S. M. PETTENGILL & Co., are the Agents for the ELK ADVOCATE and the most influential and largest circulating Newspapers in the United States and the Canadas; they are authorized to contract for us at our lowest rates.

From the Patriot & Union.
The next Congress—Is it to be a sectional "Rump," or the National Legislature.

Within a few weeks the Congress of the United States will meet at the Federal Capital. Subjects of the most momentous importance will occupy its deliberations. Our system of government will be put to the most severe test, and the consequences of congressional action will be either union, harmony, peace and prosperity, or anarchy and war. The people are not yet aroused to the vital importance of the constitutional, conciliatory and peaceable adjustment of the questions which are to be considered and determined. The admission of the representatives of the States late in revolt against Federal authority is, in itself, one which creates the most serious anxiety and apprehension. The Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land. It is as sovereign in its decrees over Congress as over any department of Government or individuals. It commands, declares, directs, and no party but that which ordained it can evade or refuse obedience to its behests.

By the Constitution each State is equal, and has the right of representation in the Federal Legislature. Neither Congress, the President nor the Judiciary, can disfranchise a State as a penalty for its action. That the power of judging of the qualifications of the members of that body is an inherent constitutional power, is admitted. That the exercise of this power is not limited or restricted to any section, or subdivision of the whole, is not only a just and logical, but it is also a constitutional consequence of the premises. The determination of the qualifications of any, is the duty of all those not within the stated disqualification. Each State being entitled to its voice and acts must be in the first instance, represented in the organization, which is preliminary to the determination of the question, else the absurdity would exist of a question of qualification of membership being adjudicated by those who themselves were not clothed with the legal power to decide. The forms which the law provides to enable the representatives from States to assume their functions, are the modes by which the sovereign people of the States declare they have discharged their duty to the Federal compact; that they have elected their representatives in the Federal Legislature. Then follows an organization of Congress for the function of legislation, and then attaches the power to determine if any one claiming to exercise this function is unlawfully making this claim. If Congress can pass a rule of action, binding on its succeeding Congress, by which the constitutional right of a State is destroyed, then a minority of representatives, and less than half the States of the Union, could disfranchise the other States.

This is easily accomplished. If the "Clerk of the House," elected by a dead Congress, can, by the act of this defunct legislature, declare of his own will who are to be the members of a living Congress, then the constitutional idea of the Federal legislature is but the caprice of a partisan, or the agent of a revolution, or a faction. Again, one Congress can not determine the qualifications of the members of its successor. The Governors of the States, by proclamation, declare certain persons members of Congress for their States. The certificate of the Governor is the title of such member to exercise his representative rights and perform his duties. The first right is to take part in the organization of the body, and the first duty is to prevent those without right from usurping the representative character. The will of a clerk cannot set aside these rights. This would be revolution—war—anarchy—destructive of one of the elements of constitutional government. There is no law to justify it, since the rule which transfers the duties of the Clerk, made by a defunct Congress, is but a rule of order of proceeding, binding only on the body that made it.

A law is a rule of action made by competent authority, for the government of those within its jurisdiction. It is a law till it is repealed. But a rule made by a Congress, to bind an equal authority, and not within its jurisdiction, is not a law. One Congress may make a rule that Congress must meet at twelve o'clock, noon, but the next Congress is not bound by this rule. It may meet

at any hour. Convenience or custom allows its acceptance, but not by virtue of its being a "rule of action," commanded by a superior, and which the inferior is bound to obey." So with any other rule or resolution which Congress may enact for the regulation of its proceedings.

The clerk of a defunct Congress has no more authority to refuse to call any member of the next Congress who has a certificate from the Governor of a State, or other certificate which such State authorizes, than he would have to refuse to recognize the President of the United States, because a minority of a former Congress might declare him impeached without law or Constitution.

The functions of such a clerk might be more easily ignored by the clerk himself, than such an outrage be permitted on the constitutional rights of the people.

Execution of Wirz.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—Captain Wirz was hung between 10 and 11 o'clock this morning. On the gallows he declared his innocence, and died without exhibiting any signs of fear.

The prisoner was asked by a lady to-day whether he had hope as to another world. He replied: "Madame, I have hope. The greatest sinner has hope, and why should I not—feeling myself innocent of the charges for which I have to suffer?"

The following letter was written by Wirz before mounting the gallows:

OLD CAPITOL PRISON, Nov. 10, '65.
MR. SCHLADT—Dear Sir: It is no doubt the last time I address myself to you. What I have said to you often and often I repeat. Accept my thanks, my sincere, heartfelt thanks, for all you have done for me. May God reward you—I cannot. Still I have something more to ask of you, and I am confident that you will not refuse my dying request. Please help my poor family, my dear wife and children. War, cruel war, has swept everything from me, and to-day my wife and children are beggars. My life is demanded as an atonement. I am willing to give it, and I hope that after awhile I will be judged differently from what I am now. If any one ought to come to the relief of my family, it is the people of the South, for whose sake I have sacrificed all. I know you will exercise me for troubling you again. Farewell, Dear Sir, May God bless you! Your thankful—
H. WIRZ.

AN ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.
The startling fact in connection with Wirz's imprisonment, has been given to the public. This is no less than an attempt to poison Wirz, which, but for the quickness of the officer present, would have been successful.

When Mrs. Wirz came on to Washington it was the desire of the Government to give her every facility for enjoying interviews with her husband, with only such precautions as were indispensably necessary. The Secretary of War therefore requested Gen. L. C. Baker to arrange for such interviews and to be present at them.

The first interview of Mrs. Wirz with her husband was in his cell just after the commencement of his trial. Their meeting was not at all of the character that would be expected between man and wife under such circumstances. There was no appearance of tenderness, no embrace or kiss, no tears and no apparent emotion of any kind on the part of either. The lady's first words were, "How are you Wirz?" "Well," he answered in a gloomy voice. "I am getting along pretty well." She looked at him a moment, and her next words were: "When did you have on a clean shirt last? I never saw you look so dirty in my life." Wirz replied that he had had one on within the last week, and began to complain of his misfortunes. Their conversation throughout was cold and flippant.

The third interview was on Sunday Oct. 29. The two exchanged common place salutations as before, and indulged in common place conversation. Gen. Baker saw Mrs. Wirz draw off her glove and saw again a nervous motion of her hand as though moving something in it which she desired to conceal. As she rose to go she stepped up to Wirz and for the first time made a movement to kiss him.

Gen. Baker stood at their side where he could see the meeting of their lips. It was not a quick, passionate kiss, but Gen. Baker noticed that they were occupied a longer time than necessary, and that the movements of their lips were rather peculiar for kissing. As their lips parted Gen. Baker was convinced that she had passed something from her mouth into his, and that he was about to swallow it. He sprang toward Wirz and caught him by the throat, partly choking him for the instant. Gen. Baker commanded him to open his mouth, and, as he did so he spit out a little ball which he had partly crushed and which Gen. Baker picked up. It was somewhat smaller than an acorn, and was ascertained to be strychnine, enclosed in oiled silk, and coated with horceice. It is now in Gen. Baker's possession. In getting up Mrs. Wirz had, probably, dexterously conveyed it to his mouth. In an instant more Wirz would have swallowed it, and as soon as the outside coating had dissolved in his stomach it would have caused his immediate death.

Mrs. Wirz was not again allowed to visit the cell. She left the city nearly two weeks ago, not waiting either to hear her husband's sentence, or to see him again before death.

PENNSYLVANIA SS:
In the Name and by the Authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
Andrew G. Curtin,
GOVERNOR OF SAID COMMONWEALTH.

L. S. A PROCLAMATION.

With feelings of the most profound gratification to ALMIGHTY GOD, I invite the good people of the Commonwealth to meet in their places of public worship, ON THURSDAY THE SEVENTH DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT, and raise their hearts and voices in praise and thanksgiving to HIM, not only for the manifold ordinary blessings which during the past year HE has continued to heap upon us, for abundant and gathered harvests, for thriving industry, for general health, for domestic good order and government; but also most especially and fervently for HIS unequalled goodness in having so strengthened and guided our people during the last four years that they have been enabled to crush to earth the late wicked rebellion and to exterminate the system of human slavery which caused it.

As we wrestled in prayer with HIM in the dark time of our trouble—when our brothers and sons were staking life and limb for us on many a bloody field, or suffering by torture and famine in the Hells of Andersonville or the Libby—so now when our supplications have been so marvellously and graciously answered, let us not withhold from HIM the homage of our thanksgiving. Let us say to all, "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve, but as for us and our house we will serve the Lord."

Come then ye people whom HE hath so helped and led—come ye war-worn and mutilated men whom HE hath spared to return to your dear homes—let us through the gates of HIS temples—let us throw ourselves on the knees of our hearts with awful joy at the foot of HIS throne, and render aloud our praise and thanksgiving to HIM, because HE hath made the Right to prevail—because HE hath given us the victory—because HE hath cleansed our land from the stain of human slavery—and because HE hath graciously shown forth in the eyes of all men the great truth that no government is so strong as a Republic controlled, under HIS guidance, by an educated, moral and religious people.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this seventh day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of the Commonwealth the ninetyeth.

BY THE GOVERNOR,
ELI SLIFER,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

FATTENING ANIMALS IN A HURRY.
—We pointed out in former years the futility of attempts to lay heavy masses of flesh on poor cattle by stuffing them with rich food. Such attempts not only prove to be failures, but are always wasteful. The material consumed is nearly lost, the animals remain comparatively poor, and the owners are convinced that fattening animals for market "don't pay."

There is nothing that should be more strongly impressed on the mind of the young farmer who makes the feeding of animals a prominent part of his business, than the importance of keeping up an unremitting growth throughout the whole course of their existence. The most successful pork-raiser with whom we are acquainted, adheres strictly to this course; not only feeding his store pigs well and regularly through fall and winter, but commencing the fattening not merely in autumn, as is too commonly the case, but early in the spring.

It is objected that this management is too expensive. This objection is urged by those who find two or three months only to consume more than they can afford. "If two months' feeding," they inquire, "costs us so much money, how can we ever afford to continue it for two or three years?" It is very true they cannot, because the whole system which they adopt is a profitless one. Fortunately it does not require heavy feeding to keep up the continued growing condition of animals. Here is a great error into which many have fallen, which we have endeavored to correct. John Johnson made the remark some years ago that the copious feeding of grain or meal to cattle is no better than a moderate amount. We gave the statement some years ago of experiments performed by G. H. Chase of Cayuga county, who carefully weighed every week all his fattening animals. A daily supply of four quarts of barley meal to a fine steer, gave a weekly increase in weight averaging 18 pounds. A neighbor advised him to push him, and eight quarts were accordingly fed daily. The weekly increase of flesh was less than when he received four quarts. The amount being increased to twelve quarts per day, he gained nothing at all. Several similar instances have come to our knowledge, and among others a fine animal was recently fed by a neighbor a peck or more of rich meal per day. After thus urging on the fattening process as he supposed, for several weeks, he was finally sold and proved to be only a few pounds heavier than when purchased. The many bushels of feed which he had consumed and the labor of attendance given him, literally went for nothing.—Co. Gent.

Ten preachers were elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives at the late election. God help the poor people!

Locals.

ABOUT COMPLETED.—The Parsonage in this place.

SOLD.—Mr. B., on the kissing question—"dad" you should be more careful hereafter, women are not to be fooled with, at all times.

RETURNED.—M. V. Moore, Proprietor of the "Hyde House," who has been absent, for a few days to York State, on business.

GREAT HUMPUG.—The show, that come off in the school house on Tuesday night, Nov. 14th—wonder if they made enough money, to pay their bill.

COMMENCED.—Our school commenced on last Tuesday, under charge of Miss M. T. Bond, we have no doubt, (as she has taught here before) but that she will give general satisfaction.

JUST ARRIVED.—Dr. J. W. Baily, Dentist has arrived, and is now ready to attend to all who may call on him. Rooms at the "Hyde House."

—We would call the attention of our readers, to the new advertisement of Frederick Rudolph, St. Mary's who has lately received a new and splendid stock of goods, which he is certainly selling at reduced figures.

SNOW.—On last Tuesday night, Nov. 21st, we were again favored with a fall of snow. It fell to the depth of about two inches.

RETURNED.—Our young friend, Wm. D. Dickinson, who has for some time been at Alfred Centre, N. Y., attending College. He looks well, and as a matter of fact, always feels well.

CHANGED TIME.—The time table of the Philadelphia & Erie Rail Road, has been changed as follows, at this place.

Eastward.	
Mail,	8 39 a. m.
Express,	7 57 p. m.
Westward.	
Mail,	11 37 a. m.
Express,	10 10 p. m.

ATTENTION HUNTERS.—Rice & Luther, wishes it to be distinctly understood, that they are prepared to purchase Venison, Skins, Furs &c., at the highest market price, in cash. One of the firm may always be found, by calling at the "Hyde House." We can cheerfully say for the new firm, that they have the "ready john," and seldom pay Confederate money. Those having any thing in their line, will do well to give them a call.

LOUD NOISE.—We were somewhat alarmed at about 10 o'clock on last Saturday night, by an unusual noise in town. The first report heard, was that of heavy loaded guns, and the second was all kind of sounds—such as bells, horns, tin pans &c., and occasionally loud cheering by the party assembled. Next morning on making inquiry as to the cause, we learned that a newly married couple had just arrived that evening in town—stopping with Hon. G. D. Messenger—a fact of which we were entirely ignorant—as it is usual on all like occasions, to give the printer a passing notice by way of—you know what we mean.

—Our business one day last week, called us to Centreville, and stopping at the Kersey House, kept by Mr. Gerg & Sons—we noticed that immediately opposite were quite a number of people assembled, having a curiosity to know what they were assembled for, we crossed over the way, and on making inquiry we were informed that SCHENNING had just received new goods, and they were waiting a chance to get in—the store being crowded at the time. Well, we asked, are you sure you will find what you are after, when your turn comes? Without fail was the reply, he always advertises through the county paper, and gives us to know what articles he has on hand, and whenever we see new arrivals at Schenning's store, we expect to find every thing we may call for, from the fact that he keeps the best and cheapest stock of goods in the county, and not only that, he is one of the most accommodating Merchants that it has ever been our lot to meet with. We felt satisfied on our part to know, that the cause of the immense rush was owing altogether, to the notice given through our columns.

We left Centreville for home thinking how easily our town might be favored with like rushes, providing, our Merchants and Shop-keepers were disposed to give the printer a small sum out of their abundance, which amount they would fully realize in a short time.

OIL OPERATIONS.—Dickinson & Co., determined to test the oil fairly, have, after tubing and pumping their well for more than four weeks (at the depth of \$13 ft.) concluded to take up the tubing (although they had every indication of oil) and put down the drill, which they done a few days ago, and are now determined to find the hidden treasure before they stop—which in our opinion, and not only our opinion, but it is the opinion of all, that visited the well, seen the gas burn, and smelt the strong smell of oil, that the hidden treasure is not many feet below the crevice in the rock which they struck at the depth of \$13, when a heavy gas was found to escape.

If the Judge succeeds in striking oil, the citizens of Ridgway and vicinity, can truly say, well done Judge—and as a reward, we are indebted to you thousands, by way of a gold medal—from the fact, that others fully as able as you, have not contributed one dime, to seek for, or bore after the prize.

—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, says:

"When I hear so much said, as I now hear said, of the suffrage of the blacks, I confess that I sometimes feel that if it is so bad, I wish they would not tell it." Just so. But having helped so largely in the devil's work of bringing on the sufferings of the blacks, it is right that he should hear it—every groan, every shriek and wail of agony that arises from the starving, drifting, diseaseridden creatures. Let him and his racial aids and co-workers listen to it all—witness it all, if possible—for it is all their own deplorable work.

—No sooner has one rebellion been put down than another is proposed, and of a darker hue than the last. John Brown, Jr., son of "Old Ossawatimie," delivered a speech to a company of negroes in Ohio's short time since, which is reported in the Ottawa News as follows:

"My colored friends, you have now the right to one box, and that is the cart, ridge, box; but there are two other boxes which you ought to claim, one of which is the ballot box and the other the jury box. If the white people fail to give you these, and if you cannot get them in a peaceable way, I advise you to arm yourselves and demand your full rights from the government."

SAN ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday of last week whilst engaged in edging boards, on the Mill of Moore & Dilworth, Morgan Lucas came to his death in a shocking manner. It appears that he was reaching over the saw to remove a piece of bark and in drawing his arm back again, it came in contact with the saw, which struck his hand between the third and fourth finger, passed up the arm rather obliquely, tearing the fore arm to pieces and fracturing the upper arm two or three inches above the elbow joint. This blow whirled him around and the left arm fell upon the saw, and was cut nearly in two about two inches above the elbow, but a small portion of the muscle on the inside of the arm remaining intact. He was taken up by the men on the Mill and ligatures applied around each arm above the injury, to prevent bleeding. Drs. Hunt and Sweeney were immediately called but the unfortunate man died before they arrived. Mr. Moore and the men on the Mill did every thing that could be done; the ligatures were effectual in arresting the bleeding, as but little blood was lost. The shock was too much for the system; he continued to sink for about three hours when death relieved him. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn his loss.

From the McKean Miner.

OIL INTELLIGENCE.—P. Ford Esq., of this borough, visited the well at Bradford a few days since and he gives us a most satisfactory account of his investigations. He brought home with him a bottle of the oil which he assisted in pumping from the well. He expresses the utmost confidence in the production of oil in paying quantities not only from this well but from other wells which are being and are to be sunk in the valley of Puna. There is considerable gas in this Bradford well, and it flowed a little while Mr. Ford was there. A very fine engine is now being put up for pumping it. A few days will determine whether the well is a paying one or not.

We understand that the Kenzie Oil Company are about to commence operations in sinking a well some 11 miles from this place, on Marvin Creek near Randall's. We also learn that the company who hold a lease of the Beckwith farm near this borough have determined to commence sinking another well on that property soon, and that they do not intend to make boy's play of it. We trust our information is reliable.

Public Speakers, Military Men and Singers, and all suffering from Irritation of the Throat and Hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." Their demulcent ingredients allay Pulmonary irritation, and, after public speaking or singing, when the throat is wearied and weakened by too much exercise, their use will give renewed strength to the vocal organs.

Speculators and High Prices.

There is no possible excuse for present high prices, and they can be accounted for only upon the ground that speculators are controlling the markets. As an illustration, take domestic cotton goods. The price of cotton is nearly one-half lower than it was when gold was at the highest quotation, and other expenses are certainly no heavier than then; yet consumers have to pay nearly the old figure for their goods. Cotton factors, by reason of high prices brought about by the speculators, are reaping a rich harvest of profit. A Newburyport paper states that a mill at that place declared a dividend on Wednesday, of twenty five per cent., and that a million dollars in the last four years, although the whole concern cost only about half that amount. There is no reason why it should be an exceptional case, and the inference is that the mills of New England are now rolling up immense profits at the expense of consumers, and a consequence of speculators. It is financially impossible for this state of things to continue long. It is unnatural, unstable, treacherous, and must end in disaster. The country is not less than five billions of dollars poorer than it was five years ago, and here we have the appearance of greatly increased wealth—only an appearance, for real wealth results only from increased production.—Buffalo Courier.

SURPRISING.

It is actually surprising how soon our people have learned to prize that invaluable article known as Cor's Dyspepsia Cure. It certainly acts like magic, for it will cure the very worst cases of dyspepsia and enable the patient, who has lived for years upon Graham bread and the plainest food, to eat anything he chooses without fear of distress. It is considered the most valuable medicine known for all diseases of the stomach and bowels.

THE WAY THEY MAKE BUTTER IN FRANCE.—It is well known that cream may be converted into butter by simply being buried in the ground, but it is not generally known that this mode is in use in Normandy and some other parts of France. The process is as follows:—"The cream is placed in a linen bag of moderate thickness, which is carefully secured and placed in a hole in the ground, about a foot and a half deep; it is then covered and left for 24 to 25 hours. When taken out the cream is very hard, and only requires beating for a short time with a wooden mallet, after which half a glass of water is thrown upon it, which causes the butter milk to separate from the butter. If the quantity of cream to be converted into butter is large, it is left more than 25 hours in the ground. In winter, when the ground is frozen, the operation is performed in a cellar, the bag being well covered up with sand. Some persons place the bags containing the cream within a second bag, in order to prevent the chance of any taint from the earth. This system saves labor, and is stated to produce a larger amount of butter than churning, and of excellent quality and is, moreover, said never to fail.—Journal Society of Arts.

In her recent visit to Germany Queen Victoria became enamored of spinning and ordered a spinning-wheel to be made for her. The wheel was finished so exquisitely that the Queen ordered one for each of her palaces. A correspondent says that as the "royal matron resumes the occupation of the simple ladies of the old unaffected times, her example will not be lost on the crinolined and jeweled ladies of our age." Probably not, but many of the "crinolined and jeweled ladies" on this side of the water have long ago been accustomed to spinning—street yarns.

TO RAISE THE PILE ON VELVET.—We are sometimes asked, "What is the best thing to do with a velvet mantle after it has been in the rain?" Velvet that is rough and knotty, from rain spots and plasches can be rendered smooth again by thoroughly damping the back of it, and then passing the back of the velvet over a hot iron—the velvet, remember, must be passed over the iron, and not the iron over the velvet. The heat converts the water into steam, which rises through the pile, and so separates every filament. Some contrivance must be made to hold the iron upside down while the velvet is passed over it. If rested between two bricks covered with flannel, it will do very well; but if the same pair of hands that carried the umbrella over the mantle when it was out in the rain can be secured for that office, they will be found suitable.

It is to be understood, then, that those who vote the Republican ticket "go it blind" for party. Military gallantry and service can have no chance against such a partisan spirit, nor is it possible that personal merit, civil capacity and sound principles can achieve success against such blind bigotry as above confessed.

"Many of the men who have lately suffered defeat, under the Copperhead flag, at the ballot-box, were really distinguished for gallantry. If they had been nominated as Republicans they would undoubtedly have been elected."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

The radicals are growling at President Johnson for placing his son at Burlington College, Vermont, under the influence of Bishop Hopkins.