

The counties in the State which gave majorities against the new constitution are Adams, Lebanon, Dauphin, Perry, Snyder, Blair, Somerset, Indiana, and Greene.

The members of the Constitutional Convention will meet in the hall of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg to-morrow (Saturday) for the purpose of opening and counting the official returns of the late election on the adoption or rejection of the new Constitution.

When the people of this State voted on the present constitution, in October, 1837, the total vote polled was 236,750, there being 118,971 for the amendments and 117,779 against them, showing the small majority of 1,192 in their favor. The vote in Cambria county, which was a full one at that time, stood 610 for and 939 against the amendments, being a majority of 329 against the present Constitution.

NEWTON BOOTH, the present Governor of California, has just been elected to the United States Senate for six years from March 4th, 1875. He is an anti-monopolist, and his election was brought about by a union of the anti-Grant Republicans and the Democrats and is regarded as a great victory over the Central Pacific Railroad ring. The same combination has also elected Judge Hager, Democrat, to the Senate for the unexpired year of Senator Caserly's term, who resigned a few weeks ago.

BOTH HOUSES of Congress adjourned for the holidays on Friday last, to meet again on Monday, January 5th. Although this is the usual custom of Congress, it is one that would be more honored in the breach than in the observance. The constitution requires that Congress shall meet on the first Monday in December. An amendment ought to be adopted by that body, and presented to the different State Legislatures for their ratification, changing the time of meeting until about the second Tuesday in January. If this were done, there would be no necessity for a recess, and the business of the two legislative branches could proceed without unnecessary delay or interruption.

A REPUBLICAN member of Congress from Illinois remarked last week to one of his colleagues, that he hoped the Senate would confirm the nomination of George H. Williams as Chief Justice, and when asked his reason for saying so, gave the following brief, but comprehensive answer: "My reason for the wish is, that insubordinate and outrageous as the nomination is, yet if Williams is Grant's first choice for Chief Justice, can any human being imagine who would be his second?" The Illinois member believed in accepting the lesser of the two evils. Sometimes there is sound philosophy in this rule, but in the case of Williams it would be a fatal precedent, and on the part of the Senate most tame and impotent conclusion.

The steamer Virginia, which was captured off the coast of Jamaica on the 30th of October by the Spanish war vessel Tornado and taken into the port of Santiago, Cuba, where fifty-three of her passengers and crew were speedily and inhumanly executed, was formally delivered up by Spain to a naval officer of the United States, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., in the harbor of Bahia Honda, about sixty miles west of Havana. The surviving passengers and crew, numbering between eighty and one hundred, who have been in prison at Santiago since their capture, were released on yesterday week and placed on board a United States vessel of war, and will be brought to New York. These two acts were done in pursuance of the settlement of the dispute by Mr. Fish, Secretary of State and the Spanish Minister at Washington, and thereby all danger of war between the two countries has been happily averted.

NEVER was a corrupt and unscrupulous ring so completely riddled and crushed as was the Philadelphia Ring at the election on Tuesday last week. The official vote in that city discloses the magnificent and decisive majority of 34,120 in favor of the new constitution. It is a proud and noble verdict of the friends of reform in that metropolis in favor of honest voting and an honest State government. That the most gigantic frauds were contemplated by the Ring election officers became apparent on the day of the election, but the storm of popular sentiment was too violent to be resisted and the Ring was buried without hope of resurrection.

John W. Forney, who was the steadfast friend of the constitution from the beginning to the end of the campaign, in his *Press* refers to the attempted frauds as follows: "The first returns from the Mayor's office, at one o'clock on Tuesday, showed a majority of 5,400 against the constitution in the Nineteenth ward. This was subsequently corrected in part, at least, and largely rectified, the small majorities returned for the instrument in all the other wards, except the tenth, being at the same time greatly increased. But even after all pretended corrections, the Nineteenth ward was returned on the evening of election day as giving 889 against the constitution. By the official returns the same ward is found to have cast a majority of 2,857 for the instrument. The changes in the other ward are sufficient to make up a difference of over 7,000 in the total majority of the city.

There could be no clearer evidence of the fact that the vote of Philadelphia has of late, been returned at whatever figures suits the necessities of the political leaders. They have been able to produce majorities to order, and thus completely nullify the will of the sovereign people. The new engineering, and it needs only a few finishing strokes from the people to bury it beyond resurrection. A new registry law is inevitable in the interests of honest elections, and of the same overwhelming popular sentiment which carried through the constitution shall now be brought to bear upon the Legislature, which is soon to meet, its demands will be obeyed and the work of reform auspiciously begun.

Williams and the Senate.

From the time of Washington's administration down to that of Grant, the Senate of the United States, in defence of its own high character, has never thought it proper or necessary to send for persons and papers in order to satisfy its members of the capacity and integrity of a man whose name had been sent to it as Chief Justice of the United States. And yet this unparalleled proceeding took place in the Senate last week, when Mr. Edmunds, a Republican Senator from Vermont, who is Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, asked the consent of that body to send for persons and papers in reference to the charges which have been preferred against the character of Geo. H. Williams. Could such a humiliating proceeding have occurred in the Senate when John Adams, in 1801, nominated John Marshall for that high and responsible position? or in 1838, when Andrew Jackson nominated Roger B. Taney? or in 1864, when Abraham Lincoln nominated the late Salmon P. Chase? Such a movement in the Senate would have shocked the moral and political sense of the whole country. It was reserved for U. S. Grant, in this year of grace 1873, to force his own political friends in the Senate to adopt this unparliamentary and extraordinary course.

No final action was taken on the nomination before the adjournment of the Senate on last Friday, and none can be until it reassembles on the 5th of January. It will then be seen whether Senators will surrender their honest convictions of Williams' total incompetency and admitted unfitness for the office at the personal appeals and solicitations of Grant, or whether they will reject him and compel the President to send in another nomination fit to have been made. Under all the peculiar circumstances of the case, if George H. Williams was gifted with a proper sense of personal honor he would demand of Grant that he should recall his name from the Senate. That, however, is not to be expected in these degenerate days, when every politician will attempt, by crooking the pregnant hinges of the knees that thrift may follow fawning, to crawl into high judicial positions for which neither nature, education nor experience ever intended them.

The official vote from all the counties in the State except McKean (which gave a majority of 924 for the constitution) has been received at the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Harrisburg, and is herewith presented in conjunction and by way of comparison with the vote on the constitution of 1838 and the vote for Supreme Judge at the recent October election:

Table with columns: COUNTIES, CONSTITUTION OF 1838, JUDGE, CONSTITUTION OF 1873. Lists counties like Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Berks, etc., with corresponding vote counts.

A BOAT STEERED BY A CORPSE.—A Mystery of Lake Erie.—On Sunday morning two farmers and their families were driving to Malden to attend church, when about eight miles below, or east of the town, saw a slight ripple on the water leading towards the beach and about half a mile away. They could plainly make out a man in the stern sheets steering the boat with an oar, and although there were no vessels in sight, the morning was so pleasant and the sea so smooth that it was supposed the man had put out from shore to pick up something, and but little attention was paid to the yawl. Passing the same spot on their return the men found the yawl had on the beach, and the man, stiff and motionless in her stern, lifeless, and frozen as hard as rock. He sat bolt upright on the seat, the oar out behind and both hands clasped the handle, and it required hard work to wrench it from his death-grip. There was about a foot of water in the boat, but the craft did not show rough usage. The man's legs were almost covered with ice as far up as his knees, and the spray had dashed over his back and shoulders and frozen there. There was no name on the boat, and the person who brought the information to the authorities could not say that anything was found on the person of the dead man to reveal his identity nor to show how he had been dead at least three days or more. There was neither salt nor mustard on the boat, and nothing in it but the one oar, showing the poor fellow had not intended a long trip anywhere, and that he must have been blown off the shore. He had used his oar to keep before the wind, and had frozen to death on his seat, where he was so firmly held by the ice that it had to be pulled off.—*Press & Era Extra.*

Our New Constitution.

The newspapers are commenting very generally, and almost without an exception, in most favorable terms upon our new Constitution. Among others the New York Herald approves of it heartily. The new State constitution of Pennsylvania, it says, framed by a convention of able men of all parties elected for the purpose, and ratified on Tuesday last by an overwhelming majority of the popular vote, marks a great and glorious revolution in that State, and a most successful and successful experiment in behalf of honest and honest government, the enlargement of the powers and privileges of grasping railway monopolies, and for the protection of the public treasury against bribery, corruption and frauds and leakages. Indeed, since the adoption of the constitution of the United States, no State in the Union, at a single bound, has advanced so far in the good work of reform on the broad platform of popular sovereignty and popular rights as Pennsylvania has advanced in the adoption of this new constitution, this Magna Charta, as we may call it, of a new dispensation.

This new constitution, among other things, provides that the term of the governor shall be four years, and that he shall be limited to one term; that the representatives of the State legislature shall be elected for two years, and that the sessions of the legislature shall be biennial. The term of the supreme court judges is extended from fifteen to twenty-one years, and various modifications are made in the terms of other State officers, the "one term principle" being generally applied to them. This is a good principle, and will operate as a salutary check against corrupt political intrigues among the officers concerned in reference to the succession in their respective offices. The American people are looking for the application of the "one term principle" to the President of the United States, or for some limitation of his eligibility, in an amendment of our national constitution. But, again, this new constitution of Pennsylvania provides that the regular State elections shall be held on the same day as the Presidential election, and that the municipal elections shall be held in February. This merging the State election of the Presidential year in the Presidential election is an immense reform; for we all know that Pennsylvania, being considered the center of power in the Presidential election of the last forty years, her October State election has too frequently been made the wager of battle for the Presidency itself. We all know that this thing has operated not only to spread broadcast over Pennsylvania all the many evils of the Presidential election, but it has brought in from time to time corrupt appliances from other States and from Washington to carry the Pennsylvania October election in the Presidential year.

This fruitful source of political corruption no longer exists, and if we could have all the State elections in the Presidential year on the same day as the election for President, the scheming politicians, whose game it is to carry the State elections of August, September and October, for their Presidential purposes in November, would be rendered impotent. Our State elections would be held in the same Presidential year, upon their own merits, and the politicians of every State would be kept too actively employed at home to interfere in the affairs of their neighbors. But, again, this new constitution of Pennsylvania, in its provision of the ballot-box, provides that the ballots shall be numbered, that voters may put their names on their ballots, and that the confidence of the voters shall not be betrayed by the election officers. Various other safeguards of the ballot-box are provided, all calculated to secure fair voting and honest returns. Next, the checks and balances upon the legislature are well considered for the prevention of corrupt or hasty legislation. Each bill, for example, is to be limited to one subject named in the bill, and every clause is to be clearly defined in different days, and where appropriations are made the governor may vote in part or parts of the bill and approve the rest of it. The limit to the convention on this subject was perhaps taken from the "back pay" bill, which slipped the net of the opposition in the closing hours of the last Congress.

Stringent provisions for the protection of the State treasury are made in this new constitution in the heavy penalties ordered against corporations and individuals; and the particular feature of this new State charter, which was doubtless most heartily approved by the people, is the strong controlling power which it gives to the State over its railways and canals, and over every corporation or enterprise. In short, Pennsylvania, in this new dispensation, has achieved a great revolution of wholesome reforms in the administration of her local affairs, and particularly in throttling her corrupt Philadelphia and Harrisburg rings of political gamblers, and in clipping the wings of the "railroad king" who cannot pass beyond the limits assigned them. We congratulate the people of Pennsylvania on the good work achieved in their new constitution.

SENATOR JOHN J. PATTERSON of Pennsylvania and South Carolina has been vindicated again. On Tuesday last he was brought before a trial jury in Columbia, having been arrested upon charges of conspiracy in the House of Representatives. B. H. Rice, a Conservative member of the South Carolina Legislature, who swore on information and belief that Patterson had offered R. M. Smith of Spartanburg \$300 each for every Conservative vote which he could influence in the Senatorial election, was called in to testify. Patterson, Col. Rice testified, giving his reasons for believing that such an offer had been made, and Mr. Smith gave evidence that a few evenings before the election he met Patterson, who told him that he would give Patterson a salary of \$300 for every Conservative vote that he should influence in Patterson's favor. To this offer Smith testified that he replied, "Yes, and damned cheap at that," and left him. This evidence having been heard, Patterson brought on his own witnesses, including a Deputy or Ex-Deputy United States Marshal, a Customs House man, and one Gunn, who was the chief witness in the Ku-Klux prosecutions, all of whom testified in his favor, after which Honest John himself took the stand and swore Smith out of sight, testifying that the individual named Rice had offered him \$500 for his own, whereupon the accused was discharged. So it is certain that he will be able to furnish men enough to swear to the purity of his conduct to overcome any prosecution instituted before trial justices in South Carolina. The worst danger he has to encounter now comes from his own admissions that he bought his way to the Senate; but that is a matter which can be easily fixed. He will have no difficulty whatever in producing a number of reputable witnesses to swear that they would not believe anything he might say under oath, and thus effectually spike the last gun of his enemy.—*N. Y. Sun.*

HAVE the readers of the *Freeman* ever used any of Parson's *Purpallie Pills*? If not, why not? They are the best family physic, besides being the greatest anti-bilious remedy there is in this country.

A Remarkable Criminal Trial.

A MAN WHO TRIED TO SHOOT, STAB AND BURN HIS WIFE.

The trial of a man for one of the most extraordinary and atrocious attempts to commit murder known in the criminal records of this country, was begun on Thursday in Elizabeth, N. J., in the court of Oyer and Terminer of Union county. Herman Krull alias Koeving, was put upon his trial for attempting to murder his wife, Lucia Krull, at Elizabeth, New Jersey. Geo. Sayers testified that on leaving his home on November 13, he saw a woman crawling on her hands and knees in the roadway. He ran to her, and lifting her in his arms, carried her into his house, where he discovered that she had been wounded with a bullet and a knife. He then called for a doctor, and the arteries of both arms had been cut at the wrist with some weapon. She was then so weak from loss of blood, that she was unable to speak. He had informed the police of his discovery, and they had arrested the attempted murderer.

His Krull then narrated the circumstances attending the attempt upon her life. Her testimony was translated by an interpreter, as she gave it, she not speaking the English language. She became acquainted with Krull in this country, in August last, and married him in September. She arrived at Philadelphia, the day after their arrival he desired to visit his children in Brooklyn, and went to that city. He rejoined her on the 11th, and told her that he had selected Newark as their future home. Previous to starting she pawned a watch studied with diamonds and three rings, and gave the money to her husband. On the way to Newark he got off the train at Elizabeth, at 8 o'clock in the evening. In that city he saw a man with a dark coat and a hat at night, and finally led her into a piece of wood on the border of the city. He then stopped suddenly and said, "Lucy, we are both going to die here. I love you too much."

He then took out of his pocket a handkerchief and with it choked her, and placed it against her mouth, but she pushed his hands away. He then fired a shot in the air, and in an instant afterward pointed the pistol at her head and fired. She fell to the ground insensible. He found her cutting one of her wrists. She at once wrapped her handkerchief around it. He tore the handkerchief off, and asked her pardon for what he had done. She said she could never forgive him. He then took out a right arm revolver, and with a knife drew a circle on her chest, saying, "It will give you little pain; die bravely." She then tried to take the knife away from him, but was too weak. He then again cut her arm, and said, "This will help you; lie down; to-morrow morning I will find a doctor for you. She fell to the ground. He then lit a match, and applying it to her underclothing, set it on fire, and then left her. Still conscious, she reached out one of her arms, from which the blood was streaming, and quonched the flames with the ground until daybreak, and then, as she was endeavoring to crawl to a house near by, she was discovered by Sayers.

During Mrs. Krull's examination the clothes she wore on that terrible night were brought into court, and were found to be stained with blood and partly burned. The accused testified in his own behalf that he missed his wife in Philadelphia, followed her to Elizabeth, could not find her there, and then went back to Philadelphia, where he was arrested by the police.

The trial of Herman Koeving closed on Friday night. The jury after being out fifteen minutes brought in a verdict of guilty on all the charges. He was sentenced to ten years in the State Prison and to pay a fine of \$1,000.

MUST IT BE EXTENSION?—When Thomas Clarkson made his exposures of the nefarious character of the African slave trade, the parliamentary advocates for its continuance were in vain urged to meet the condemnatory tone of public opinion proposing to regulate and reform the system. That great logician, Charles James Fox, in the course of a speech on the subject, explored this special plea of the advocates, and in his explanations for which he was so famous: "Regulate the slave trade!" cried Fox. "You might as well attempt to regulate murder!" "Reform it!" continued he. "The only way to reform it is to exterminate it!"

Congress seems to be doing its best to raise this very issue in regard to the Republican party. The Republicans have a majority of four to one in the Senate, and of three to one in the House. They are responsible, therefore, for every measure which is passed by either body. They cannot pass beyond the limits assigned them. We congratulate the people of Pennsylvania on the good work achieved in their new constitution.

News and Political Items.

The regular annual business meeting of the Pennsylvania Editorial Association will be held in Harrisburg January 26th. —Mr. Frederick W. Schneider, of the Troy Press, sent and distributed from Dec. 12, 1872, to Dec. 12, 1873, 324,888 ems. This amount divided among 313 working days, gives 10,380 ems per day, averaging in round numbers 10,000 per day, with a little margin of 114,192. The highest number set in any one day was 17,485. For 38 days Mr. Schneider set 12,000 ems per day, and for five weeks averaged 70,000 per week. For 84 weeks he set 60,000 ems. The number of general nature, and outside of any department, is as follows: —On Friday last a terrible crime, followed by swift retribution, was briefly reported by telegraph. A farmer living near Cambridge, Mo., was on the morning of that day, while returning home from the town, murdered by five men, who killed him and then robbed his person of \$1,000. A traveler passing by discovered the body, quietly raised a posse of neighbors, and captured three of the murderers, whom they at once hung to a tree, and then started in pursuit of the remaining two. It is only a few weeks since whether the latter have been captured.

The Attorney General has decided, upon examination into the facts of the case, that the Virginian had no right to carry the American flag. This was apparent from the first to all who understood the law. The United States flag, however, the Attorney General's decision will serve to still further show the idiocy of those who, a few short weeks ago, were clamoring for immediate war with Spain, on the score of the seizure of Madrid when the United States flag was flying over the city.

Lucy Carney, a colored woman, has been interviewed at Battle Creek, Mich. She is 112 years old, and recollects the battle of Monmouth, in which she saw a party of British dragoons chasing a squad of Continental soldiers. She lived at a great deal of peace was declared, she remembers they had a grand celebration and roasted an ox. She was a slave, and her master, a patriot, was captured by the British and kept in New York until the close of the war. She was taken to Ohio later in life and given her liberty. She drinks a great deal of tea, and has always used tobacco.

Two young men of Detroit, anxious to exhibit their nerve, laid a wager with a third person, which resulted in some rifle shooting extraordinary. A dozen apples were procured and one gentleman stood forty feet distant from the other, who shot with a rifle, and the apples fell in succession from the hand of the late William Tell. Not satisfied with that the apple-holder produced a common pasteboard match box and held it close to his head, between his finger and thumb, and in that position fired. He fired three shots at it, each going plumb centre.

George Wagoner, one of the three Democratic members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania who, in 1857, voted for Simon Cameron for United States Senator, and who, in 1860, voted for Fremont, was born in the county of Schuylkill in early life, and was elected a member of the House of Representatives from that county. The Legislature was Democratic, but failed to elect a Democratic Senator, and Wagoner was elected to the Senate by Messrs. Leboand Meneer. Mr. Wagoner was never again elected to public office.

In view of the Ville du Havre disaster, the New York Chamber of Commerce has passed a memorial, to be presented to Congress, asking that the Government secure for the appointment of an International Commission to be composed of delegates from the maritime nations of Europe and America, whose duty it shall be to draw up a map upon which the parties to the Convention for the regulation of steamships shall be marked out clearly, so that there shall be no possibility of a collision. The memorial stated that the managers of a single line had already laid down the tracks which their steamers should follow.

A woman living near Salamanca, N. Y., recently insisted upon her little step-daughter, about six years old, going one day to school, and her husband, which had been lost on the mountains. The child went, and lost its way in the darkness, and three days after was found by some neighbors nearly starved to death. The woman and her husband are under arrest for cruel treatment of the child.

A lady survivor of the steamer Ville du Havre, writing to the St. Louis Democrat, makes the following extraordinary statement: "I scuttled the ship in half a day's place with the hair-pins and paper-weights. I tell the hair-pins and paper-weights of New York, and I tell you when I say that, lying on the punky wood, two or three inches away from the port-hole, with a paper-knife, till I struck the glazing of iron that formed its outer coat."

Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Young has delivered her great lecture in Denver, Colorado. She says that at present polygamy is principally fed by the foreign element, and one Gunn, who was the chief witness in the Ku-Klux prosecutions, all of whom testified in his favor, after which Honest John himself took the stand and swore Smith out of sight, testifying that the individual named Rice had offered him \$500 for his own, whereupon the accused was discharged. So it is certain that he will be able to furnish men enough to swear to the purity of his conduct to overcome any prosecution instituted before trial justices in South Carolina. The worst danger he has to encounter now comes from his own admissions that he bought his way to the Senate; but that is a matter which can be easily fixed. He will have no difficulty whatever in producing a number of reputable witnesses to swear that they would not believe anything he might say under oath, and thus effectually spike the last gun of his enemy.—*N. Y. Sun.*

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In view of the Ville du Havre disaster, the New York Chamber of Commerce has passed a memorial, to be presented to Congress, asking that the Government secure for the appointment of an International Commission to be composed of delegates from the maritime nations of Europe and America, whose duty it shall be to draw up a map upon which the parties to the Convention for the regulation of steamships shall be marked out clearly, so that there shall be no possibility of a collision. The memorial stated that the managers of a single line had already laid down the tracks which their steamers should follow.

A woman living near Salamanca, N. Y., recently insisted upon her little step-daughter, about six years old, going one day to school, and her husband, which had been lost on the mountains. The child went, and lost its way in the darkness, and three days after was found by some neighbors nearly starved to death. The woman and her husband are under arrest for cruel treatment of the child.

A lady survivor of the steamer Ville du Havre, writing to the St. Louis Democrat, makes the following extraordinary statement: "I scuttled the ship in half a day's place with the hair-pins and paper-weights. I tell the hair-pins and paper-weights of New York, and I tell you when I say that, lying on the punky wood, two or three inches away from the port-hole, with a paper-knife, till I struck the glazing of iron that formed its outer coat."

Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Young has delivered her great lecture in Denver, Colorado. She says that at present polygamy is principally fed by the foreign element, and one Gunn, who was the chief witness in the Ku-Klux prosecutions, all of whom testified in his favor, after which Honest John himself took the stand and swore Smith out of sight, testifying that the individual named Rice had offered him \$500 for his own, whereupon the accused was discharged. So it is certain that he will be able to furnish men enough to swear to the purity of his conduct to overcome any prosecution instituted before trial justices in South Carolina. The worst danger he has to encounter now comes from his own admissions that he bought his way to the Senate; but that is a matter which can be easily fixed. He will have no difficulty whatever in producing a number of reputable witnesses to swear that they would not believe anything he might say under oath, and thus effectually spike the last gun of his enemy.—*N. Y. Sun.*

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THE REGULAR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING of the Pennsylvania Editorial Association will be held in Harrisburg January 26th. —