THE CENTRE REPORTER,

FRED. KURTZ ..... Editor.

Centre Hall, Pa., Jan. 22, 1874.

TERMS.—$2 per year, in advance, 2.50 when not paid in advance.
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Allen G. Thurman, democrat, has been re-elected United States senator from Ohio.

Our member, Mr. Orvis, has been placed upon nearly all the most important standing committees of the lower house, viz: Constitutional reform; Revision; Judiciary general; ways and means; education; counties and townships.

In the state senate, on 14, Mr. Warfel presented the petition of twenty-five electors of the Seventeenth senatorial district contesting the election of Andrew H. Dill. The petition declares that B. F. Waggonseller received 8,440 legal votes and A. H. Dill 8,080 votes and was therefore duly elected. It is proposed to throw out several election polls in Northumberland county on the ground of the reception of alleged fraudulent votes and various informalities.

The Democratic members of the House paid a deserved compliment to a worthy man in the nomination of the Hon. John H. Orvis, of Centre county, for Speaker of that body. During the last session Mr. Orvis, by reason of his very great ability, was put forth as the leader of the Democracy, a position which he discharged with fidelity, and to him we are indebted for many of the exposures of Ring manipulations which have alarmed the people and which it is hoped will now come to an end. We regret that his election did not follow, as he is peculiarly fitted to discharge the duties which devolve upon that officer.—*Sharon Times.*

As the next house of representatives, will, in all probability, be democratic, it will be an easy matter to confer the speakership upon our representative *then*, who deserves the honor. It is within the power of the democracy of this county to place this within the reach of Mr. Orvis by re-electing him. Let old Centre have the speakership next winter—Mr. Orvis would make a capital presiding officer.

If but half of what correspondents of Administration newspapers write about life in Washington be true, the country is having a veritable petticoat government at the Federal Capitol. One of these chaps perhaps inspired by a sorely disquieted Senator, wrote to his paper the other day that many members of the Senate found themselves in a quandary on the question of confirming or rejecting Williams for Chief Justice. Grant threatened revenge upon all who refused to vote for his candidate. The Senators' wives on the other hand State that they would not have recognized Mrs. Williams as entitled to the first call from them, and threatened war upon their husbands if that lady should be elevated to the pround position of "Mrs. Chief Justice." Hence Senators would have to choose between political war with Grant or domestic war with their wives—not a very enviable position to say the least—had not Williams relieved them by sensibly declining the position tendered him.

In the House, on 17th inst., Mr. Orvis presented a memorial from seventy-five citizens of Centre county asking for the repeal of the local option law. Also, one from sixty-four citizens of Centre county of similar import. Also, one from citizens of Centre county praying for an extension of the law prohibiting the hunting of deer with dogs in said county.

Grant threatens to nominate Jeremiah S. Black for Chief Justice, *should the Senate refuse to confirm* Cushing. He says: "I nominated a lawyer for Chief Justice, and you *refused him, because you said that he didn't know enough. Then I sent* in the name of a man who is recognized by the bar as a thorough lawyer, *and you object to him* because you say he is an atheist. If you reject him, I will send the name of Jeremiah S. Black." Now the question arises, will Judge Black prove acceptable to the President's right bower, the Pittsburg *Dispatch*, or his left bower, the Gazette, or can it be that one or both of the journals have suggested Judge Black for nomination. Who knows;

A Better Prospect For the South.

The following despatch sent by President Grant to Governor Davis of Texas, meets with approval in all quarters, save from a few carpet-baggers and mischief-makers who have relied upon Federal bayonets to protect them in their outrages and robberies in the South:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Jan. 12, 1874.
To Governor Davis, Austin, Tex.:

Your despatches and letters reciting the action of the Supreme Court of Texas in declaring the late election unconstitutional and asking the use of troops to prevent apprehended violence are received.

The call is not made in accordance with the Constitution of the United States and the acts of Congress under it, and cannot therefore be granted.

The act of the Legislature of Texas providing for the recent election having received your approval, and both political parties having made nominations and having conducted a political campaign under its provisions, would it not be prudent as well as right to yield to the verdict of the people as expressed by their ballots?

(Signed) U. S. Grant.

Upon Pinchback and the other Representatives of the Kellogg government, who have just returned here, this despatch fell like a thunder clap for it says plainly there is to be no further Federal interference with State elections in the South. That at least is the interpretation placed upon it by Southern Congressmen. If the carpet-baggers in the South are compelled to yield to the verdict of the people as expressed by their ballots they know full well that their occupation is gone, and that the time has arrived when the Southern people are to come into their own. If under this new order of things Congress should decide to order a new election in Louisiana there will not be a vestige left of the so-called Kellogg government in that State or the corrupt ring in and around it.

The Coal Miners.

THE MINERS PREPARED FOR A STRIKE THE ENTIE ESEASON—DETERMINED NOT TO WORK FOR REDUCED WAGES.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., January 13.—Rumors are rife concerning a general strike among the miners throughout the anthracite coal region and no little excitement is already manifested. A meeting of the miners and laborers association of this county was held at Plymouth a day or two since and was attended by over seven hundred miners. They concluded to unite with the national organization at the last meeting which was held at Cleveland last fall and to place themselves under its care and discretion. It was the unanimous opinion of the meeting that wages for which they had been working were too low; that the operators could afford to pay more, and that an advance should be demanded for the basis of 1874.

A prominent officer of the miners and laborers association stated to-day that the miners were fully prepared for a strike for the winter season and under no circumstances will they submit to a reduction of wages. The operators of this section have not asked for a reduction of wages but will not consent to make any advance over the basis of last year.

Sambo's Tax Receipt.

[From the Dawson (Ga.) Journal.]

A negro living in a neighboring county, having been fortunate enough to accumulate considerable of this world's goods, desired as all loyal subjects should, to pay tax on the same. It being a new business to him, he did not know there was a proper officer for receiving tax, and concluded all that was necessary was to find a man with a white skin.

Consequently he hailed the first man he met with, "Say, boss, I want to pay my tax: mus, I gib it to you?" On being told that it would be received by the comprehending white gentleman, the negro gave him twenty-five dollars and asked if that was enough. "I suppose it is," said the white man. "Boss, gim me showin for dat," said the negro. Again the wits of the white man were at work, and he soon handed the negro a slip of paper with the inscription: "As Moses lifted the serpent out of the wilderness, likewise have I lifted twenty-five dollars our of this d—n negro's pocket."

Not long after this the negro met the tax collecter proper. "Done paid it, boss, and here's de ceipt," at the same time handing the piece of paper to the officer. He read; "As Moses lifted the serpent out of the wilderness, likewise have I lifted $25 out of this d—n negroe's pocket." "Hold on boss you read um wrong," ejaculated the astonished darkey, as he snatched the paper and carried it to another man, who began to read, "As Moses lifted—" Here he was interrupted by the negro, who exclaimed "Look-a-yar: jest gim me dat paper I'm gwine to lift dat white man out'n his boots, fore God I is." With this he left and not having been heard from him since it is supposed he is still looking for the man to whom he paid his tax.

THE CHIEF JUSTICESHIP.

MR. CUSHING'S NAME WITHDRAWN.

His Relations With Jeff Davis.

RAKING OVER THE ASHES OF THE PAST

Washington, January 14.—Mr. Cushing has written a letter to the President asking the withdrawal of his name, and the President has accordingly done so in a communication to the senate.

THE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS.

The following are additional particulars in regard to the republican caucuses of yesterday, It has been ascertained that the last forty or fifty minutes of the morning caucus were almost wholly occupied by Senator Sargent in a detailed review of Mr. Cushing's public life from the time of President Tyler down to the present day, which he severely criticized, arguing that a confirmation ought not to be thought of for a moment. Calls *were then made for a vote, but Mr.* Boutwell expressed a desire to reply, and the caucus accordingly adjourned *to give him and other friends of Mr. Cushing such an opportunity.*

Between twelve and one o'clock Mr. Sargent received an intimation *from an undivulged source that a let*ter damaging to Mr. Cushing had been discovered in the rebel archives, *and leaving the senate chamber he* went at once to the war department to obtain it, if possible. He was there informed by Adjutant General Townsend *that an order of the secretary of* war would be necessary to authorize him furnishing the desired copy, and Mr. Sargent proceeded to the executive *mansion, where Secretary Bel*knap was attending a meeting of the cabinet, who, with the President, were at the time considering the very document in question. General Belknap made Sargent's request known to the President, who at once said it should be complied with, as the newly-discovered letter was one which it eminently befitted the senate to hear and take into consideration. A certified copy having been handed to Sargent, he returned to the capitol for the afternoon caucus.

Mr. Boutwell took the floor, according to agreement, as soon as it was called to order, and made a speech of some length in favor of Mr. Cushing's nomination, and was followed by other friends of Mr. Cushing, as heretofore stated.

Mr. Sargent meanwhile, reserved the important letter with a view to allowing everything to be said in support of Mr. Cushing's confirmation that could be said by any one present, before putting an end to discussion, as he anticipated, by producing the document which had just come into his possession. Finally he obtained the floor and read and commented on the letter, being listened to with the closest attention. The result upon the caucus has been already described.

The following is the letter Mr. Cushing wrote to Jeff Davis, the unearthing of which caused such a sensation in the caucus of republican senators:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., March 21, 1861.—*My Dear Friend:* This will introduce Archibald Roane, a clerk in the attorney general's office for six or seven years. He has left the service here for his sentiments, because he is a southern man by birth and education, and is devoted to what he regards as his country—the confederacy. He has been a contributor to DeBow's Review, and is acquainted with all the questions which have undermined and now broken up the Union. I commend him to your very favorable notice, as worthy of confidence.

"CALEB CUSHING.

"To Jefferson Davis, President Confederate States."

This letter is said to have secured Mr. Roane a position under the confederacy, which he held during the war.

The letter was found among the rebel archives for which $75,000 was paid by the government nearly two years ago to one Pickett, who had them in Canada in safe keeping, pending the last election. They were carefully searched through and through by confidential clerks in the employment of the republican committee and this letter was, doubtless discovered and remembered by one of them, who has been instrumental in having it again exhumed.

HOW IT WAS DONE.

Washington, January 14.—The injunction of secrecy was this afternoon removed by the senate from the following messages and the letter of Caleb Cushing, and therefore they became public. The letter of Mr. Cushing to Jefferson Davis was not among the papers transmitted to the senate:

To the Senate of the United States: Since the nomination of the Hon. Caleb Cushing for chief justice of the Supreme Court of the United States information has reached me which induces me to withdraw him from nomination as the highest judicial officer of the government, and I do therefore hereby withdraw the said nomination.

U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, Jan. 13, 1874.

To the Senate of the United States: After signing the above withdrawal I have received from the Hon. Caleb Cushing, whose nomination it is proper to say was made without his knowledge, a letter requesting the withdrawal of his name, a copy of which is herewith attached.

U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, Jan. 14, 1874.

TEXAS.

The Situation Unchanged.

GOV. DAVIS STILL UNWILLING TO GIVE UP THE REINS OF GOVERNMENT-SHARP CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE TWO RIVALS-PRESIDENT GRANT REFUSES TO INTERFERE.

Austin, January 17.—Governor Davis still holds out. No transfers of either State officers have been made. His friends say he will await the result of the cabinet meeting at Washington. This evening, seven of the ringleaders of the mob who arrested the Mayor yesterday were arrested by a civil process. There were four negroes and three whites. This caused quite a stir at the Capitol but no demonstration was made. Everything otherwise was quiet.

The Newly Inaugurated Governor Asks Gov. Davis To Vacate The Capitol Building.

The following correspondence took place:

STATE CAPITOL, January 16.

To Hon. J. Davis:

Sir:—Having been, on yesterday, the 15th day of January duly and constitutionally declared elected Governor of the State of Texas, I have to ask of you respectfully the delivery into my possession the executive office of the State, together with the papers archives and all property pertaining thereto, as well as the office of the Secretary of the State and archives, papers and property.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
RICHARD COOKE.

THE RESPONCE

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, January 17, 1873.

Sir: Acknowledging the receipt of your communication of yesterday, I have to say in reply that I don't, as you know, regard you as the Executive of this State or entitled to possession of the Governor's office or of any of the official records. I am myself the Governor of the State till the 28th of April next. So much on this point.

I will add, sir, to my view, and hope also to yours, it becomes us as citizens, desirous of the peace of our State, that we should, without delay concede in some plan for settling the question as to which is the legitimate State government and of putting an *end to the present disturbed condition* of the State. As matters are now they add greatly to the injurious complication of our affairs.

A PROPOSITION.

I therefore now propose to you to submit the question of recognition of the legitimate State Government to the Executive, or Congress of the United States or to both, as the Executive of the United States is bound under the Constitution to sustain legitimate Government against domestic violence. This question is a proper one for him to decide. I pledge myself to abide by the decision to be thus made, and will advise all good citizens to do the same. I also *propose to join with you in adopting* the means best calculated to secure a prompt decision of this question. Greatly desiring an early settlement of these troubles, and trusting that you will meet this offer with a similar spirit,

I remain respectfully,
Edward J. Davis,
Governor.

To Hon. Richard Cooke.

The Proposition Declined.

Executive Office, January 17, 1874.

To Hon. J. Davis:

Sir: Yours of this instant is received in reply to mine of yesterday. By the will of the people of Texas, fairly and legally expressed at the polls, and the recognition of their representatives, the Fourteenth Legislature, now in session, it has been decided that I am the constitutional Governor of Texas, and as such have been duly installed, and holding this decision absolute, and declining under any circumstances to consider your proposition to refer the matter to another authority, I respectfully renew the request made in my note of yesterday.

The Secretary of State Also Refuses To Vacate His Office.

Following these Captain George Clark made a demand on J. P. Newcomb for the State Department, etc., and was answered that Mr. Newcomb would comply with whatever Mr. Davis ordered; that he held by his order, and till Davis surrendered the Executive office he would remain.

The Call To The President By Gov. Davis For Federal Troops Refused.

General Williams this afternoon sent the following telegram to Governor Davis:

Department of Justice, Washington, Jan. 17.

To Gov. E. J. Davis:

Your telegram of yesterday stating that, according to the Consitution of Texas, you were Governor until the 28th of April next, and that Hon. Richard Coke has been inaugurated and will attempt to seize the Governor's office and buildings and calling upon the President for millitary assistance has been referred by him to me, and I am instructed to say that after considering the fourth section of article four of the Constitution of Texas, providing that the Governor shall hold his office for a term of four years from the date of his installment, under which you claim and section three of the election declaration attached to said Constitution, under which you were chosen, and which provides that State and other officers elected thereunder shall hold their respective offices for a term of years prescribed by the Constitution beginning from the day of their election under which the Governor elect claims the office and more than four years having expired since your election he is of the opinion that your right to the office of Governor at this time is at least so doubtful, he does not feel warranted in furnishing United States troops to aid you in holding further possession of it, and he therefore declines to comply with your request.

(Signed) GEO. H. WILLIAMS.
Attorney General.

The Platform of the Chicago Workingmen.

Chicago, Jan. 12.—A large meeting of workingmen was held here last evening at which a plan of organization for the workingmen's party was adopted; also a platform of which the following are points.

No more legislation for monopolies; the repeal of all existing laws that favor monopolies; all ways and means of transportation and communication such as railroads, canals, and telegraphs, be managed and operated by the State or community, State and savings banks and fire insurance to be established and controlled by the State; the repeal of the contract system so far as relates to public works, the amendment of the laws relative to the recovery of wages by suits, that justice be impartial and speedily administered, all suits for the recovery of wages to be decided within eight days, the abolition of leasing prison labor to companies or individuals; prisoners to be employed by and in behalf of the State only; compulsory education of all children between the ages of 7 and 14 years; the purchase of children's labor under 14 years of age to be prohibited; direct payment of all public officers and the abolition of all fees; officers who violate official duties to have their powers recalled; voters to elect officers to fill positions vacated by recalled officers; the establishment of a workingmen's association.

Cannibal Tree Villages.

Among the papers presented to the British Parliament relating to the South Sea Islanders is a report by Captain C. H. Simpson, of her Majesty's ship Blanche, giving an an account of his visit last year to the Solomon and other groups of Islands in the Pacific Ocean. While at Isabel Island, from which seven women and three men were kidnapped in 1871, Captain Simpson, with a party of officers, went a short distance inland to visit one of the remarkable tree villages peculiar, he believes, to this island. He found the village built on the summit of a rocky mountain rising almost perpendicular to a height of 800 feet. The party ascended by a native path from the interior and found the extreme summit a mass of enormous rocks standing up like a castle among which grow the gigantic trees, in the branches of which the houses of the natives are built. The stems of these trees rise perfectly straight and smooth without a branch, to height varying from 50 to 150 feet. In the one Captain Simpson ascended, the house was just eighty feet from the ground; one close to it was about 120 feet. The only means of approach to these houses is by a ladder made of a creeper suspended from a post within the house, and which of course can be hauled up at will. The houses are most ingeniously built, and are very firm and strong. Each house will contain from ten to twelve natives, and an ample store of stones is kept, which they throw both with slings and with the hand, with great force and precision. At the feet of each of these trees is another hut, in which *the family usually reside. The tree* house being only resorted to at night and during times of expected danger. In fact, however, they are never safe *from surprise, notwithstanding all* their precautions, as the great object in life among the people is to get each *other's heads. Captain Simpson, in* returning, visited a chief's house on the beach and found a row of twenty-five human heads captured in a recent raid fastened up across the front like vermin at a barn door. It was acknowledged that the object of the raid *was to get heads and eat the bodies* which is always done. The heads of men, women and children are all taken and the wonder is that the *whole island does not become depopu*lated. The people of this and other islands are not, however a courageous people. Such a thing as a stand up fight between tribes is almost unknown, but they prowl about for prey, attacking whenever they have a victim in their power without risk to themselves. In some of the islands, Captain Simpson observed the men having long hair which they wear in fashions like those adopted by the other sex in Europe, the favorite modes being the ordinary chignon, or loose down the back, the women, whose hair is shorter than the men's, wear it loose and undressed. In clothing there is not at present opportunity for European or any other fashions.

THE SUN.

OPENING OF THE PROCTOR LECTURES ON ASTRONOMY.

A Brilliant Essay Brilliantly Illustrated.

The course of lectures upon astronomical subjects was begun at Association Hall New York, by Richard A. Proctor, F. R. S., and Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society, will, if its initiation may be trusted, prove one of the most brilliant and popular lyceum entertainments of the winter. Mr. Proctor brings to his aid not only the tremendous facts of the telescope, spectroscope, and camera but a knack at putting them into attractive shape. The succession of astounding questions which his written lecture sets forth is besides most skilfully supplemented with illustrations in the shape of photographic maps, and lantern transparencies deftly handled.

The topic was the sun—not the most magnificent of created objects, but the noblest of all that minister to man. Men used to worship the sun; to worship him because they believed that he was the source of all good on earth—that is, that he was God. If any form of creature worship is pardonable surely it is this. First, as to the size and distance of the sun in measure with the size of the earth. If the earth be represented by a globe one inch in diameter the sun's diameter is three yards, and if the sun be represented by a globe one inch in diameter its distance from the earth is in proportion three yards. The formula is easy to remember. Now an Armstrong gun sends a projectile with an initial velocity of 400 yards per second. Suppose that velocity maintained, and in thirteen years such a bullet might reach the sun. The sound of the cannon's report would be some half a year later. Sound travels quite slowly. So if the men who pray to the sun could indeed be heard by it some thirteen and a half years would pass before a man's petition could reach his god. If a steel rod connected the earth and sun and received the pull of the sun that strain would reach the earth only in 300 days. Another illustration. Feeling travels on the nerves one tenth as rapidly as sound through the air. So if a child should be born with an arm 91,000,000 miles long and stretching forth that arm from his cradle should touch the sun, he would grow into youth and manhood, pass the allotted four score years and ten, and die without knowing that he had burned his fingers. For it would take 135 years to find out that over the nerves. Light goes nearly 200,000 miles a second, and yet it takes eight minutes for light to reach us from the sun. So that when we see the sun we see it not where it is at that point of time, but back on its course where it was eight minutes before. This leads to the question. Does the force of gravity need such a time or any appreciable time to make itself felt over such a distance? If this were to be answered in the affirmative, the path of the earth would grow gradually wider and the year longer. For as vertical rain striking a man who is walking rapidly comes with a slant from the front, the light from the sun striking upon the moving earth comes as if directed in a straight line from a point in advance of the sun, and we see the sun moved a little out of place. And if attraction needed an appreciable time to make itself felt, the earth would be drawn not directly towards the sun but with a little slant in the direction it is itself moving. Its circuit would thus be widened and the year lengthened. But the year does not increase its length, and therefore, as far as we can tell, the attraction makes itself instantly felt over the 91,000,000 miles—at least it is much quicker than light. Sound and light take time, but the sun's might takes no time whatever. The sun's diameter is 107 times ours, the surface 11,500 times ours, and its volume 1,250,000 times ours. But the mass is not greater by so much. Whatever the sun's material is it is one-fourth lighter than the material of the earth, so that the mass is only 350,000 times ours. But if the earth were to grow in density till its mass equalled that of the sun, a half-ounce paper weight would weigh four and a half tons, a full-grown man 20,000 tons, and an object in falling half an inch to the surface of the earth would gain a speed three times that of an express train. Pass to the sun's heat and light. Every form of force on earth, there is no longer reason to doubt, our food, our action, our thought, comes from the sun. Herschel found that the heat on an area of one square mile is sufficient to melt in a single hour 26,000 tons of ice. Suppose the earth a flat disk and its area is 50,000,000 square miles. And yet how small a quantity of the sun's total light and heat does the earth capture! Consider the apparent relative size of the sun's disk and of the entire heavens, for a far less relation than that would the earth bear to the heavens were we posted at the sun. Only one part of its light and heat in 2,000,000 comes to the earth, and to all the planets in this system only one part in 227,000,000. Only one part in 227,000,000 of all this light and heat seems applied to any useful purpose. This we are not wise enough to understand. We do seem to find here confirmation of the atheist's statement that "nature in filling a wineglass upsets a gallon." The actual emission of solar light and heat te us corresponds to the consumption of six tons of coal per hour on every square yard of the earth's surface. The consumption of 11,000,000,000,000,000 (eleven thousand six hundred millions of millions) tons of coal in one second of time would produce for that second a heat equal to that of the sun. And that is eight about times the supply of coal supposed to exist in this earth, whose supply, consumed at this rate, will be used up in 5,000 or 6,000 years. The spots on the sun are especially arranged in two zones, and rotate with the sun. (Here the hall gradually became dark, but this proved to be a faux pas, Mr. Proctor saying to an invisible person in the opposite gallery, "Oh, but we don't want the light, please, turned out, because other pictures are to be shown before the lantern." Then the lights came up again.) The second diagram shows the faculæ, as they are called. The spots have a dark centre; not black, but comparatively dark, with an *edging of half light and whitish streaks or faculae surrounding the spots on all sides* and shooting out from them. The third diagram shows how sharply defined in all *parts the spots are, and how the streaks* run out into the surrounding surface. I am now enabled by the courtesy of Professor Morton, of this city, who has lent me his apparatus, to show you photographs of the sun's surface. (The room was darkened again, and one by one the pictures—six feet across—came out on the screen.) These are pictures of the sun painted by the sun itself, and may be taken as absolutely accurate. You see the mottling on the edge of the disk, the first sign of a disturbed surface. In the second picture by Lewis Rutherford, of New York, the spots are shown on a large *scale. Next is a series showing the spot in* all stages of its progress across the sun's disk. This picture explains how the discovery was made that spots are depressions in the surface. You see that spot at the edge, and can look into it as you would look into the hollow of a saucer turned partly away from you. With these pictures before you you are looking on the actual economy of the sun's surface. The next picture taken by Father Lecchi shows one of the faculæ or "torches." See how much brighter they are than the surrounding surface. This shows the corrugations, as they have been called—not the mottling, something more delicate than that. This has the bright "rice-grains." They are not so small as you would think, being about 600 miles long and 300 miles wide; about as large—well, about as large as England. (Laughter and applause.) Herschel the elder thought that the greater part of the sun's light and heat comes from these "rice-grains." Sir John went further and proclaimed the bold idea that vital energy in living organism—600 miles by 300 perhaps—alone could account for the supply. This picture shows the "willow leaves." The rice grains seem to be long filaments, suspended vertically as a rule, but sometimes swayed sideways by an unknown force which acts in the neighborhood of a spot. For our knowledge of the substance of the sun we depend, as I need not tell you, upon the spectroscope. (A diagram of the solar spectrum with the black lines and marginal exhibition of the colored lines of hydrogen and sodium was displayed.) The prism breaks up the solar ray into the rainbow, tinted streaks with dark lines crossing it. It breaks up the ray from an incandescent body into a rainbow streak, without any dark lines, and a gaseous body gives two or three dark lines. Sodium gives yellow lines, hydrogen blue. When we see the lines in the spectrum, we can tell what it is that burns. Different burning bodies have, it seems, a cut-off power. The dark lines indicate to us the presence of vapors round the sun cooler than the sun, and the position of the lines in the spectrum determines exactly what the element is. Iron, copper, and hydrogen, for instance, exist in vapor at the sun's surface. It is doubtful whether some substances only partially represented in the spectrum do exist in the sun. The question has been studied much abroad, and the study is going to be continued in America by one of your most eminent physicists, Dr. Henry Draper. The spots wax and wane in number upon the surface, for a time increasing, then decreasing till they altogether disappear, the period being about eleven years. By and by it began to be noted that the magnetic influences of the earth had the same period. The needle is exposed to a slight swaying motion by which it tries to follow the sun. This change varies, and it was watched. When the spots are most numerous the needle sways over the greatest arc. In 1859 a bright spot appeared suddenly, and the magnetic needle at Kew jumped, while auroras appeared in latitudes where they had not before been seen. At that instant the sun had sped a magnetic influence to Mercury, then to Venus and the earth, to Mars, and the zonic planetoids, and out beyond to the uttermost planet, and a new bond of harmony was found in the system. At the total eclipse of 1842 the sun appeared to be surrounded with ruddy flames. In 1860 these were proved by photographs to belong to the sun's substance. Their appearance was as garnets surrounding a brooch of gold What were they? Clouds, mountains, or true flames? The question was answered in 1866. They were neither clouds, mountains, nor flames, but masses of glowing hydrogen. They gave the hydrogen spectrum, for the spectroscope it was that made this discovery. (A beautiful experiment illustrated the appearance of these flames. The sun's black disk in eclipse with the corona shown in yellow was mounted on a stand and crevices opened on the edge of the disk. Behind these were set sealed glass tubes containing hydrogen. The lights were lowered and a spark passed from the intensity coil through the tubes, the intense ruddy glow at once surrounding the disk.) These phenomena were evidently produced by an explosion of some sort. (Another brilliant experiment came in here, in which, with the aid of the lantern, was projected on the screen a moving representation of the formation of these hydrogen gusts. A red substance, apparently a liquid projected into a transparent liquid of nearly the same density, formed a pillar of red which gradually returned and clung to the surface from which it issued.) That, said the lecturer, is the behavior of the hydrogen gusts. They are propelled away from the sun and returned to it. But something invisible was propelled at the rate of five hundred miles per second—something of a greater density than hydrogen—a liquid or a solid. And whatever that was it never returned. Because the sun could create in an approaching body or control in a propelled body only a velocity of 380 miles per second. The lecturer described Bailey's bead and the corona with a lantern illustration of the progress of an eclipse. Everything seems to show us how the sun is bound up within itself by strange influences. It seems to us to be very still; but all the forms of uproar known on earth are absolute silence to the disturbance taking place on every square yard of that inflamed sea. The central machinery beats out life and light, not silently, but in continual noise and uproar. After a notice of the two theories about the maintenance of solar heat and of its waste. Of this, in conclusion, he said: There is no contrivance by which that squandering can be prevented. If there were each year of the supply would be changed to 227,000,000 years. Let us not dismiss the subject at once, but say with the laureate of England:

Let knowledge grow from more to more,
But more of reverence in us dwell,
That mind and soul, according well,
May make one music as before,
But vaster.

THE NATURE OF PRAYER.

Mr. Beecher's Sermon.

Mr. Beecher selected his text from 1, Timothy, ii. 1, 2—"I exhort, therefore, that first of all supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men; for kings and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." Mr. Beecher said:

I have selected this passage because in its phraseology it gives us some idea of the exercise of prayer, which really belongs to it and tends to keep it out of that narrow and selfish circle in which it so often moves, and in which it is so often contemplated by those who argue against prayer. For men have been accustomed too much to regard prayer as a mere profitable transaction, an errand of getting, running to God as one runs to the store or a doctor or lawyer when they lack something and wish to procure it; making prayer a sort of serviceable errand business, asking therefore that ten thousand wants of life should be supplied not by vigilance, not by industry, but by simply asking of God. They want the Saviour to supersede his own law, and *to give to self-indulgence and to* indolence the things provided for in the employment of certain methods. Prayer is in its full conception the noblest part of converse or communion with God. It has an element in it of supplication or of intercession; it has a hundred elements in it, because the generic conception is the bringing to the whole soul and its noblest faculties into the simple communion with God, and then giving it perfect liberty; *and of course under such circumstances,* in differing circumstances, in difficult emergencies prayer will vary. Prayer, therefore, is not the voice of a beggar. It is not the function, the simple expression *of want, it is the expression in the best* hours, in our best moods, of the best thoughts, the best sentiments, the best emotions, the best aspirations, of the best of every thing. For if the whole soul be the mighty estate, if it has every thing in flower and fruit, in it we bring something of every feeling and the best and offer them to God. It is not, then, simply a desire that we may have that which in the present time we may need; it is a sense of forming an alliance with the Heavenly Father; it is the endeavor to be in such converse with him as a child is in the presence of his earthly parent, so that it is the lifting up of the soul out of matter, out of its earthly surroundings into the very presence of God. From the material side prayer may be criticised, and is today, but if you look at it from the material side alone and criticise it, you only criticise what may be a disease and not the thing itself; not its full self and not its ideal self. Prayer is the voice of the soul in the presence of God, and in the moment of prayer we separate ourselves from every other thing, and we stand consciously in the presence of our father in heaven. Let us look into prayer as it is in the New Testament and see if it has not something of this largeness. Look at the construction of the Lord's Prayer, which he gives not as a form but as a type of prayer, perfect after its manner, not in these words necessarily, but perfect according to the genius of this prayer. "Our Father which art in heaven." Above limitation, above all frailty, the sovereign Lord God Almighty interpreted in the word "father," and gives to every one that utters it the idea of father in the most exalted possible way. "Hallowed be thy name." The soul's highest aspiration and the most disinterested glowing of the child's love for the honor and glory of a father. "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." In uttering these simple sentences the soul finds itself walking in the procession of ages, in that vast stream of tendencies which are rearing up the kingdom of God and perfecting it. Then after this communion with God, after this utterance of all that is most disinterested, then comes "Give us this day our daily bread; forgive us our debts; lead us not into temtation, but deliver us from evil." So the Lord's prayer is not a whine; it is the affluence of a blossoming soul into as affluent a sense of God's love. Continuing, Mr. Beecher said that the noblest friendship would be but little worth if there was only a begging side to it, if it was only useful as a means of help in moments of need. Suppose a friend called on another, and a neighbor should rush in after he had departed and ask if he had given anything, and should say. "What is the use of his friendship or his visit if he has left nothing? There was something higher than gifts, more royal than bounties; the soul would lift itself up to God and say, "I am king; I am the heir of God, and in this there is sufficient remuneration, sufficient reality." When he saw men arguing seriously, and writing tracts to prove that God would listen to prayer; when they gave illustrations that Mr. So-and-so was upon the point of starvation, and a sheep came to his door and he ate it; or that a man was upon the eve of bankruptcy, and God sent a man with money to help him, he always thought that such writers misunderstood the real motive of prayer. This form was its lower nature, and was lowering it to such a point that it was a stench in one's nostrils. He did not disdain these lower forms, but prayer was something more than "Give, give, give," and anybody that represented prayer in such a way as that demanded it, dishonored God, and dishonored the soul. Prayer chiefly was the soul's union to God—its transformation and its transfiguration—it was this that made the soul rich. The answer to prayer was sometimes in one way and sometimes in another, just as God deems best; and so one might ask for whatever one wanted, because we loved God, because we were near to him, and it was not of as much matter to know how the thing prayed for was attained as that it was attained.

HOW SOIL WAS MADE.

Prof. Agassix said that all the materials on which agricultural progress depends are decomposed rocks, and not so much those that underlie the soil, but those on the surface, and ground to powder by the glaciers. Ice all over the continent is the agent that has ground out more soil than all other agencies put together. The penetration of water into the rocks, forests, running water and baking suns have done something, but the glaciers more. In a former age the United States was covered with ice several thousand feet thick; and the ice moving from north to south by the attraction of the tropical warmth or pressing weight of the snow and ice behind, ground the rocks over—which was called soil. These masses of ice can be tracked by the hunter. He has made a study of them in the country as far south as Alabama, but has observed the same phenomenon in Europe, particularly in Italy, where, among the Alps glaciers are now in progress. The stones and rocks ground and polished by the glaciers can easily be distinguished from those scratched by running water. The angular boulders found in meadows and the terraces of rivers not reached by water can be accounted for only in this way.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.—Notice is hereby given, that on the 31st of December A. D. 1873 the Copartnership of Miller and Colyer known under the name of Centre Mills Company, for the making of all kinds of lumber has been mutually dissolved, and that the business will be carried on at the mill of sawing and plaining floor boards, siding, and facing by J. Keller Miller, in whose hands books and papers are left.

Thankful for past favors, I ask the continued patronage of the public. Those indebted to said firm, will please make settlement.

J. KELLER MILLER.
WILLIAM COLYER.

Jan8 4t.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Letters of administration on the estate of David Krtle, of Gregg twp., dec'd, have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having demands against the same to present them duly authenticated by law for settlement.

JOHN REBERL,
Administrator.

jan 15-4t.

SHERIFF'S SALES.

By virtue of sundry writs of fieri facias, levari facias and venditioni exponas, there will be exposed to public sale at the court house, in Bellefonte, on Monday the 26th day of January, A. D. 1874, at 1 o'clock, the following described real estate to wit:

All the right title and interest of defendant in a certain lot of ground situate in Potter twp Centre county, beginning at a stone at the north east of land of the Boozers, thence by mountain land south 57¼ deg., west 70 perches to a stone thence by land of Margaret Gregg, south 28¾ degrees east, 11 3-10 per to a stone, thence by land of John Boozer, north 57¼ deg. west 72 3-10 per to a stone; thence by land of —— north 35¾ deg. west 11 3-10 per to the place of beginning, containing about 5 acres more or less, about 2 acres cleared land; thereon erected a dwelling house, stable and other outbuildings. Seized and taken in execution and to be sold as the property of Henry Geistwaite and Margaret Geistwaite.

ALSO:

All the undivided half part of three *tracts of land situate in the township of* Snowshoe, county of Centre. One surveyed on a warrant to David Karscadden, dated the 18th day of Dec. 1855, containing 412 acres and 44 perches and allowance; *another thereof surveyed on warrant to* David Karscadden, dated the 16th day of June, 1856, containing 413 acres and 44 per and allowance. And the remaining tract, containing 287 acres and 80 perches and allowance. Surveyed on a warrant to David Karscadden, Dated Nov 5th, 1858. Also all that tract of unseated land situate in said twp of Snowshoe, surveyed on a warrant to Luke Missimer, dated 3d day of March, 1794, containing 400 acres and allowance for which a patent was granted to said David Karscadden, dated 25th day *of January, 1865, recorded in patent book,* W. Vol. 28, p 251.

ALSO:

All that certain tract of land situate in the township of Boggs, in said county of Centre, surveyed on a warrant to *David Karscadden, dated June 17, 1856, containing* 400 acres and allowance for which a patent was issued by said commonwealth, to said David Karscadden, bearing date Jan 25th, 1865, and recorded in Patent Book, W Vol 58, p 253. Also, all that certain piece or tract of land situate in said township of Boggs, surveyed on a warrant to John Cochran, dated 3d day of March, 1794, containing 303 acres, 112 per and allowance for which a patent was issued to the said David Karscadden, bearing date the 1st day of January 1865. Recorded in Patent Book, W Vol 58, page 252, together with all the buildings, ways, water rights, liberties &c, thereto belonging. Seized and taken in execution and to be sold as the property of Wm. J. Kealh.

B. F. SHAFFER,
Sheriff.

jan8

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jan30 73
Office and yard near South end of the Bald Eagle Valley Railroad Depot, Bellefonte, Pa. Jan10.73

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