The Centre Reporter.

FRED. KURTZ.....Editor.

Centre Hall, Pa., April 3, 1873.

TERMS.—The REPORTER is published weekly at $2 per year, in advance, or $2,50 when not paid in advance. For six months half these rates.

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Any person sending us the names of six new subscribers, with ethcash, will receive the REPORTER one year free.

Mifflin county went against license two weeks ago, notwithstanding which the landlords over there are petitioning court for license as heretofore, and the applicants are advertised in the Lewistown papers, to be up at April term. This course has been taken by the Mifflin county landlords on account of a letter, said to have been written by Senator Petriken, in which he gives the assurance that the local option act would be repealed this session yet, on account of the vote at the recent elections having shown a large majority in the state in favor of license. Should the act be repealed, then the Mifflin county landlords would be in good time to carry their point at next court, having filed their applications and advertised same acecording to the requirements of the late license law.

As was announced in last week's REPORTER, the local option elections, held two weeks ago, in a majority of the counties, went overwhelmingly in favor of licenses, just the opposite of the counties which held their elections one or two months earlier The vote all through was a light one, but the total now, in the entire state, shows a large majority for license.

After a great deal of debate and considerable uncertainty the Centennial Appropriation bill has at length passed through both branches of the Legislature. It has been amended so as secure $1,000,000 for the event, instead of $500,000 as was set forth in the bill. The greater portion of this amount is to be collected from the passenger rail roads of Philadelphia in the shape of three per cent. tax upon their gross receipts. It may be that this source of revenue will be sufficient to cover the entire million, but should it not there is yet a provision in the bill that the State Treasury can be drawn upon, at the most, for only $250,000.

Our member, *Mr.* Orvis, was the champion, in the House, of the provisio that the greater portion of this centennial appropriation shall be collected from the Philadelphia passenger railroads, which lines will reap fortunes during the centennial. By this provision there remains secured to the State Treasury several hundred thousand dollars, which would have been filched from it but for the lead Mr. Orvis took in the matter. He is entitled to the thanks of every tax-payer in the State.

Patterson's Case Settled.

Senator Patterson's case—one of the Credit Mobilierites—is disposed of, as per Washington advices of 26th ult., as follows:

The case of ex-Senator Patterson, of New Hampshire, was very briefly disposed of to-day by an agreement of the Senate to permit his pamphlet replying to the Committee who reported at the last session for his expulsion to be printed with their report. The defence was not read to the Senate, but was delivered to Senators by Mr. Patterson himself, who seemed to feel even more keenly than did Colfax the disgrace which has overtaken him. He left the capital to-day quite a wreck of his former self, and proposes to sail for Europe, where he will remain a year.

The following excellent provision has passed the Constitutional Convention:

"Section 26. No act of Assembly shall limit the amount to be recovered for injuries to person or property and in case of death from such injuries the right of action shall survive and the Legislature shall prescribe for whose benefit such actions shall be prosecuted; and no act shall prescribe any limitation of time within which suits may be brought against corporations for injuries to person or property or for other causes, different from that fixed by the general laws prescribing the time for the limitation of actions; and existing laws so prescribing are annuled and avoided."

It is reported that the President is suffering from a cold contracted on inauguration day. We never learned that he suffered from his *gold* contracted in Seneca sandstone.

Two colored members of the Alabama legislature, had a fight the other day about a pistol. Really, Sambo is coming fast into the usages of white trash legislators.

The next ticket of the rads should have Colfax for President with Ames for Vice, which would be putting those fellows where they "would do most good."

—A medal, a relic of the log cabin and hard-cider campaign of 1840, was left at our office the other day, by Mr. David Lohr, a Buffalo Run democrat. It was found by Mrs. Lohr while digging in the garden, some years ago. On one side is stamped a picture of Gen. Harrison, on the opposite side a log-cabin. It at once brings back to our recollection the fat promises of 1840—32 years ago—when all were to have "two dollars a day and good roast beef," if Gen. Harrison was elected. Those allurring promises found a good many dupes, and "Tippicanoe & Tyler too" won the day, but the two dollars a day didn't make their appearance, and the good roast beef continued under the hides of the bovines and the laborer had to content himself with his accustomed fare, while the roast beef was only within the reach of the rich. The common classes found themselves humbugged by promises only made to catch their votes, a game which politicians can still play so successfully at the present day when with each campaign, are bred new promises to mislead the people.

DETAILS OF THE FORGERIES ON THE BANK OF ENGLAND—THE PLANS DEVISED AND ENGINEERED BY AN AMERICAN.

New York, March 17.—London papers of the 3d and 4th are at hand, with the following details of the great forgeries on the Bank of England: It was discovered on Saturday that bills to an enormous amount had been forged upon all the principal houses in the city of London, and that these bills had been discounted at the West-end branch of the Bank of England, in Burlington Gardens, which does an entirely different kind of business from the parent establishment in the city. It is intended for the convenience of gentlemen and ladies and West-end tradesmen, who might find it inconvenient to journey to the city in order to transact their occasional business. It is not, therefore, ordinarily concerned with large bill transactions of city commerce, and in consequence is less bound by strict regulations in dealing with any business of that nature which might accidentally be brought to it. The conspirators must have been aware of this, and they laid their plans for approaching the Bank of England by this weaker portion of its defenses. Warren, an American, who managed the plot, was in no hurry and took care to gain good footing before he ventured on his ultimate enterprise. *He* behaved for sometime just like an ordinary customer of good resources. He drew upon his balance and renewed it, but kept it always a good figure. After a while he deposited some bills. They were good and genuine bills. Still he was careful not to be hasty, and he continued his transactions with the bank until he had acquired the reputation of a person engaged in legitimate commerce and thoroughly trustworthy. At length the moment came for the presentation of forged bills. They were discounted without hesitation, and the authors of the fraud had to all appearance succeeded in safely pocketing about one hundred thousand pounds. All these arrangements were master-pieces of ingenuity and patience, but the bills themselves must have given the greatest amount of labor. In the first place many of the large firms upon whom the bills purported to be drawn are in the habit of using a peculiar kind of paper with certain water-marks and printed matter. All this would have to be imitated, and, as the bills were drawn on more than one firm, there must have been several such imitations. There then remained the drawing of the bills and affixing the signatures, and each bill must have required a series of feats in successful forging. Some bills were backed by several acceptors, so that there might easily be as many as half a dozen signatures on a single bill. Yet the bills were so perfect that not one of them was questioned on the ground of the acceptances not appearing genuine. But the men who had exerted a skill, foresight and perseverance sufficient to insure the unhesitating acceptance of the forged bills could not escape one trivial blunder which revealed the plot. They presented two bills in which the date of acceptance had been omitted. Inquiry was of course made of the firm whose acceptance was thus undated, and it was discovered that the bills were not genuine, and the whole series was then found to be forgeries. How much further the plot might have been carried it is impossible to say. Advertisements published caution bankers, brokers and all other persons against dealing in a number of United States five-twenty, ten-forty and funded loan bonds, amounting in the aggregate to $237,000, they, it is alleged, having been acquired out of the profits of the forgery. The loss to the Bank of England is stated at eighty thousand pounds. The Rothchilds are mentioned as one of the firms on which forged drafts were drawn, but no other names are given.

A HEARTLESS MURDER.

A Saloon Keeper Kicks a Customer out and then Shoots Him.

Dubuque, Iowa, March 25.—The village of Monona, Iowa, was on Saturday night, the scene of a most heartless murder. One Blagbun, a notorious character, keeper of a saloon, enticed Lyman Ingalls, a young man of quiet, unassuming manners, into his saloon, and after getting him drunk kicked him out of doors. Ingalls attempted to re enter, and finding the door locked, began pounding and and kicking for admission, which proving of no use, he went round to the back door, when Blagbun, now enraged at having his rest broken, rose and seized a shot-gun, muttering "I'll stop your noise," and going up to Ingalls fired, the charge entering the heart and coming out at the neck, killing him instantly. Much excitement prevailed and threats of lynching were made, but the authorities succeeded in getting him lodged in jail. Ingalls was burried, an immense crowd following his remain to the grave.

The primitive mode of counting and weighing nails has left some reminders of itself in our modern nomenclature. We say four penny, six-penny, ten-penny nails, and so on. Nails used to be counted by the 1,000; and when they were of such a size that 1,000 of them weighed four pounds, they were called four pound nails, and similarly six-pound and ten pound nails, and in rapid speaking the "pound" became corrupted to "penny" which is more easily uttered by the organs, as any one will see who will try it for himself. Thus the current designation of sizes depended originally upon weights.

MISSISSIPPI HURRICANE.

Canton, Miss., March 29.—A hurricane swept through this city last night destroying many houses and it is reported killing several people. Two loaded cars were lifted from the railroad track and one of them was badly wrecked. The track of the hurricane is about one hundred yards wide. Fifty houses were destroyed. Loss $100,000. Only one life was lost, a negro woman, and about five persons were injured, none seriously.

A Ticket for 1876.

From the Cincinnati Inquirer.

For President, Schuyler Colfax ("S. C. or bearer") of South Bend; for Vice-President, Oakes Ames of North Easton. These gentlemen have been warmly endorsed by their immediate constituents, and, of course, should be placed where they will do most good.

The roll of purchased seats in the Senate, according to the Chicago Tribune, now includes Caldwell, of Kansas, Clayton, of Arkansas, Harlan, of Iowa, Ramsey and Windom, of Minnesota, Hitchcock, of Nebraska, Carpenter, of Wisconsin, and Cameron, of Pennsylvania. These gentlemen are to be reinforced on March 4 by Sargent, of California, Mitchell, of Oregon, Patterson, of South Carolina, and Jones, of Nevada, and these are only those who have been found out.

Bond Robbery in Broad Street.

How Two Young Men Became Possessed of $168,000 Worth of Bonds.

The bold bond robbery perpetrated in Wall street on Saturday continues to be a topic of interest and speculation. A Sun reporter yesterday called upon Col. S. C. Johnson, President of the Pennsylvania Western Railroad, in his office, 50 Broad street. Col. Johnson said that last Saturday morning, about 11 o'clock, Mr. Roosevelt, an officer of the Company, with another official, went to the Safe Deposit Company in Broadway to get some bonds of the railroad. Mr. Roosevelt carried the bonds and his companions walked by his side. In Broadway, near Wall street, two men jostled Mr. Roosevelt, who asked his companions to walk a few feet ahead of him until they reached the office. Mr. Roosevelt said he was afraid that somebody would throw pepper in his eyes and rob him. Reaching the office, Mr. Roosevelt was left alone with the bonds, whose nominal value was $168,000.

Col. Johnson occupies two offices on the ground floor. The front one faces the street. In the rear of this office there is a high desk, running across the room. The back office is directly behind the desk, and is also accessible from the main hall by a door, which is always locked. A few moments after Mr. Roosevelt had placed the bonds at one end of the high desk two well-dressed young men entered the office, and after making the usual inquiries about the road, one of them, who is described as a short man with a sandy complexion, asked permission to write a note, which was granted. His companion asked to be allowed to go into the back room and adjust his dress. At this juncture Mr. Roosevelt grew cautious, and going to the desk he stood with his elbow on the bonds, and did not turn his back toward the man in the rear office for an instant. The young man in the front office finished his letter, and both men politely bowed themselves out.

After their departure *Mr.* Roosevelt took the bonds to the other end of the desk and threw a soiled towel, an old shawl, and several other articles over them, and sat down at another desk near the window to write. About an hour later Col. Johnson entered and then the bonds were missed. When Col. Johnson stepped from the office before the bonds were stolen he locked the door of the rear office leading to the hall on the inside. It is thought that confederate No. 2 went into the rear room to ascertain whether anybody was there, and that he subsequently picked the lock from the outside. The thieves must have done their work very quietly to pick the lock of the back office while the key was in it, open the door, and then go into the front office where Mr. Roosevelt was sitting, remove the towel, shawl, and other articles from the bonds, and depart without disturbing Mr. Roosevelt.

The bonds were numbered from 57 to 238, and will be valueless to the thieves, as they had not been put on the market. Col. Johnson said that he had intended to send them to Europe to-day. The detectives are at work, and Mr. Roosevelt said that the company knows more concerning the thieves than it desires to give to the public.

For the Reporter.

Natural Ability.

We invite our young workers of education, to reflect on a subject, that causes many a young mind to retire in despair. They are burdened with the idea that their companions have more natural ability than they have. Indeed, the minds of Philosophers are tormented by this very thought. Is the mind created with the germ of knowledge within it, or has it only the power to acquire it? Confessing that eminent men uphold the doctrine of *innate ideas*, we have sufficient evidence that it is more philosophical to believe that the elements of our first knowledge are acquired. We believe the mind to be a pure spirit, an intellectual being, without any ideas comparing it to a white sheet of paper, ready to write any kind of knowledge on. Likewise will there be written on, if not good, why then bad, for the human mind is provided with ample power for improvement, and the only way to acquire knowledge is by mental activity; would it be rational to suppose that God would create one man wise and the other ignorant? No; we all have that blank sheet of paper given to us as a heritage, and he who improves the gift, reaps the reward in abundance. He who neglects, reaps it in sorrow. It is sad to think that many parents who are now laid low in the earth, have deprived their children from improving that heritage which God has given them; we should ever remember that we have the whole world before us, and that there is always room for new inventions; also that our minds are as susceptible to make them as the minds of others. It is an encouraging thought to know that our minds stand on a level with those of our fellowmen at the time of creation. But we must not forget that the human intellect grows only by its own inherent energies; these men who have bright intellects made them so by mental activity. He who desires to become a scholar, must make improvement, and the only way to do so is by hard work, and time will soon tell that natural smartness is an absurdity. VAL.

At the recent session Congress increased Grant's salary from 25,000 to $50,000; gave him 35,000 to buy new furniture; $5,000 to pay his gas bill, $5,000 to buy coal; and $6,000 for his glass flower garden. Besides this, it is only a little while since between $25,000 and $30,000 were cribbed from the Treasury building appropriation to build him a billiard room and a stable. Instead of getting $50,000 a year, he actually receives over $100,000. Pretty well, this, for a plain Republican President.

PLAYING SMALL POX.

Louisville, March 28.—Thomas Smith, murderer of Thomas Braden, in May, 1871 who is to be hanged here to-day, held interviews in the jail yesterday, with the reporters of the papers here.

Some time ago Smith rubbed croton oil on his face and person, producing blisters which resembled small pox eruptions, and complained of pains in his back and head. The jail physician, Dr. Pope, and another physician, pronounced it a case of small pox, and Smith was removed to the Eruptive hospital, from which he escaped a few hours after his arrival, and was recaptured.

Yesterday Smith wrote a statement which appears in the city papers this morning, that he paid Dr. Pope $75 for furnishing him with the croton oil and sending him to the post house. He said that he knew he had to die to-day, and would not die with a lie on his lips; that his statement was true, and he would reassert it on the scaffold to-day. It is said that Dr. Pope has the affidavits of other prisoners, stating that Smith told them a different story.

City of San Salvador Reported in Ruins from the Effects of an Earthquake.

Panama, March 19.—The steamship St. Louis, from Central American ports, arrived on the 16th. When she left the ports of Salvador, there was a report that the city of San Salvador had been destroyed by a great earthquake on the 4th inst. The telegraph lines being down, no details could be had when she was leaving.

Grant's Louisiana Usurpation.

When President Grant, without the pause which ordinary decorum required, recognized one of the rival partisan governments in Louisiana, and ordered his soldiers to intervene for its protection, he disregarded the one precedent of cautious reserve which was set by the Whig or semi Whig Administration of 1842 in the Rhode Island case. He probably never heard of it. Still less likely is he to have known of the example of a Democratic demonstration of an earlier date, which, as honest chroniclers of the past, we are tempted to reproduce.

In 1838 occured in Pennsylvania what is popularly known as the "Buckshot war." Innocuous, almost ridiculous, as it turned out to be, it threatened at one time to assume alarming proportions. Its story is one of the spoils of time of which the pages of Mr. Thaddeus Steven's life—then, as ever, artificer of evil—were very rich. In the autumn of that year he and his confederates organized a plan by which through false or rather mutilated returns, a majority of the lower branch of the Legislature should be secured to the tottering minority administration of Mr. Ritner. The game, though played boldly, was encountered by a spirit on the part or the Democracy quite as bold. The Senate Chamber was invaded by violence, and the obnoxious conspirators—Thaddeus leading the way—jumped out of the back windows and escaped. In the House of Representatives, where the relative strength of parties was nearly equalized a different result occurred. Two Speakers were elected and two houses were organized, each claiming, with threats of violence, to be the legal one. Crowds of excited men filled the ordinarily quiet streets of Harrisburg. Something very like "domestic violence" existed. The Governor was the only official whose authority was unquestioned. Then it was that his advisers took it into their heads to solicit Federal interposition, first by asking a captain of cavalry, stationed not far off, to interpose, and then by an appeal to Washington. We ask the thoughtful reader, by way of contrast, to note the process and the result. The Federal soldier was the late General, then Captain, Sumner, stationed at Carlisle Barracks, some fifteen miles off. The President was Mr. Van Buren, with Mr. Forsyth Secretary of State, Mr. Poinsett Secretary of War, and, if we mistake not, Mr. Butler Attorney-General. Governor Ritner on the 5th of December wrote to Captain Sumner:

"An insurrection having broken out at this place, by which the regular functions of the State Government have been completely interrupted and the State Capitol thrown into the possession of a lawless mob to the exclusion of the legislature, I hereby request you forthwith to march the troops at your command to Harrisburg for the protection of the constituted authorities of the commonwealth, for the suppression of the insurrection, and for the preservation of our republican form of government agreeably with the Constitution of the United States."

Instantly came the answer;

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date and hasten to reply to it. As the disturbance at the capitol of this State appears to proceed from political differences alone, I do not feel that it would be proper for me to interpose my command between the parties. If this riot proceeded from any other cause I would offer you the services of my command before you will receive this letter."

The unhappy and perplexed Governor then addressed himself to Washington, *more Kellogg*, asking for intervention under the fourth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States. The application was referred to the Secretary of War, and to his cautious and statesmanlike reply, which we have reproduced in another column we crave especial attention. The Governor protested against the doctrines enunciated and acted upon by the Federal authorities. Militia called into service arrived on the spot to find the political difficulty quietly arranged and the scandal of Federal intrusion in a local squabble happily averted. Such was the reserve and circumspection of the wise and patriotic men of old.—*World.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, Dec. 11, 1838.

Sir: The letter addressed by your Excellency to the President of the United States under the date of the 27th instant was received yesterday and referred to this Department, where it has received that respectful and earnest consideration to which the high source whence it emanates and importance of the subject entitled it.

In this communication your Excellency informs the President that such a state of domestic violence exists at Harrisburg as to put an end, for the present, to all the exercises of the regular functions of the State Government, and renders it your duty to request the President, in accordance with the fourth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States to take measures to protect the State of Pennsylvania against the effects of the domestic violence which your Excellency affirms to be then in existence.

The clause of the Constitution to which your Excellency refers, and the act passed in pursuance thereof, authorizes the President to call out the militia only on the application of the legistature of a State, or of the Executive of a State when the Legislature cannot be convened. The nature of the President's duty being, therefore, discretionary, it is incumbent on him to exercise the utmost care in examining into all the circumstances of the case, as well as to determine whether the occasion contemplated by the law has occurred.

The commotion which now threatens the peace of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania does not appear to rise from any opposition to the laws, but grows out of a political contest between different members of the Government, most if not all of them admitted to be the legal representative of the people constitutionally elected, about their relative rights, and especially in reference to the organization of the popular branch of the Legislature. To interfere in any commotion growing out of a controversy of so grave and delicate a character by the Federal authority armed with the military power of the Government, would be attended with the most dangerous consequences to our republican institutions. In the opinion of the President his interference in any political commotion in a State could only be justified by the application for it being clearly within the meaning of the fourth section of the fourth article of the Constitution, and of the act of Congress passed in pursuance thereof, and where the domestic violence brought to his notice is of such a character that the State authorities, civil and military, after having been duly called upon, have proved inadequate to suppress it.

The law, as has been already stated, requires that the interposition of the Federal Government should be invoked by the Legislature of the State, unless it cannot be convened; and notwithstanding the Speaker of the Senate states, on the 4th instant, that the body over which he presides cannot assemble; and your Excellency, in your communication of the 8th, expresses the opinion that the Legislature of Pennsylvania cannot be convened, still from subsequent information, which although not official comes in a form sufficiently authentic to entitle it to credit, it appears that both branches of the Legislature were in session in the capital of the State on the 8th inst., and transacted business there, and that the Senate received messages from the House of Representatives on that day. If this be so, (and there is no reason to doubt the fact the Legislature of the State has been convened since the date of your Excellency's letter. Nor does it appear, either from your Excellency's letter or the published documents which accompanied it, that the civil or military authorities of the State have refused to perform their respective duties in suppressing any existing disturbances. Your Excellency does not even allude to their being inadequate to suppress the domestic violence of which you complain, or to protect the Legislature in the performance of its official duties, either at the seat of government or wherever else they may be convened. It appears, on the contrary, that a portion of the mallitia of the State, who were warned by your Excellency in your proclamation of the 4th instant (an authenticated copy of which accompanies your letter) to hold themselves in instant readiness to repair to the seat of government, have, in pursuance of further requisitions and in compliance with your Excellency's orders, actually proceeded in force to Harrisburg.

Under all these circumstances the President thinks he shall best discharge the delicate and responsible duties imposed upon him by the Constitution and the laws by abstaining from adopting the measures indicated in your Excellency's application; at all events, until it shall have appeared that the State authorities are inadequate to preserve the public peace, and until his interposition is called for by the Legislature of the State, according to the Constitution and the law, or the impractibility of convening that body made certain.

With regard to the circumstance mentioned by your Excellency of certain officers of Government being present at Harrisburg, and acting as active leaders of the mob, the President has directed inquiry to be made into the facts, and your Excellency may be assured that justice shall be done in the premises. Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. R. POINSETT.

His Excellency Joseph Ritner, Governor of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Pa.

"WHEN ROGUES FALL OUT," ET CETERA.

There is a fued in Grant's Senatorial body-guard, says the World, and it deepens daily in bitterness. It is led one side by Morton, on the other side by Conkling; Conkling having the longest tail to his kite, but Morton having thus far rather the best of it in the actual contests. The secret spring, on both sides, is vaulting personal ambition; each of these Senators fancying in his heart that he has a chance to be Grant's successor. Morton's hopes are strengthened by the utter, irretrievable political ruin of Colfax, who, before his fall, was more generally popular in the Republican party than almost any other man in it. He would have been a formidable rival to Morton in his own State. As things look, Morton aspires to be the leading Western candidate, and the political weight of the West is every year increasing. The East will be divided between at least two candidates, Blaine and Conkling, and the division strengthens the hopes of Morton. Blaine bids fair to be backed by all New England; Conkling has no strength or popularity outside of New York; and the local feeling of the West, since Colfax's disgrace, might easily concentrate on Morton, if he could make it appear that he is not a partaker in Colfax's sins. Hence Morton has, all of a sudden, put himself forward as the champion and protagonist of—official purity! Grotesque as it may seem, he has chosen this *role*, and he made his first appearance on the boards in this singular comedy as the scour-in-chief of poor Caldwell, whom Conkling and Logan thereupon zealously defended. In this first encounter Morton won a substantial victory over Conkling and his "tail." Caldwell was forced into resigning lest a worse fate might befall him, and Morton takes the credit of pushing him out of the Senate, in spite of the defensive intrenchments of Conkling, Logan, and Carpenter.

In the next encounter, Morton thought it prudent to be less active, as the subject touched the President (with whom he does not wish to break) in too tender a spot. It related to the confirmation of Brother-in-law Casey, which Morton merely discountenanced, while his Indiana colleague, Pratt, poured in hot shot. Brother-in-law Casey was saved, and Conkling may claim to have carried the day, having the strongest "tail" in the Senate. Conkling and his following scout, with jeering derision, Mortons's new *role* of purity in elections. They say it was well for Morton that he gave them no opening in the Caldwell case, or they would have exposed him and his doing in carrying Indiana and re-elect ing himself to the Senate by bribery and corruption to which Caldwell's performances in Kansas were those of a corruptionist baby who had not cut his eye-teeth.

It is almost a pity that the session could not continue a week or two longer to keep the caldron boiling, slopping over its scalding filthy scum upon the Indiana champion of purity, and incensing the country with an exposure of the astounding rascalities by which Morton secured his election.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN SPAIN—LEVY EN MASSE AGAINST THE CARLISTS.

London, March 26.—Dispatches from Madrid say that Senator Castelar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and General Acosta, Minister of War, will probably retire from the Spanish Cabinet.

It is also stated that a general Ministerial crisis is imminent.

The garrison at Barcelona is in open mutiny, and the officers are powerless to effect a resteration of discipline.

A band of Carlists has entered the town of Ripoll, in the province of Gerona, and is committing many excesses.

A Levy en Masse Upon Catalonia and the Neighboring Provinces.

A levy en masse upon the adult male population of Catalonia and the neighboring provinces for troops to suppress the Carlist insurrection is probable. Many Republicans who have volunteered to fight the insurgents are meeting at the appointed rendevous.

WESTERN FARMERS ON THE WAR-PATH AGAINST RAILWAY CORPORATIONS.

St. Louis, Mo., March 27.—A special despatch from Peoria, Ill., says the farmers in that section are organizing for war against the railreads. A meeting was held there to-day, which adopted a resolution declaring the farmers intended to prosecute a war on the railroad corporations until farmers' rights are recognized and respected.

A permanent organization was effected, and a feeling of earnestness and determination was manifested.

SHOT IN FUN.

Fatal Termination of an Attempted Joke.

James M'Laughlin was instantly killed on a boat in Chester river recently, under circumstances thus related by the Chestertown Transcript:

Two of the crew had been ashore gunning in the afternoon and returned about night, laying their guns on the trunk over the cabin. The young man who was killed was lying asleep in a berth, and when the cook announced supper one of the crew (not yet of age) picked up one of the guns, and noticing that there was no cap on it, remarked to the captian, who was standing near, "If this gun is not loaded I'll wake that fellow up and frighten him," and drawing the ramrod ran it down the barrel, pronouncing the gun not loaded.

Taking a seat on the rail of the boat he raised the hammer, put on a cap, and reaching forward with the gun at arm's length, ran the barrel through a small grated window in the side of the trunk to within a few inches of the sleeper's face, pulled the trigger, and instead of frightening him by the explosion of the cap, sent a load of shot through the side of the poor fellow's face and out at the back of his head, making a ghastly wound and causing death without a struggle.

AMONG THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

The Barbarous Custom of Skull Hunting—Building Houses in the Trees—A Chief's Door Ornamented with Human Heads.

[From the Sydney Morning Herald.]

H. M. S. Blanche, six guns, Capt. Courtland H. Simpson, left Sydney, N. S. W., on 12th May for the South Sea Islands, with orders to visit as many islands, bechede-mer fisheries, and pearl stations as possible; to obtain all the reliable information with regard to British subjects reported murdered, the practice of skull hunting, treatment of islanders employed on fisheries and plantations, the practice of kidnapping, and collect information on these and all other subjects of interest.

The practice of skull hunting is a most barbarous custom of the natives of the islands, who in many cases undoubtedly have been assisted by white men, brought about in the following manner: A vessel arrives at one of the islands, and the king is informed by the master of the vessel that he is desirous of trading and bartering. The answer is that he has so much cocoanut oil, &c., which he is willing to part with for trade gear, providing he will allow some of his (the king's) warriors to take a passage in the vessel to such and such an island with whom they are at war. This is agreed on, and a number of these so-called warriors are embarked. On arriving at the island the unsuspecting natives, as usual, come alongside, when these so-called warriors suddenly attack, kill them, and cut off their heads, which are kept and placed on pegs in their taboo houses as trophies; the master of the vessel on his return secures the trade as before promised in exchange for tobacco, pipes, &c., as most fancied and wanted by the natives. It is but right to state that, although it has been reported by the missionaries on these islands that white men have assisted in these barbarous practices of skull hunting, yet no single case has been fully proved.

At Isabel Island, Solomon Group, they have a curious mode of building houses in the trees, which is peculiar to this island only. The tree village visited was built on the summit of a rocky steep mountain, about 806 feet above the sea, and was very difficult to ascend; the native path, which without a guide, could hardly have been discerned, being slippery, and leading through a woods thickly grown with bushes, creepers, &c. On arriving at the summit of this mountain, which was one mass of enormous rocks, among which were growing the gigantic trees, in the branches of which the houses of the natives are built, the stems of these trees are perfectly smooth, without a branch for some 50 to 120 feet. One house was visited which was some seventy to eighty feet from the ground, and the ascent was by means of a ladder, made of some pliable tree, or some very strong creeper, somewhat resembling the vine; this ladder is made fast to a post within the house, and can be pulled up at pleasure. The houses are firmly and well made, capable of containing a dozen people, and are used at night to sleep in when threatened by their enemies, so as to guard against surprise, all of them being fortified with a number of large stones, which the occupants throw with great dexterity and precision. At the foot of these trees is the day hut, used for eating, &c.

At one of the villages on the sea shore of Isabel Island a most sickly and repulsive sight presented itself. Across the door of the chief's house were nailed twenty-three or twenty-five human heads, taken about three weeks previously by the chief and his followers from some of his fellow islanders. The attack has been made from the rear, as was evident by the skulls; the flesh was still on the bones, the eyes protruding, jaws broken, and the stench frightful The bodies of all these men had been eaten.

At Lugunor Island, Caroline Group, where it is doubtful if any white men had been for years, as no sign of traffic was found, the men wore their hair in regular European fashion, chignons being commonest, which were kept up by a comb having four teeth, the top part of the comb that was visible being carved, and the whole surmounted with a cock's feather, giving them rather an effeminate appearance. At Hogolu Islands, Caroline Group, the natives were very much frightened, having entirely deserted during the night the village off which the Blanche anchored. The next day, seeing a number of canoes collected together, a boat was sent to endeavor to persuade them to come alongside and barter. After a time the boat succeeded in getting among them. They were all quite naked, painted in rugular savage style, and the boats loaded with spears, slings, and stones. They eventually came alongside and were friendly.

At St. Matthias's, Solomon Group, no anchorage could be found. The natives came down to the beach in great numbers, and seemed very anxious for the vessel to stop, shouting and gesticulating in the most absurd manner. Both men and women were quite naked; the latter wore a sort of apron behind.

At New Hanover, Solomon Group, it is very doubtful if white men had ever been there before, as the natives were ignorant of the use of tobacco, and took in exchange for their spears, &c., which they brought for barter, paper, printed or not, and when obtained they knew not what to do with it. They were arrant thieves, and very expert. One was detected stealing a shirt which was hung up some distance inside a port, and when chastised by the indignant owner smiled pleasantly, apparently only sorry at being detected.

Visited the southeast coast of New Guinea, but it was so full of shoals at even four or five miles from the land that it was dangerous to proceed, so had to turn back after anchoring for one night. The natives came off to us in very large canoes having enormous outriggers. They were fine-looking men, quite naked, not very dark in color, and wore their hair frizzled out.

The Blanche arrived at Sydney 189 days since leaving, during which time the vessel had been over 13,000 miles of water, being seventy miles a day including all stoppages, anchored at twenty-five islands, and passed close to about thirty others. The engines have made 226,671 revolutions, and the ship's company had eight days of fresh meat and 181 of salt meat.

GEORGIA AND A PROPHET OF THE NEW DISPENSATION.

Augusta, Ga., March 26.—Joseph F. Furry, a so-called prophet of "the new dispensation," was tried at Appling, Columbus County, to-day, on charges of adultery and fornication, before County Judge Gibson. Curry came from Massachusetts with a colony of about 200 men and women over a year ago, and bought lands and settled in Columbus County. They lived in tents and held the property in common. Curry called himself "Elijah" and "The Prophet of Jehovah"—supreme in things spiritual and temporal. The colony went on swimingly for a brief period, but the "prophet" took too many wives. Jealousy and insubordination ensued in the colony, and many of the colonists returned to Massachusetts, being provided with free passage to the nearest seaports, either Charleston or Savannah. Finally the colony became so demoralized, and Curry so licentious, that the Grand Jury indicted him and his queen paramour. Curry, robed in white linen with head and feet bare, in imitation of the Saviour, appeared before the Court. His queen appeared in the same attire, with white stockings on her feet and a white bow on her head. Speaking in his own defence, he maintained that men and women could live together without cohabiting, and that by mortification and prayer they could become perfect. He repelled the charge of insanity, and displayed much erudition and familiarity with the Scriptures. He said he had revelations after revelations that a new era had dawned, when men and women should come out of the natural order of things to a higher state of purity.

After speeches from the prosecution and defence jury retired, and after half an hour's absence returned with a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation to mercy. Sentence has been deferred for a few weeks. It is thought that the prophet and his followers will be given an opportunity to find another Canaan far away from here in which to pitch their tents.

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Would most respectfully inform the citizens of this vicinity, that he has started a new Boot and Shoe Shop, and would be thankful for a share of the public patronage. Boots and Shoes made to order and according to style, and warrants his work to equal any made elsewhere. All kinds of repairing done, and charges reasonable. Give him a call. feb 13 1y.

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Parlor, Chamber and Kitchen Furniture.

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All kinds of repairing done with neatness and dispatch having four good workmen at the bench. I am prepared to do all kinds of custom work, fine or common. Thankful for past favors, I hope by strict attention to business you and everybody else will show smiling faces at my new ware rooms.

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always bought and on hands. WHEAT and OATS specially bought and the highest Cash price paid.

Go to Sussman's, there you can buy cheaper than elsewhere, as everybody knows, who ever dealt with him. He lets no one off without a good bargain.

Next door to Sussman's is the cheap dry goods establishment of Isaac Guggenheimer. ap5.tf.

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