THE CAMBRIA FREEMAN.

EBENSBURG, PA.,

Friday Morning, - - Jan. 29, 1875.

A BILL was introduced last week in the House to repeal the local option law. It is believed that it will pass that branch of the Legislature, but that its passage in the Senate is not assured.

HON. JOHN H. WALKER, President of the late Constitutional Convention, died at his residence in Erie, on Monday last. He was Speaker of the State Senate in 1852, and throughout his life bore the character of an honest, upright man.

SURELY no man, even though he be a Republican, will feel regret over the defeat of Chandler, of Michigan, for re-election to the United States Senate. He is a course man in every sense of the term, overflowing with hatred and malevolence. His Senatorial career has been long, but it has been neither wise nor brilliant. He started out on the "blood letting" principle and has persistently advocated it to the bitter end. His disgusted constituents have recalled him to Detroit, a location more befitting him than that of a dignified Senate.

THE Harrisburg *Patriot*, a few days after the meeting of the Legislature, predicted that it could transact all its business and adjourn in sixty days.—That it *could* do so we are well satisfied, but that it *will* is not thus far foreshadowed. It has adopted the old and vicious Republican practise of adjourning over from Friday until Monday evening, and on Friday last it adjourned until last Wednesday evening. All this does not look as if the session would be brought to a close in sixty days. With only four days session in a week, that desirable result is not likely to be accomplished.

GRANT and the Radicals propose, says the Columbia *Herald*, to tax tea and coffee in order to maintain "the army," and the army is to be used to oppress the people, subjugate States, and destroy State sovereignty. The attention of the people is called to this purpose of the Radicals. Let them see to it in time. It will be demanded of the next Congress, the Democratic majority in the House, to refuse to appropiate a dollar for the support of the "army" until it is reduced to the lowest standard, and then guarantees given that it shall be made, as by the Constitution it is ordained, subordinate to the civil power. This is the question for the people to consider, this is the demand the people must make. This army business has become an outrage.

THE election of Andrew Johnson to the Senate of the United States by the Tennessee Legislature is one of most notable political events of the day. The contest was protracted and intensely exciting, lasting an entire week. Andrew Johnson laid down the Presidential office with clean hands, unstained by either a moneyed or other gift, which is more than will be said of Grant after he vacates the White House. To the Ex-President it will be a memorable day when he takes his seat in the Senate chamber, where only a few years ago partisan malice causelessly arraigned him for high crimes and misdemeanors and sought to depose him from his high office. That crowning act of desperation has now returned to plague its radical inventors. Time makes all things even.

IF anything was wanting to render Grant and his administration odious and detestable to the American people, his military exploit in New Orleans on the fatal 4th of January dug the political grave of the Republican party. A leading Republican paper refers to it in that connection in the following outspoken language:

> Unless the Republican party is content to be swept out of existence by the storm of indignant protest rising against the wrong of Louisiana from all portions of the country, it will see that this most shameful outrage is redressed wholly and at once, for if it is right for the Federal soldiery to pack the Legislature of one State in the manner Attorney-General Williams declared it shall be packed, or if it can be done, it is right and can be done in any other State. It is a matter that concerns Massachusetts, California and Pennsylvania equally with Louisiana, for it is an act of Federal usurpation which, if not revoked and condemned by Congress, will lead inevitably to the destruction of the whole fabric of our Government.

DURING the last and present week, United States Senators were elected by the Legislatures of the following States: In Maine, Hamlin, Republican, was re-elected; in Massachusetts, Dawes, Rep.; in Rhode Island, Gen. Burnside, Rep., succeeds Sprague, Rep.; in New York, Kernan, Dem., in place of Fenton, Liberal; in New Jersey, Ex-Governor Randolph, Dem., succeeds Stockton, Dem.; in Delaware, Bayard, Dem., was re elected; in Pennsylvania, Wallace, Dem., takes the place of Scott, Rep.; in Indiana, McDonald, Dem., succeeds Pratt, Rep.; in Michigan, Christiancy, Rep., in place of Chandler, Rep.; in Wisconsin, Carpenter, Rep., was re-elected; in Missouri, Cockerell, Dem., succeeds Schurz, Liberal; in Nebraska, Ex-Governor Paddock, Rep., takes the place of Tipton, Liberal; in Tennessee, Ex-President Johnson was elected on last Tuesday on the 55th ballot and will oust his *particular* friend Parson Brownlow. In Minnesota no choice has yet been made, although several ballots have taken place. A Republican, however, will be elected; and in West Virginia a Democrat in place of Boreman, Republican. The result of these elections is a gain of six Democratic members of the Senate.

THE Chicago *Tribune*, administration, most severely denounces the policy adopted by the Republican Caucus Committee of the House, and has no hesitation in saying that it has been suggested by narrow-minded politicians who are utterly incapable of appreciating the experience of the past and of conceiving a policy for the future. It further says:

> "We cannot believe that the Republican party in Congress will adopt such short-sighted and inconsequential conclusions. If it does, it will contribute to the stock of the perils of the future by endangering party success in 1876, and give the Democrats a still stronger hold upon the country than they now unfortunately possess.
>
> "The programme of this Caucus Committee is little better than imbecile. It provides no remedy for the existing evil. It leaves Louisiana in the same unfortunate condition it is now. It forces upon the President the painful duty of sustaining by the power of the United States troops what he has already characterized as a 'gigantic fraud.'"

The article closes with a warning to the members of the causus and tells them what they may expect from the Democratic House:

> "If the Republican party should adopt these recommendations, it would simply vaunt a red flag in the face of the Democratic bull, which is going to make havoc enough among the china as it is. The present Congress has a life of only five or six weeks more. Then comes the deluge. The House will be Democratic by nearly two to one. The power which the popular branch of Congress can exercise, though curbed to some extent by the Senate, is almost absolute. I may clog the wheels of Government whenever it sees fit, and neither the Senate, nor the Executive, nor the Judiciary can prevent it. It has exclusive control of all revenue bills and appropriations. The Democratic House can refuse to appropriate a dollar for the support of an army which it will profess to believe to be kept up mainly for the purpose of sustaining the Kellogg fraud. It may leave the country without a regiment or a squad of soldiers. It may bring in articles of impeachment against the President. It may refuse necessary legislation for the conduct of any branch of the Government, and starve the Executive into compliance. And it is impossible that the Democratic House will resort to some of these dangerous powers if the Republicans now bind it to a policy towards the South which it cannot repeal, the Senate still being Republican. The danger is altogether too great to be needlessly incurred.
>
> "We cannot help thinking that the programme which has been announced is the result of a preponderating strength of the carpet-bag element in the Caucus Committee. We do not believe that the Republican party will adopt it. It is not only wrong in purpose but hurtful in policy, and would bring with it innumerable evils to the Republican cause and to the country."

IT is said by the friends of Grant in defence of his military raid on the Legislature of Louisiana, that nothing more was done than removing five members from the hall of the House who had not been elected, and who therefore had no right to occupy seats. The mere *fact* of interference, no matter for what purpose, or on what pretext, constitutes the illegal and unwarranted offence for which there can be no palliation or excuse. If a State constitution has any force and validity and if it is worth preserving and being maintained, neither Grant, nor Kellogg, nor any other human being, had any more right to decide whether these five members were legally elected or whether they were not than would Marshall MacMahon, President of France. It is a question to be determined by the Legislature itself and by no other power, and when its constitutional prerogative is forcibly interfered with, the man who attempts it becomes a usurper and a tyrant.—A legislative hall is above all military control or supervision, and when it can be invaded with an armed force and men are found willing to defend the outrage, what is boasted of in this country as the liberty of the people becomes a miserable cheat and an empty name.

THERE is some excitement in the region of Allentown in regard to a vast estate, said to be worth $30,000,000, left by one David Marr, who came years ago to this country from Scotland and settled at Mount Bethel, in Northampton county. The Allentown *Herald* says, in regard to the matter, that Professor McAllister, the magician, who claims to be one of about thirty heirs, arrived in that city last week and proceeded to the place of Mr. Marr's burial to endeavor to obtain evidence. On Saturday a letter from M. J. Fatzinger, Weaversville, was received at the *Herald* office, containing the startling announcement that the writer had papers in his possession which related to Marr. The letter was shown Mr. McAllister, who was very much gratified at making this important discovery, little thinking to receive such favorable news, and which will prove of great value in claiming the estate and its title from that quarter. Mr. McAllister's family history dates back to the time of the Young Pretender and the Earl of Marr, who figure conspicuously in English history. This David Marr was the eldest son of the Earl, and at the time of the rebellion fled to Ireland, where he resided several years, and subsequently he came to America. Important documents are already in possession of the heirs, who entertain hopes that they will be successful in securing possession of this great landed estate. Yesterday Mr. McAllister proceeded to Weaversville to examine the papers relating to what so greatly concern himself and relatives.

GRAND MUSICAL RE-UNION.—The twenty-seventh day of February will be a memorial day in Louisville in more ways than one; on that day they will have not only the great drawing of the last Library Concert, but also the great musical treat of Gilmore's renowned orchestra. Gilmore is the peer, if not the superior of Theodore Thomas or of Julian. This is his first visit to the West, and except for the gift concert there is little probability that the citizens would ever have heard his wonderful performances. In the East people travel a hundred miles or more to attend one of his concerts. Remember that only those who hold at least a coupon ticket in the drawing can gain admission to the hall.

—Governor Hartranft has signed the death warrant of Ortwein, the murderer of the Hamnett family, and the document is now in the hands of Sheriff Hare. Tuesday, the 22d day of February, is fixed as the day of execution. The Governor, it is said, was thus prompt in issuing the warrant because of the delays already occasioned from various causes in meting out justice to this worst of criminals.

Legislative Standing Committees.

SENATE.

Constitutional Reform.—Messrs. Herr, Strang, Rutan, Winslow, Jones, Wallace, Dill, Playford, Rockwell.

Federal Relations—Messrs. Warfel, Winslow, Yutzy, McNeill, Ermentrout, Albright, Yerkes.

Finance—Messrs. Rutan, Davis, Warfel, Anderson (Crawford), Wallace, Chalfant, Dill.

Judiciary General—Messrs. Strang, Jones, Herr, Watson, Playford, Albright, Yerkes.

Judiciary Local—Messrs. Newmeyer, Payne, Winslow, Davis, Bechtel, Ermentrout, Stanton.

Banks—Messrs. McKinley, Anderson (Allegheny), Jackson, Crouse, Roebuck, Rowland, Waream.

Education—Messrs. Anderson (Allegheny), Warfel, Dunkel, Anderson (Crawford), Chalfant, Wood, Clark.

Accounts—Messrs. Lemon (Blair), Yeakle, McMullen, Horter, Colihan, Chestnut, Bussey.

Pensions and Gratuities.—Messrs McMullen, Yutzy, Horter, Watson, Waream, Shimer, McKibben.

Corporations.—Messrs. Cooper, McKinley, Heilman, Alexander, Bechtel, Nagle, Stanton.

Mines and Mining.—Messrs. Maclay, Payne, McMullen, McNeill, Albright, Colihan, Shimer.

Public Printing.—Messrs. Dunkel, Cooper, Roebuck, Alander, Chalfant, Waream, Yerkes.

Railroads.—Messrs. Davis, Warfel, Anderson (Crawford), Lemon, (Blair), Lamon, (Philadelphia), Dill, Nagle.

Retrenchment and Reform—Messrs. McClellan, Roebuck, Crouse, Newmeyer, Clark, Chestnut, Bussey.

Canals and Inland Navigation—Messrs. Alexander, Maclay, McNeill, Lamon, (Philadelphia), Rowland, Wood, McKibben.

Agriculture—Messrs. Yeakle, McClellan, Lemon (Blair), Yutzy, Shimer, Chestnut, Bussey.

Military Affairs.—Messrs. Heilman, Yutzy, Jackson, Dunkel, Rowland, Clark, McKibben.

Library—Messrs. Jackson, Newmeyer, Anderson (Allegheny), Jones, Albright, Bechtel, Clark.

Vice and Immorality—Messrs. Jones, Watson, Yeakle, Crouse, Chalfant, Rowland, Rockwell.

Public Buildings—Messrs. Horter, Heilman, Maclay, McClellan, Dill, Ermentrout, McKibben.

New Counties and County Seats—Messrs. Payne, McKinley, Davis, Maclay, Bechtel, Stanton, Rockwell.

Compare Bills—Messrs. Roebuck, Anderson (Allegheny), Crouse, Cooper, Rockwell, Colihan, Stanton.

Municipal Affairs.—Messrs. Lamon (Philadelphia), Alexander, Horter, McNeill, Ermentrout, Nagle, Wood.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Constitutional Reform—Messrs. Gunster, Spang, Lusk, Cross, Irwin (Allegheny), Reighard, Shugert, Withington, Yost, Turner, Hall, Yerkes, Fincher, Mitchell, Mylin, Christy, Dickey, Reyburn, Wolfe, Brown (Erie), Gehr and Ettia.

Ways and Means—Messrs. Talley, Parker, Spang, Conrad, Achenbach, Embick, Foster (Schuylkill), Stotzer, Large, S. P., Lusk, Law, Ryan, Vogdes, Hall, Smith (Chester), Phelps, Roney, Thompson (Armstrong), Cruikshank, Morgan (Lawrence) and Nisley.

Appropriations—Messrs. Reighard, Hetrick, Wanner, Everhart, Deyarmon, Erwin (Northampton), Gorman, Plummer, Kimmets, Lynott, Toner, Smith (Chester), Rice, Thompson (Indiana), Vogdes, Wendt, Williams (Susquehanna), Bardsley, Chapin, Knight, Wishart and Humphreys.

Judiciary General—Messrs. Parker, Withington, Eidred, Spang, Reighard, Wanner, Lewis (Luzerne), Faunce, Barnett, Backus, Mitchell, Mylin, Reyburn, Schoch, Smith (Chester), Christy, Jackson, Rawlins, Reutter, Wolfe and Brown (Erie).

Municipal Corporations—Messrs. Crawford, Richardson, Lynott, Gentner, Henry, Holland, Kennedy, Miller (Philadelphia), Wilson, Zern, Douglass, Falkenbury, Lewis, Long, Newell, Salter, Wood, Roney and Shonk.

Public Buildings—Messrs. Hetrick, Fincher, Andre (Berks), Pack, Boyer, Kimmett, Gaffey, Mumsord, Petroff, Allen, Logan (Erie), Miller (Somerset) and Montgomery.

Centennial—Messrs. Zern, Hartshorne, Foster, Willett, Logan (Crawford), Lynott, Smith (Berks), Faunce, Talley, Yerkes, Wimmer, Rogers, Jamison, Mitchell, Mylin, Roney, Salter, Vogdes, Hall, Douglass and Yeakle.

Judiciary Local—Messrs. Backus, Hayes, Hutler, Gunster, Hartshorne, Thornton, Hannan, Darby, Kistler, Park, Austine, Allen, Fredericks, Graham (Philadelphia), Logan (Erie), Miner, Patterson (Philadelphia), Rawlins, Rosenmiller, and Morgan.

Railroads—Messrs. Wimmer, Crawford, Carson, Conrad, Eldred, Graff, Gross Hannan, Henry, Everhart, Swan, Worrall, Ettla, Gillespie, Lasch, Morgan, (Lawrence), Newell, Wendt, Wood, Stober and Salter.

Education—Messrs. Piper, Barnett, Fincher, Law, Pallatt, Steck, Stotzer, Wilson, Wise, Rogers, Sturtevant, Campbell, Hoffer, Humphreys, John, Logan (Erie), Stewart, Loudenslager, Kimmell and Mateer.

Accounts and Expenditures—Messrs. Sturtevant, Backus, Darby, Mateer, McNite, Pallatt, Piper, Butler, Geiselman, Snyder, Biatt, Brown (Erie), Carey, Chrisman, Fredericks, Hill, Hoffer, Wolfe and Losch.

Military—Messrs, Hartshorne, Talley, Hetrick, Carson, Knipe, Miller (Philadelphia), M'Asey, Large, A. Richardson, Soltzer, Ringgold, Chapin, Graham (Allegheny), Wolfe, Hostetter, Huhn, Leigh, M'Gowan and Miner.

Elections—Messrs. Withington, Plummer, M'Henry, Stahle, Brown [Jefferson], Spicer, Hannan, Irwin [Allegheny], Lecron, Dickey, Hall, Knight, Moscrip, Morgan (Lawrence), Quirk, Stewart, Embick, Lusk, Jamison, Windt and John.

Insurance—Messrs. Spang, Wishart, Loftus, Achenbach, Barnett, Dry, Gorman, Yerkes, Wise, Reed, Wendt, Ettla, Gehr, Graham (Philadelphia), Hoffer, Hostetter, Kimmen and Findley.

Vice and Immortality—Messrs. Rogers, Thorton, Zern, Deyarmon, Keyser, Knipe, Snyder, Talley, Toner, Willett, Williams [Clarion], Worrall, Agnew, Morgan [Schuylkill], Mylin, Newell, O'Neill, Smith [Chester], Souder, Williams [Susquehanna] and Graham [Allegheny].

Banks—Messrs. Foster, Hasson, Bedford, Loftus, Miller (Berks), Monaghan, Mateer, Rutter, Shidle, Stevens, Terry, Bakeoven, Fortenbaugh, Miller [Somerset], Loudenslager, O'Neill, Reed, Smith, Thompson [Armstrong] and Baily.

Federal Relations—Messrs. Faunce, Lewis (Luzerne), Loftus, Law, Butler, Stevens, Spicer, Snyder, Achenbach, Rutter, Agnew, Allen, Baily, Gehr, Good, Kimmell, Reyburn and Wood.

Corporations—Messrs. Lusk, Durling, Everhart, Fogle, Henry, Holland, Hayes, Mumper, Swan, Williams (Clarion), Hollenbeck, Agnew, Billingsley, Gillespie, Huhn, Jackson, Loudenslager, Rice and Summy.

Mining—Messrs. Graff, Dry, Deyarmon, Harvey, Large, S. P., Miller [Berks], Mumper, Reutter, Ryan, Willett, Billingsley, Campbell, John, Leigh, Miner, Nisley, Shonk, Souder and Miller [Somerset].

Manufacturing—Messrs. Fincher, Irwin (Allegheny), Buck, Carver, Gross, Large, S. P., Loftus, Miller [Berks], Harvey, Richardson, Boyd, Campbell, Cruikshank, Edge, Eudsley, Falkenbury, Findley, Long and Fortenbaugh.

Printing—Messrs. Stable, Plummer M'Nite, Butler, Crawford, Everhart, Henry, Hetrick, Losch, Miller [Somerset], Nisley, Yeakel, Long and Petroff.

Bureau of Statistics—Messrs. Hollenbeck, M'Henry, Andre, Carver, Logan [Crawford], Monaghan, Mateer, Myers, M'Nite, McAsey, Schoch, Thompson [Armstrong], Huhn, Lewis [Schuylkill], Peakle, Moscrip, John and Morgan (Schuylkill).

Counties and Townships—Messrs. Plummer, Lecron, M'Asey Steck, Terry, Wanner, Wimmer, Brown [Jefferson], Gunster, Hasson, Gorman, Quirk, Roberts, Tracy, Agnew, Devereux, Humphreys, Leigh, M'Gowan and Long.

Compare Bills—Messrs. Eldred, Erwin [Northampton], Bedford, Gemmill, Jamison, M'Henry, Kistler, Edge, Graham [Allegheny], Kimmell, Mumford, Phelps, Stober, Thompson [Indiana] and Yeakle.

Agriculture—Messrs. Smith [Berks], Logan [Crawford], Anstine, Embick, Geiselman, Grafley, Keyser, Myers, Shugert, Buck, Endsley, Good, M'Gowan, Roberts, Rosenmiller, Souder, Summy, Tracy and Williams [Susquehanna].

City Passenger Railways—Messrs. Kennedy, Conrad, Dry, Gentner, Holland, Monaghan, Pallatt, Spicer, Worrall, Hayes, Bakeoven, Hill, Leigh, M'Gowan, Montgomery, Patterson (Philadelphia), Petroff, Salter and O'Neill.

Iron, and Coal—Messrs. Thornton, Williams [Clarion], Lewis [Luzerne], Mumper, Wishart, Boyer, Durling, Fogle, Gentner, Holland, Kennedy, Bardsley, Chrisman, Devereux, Graham [Allegheny], Miner, Morgan [Schuylkill], Shonk and Williams [Susquehanna].

Retrenchment and Reform—Messrs. Toner, Shidle, M'Lean, Large, Andrew, Wise, Rutter, Stable, Jamison, Reutter, Roney, Thompson [Indiana], Baily, Blatt, Boyd, Carey, Good and Hill.

Library—Messrs. Lewis [Luzerne], Shidle, Gemmill, Christy and Ringgold.

A BRAKEMAN'S BRAVERY.—Chas. Crandall, a brakeman on the New York and New Haven Railroad, saved the life of Mary E. Jones in Porchester recently at the imminent risk of his own. Miss Jones was crossing the track, when she recognized an acquaintance in a little boy and stopped to talk with him. He was not on the road bed but Miss Jones stood on the track, which was trembling with the approach of a Boston express at full speed. A freight train stood on the other through track, and the men were busy switching cars on a side track. Crandall was on a freight car that was moving, and hearing the express shouted to Miss Jones to get out of the way. She seemed not to hear, and continued her conversation.

Crandall jumped from the moving car, and ran towards the woman, who, too late to save herself, saw her danger. "I thought all of a sudden that I'd try," said he afterward in relating the story to his friends, "and I knew that it must be an awful quick try. She didn't see me coming, but just glanced over her shoulder quick like, and then shrunk all together with a sort of shudder, and whispered, 'I'm gone.' I heard that whisper, and it seems as though the engine might have heard it, too. It was about as near her as I was. It was which and t'other between me and the express. The girl put her hands to her face and tottered backward. I just caught her around the waist, and lugged her off the track as the whole train scurried past. I looked down at the little woman, and she was as pale as a ghost and hardly breathed. Then I was afraid she would faint, and I wouldn't have known what to do then. To pull a woman out of danger is easier for me than to bring them to when they faint. But she opened her eyes and stared into my face in a wondering way, just as one does on waking from a sleep after being sick and light-headed. I think the scare itself came near killing her. She found out where she was quick enough, and bounded away. 'Don't you ever come around this track again,' said I. Then she laughed and started for her home, as she remarked, 'I think I shall remember this forever.'"

FIGHT WITH A WILD STEER.—Mr. Dunlap, superintendent of Reavis' Tehama county (Cal.) farm, last week had a terrible fight with a wild steer. The steer was of the Mexican breed, so well known to all old Californians for their savage and pugnacious disposition. For a number of years this steer has occupied almost alone the chaparral brushwood of the premises, all beasts, wild or tame, seeming to acknowledge his undisputed right. He has successfully resisted all attempts at his removal, and made the place dangerous to all trespassers. The old possessers of the territory permitted his undisturbed occupation rather than incur the risk to life in the attempt to dislodge him. Mr. Dunlap, the new incumbent, determined to make the effort to rid the premises of so dangerous a tenant. So one day last week, in company with another man, both armed with Henry rifles and bowie knives, they entered the chaparral. Not until they reached the center of the thicket did they observe the game they were looking for. Their first intimation of the steer's presence was the crackling of the brush, and then a furious rush toward them. Standing their ground, they poured from their Henrys shot after shot as the steer approached, until his proximity became too close to be pleasant or safe, when they retreated to a tree near by. They had just reached their chosen intrenchment when the infuriated animal struck the tree with his head, his horns extending each side and reaching very nearly his hunters. For the space of one hour he held them captive behind the tree, and compelled them to quick-step all the time to keep out of his reach. At last Mr. Dunlap managed to get in a shot just behind the shoulder, bringing his steership to his knees, which, followed by another from his companion, laid him out. Upon examination eight bullets were found in his body.

PRAYER FOR CHARLEY ROSS.—As we have tried nearly everthing without avail, for the recovery of Charley Ross, it is now proposed to pray for him. A correspondent says: Permit me to suggest another mode to recover Charley Ross. Our people are eminently a Christian people. Let them call their several denominations together and unitedly set apart a day or a week for prayer to Almighty God for the restoration of this dear boy to his parents. If a day is selected, let that day be the Sabbath, so that the services in all the churches in America can be of an appropriate character; the afternoon sosssion of all the Sabbath schools in the United States be observed as a prayer meeting for a similar purpose, and on that day let all Christians resort to their accustomed places for public and private prayer, each supplication to the God of love and mercy to be earnest, sincere and determined; full of charity, of hope and faith. The Lord has promised to answer prayer, and in this appeal, He cannot, will not turn a deaf ear. More remarkable illustrations of answer to prayer have been known than this, and in this emergency it is more than probable the long lost Charley Ross will be restored to his home, to his parents, to his friends, to Christian civilization.

—Andrew Johnson is the only ex-President who has ever been elected a U. S. Senator.

The Compulsory Education Bill.

Governor Hartranft in his annual message has suggested that compulsory education will be a good thing, and accordingly a bill has been read in place by Senator Payne, of Luzerne county, mainly copying the provisions of the New York compulsory education law. Its provisions (printed at length in our columns) are mainly as follows:

All parents or guardians who have charge of children between the ages of eight and sixteen years are to be compelled to have them instructed in spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography and the history of the United States, for sixteen weeks in each year.

All persons employing children, between the ages of eight and sixteen, are required to see that they have been in attendance at school for sixteen weeks in the year preceding such employment.

If parents or guardians prefer to give children within the terms of the act sixteen weeks of education in the branches of learning fixed upon, at home, or at private schools, they are at liberty to do so.

In cases where parents are too poor to buy the necessary text books they are to be furnished out of the public fund.

Upon school directors and school trustees in townships, towns and cities is devolved the task of carrying these provisions into effect. They are to ascertain the number of children of the proper age, to determine the qualification of parents as instructors in cases where private instructions are to be given; to see to the apprehension of vagrant or truant children; to judge of mental or physical incapacity; and to attend to the collection of fines for violations of the law. For assistance in these duties they are authorized to call in the police and constabulary forces of the state. The school boards of each judicial district in the state are endowed with sub-legislative powers and may adopt their own rules for carrying the provisions of the law into effect, subject to the approval of the common pleas judges.

The school boards are authorized to sue for and collect fines imposed upon parents and guardians for neglecting to comply with the law, which are to be placed to the account of the school fund.

To any person who will give the matter attentive study it will soon be apparent that Mr. Payne's bill is a foredoomed failure. So far as it provides for conferring extraordinary powers upon school directors and trustees it is clearly inhibited in the constitution. The legislature is not at liberty to delegate any such authority as this bill proposes to confer for the performance of any municipal function. The authority to enforce upon parents or guardians compliance with the law, in case of conscientious scruples as to the quality of instruction in the public schools, is more than doubtful. No provision is made for children who are not properly clothed. The compensation for the labors of directors, policemen, physicians and others is left to be variously determined. The nature of the duty imposed upon directors is so uncertainly fixed that it may be either defeated by laxity or made oppressive by harshness.

The theory of this law is that crime springs from ignorance and morality from education. Neither one of these propositions is wholly true or wholly false. Both are utterly valueless as the basis for legislation. When the state has made education free for all the children within its borders above the age of six years, it has reached the limit of constitutional action. The task of making men moral has been wisely left, as the author of Christianity left it, a matter out of the domain of statute law. Wherever it has been undertaken it has proved a failure.

The report of the superintendent of common schools shows that out of 850,774 pupils who attend the public schools there is an average attendance each day of 543,026, or 67 per cent. According to the census of 1870 there were 1,086,149 children of school age in the state. From this statement it will be seen that there are at least 250,000 children in the state who are either instructed at private schools or do not attend school at all. With a compulsory attendance, including the per contage of children who attend irregularly, the number of pupils at the public schools, for four months of the school term would be doubled. The number of scholars for each school house in the state, there being 10,616 fit for use, would be 100. The number of children to be looked after in the matter of truancy by the directors, police and constabulary would be half a million. On looking over the crude and uncertain legislation proposed for so vast an undertaking, we think the legislature will discover such a disproportion of means to ends as will serve to defeat this bill, if it is ever reported for further action.—*Harrisburg Patriot.*

FOR a long time there has been trouble between the races in Edgefield county, S. C., and it seems to have been definitely ascertained that the leader in the worst acts of lawlessness has been a black man named Tennent, who is the captain of a company of negro militia. Tennent has been in the habit of calling out his colored troops to settle his personal quarrels, and several months ago the whites brought to the attention of the commander of the Federal troops stationed in Edgefield the violent and unlawful character of his proceedings, leaving the settlement of the matter in his hands, as the courts would not or could not protect them. The negroes then consented to surrender their arms and ammunition, which were stored in the court house. They continued however the work of setting fire to the houses and barns of the whites, and at last the latter, finding that there was no hope of relief from the courts, held a public meeting and resolved that any person, white or black, caught in the act of firing any house in Edgefield county should be lynched—act which was extensively commented upon as an instance of persecution of the blacks, though the resolutions drew no distinction in regard to color. After this threat acts of incendiarism ceased for a while, but a few weeks ago State arms were reissued to Tennent's militia, and simultaneously acts of incendiarism again became common. On January 13th the house of Gen. Butler was fired and destroyed in the absence of that gentleman, his wife and children barely escaping with their lives. The incendiary was discovered and confessed that he was hired to fire the building by Tennent, for whose arrest a warrant was issued. The constables and posse, while seeking the criminal, were ambuscaded by his militia and fired into, and this was the immediate cause of the latest disturbances in that district. In the meantime a bill is pending in the South Carolina Legislature to levy a special tax for the support of the persecuted, unemployed negroes of Edgefield county!—*N. Y. Sun.*

THE N. Y. *Tablet* gives the following statistics of the Catholic Church in the United States: "Seven Archbishops, 53 Bishops, 4,873 Priests, 6,920 Churches, Chapels and Stations, of which certainly 4,809 are Churches, 18 Theological Seminaries, and 1,375 studying for the Priesthood; 68 Colleges, 511 Academies, 1,444 Parish Schools, 215 Asylums, Homes and Refuges, 87 Hospitals, and a Catholic population (exclusive of Baltimore, Charleston, Erie and Brooklyn, for which no estimates are given,) of 5,761,242. In 1814 they were only 85 Priests, not as many Priests in the country as there are now Catholic Hospitals; not as many Priests as there are now of three names—Walsh, Murphy and O'Connor."

News and Political Items.

—One hundred and forty-eight Sisters of Charity, expelled from Mexico, have arrived at Havana en route to France.

—A colored lady of Pitt county, N. C., lately became the happy mother of a white baby, a mulatto, and a black one, all at a birth.

—A hundred years ago the united population of Philadelphia, New York, Albany, Newport and Savannah was not more than 40,000.

—Flora Squier, wife of the district attorney of Luzerne county, Pa., committed suicide by hanging, at Carbondale, on Saturday.

—Laudenburger's Hosiery Mills at Frankfort, Pa., are closed, the firm having failed, and over one thousand men are thus thrown out of employment.

—Mary Reynolds, of Hamilton, Mass., and a female accomplice were arrested in Boston, on Friday, on the charge of having poisoned five infants.

—About sixty employees have been discharged from the Philadelphia custom house. The pay of messengers has been reduced $15 per month.

—Captain H. A. White, leader of the Connecticut Colony in Russell county, Ks., froze to death near his home during the recent severe cold spell on the plains.

—Chandler of Michigan and Thayer of Nebraska, two Senators who voted for Andrew Johnson's impeachment, step down out of the Senate and Andrew walks in. Next!

—The Emperor of China is dead. He was born April 21st, 1856, and acceded to the throne August 22d, 1861. His successor is only five years of age. No disorders have occurred.

—Says a Wisconsin editor: "A young poetess sends in a contribution entitled, 'Let us Love.' We will do our best, but we have been married over four years now, and are a little out of practice."

—It is mentioned that although Mr. Beecher is sixty-one years old, he can read, without glasses, very fine print. However that may be, he has occasioned other people to read a vast deal of very coarse print lately.

—The fastest railroad time on record is said to have been made not long since on the New York Central Railroad by a special train, which carried a party of officials from Rochester to Syracuse, 81 miles, in 61 minutes.

—By the failure of Henry Clews & Co., N. Y., Wm. Maher, of Blairsville, is out $5,000; Richard Arthurs, of Brookville, $1,000; Clarion Deposit Bank, $3,600; St. Peterburg Bank, $8,500. This last item is secured to a certain extent.

—The Clarion *Democrat* says that less lumber is being taken out along the Clarion river this year than usual, consequently there is little employment for laborers. Good hands are working in the woods for one dollar a year and board.

—There are 800 paper mills in the United States, with an invested capital of $40,000,000, and a total production of $70,000,000 per annum. These mills give employment to 20,000 people, whose earnings are estimated at $10,000,000 annually.

—St. Patrick's church, in Hartford, Conn., was burned on Sunday morning.—It was valued at $150,000; insured for $75,000. The walls are standing, but will probably have to be taken down. The building is to be replaced at once.

—In a gentleman's house in Hartford, Ct., there is now lying very sick, an old servant woman, 60 years of age, who has worked all her life for $1 a week and her board, and her savings, put into the bank, amount now to between $6,000 and $7,000.

—According to the official report of the Mayor of Providence, R. I., under the operation of the new prohibitory law just put in force in that city, there are more places where liquor is sold than ever before, and rowdyism and disorder are on the increase.

—Already predictions are made of a disagreement in the Beecher-Tilton case.—Mrs. Woodhull is talked of as a witness on the pastor's side, to prove that Tilton and Moulton furnished her with the reports upon which she based her publication of the scandal.

—The defeat of Chandler in Michigan moves the Cincinnati *Commercial* to a rythmical summary of his virtues, viz. that he "was the loudest and longest, the stiffest and the strongest, the gayest and most festive, the most rampant and most restive, of the whole crowd."

—On Thursday evening, says the Erie *Dispatch*, the wife of John Sheridan, living on the Lake road a mile, or so east of that city, gave birth to four female children, three of whom were alive at last accounts. *Pater familias* is absent, having gone West last fall and has not returned.

—The Franklin *Spectator* says: Mrs. Lizzie Little, a widow employed at the Exchange Hotel went crazy last week and was sent to her home in Cranberry township. Religious excitement is supposed to be the cause of her insanity. She had been attending religious meetings.

—A number of the residents of Corry have formed a colony to locate in California. They were to leave about the 25th of January, and had procured special rates for passage and freight, which will enable them to reach their future home for a comparatively small sum of money.

—Thursday a man living near Fullerton, Clarion county, undertook to kindle a fire with oil, when the can containing it exploded, completely covering him with the blazing fluid, burning his flesh to crisp. He was alive at last accounts, but there are no hopes that he can possibly recover.

—Mr. Sam. Burns, of Portland, Maine, is 80 years old, and has smoked and chewed ever since he was 7 years of age. He is hale and hearty, one of the lamp-lighters, and goes his nightly rounds. He never had a doctor, every tooth in his head is sound—and he has cut a new tooth recently.

—While the bells in a New Orleans Catholic church were ringing for vespers last Sunday evening, the iron castings fell from the belfry and struck and killed a little boy underneath. The child was watching the sexton pull the rope when the hugh weight dropped on his head, crushing th skull.

—The engine and baggage-car of the night express on the Michigan and Lake Shore Railroad was thrown from the track by a broken rail, near Grand Rapids, Saturday morning. The engineer, John W. Anderson, was killed, and the fireman, Walter Cummings, injured internally. It is doubtful if he recovers.

—The floods in California continue. Last week many persons were drowned, and there was great loss of live stock. Sherman and Twitchell islands, in the delta of the Sacramento, are flooded. It was raining heavily at San Francisco on Friday night and Saturday, and further damage in the valleys was feared.

—The people of Hookstown and Georgetown, Beaver county, have a wonderful sensation on hand, in the shape of a tall female 7 to 9 feet in height, who is said to have been seen by many reputable persons within the past two months, at different and late hours of the night, on the roads leading to and from the points named above.

—King Kalakaua is claimed by North Carolina as the decendant of the chief of one of its Indian tribes. His father, Pautauk, according to the statements in a Carolina paper, was the son of Kalakaua, a Tuscarora chief, and emigrated a number of years ago to the Sandwich Islands, where he married the daughter of the then reigning monarch.

—The *Scientific American* has found an old lady of 83 who has not washed for fifty years. She is so dirty that death and the devil keep at a respectful distance.

—President Grant gains one more day in office than the American people bargained for. The 4th of March, 1877, will come on Sunday, and by statute, the inauguration of the President elect does not take place until the next day. Twice in the history of the republic this has occurred, in 1821, at the second inauguration of James Monroe, and in 1849, when Zachary Taylor was installed.

—The Osage county *Leader*, Missouri, gives an account of finding the dead body of a man named Andy Bryant, near Ledora, with his head and one arm cut off, and entirely naked. The head was some distance from the body with a pistol ball wound in it. A miner, whose name is not given, has been arrested on suspicion of having murdered Bryant, but nothing definite is known. Great excitement prevails in the neighborhood.

—Wm. A Weeks, colored, Assistant Secretary of State of Louisiana, was killed on Saturday night. Strangely enough Gen. Sheridan did not send any dispatch to the President about it, asking for authority to go to work upon the banditti. This omission, however, is easily explained, when it is known that another negro official killed him in a quarrel about a negro belle. The color of a murder makes all the difference in the world.

—Mrs. Kate Clark, recently seamstress in the family of Senator Stewart, at Washington, was arrested in Baltimore on Tuesday, charged with the robbery from Mrs. Stewart, on Saturday, of bonds, diamonds, laces, &c., valued at $6,500. The property was recovered, and, with the accused, sent to Washington. Two trunks were also secured, containing between $10,000 and $12,000 worth of plate, laces, velvets, and other valuables.

—The Pittsburgh *Post* says that Andy is on his way to Washington, with his little hatchet, and his war clothes. He is afraid the papers in a few ugly cases will be lost or overlooked unless he is on the ground, and says he did not know the pigeon holes when he was President, and thinks if he was Chairman of a Committee of Investigation he might still find them. He says he don't care whether Grant meets him at the depot or not.

—A dispatch from Boucherville, Canada, dated Jan. 25th, says: A fire this morning destroyed the farm house occupied Pierre Dulude. His wife and eight children perished in the flames. Dulude was seriously burned in his efforts to save his family and is not expected to live. His wife and children were literally burned to ashes, and only fragments of the bodies can be found. The eldest child was thirteen years old and the youngest was a baby.

—A Wisconsin paper tells us that the Chicago *Trib