THE CAMBRIA FREEMAN.

EBENSBURG, PA.,

Friday Morning, - January 10, 1873.

THE January session of the Supreme Court of this State commenced last Monday at Philadelphia. The Court fixed the *first* Monday in February for the argument of the Philadelphia cases which test the constitutionality of the Local Option Law.

WE acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the *Public Ledger* Almanac for 1873 from Geo. W. Childs, Esq., the publisher. It presents a very neat and attractive appearance and is filled with useful political, statistical, and other information. One hundred thousand copies of this almanac were printed by Mr. Childs, in order that every subscriber of the *Ledger* might receive a copy.

THE Legislature met at Harrisburg on Tuesday last. In the Senate, George H. Anderson, of Allegheny county, was elected Speaker, and Russell Errett, of the same county, Clerk. William Elliott, of Philadelphia, was re-elected Speaker of the House and General Selfridge Clerk. The Governor's message was delivered on Wednesday. We will either publish it in full next week, or, if too long for our paper, give a correct synopsis of it.

ON last Wednesday week, John T. Hoffman retired from the office of Governor of New York, which he has filled with great credit and acknowledged ability for four years, and was succeeded by General John A. Dix. John T. Hoffman is one of the most prominent and accomplished leaders of the Young Democracy of the country, and his public life is without stain or blemish. When better and wiser counsels prevail in the administration of the government, and when men of brains and honesty are estimated at their proper value, he will occupy a deservedly high position among the public men of the future whose task will be to rescue the government from the hands of political charlatans and men of mediocrity and restore it to the original design of its founders.

ROBERT B. ELLIOTT, one of the colored members of Congress from South Carolina, was the principal competitor of *"honest"* John J. Patterson at the recent election of United States Senator by the negro Legislature of that State. Elliott being a negro himself, and his main reliance for votes having been based on the color of his skin, may fairly be presumed to understand better than any other man the cause of his defeat. John J. Patterson is the fit and natural Senatorial spawn of the ignorant and corrupt set of negroes who now compose a majority of the Legislature which has reduced that State to a condition of absolute bankruptcy, and has added insult to injury by sending such a notorious plunderer and corruptionist as Patterson to represent her in part in the Senate of the United States. Elliott avers that Patterson spent *fifty thousand* dollars in bribing his (Elliott's) colored brethren to vote for him, and that without this corrupt use of money he (Patterson) would not have received a single vote in either branch of the Legislature. He then adds the following:

"Now understand me. I am not saying this out of personal feeling. I was a candidate before the Legislature and was defeated. I can bear defeat, but the humiliation the thing has brought upon our colored race—that's what hurts me. Our race is now on trial before the world as to its fitness to govern. What will be said after such a wholesale buying up as this? The colored men, as you know, are in large majority in the legislature, and then for them to deliberately sell out by wholesale is a blow that we can't get over for years. It is a blow at our integrity, our honesty and our manhood. The report has gone to the world that the colored legislators making laws for South Carolina have been bribed by wholesale, and the report is unfortunately true. What will the world think of it?"

IT has been the custom of radical stump speakers and radical newspaper editors, while arrogating to their party all the morals and decency of the country, to assail the Democracy as the "whiskey party" and as being hostile to all measures looking to temperance reform. While such a man as Chandler, of Michigan, is one of the high priests ministering at the radical altar, the purest and best men of the Democratic party have been wantonly denounced and held up to public reproach as daily worshippers at the shrine of Bacchus. Even during the late campaign for Governor in this State, such an exemplary citizen as Charles R. Buckalew, who, when compared to his opponent, was as Hyperion to a Satyr, was meanly and falsely charged by a portion of the radical press as being a man of intemperate habits. The submission by the last Legislature of the Local Option law to a vote of the people of the different counties in the State, for their sanction or rejection, will afford an opportunity of testing the sincerity of parties on this question of reform, assuming for the present that the Local Option remedy, wherever it is adopted, should eventually prove to be the great panacea against the evils of intemperance claimed for it by its advocates. The first county to vote for or against it was Clearfield, in which the spring election, although it was in the middle of winter, took place on Friday, the 27th of December. We have not seen the vote published, but learn that the law was accepted by a majority of about 850.—Clearfield is a strong Democratic county and in our judgment is the most thoroughly organized Democratic county in the State.

While we have but little faith in the remedial influences of any measure like the Local Option law, and while we will not array the *Freeman* against it, how swift, had the result in Clearfield been different, would the instincts of radicalism have prompted it to denounce the sterling Democracy of that county as aiders and abettors of the curse of intemperance.—This verdict of her people proves at least that she is willing to try a *doubtful* experiment in order that the great evil with which the whole State, nation and world is afflicted, may, so far as she is concerned, be arrested and if possible entirely destroyed.

THE Legislature now in session is perhaps the last one that will assemble under the present State Constitution. As the Constitutional Convention, in obedience to an overwhelming popular demand, will tear up by the roots the Upas tree of special legislation, and in other respects limit the powers of the General Assembly, it is not a too violent presumption that the members of the present body, in view of the coming change, will do their utmost at making hay while the sun shines. That important and influential branch of the Legislature known as "the lobby," and not unfrequently called the "third house," will be on hand plying its corrupt vocation.—He who was styled "king of the lobby" has recently "shuffled off this mortal coil" rich in worldly goods, but those who were taught by him the "ways that are dark and the tricks that are vain" will be there to supply the place thus made vacant and to vindicate their high and honorable calling.

It would be idle to attempt to predict what the Legislature will do, much less what it will leave undone. In the judgment of the taxpayers, all that it ought to do would be promptly to pass the appropriation bill necessary to keep the wheels of the State government in motion and then adjourn. The members, however, who go to Harrisburg for the sole purpose of making money know a trick worth two of that, and as it has been said that the devil will find work for idle hands to do, so the different rings, as well inside as outside of the two Houses, could concoct schemes of plunder and villainy vast enough to keep them in session until the dog days.

It is anticipated that another and final effort will be made to rob and despoil the sinking fund of its treasure, now amounting to *nine and a half millions of dollars*, by appropriating it to purposes expressly forbidden by the Constitution. If this palpable fraud on the taxpayers of the commonwealth is attempted, there are few men in the State who will not regret that the Senate chamber cannot be made once more to ring, as it did three years ago, with the eloquent denunciations of Charles R. Buckalew against the foul and glaring wrong. If a man sat in the executive chamber who was his own master—who knew his duty and had the moral courage to perform it—the people would be secure from legislative jobbery and fraud. But such a man is not John F. Hartranft, unless all his antecedents as Auditor General wofully belie him. He was nominated by ring influence and will be subservient to its grasping and selfish demands. There is just a bare possibility, however, that this Legislature may put itself on its good behavior and thus agreeably disappoint public expectation. It can prove to the people of the State, if it only will, that the days of legislative virtue, unlike the days of chivalry, have not forever passed away in this grand old State of William Penn.

IT is a well known statistical fact that there is more intoxicating liquor consumed in Scotland, in proportion to its population, than in either England, Ireland, or Wales. This is not the general idea entertained of the habits of the Scotch people, but such is the undoubted fact. The following curious statement was recently made at a meeting of the Town Council of the city of Edinburg, by a man who had fully informed himself on the subject, of the number of persons seen by the police to enter a "hard ale" shop in one day. It seems almost incredible, and yet the authority seems to be reliable, that scores of women should hourly resort to a place for the purpose of drinking "hard ale," which, from what is said of it, is about equal to Jersey whisky that kills at forty rods. When it is remembered that Edinburg contains a population of about 200,000, and that the *run* on only *one* "hard ale" establishment is given, a pretty correct idea can be formed of what is daily transpiring in that city, which is the seat of Scotch learning and refinement.

Some little idea may be formed of the severe injury which would be inflicted on trade in Great Britain in the event of a general movement in favor of temperance by the following account given by Bailie Lewis, at a meeting of the Edinburg Town Council, of the number of persons seen by the police to enter one of the "hard ale" shops in that city during one day. A "hard ale" shop is explained to be a shop where customers may get drunk for twopence-half penny. One penny-worth of "hard ale," followed by three half-penny worth of spirits, will, it is stated, reduce even a seasoned toper to a state of hopeless stupefaction. From 8 to 9 A. M. there entered the establishment in question, on a Saturday in July, 100 men and 38 women; from 9 to 10, 120 men and 65 women; from 10 to 11, 90 men and 40 women; from 11 to 12, noon, 110 men and 48 women; from 12 to 1, 85 men and 55 women; from 1 to 2, 100 men and 60 women; from 2 to 3, 115 men and 60 women; from 3 to 4, 112 men and 60 women; from 4 to 5, 177 men and 43 women; from 5 to 6, 105 men and 50 women; from 6 to 7, 108 men and 60 women; from 7 to 8, 85 men and 60 women; from 8 to 9, 120 men and 55 women; 9 to 10, 100 men and 55 women; from 10 to 11, 81 men and 83 women—in all 1,511 men and 760 women. If the proprietor of this "hard ale" shop made only a profit of one-half penny on each individual, he would, as Bailie Lewis observed, have a total profit of £24 15s per day, or no less than £1,482 a year. It is remarkable to observe by these figures how steadily the "women" drank throughout the day—there is but little variation in their numbers from hour to hour in comparison with that to be seen in the case of the "men." The constancy of woman peeps forth in every transaction of life, while man, vile man, is fitful even in cups.

THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE is the oldest Republican newspaper published in the western part of the State. It is conducted with very marked ability and is recognized as one of the most reliable organs of its party. The prospectus of the *Gazette* for 1873 is published elsewhere in our columns. It deserves a liberal patronage from the political party of which it is so able an advocate. The *Weekly Gazette* is among the cheapest and one of the largest and best newspapers in the United States.

IN another part of our paper will be found the prospectus of the Pittsburgh *Post* for 1873. It is needless for us to repeat what we have so often said in praise of this long established and ably conducted Democratic journal. The past career of the *Post* is a sufficient index of what it will be in the future, and we cheerfully recommend it to every Democrat who desires to subscribe for an able and reliable city paper.

GENERAL WALKER, in the forthcoming census report, which is a document of great importance, says that of the 38,500,000 people contained within our borders in the year 1870, over 5,500,000 reported themselves of foreign birth, while 9,734,845 have both parents foreign, and that 10,521,233 have a foreign father, and 10,105,627 a foreign mother. The nationality of this element of our population and their locations in the Union, are also marked out in a very interesting and instructive manner by General Walker. He sets down the number of Irish at 1,855,827, and masses them in the greatest force in Massachussetts, Connecticut and in New York city and vicinity. The largest stretch of country which they have peopled in considerable numbers extends from Syracuse to Buffalo. Here their density is from six to fifteen to the square mile.—There is also an extensive district in Northern Illinois, and another in Northeastern Ohio, where they number from three to six to the square mile. Of Germans there are 1,690,410 in the United States from all parts of Fatherland. They are numerous in the neighborhood of New York city, number six to the mile in this State, between the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers; are quite dense in Philadelphia, and also in and near Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio. Their densest settlement west of Cincinnati is in the counties lying along Lake Michigan, in Wisconsin, including Milwaukee and the town of Sheboygan and Manitowoc, and extending westward to Watertown. There are two other sections in the West where the German element is noticeably strong. One extends along the west bank of the Mississippi from Dubuque to Keokuk, where it crosses to the eastern side and runs south a little further than Quincy, Illinois. The other section lies around St. Louis, in Illinois as well as Missouri. Our population from England and Wales is mostly distributed around New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Providence and Cleveland, and more sparsely scattered in the vicinity of Rochester, Cincinnati, Chicago and Milwaukee, and in the coal regions of Pennsylvania. The total of the English-born population of the country is 550,904, and of the Welsh 74,533. The immigration from over the Canadian border is nearly equal to that from England and Wales, and amounts to 493,434. The French in this country number only 116,000. The Spaniards number but 3,701, and nearly one-third of them live in New Orleans. Of Italians there are 17,149, of whom 5,000 inhabit California. Mexico gives us 41,308, over 30,000 claiming residence in Texas and California, and the rest of the Territories. The Chinese number 62,674, the map showing them to be scattered about the mining districts of California and Nevada, and in the cities and towns of those States.—*The Age.*

CONVICTION OF STOKES.—HOW HE RECEIVED HIS SENTENCE.—*New York, Jan.* 5.—Edward S. Stokes was found guilty of murder in the first degree late last night. The jury came into Court at twelve minutes past eleven o'clock, having been absent about three hours, and in reply to the usual interrogatories, announced that they found the prisoner guilty of murder in the first degree. There was a marked sensation in Court at the announcement of the verdict. The prisoner turned ashy pale, and his sister wept aloud. The district attorney moved that the sentence of the law be pronounced, but, at the suggestion of Mr. Tremaine, the judge deferred passing sentence until Monday. The jury, it transpired, on retiring, stood ten for murder in the first degree, and two for manslaughter in the third degree.

In several of the pulpits this morning the event was incidentally alluded to as a warning to young men against the perils of evil companionship, and as another proof that crime is certain to bring on its own punishment. At one place of public worship in Brooklyn it was a leading theme, rather than a text.

Stokes' bad temper after the verdict, as seen in his reproachful remarks to his counsel and his abuse of some of the witnesses for the prosecution, has deprived him of whatever commisseration might have been felt for him.

His counsel, it is understood, will not resort to any technicalities to-morrow with a view to the suspension of sentence, but no effort will be spared to persuade the Governor to commute the penalty of death to imprisonment for life. But this is catching at a straw. Governor Dix is a firm believer in executing the laws and as in this case the defendant has no cause to complain that he has not had a fair trial, nay, two fair trials, the result can easily be anticipated.

STOKES TO BE HUNG.

On Monday Stokes was sentenced to be hanged on Friday, February 28th. Immediately after his sentence he was taken to the Tombs, where an immense throng was congregated. He walked firmly, but his eyes betrayed his feelings. He was placed in cell No. 4, which has been occupied by a number of murderers before.—He was divested of his wearing apparel and clothed in prison garments. He will be deprived of those luxuries which he always had previous to sentence.

A REMARKABLE CASE.—The Lancaster *Inquirer* says: In one of the rural districts of this county lives a woman aged about sixty-five years, who for the past five years has been an invalid, and whose present condition is most remarkable. During her previous life she has borne by no means an enviable reputation, and strange stories are rife in the community concerning her former life. The most current of these is one to the effect, that years ago she, with the assistance of her brother and mother, in order to conceal the birth of a child, roasted it alive in an oven. This and many others are circulated, and gain credence from her present condition.—More than a year ago, after having been a helpless invalid for about four years, she arose one day in her bed and in a firm voice said: 'In this condition I must remain for a thousand years, though there come famine and starvation, yet will I never live or die.' With a spasmodic switch and convulsive movement, her limbs were doubled up in the most intricate manner, and she sunk back upon the bed where she has since remained, speechless and unable to move. Whether her silence is to be attributed to a visitation of Providence, or to stubborness, is not known. Her appearance is described by visitors to be most fearful to behold. Her limbs are twisted about her in a wonderful manner, and her facial expression is almost demoniacal. She refuses to take food in the presence of others, but as soon as they leave the room devours with the greatest avidity whatever is set before her. What renders her case still more remarkable, are the facts that her brother, years ago, committed suicide, and that her mother lingered a helpless invalid for nearly thirty years."

—January 31st, inst., is the last day for filing claims for additional bounty under the act of July, 1866, giving $100 to any soldier who enlisted in the army after the 19th day of April, 1862, for a period of not less than three years, and received his honorable discharge, or $50 for two years' enlistment after April 14, 1861. Soldiers entitled to the bounty and who have not attended to the filing of their claims should make a not of the fact.

A PERILOUS PERCH ON THE CAPITOL.—The recent storm rendered it necessary to remove some of the surplus snow from the roofs of many buildings throughout Washington, to prevent the immense pressure upon them. On Saturday afternoon last, the 28th ult., a number of hands were engaged shoveling off superfluous heaps of "drifted flakes" from the flat portion of the roof of the Capitol building. Harry Smith, a lad of about fifteen years, whose parents reside on North street, near Second, applied for a "job" and was told to go to work, but to be careful how he went about it. He was at work on the north wing of the building, over the Senate Chamber, and had commenced at the bottom of a gutter, where he had a secure foothold, instead of beginning at the top, to shovel away the snow.

While busy at work, and not noticing the gradual giving away or sliding down of the snow, the entire mass above him came down like an avalanche, and shoved him down over the slate roof, some twenty-five feet further, to the gutter on the verge of the wall, where, fortunately, he was held by his clothing, his legs hanging out over the roof.

The distance from this point to the icy pavement below was at least sixty-five feet, and the men immediately above him, as well as persons who moved up and down Fourth and State streets, and witnessed the perilous situation of the lad, shut their eyes and turned their heads, momentarily expecting the boy to drop upon the pavement a mangled mass of flesh and bones.

The men upon the roof, Messrs. Felger, Hillier and others, with commendable presence of mind, shouted to Harry to remain perfectly quiet, that they could rescue him in a very short time. A rope was procured from a box somewhere in the upper portion of the dome, and speedily let down to where the boy sat, or was suspended. But he had become so cold and chilled, that he would not trust his weight to be pulled up by simply holding on with his hands.

He was then peremptorily ordered to fasten the rope around his body, and to do this speedily; but before the young man could accomplish this, a half an hour had elapsed, and he made five attempts to fasten the rope about his waist before he was hauled up to the top of the building, chilled through and through and almost insensible.

He was carried into the furnace rooms in the basement of the Capitol and by means of stimulants, rubbing and a regular toasting, was placed upon his feet "all right." The lad said that at one time he thought it was "all up" with him, and expected to fall upon the pavement and be dashed into pieces.

FOUR MEN TO BE HANGED ON CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.—Four men, all of them whites, are now laying in the county jail of Burnet county, Texas, under sentence of death—to be executed at the same place on January 15. Their names are Benjamin Shelby, Arthur Shelby, Ball Woods and William Smith. They were all sentenced for the murder of Benjamin McKeever. Their case, taken in all its details, is one of the most interesting in the annals of criminal trials. The evidence against them, though conclusive, was entirely circumstantial. McKeever was shot from his horse at night near the residence of the Shelbys, his throat then cut, and his body carried on horseback three miles and thrown into a cave. A large rock was placed on the bloody spot where his throat was cut, but this precaution, instead of concealing the crime, led to the arrest of the criminals. The keen eyes of a frontiersman saw that the rock had been recently placed there; so it was removed, and indications of blood found. A closer search resulted in the further finding of a paper-wadding that had been fired from a shot-gun. On examining a gun of Benjamin Shelby, paper-wadding was likewise found in it, and yet another wadding that had been evidently fired from a shot-gun like the first, was found under Shelby's doorsteps. In his house was found a copy of the *Chimney Corner*, and, by comparison, it was ascertained that the three pieces of gun-wadding had been obtained from that paper. Placed together, the following enigma could be easily read:

With piece of paper or a slate
Sit round the fire both large and small;
A letter make, almost an eight,
And now you see what covers all.

There were several other circumstances pointing strongly to the accused men as the murderers; therefore the jury that tried them did not hesitate to find them guilty of murder in the first degree. The verdict is generally approved by the citizens of Burnet county, and the latest advices from there indicate that there will probably be no interference by the Superior Courts or the Governor to prevent the decreed quadruple execution.—*New York World.*

A THIRTY-ONE-HOURS' DANCE—AN OLD MAN WINS A WAGER.—Jimmy Kennovan finished his thirty-one-hours' dance at 2 o'clock last night. Jimmy kept in locomotion throughout the whole time announced, only taking a brief recess at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of bathing his feet and having a brief respite. At this time he showed few symptoms of overexertion. His feet were slightly swollen, but he otherwise seemed as fresh as when he commenced. His extremities were bathed by his trainer with brandy, which proved a most excellent specific for the purpose for which it was used. Before the expiration of the ten minutes allotted Jimmy began to feel sleepy, and was glad to begin his exercise again as soon as possible. At frequent intervals he drank wine with raw eggs as an invigorant. His appetite was also keen during the trial, and he ate heartily. When the last twenty minutes before the elapse of the thirty-one hours had come, Jimmy, who it seemed had husbanded his strength for the close, "let himself out." He seemed as fresh and more vigorous than when he first began, and he danced the last three dances with an energy and heartiness which would have put to blush a youth of sixteen. Jimmy, in fact, did not stop when three o'clock struck, but kept on going for nearly ten minutes longer. When the feat was finished he departed with his trainer for his lodging, where he was placed in a hot bath, rubbed down and put to bed. The spectators during the evening enjoyed themselves in singing and dancing, and passed the time very agreeably. Jimmy slept calmly and peacefully until seven o'clock this morning, when he arose and dressed himself. He made his appearance on the street this forenoon, apparently as fresh as ever. For a person sixty years old, the feat which he has performed is truly remarkable.—*Vallejo, Cal., Chronicle.*

—The Pittsburgh *Gazette* says: We don't know how, sufficiently, to thank our attentive correspondent, Mr. Frank McElvey, at Enon Valley, for his New Year's gift of an apple so much larger than we ever have seen before, that we suspect it has been growing ever since one of its kind was misused in the Garden of Eden. It weighed, when pulled, 32 ounces, and measured five and three-fourth inches in diameter, or about seven inches in circumference. We defer tasting it until we gather enough of friends with whom to make a feast. We doubt not its intrinsic qualities are in full proportion to its huge size. This wonderful apple grew on the farm of Mr. John Duff, near Darlington, Beaver county. Who can beat it?

News and Political Items.

—A fifteen-year-old bootblack of Paterson, N. J., lately died of *delirium tremens.*

—There are four thousand acres of land in Kentucky once located by Baron Stuben.

—Prof. Wise is building another mammoth baloon with which he hopes to cross the ocean in the Spring.

—P. T. Barnum was robbed of a thousand dollar diamond pin while riding in the cars in New York city on the 1st inst.

—A baby was born in Cincinnati some time ago whose mother was sixty-nine years old and its father seventy-four.

—Joseph Heidenberg, a glazier, living in Henry street, New York, was snow-balled to death by boys on New Year's Day.

—A barn and twenty horses and sleighs belonging to a dancing party, at Lottsville, Washington county, burned up Christmas night.

—The editor of the *Examiner* at Elk Falls, Kansas, hung himself lately, and left a note for his foreman telling him to go and chop wood if he would be happy.

—At Milton, Mass., recently, a couple were married at the death bed of the bride's mother at her request. The bride caught cold at the funeral and died within a week of pneumenia.

—Henry Williams, employed by the Thomaston Colliery, at Pottsville, while cutting ice on Sunday, slipped and "fell 600 feet down the slope." He was instantly killed, his body being terribly mangled.

—After a life of peculiar vicissitudes, commenced as a circus rider and culminating as a princess, the Princess Salm-Salm closes her romantic career as a nun in a convent at bleak Innsbruck in the Tyrol.

—The Watsontown *Record* says its editor had a conversation with a liquor dealer of Williamsport who declared that $100,000 had already reached Harrisburg to effect the repeal of the local option law this winter.

—John Hagan, Esq., Democratic member-elect from Greene county, died on the 24th ult., of pneumonia, aged about 58 years. This leaves a vacancy in the House of Representatives to be filled by special election.

—Lecky, the historian, and Tyndall, scientist, are both Irishmen, but they have done well in the world, and are called Englishmen. If they had turned rogues they would never have been anything but Irishmen.

—If it be true all the anthracite coal mines in the State are about to become the property of certain railroad companies, the people will realize the power of corporations, in another shape, before the close of the present year.

—A pumpkin pie, ten feet in diameter and four feet deep, was the chief feature of a California dinner, recently. The enjoyment of the guests was marred somewhat by a child falling into the pie and drowning before their eyes.

—At Springfield, O., on Tuesday night a woman named Nancy Harthington, aged forty, was murdered by her husband and her son terribly mutilated, his skull being crushed with an axe. It is supposed that the husband was intoxicated.

—The ice gorges in the Ohio and Mississippi have proven immensely destructive to property. An immense number of steamboats, barges, etc., were destroyed, involving losses that will amount to many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

—A frightful calamity occurred Christmas night at Williamsport, in this State. The floor of a Baptist church gave way, and fourteen persons were crushed to death, being buried under the falling timbers. Several others were more or less injured.

—Samuel Wilson, of Sharon, and a clerk in the Post-Office at that place, has been arrested and taken to Pittsburgh, on the charge of opening and robbing letters passing through the office. He is a nephew of the Postmaster there, and has heretofore maintained a good character.

—A man died in Indianapolis recently from the effects of the excessive use of ice water, having swallowed three gallons in one day, besides a quantity of half-frozen milk. He acquired the morbid craving for it through the sudden breaking off of the habit of chewing tobacco.

—A company of New York and Pennsylvania capitalists have purchased ten acres of land at McKinney's station, ten miles from Pittsburgh, for the purpose of establishing works for the manufacture of steel by the Bessemer process. The company has a capital of $3,000,000.

—For lack of any livelier topic, the Vermont papers are trying to find out who are entitled to the reputation of being the heaviest couple in the State, the most promising pair thus far heard from being Henry Tinkham and wife, of West Randolph, who turn the scales at 270 and 230 pounds, respectively.

—The operators of the Schuylkill coal region made a compromise proposition for 1873, namely, the basis of 1872, sliding down if coal declines as low as $2.25 per ton as a minimum. This has been presented through the President of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association, and until it is accepted there will be very few collieries worked.

—A touching tribute of affection was that displayed by twenty-five little girls in Allegheny City who on Christmas morning repaired to the grave of a loved playmate, who died in April last, and placed on the snowy mound that covered her remains beautiful wreaths and bouquets. Such evidences of youthful affection are so rare that they deserve more than the mere passing mention they will receive.

—The Harrisburg *Patriot* says that a slight confusion seems to exist among a few of its exchanges in regard to the time of the inauguration of Governor elect Hartranft. It may be proper to state that the inauguration will take place on the third Tuesday, 21st day, of January. The two Houses will meet in joint convention at 12 o'clock, Wednesday, January 22d, to elect a Senator of the United States.

—A sailor named Riley suicided in New York on Friday afternoon by jumping headforemost from the main yard to the deck of the bark, on which he had recently shipped, while she was on her way out in the East river, bound for Liverpool. The spectacle was witnessed by the crowds on the ferry boats. Riley, who is said to be from Logansport, Indiana, was picked up and his body taken to the Morgue.

—A shoemaker, named Lewis Koener, who resided in Bethlehem, Pa., has been missing since Christmas night. He was of intemperate habits, and on Christmas day had been drinking very freely. On Saturday afternoon a man crossing the Monocacy bridge saw what he supposed to be a bundle of clothing, but on inspection it proved to be the body of a man. Assistance was procured, and it was dug out of the ice, and found to be that of Koener.—It is supposed that he had fallen off the bridge, and, being helpless, was covered by the snow which began on Christmas night.

—The Newbern *Journal of Commerce* says: Our foreman is a boy of sixteen years of age, and his assistant is a brother not yet fourteen. The former has been in a printing office (the *Journal of Commerce*) for three years, and the latter for four months. These two set up, unaided, all the type (fifteen full columns bourgeois) for the reading matter, all the advertisements, correct the proofs, make up the forms, and do all the work upon the paper, except the press work. They say they will do better for 1873 than ever before, and we are authorized by them to challenge the young typos of any office in North Carolina, to a friendly contest for the year.

—Twelve Indians were hung in a row in Texas, recently, for driving off surreptitious beef. After having their faces washed, eleven "panned out" white men, but they hung just as well.

—Atlanta, Ga., January 2.—The up and down passenger trains on the Macon and Western Railroad came in collision about thirty-seven miles from this city this morning. Eight negroes were killed, and ten or twelve negroes and three whites wounded. Three cars and one engine were wrecked. Carlotta Patti and troupe were on board. Their wardrobe and piano were destroyed. The members of the troupe were unhurt. Patti was active in giving relief to the wounded. The negroes were emigrating to Mississippi.

—We saw a piece of wedding-cake the other day, says the Bangor (Me.) *Whig* of a recent date, which had a somewhat remarkable history. It was made on the occasion of the marriage of a lady of this city twenty-two years ago, and sealed up to await the return of her brother, who was then expected home in a few weeks. The lady died fifteen years ago, but the cake was kept intact until Monday last, when, as her brother is still in California, and will probably never again come east, it was removed from the case where it had remained so long and sent to him.

—About nine o'clock on Monday morning last, while Peter Sarrena, a laborer employed by the contractors who are removing the old railroad bridge at Davenport, Iowa, was assisting at some work on the top chord of the bridge, he missed his footing and fell a distance of over fifty feet; striking the railroad cross-ties in his descent, he was turned head downward, fell on the ice, his head striking with fearful force. He was picked up immediately by his comrades, but died before reaching shore. He was a Dane, and had lately arrived in this country.

—At twenty minutes of twelve o'clock on Saturday night, the citizens in all parts of Columbus, O., were disturbed by a low, rumbling noise as of distant thunder, accompanied by three detonations that shook the houses, rattled furniture and caused a general alarm. Many persons left their beds in search of supposed burglars, and others came up the streets to learn the particulars of what they supposed was some boiler explosion. A diligent canvass of the city fails to give any reason for the shock, and many there believe that the noise and vibration were caused by an earthquake.

—The ship R. C. Winthrop, from Antwerp, at New York, reports Nov. 27, about one hundred miles west of Madeira Islands, had a meteoric shower, commencing at dark and lasting two and a half hours. The first hour, as near as could be judged, there were from 9 to 1200, the second hour from 4 to 600, and in the last half hour were gradually disappearing. About four fifths of the meteors appeared like small balls of fire moving through the air leisurely, but others moved with great velocity, leaving in their track a trail of fire resembling that in the wake of an army rocket.

A HUNTER in the vicinity of Brantingham Lake, N. Y., recently shot at a large buck, when the animal dropped as if dead. After cutting a pole to hang the deer on, and making other preparations for dressing the carcass, he approached the deer, and with his left hand took hold of the antlers. The buck jumped to his feet and charged upon the hunter, who clung to the horns and struck at his antagonist with a small hatchet. The hatchet struck one of the antlers, and glancing, fell from his hand; whereupon the buck started off on a run with the hunter clinging to his antlers. After tramping about for some time he was tossed upon a log, the deer standing close by and watching, but not offering to make another attack. After eyeing each other for a short time, the hunter again grasped the deer's antlers and shook his head, but could not provoke him to attack. He then went in search of his rifle, and found it so broken as to be unservicable. Having no arms to fight with, he abandoned the contest and reached his shanty somewhat bruised and tired out.

WE hear rumors of a phenomena in Wheatland, which, if true, is certainly very remarkable. It seems that a young married woman in that place, who as Dickens would say, was in "an interesting condition," visited Barnum's show while it was in this city in June. She was attracted to the cage in which the sea lions were kept, and, for some reason, became fascinated with those monsters, which kept her chained to the spot. She made several attempts to with draw, but for a long time could not succeed, some irresistible influence having retained her at the place. At the time this was not thought remarkable, as the rarity of the animal, their peculiar shape, habits, and everything else, contributing to make the thing natural. But judge the surprise when the lady recently gave birth to a deformed child which bears the features of a sea lion.—*Sharon Times.*

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