

Where to Put It.

We have no authority for saying that the offer would be accepted, but the Governor might go much farther and fare much worse, than to tender the vacant Justiceship on the Supreme bench, to Hon. JOHN H. ORVIS, of this place. Of all the persons mentioned as probable successors to the lamented Judge CLARK, there is none who stands higher as an expounder of the law, or has a clearer conception of the duties of the position than the gentleman we name. Particularly well would he fill the place made vacant by the death of Judge CLARK, for this reason that his line of practice covering all kinds of ejectment trials, land cases and litigation growing out of matters of which city lawyers have no personal knowledge and about which they have little reason for seeking legal information, is and has been the same that made the deceased Justice so proficient and prominent on the bench. His location, too, is another reason why the appointment would be proper. The southeastern part of the State has now three members of the bench, the north and northeastern portion has two, the west has one, while the great central section has none.

While we can give no assurance that Judge Orvis would give up his lucrative practice for the honor of occupying a seat on the Supreme bench for a year, we would have no hesitancy in guaranteeing that if such an event should occur, and the question of jurisdiction or no jurisdiction, be brought before him, it would not be determined in favor of "no jurisdiction" on any such grounds as he asked the Senate to accept as reasons why it should so decide, nor would his decision be on the side he argued so earnestly to save.

William J. Florence.

WILLIAM J. FLORENCE, the well known actor, died rather unexpectedly last Thursday, at Philadelphia. Mr. FLORENCE had been suffering for several days with acute pneumonia, but no one dreamed that the end was so near, in fact Drs. DA COSTA, PANCOAST and DONELAN, thought that the crisis was passed.

"BILLY" FLORENCE, as he was familiarly called, was one of the most popular men on the stage or off. The good humor and quiet pathos with which he captured the hearts of his audience, were but a reflex of his own personality. Born in Albany, N. Y., in 1831 of a family by the name of Conlin, he early decided on a theatrical life which was bitterly opposed by his father, hence the name Florence. His public career embraced a period of forty-two years. Forty two years of popularity and fame. Riches he should have had, for every where he met with success; but he was the soul of generosity and would rob himself to give to others. His two greatest characters were BARDWELL SLOTE, in "The Mighty Dollar," and Captain CURTLE, in "Dombey and Son," although theater goers have greatly enjoyed for two years his Sir LUCIUS O'FLYNNER in the Jefferson-Drew combination.

In his death the American stage loses one of its greatest comedians, and one that has done much to elevate its tone, while the world loses a strong and generous man who has not lived in vain.

A GOODLY ARRAY OF THEM.—Governor PATTISON will certainly find no trouble in securing some one to accept the position made vacant on the supreme bench, by the death of Judge CLARK. It is but one week since the vacancy occurred, and already the following names have been presented him as applicants for the place, D. T. Watson, esq. of Allegheny; Judge Harvey, of Allentown; Furman Sheppard and esq., of Philadelphia; Judge Bucher, of Lewisburg; Judge Baer, of Somerset; C. Heydrick, esq., of Franklin; J. Ross Thompson, esq., of Erie; John W. Wetzel, esq., of Carlisle; Judge McMichael, of New Castle; Judge Mehard, of Mercer; Levi B. Aldricks, esq., of Harrisburg; Hon. Hugh M. North, of Columbia; Colonel John P. Linton, of Cambria; Judge Barnett, of Perry; Judge Stanley Woodward, of Williamsport, and Judge Mayer, of Clinton. Centre county presents the name of ex-Judge Orvis, and believes in doing so, that it offers as good material for the place, as can be found, in the whole list of names to be considered.

Read the WATCHMAN for political and general news.

A Move for A New Court House.

The WATCHMAN, immediately after the indictment of the county Commissioners last August, for maintaining a nuisance, which was done at the instance of Judge FURST, stated that the purpose of that action, was not so much to get rid of the buildings complained of, as it was a movement to secure the building of a new Court House. The action of the Judge in threatening to issue an injunction, to which we referred last week, restraining the Commissioners from doing that which he had them indicted, but a few months before, for not doing, and his securing a report from the Grand Jury, on Wednesday, recommending additions, alterations and changes in the present building, that when commenced once will virtually result in an entire new building, fully convinces us that we were right in our first statement.

Judge FURST, may publicly avow as much as he pleases that he is not in favor of a new Court House, but the evidence comes out in every movement that his purpose is to get practically a new building under the pretense of additions to the old. Ever since he has been upon the bench he has kept agitating additions and alterations to the present building. He had scarcely gotten his judicial seat warm, until a Grand Jury of his own selection, (for he always insists on helping to fill the jury wheel,) started the tax-payers by recommending the erection of an entire new Court House. This action so aroused the people that for a number of years no Grand Jury could be induced to do more than recommend a few unimportant repairs. Then they began again with recommendations of changes, and nearly every Grand Jury that met since, has had some new proposition, suggested by the Judge, to make in its report. All of these reports together with the indictment of the Commissioners at the August term, had but one object in view, and that was the one partially obtained by the report of Wednesday which is, to build a new front to the present building thirty feet distant, connect it with the old, enlarge the court room, rebuild the offices, and remodel the whole building inside and out.

This is the job. It simply means, practically a new Court House and an expense to the taxpayers of from \$75,000 to \$100,000 just at a time when the farmers of the county are hoping to pay some of their private debts contracted in consequence of a seven years failure of crops, and when scarcely a workman in the county is earning more than a beggarly living.

If the present Court House, with the improvements the Commissioners are now making, was not large enough for the transaction of the court business of the county, or if the vaults were not safe or the offices commodious, we would be one of the first to insist on the erection of a proper building. But as it stands, it is good enough for years to come and particularly is it good enough to do until the county treasury recovers from the cleaning out it got under the rule of the late board of Republican county Commissioners.

If Judge FURST and a few of the attorneys who are ever willing to do his bidding, would make one half the effort to transact the court business, which has been allowed to accumulate, that they do in trying to impose upon the taxpayers a needless and burdensome debt, the dockets would not be back for years, and litigants would not be suffering as they are, for want of proper attention of their cases by the court.

The tax-payers, business interests and justice, need a new court in this county, much more than they need a new Court House or any addition to the present one, and we imagine they will have it long before the recommendation of the last Grand Jury is carried out.

Delaware Justice.

They don't have many criminals down in Delaware and their courts for the trial of crime are few and far between. Possibly this is accounted for by the fact that the justice meted out, when they get after a fellow, is a holy terror to wrong doers. The other day two Philadelphia burglars robbed a house in Wilmington. They were caught, convicted and the sentence was, that each pay a fine of \$500, stand in the pillory one hour, receive forty lashes and be imprisoned five years. It is safe to conclude that when these housebreakers get through with all of this, they will take good care not to get into the hands of a Delaware court again. The same kind of justice in Pennsylvania would shorten the criminal lists and lessen the taxes in every county of this State. While it might have the effect of decreasing our population somewhat, it would be getting rid of a class usually housed in our county jails, and for whom the disgrace of imprisonment has no terrors at all.

Terrible Wind and Rain Storm—Great Damage All Over the Country.

Telegrams from all over the country report that the wind storm on last Monday night was one of the most severe ever experienced in the middle section. At Washington, D. C., the storm amounted to almost a hurricane causing great damage throughout the city. An unfinished theatre on Twelfth street fell, crushing the rear walls of a half a dozen stores, and although the streets were mostly deserted at the time of the accident, a number of people were seriously hurt. The White House inhabitants were badly frightened by having a portion of the stone balustrade from the roof, crash through the portico at the eastern entrance. Telegraph and telephone poles were cut down as with a knife, completely shutting off the executive mansion from the outside world. One of the most disastrous results of the storm was the loss of about 500,000 feet of gas and the complete destruction of the reservoir it was stored in. The whole was valued at \$50,000 and no insurance.

At Carlisle, the storm was accompanied by thunder and lightning, which caused some damage, and a great deal of consternation. The heroine of the hour is Miss Bertha Rudy, a young girl who teaches at the Graham school house one mile west of the town. The school was in session when the storm struck the brick building, taking off the roof and the gable, and the pupils all escaped unharmed through the windows, and the teacher would not have been hurt had she not insisted on staying 'til the last one was out, when she was struck by a falling shutter and had her right leg broken in two places.

At Pittsburg fair warning of the approaching storm was given, the barometer having suddenly fallen to the lowest point, with one exception, in 21 years. Few heeded the indication, however, and when the storm burst every thing was in confusion. The walls of the new hotel on West Carson street, fell crushing Peterson's tenement house and killing Mrs. Pepples. Two of the immense electric towers in Allegheny city fell forcing down the wires for squares. Coal barges were sunk, and an oil line running at the bottom of the Allegheny River was crushed and the result is that the surface of the river is covered with petroleum that threatens to do an immense damage, should it become ignited. The loss in the two cities has not been estimated but is very great.

Harrisburg suffered nearly as much. A number of people were injured seriously. Alleys and street were flooded, houses were unroofed, shutters and chimneys blown off and electric light, telephone and telegraph wires, were all cut off.

From Lewistown, Lancaster, Wilkesbarre, Altoona, Williamsport and Lock Haven the same kind of reports are made, showing that the storm was the most general and destructive of its kind of any that has ever been experienced in this section.

Close It Up.

Months ago petitions and resolutions were sent to the Commissioners of the World's Fair from every part of the civilized world, requesting that the gates be closed on Sunday. So far no decision in the matter has been made. Why we do not know.

Article after article has been written in favor of the open gates, and the only point that one can find in any of them, is that it will give the working men an opportunity to visit the Fair. Will some one please explain what workingmen are to be benefited? Can a man who earns his daily bread in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Kansas or any of the other States, with the exception of the few bordering on Illinois, leave his work Saturday evening, go to Chicago, visit the Fair and get home to work Monday morning? If there are any they are a good deal more fortunate than most workingmen are or they could not think of paying expenses to and from Chicago for ten hours sight seeing.

Sunday as we understand it, was created for rest. We may accept or deny the authority of the fourth commandment, and yet agree with the Bible, that one day out of the seven should be set apart for rest. The mental vigor as well as the physical being, requires a change, and when we learn that a million and half wage-workers in the United States are reduced to mere slaves by being deprived of their rest day, do we want to add to that list the numberless laborers it would take to keep open the Exposition, to say nothing about the railroad men, hotel employees and general workmen whose service would be required?

Let the great show be closed on Sundays.

A Doubtful Discovery.

The newspapers have made the startling discovery that unless Missouri and Kansas, each call special sessions of their Legislatures and re-district their States, that each will lose a Presidential elector next year. Why these States would not be entitled to be represented in an electoral college in proportion to their representatives in congress, these wise-acres do not say. Under our system of government, we understand that each state has the same number of electoral votes that it has members of Congress and Senators, and it is conceded on all sides that the States can determine for themselves how those electors are to be apportioned, or voted for. If there is any power outside of the States themselves, that prohibits the election of presidential electors, except when properly apportioned, we would like to know it. It would be a matter of considerable interest to us now, and if properly applied would knock two votes out of the Republican electoral column in Pennsylvania. If there is any such a condition of affairs in Missouri and Kansas, as is stated, in must be in consequence of some provision in their State Constitutions, and why they should thus disfranchise themselves is one of the curious things that we doubt if it could be satisfactorily answered.

A Good Way from the Facts.

In referring to the appointment of a supreme court Justice, the *Scranton Republican* says: "Non-partisanship in the judiciary has taken a strong hold on the masses of Pennsylvania." If our coal region contemporary will point out the particular masses that seem to have become imbued with this idea at the late elections, we would be glad to send each and every one of them a chronom. In fact, since Judges were made elective, there never was known such purely partisan selection of Judges as occurred this fall. In not a single instance anywhere, did Republicans forget their partisanship, and in no district in the Commonwealth was any one elected to the bench whose partisan views was not in accord with the majority of the voters of the district. In this matter the *Republican* is off its eggs entirely.

—There were two men in Pennsylvania who had great reason to be truly thankful yesterday. They were ONYX CLOCK McCAMANT, and DEPLETED SINKING FUND BOYER.

Ex-Senator Wallace.

From the Pittsburg Post. Ex-Senator Wallace in a published interview states his desire to enter the Pennsylvania legislature next year as a member of the Assembly. There is no doubt the electors of Clearfield county will take great pleasure in nominating and electing Mr. Wallace. His experience in State legislation, and great ability as a lawyer and equipment as a statesman, would make him a valuable member at any time; but the inducement that moves Mr. Wallace to re-enter public life at this time, to quote his own words, is as follows:

I would like to be there to secure for the voters of the state a satisfactory ballot system and to provide some system that would act as a screen between the illiterate and the ballot. Pennsylvania is absolutely suffering from the flood of illiteracy that is coming in upon it from other countries. I would not hesitate a moment to take the stump in advocacy of compulsory education, not the compulsory education that is sometimes agitated, but for a qualification that would compel foreigners to read and write before they are allowed to vote, and I would favor the enactment of a law that would enable the authorities to say to the foreigner when he is 16 or 18 years old, "You must learn to read and write, else you cannot exercise the right of the ballot." That, I think, would be a spur in the head of the young foreigner, and that, I think, would act as a screen between the ballot and the illiterate from which Pennsylvania, New York and other large States are now suffering.

There is no question but that there should be legislation on the line indicated by Mr. Wallace, as the tide of ignorance and recklessness thrown into this State every year from the "undesirable countries" of Europe is on the increase, while the immigration of the desirable class is falling off. The peculiar character of our industries, in some districts in order to secure the demand for crude and unskilled labor, is the main cause for this, while on the other hand we have not the cheap and unoccupied lands that attract the most intelligent, industrious and provident immigrants, Poles, Hungarians, Italians and Russians now occupy almost exclusively a labor field that was formerly filled by Irish, Scotch, Welsh, English, Germans and Scandinavians. There is no greater opportunity for the highest gifts of statesmanship than to devise measures that will check the immigration of the refuse of Europe, or to protect our institutions from the corrupt and ignorant ballot that is inseparable from such immigration.—*Pittsburg Post*.

Information Spreading.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch. The announcement that Captain Morrison in the position of cashier of the State treasury will learn all about that office before he assumes charge of it, is a gratifying one. A good many people have been wanting to learn something concerning the inside matters of that public trust; and it is pleasant to know that the number of those possessed of that important information is to be increased by one.

The Eight Hour Law

Governor Pattison Says It Must Be Enforced in State Institutions.

Recently Governor Pattison received complaints from employes in the Huntingdon reformatory to the effect that the eight hour law, relative to State institutions, was not complied within the reformatory. After investigating the matter the governor sent the following notification to the authorities of the institution.

"To the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Industrial Reformatory, Huntingdon, Pa.—Gentlemen: During the month of August last I received a communication from certain employes of the reformatory, setting forth that the provisions of an act of the general assembly, entitled 'An Act Making Eight Hours as a Day's Labor in Penal Institutions under control of the State,' approved May 30, 1891, had not been complied with by the managers of said institution. A copy of this communication was submitted to your board, and your answer thereto, together with a supplementary petition and answer, have been received and duly considered.

"The legislative intent is plainly set forth in the title of the act above cited, and this intent is strengthened by the second section thereof, which provides as follows: 'That all superintendents and officers over and all persons authorized to make all contracts for and to employ persons for labor and services, or appoint under officers in, for and around said penitentiaries and reformatory institutions, mentioned in the first section of this act, are hereby forbidden and prohibited, under the penalties mentioned in third section of this act, from allowing or compelling any of said employes or under officers to give and serve any more than eight out of each twenty-four hours in such service of labor.'" The third section thereof makes it the duty of the governor to execute and carry out the foregoing section of this act and the fourth section thereof provides that this act shall not be construed to have reference to any institutions wherein the employes are resident.

"Without going into an extensive discussion of the several points raised by the complaint and answer hereto, I am of the opinion that the said act of assembly has reference and is applicable to the Pennsylvania Industrial Reformatory, and it is earnestly hoped that suitable arrangements will be made by the board of managers thereof, so that the provisions of said act may be carried into effect on the first day of January next, and that thereafter eight hours out of each twenty-four hours shall constitute a day's labor at said institution.

"Very respectfully,
"ROBERT E. PATTISON."

How the Vote of the Country Shows Up.

Since 1879 the Democratic party has been in the ascendent in this country. If the president had been elected by the popular vote the Democrats would have carried every presidential election except one, since that year. In 1876 the Democrats elected their President both by the popular vote and the electoral vote, but the States of Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina were fraudulently counted against the Democratic nominee and Hayes was seated. Tilden received 4,284,885 votes and Hayes 4,033,950, giving the Democrats a majority of 250,935. In 1880, the vote was Hancock, 4,442,035; Garfield 4,449,053—giving the latter the slender popular plurality of 7,018. Ever since that election the Democrats have had the majority of the voters of the country with them, and the Republicans have been able to regain national power only by the manipulation of the electoral college. In 1884 Cleveland had 4,913,284 votes, and Blaine 4,848,150—the popular majority for Cleveland being 65,098. In 1888, Cleveland had 5,538,045 against Harrison's 5,430,607—a popular Democratic majority of 107,438. Judging from the late elections the Democratic majority in 1892, with tariff reform as the issue, will be higher than ever it was.

The New York Legislature.

From the New York Gazette. The New York *Tribune* is leading the infamous scheme of the Republicans to steal the legislature of New York. It is a question of political life or death with them; for they know that a Democratic legislature will immediately re-district the State so as to give legislative and congressional representation to the thousands of Democrats who are denied such representation by the existing apportionment. The facts seem to warrant the belief that the Democrats carried the legislature at the last election by a small majority; and there are ugly indications that the Platt Republicans have tampered with the returns in some districts in order to secure the seating of the Republican members in the legislature.

But there are, however, wary eyes watching them; and a Democratic governor, who is not afraid to assert his rights, is scrutinizing very closely the machinations of the deperate followers of Boss Platt.

Russia's Starving Peasants.

ST. PETERSBURG, November 24.—The area affected by the famine comprises a section of the empire equalling in size nearly half the area of the United States, and a very low estimate places the population of this part of the country at about four million souls. In many districts no winter sowing whatever has been done, and consequently the inhabitants have nothing to look forward to, even should they be so fortunate as to manage to sustain life through the winter. In the same provinces the grain given by the government has reached its destination, but it has been so long delayed en route that its arrival was too late to benefit many of those for whom it was intended. Enfeebled by their long absence from nourishing food, hundreds of people could not stand the cold, which at this season of the year is very intense, and they perished miserably.

Death of Judge Clark.

Hon. Silas M. Clark one of the two Democrats upon the bench of the Supreme court of the state, died at his home in Indiana, on Friday last. For years he had been suffering from some incurable stomach disease from some time since a malignant carcinoma made its appearance on the back of his neck. Notwithstanding the intense pain it caused him, he continued his work upon the bench, until about two weeks ago, when he was compelled to take his bed from which he never arose. The funeral which took place on Monday was one of the longest and most impressive ever witnessed in the interior part of the state.

Judge Silas Moorhead Clark was elected to the Supreme Bench in November, 1882, and entered upon the duties of his office in January following. Upon the death of the late Hon. Morrison R. Waite, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, the leading newspapers of the State, irrespective of party, qualified to Judge Clark as a man eminently fitted to fill the exalted position thus made vacant. Judge Clark came from a sturdy Scotch race. His ancestors came to Western Pennsylvania from the Cumberland Valley, and were early prominent in the affairs of the Commonwealth. His direct ancestor, Capt. James Clark, was an officer in the Revolutionary Army and at the close of the war settled near Hannastown, Westmoreland county. He afterwards removed to South Bend, Armstrong county, where he resided until his death. Judge Clark's maternal ancestor was Ferguson Moorhead, who also went to Westmoreland county from the Cumberland Valley.

In 1835 James Clark, father of Judge Clark, settled in Indiana, the county seat of Indiana county, and the future jurist received his rudimentary education in the public schools of that little town. In 1851 he graduated fifth in a class of sixty from Jefferson College at Cambridge, Pa. After his graduation Judge Clark spent two years as a teacher in the academy, at Indiana, when he was admitted to the bar, and while still a struggling lawyer, was elected Director of the Public Schools of the town, a position he held for twelve consecutive years. In 1856 the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Lafayette College.

Judge Clark early demonstrated his great abilities as a jurist, and notwithstanding that the bar of Indiana county embraced some of the strongest lawyers in the State, the young aspirant for legal honors soon made a place for himself in the front rank. It is a matter of record that for ten years prior to his elevation to the Supreme Court not a single important case was tried in the county in which he did not appear. Judge Clark was always a clear and profound thinker, a strong and logical reasoner and an eloquent advocate. Whether arguing questions of law before a Court or questions of fact before a jury, the strong points of his case were so forcibly presented that the weak ones were likely to be lost altogether.

His political convictions were inherited from his ancestry. He was a Democrat from boyhood. He was, however, never an office-seeker, and with the exception of membership in the Constitutional Convention in 1873, never held a political office until elevated to the Supreme bench in 1882. He ranked as one of the ablest men in the Constitutional Convention, and Mr. Buckalew in his work, "The Constitution of Pennsylvania," pays a high tribute to his services and ability. In his judicial capacity Judge Clark took high rank. His opinions, always brief, were couched in the simplest and choicest language, and were as readily understood by laymen as by lawyers. Judge Clark's life was singularly successful and happy, but he had one great sorrow, the loss of his wife a few years ago, which cast a shadow over it. She was a most attractive and intelligent woman, and the Judge never recovered the shock her loss occasioned him.

New York's Legislature Democratic in Both Branches.

The latest word from Albany states that doubt no longer exists as to the political complexion of the incoming legislature. That it will be Democratic in both branches is definitely settled by the declaration of the Dutchess county board of canvassers that Osborne (Democrat) had received 184 plurality in that county over Deane, (Republican).

This gives Osborne a plurality of 14 in the Fifteenth district. It is the prevalent opinion among politicians of both parties that the state board of canvassers will decide that votes cast for Sherwood in the Twenty-seventh district are null, as the fact of his illegitimacy had been promulgated by the attorney general before the election took place, and cannot, therefore, be considered. On this basis only votes for eligible candidates can be canvassed and the certificate of election must be issued to Walker, the Democrat.

The senate will then stand, Democrats, sixteen; Republicans, fifteen; Independent (Dr. Edwards) one. The casting vote of the lieutenant governor will give the organization of the Democrats, if Dr. Edwards should vote with the Republicans, which is not certain. This calculation leaves to the senate itself the ascertainment and decision in the case of Peck, of Syracuse, who is alleged to be a citizen of Canada, though it is very possible that the state board of canvassers may take cognizance. The assembly is expected to contain sixty-seven Democrats to sixty-one Republicans. It is not believed in official circles that Governor Hill will take his seat in the senate until relieved by the inauguration of Governor Flower, though no information on that point has been given out from the executive chamber.

Governor Pattison's Father-in-Law Dead.

Edwin A. Smith, Mrs. Robert E. Pattison's father died, Monday, of paralysis at his residence, 2312 North Seventeenth street, Philadelphia. Mr. Smith for years was a prominent dealer in lime but has been obliged to lead a very retired life lately on account of ill health and advancing years.