

THE BEAVER RADICAL. SMITH CURTIS, EDITOR. BEAVER, PA. Friday Morning, January 31, 1873.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

This subject, which has been discussed in Teachers' Institutes throughout the State during the winter, recommended to the consideration of the Legislature in the recent message of ex-Governor Geary, and occupied the attention of the Constitutional Convention, is of vital interest to the whole community. The idea of compulsion in education appears to be antagonistic to our free way of acting; and strikes one at first disagreeably, but it is the novelty of the idea that appears so, and not the measure itself. Compulsion of children to attend upon school is common enough on the part of parents, and if all parents were faithful in this respect there would be no difficulty in leaving the matter with them, and trust to parental authority to attain the desired result. All agree that universal education is essential to the safety and welfare of a government such as ours. The fundamental ideas upon which are constructed our free institutions, ought to be familiar to the minds and deeply imbedded in the hearts of all, in order that every exercise of sovereignty by the individual shall be in unison with the spirit and tendency of the nation. The Republic means progress, progress in public order, in protection to property and person, in the means of happiness and the acquisition of power. But this progress, it is evident, must depend upon the education of the people. The heart must prompt and the mind devise the means for its attainment. If universal education is absolutely essential to the success of this great experiment of free government, as we firmly believe it is, then how shall it be accomplished? Will there be no dangerous, ignorant class if the State provide attractive school houses, and throw open the doors without price? The State has already done this, and the State Superintendent reports that there are seventy-one thousand children who have never been registered in the schools, and who are deprived entirely of any advantages derived from attendance thereupon. The explanation of this ugly fact may be easy, but the remedy can only be found in the interference of the government requiring unfaithful parents to send their children to school to receive an elementary education, by which to be fitted to discharge the duties of citizens. There is nothing anti-Republican in all this, for the compulsion, being limited to children, is natural and merely exercised by the State instead of the parent, and in effect simply deprives the parent of a certain pecuniary value derived from the child's labor. The interest of the State in her children is greater and paramount to that of the parents, and if the public good requires, force may be used to compel parents to send their children to school, and such compulsion will not differ in principle from that used to collect money from people to defray the expenses of schooling. What is the difference whether you deprive a man of labor or take from him money that represents labor, when in each case the deprivation is for the benefit of universal education? We should think also that if the State judged it expedient and just to tax the people to support a system of free schools, it would feel bound to take care that the abundant provision thus made should not be wasted and the good sought be lost for lack of attendance upon school of the children, the education of whom the welfare of the State demands, and their own future usefulness requires. Upon no other grounds can the State take one man's money to educate another's child, except that the public good requires it, and so, for the same paramount reason, the State can usurp the authority of the parent and compel the child to become educated. Ignorance endangers the peace of the community and is the fruitful source of crime. The State ought, therefore, to abolish it, and thus prevent by wise legislation the commission of crimes which are a disgrace to Republican

civilization. Can there be any doubt as to the utility of such a measure? When the nation is educated from top to bottom, reaching through all classes of society, then, and not till then, can American Republicanism be called a permanent success. In Europe the example of Germany has proven that an educated people is necessary to political power. But let America teach that universal education is necessary to public order and national progress. There would be difficulties to overcome in the way of enforcing this measure, but where there is a will a way can be easily discovered.

The Argus has made a scurrilous and unwarranted attack upon the County Commissioners, because this winter an immense ice gorge in Raccoon creek, at Boktown, caused the creek to raise so rapidly that sixty out of a flock of sixty-five sheep were drowned before it was possible to rescue them, and, in giving away, swept off the iron bridge which the Commissioners, the summer before, had built across the creek at that place.

We can not discover how they can be justly made responsible for the tremendous ice gorge, or accountable to the people either for the dislodgement of the bridge or the drowning of the sheep. But the animus of the article is revealed further on, in the statement, in substance, that the long ears of the Argus had heard that the Commissioners did not intend this year to give it the printing of the receipts and expenditures of the county. From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh, and the Argus, child-like in its great mixture of grief and anger, has blurted out its pitiful tale. We condole with it, and sincerely rejoice that it can now occupy that "desirable stand" of independence, the realization of which a too intimate relation with the Commissioners seems to have heretofore made impossible. True, the Argus felt a little uncertainty in regard to the desirableness of the situation, and its editor, suspicious as usual, solicited a certain person to intercede with the Commissioners for him, and, we believe, even made a friendly call upon them himself, but from the gall and wormwood of the late Argus we conclude that the interview was more remarkable for its silence than any other feature, and that the bland and child-like editor left with a "flea in his ear." The Argus accepts the situation, however, and declares that henceforth it will receive no favors and give no quarters. Sublime independence and matchless courage! Mother Goose on the rampage! The Commissioners are in great danger now, and may expect to be black-mailed a little in order to bring them, if possible, under the Argus subjection. But the motive is too apparent, and the paper has been dealing so freely in slanders and black-mail that the good people of the county have lost all confidence in its fairness and honesty, and won't believe now anything it says. Mother Goose you are powerless except to quack, and your quacking at the incompetency of the Commissioners reminds one of those persons of shallow brains who are always depreciating those who have a plentiful supply.

The Pittsburgh Commercial has changed hands, Mr. Brigham retiring, in order to move to Florida, and Hon. Russell Errett taking his place. The new editor declares that the present policy of the paper will not be changed, but will be conducted as heretofore, as the organ or tool of no man nor set of men, but will preserve its independence intact to discuss men and measures freely. A well deserved compliment is paid to the retiring editor for his ability and energy in building up the paper to its present magnitude and power.

The election under the Local Option law, to decide the question of granting or not granting licenses in Bradford county, was held on the 17th inst., and resulted as in Clearfield, in a decided victory for prohibition, the majority against license being nearly 2250. This vote indicates very clearly the fate of the liquor traffic in the northern portion of the State.

HISTORY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS.

The edition printed of Bates's History of Pennsylvania Volunteers, by order of the State, was so small that each Senator and Representative received but sixteen copies for distribution in their several districts. The smallness of such a number at once impresses every one familiar with population, and shows how inadequate is the circulation of the work to meet the general demand. Not one soldier out of every hundred has been the recipient of a printed copy of the record which he assisted in making. This is neither just nor honorable; and it is now proposed that the Legislature shall order a large edition of this work, so as to popularize it by placing it in the hands of as many of the surviving soldiers of Pennsylvania as can be reached. The stereotype plates from which the first edition was printed are still in existence, and therefore a second edition could be issued at comparatively small cost. The Legislature could well afford to order this description of printing, as the work itself is of such a character as to prevent it from ever being done at private expense. It is a public document, concerning the official history of the State during the period of our struggle with rebellion;—white with that official history is woven a record of personal valor, devotion and patriotism as splendid as any the world has ever made, or mankind been called to admire. For these reasons, we heartily endorse the proposition to print another edition of this history, and hope the Legislature will immediately order the work to be done.

The appointment, by Governor Hartranft, of Hon. Thos. J. Bigham, of Allegheny, Superintendent of the new Bureau of Labor Statistics, has been met with general approval, both because of his eminent fitness for the position and his great merits as a man. Statistics has been his special study for many years, and he is perfectly familiar with the labor interests and material resources of the State, which knowledge will be useful to him in making his department one of great benefit to the people.

The Credit Mobilier investigation is developing facts that implicate the standing of eminent and heretofore irreproachable public men; but we trust that when the committees are through their work, additional light will be shed on these suspicious transactions, and those men whom we have long honored will be completely exculpated from all blame.

A BILL repealing the franking privilege has passed both the House and Senate, and now awaits the President's approval to become a law. What gigantic strides the progressive spirit of the nation must be taking, when Congressmen will deliberately vote away their cherished and very useful privileges.

COL. A. WILSON NORRIS, of Philadelphia, has been appointed Gov. Hartranft's private Secretary. He rendered good service during the war, and took an active part in the late political campaign, serving as Secretary to the Republican State Central Committee.

FROM HARRISBURG.

The Governor's Inauguration and Address—Distribution of Offices—Col. Quay—The Attorney General—United States Senator—Beaver County Bills—Senator Rutan's Resolution—Extra Pay.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 27, 1873. Tuesday last, the day of Governor Hartranft's inauguration, was a wet, dismal day, yet this did not interfere with the programme, nor prevent any of the organizations expected taking part in the ceremony. It is admitted on all hands that it was the finest demonstration ever witnessed in this city. There were about four thousand soldiers in line, seven hundred children from the soldiers' orphan schools, a number of fire companies, and twenty-five bands of music of different kinds. The celebrated Marine band of Washington City, and Fisk's band from New York City, were here, and vied with each other in discoursing the finest music ever heard at the Capital. Gov. Hartranft's inaugural address is highly commended by all parties. It is plain, straight-forward, business-like, and strikes everyone as the utterances of an honest man. His emphatic declaration against using the bonds in the Sinking

fund for any purpose except the payment of the State debt, elicited great applause, and will silence his enemies, who predicted that his election would be followed by another "nine million steal bill."

On Wednesday morning, about half past nine o'clock, Gov. Hartranft quietly walked into the Executive chamber, and entered upon the discharge of his duties. Almost immediately delegations of office-seekers, accompanied by their friends, began to wait upon him, and his time was taken up for two or three days in listening to the claims of his friends for the appointments at his disposal.

Col. Quay was sworn in on Wednesday morning as Secretary of the Commonwealth, and has since been devoting his time to the duties of his office, with which he became quite familiar during Governor Curtin's administration. Mr. Keeley, formerly clerk in the Auditor General's Office, has been appointed Executive clerk, and with this exception no new appointments have yet been made by the Governor or by the Secretary. It is settled that Frank Chandler, for more than thirty years Corporation clerk in the Secretary of State's office, and Mr. Friday, Record clerk, will remain, but beyond this we have no definite information. There are only four or five clerkships remaining, and these will be given, in all probability, to counties where the Republicans are in the minority. Gov. Hartranft comes from a minority county, and he holds that these positions should, as a rule, be given to working Republicans in Democratic counties, where there is no chance of election. In counties like Allegheny or Beaver there are so many positions accessible to the active desiring Republicans that they should not monopolize appointments to the exclusion of men, equally deserving, from counties like Berks, Montgomery, Clearfield or Westmoreland, and under Gov. Hartranft they will not be permitted to do so, no matter what is expected.

Gov. Hartranft has established the reputation of being able to keep a secret better than any man living, not excepting Gen. Grant. Until he nominated his Attorney General on Wednesday morning, no man in the Commonwealth knew certainly who would be chosen. It was settled that the choice would lay between Armstrong, Dimmick and McVeigh; not that Gen. Hartranft had said so, but those were the only gentlemen named, and they represented all the different interests, and were admitted to possess all the necessary qualifications. Your correspondent early predicted the choice would lay between Armstrong and Dimmick, and up to Tuesday Armstrong was regarded by most persons as the coming man. The first notice Mr. Dimmick had that he was to be appointed was a telegram to him in Philadelphia on Wednesday morning, at 10 o'clock, and he immediately came and received his commission. The appointment meets with universal commendation. Mr. Dimmick is the leading lawyer of the north-eastern part of the state, and is a gentleman of wealth and high character. He is a man of commanding personal appearance, of easy manner, and will prove one of the most popular Attorney Generals that ever filled the office. He was a delegate to the State Convention and voted for Ketcham, but moved to make Gen. Hartranft's nomination unanimous, and for years has been a warm personal friend of the Governor elect. He arrived on Thursday morning with his wife and is stopping at the Lohiel Hotel. He has tendered his resignation as a delegate in the Constitutional Convention, and his place will be filled by the remaining delegates at large within a few days.

The appointment of T. J. Bigham, of Pittsburgh, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, Labor and Mining, is one of the best that could be made. No man in the Commonwealth so well understands her resources, or is so well adapted to the labor of gathering statistical information as Mr. Bigham, and the Governor is entitled to great credit for this appointment. Bigham arrived here on Friday and had an interview with the Governor. He was dressed in the identical suit of clothes he wore when he first came to Harrisburg, a generation or so ago, and wore the same old hat and red cow-hide shoes which never knew either oil or polish of any kind. His commission should have contained a proviso requiring him to shave once a month and get a suit of clothes once in five years, and then he would be a model officer.

Members of the Legislature are delighted with Gov. Hartranft's modest plan, direct and business-like manner of receiving them and disposing of their business, and to-day the Governor elect is the most popular man in the Commonwealth. Your correspondent predicts his popularity will increase every day he continues in office, and when his term expires he will stand higher in the estimation of the people, without regard to party divisions, than any man who has filled that office during this generation at least. At three o'clock on Tuesday, after the inauguration ceremonies were over, the two Houses voted for United States Senator, and Simon Cameron received every Republican vote. The next day in joint convention the result was announced, and Gen. Cameron was declared elected for six years more, making his fourth election to that high office. It was the highest compliment that could be paid the old chief, and he so regards it. During all the time the nomination and election were pending, he was in Washington, quietly attending to his duties, and there was no

effort by him or any one else, to influence votes, because none were necessary. It was believed at one time he would decline to be a candidate, in view of his advanced age, in which event his son, Col. J. D. Cameron, would have carried off the honor with as little difficulty as his father did. Don Cameron, as he is familiarly called, is perhaps the brightest, shrewdest business man of his age in the State, and one of our most deserving Republicans. The party owes more to him for success in the last campaign than to any other Republican in the Commonwealth. He is a gentleman of fine education, of broad views, frank in his manner, and of generous impulses, qualities that command the respect and win the confidence of men everywhere, and would soon have acquired commanding influence in the United States Senate. General Grant could not select a better successor to Secretary Boutwell, and if he is going to give Pennsylvania a position in the cabinet, as he should, let him put Don Cameron in the Treasury, and the department will be administered as well, or better, than it has since the days of Washington and Hamilton. It is doubtful, however, if Mr. Cameron would accept, as it would require him to give up the Presidency of the Northern Central railroad, now, with its Washington connection nearly complete, one of the most important roads in the country, and the active management of the banks, mills and factories with which he is connected.

A correspondent of THE RADICAL from Philadelphia suggested Hon. W. H. Kemble for a cabinet position, and the suggestion was a good one. Although he has been much abused by blackmailing correspondents, there is not a man in the Commonwealth who has more devoted friends or deserves them better. He was the most popular State Treasurer the Commonwealth ever had, and one of the most capable. In energy and business qualifications he has few superiors anywhere. We admire him for his ability, his generosity, ardent devotion to friends, and thousand other good qualities, and would gladly join in any movement for his advancement.

It is to be hoped when General Grant next selects a Cabinet officer from Pennsylvania, he will take one who is known outside of the ward in which he lives, and of whose qualifications there can be no doubt. If qualification and political services entitle men to position Cameron and Kemble would stand in the first rank among our public and business men.

Little was done in the Legislature last week, and the House adjourned on Thursday and the Senate on Friday. Unless both Houses go to work at once the session will be protracted into the summer months.

The only bills from your locality introduced into the Legislature was one to prevent cattle from running at large in Hanover township in your county, and one authorizing the school directors of Baden to collect and additional tax, both read in place by Senator Rutan.

Some excitement and bad feeling was aroused in the House over the drawing of committees in the contested elections from Luzerne county and Philadelphia, owing to an apparent set-up between certain Democrats and Republicans to get positions on the committees. When the names were being drawn out of the wheel it was noticed that the Republicans from Philadelphia were not challenged by the Democrats, and were thus enabled to get on several of the committees, a number being on three each. There seemed to be no explanation of this except that a bargain had been made by the Philadelphia Republicans to keep the Democrats from Luzerne in their seats, in consideration of the Democrats standing by the two Republican members from Philadelphia, whose seats were contested, or else an arrangement that certain Republicans and Democrats should constitute each committee, and thus share the extra pay usually voted members of these committees. Extra pay in each case would give a number of these gentlemen from fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars in addition to their regular salary, and the control of a clerkship for each committee for some friends at a large salary. If this was the arrangement the game was blocked by a resolution, introduced in the Senate on Monday, by Senator Rutan, instructing the Finance Committee, of which he is a member, not to allow extra pay in any case to members of committees, and to pay clerks in proportion to officers of the Legislature for the work performed. The passage of this resolution created consternation among certain members of the House, and the desire to get on committees has largely diminished.

It is high time the practice of allowing extra pay for work on committees was discontinued, as it leads to great abuses, and soon the extra pay would amount to more than the regular salary of the members. Last year over thirty thousand dollars was appropriated for extra compensation, and this year, at the same rate, it would run to near one hundred thousand. The salary of the members is too low, and should be increased to fifteen hundred dollars at least; but let it be done openly, in a manly way, and so that all may have the benefit of it, and not a few who have been fortunate enough to get on some extra committee.

—The Harrisburg correspondent of the McKeesport Times says: Mr. Robert Mackay is in great demand. Every body who has anything to do no matter what, is sure to "hunt up Bob."

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Constitutional Convention—Slow Progress—Idle Propositions—Beaver County Ladies. Correspondence of the Radical.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 27, 1873. There is no political news of special importance in the city of Brotherly Love. All eyes are directed to the Constitutional Convention in session here now. This Convention, composed as it is, perhaps, of the most able and eminent men of the Commonwealth, has yet accomplished very little, the time being spent in long debates, and the reading of resolutions which, in the main, are objectless and useless. As the members of the least mental calibre are most active in thrashing resolutions upon the Convention, and men who do not understand the old, are most active in forming the new, while the great minds upon whom the work will devolve, if anything is accomplished, are biding their time until the others become exhausted.

Thus far the Convention has adopted one section of one article of a proposed constitution, which is not encouraging to those who pray for a short session.

The Convention holds sessions every day from 10 A. M. until 2 P. M., Saturdays excepted. From present appearances the Convention will remain in session until July, then adjourn during the heated term and remain in session during next winter.

Many of the members regard their authority as supreme, and are disposed to deviate from the old landmarks, disregard ancient and established precedents, revolutionize the order of things under the old and time-honored constitution, and to make a new one and force it upon the people for their ratification or rejection, forgetting that in their official capacity they are creatures of the people, selected by the people to represent them in the spirit of our present constitution, which should rather be regarded and obeyed than substituted and destroyed. There seems to be discord among the brethren, and a probability of a conflict between the Convention and the Legislature, as some of the members of the Convention threaten to take up the Legislature by the roots and disband the Honorable Senators before the expiration of their respective terms of office for which they were elected; an invasion of that character upon that Honorable body in this their high tide of re-renchment and reform, would be fearful to contemplate just when the subject is being agitated and an effort being quietly made to increase their salaries. But perhaps I had better not criticize further as your correspondent "Treflow" sadly misrepresented some very high-toned and honorable members.

I saw the late editor of THE RADICAL in this city a few days since. He wears his honors modestly. He is the right man in the right place, has the ability, and I have no doubt will perform the duties of his office with credit to himself, with benefit to the Commonwealth, and contribute much to make the administration of Gen. Hartranft a success.

Low Prices. As can be obtained at Pittsburgh or elsewhere.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS. I have lately cultivated the acquaintance of your townsman, Hon. D. L. Imbrie, Chief Clerk of the Constitutional Convention. He has many friends in the Convention, and is a popular and efficient officer. This city is favored with more than an usual number of visitors this winter, and their presence enlivens the streets. The hotels are filled and the places of amusement are crowded, and the city generally presents a more than usual attractive appearance. OCCASIONAL.

FROM COLORADO. [Correspondence of the Radical.] VALMONT, BOULDER COUNTY, COL., January 15, 1873. I feel prompted by a sense of duty to suffering humanity, to publish these facts which I have learned by actual experience, and which, had I known a year or since, I should have been better off, both physically and financially—with a view, those who are sufferers from the dreadful disease called consumption and all its attendant ailments, may come to this health restoring and with some certainty of receiving the benefit of health, and be saved from the effects of false information and lying newspaper reports, by putting confidence in what many now lie in Colorado grave yards and many others have gone home discouraged and to die.

If you pick up a Denver newspaper during the summer season, when the influx of invalids is the most numerous, you will see several articles addressed to invalids, the substance of them all will be, '1st, come to Colorado, her balmy air and warm suns will cure you, no matter what your ailment. 2nd, The only way to Colorado is the Kansas Pacific Railroad. 3d, Denver is the best place in the Territory for invalids, its fine scenery, beautiful drives, hotel facilities, churches, good society and economical living, are inducements not to be found in any other part of the Territory. All means stop in Denver. These fallacious remarks are copied