Bedford Inquirer.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1869

STATE TICKET.

GOVERNOR,
JOHN W. GEARY.
(Subject to the decision of the State Convention.)

DISTRICT TICKET.

SENATOR,
G. SHANNON MULLIN,
(Subject to the decision of the Dist. Conference.)

ASSEMBLY,
J. H. LONGENECKER, Esq.
(Subject to the decision of the Dist. Conference.)

COUNTY TICKET.

PROTHONOTARY,
J. W. LINGENFELTER, Esq., of Bedford Bor.

SHERIFF,
WILLIAM DIBERT, of Bedford Bor.

TREASURER,
WILLIAM PHILLIPS, of Bedford Twp.

COMMISSIONER,
JAMES FINK, of Hopewell Twp.

POOR DIRECTOR,
EMANUEL J. DIEHL, of Colerain Twp.

CORONER,
DR. A. S. SMITH, of St. Clairsville Bor.

AUDITOR,
JOHN P. WILLIAMS, of South Woodbery Twp.

LEGISLATIVE REFORM.

The subject of Legislative Reform is again beginning to be agitated. A convention to amend the Constitution is suggested as the only sure method of reform but, there exists considerable doubt as to what amendments could be made to that instrument to secure the needed reform. The Pottsville *Miner's Journal* suggests the following:

"Call a convention to amend the State Constitution. Let the amendment provide for increasing the number of Representatives to four hundred, and Senators to one hundred. Let each session be limited to forty days; the pay of members be fixed at $6 a day, and the representatives to be elected from single districts throughout the State. In addition to this adopt a general law for corporations beyond the reach of individual enterprise, and have no special laws for these cases. We would also, have all corporations with incomes not exceeding $25,000 each, granted by the courts. Arranged in this way, we firmly believe that to transact the balance of the legislative business of the State but forty and even thirty days would be all the time required.

This in our opinion, is the only practicable plan to break up the present corrupt system of legislation, because it is an indisputable fact that large bodies in short sessions are not so liable to be influenced by improper motives in their actions.

We fully endorse the Journal's proposition to increase the number of Representatives and Senators, but we are not so sure that it is a good plan either to limit the time of the Sessions or to pay the members by the day. It would be better, we think, to give a fixed salary which representatives could not increase at their pleasure, and leave the time to be regulated by the amount of business to be transacted. Transferring the jurisdiction of Corporations to the Courts of the Districts to which they belong is a good plan, but any such provision in the shape of an amendment would have to be very strictly and carefully drawn. We already have a clause in our constitution making a somewhat similar provision, but it has heretofore proven a mere *fulmen brutum*, a dead letter. Perhaps the most powerful restraint upon corrupt legislation that could be devised would be an amendment by which no bill whatever could be brought before the Legislature for action without reading the whole bill. The present method of reading bills by titles is a premium upon fraud and deception. Under it the most infamous legislation is sneaked through both houses, under the most innocent of titles. Another adjunct of corrupt legislation is the facility with which the rules of both houses can be suspended in order to facilitate the work upon such bills as have to be hurried through, while some guardian of the people's interests happens to be absent from his seat, in order to escape detection and defeat. These abuses have all crept in by reason of the pressure of the immense amount of private bills and local legislation, with which the Legislature has been beset. These private bills in the majority of cases have gone to the Legislature because they could not stand the scrutiny they would necessarily have to undergo in the Courts. Let us have this class of Legislation entirely cut off and excluded from the Legislature and then not only give but require our Representatives to take, the necessary time and give the necessary attention to the public business. Let bills be honestly and fully read and let us no longer be deceived by lying titles. Let dishonest members be stripped of this convenient cloak for the covering of their iniquities. Let every bill go through its regular course of readings &c., without any suspension of rules. The people can well afford and will be perfectly willing to allow their Representatives all necessary time to transact all legitimate and honest public business. But they do vehemently protest against the prevailing corruption, dishonesty and fraud, that now characterize legislation without regard to party. We say without regard to party, because corrupt men of all parties cloak together for the securing of public plunder and corrupt legislation is not a party fault but a public calamity.

THE EIGHT HOUR LAW.

The eight hour law still fails to give satisfaction in the various departments of the government and well it may. Secretary Borie in the administration of the affairs of the Navy Department has decided that though Congress has made eight-hours a legal day's work, it has not enacted that men should be paid the wages of ten hours for the work of eight. It has raised quite a storm among the employes of his department, but the secretary is certainly right and we hope he will not yield the point. No law that men can pass will ever enable drones for any length of time to get ten hour's pay for eight hour's work. The folly of demagogues in the state and national councils in resorting to such foolish legislation for political purposes is beginning to be exposed. It is surprising that sane men should ever have resorted to anything so utterly foolish and unstatesmanlike. They might with about as much propriety have enacted a law that every farmer's land should produce a given number of bushels of grain annually whether he did the necessary work or not, or that water should run up hill, or that the North Temperate zone should have perpetual summer. Any one of those follies would have been about as sensible as the eight hour law. Since our first parents were banished from Eden it has been the lot of man to labor and we are among the number of those who have never believed that an act of Congress could restore us to the lost estate of our erring first parents. Yet it might as well attempt that as the subversion of the laws of labor. Men will continue to be paid according to the amount of work they do and no human goverument can change that law. The sooner Congressmen learn a little common sense the sooner they will deliver themselves from the unpleasant dilemmas created by such childish legislation. Labor like other purchasable commodities fluctuates in price, but cannot long remain unreasonably low or high in proportion to the prices of the necessaries of life. This they who aspire to the position of law givers ought to know. A little knowledge of this kind would save them from some humiliating blunders

JUSTICE TO HONEST MEN.

In our strictures on the men and the measures of the late Legislature, we endeavored to deal justly with the people and at the same time adhere to the truth in regard to those who had brought the State to reproach by their unseemly acts and corrupt proceedings as law makers. But it must not be understood from what we have written and printed that we regard the Legislature as composed entirely of corrupt men. Such an understanding would be unjust to the State at large and unfair to the honest men who represented their constituents in every way satisfactory to the general welfare. Let us enumerate, for instance, such Senators as Wilmer Worthington, of Chester county; C. H. Stinson, of Montgomery county; R. S. Brown, of Northampton county; A. G. Olmsted, of Potter county; G. Dawson Coleman, of Lebanon county; E. Billingfelt, of Lancaster county; C. T. McIntire, of Perry county; W. A. Wallace, of Clearfield; James L. Graham, of Pittsburg; James Kerr, of Butler; and M. B. Lowry, of Erie. There is no mistaking the honesty of these men—and perhaps there may be others in the Senate fit to be named in the same connection, but we know of whom we write when we classify the gentlemen alluded to as public servants, whose hands are clean of all wrong, and whose services to their constituents and the Commonwealth were ever of a fair, diligent and dignified character. In the same connection occur such names of the members of the House as follow: Speaker Clark, of Philadelphia; J. F. Chamberlain, of Bradford county; R. P. Brown, of Clarion county; F. W. Ames, of Crawford county; George P. Rea and John D. Stranahan, of Erie county; W. H. Playford, of Fayette county; S. B. Brown, of Huntingdon county; John H. Walker, of Franklin county; Jacob H. Longenecker, of Bedford county, and the veteran Thomas Nicholson, of Beaver county. As in the Senate, so may we have overlooked in the House names worthy of being ranked with the unmistakably honest men we here refer to. If such there be we are ready to chronicle them with honor and pleasure.—*State Guard.*

NEW LAW OF TESTIMONY.

The following is the act passed by the last Legislature, permitting parties to the record of any civil proceeding, except in excepted cases stated in the first section, to give evidence on trial. The law has been in force since the 15th, and the general impression seems to be that it will prove advantageous to the administration of justice:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same.* That no interest nor policy of law shall exclude a party or person from being a witness in any civil proceeding: *Provided*, This act, shall not alter the law, as now declared and practiced in the courts of this Commonwealth, so as to allow husband and wife to testify against each other, nor counsel to testify to the confidential communication of his client; and this act shall not apply to actions by or against executors, administrators or guardians, nor where the assignor of the thing or contract in action may be dead, excepting in issues and inquiries *devisavit vel non* and others, respecting the right of such deceased owner, between parties claiming such right by devolution on the death of such owner.

SEC. 2. That a party to the record of any civil proceeding, in law or equity, or a person for whose immediate benefit such proceeding is prosecuted or defended, may be examined as if under cross examination, at the instance of the adverse party, or any of them, and for that purpose may be compelled in the same manner, and subject to the same rules for examination as any other witness, to testify, but the party calling for such examination shall not be excluded thereby, but may rebut it by counter testimony.

SEC. 3. That the testimony of witnesses authorized by this act may be had by deposition or commission issued, as the case may require, with such notice to the party to be examined, and to the adverse party, as is now or may hereafter be prescribed by the rules of the proper court, touching the taking of depositions and testimony and commission.

JOHN CLARK,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
WILMER WORTHINGTON,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved the fifteenth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine. JOHN W. GEARY.

A SENSIBLE IDEA.—Secretary Boutwell has determined to derive some good for the country from the millions of surplus gold that have been lying idle in the Tryasury for three or four years past. He announces that he will sell an average of about a million or more per month. Gold is now at a premium of 33 per cent; the government will therefore be saved by this sensible movement about one third of a million per month or four millions per year, by having a Secretary of the Treasury who will apply the same common sense to the management of the public finances which intelligent men apply to their private business. We are happy to chronicle the fact that Secretary Boutwell is about to try the value of plain common sense in the management of his department, and we predict for him not only a decided success, but the thanks of the whole nation, always excepting the gold gamblers and stock brokers, who are well known to prefer the absurd theories of McCulloch who thought the best thing the government could do with it, was to lock it up in the Treasury vaults. We hope to be able soon, to report that a little common sense is to be applied to the management of some of the other governmental Departments.

We like to see the manner in which the people are resisting the arrogant claim set up by Congressmen that their preference in the bestowal of an office is alone to be respected. Wherever this claim is persisted in, we predict it will result in the defeat of every Republican Congressman who comes before the people for re-election. The idea of electing men to act as public servants and then submitting to their tyrannical dictation in all things relating to official affairs, is one which will not be tolerated by the American people, who bear the same relation to Congressmen which an employer holds to the employee. The people employ Congressmen to do certain things—not to be defied, deceived and tricked—and we are convinced that the people will overhaul rather roughly, at future elections, the Senator and Representative who are unmindful of the respect due to their constituents.—*State Guard.*

THE rule adopted by the Forty-first Congress, for the filling of the various official appointments, was that where there was a Republican member of Congress, he was to have complete control of the appointments in his own district. Where there were Democratic congressmen the officers were to be appointed by the United States Senators.

IT is not an uncommon thing to hear even intelligent people talk as if offices were only created for the purpose of providing support for the lazy, thriftless and generally impecunious. Offices are created and officers are elected for the good of the country and the transaction of its necessary business. Fitness and not locality or poverty should govern the appointment of public officers. When our people learn to appreciate this fact and carry it out in their nomination, election and appointment of public officers, we will once more have honest, upright and efficient officials. Public office will then cease to be a synonyme for a sinecure for the lazy, thriftless unworthy drones that now so often disgrace the public service.

THE Washington *Chronicle* announces very positively that the mission to Spain will be tendered to General Sickles. It says: "Minister Hale having tendered his resignation at the request of the Administration, and the same having been received at the State Department and accepted, the rejection of Mr. Sanford by the United States Senate leaves the mission vacant. General Sickles, within a fortnight, will be appointed by the President as a minister to Spain to fill the vacancy, and commissioned in accordance with the provisions of the amended civil tenure act."

WAR CLOUDS continue to darken the horizon of Continental Europe. Negotiations have been broken off between France and Belgium. France wants to build a French railroad into the heart of Belgium and Belgium very naturally objects to any such proceeding as it would give France complete control of Belgium in case of war. It is understood that Belgium is backed by Prussia, hence the general feeling of alarm at the breaking off of the negotiations.

OF the one thousand nominations made by the present Administration, thirty-seven are diplomatic, ninety-nine are consular, fifteen are territorial, two hundred and sixteen are in the Internal Revenue Department, three hundred and ninety-two are postmasters, sixty-five are Judges, Marshals and Attorneys, and fifty-nine in the Land Office. About three hundred additional changes will be made during the Summer.

OUR NEW MINISTER TO ENGLAND.—The instructions of Minister Motley, will it is predicted, in effect make the demands on the British government foreshadowed in Senator Sumner's speech on the Alabama question. Mr. Motley will sail for England about the middle of May, and will relieve Mr. Johnson on the 1st of June. The latter will not return to America until after he has completed a tour through Europe.

WE see by our exchanges that there is an immense amount of grumbling at the Congressional appointments. Congressmen generally seem to have succeeded in defying the wishes of their constituents. They do not say whether the offices have been sold at auction, traded off or assigned by lot.

SECRETARY BOUTWELL reports a saving of seventeen hundred dollars already on the rebatement expedient. Take care of the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves.

INDIAN affairs have at last been given into the hands of their old time friends the Quakers, and the Indian ring are disconsolate at the loss of so fine a field for speculation.

THE Bellefonte *Republican* suggests and highly endorses General John F. Hartranft as the Republican candidate for Governor.

GOV. CURTIN will leave for St. Peters burg about the middle of June next.

HOW SHALL WE STOP THE PEDDLING OUT OF OFFICES?

The crowd of office seekers in this Democratic country of ours has increased to such a host as to become a national nuisance and a stench in the nostrils of every honest or honorable man. How to abate the nuisance and eradicate the evil has of late years become a question of the first importance. State representatives and Senators, and members of Congress and United States Senators have all become to a greater or less degree the peddlers of petty appointments and the dispensers of public offices in their respective States or districts to which they often give much more of their attention than to their proper and legitimate duty of legislation. And worse than this, their appointments are often made without regard to the wishes of their constituents or the fitness of their favorites for the offices they are expected to fill. No more fruitful source of corruption exists to-day in our country than this peddling around of petty offices. We have long advocated the passage of a Civil Service bill that would teach men that fitness was the proper qualification for office and not merely the possession of friends at court, or the controlling of some idiot's vote in a ward election. Jenckes' bill was slaughtered in the last Congress because neither Congressmen nor Senators were willing to confine themselves to their legitimate duties, but wished to retain the distribution of offices as a sort of trading stock. The New York *Tribune* thus pertinently discusses the question.

There was a time when to be a member of Congress was to aspire at least to the position and bearing of a statesman. Of late years it has been rather to become a claim agent and a solicitor of offices for constituents whose services must be rewarded or purchased. The evil does not belong to one Administration or to one party, but it has been steadily growing. During the last years of the war, what Congressmen used to call their "Department business" engrossed two thirds of their time—even encroaching often upon the hours of their daily sessions. This abuse has been often deplored; but Mr Trumbull yesterday placed its bearing upon the proper discharge of Senatorial duty in an unusually strong light. The Senator who beseeches the President in behalf of some applicant, goes then to the other end of the avenue, to vote upon the confirmation of the nominee sent in—perhaps the one whose appointment he has just been soliciting, perhaps the one against whom he has just been laboring. It is as if a lawyer should first prepare the papers in a client's case, and then ascend the bench to deliver the verdict of the Court upon it. So again, a Congressman importunes the head of a Department into appointing a clerk for whose services there is no need. Then, in his place in the House or Senate, he is called upon to vote a deficiency bill to pay the unwarranted expenditure which his own importunity has brought about. The system must necessarily prove fatal, in the long run, to the independence of the different departments of the Government. There may be difficulty, as Mr. Fessenden seemed to think, in discovering a remedy. And yet, we suggest that honorable gentlemen might find a very complete one if they were so disposed. It lies in an efficient Civil Service bill. We shall see at the next session whether they really want it, or whether, realizing as they now do, the discredit not to say corruption of their present course, they prefer its continuance.

The Pottsville *Miner's Journal* makes the following pertinent remarks on a similar subject, which will be found to apply to a good many other sections beside Schuykill county.

The action of United States Senators in refusing to confirm good men who are appointed to official positions, and who are the choice of the people, simply because they may be personally obnoxious to certain Senators, merits reproof. So with members of the House, who to secure positions for men, regardless of the wishes of the people, who will labor for them to help them to other offices, even threaten the President that if he does not make certain appointments to suit them they will oppose his Administration. Now, this is all wrong. It is an outrage on the rights of the people. These Senators and these Representatives are chosen for a specified object, viz: to go to Washington and enact laws. To the people belongs the right to express who they want to fill positions, from the highest to the lowest. It is time that the press of the country should speak plainly in behalf of the people, on this subject. It is time that members of Congress should understand that the people will demand that they attend more to the business necessary to the welfare of the country and less to usurping the rights of the people.

Personally, we care very little about the matter. We do not seek a Government office, nor do we desire to be bothered in the matter of appointments in this District. But there is a principle involved in the matter which we desire to see preserved. We believe that all appointments should be made in consonance with the wishes of the people and by their expressed desire. To preserve this right unimpaired to the people, we believe that in the future they should interrogate all candidates for Congress on the subject, and obtain their views. We shall hereafter support no man who is opposed to the principle that the people should dictate the appointments.

Washington Items.

The inauguration of the Quaker policy with the Indians was made yesterday by the nomination to the Senate of eighteen Pennsylvania and Maryland Quakers, recommended by the Society of Friends, as Superintendents of Indian Affairs. These Quakers are not full of confidence in their mission, but merely ask the privilege to try the experiment of civilizing the Indians to such an extent that they will secure permanent peace. These appointments are the result of a patient investigation on the part of the leading members of the sect, and the men recommended are selected from the very best among their number. Their experiment is watched with a great deal of interest. There are many circumstances favorable to their success, chief of which is the fact that several of the most hostile tribes are now assuming a very peaceful attitude, as a result of the severe chastisement of Sheridan and Custar during the past Winter. The whole posse of the old Indian Agents and contractors will now make an effort to get possession of these agents, and failing in that, they will combine to baffle their efforts then attack them and drive them from the field.

Small and unprincipled bands of speculators are daily putting forth the "latest Cuban news," which is manufactured here out of whole cloth. One of the recent specimens was, the alleged expedition of General Steadman, with a thousand men, arms, &c., and then later came the statement that he had landed, &c. There is not the slightest foundation for any of these Roorbacks, and they are intended mainly to help put up gold, and, if possible, to induce ignorant people to buy Cuban bonds.

The Annexation of Canada.

A New York *Tribune* correspondent, writing from Montreal, says:

The desire of the people of the New Dominion to cut loose from their dependency upon the mother country, has received a powerful impetus from one or two recent events, and whatever course may finally be adopted, there can be little doubt that a great political change of some sort is not far distant. Several private meetings of influential persons have recently been held here for the purpose of considering the great question of a change in the form of government, and general dissatisfaction with the present state of things, is more and more openly expressed. The newspapers are at last beginning to meet the question face to face, and are giving utterance to the sentiment which has long been widely dispersed among the people, although few have had the courage to express it publicly, in favor of independence, but the larger party aims at annexation to the United States, and will soon make itself prominent. The acquisition of the Hudson Bay territory has given additional force to the arguments of the annexationists. It is felt that such a magnificent domain as the new dominion now promises to be, ought no longer to be dwarfed and kept down by dependence on a trans-Atlantic Government. The proposal that Great Britain shall surrender her North American possessions as a set off against the Alabama claims, has created a deep sensation in certain circles. Not a few regard it with decided favor.

FROM ILLINOIS.

Severe Storm—Loss of Life and Property.

CHICAGO, April 19.—The storm of yesterday was one of the severest and most extensive that has occurred for a long time. It extended nearly the whole length of the State, and west as far as the Mississippi river. At Bloomington a Catholic church, not completed, was blown down and completely destroyed.

At Girard and Virden, Macopin county, hailstones fell as big as hens' eggs and nearly every pane of glass was destroyed in the northwest side of the buildings. The surface of the country is covered with water. At Elgin the house of Jerome Wiltse was struck by lightning, severely injuring a man and a boy.

At Dubuque a tornado passed over the city. The residence of Mr. Kniester was blown down. Mr. Kniester was killed, and his wife seriously injured. Several houses were unroofed.

ITEMS.

THE average cost of a first class passenger car is four thousand dollars.

TWENTY thousand breech-loaders are getting ready for Cuba. And the men to lead them?

THACKERAY'S daughter is "doing" Germany, and, like other travelers there, will be "done."

A Senator says he was called out of bed three times in one night by office-seekers in Washington.

A black slave in Havana has written a song for the Cuban demonstration in Philadelphia.

"Sweet Minnie of the Vale" is Carn-across' latest song. Frank Stanley wrote it. It is very pretty.

THE General Synod of the Lutheran Church of the United States will convene in Washington city on the second Thursday of May.

BALTIMORE is to have a race-course, for which the State gives fifty thousand dollars, the city twenty-five thousand dollars, and the citizens fifty thousand dollars.

IT is an offence punishable with fourteen years' imprisonment or transportation for a clergyman in England to marry a couple after noon of any day without a special license.

THERE are eight tunnels on the Pennsylvania railroad, ranging from two hundred to three thousand six hundred and twelve feet.

MAJOR GENERAL KILPATRICK, United States Minister to Chili, sailed on Wednesday. He was accompained by his wife and niece. Many of his friends assembled on the vessel to bid him farewell.

MAJOR HUNSEN, the Norwegian giant, who stands eight feet in his shoes and measures sixty-two inches around the chest, has arrived in New York. The Major weighs four hundred and sixty pounds.

THERE is no end to the changing fashions in wedding cards. The latest style prints under the name of the bride and bridegroom the names of the bridesmaids and groomsmen.

THE superintendent of the smuggling operations, by which the eighty thousand French subscribers of the *Ladterne* receive their papers, receives two hundred and fifty francs a week for his trouble. He does the business so well that all the subscribers receive their copies with extreme regularity.

AN EXCHANGE says that "until a man has had one or two serious flirtations he is not to be relied on for earnest effort. Therefore, men who wish to engage in life's earnest and serious pursuits, should hurry up their flirtations."

AN ENGLISHMAN, eighty years old, tried to marry a widow of some sixty years a few weeks ago, but his daughter, a maiden of half a century, saw him on his way to church, pursued, caught him, and brought him home. He eloped and married the next day.

THE Colorado Register says that "reliable information indicates that the redskins contemplate a raid upon the whites in the territories more bloody than the West has yet suffered." We never knew a spring when similar predictions were not freely made by the frontier papers. But Grant is prepared.

EDMONIA LEWIS, the colored sculptress in Rome, is in straitened circumstances, and has had no order for several months though Rome is unusually full, even with Americans. She desires to sell her "Hagar," reserving the right to exhibit it, in which case she will come with it personally to the United States.

MRS. BETSY DODGE, a widow of seventy-three years of age, on Block Island, has during the past year woven, in an old-fashioned hand-loom, four hundred yards of cotton and wool cloth, and eight hundred and ninety-one yards carpeting, making in all one thousand two hundred and ninety-one yards, besides doing all the work for her family.

CHIEF JUSTICE CHASE held, in the Butler case at Baltimore, that the privilege of a member of Congress does not include exemption from arrest, in the sense of forbidding process of summons in civil suit. Members are only exempt, in his view, from a forcible detention, looking to imprisonment. A much wider interpretation has hitherto been generally given to this constitutional guarantee.

A RUMOR comes from Rome that the Œcumenical Council, appointed for next December, is likely to be indefinitely postponed. The reason assigned is an alleged impossibility of rendering certain in advance anything like unanimity among the members of the Council on the two most important points, for the determination of which they have been summoned to meet.

EMIGRATION.—The report of the New York Commissioners of Emigration for 1868 shows that 213,686 aliens arrived at that port during the year. This was a decrease of 29,042 from the year 1867. Of the whole number 101,989 were from Germany, 47,571 from Ireland, 29,695 from England, and 34,431 from other countries. The number of immigrants from Sweden was nearly 10,000 greater than in 1867. Four thousand emigrants recently passed through Hamburg and Bremen, within the space of three days, *en route* for America.

ONE WAY TO AVOID ACCIDENTS.—One of the duties of the London police is to kick from the pavement pieces of orange peel thrown there by careless or thoughtless persons. It should be made one of the duties of everybody not to throw things on the pavement which may endanger the limbs of pedestrians. A very little thought in such matters often avoids serious results. The police of this city ought to be requested to do something to abate the dangerous nuisance here.

NOT long ago a man named Breckinridge visited St. Paul, Minnesota, and all the Democrats made haste to pay their respects to him under the impression that he was the ex-rebel general. They were greatly disappointed to learn that they had made a mistake, and were absolutely disgusted when they found that the gentleman had never even been in the Confederats army.

THE soul of the Department of Foreign Affairs at Constantinople is a Catholic priest, Father Benevent, an Italian, who writes nearly all the foreign dispatches of the Turkish Government. He possesses a wonderful familiarity with the leading statesman, the sovereigns, and the political affairs of the various countries of Europe. No measure of importance is resolved upon by the Turkish Government until his opinion has been ascertained. It is said that he receives a larger salary than the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs.

THE principle creditor of the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico was a Greek Jew of Trieste, named Ephraim. Maximilian owed him at one time a million and a half of florins. Ephraim's claims have not yet been settled entirely. At one time he was the real owner of Miramar. He was quite attatched to the unfortunate Archduke, who always treated his Jewish creditor with the utmost kindness. Ephraim had a pretty daughter with whom Maximilian, previous to his marriage with Carlotta of Belgium, had kept up a long flirtation.

AN INDEX to Canadian opinion appears in the annexed extract from the St. John (N. B) *Freeman:* It is worse than useless to attempt to conceal the fact that a desire for annexation is fast spreading among the people; that the conviction that annexation is our ultimate destiny is rapidly gaining ground in this part of the Dominion, and not amongst any particular party or class, but among all parties; and especially among those who were most active and most earnest Confederates, many of whom do not hesitate to avow that they always regarded confederation as the first decided step toward annexation.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE FAIR.—The committee appointed by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society to select a place for holding the next State Fair, have fixed upon Harrisburg. The committee having adopted the Ohio plan of holding two successive exhibitions in one locality. The next fair will commence on the last Tuesday of September next and continue four days. They have also adopted the Missouri plan of free entries, and every entry, whether article, animal, or invention, must be registered at the office of the Society. This rule will be general, except in cases of horses entered for speed, where an entry fee will be charged. The railroads offer the usual facilities and reductions.

THE Secretary of the Treasury is now prepared to recive proposals for the purchase of gold according to the terms of his advertisement. These sales will be made from week to week according as the interest of the debt and the public service may require without the slightest regard whatever to the condition of the gold market. Mr. Boutwell is said to have stated that the sooner the gold men understood this fact the better. The Secretary is not yet prepared to say exactly what amounts he can sell, but the average will be about $1,000,000 per week. During some weeks it may not be one-half that amount, and occasionally it may run as high as a million and a half.

PROFESSOR MITCHELL, the well known Mathematician, died at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, on Monday afternoon, from general debility. He was 76 years of age. Professor Mitchell was the father of Miss Maria Mitchell, the Astronomer, who was born in Nantucket, Mass., August 1, 1818. He was at that time engaged in teaching at that place, and devoted much of his time to the study and practice of Astronomy. When his daughter was only 11 years of age, he took her into his school as a pupil and assistant teacher, and she very soon discovered a fondness for the science and an aptness in the use of instruments that made her an enthusiastic co-operator with her father in his favorite study. Subsequently she conducted many careful observations by herself, and on October 1st, 1847, while searching for comets, discovered a telescopic one which was seen at Rome two days after by Father da Vico. For this she received a Gold medal from the King of Denmark. Prof. Mitchell was a member of the Society of Friends. His remains were taken to Nantucket for burial.

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Miscellaneous.

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