

The man who nominated General HARRISON at Chicago isn't now going around bragging about it.

In the Press teachers' contest it looks as if the opponents of Miss GRANT for the first prize will be forced to "an unconditional surrender."

QUAY must beat HASTINGS or acknowledge himself beaten. It is a square issue between the old State Boss and the young Boss of Centre county.

Municipal ambition is breaking out in rebellion against the census takers all over the land, and disappointed citizens are clamoring for "a fair count."

Now that "our Mary" is married, it is to be hoped that she will bid John Bull good-bye and settle down in her native land like a good American girl.

The New Yorkers are boasting of the wonderful growth of their city, as shown by the census, but they haven't a word to say about the growth of the Grant monument.

Nothing but the expense of getting a new one deters Mr. HARRISON from discarding "grandfather's hat." It is by the practice of economy that his Excellency intends to save at least three fourths of his salary.

After all, QUAY would be greatly missed if his enemies should sit down on him and squelch out his political entity. He supplies politics with a piquant flavor like that which sin imparts to human existence.

The manner in which the HARRISONS have become the owners of a summer cottage presents an unfavorable contrast to the way in which GROVER CLEVELAND purchased Oak View and paid for it out of his own pocket like a man.

The way the Republican papers of Bellefonte talk is calculated to impress the uninitiated with the belief that HASTINGS is the only Republican candidate for Governor and that MAT QUAY is a person of no influence in his party.

GROVER CLEVELAND has received another notice of his nomination for President by a college fraternity. When all the Professors are coming over to the Democracy it isn't astonishing that the college boys flock in the same direction.

The clause in the McKinley bill that allows any one to bring into the country \$500 worth of foreign-made clothing free of duty, is intended as a concession to the duds. Another evidence of the Republican party's friendship for the industrial classes.

The New York Sun just now is devoting much attention to the characteristics of the hog, but it would be difficult for that paper to find anywhere a better illustration of the bestiality of that animal than is furnished by its editor's treatment of Mr. CLEVELAND.

The grass season is so plentifully supplying the White House larder with butter from STEVE ELKINS'S dairy farm, that the thrifty housewife of the executive mansion is appreciably supplementing BENJAMIN'S salary with the proceeds of her sale of that article to the cabinet families.

That our high tariff has stirred up the gall of the Gauls is evidenced by the imposition of a prohibitive tax on Indian corn by the French Chamber of Deputies. The protection afforded to their cabbages by the McKinley bill will hardly compensate the American farmers for the loss of their corn trade.

The unseating of Democratic congressmen is a sure way of getting rid of them, but it is open to the objection of being too slow, and therefore the Republicans propose to improve upon it by passing a Federal Election law that won't allow any Democratic congressman to be elected at all.

Mrs. HARRISON is represented as having recently said that if BENJAMIN had taken her advice there wouldn't be a Democrat left in any of the government offices. This was very unkind in the lady of the White House, considering the circumstance that for four years her Republican father got his bread and butter from a place which the forbearance of Mr. CLEVELAND allowed him to hold on to in one of the departments under a Democratic administration.

We can't entirely agree with the editor of the Oil City Derrick that in sending a letter with a remittance to an editor it isn't necessary to begin it with the usual formula, "Please find enclosed," as it doesn't require any coaxing to induce him to accept its contents. Isn't the look of pleasure that overspreads his countenance when he opens the letter and gets the first glimpse of what it contains, evidence enough that the word "please" wasn't superfluously used?

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Don't Want Ballot Reform.

Pennsylvania is not the only State in which the Republican managers are opposed to ballot reform. Up in Maine the party leaders are following the example of the Pennsylvania legislature in discouraging any movement to secure honest elections by the adoption of a reformed ballot system.

The recent Republican State convention in Maine deliberately refused to put in their platform a resolution favoring the Australian plan of voting. While rejecting the only effective means of bringing about a fair and honest way of voting, they made a hypocritical declaration in favor of "an election system free from corruption and fraud," and indulged in the customary partisan cant about "a free ballot and a fair count in national elections."

It cannot be doubted that, unless there is true ballot reform on some such plan as is furnished by the Australian system, the work of those whose business is to corrupt and pervert elections cannot be checked. The Pennsylvania legislature was fully impressed with this fact when at its last session it declined to give ballot reform on the Australian plan any consideration whatever. And the Maine Republicans acted from the same motive in omitting an Australian ballot plank from their platform. "The grand old party" doesn't want to dispense with the crooked methods and appliances by which it has been in the habit of carrying elections.

Taxing Medicine.

It was with the greatest difficulty that the outrage upon the public health in the imposition of a tariff on quinine was terminated by putting that medicine on the free list. The McKinley bill contemplates a similar offense to the sick people of the country by raising the duties on such important medicines as sugar of milk and codliver oil. Why they should not be free is difficult to be seen by any except those who are crazily determined to tariff everything. The President of the New York Board of Pharmacy protests against increasing the expense of sickness by the Republican policy of increasing the cost of medicines. But it may be believed that the raised duties on sugar of milk, codliver oil, medicinal waters and other medical articles are intended to favor syndicates that have control of them in this country, as was the case with quinine until the tariff on it, maintained for the benefit of a few monopolists, had to yield to the adverse pressure of popular indignation.

Some of the foreign countries which will be injured by the McKinley tariff bill are preparing to make reprisals. Mexico's silver lead ore will be shut out by the bill and Mexico has advanced the duty on our corn in retaliation. Holland is going to increase the duty on our kerosene in return for McKinley's prohibiting the importation of her Sumatra tobacco, and the French propose to double the duty on our maize on account of the new tariff's unfriendliness to French importations. Other nations will also hit back, and the American farmers will be the ones that will suffer most in consequence of these foreign reprisals.

Sensitive Cities.

Both Chicago and St. Louis are dissatisfied with the census. The newspapers of the former city declare that a great number of families within its limits have not been enumerated, and that it is likely that the omissions have been so extensive as to make the enumeration little better than a farce. This is, of course, an exaggeration, and is probably intended to answer as an explanation why the population of Chicago does not appear to be as large as that of Philadelphia, it being the ambition of Chicagoans to outrank the Quaker City in size. In St. Louis the people are boiling over with assumed indignation over the work of the census men, it being charged against them that they did not count more than three fourths of the people of that city. It isn't hard to understand that St. Louis finds it necessary to have some excuse for being badly beaten by Chicago in point of population. The western cities are all very ambitious and very sensitive.

Dangerous as Well as Disgraceful.

The passage of the Disability Pension bill, which will add a hundred millions annually to the already immense expense involved in the payment of pensions, furnishes additional evidence that a reckless majority in congress have made up their minds to pay their election obligations and continue their hold on the soldier vote by using the treasury surplus for that purpose, regardless of consequences.

The extreme to which this pension business is being carried is a scandal and disgrace, not only to those who as politicians and members of congress are directly responsible for it, but also to the people who tolerate it, and particularly to the soldiers who are made to appear as huckstering their patriotism for a share of the plunder of the public treasury. The history of no other nation ever presented anything more shameful and dangerous. Nowhere else but in this Republic was there ever adopted a deliberate plan to corrupt a large class of people for a political and partisan object, and nowhere else was the public treasury used with such a design.

These pension bills do not emanate from a sense of gratitude for the services which the soldiers rendered the country. That sentiment has nothing whatever to do with the passage of pension laws which make no discrimination as to the necessities, or the character, length or value of the service, of those who are made the recipients of this public bounty. It has no other purpose than to purchase the political support of those who are benefited by this wholesale and indiscriminate pension system, and for this reason it presents a danger which should alarm every prudent and patriotic citizen. The demoralization of public sentiment that is involved is more to be deprecated than the waste of the public money.

It is now definitely announced that QUAY will attend the Republican State Convention next week, and a Harrisburg dispatch states that he "has engaged his old room at the Lohiel Hotel." That room is associated with some of the most noted incidents in the political career of the Boss. It was there that CRIS MAGER found him in a state of mind bordering on distraction through fear of the consequences of his raid on the state treasury, and uncertain whether to get out of the scrape by cutting his throat or jumping into the Susquehanna river. The associations of that room render it a fit place for the Boss to receive the gang of office-seekers, party dependents, machine politicians and political adventurers that will compose the bulk of the Convention.

Petty Vetoes.

The President has again exercised his negative power by putting his veto to a bill for a public building in a town somewhere down in the Southwest. His Excellency however, is not much disposed to interfere with the action of this model Republican congress. It can do almost any outrageous act without exciting his disapprobation, but when money is appropriated for a building in some Democratic Southern town he feels it his duty to draw the line.

But there are other acts of this congress which Mr. HARRISON could more creditably make the subject of his negation. The Disability Pension bill is a measure which he could disapprove of with great advantage to the country. It will assist in swelling the total cost of pensions to the enormous figure of \$150,000,000 a year, and for no other object than to secure and retain for the Republican party the support of a certain class of voters. Military service to the country is the smallest consideration in the transaction. Votes are its chief object. In fact, its purpose is for politics only.

There could not be a more proper subject for a veto than such a scheme to use the public treasury as a means of increasing the Republican vote. But disapproval of such a party expedient could not be expected of a man of Mr. HARRISON'S mental and moral caliber. The vetoing of bills for government buildings in Democratic towns is in better proportion to a character of his size.

Mischievous Partisans.

We can not commend the taste or temper of the Democratic journals that are trying to introduce an element of enmity in the contest between Mr. WALLACE and Mr. PATTISON for the Democratic nomination for Governor. Fortunately there are not many of these extreme partisans, but the few there are seem to be doing all they can to array the Democratic party of Pennsylvania in two hostile camps on the Governor question. They carry their personal attachment to their favorites to too great a length. There is no occasion whatever for the introduction of such warfare.

Nothing could be in worse taste than for a Democratic journal to assume that it opposes PATTISON because he is QUAY'S candidate, or that it objects to WALLACE because he is favored by the corporations. Yet we find extremists indulging in this mischievous kind of foolishness. Neither of these charges is true. MAT QUAY is far from wanting to see PATTISON nominated, and the corporations expect no favors from WALLACE. In fact, each of them has an element of strength peculiarly his own. Mr. PATTISON could draw the larger support from the opposite party; Mr. WALLACE could more thoroughly organize the party that would nominate him. Which of them would afford the greater advantage to the party in a contest with the enemy is the question to which the convention should address itself, without giving consideration to any other object than success.

Mr. Vaux has made his maiden speech in Congress. Its subject did not relate to tariffs or any of the financial or political questions that usually furnish the burden of congressional harangues, but it was about the public and private services and virtues of his predecessor, SAMUEL J. RANDALL. The new representative of the famous Third District is a modest man and will not launch into party questions until he shall have been longer in his seat.

Where It is Most Needed.

While the Republicans are preparing to enact a Federal Election law ostensibly to preserve and protect the political rights of the citizens, it may not be out of place to consider where some thing of that kind is really needed and would operate with good effect. In fourteen northern States 3,386,399 Republican voters elect 126 Republican congressmen, and 3,074,165 Democratic voters elect 47 Democratic congressmen. The same is respectively the case with Presidential electors. Now, although there is the merest fraction of difference between these two political forces, yet the one elects nearly three times as many congressmen and electors as is allowed to the other. These figures show that at least a million and a half of northern Democrats are disfranchised, so far as federal elections are concerned—deprived by Republican gerrymandering of the representation which their numbers entitle them to.

Is there anything in the alleged disfranchisement of the Southern negroes that can be compared to this? Yet the political desperadoes who have committed this wrong upon Northern Democrats are arranging to bring the congressional districts of the South also under their control by means of federal election laws the machinery of which they propose to keep in their own hands.

Things have got to such a pass that any kind of legislation, however disreputable or obnoxious, can be passed through State legislatures. Of course the passage is facilitated by the lubricating effect of boodle. Thus there remains but little doubt that the Louisiana Lottery gamblers will succeed in inducing the Louisiana legislature to give their charter an extension of twenty-five years. The lubricant that will be used to slide this nefarious measure through the State legislature is the huge bribe of \$1,000,000 to be paid the State annually, with, no doubt, personal compensation to such members as shall be induced to vote for its passage. The legislative virtue of Louisiana does not seem to be a bit higher than that of Massachusetts where a fund of \$100,000, in shares of \$10,000, was recently used to assist in getting a railroad bill through the State Senate.

A Tempting Field.

A meeting of the State Board of Agriculture which took place in Wellsboro last week, was attended by a large number of representative men, including Governor BEAVER, Supreme Judge H. W. WILLIAMS, and other persons of prominence. The farmers of the neighborhood, however, thought that there was too much of a representation of lawyers and politicians at the meeting, and therefore did not give it much countenance. It may be that they were not mistaken in believing that there is getting to be too many "professional" farmers whose interest in agriculture is just now being prompted by the design of making it the source of political advantage. "Farmers' Alliances" and the different granger organizations offer a very tempting field of activity to the political manipulator.

Senator HOAR has introduced a resolution for an amendment to the constitution to make postmasters elective. Such a measure in some respects might be beneficial, but it would be likely to produce a large proportion of poor postmasters. It isn't always the case that the character of public officials is improved by their being made elective. Judges made at the ballot box hardly size up to those that used to be made by appointment.

More Presidential Gift Taking.

The gift-taking that was such a blemish to the Grant administration, has been revived by the people, who are now connected with the Presidential office. A seaside cottage presented to Mrs. HARRISON by JOHN WANA, MAKER and other wealthy Philadelphians, bears an unpleasant resemblance to the presents which were accepted by President GRANT and members of his family while they occupied the White House, and which contributed so largely to the stock of scandals that clouded the Presidential reputation in those days.

Gift-taking by the head of the nation, or those in near relation to him, was discontinued after the Grant regime, particularly while the executive office was occupied by GROVER CLEVELAND, who, whether he needed a span of horses, a carriage, or a cottage, obtained it by regular purchase, paying its price in hard cash like an honest and honorable man and conscientious and high-minded public officer.

But one of the most scandalous practices the chief officer of the nation can engage in is resumed by Mr. HARRISON who at the very beginning of his administration put himself under obligations to a western carriage manufacturer by accepting several of his vehicles as a present, and is now indebted to a set of wealthy Philadelphians for valuable property at Cape May, which cannot be made to appear in any other light than as a gift to the President under cover of a deed to his wife.

Imperfect Census Work.

Complaints of the inaccuracy and incompleteness of the census are heard from every quarter. In Philadelphia the defective work has attracted attention and aroused public indignation. It is charged, upon good authority, that persons have answered the scheduled questions, or not, at their own discretion, schedules left with parties to be filled out have not been called for by the enumerators, and still others have not been visited at all by the census takers. It is a known fact that some enumerators, having neglected their work, are prepared to make improper and incomplete returns, in many instances omitting scores of names. Under these circumstances there is a settled conviction among the people of the city that the census of Philadelphia will be a botched job and entirely unreliable.

The same complaint is heard from other quarters. There is everywhere evidence of incomplete and slovenly work. But it is not entirely the fault of the enumerators. Those who cut out the work loaded it with superfluous, senseless and offensive questions which were obnoxious to a large class of people and inclined them to give the enumerators an unfavorable and even hostile reception. If the work of the enumerators had been confined to such matters as legitimately come within the scope of a census, more perfect and satisfactory results would have been obtained.

Spawls from the Keystone.

- Gypsy women tried to kidnap a child at Carlisle.
-Lancaster county grapes have been damaged by hail.
-Strawberry pickers near Harrisburg went on a strike.
-A powder magazine at Mount Hope was burglarized.
-The oats crop of Pennsylvania will be nothing to boast of.
-"Annie Rooney" was arrested in a Pittsburg speas-easy.
-A girl in Pittsburg has just passed a law student's examination.
-Eight strawberries picked in Lancaster county weighed a pound.
-In one portion of Reading there was a shower of toads last week.
-The Postmaster fight at Pottstown will be settled by a newspaper ballot.
-"Penny-in-the-slot" machines have created a dearth of pennies at Pottstown.
-John Still, of Leopard, aged 82 years, is about to marry Ella James, aged 26.
-A Mount Carbon woman discovered an intruder in her room by a flash of lightning.
-A gang of forty men scoured the woods at Honeybrook searching for Elisha Fitch.
-John Richberg, of Greensburg, died of overloading himself with whiskey recently.
-The mind of Charles Cheerman, of Easton, has been unbalanced by cigar-smoking.
-The nineteen public schools of Harrisburg will each be presented with a flag on July 4.
-In one hour 153 rats were killed in a Doylestown shed which was being demolished.
-George A. Engle, residing at Pottsville, has a Mexican cactus which bears 200 blossoms.
-Harrison A. Henry, of Lyntonport, fell under a moving machine and was terribly mangled.
-An electric car at Harrisburg was struck by lightning and the apparatus was burned out.
-Burglar Wilson, in the Pottsville jail, made a key out of a buckle and unlocked his shackles.
-A concert given recently at Reading was listened to in Philadelphia and Washington by telephone.
-The old Boss farm, at Bristol, for nearly a century controlled by the same family, was sold last week.
-Mrs. Margaret Walter, of Westtown, Chester county, has a rose bush which contains 1000 roses in full bloom.
-J. K. Snyder, of Centerville, while camping, had the experience of a rattlesnake crawling up his trouser leg.
-John Brun, of Annville, accidentally shot himself in the head while handling a musket, and it is feared he will die.
-The amateur editors of a class paper at Lehigh College were censured by the President for satirizing the professors.
-Mayor Frishey, of Harrisburg, has issued an order to his police to arrest all persons caught betting at baseball games.
-John T. Gross and J. B. Hendricks, of Norristown, captured 290 frogs along the banks of a Bucks county stream in one night.
-Harry Shinton, 8 years old, was struck by a shifting engine at Shawnee Furnace, Columbia, on Friday, and fatally injured.
-A great mass of worms, measuring three feet in length and one foot through, was seen moving along over the ground at West Chester.
-The annual inspection and parade of the Allentown Fire Department took place on Saturday afternoon, when nearly 1000 men were in line.
-William B. Wolf, proprietor of the Bricker ville Hotel, near Litz, died recently of stings received while trying to capture a swarm of bees.
-A Hungarian, while picking coal on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, at South Bethlehem on Friday afternoon, was run over by cars and cut in pieces.
-At a birthday celebration at West Chester all the guests brought the host a present of a pitcher. She received eighty-one of these articles.
-The corner-stones of the Reformed church at East Berlin and the Lutheran church at Mount Joy were laid on Saturday with appropriate exercises.
-William Osman, of Allentown, attempted suicide on Monday evening by hanging himself in the attic of his house. He was discovered by his wife and cut down when half dead.
-Miss Reeser, of York, was walking barefooted through the orchard when a snake bit her on the toe. The girl experienced no inconvenience, but the snake was found dead on the spot soon after.
-William Remley, a Moore township (Northampton county) farmer, hanged himself with a handkerchief and rope to the limb of a tree on the outskirts of Nazareth, on Thursday evening. No cause is known.
-Two of Bristol's citizens have got stakes up on the population of the town, one betting that she will count up to 8000, while the other thinks 7000 will be the limit. Bristol's population at her last census was 5000.
-A straw vote on the gubernatorial question taken at the Pharmaceutical Convention at York resulted as follows: Hastings 58, Pattison 36, Delamater 7, Wallace 5, Montooth 4, Black 1, Osborne 1, McCormick 1.
-The Reading Railroad Company having announced that employes in Reading will hereafter be paid by check after bank hours on the day of payment, the employes will petition for payments in cash enclosed in envelopes.
-The farmers in the vicinity of West Grove do not seem to be much in favor of the National Farmers' Alliance. A meeting was called for Wednesday evening, but it was so slimly attended that it was adjourned without organization.
-The fifty-four silk ribbon weavers in the employ of Fichter & Martin, of Bethlehem are on a strike against a reduction of 10 per cent. in wages. The weavers have offered to arbitrate, but the firm wants it done through the foreman, which the weavers refuse.
-The wharfmen at the Glendon Iron Works who struck some time ago for an increase of pay, are being taken back because the men sent to take their places are unable to do the work. The strikers are now earning, by working on percentage, \$2 per day instead of \$1.20.
-Alexander Caratz, a Hungarian, aged 22 years, on Tuesday attempted to wreck a train on the Lehigh Valley Road by placing obstructions on the track between Black Bridge and Tomhekon. He had been ejected from a train for failure to pay his fare. The obstructions were removed in time to prevent an accident.