

THE COLUMBIAN.

Steward Robinson. DEAR SIR:—While it may perhaps never be definitely known who fired the fatal shot that ended the career of the gallant and lamented Robinson, yet we have never heard it disputed as to the individuality of the company that engaged in the fray on that memorable night. In all seriousness the people sympathized with the unfortunate man. The sad event brought the "anathemas" from far and near with threat upon threat of extermination and devastation on this doomed community, and which furnished a theme and pretext for Republican adventurers and malice that both led to deeds of atrocity and persecution, the consequences and extent of which cannot be fathomed by human imagination, except only by those who had the bitter experience, and which will cause the blood to curdle in the veins of future generations. Behind the unfortunate Robinson they justified every act of blind revenge. They sought to make every Democrat in the community responsible for the deed, and they never tried a man. They stand self-convicted, and much more responsible for the death of Robinson than the Democrats. Let them attempt to refute the self evident truth and the established facts as they appear. Either Robinson was not murdered in the criminal sense, or he was, and that Pennsylvania has no laws to punish the crime of murder. The shooting was no crime in the same sense, or Pennsylvania has no code of criminal laws. Evidently it was no offense against the government for the government had them in its power, and they never tried a man. Those engaged in that affair are free men. These are indisputable facts which stand as a lasting rebuke and as a protest against the maligners of our citizens who had neither part nor lot, directly or indirectly, in the Robinson affair. Now, Mr. Republican Editor, is it not a well known fact, that there was a law to criminate the party whom you say, from the "investigation" you could name as the "murderers" of Robinson, vengeance would not suffer them to live a single day longer than a peevish prosecutor and a politician would permit? Will you please explain why those men you charge with murder were never brought to justice, and who is responsible for the neglect of that duty? In your judgment this may only again "black the shotgun of the klu-klux," and invite anarchy and anarchy complete as in '64, but of this latter we have no fear. In conclusion we would also inform you that we were drafted on June 3rd, 1864, and reported on the 29th of same month at Bloomsburg at the designated date, and participated in a marriage ceremony, where the required certificate has not been procured, are liable to a fine of one thousand dollars each. This is a great improvement on the present loose laws concerning marriage, and if it passes it will afford some protection to procreant and magistrates against the impositions that are now too frequently practiced.

Editors. BLOOMSBURG, PA. FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1885.

Samuel J. Randall, who has been quite ill, is improving in health. Don't be in a hurry! The rasals will all be turned out in due time. The old maxim, "the more haste the less speed" is a very good one to follow. Gen. Grant was sixty-three last Monday. He passed a comfortable day, and received many congratulations on his improved condition. Ex-Senator George H. Pendleton, Minister to Germany, will sail for Europe on Saturday. His wife and daughters will accompany him. The Lancaster Intelligencer thinks that Pennsylvania is far behind most of the older and larger states in the matter of the Capitol building at Harrisburg. It might be well to have said that we are far behind many of the younger and smaller states. The commissioner of pensions has directed the suspension at the Philadelphia agency of 102 pensions which have been drawn, although the pensioner is dead. In some cases, the commissioner says, the persons in whose names the pensions were drawn have been dead since 1871. He has also directed the suspension at the same agency of pensions to seven widows, who remarried in 1881, but who have continued to draw pensions ever since. The commissioner has addressed a communication to the attorney-general, requesting him to bring suit against the pension agent and his bondsmen for the money so unlawfully distributed. The marriage license bill now before the legislature is one that ought to pass. It provides that no marriage can be legally performed until the contracting parties have procured a license from the clerk of the Orphans' Court. The Clerk is required to put the applying parties under oath as to the existence of any lawful impediment to marriage. Minors must procure the consent of parents, and preachers, magistrates and attesting witnesses who participate in a marriage ceremony, where the required certificate has not been procured, are liable to a fine of one thousand dollars each. This is a great improvement on the present loose laws concerning marriage, and if it passes it will afford some protection to procreant and magistrates against the impositions that are now too frequently practiced.

The recent decision of the Supreme Court in the Taylor murder case will lessen the chances of acquittal on the plea of insanity hereafter. The rules of law with regard to the unsoundness of mind necessary to acquit one who has committed homicide are stated by the Chief Justice as follows: 1. Moral insanity is not sufficient to constitute a defense unless it be shown that the propensities in question exist to such an extent as to subvert the intellect, control the will and render it impossible to do otherwise than follow thereto. 2. No mere moral obliquity of perception will protect a person from punishment for his deliberate act. The jury should be satisfied with reference to the act in question that his own reason, conscience and judgment were so entirely perverted as to render the commission thereof a duty to overwhelming necessity. 3. Another species of delusion is this: If the prisoner commits that act under a fixed and false belief, which is a delusion, that certain facts existed which were wholly imaginary, but which if true, would have been a good defense, and the jury are satisfied that such delusion clearly existed, it will entitle the prisoner to an acquittal. While a slight departure from a well-balanced mind, or from the ordinary sanity in medical science, yet such a rule cannot be recognized in the administration of law when a person is on trial for the commission of a high crime. The just and necessary protection of society requires the recognition of a rule which demands a greater degree of insanity to exempt from punishment.

A FALSE CLAIM.

So far as he (Cleveland) has made any public record of his views, he has adopted the principles which the republican party enunciated and have supported.—Republicans.

A Busy Administration.

HOW THE PRESIDENT WORKS AS TOLD BY AN EYE WITNESS.

Col. McClure, in a letter to the Times from Washington, says: "Idleness is certainly not one of the characteristics of the present administration. I saw the Secretary of the Treasury hurrying through his belated dinner at eight o'clock last evening, to resume official duties. I saw the President hard at work at his desk at half past ten last night, with the Secretary of war in waiting to confer with him on official business, and I saw Postmaster General Vilas at his office before nine this morning, after having made a tour of inspection through several of his subordinate departments. It may be the old adage of the new broom, but it looks as if an era of official industry had begun in the nation. The substantial reforms of the new political rule. And what the heads of departments are doing in the way of industry is systematically enforced through all the ramifications of the public service. Idlers, favorites and drones generally are all quaking in their boots at the prospect of public duties, and searching inquiries are now in progress to ascertain the needless employes preparatory to their dismissal. Army favorites who have, by their social and political influence, retained desirable positions in Washington are unable to find any weak spot in the impatience of the new Cabinet officers, and they will be required to take their share of hard service. With most of the new administration, this habit of industry is simply the continuance of the methods of their lives. The President has been noted for his industry, and he is doing as President: what he has always done as lawyer, Sheriff, Mayor and Governor. Manning is

also a natural hard worker; one who does everything himself that he can do, and he is rigorous in the effort to make every branch of the Treasury. Vilas is another natural worker. He is like the President and Manning, he is just in the ripest vigor of life, and he means to manage his department himself. Whitney is another systematic worker. Like Vilas he is a great lawyer, with the keenest business qualities added, and both declined special professional fees very largely in excess of their present positions. Vilas was forced by a large Western railroad interest \$15,000 a year simply as consulting counsel if he would decline the Cabinet office, and when Whitney commanded such clients as the Vandebilt, it is needless to add that he sacrificed much in a pecuniary sense to accept Secretary of the Treasury. Manning, Whitney and Vilas are the politicians of the Cabinet, and they are all broad-gauge men in politics as well as in law or business, and they are all quite too independent in their opinion to accept public place for either immediate or remote profit. They are all men of high character, and they stand self-convicted, and much more responsible for the death of Robinson than the Democrats. Let them attempt to refute the self evident truth and the established facts as they appear. Either Robinson was not murdered in the criminal sense, or he was, and that Pennsylvania has no laws to punish the crime of murder. The shooting was no crime in the same sense, or Pennsylvania has no code of criminal laws. Evidently it was no offense against the government for the government had them in its power, and they never tried a man. Those engaged in that affair are free men. These are indisputable facts which stand as a lasting rebuke and as a protest against the maligners of our citizens who had neither part nor lot, directly or indirectly, in the Robinson affair. Now, Mr. Republican Editor, is it not a well known fact, that there was a law to criminate the party whom you say, from the "investigation" you could name as the "murderers" of Robinson, vengeance would not suffer them to live a single day longer than a peevish prosecutor and a politician would permit? Will you please explain why those men you charge with murder were never brought to justice, and who is responsible for the neglect of that duty? In your judgment this may only again "black the shotgun of the klu-klux," and invite anarchy and anarchy complete as in '64, but of this latter we have no fear. In conclusion we would also inform you that we were drafted on June 3rd, 1864, and reported on the 29th of same month at Bloomsburg at the designated date, and participated in a marriage ceremony, where the required certificate has not been procured, are liable to a fine of one thousand dollars each. This is a great improvement on the present loose laws concerning marriage, and if it passes it will afford some protection to procreant and magistrates against the impositions that are now too frequently practiced.

Republican Romance.

There is no end of the foolishness uttered by the political oracles, especially by those who give their wise opinions about the course adopted by President Cleveland in regard to the office.

This is particularly foolish when the oracular expressions about the policy of the administration come from Republican sources.

Two of these great lights, Congressman Phelps, of New Jersey, and the New York Tribune, agree in declaring that the President will drive away from his party the bulk of the democrats by not being more expeditious in dividing the offices among them.

That the managing democratic politicians are so disgusted that secretly they regret that Blaine was not elected, would, if they had the chance, support him to-day in preference to present occupant of the White House, whose manner of disposing of the patronage does not meet their expectations, and is entirely contrary to their view of how it should be done.

This is the most senseless nonsense. It is not the desire of any considerable portion of the democrats that the president whom they have elected should adopt a course that would in any manner resemble that which Blaine would pursue. It was because they knew he was an entirely different sort of a man, and was actuated by entirely opposite principles, that they gave him their hearty support and elected him president. The Blaine methods are those of the spoilsman, and opposition to them constituted one of the principal motives of the democratic campaign.

The picturesque Jerseyman, Congressman Phelps, professes to "know lots of democratic senators who would be better satisfied if Blaine were in the White House." He is undoubtedly romancing in making such an assertion. The party and the people would be obliged to him if he would be more specific and give a single instance of such an anomaly as a democratic senator who would prefer the carnival of spoils distribution that would have followed the election of Blaine to the slow, and deliberate movements of Cleveland in the matter of removals and appointments.—Patriot.

The Anglo-Russians Situation.

The new and striking phases of the Anglo-Russian question as covered by Sunday's cable dispatches, have grown out of sudden and unexpected developments in the East, and England are playing desperate games in order to secure powerful allies.

As interpreted in this paper several days ago, the strong action of the French Government in connection with the Bosphore Egyptian affair is now generally viewed as a move which France has Russia back of her, and less disposed to feel unfriendly towards their white neighbors. It will promote the interest of the Southern States and of both races. It will serve to obliterate the distinction of color, to elevate the negroes to their true level, and to free the most unfortunate prejudices.

If the Democratic Administration had accomplished nothing more, it would have done a great and beneficial work in emancipating the mind of the colored people from ignorance and prejudice. The whole people will be happier and the nation will be more prosperous from the knowledge that the country's honor and the people's rights are safer under a Democratic than under a Republican Administration.—World.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our regular Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, April 27, 1885.

The last week has been about the first since the inauguration of President Cleveland in which the weather has favored the President. The parks, lawns and walks have been green, and the politicians of the Cabinet, and they are all broad-gauge men in politics as well as in law or business, and they are all quite too independent in their opinion to accept public place for either immediate or remote profit. They are all men of high character, and they stand self-convicted, and much more responsible for the death of Robinson than the Democrats. Let them attempt to refute the self evident truth and the established facts as they appear. Either Robinson was not murdered in the criminal sense, or he was, and that Pennsylvania has no laws to punish the crime of murder. The shooting was no crime in the same sense, or Pennsylvania has no code of criminal laws. Evidently it was no offense against the government for the government had them in its power, and they never tried a man. Those engaged in that affair are free men. These are indisputable facts which stand as a lasting rebuke and as a protest against the maligners of our citizens who had neither part nor lot, directly or indirectly, in the Robinson affair. Now, Mr. Republican Editor, is it not a well known fact, that there was a law to criminate the party whom you say, from the "investigation" you could name as the "murderers" of Robinson, vengeance would not suffer them to live a single day longer than a peevish prosecutor and a politician would permit? Will you please explain why those men you charge with murder were never brought to justice, and who is responsible for the neglect of that duty? In your judgment this may only again "black the shotgun of the klu-klux," and invite anarchy and anarchy complete as in '64, but of this latter we have no fear. In conclusion we would also inform you that we were drafted on June 3rd, 1864, and reported on the 29th of same month at Bloomsburg at the designated date, and participated in a marriage ceremony, where the required certificate has not been procured, are liable to a fine of one thousand dollars each. This is a great improvement on the present loose laws concerning marriage, and if it passes it will afford some protection to procreant and magistrates against the impositions that are now too frequently practiced.

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