

Dr. E. E. HIGGERS, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, whose illness we made mention of in our last week's issue, died at his home in Lancaster on Friday last.

A BILL has been introduced in the House by Mr. Dower, of North Carolina, to repeal the internal revenue tax on tobacco. A Bill has been introduced in the Senate to repeal the Civil Service law.

The prize fight in Montana which ended the lives of the contestants was looked upon by a large majority of the people as having terminated very satisfactorily to the hopes of mankind. If prize fights were terminated in that way public sentiment would prevent the enforcement of the law that prohibits prize fighting.

CONGRESS has been in session for two weeks, passed one bill and already is so tired that it proposes adjourning from December 19 to January 6. As the members can never forego a three weeks' vacation for the Christmas holidays, the assembling in December seems to be a waste of time and should be done away with. It is a waste of time, money and patience.

PRESIDENT HARRISON on Tuesday, transmitted to the Senate the extradition treaty with England referred to in his annual message, negotiated by Secretary Blaine and Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British minister. By its terms the number of extraditable offenses is largely increased, the most important addition being that of embezzlement; so that if the treaty be ratified, Canada and the United States will cease to exchange a class of undesirable residents.

THERE were 340,000 divorces granted in the United States during the 20 years ending in 1888, an increase of 136 per cent., while the population grew only 25 per cent. More than one-fourth were secured in Illinois, which goes to show that Chicago has earned her reputation in that line. Ohio furnished 26,367 and Pennsylvania 16,000. South Carolina is the only State not showing a large increase. Divorces do not seem to be a failure at any rate, whatever we may think of marriage.

ADMITTANT GENERAL HASTINGS has just forwarded to the War Department at Washington a statement of the military force of Pennsylvania which would be available in case of war. In the National Guard there are 500 commissioned officers and 7,857 enlisted men of 18, 471 against a total last year of 8,351, several new companies having been organized. There are 128 companies, including 132 companies of infantry, three of cavalry, and three of artillery. The total number of men in the State available for military duty is 659,005.

JOSEPH DITMAN, a Philadelphia banker, mysteriously disappeared on Wednesday last week and his disappearance continues to excite attention and to cause speculation as to his whereabouts. The theory first advanced, that the missing man had been accidentally drowned, seems to have given way to the general belief that he wandered off during a fit of temporary insanity, and that he will eventually be found. Ditman's financial affairs, however, are in a tangled condition, and not a few are of the opinion that he left Philadelphia sound in mind.

TWENTY years will probably add 35,000,000 inhabitants to the present population, remarks the New York Tribune, which adds: How and where will these 35,000,000 stomachs be filled with these 70,000,000 hands to find work? Not in the boundless West, already being glutted to show its boundaries; not all of them, that is. By 1910 100,000,000 Americans will have developed the neglected farms of the Eastern and Middle States, and will be eating all the food they raise, instead of, as now, discounting the future of their fields by feeding it to foreigners for present cash. Clear up.

FOLLOWING the adoption of a resolution in the House at Washington on Wednesday, authorizing the sergeant-at-arms to offer a reward of \$5,000 for the arrest of Silcott, the ascending cashier, the roll of states was called, and the introduction of bills and a grant number were offered, including one by Mr. Bayne, of Pennsylvania, creating a new federal judicial district in Pennsylvania to be called the Middle District. Bills providing for the erection of public buildings at the following places in Pennsylvania were introduced: Allegheny City, York, Allentown, Pottsville, Wilkesbarre, Chester and Altoona.

FRANKLIN B. GOVEN, of Philadelphia, prominent as a lawyer and at one time president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, before shooting himself through the head at Wormley's hotel in Washington City. Exactly what time the deed was done, whether Friday night or Saturday morning, no one will probably ever know. The cause of the suicide is attributed by Mr. Goven's friends to mental aberration. No other reason can be assigned, in view of the fact that the deceased gentleman left no information which bears even remotely upon the motives which impelled him to the rash act. Mr. Goven went to Washington on Monday last week to conduct the suit of George Rice, of Marietta, Ohio, against certain railroads charged with discriminating in favor of the Standard Oil company. Before the Interstate Commerce Committee. There was nothing during his stay in Washington to indicate that mental or other troubles were pressing upon him.

THERE will be no paper issued from this office next week in accordance with the time honored custom with country newspapers of dropping a number during Christmas week, for the purpose of giving the printers a vacation and allowing them to knock around for a few days and digest their Christmas turkey.

Before the next FREEMAN appears the County Auditors will meet for the purpose of auditing the receipts and expenditures of Cambria county, and it may be well enough at this time to call the attention of the Auditors to the fact that the people will be awaiting their report with more than usual interest. The presentation by the Commissioners of \$1,180 of the county's money, as a bonus to their engineer for building three bridges that could have been built by other parties for \$1,180 less, is one of the items that the Auditors must give some explanation of to the people, if they allow its payment.

Next comes the building of a number of bridges without a letting, which we believe is in violation of the law and should be opposed by all interested in a careful and prudent management of the county's finances. There is no excuse whatever, for this high-handed manner of doing business and the Auditors are the parties to stop it.

We do not wish to forestall the Auditors in their work but we mention these as glaring instances of mismanagement on the part of the Commissioners that like Banquo's ghost "will not down."

When the Auditors meet on the first Monday in January it will be well for them to make up their minds to "hew to the line" let the chips fall where they will.

SCEN details of the revolution in Brazil, says the Philadelphia Times, as the mails are now bringing do not increase confidence in the new republic, although they give confirmation to the belief that the monarchy is at an end. It is evident that the deposition of Dom Pedro was not the deliberate action of the people or their representatives nor the immediate result of Republican convictions. It was really a military revolt. The army had been insubordinate and the Government had undertaken to weaken its power for mischief by scattering it. Some of the officers rebelled against this and scattered the Government.

But that they were able to do so by a mere proclamation shows clearly how little hold the monarchy had upon popular support and how ready public opinion was for such a change. In fact, it was generally felt that the Imperial Government would hardly outlast the lifetime of Dom Pedro, and when the change was made abruptly it seems to have been generally acquiesced in, with the feeling that the question might as well be met now as at any other time. It is nevertheless clear that Brazil has not got a Republican Government merely by deposing the Emperor. A self-constituted committee of soldiers and editors have substituted their arbitrary will for the carefully regulated will of a constitutional monarch, and they have the slightest idea what they are going to do with it.

The Government of the United States grew naturally out of the union of a number of well-established and self-governing Commonwealths. The likeness between the Brazilian provinces and the North American States is very slight, and even if a paper constitution for Brazil can be formulated upon our model, it will be another thing to get it into operation. It is not strange, under existing circumstances, that the European powers are cautious about the prompt recognition of the United States of Brazil.

The measure of General Harrison has been taken says the New York Sun, and it utterly fails to agree with the specifications. The one man in his cabinet for whom nine-tenths of the Republicans have a warm and long standing personal admiration, he persistently snubs. A snuffy, commonplace Hoosier is visible, but nothing more. As brilliant as a blue book, as inspiring as fire damp, as commanding as an old cow, General Harrison toddles along his narrow path of politics with no more majesty than Babe McKee, his most trusted adviser, displays from the dizzy heights of one of Chesap John Wanamaker's volleys. No worse infirmity can happen to a party than to find itself condemned for four years to sink under the leadership of a man who cannot lead. For its chief a party must have at least a man with blood in his veins and more heart than a jelly fish. And when a party has worked to the top of its bent to elect a President, and finds that he is of no use, and only anxious to be useful to himself and his family connections, then it becomes more disgusted than a tail in a bandana shop. And discouragement follows disgust.

The reaction against prohibition in Iowa must have been more forcible even than was indicated by the vote at the recent election. Two constables in Des Moines, one of the straightest and best behaved cities in the State, were almost killed by a mob a few days since for attempting to enforce the prohibitory law. The Iowa State Register explains it as the result of numberless outrages perpetrated under the pretense of enforcing the law. "It is these wanton seizures," it says, "these invasions of private homes where no attempt was made to sell liquor, these brutal assaults upon private and domestic rights, this raid upon the public treasury by a gang whom no business man would trust with money or confidence—it is these things that have been piling up prejudice against prohibition and breaking it down beneath the load it had to carry.

The United States Commission at Tallahassee, Fla., has failed in its negotiations with the Cherokees for the sale of the Cherokee cession, and will leave for Washington. The Commission will prepare its report during the holidays and submit it to Congress upon the assembling of that body.

THE Cronia Verdict. CHICAGO, December 16.—At 2 o'clock this afternoon Judge Connel anchored that a return of some kind would be made by the Cronia jury in a few minutes. The attorneys for both sides were at once notified that their presence was desired in court, and bailiffs were dispatched to bring the prisoners into court. At 2:25, all being in haste, the jury filed in and handed up the following verdict:

"We, the jury, do find the defendant, John F. Beggs, not guilty. We find the defendant, John Kunze, guilty of manslaughter, as charged in the indictment, and fix his punishment in the penitentiary for a term of three years."

"We find the defendants, Daniel Coughlin, Patrick O'Sullivan and Martin Burke, guilty of murder in the manly and form as charged in the indictment, and fix the penalty, their imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term of their natural lives."

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NEWS AND OTHER NOTINGS. THOMAS R. ADAMS, manager of the Milwaukee and Wyoming Investment Company's cattle ranch, near Cheyenne, W. T., left with \$15,000 of the company's money and a young bride several days ago.

Prof. Loeb's Memory System is creating greater interest than ever in all parts of the country, and persons wishing to improve their memory should send for its prospectus free as advertised in another column.

The mangled body of a woman has been found among the ballast of a vessel at Middleborough, London, shipped at Millwall. The hand has been found elsewhere. The police suspect that this is another victim of "Jack the Ripper," and the presence of the body in the ballast calls new attention to the fact that the successful murderer is a sailor.

A well-dressed stranger made three efforts at suicide at Connelville on Monday morning. First he threw himself on the track in front of an engine, but was dragged off in time to save his life. In a few minutes he made a second attempt, and being frustrated rushed to the river and jumped in. The police fished him out and looked him up. The man refused to tell his name or residence.

A 16-year-old son of Henry Potts, residing near Woodstock, Howard county, Maryland, while handling a breech-loading shot gun, accidentally discharged the piece, killing his young sister standing near by and maiming her. The father, who was in the room, received the side the same charge which killed her daughter. Doubts are entertained as to Mrs. Potts' recovery.

Joseph Katter, Charles Rose and Charles Hart went into William Zorn's saloon in Canton, Baltimore county, Maryland, on Monday night for drinks. A difficulty arose over payment, and Katter pulled out a razor and cut off Zorn's nose. Zorn then procured a gun and shot Katter and Hart in the legs. Zorn reloaded and succeeded in shooting Rose in the abdomen. All three men are seriously wounded.

At the Indian cemetery on Indian Hill, near Portland, Conn., the other day, John E. Lutz, a German school teacher, was liberally provided with culinary utensils. There were several bottles, an iron kettle with a copper label, a brass kettle and two Dutch mugs. The human remains, which were evidently those of a great chief, but whose business the Dutch mugs had in the grave is a mystery to every one.

A case that is attracting general attention is now on trial in the Poeswick court. It is the prosecution of Miss Flora Look, who shot and killed a man who was engaged in a charcoal in Chester county. The second party was named William Katter, for Flora's grandfather, who had been ill. The serenaders refused to desert, whereupon Miss Flora took down a gun and red ink to the party, killing one man. After that they were not troubled so much with serenaders.

After much solicitation W. H. Bartholomew, Mrs. Margaret Dillard, convicted of the murder of the latter's husband and now confined in the jail at Easton, Pa., have been allowed to see each other. The meeting was rather sensational and the conversation was profane and immoral and consisted of mutual recriminations. They parted Mrs. Dillard weeping. William, I think our time here is short, and so we had both better prepare ourselves for the worst to come.

A bold attempt to rob the Great Falls N. E. National Bank was made Friday morning. A cashier, Cashier Stickey, and a teller, Cashier Stickey, were in the bank, and Cashier Stickey remained. As he started to leave the building he was grabbed by two men, one of whom put a pistol to the time lock, and it was by the time he was able to get away he was possible to open the vault until morning. They "went through" Mr. Stickey, however, taking his \$300 watch and \$3 in money.

A dispatch from Wabash, Ind., says: William Marquis, aged 17, son of a farmer in Miami county, was arrested at school on a charge of robbery. He was charged with a Wabash railroad detective on Monday by a Wabash railroad detective on a charge of robbery. He was charged with a Wabash railroad detective on a charge of robbery.

It is reported that four robbers have been lynched in Margaret township, Arkansas, by a vigilance committee. Saturday night Harry Wright, a well to do farmer, went to a store at Big Maunelle, and while strolling home, four masked men stopped the team, drew pistols, and demanded his money. He was unarmed, but he made a desperate fight with his fists. He was knocked out of the rear end of the wagon, falling to the ground senseless. Sunday morning Wright was found by neighbors who called to see if he was all right, and he was found dead. He was shot in the head, and although badly injured, he was sufficiently to describe his assailants. A vigilance committee was at once organized and the murderers were caught and lynched.

Three separate glycerine magazines blew up on Sunday morning at North Clarendon about seven miles from Warren, Pa. The amount of glycerine exploded was over 10 tons. The magazines were owned by the Rock Glycerine Company, John Kuhn and Mr. McKee. The explosion set fire to two 25,000 barrel tanks full of oil belonging to the National Transit Company. They are still burning and will be total losses. Several oil derricks and small wooden tanks were also burned. No one, so far as can be learned, was injured. Nearly every window in Clarendon was broken and much damage was done to surrounding property. No cause is assigned for the accident. The loss is estimated at \$250 a pattern.

Oil men claim it to be the largest explosion of the kind in the history of the oil region. On Sunday morning, near Eastalago, a small station fifty miles east of Birmingham, on the Georgia Pacific railroad, Miss Betty Emmons was walking along the track when she discovered that the spikes had been driven out and a rail removed, as she made the discovery Miss Emmons heard the roar of an approaching passenger train, which was running at high speed. She knew the train would be wrecked if she did not stop it, and she did not hesitate a minute. She saw a red signal light, and, hastily tearing it off, ran toward the approaching train, waving the carment across the track. The engineer saw the signal in time to stop the train. The passengers leaped to their narrow escape and Miss Emmons' conduct, that at once made a handsome purse and presented it to her.

Another wonderful discovery has been made and that too by a lady in this country. Disease in its various forms, her and for seven years she had been suffering from it, but she was cured by the use of a medicine called Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption and Coughs. She was cured by the use of a medicine called Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption and Coughs.

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