The Beaver Argus.

J. WEYAND, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Beaver, Pa., Feb. 14th, 1872.

THE Cincinnatti papers correct a current misapprehension touching the National Convention to be held there in May. It is not to be a nominating convention at all, but merely to devise measures for a nomination upon which all the opponents to General Grant may unite. It is not likely, therefore, that the independent Republicans will put a ticket in the field, if at all, until after the Convention in Philadelphia on the fifth of June.

ABILL of considerable importance to the newspaper fraternity of this State, was killed at Harrisburg last week. The bill referred to originated in the Senate, and prescribed that in all libel suits the truth should be admitted as evidence; and if a jury should find that the same was published from good motives and justifiable ends the defendant should be acquitted. This reasonable and just bill was presented and advocated by Senator Graham of Allegheny county, and opposed by Senator White of Indiana. It was finally considered in Committee of the whole and laid over, which is regarded as equivalent to its defeat for the present. From this it would seem that a majority of our State Senators are afraid of the truth and still insist upon retaining a law upon our statute books which prevents an editor from calling one of them a thief though he caught him riffing a drawer, or with his hands in the State Treasury up to the armpits. We should think General White's opposition to this measure will not accelerate his speed very materially in the gubernatorial race.

NEARLY every Republican paper in Philadelphia is now of the opinion that Col. McClure was swindled out of the Seat in the Senate for the Fourth district. Here are a few instances of how the election was carried for his competitor, Col. Gray, the gentleman who was sworn in as a member of the Senate last week:

In one division of the Nineteenth ward forty respectable citizens over and above the returns for McClure have made affidavit that they voted for him. In a division in the Twentieth ward, during a certain hour, the vote for McClure was counted at three. Col. McClure has the affidavits of eight men who voted for him in a body, in that hour, two clergymen being among them. He was also informed of over three hundred men who voted in the Nineteenth ward, and who did not live there. Also, in the same ward, information of three hundred names voted on, whose BONA FIDE owners did not vote at all. In a division of the same ward a certain name was voted upon by a repeater, and then by a genuine man, both for Gray. In the Twenty second ward one division in a certain hour returned six votes for McClure. That gentleman has in his possession affidavits of fourteen citizens who voted for him in that hour. In the Nineteenth ward the vote in one division was counted seven for McClure for a certain hour. The window man challenged the count. He was beaten and driven away. Fourteen men have since made affidavit that they voted in that same hour. In another division of the Nineteenth ward double the number of votes for McClure, than were counted, have once been affirmed by affidavits. In one precinct in the district a police officer voted six times for Gray.

WHEN Congress met on the first of December the Republican opposition to General Grant's renomination "seemed no larger than a man's hand." At about that time, a number of heavy defalcations on the part of office-holders were reported, and the independent Republican press, together with a number of Republican United States Senators, insisted upon a general and thorough investigation of alleged abuses. This was resisted by Conkling, Chandler, Cameron, & Co.; and at once nearly the whole tribe of office-holders from Maine to Louisiana, opened their batteries upon these claimants for official integrity, and abused them as no class of men in this country were ever abused before. Not content with calling them the most offensive names they could think of, they must forsooth undertake to read them out of the Republican party. Well, after "running on" for two months, we let the Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* of Feb. 6th, give the result. Here it is:

A leading Administration Senator, who returned from New England this morning, reports a great revolution in the temper of the Republican party there toward Grant. He intended to make some speeches in New Hampshire during the campaign now opening, but says that he cannot go into that State and succeed fully plead the Republican cause with the press, sending up every day as Democratic electioneering documents the proceedings of the New York Custom-house Investigation Committee. He will call upon the President, to-morrow, and urge him to clean out that sink of iniquity in New York if he hopes to retain any strength before the people.

Col. Forney of Philadelphia is in the city to day on private business. In conversation he speaks very despondingly of Grant's chances of renomination, and doubts very much if Philadelphia even will support him. Other reports from other States are to the effect that Grant stock is declining everywhere, and that all that is now necessary for his defeat is a concentration of the Independent Republicans on some strong honest man.

A MONSTER mass meeting was held in Philadelphia last week relative to the frauds perpetrated in the Fourth Senatorial district at the recent election, and to express opinions touching politics generally in that city and in the State at large. The organization of the meeting included a President, sixty-three Vice Presidents and thirty Secretaries, all from among the best and most honored men of the city. The speakers were Hon. R. T. Brewster, Hon Richard Vaux, Col. McClure, Dr. William Elder, Hon. E. Joy Morris, Col. Page and other prominent and influential men. We have only room for a single extract from one of the speeches delivered on the occasion. We take it from the address of the Hon. E. Joy Morris, who, until quite recently, was our minister to Turkey. He concluded his speech thus:

There are considerations that rise superior to questions of party, that address themselves to the conscience and sense of duty, and to the self-respect of every citizen. It will be in vain hereafter to appeal for the support of regular nominations made by fraud for the purpose of foisting bad men into office. I am not bound to vote for a scoundrel or member of a "Ring" of public plunderers if he is a Republican. As a member of an honorably party, I have a right, with all who have at heart its reputation, and who desire that it shall deserve the public confidence, that such candidates shall be presented as are worthy of our suffrages—men of tried integrity and ability, and who will discharge the trusts confided to them faithfully and irreproachably. Without such a reflect disgrace on the Republican party, impeach its patriotism, sow discord in its ranks, and impair its chances of success here, in the State, and on the broader field of national action.

Until we cease sending to Harrisburg Ring leaders and agents, and men who live in awe of Ring influences, no reformatory legislation can be expected. Where the fountain head itself is tainted the whole stream becomes impure." The chief source of the evils against which the meeting was called to take action lay in the fact that a seat in the Legislature was sought less for the honor of serving the public than of promoting private interests, and too often of making money by corrupt practices. For all these evils he saw but one remedy—a radical change of men and measures. Now, when no election is pending, and in advance of the action of nominating conventions, they should declare that they will no longer be persuaded by the syren song of "regular nominations" to vote for candidates morally and politically unworthy, and that, if party disasters and defeats result from a disregard of this admonition, the *responsibility* will fall upon those who thus manifest their contempt for public opinion and their disregard of the general interests.

Death of Senator Knight.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 12.—Before the assembling of either house this evening, the Republicans held a joint caucus and the death of Senator Knight, Democrat, of Bucks, was reported among the members, and spectators gathered in the capitol, creating another sensation.

HERE AND THERE.

—The Senatorial conferees of Huntingdon, Center, Mifflin, and Juniata, met in Huntingdon on Tuesday, and instructed the delegates to the State Convention to vote for Col. Frank Jordan for Governor.

—Pennsylvania has more Postoffices than any other State in the Union. The number of Postoffices in Pennsylvania is 2,893, and in New York, 2,690. The whole army of postmasters in the United States amounts to 30,045.

—A school teacher in Omaha, having an inordinate dread of small-pox, sent home a little girl because she said her mother was sick and had marks on her face. The next day with her finger in her mouth and her little bonnet swinging by the strings, and said to the teacher: "We've got a leetle baby at our house; but mother told me to tell you that *it isn't catchin'*." The teacher said she was very glad, and told her pupil to take her seat.

—The case of Senator Clayton is still regarded as one that will call for vigorous action on the part of the Senate. A few days since, when the evidence began to look bad for Clayton, a sudden movement was made to keep all the testimony secret, and since that a highly colored statement in favor of Clayton has been given out to those who would print it, and his friends are active in telegraphing abroad favorable paragraphs.

—The Crawford county Republican Committee met in Meadville on Tuesday. John C. Sturtevant was elected Senatorial delegate, and F. W. Ellsworth and Amos Wheeler Representative delegates to the State Convention. A resolution was adopted indorsing President Grant's administration, and instructing delegates to use all honorable means to secure his renomination. The primary elections in Crawford are to be held on the first Thursday in June.

—A few days since Mr David Stewart, a resident of Mahoning, died under circumstances that justify the belief that he committed suicide. The day before his death he called at the Drug Store of Metz & Neal, on the south east corner of the public square, and purchased an ounce of laudanum. The same evening, between six and seven oclock, Dr. Cunningham was summoned to attend him. When the doctor arrived at his residence he discovered that Mr. Stewart was the victim of poison. Restoratives were immediately applied but without effect, and he died after a few hours' suffering.

—In a divorce case pending in Ohio, the grounds of the husband's application are that his wife insists that he shall kill the old cat that has been with them for ten years. He says 'it is not because he hates to part with the old animal, but the job is too much to ask of him while he is in feeble health, as at present.'. He has drowned her twice, shot thirteen rifle balls through her vitals, given her a half pound of strychnine, committed hari kari on her with a pitch fork, and the only effect perceptible is a trifle more tone to her voice and a bay window over one eye. This is one of the most singular concatenation of circumstances on record.

—A dispatch has been received from Minister Schenk to the effect that the excitement in London is intense, but no recommendations are made.

The English Minister, Thornton, combats the view of the Administration as to the Geneva Commission being a court, and urges that it be treated as an amicable conference. He contended that there could be no peace if our case was presented in the form of an indictment for misconduct. Secretary Fish does not see how any claim can be withdrawn. If, in his judgment, Sir Alexander Cockburn should withdraw, there would be no hope of an amicable settlement. Mr. Evarts is about to return to this country for further instructions.

—The wildest storms of winter do great good by removing any noxious gasses that may lurk about our great cities, and carrying them out to the deep, there to "suffer a sea change," and replacing them with purer air. Air and ocean are the two great physical purifiers of the world. So, while we fasten our garments more tightly round us, and hurry along in the pelting shower flung at us by a boisterous wind, let us think of the health-giving oxygen that comes on the tempest; and, while enjoying the shelter of our roof, think of the good work going on above us in the sky, alike whether we wake or sleep. We love to think of the mighty operation of the hand of God going on ceaselessly for the good of man and the mass of living things on earth, when we are passive and powerless, and this wind movement is one of these.

—A correspondent of the Greenville *Advance*, writing from Hendersonville, Mercer county, says quite a startling and painful occurrence took place in that vicinity a few days ago. A young couple by the name of Kimball, who have only been married a little over a year, have not been living very happily together, and last week Mrs. Kimball was obliged to leave her husband on account of his abuse, he retaining the child, an infant two and a half months old. Mrs. Kimball, after leaving her husband, went to the house of her father, Mr. Smith, formerly Sheriff of Mercer county, who, accompanied by a couple of neighbors, returned with her to her husband and demanded the child. It was given, and Mrs. Kimball again departed for her father's. While on the road the child apparently went to sleep, and the mother on arriving at her destination, thinking it still slept, laid it down on the sofa until after supper; when she again looked at it she was horrified to find it dead.

RESIGNATION OF COL. FORNEY.

Journalistic Independence Better Than a Fat Office.

Look Out for ANOTHER "HALT."

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 11, 1872.

The resignation of Collector Forney excites great comment here. The first difference between Forney and the President arose from representations to the former that he was expected in his newpaper to oppose McClure strongly and support Gray in the late contest in Philadelphia. This Forney absolutely refused to do in the style it was demanded he should. Those who were in consultation with Col. Forney while here, give out that his resignation indicates open hostility to Gen. Grant on the part of one class of Pennsylvania politicians.

Before leaving to-night, Col. Forney gave his friends the following among other reasons for resigning: "He feels that it is time to cry 'Halt!' once more to the desperate men who are trying to use the name of Gen. Grant to keep them in or help them to office. He believes in the conciliation of the old, dissatisfied anti-slavery leaders of the country. He pleads for good relations between Grant and Sumner, between Grant and Greeley, Grant and Fenton, and insists that what Mr. Lincoln did with men dissatisfied with his administration, Gen. Grant ought to do with men dissatisfied with his.

By Associate Press.

COL. FORNEY'S LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The following letter was handed to the President this afternoon by a friend of Col. Forney:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Dear Sir: When you did me the honor to tender me the appointment of Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, I accepted it most reluctantly, because I apprehended it would seriously interfere with my business, and especially with my independence as a journalist. Ten months' experience have so entirely confirmed this impression that I find myself constrained to send you this, my resignation of office, to take effect on the first of March next. I shall then return to my profession, as a far more congenial field of usefulness, and devote all my efforts to my newspaper and to energetic support of the principles of the great Republican party.

Most earnestly thanking you for your kindness and consideration, I remain, dear General, very truly, yours. J. W. FORNEY,

To His Excellency President Grant.

Our Bill Against Great Britain.

The Philadelphia *Press* says: According to the provisions of the Washington Treaty, which reads, that "in order to remove and adjust all complaints and claims on the part of the United States, and to provide for the settlement of such claims," indirect losses as well as those about which there can scarcely be any dispute, will be considered at the Geneva Conference. The following estimate will give an idea of the character and amount of the claims made in behalf of the United States:

I. For the destruction of vessels and property belonging to the U. S. Governmnt.....	$ 25,000
II. For the destruction of merchant vessels, cargoes and property sailing under the flag of the United States	17,000,633
III. For other damage or injuries to persons, growing out of the destruction of each class of these vessels. (In respect to this item the case says It is impossible at present for the United States to present a detailed statement but the amount of the claim cannot be less than hundreds of thousands, and possibly millions of dollars, on account of hardy, helpless seamen & their families.)	
IV. For national expenditure in pursuit of the cruisers.	7,080,478
V. For loss in the transfer of the American commercial marine to the British flag..... (In respect to this item the United States asks the arbitrators to estimate the amount which ought to be paid to them, after we submit statistics in reference to our tonage before and after the rebellion.)	
VI. For enhanced payments of insurance by citizens of the United States, so far as now known, ...	1,126,295
VII. For prolongation of a civil war, the addition of a large sum to the cost thereof and of the suppression of the rebellion. (As to this item, the United States claim that after the battle of Gettysburg offensive operations by the insurgents were conducted only at sea, through the Anglo-Confederate cruisers, with the hope of involving this country in a war with Great Britain, and that the latter ought in equity to reimburse the United States for the expense thereby entailed upon them.)	
VII. Interest upon all the claims up to the day when the award is payable by the terms of the treaty, which is twelve months after the date of the award, at the usual rate of interest in the city of New York, where most of the claims of individuals are held, which is seven per cent. per annum. The United States claim that interest should be computed from an average day, say July 1, 1863.)	

According to the foregoing statement, so far as it goes, the figures reach the sum of $26,137,896. It will be observed, however, in the reading of the exhibit that the amounts for damages or injuries to persons growing out of the destruction of vessels by the rebel cruisers, the loss in the transfer of the American commercial marine to the British flag, the prolongation of the war, due to the continued offensive operations of the rebel privateers after the battle of Gettysburg, and interest upon all the claims up to the day when the award is payable, according to the terms of the Washington Treaty, are not enumerated in this schedule. The amount of these claims will vastly increase the American demand.

Death of Ex-Senator Grimes, of Iowa

BURLINGTON, IA., Feb. 8. Ex-Senator Grimes died at his residence in this city at half past eight o'clock last evening of heart disease. The first attack came on about two weeks ago, while he was in the street, and consisted of a sharp pain in the heart and resulting nervous prostration. On Tuesday of this week he had three attacks of a like character in close succession. Last evening about seven o'clock, while conversing with some friends at his home, he was again taken in the same way. This was soon succeeded by a second and third attack, the latter proving fatal at the time above stated. Since his return from Europe he has been in apparent good health, though he complained occasionally of paralytic symptoms similar to those with which he was prostrated in Washington before his resignation. The heart disease first made its appearance two weeks since. Senator Grimes's father died of the same disease.

STEAMBOAT COLLISION.

Collision Between the Steamers Sabine and Richmond—The Former Sunk and the Latter Badly Damaged—No Lives Lost.

NEW ORLEANS, February 11.—The steamer Sabine from Ouachita river, with sixteen hundred bales of cotton, collided with the steamer Richmond hence, at Twelve Mile Point, early this morning. The Sabine sunk in a few moments. The Richmond was considerably damaged, but rendered all the assistance possible, taking all the passengers and some three hundred bales of cotton off the Sabine. The Sabine will probably prove a total loss. The Richmond was so badly damaged that she had to return to this city for repairs.

The James Howard, with the Ducal party is at Carrolton. She will come down to the city at nine o'clock to-morrow.

Extensive Land Frauds in Kansas.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Information has been received at the Land Office of extensive frauds by land speculators in Southwestern Kansas. The lands in question are open only to actual settlers, and in order to evade the law a well-organized system was arranged by which lands were entered upon false representations of settlement by parties using fictitious names and manufacturing bogus testimony. The Government officials are prosecuting the offenders.

HARRISBURG NEWS.

Death of State Senator Evans—Senator Knight Dangerously Ill—Clerk Hamersly Convalescing.

Hon. Henry S. Evans, Senator from the Chester, Delaware and Montgomery district, died at his residence in Chester at six o'clock on Friday evening. Senator Evans was well known throughout the State as editor and publisher of *The Village Record*. He was a member of the State Legislature for several terms and served his constituents faithfully and acceptably. In private life he won the respect of all by his irreproachable character. As a Senator he held a high position in the esteem of both party friends and opponents. By his death the Senate is again a tie politically.

Hon. Jesse W. Knight, Senator from the Seventh District, (Bucks & Northampton,) is lying dangerously ill at his home in Bristol, Bucks Co.; last advices representing his condition as most precarious.

Col. G. W. Hamersly, Chief Clerk of the Senate, who has been very ill, is now rapidly recovering, and will soon be able to resume his duties.

THE EPIDEMIC IN HARRISBURG.

The diarrhœa of late so prevalent in Harrisburg is yet unabated, and its cause not yet satisfactorily explained. The theories are many and conceded that it does not arise from the water. *The State Journal* looks upon it as the precursor of a cholera epidemic, and says:

"It is a well known fact among the medical fraternity that preceeding a cholera season the diarrhœa as it now attacks people within this city and within a radius of two hundred miles, prevails to a greatr or less extent.—The atmosphere is now charged with the fatal poison, and only needs the aggravation of heat and other attending influences to make it cholera of a certain type. All the symptoms as they exist here and elsewhere, sustain this view of the subject, and the admonition comes in time to enable all to prepare for the dread monster—*Asiatic cholera*—whose presence in this country the coming summer may be confidently anticipated."

WASHINTON TREATY.

The Feeling at Washington Saturday.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—There are no new developments relative to the treaty of Washington, although, as has been already stated, our Government is not disposed to modify its statement of the case. No formal reply can be made to Lord Granville's note to Gen. Schenck until the exact text is received, which is expected toward the close of this week. There has been much interest but no marked excitement at the position of affairs, nor apprehension that even should England recede from the treaty results would follow more serious in their consequences than existed before it was negotiated. Nothing has ever been hinted in official circles about strengthing our national defenses to meet a possible contingency, and no one has publicly expressed the opinion that such measures will become necessary. It is reported in Executive quarters that our Government is willing to abide by the result of the tribunal of arbitration in all matters submitted to their determination, and will expect a corresponding degree of good faith on the part of the British Government.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Terrible Massacre of Foreigners.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—The South American mail steamer has arrived with Rio Janeiro dates of January 22. The distinguished Brazilian statesman, Viscount Itaborahy, is dead. The recent outbreak of fanaticism in the town of Jundil, in the Argentine States, resulted in a fearful massacre. The Jarhos, excited to frenzy by a man named Salane, made a sudden attack on foreigners. The latter taken by surprise were unable to defend themselves and, before the authorities could stop the slaughter, thirty-six were killed. The assassins were then attacked by troops and fled, but were pursued and sixteen of them shot, and twenty-four prisoners taken.

Things Not Ten Years Old.

[From the New York Herald.]

The United States have, time and again, been regarded by England as proper subjects for the diplomacy of menace. When we objected to British cruisers searching our merchantmen she sent a squadron here and burned our capitol, and would have continued her depredations but for the victory at New Orleans. When we claimed our natural boundary in Oregon we were compelled to abandon our rights, under the threat of a fleet, which overcame the nerves of the timid Polk and the trembling Buchannan. When we seized the persons of notorious rebels on the high seas—in the case of Mason and Slidell—we were commanded to surrender them in the most offensive manner. We were then in a death struggle with the south, and Palmerston's menaces were well timed and successful. During the rebellion England paid as little attention to our rights, to the sacred duties of neutrality, to our professions of friendship and our ties of blood, as she did to the protests of China on the opium question. When the South broke into rebellion she made haste to treat them as belligerents, as a people entitled to a nation's rights, even before a battle was fought. During our war English money sustained the confederacy, English ships, manned by English seamen, destroyed our commerce, and even the right of privateering, which had been solemnly denounced as piracy by England was accepted so far as the South was concerned, even after we had expressed a desire to unite in her declaration. The promptness with which we yielded to the Palmerston policy of pressure especially in the Trent affair, is so freshly remembered in England that she naturally reverts to it now in the Alabama question.

THE Beaver *Radical*, in speaking of the apportionment of this State for members of Congress, in last week's issue says: "The plain policy of the "Republican party in the Legislature is to group the Democratic "counties together, and create strong "majorities upon both sides. In the "presence of so much feud, selfishness, and small ambition as has "found its way into our party, it is "not safe to trust to small majorities."

We agree with the *Radical* that what it advises is "plain (*party*) policy," and nothing better could be done to secure the election, not of men of "small ambition," but of *small men* of large ambition. And so long as *blind* loyalty to *party* is the only qualification required for any office, this "policy" will be pursued.

However valuable the "policy" of the *Radical* may be, to the class of *men* for whose benefit it is intended, it is against the interest of the people generally—in direct conflict with the principle of the Apportionment bill lately passed by Congress, and the judgment of all honest men, as well as the experience and observation of every person since the organization of this government. If there is anything which will induce parties to present their best men for election to office, it is to have small party majorities." In that event principles, capabilities and character control, instead of chicanery and corruption.

The record, principles and measures of public policy of the Republican party commend themselves to the judgment of all unprejudiced fair-minded men; and the sooner it gets freed from the influence of the men who advocate the "policy" of the *Radical* the better for the party, and the sooner will feuds cease within it and harmony be restored.—*Lawrence Journal.*

Forty-Second Congress.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE, Feb. 5.—A resolution was offered relative to the manufacture of Bessemer steel, and the importance of improving the Harbor of Michigan city, so as to bring the iron mines of Lake Superior into more direct communication with the coal fields of Indiana. The amnesty bill then came up and was discussed until the hour of adjournment.

HOUSE.—Among the bills introduced was one for the abolition of the Freedmen's Bureau, and for a rail road bridge over the Mississippi river. A bill passed removing political disabilities from certain classes of rebels. Mr. Peters moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution declaring that the highest patriotism and most enlightened public policy demand of all political parties and of all citizens acquiescence in the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, and such reasonable legislation of Congress as may be necessary to make them in their letter and spirit most effective. Agreed to, 120, to 51. Mr. Brooks, of New York, moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution recognizing the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments as valid parts of the Constitution. Agreed to, 166 to 22. Mr. Stevenson moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution recognizing as valid and binding all existing laws passed by Congress for the enforcement of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, and for the protection of citizens in their rights under the Constitution as amended. Without taking a vote on the resolution or disposing of the question for drawing for seats, the House adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 6.—A bill was reported making it an offense punishable by one year's imprisonment and $1,000 fine for any private corporation, firm, or individual to issue any obligations or promises to pay, to be used as a circulating medium of currency. A resolution from the Legislature of New Jersey asking the United States to purchase Independence Hall from Philadelphia, in anticipation of the centennial celebration—the purchase money to be used by that city for the erection of a building as a museum of revolutionary relics. A resolution calling on the President for information as to the intention of Great Britain to repudiate the Washington treaty relative to the Alabama claims was discussed at length, but no definite action was had. The amnesty bill was debated till the hour of adjournment.

HOUSE.—Numerous petions were presented on various subjects. Among the bills introduced were: one for the establishment of ocean mail service to Australia; one to promote telegraphic communication between America, Asia and Europe, and one granting pensions to soldiers, pilots and others in the Black Hawk war. On motion of Mr. Dickey the Secretary of War was requested to report what military posts may be disposed of. The Judiciary Committee reported a bill for refunding all taxes heretofore collected on income from salaries of officers of State Governments, which was recommitted. The House resumed the consideration of the bill to establish an educational fund, and to apply the proceeds from the sales of the public lands to the education of the people, but without a vote, adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 7.—The annual pension bill was reported and passed—it appropriates over thirty millions of dollars. A resolution directing the Committee on Investigation to inquire whether any United States Senator has received money under cover of counsel fees or otherwise from the Treasury of the United States, in violation of law, and to report the result of the inquiry at as early a day as practicable, was adopted. The amnesty bill was discussed and some amendments made; but without disposing of it the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The education bill coming under consideration, was discussed and amended, and without final action the House adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 8.—A bill was reported to establish a semi-monthly mail on the Chinese route, with double subsidy. A bill was passed authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem three millions of three per cent. certificates per month. A bill was reported giving the Secretary of the Navy full control over the navigation of channel and water courses, excavations across bars, &c. The Committee or Territories reported a bill to establish the territory of Ojibway—changing the name to Pembina—it is to consist of that portion of Dakota lying north of the 46th parallel. A bill to restore the records of the U. S. Courts destroyed by the Chicago fire, passed. The amnesty bill was discussed till the hour of adjournment.

HOUSE.—In the case of the Myers-Cessna contested election case Myers was given the seat. The education bill, as amended was passed.

SENATE, Feb. 9.—Considerable discussion was had on Mr. Edmund's resolution of inquiry in regard to the intention of Great Britain to repudiate the treaty of Washington, but no definite action was had. The amnesty bill, with the civil rights amendment, occupied the remainder of the day.

HOUSE.—Nothing of general interest occurred.

Cost of the War to France.

The claims still required to satisfy the German claims upon France is $635,000,000. Of this, however, $600,000,000 are not due until 1874, though interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum must be paid thereon for the intervening period. To this must be added the cost of maintaining the German army of occupation on French territory. According to an arrangement made last spring the Bank of France is bound to advance $80,000,000 to the Versailles government, and then the whole amount of $306,000,000, which will have been borrowed, is to be repaid by the government by instalments of $40,000,000 annually for eight years. Inasmuch as these instalments are to begin at once, the bank really will now have to advance only a further sum of $40,000,000. According to the budget of M. Ponyer-Quertier, Minister of Finance, the war of 1870-71 cost France $1,720,000,000. Of this am't a little over $1,067,500,000 has already been provided. Only a further sum of $632,500,000 has to be obtained. Of the sum already paid, Germany received $361,320,000 and less than $45,000,000 of this was paid in actual coin by the French Government. The $1,067,500,000 already provided was raised by the war loan of 1870, the "Morgan" loan in England, the sales of Rentes by the government, the amount allowed by the Prussians for the portion of the Eastern Railway of France running through Alsace and Lorraine, the last great loan, and the advances from Bank of France already mentioned.

Indictment of Mayor Hall and Others.

NEW YORK, February 10.—The Grand Jury entered the Court of General Sessions this morning and presented a bundle of indictments. In the statement of their labors it is set forth that some four hundred and sixty cases were acted upon. The frauds, in the investigation of which they were engaged, will cause a loss to the city of at least twenty million dollars. Mayor Hall, on being arraigned, appeared in person, and said he was ready to offer bail. He waived all the irregularities committed by the Grand Jury, and put in a general denial, asking that the trial be set at the earliest day possible. The Grand Jury was discharged.

The Judge has fixed the trial of Mayor Hall for next Monday week. His bail was $3,000. His brother-in-law, Edward Barnes, became his surety. Among the indictments were some against Tweed and one against Peter B. Sweeny. In the case of Tweed bail was accepted in fourteen thousand dollars. Sweeny was bailed in the sum of ten thousand dollars. Five indictments were preferred against Hall. They are for misdemeanor, charging the accused with neglect of duty in connection with the audit of the claims against the city.

For the Beaver Argus. [By request.]

THE ORIGIN OF EVIL.

BY HOMO.—NO. IV.

MR. EDITOR: Popular theology and Milton say evil originated in heaven! They declare that there has been a rebellion among the holy angels, headed by one individual angel called the devil. Hear Milton:

"Satan, so call him now, his former name
Is heard no more in heaven, he of the first,
If not the first archangel, great in power,
In favor and pre-eminence."—Lib. 5, folio 140.

And again the same author, and on the same subject—

"Brighter one amid the hosts
Of angels, than that star the stars among."

Dr. Gill remarks, concerning the angels that sinned: "They were hurled out of heaven, from whence they *fell as lightning*," &c. But what to us appears monstrous, and which we think will be very ill accounted for: "How came seeds of evil to rise in the angelic nature, created in a state of perfect, unspotted holiness? How was it first found in a place where no unclean thing can enter? How came ambition, pride or envy, to germinate there? Could there be offence where there was no crime? Could untainted purity breed corruption? Could that nature contaminate and infect which was always drinking in principles of perfection? Happy are we that the solving of these difficulties rests not with us, neither to give a reason for it nor to assign causes; neither do we think all the D. D.'s in the universe are sufficient to the task; nor the great Milton himself, after all his fine images and lofty excursion upon the subject, has left the matter one jot clearer than he found it.

As we have stated before, evil originated by one man's transgression. It did not originate in heaven. It did not enter through the agency of some foreign, wicked angel. How palpably absurd the idea that evil and rebellion should enter that holy habitation, among this pure and high order of created intelligence! To entertain such a sentiment is a reproach upon God and his holy family of angels. This world is the only theatre of evil and rebellion, of darkness and death, of which we have any account, and let us beware how we enlarge the dominion of sin and contradict the truth of God by our traditions.

That Satan is a fallen angel, a rebel seraph, cast out for his rebellion, the following texts of Scripture are adduced: Isa. xiv. 12, "How art thou fallen from heaven, O, Lucifer, son of the morning!" This passage, by our orthodox friends, is supposed to teach the fall of the devil from heaven.—But, we ask, who is this Lucifer, son of the morning? We are not left to conjecture, or to follow the fancies of a speculative theory. The person is named to whom allusion is made, in the 4th verse. We have no sentiment of angels sinning and rebelling in heaven and falling from their high office and estate in that holy habitation of God. Instead of being in heaven above, he said in the "pomp and pride of his heart," that he "would ascend into heaven, and exalt his throne above the stars of God," and would "be like the Most High."—This is the vain boasting of a poor, mortal, puny man, whom God hurled from his boasted throne of power and cast him away as an "abominable branch," and make him as a "carcass troden under feet."

Rev. xii. 7—12. "And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought, and his angels." If any one supposes that this was a literal war that took place in heaven among the angels, in the holy habitation of God, he must have a wonderful capacity to digest and interpret symbolic prophecy. This war is between Michael, or Christ and his angels or saints, and the dragon—or the head of the Roman empire—and his angels or subjects. The dragon, that old serpent, called the devil and satan, is represented as having seven heads and a long, powerful tail, drawing a third part of the stars of heaven. Now, how this can be made to fit on to one of the angels in heaven, and how he can open a war fare with Christ and his saints before they are congregated there, as it must be, if he has been a devil from the beginning, we leave those to explain who are allied to such a theory. The saints, it appears, through Christ their captain overcame, in this warfare, the dragon or devil, by the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death, the death they suffered at the hands of this devil in their struggle against him.

Again, when this war is over and the devil is cast out, he is said to know that he hath but a short time; and, if this is after before the foundation of the world, he has all the time the world will stand till the judgment, to persecute and torment the saints, which can hardly be reconciled with or called a short season. The truth is, to look this Scripture full in the face and undertake to make it harmonize with the popular theory of the origin of evil in heaven, is to extort from it the worst and most unnatural features that could possibly be exhibited. Suffice it to say, then for the present, that whatever it teaches, and however it may be applied in the history of Christ's church, it does not teach the doctrine of evil or of the devil as maintained in the popular creed.

Ezek. xxviii. 11—19. This is supposed to be very conclusive evidence that there has been rebellion in heaven, and hence this Scripture is made use of as direct proof of that rebellion. But, as in the case of Babylon, this is a lamentation upon the King of Tyrus and his fall and utter destruction, under the judgment and wrath of God, for his pride and national sin. Tyre was situated on the coast of the Mediterranean sea, and was allotted to the tribe of Asher. They were a commercial and maratime people, and being friendly to the Ashurites, were permitted to remain. They made many presents to the Israelites and brought to Solomon much gold for the building of the temple, consequently it is said: "Thou hast been in Eden, in the garden of God, and every precious stones were thy covering." They were rich in gold and diamonds and precious stones, and were permitted to walk up and down at pleasure in the midst of spiritual Israel—the stones of fire. They were a very proud people, and thought themselves perfect in all their ways, till God at last tested them. By their friendship and seeming reverence for the Jewish worship, they gained a powerful influence over all the tribes of Israel, and especially at the court of Jerusalem; yet they were an idolatrous people, and their influence over the Jews seductive in its tendency from the standard of truth and morality which the God of Israel had set up; and there was no way to open the eyes of the Jews to a discovery of the evil tendency of their influence only for God to take their case in hand and make such an example of them as would terrify and overawe his chosen people, and make them afraid to transgress his commands and yield to the influence of an idolatrous nation however good and friendly they might appear. Therefore God, after acknowledging their high character, wealth, reputed skill and wisdom, and exalted privilege in Palestine—the Eden and garden of his people—exposes their true moral condition; shows that they are corrupt, and pronounces his judgment upon them and their certain doom. There is not, in this description and prediction, so much as a shade of evidence or reference to anything that ever took place above among the angels of God, neither can we find such evidence in any part of the Book of God.

But then, the evidence can be found if a rebellion in heaven is essential in order to sustain the theory. To this end we will appeal to the great Milton, in his famous "Paradise Lost." There we shall find a full and minute account of the terrible war in heaven between Michael and the royal army of angels on the one hand, and Satan with his rebel host on the other, in which he supposes the number and strength to be nearly equal; with representations how he brings in the devil's army upon doubling their rage, bringing new engines of war into the field, putting Michael and all the faithful army to the worst, and, in a word, defeats them; with an account of *two or three thousand millions of angels cut to pieces and wounded;* and how he allows them to give over fighting and make a kind of retreat, so making way for the complete victory of the Son of God. Now, this is all invention, or at least blasphemy; likewise a borrowed thought from the old poets and the giant against Jupiter, designed by Ovid almost two thousand years ago. There it was well enough; but whether poetic fancy should be allowed to fable upon heaven or not, and upon the King of heaven, too, that we leave to our deamonologists and heaven-rebellionists to answer, thank ful that the burden of proof rests not with us.

"Thou sin of witchcraft—first-born child of crime!
Produced before the bloom of time;
Ambition's maiden sin, 'n heaven conceived!
And who could have believed
Defilement could in purity begin,
And bright, eternal day be soiled with sin?
Tell us, sly, penetrating crime,
How cam'st thou here, thou fault sublime?"

SNOW BOUND.

Trains on the Union Pacific Railroad Still Snow Bound—Passengers Suffering from Sickness—Provisions Forwarded from Salt Lake City.

SALT LAKE, Feb. 11.—Urgent dispatches were received here this morning to forward provisions immediately to the nearest point to the place of blockade on the Union Pacific. Walker Brothers set to work and by 2 p. m. started four car loads of supplies. Latest accounts to-night say the snow bound trains, having made fourteen miles since Friday morning, hope to dig out in a few days. There is said to be much sickness and suffering among the passengers. It is snowing here to-day, and there was a heavy storm this afternoon.

DISCLOSURES IN N. ORLEANS.

About as Bad a Mess as Has Yet Been Discovered Anywhere.

The New Orleans papers are filled with the proceedings of the Congressional Committee engaged in investigating the Louisiana scandals. The facts that are being brought to light are simply disgraceful. Both parties seemed to have trafficked in bribery to the utmost extent of their means and opportunities. Ex-Secretary of State Bovee testified to the existence of a regular system of frauds at elections, for the purpose of returning men as elected, and cited the Committee instance on instance of such shameless venality and abuses that its members must almost have doubted whether there was a single honest man in the ranks of the respective parties to the quarrel. Another witness, a civil engineer, gave evidence that he had purchased the votes of a number of the members, stating quite frankly that it was generally understood that if a man wanted a bill passed he had to pay for it. Mr. Carr, the late Speaker of the House, admitted that he had never visited the parish which he represented, and did not know half-a-dozen of its inhabitants, "a friend" undertaking to have him returned without the trouble of his personal presence in the field, which was only accomplished by means of an infamous trick perpetrated upon the poor ignorant country negroes, who thought they were voting for a member of their own race; and of a similarly sickening character is the bulk of the testimony that has thus far been taken. What depths of depravity will be sounded before the Committee concludes its labors we prefer not to think of.—*Pitt. Commercial.*

How Baltimore Profits by the New York Custom Rascalities.

[From the Baltimore Gazette.]

It has been given in evidence before the investigating Committee that New York merchants have discovered it is cheaper to import thro' Baltimore than through their own port of entry, and that in quite a number of instances they have profitted by this discovery. We now learn that until recently, the greater part of all the crockery imported into the United States entered through the port of New York; but that now, owing to the change in the classification of earthen ware in crates, much of the trade has been diverted to other ports, particularly to Baltimore, and that more of it will be eventually. The reason assigned is that it is cheaper to the western merchant by 5 per cent. on the cost of an average invoice of earthenware to import through Baltimore than through New York. The other advantages to the merchant who imports through Baltimore are not stated, but they are equally apparent. These are: lower Custom House charges, less loss by breakage or pilfering, less expense in the way of storage or cartage—where the goods are not sent in sealed cars, under the new regulations, direct to their destination—and, in any event, quicker dispatch. All these considerations are destined to tell upon our imports, and when it is considered that, notwithstanding