THE CENTRE REPORTER,

D. KURTZ ..... Editor.

Centre Hall, Pa., 23, Mar. 1876.

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Wm. A. Wallace was elected senatorial delegate to the democratic state convention, from this senatorial district.

The New Hampshire election, last week, went radical by 3,200 majority. They evidently are not yet quite disgusted with Grant, Babcock, Belknap & Co., up there.

It is rumored at Washington that Marsh will be back soon from Canada, and testify on promise that he will not be prosecuted.

The Senate passed the bill reducing the president's salary to $25,000. Yeas 26, Nays 20.

The Commissioners of Bucks county are in trouble, the grand jury having disapproved of their financial statements and it is proposed to prosecute them at the next term of court.

If an investigating committee once takes Grant in hand for present-taking, it will be sure to find him guilty on anything from a corner lot up to a box of cigars or chaw of tobacco.

Somewhere out west they boast of a rain of flesh. In Washington they have a great reign of corruption.

The democratic state convention met at Lancaster, on Wednesday, of this week. In our next issue we will give its doings. We trust wise counsels may prevail, and that the good of the state and party may be the sole aim of the representatives of the democracy.

Joseph Jenkins Roberts, ex-president of the Liberian republic, died at Monrovia on the 24 of February.

M'Clure's Philadelphia Times has now entered its second year. New daily papers seldom pay during the first three or four years of their existence, but the Times became a success—an established institution—before it was one year old. This is almost unparalleled in the history of daily journalism. The Times has been conducted in a manner to merit its success.

Still closer. A gentleman has informed Mr. Clymer's committee that he is willing to testify that a certain individual made personal application to the president for a post-tradership. The president gave him very little attention, whereupon the applicant told him that he owned two of the finest Indian ponies that he ever saw and his intention was to present them to Mr. Grant's boys, that the ponies were out at the trading post, and were subject to the president's orders. The man got the post-tradership and the same day the president sent a despatch to the trading-post to have the ponies sent in forthwith. If there is protection given to witnesses, and the administration does not shut their mouths by threats of prosecution, the day of nasty revelations will only have commenced.

Sooy the defaulting state treasurer of of New Jersey was sentenced to confinement in the State Prison for three years and until the costs of prosecution are paid. He wept bitterly on hearing the sentence.

Now pass up the next rascal and give him his dues, and so on until every scamp in the land gets his due.

A Lancaster radical has come to grief. District Attorney John W. Johnson was arrested in Lancaster on the 13, and held for a hearing on a charge of issuing forged and fraudulent naturalization papers prior to the Gubernatorial election in 1872. Johnson was a member of the Republican State central committee at that time.

MORE INFAMY.

Among all the scandals that are now being unearthed, and which will make Grant's administration a reproach for all time, the most detestable is that of speculating upon the bodies of dead Union soldiers. In last week's Reporter we furnished our readers an account of the swindling in tombstones, we now have a companion piece to it of a horrible revelation relative to the swindle in the bodies of dead soldiers. The N. Y. Times is a republican paper, read what its Washington correspondent says:

"The National Cemetery Ring is the vilest of the whole. It is the strongest that has located about the national capital—though Heaven knows the other are strong enough. It had its origin just after the close of the war, when they got contracts to remove bodies from the battle fields in the various Southern States to the several national cemeteries. Of all the frauds in the world, this shocking scheme is one of the most wicked. The contractors received a certain sum for removing each body; and to make the job profitable, they actually cut the body into pieces, and made several of it, thus increasing their pay. Often, where a great number were found, buried in one ditch, they would take out a half dozen bones and nail them up in a box, and get paid for it as one body.

"I do not telegraph this on hearsay evidence. I have positive knowledge that these things were done—were of daily occurrence. A rule was afterward made that nothing less than nineteen separate bones would be paid for as a body, but this did not break up the fraud carried on at the graves of our hero dead. The work of burying these bones was another job, by which many thousands of dollars were robbed from the Government. This finished, then the furnishing of headstones came, and it is estimated that the money out of which the Government was swindled in these transactions counts up in the millions? And yet these chiefs of the Cemetery Ring are allowed to retain their illgotten gains; and if one word is said against them, the old cry of disloyalty is raised.

"Rufus Ingalls, the present illegal Quarter-master-General, who made the present to Mrs. Grant, has a fund of knowledge on these frauds, and it is to be hoped the Committee on the Expenditures of the War Department will make him divulge, or force him to resign from the position he now holds. He will, it is said, be relieved by Gen. Meigs within two weeks, Gen. Meigs having been ordered home from Europe."

We may soon look for cheaper sewing machines, the patent upon which the large manufacturers have held a monopoly will soon run out and congress has refused to extend it, leaving room for competition. The first cost of a sewing machine is from $10 to $12 and they have been sold from $60 to $75. With the expiration of the patent these machines can be sold for $25 to $30 and yet be profitable to the manufacturer.

The democratic financial caucus, was in session on Tuesday night, 14, at Washington and finally agreed upon the Payne bill by a vote of 69 to 46. This bill provides for the gradual resumption of specie payments by making it the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury annually to retain in coin an amount equal to three percentum of legal-tender notes outstanding, to constitute a resumption fund, and also, requiring the national banks to set aside an amount of coin equal to three per cent. of their circulating notes. The bill, in addition, provides for the repeal of so much of the specie resumption act of January 14, 1875, as designates the 1st of January, 1879, as the date of resumption. Many amendments were voted down including that of the minority of the caucus committee for a simple repeal of so much of the act of 1875 as fixes the 1st, of January, 1879, as the time for resumption. This received only 42 votes.

Washington, March 16.—The republican senators held a caucus this forenoon for the purpose of determining what should be their general policy in regard to the sweeping reductions already made or contemplated by the house of representatives in the annual appropriation bills. No conclusion was reached, and the subject will be further discussed at an adjourned meeting of the caucus tomorrow.

The republicans are very sore over the cutting down of expenditures by the democrats of the house. As they hold all the offices, they do not relish this cutting off of their fodder.

At the adjourned republican senate caucus held next day it was resolved to oppose the policy of the house to cut down salaries 10 per cent. A movement to increase salaries would undoubtedly meet with favor among the republicans. Let the democrats of the house do their duty and let the responsibility of a defeat of retrenchment measures rest with the radicals.

As to how the men appointed to post-traderships could afford to pay such a big bonus to Belknap and wife, and still make money for themselves, is shown by the following prices charged the poor Indian and our own soldiers, at Fort Sill:

Two bushels of potatoes, $10.
Five gallons of coal oil, $10.
Two pounds of cheese, 80 cents.
Six boxes of matches, 75 cents.
A bottle of soothing syrup, $1,50.
A broom, $1.
Flat irons, 35 cents per pound.
A tin pan, $1,50.
A half bushel of potatoes, $3,25.
A paper of needles, 25 cents.
Two pounds of crackers, $1,20.

And from this kind of bleeding and extortion the wives of cabinet officers at Washington are enabled to wear costly diamonds, dresses, and give brilliant entertainments, and the fellows who received invitations to these parties and showed off at them are now heaping all manner of abuse upon Hiester Clymer because he did not white-wash the thieves and cover up the rascalities of the shoddy tribe which now flourishes at the national capital.

A WITNESS, WHO WILL NOT TELL

One of the committees investigating the Washington rings, has a witness who will not tell what he knows. The matter on 14, was brought before the house.

Mr. Glover, chairman of the Select Committee on the Real Estate Pool and the Jay Cooke indebtedness made a report on the contumaciousness of a witness named Hallett Kilbourne, who refused to produce the books of his firm or to answer certain questions as to who composed the real estate pool. The proceedings of the Committee were read from which it appeared that the real estate pool consisted, first, of five persons who had contributed $5,000 each and who were subsequently assessed $2,000 each and of Jay Cooke & Co., who had contributed $25,000 but did not pay any assessment. His firm was the agency through which the operation was to be conducted, and had subsequently purchased one of the original five thousand dollar shares, paying for it the exact amount, with interest, which it had cost the owner. He declined to give the name of the person whose interest had been thus purchased. He also declined giving any testimony relating to individuals composing the pool. He said that if it could be shown in any way that the government was interested in it or that his testimony would promote the interest of the government in any way he would tell everything about it. In reply to this, the Chairman informed him that the committee did not propose to look into his private affairs but only into those that affected public interest. In further response to his counsel, (Mr. Black) the witness stated that the matter had no relation whatever to any public affair; that it was purely a private transaction and that there was no officer of the government of the United States or of the government of the District of Columbia directly or indirectly connected with it. The conclusion of the committee was that it is necessary, for the efficient prosecution of the inquiry, that Hallett Kilbourne shall be required to respond a subpœna duces tecum and to answer questions which he had refused to answer.

The Sergeant-at-Arms appeared at the bar with Hallett Kilbourne, the recusant witness in custody. On being asked whether he was prepared to answer the questions put to him, he asked leave to be heard orally by his counsel (Mr. Black and Mr. Dudley Field). During the consideration of the question Mr. Glover intimated that he understood from the witness that he would be satisfied by having read a written argument prepared by his counsel.

Mr. Page insisted upon the witness' right to be heard orally by counsel and that view was advocated by Messrs. Hoar and Conger and was opposed by Messrs Holman and Jenks.

Finally the proposition to be heard orally by counsel was laid on the table and a written argument was read from the Clerk's desk. At the conclusion of the reading, the Speaker called upon the witness to rise, and addressing him he asked whether he was now prepared to answer the questions put to him by the committee, (Reading them to him in detail). Mr. Kilbourne responded that he respectfully declined for reasons heretofore given.

The Speaker then asked him whether he was prepared to produce his books and papers in obedience to a subpœna duces tecum. Mr. Kilbourne replied that he was not.

Mr. Glover then offered a resolution committing the witness to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms and requiring that official to keep the witness in custody in the common jail of the District of Columbia until he should purge himself of his contempt.

The resolutions were agreed to and the witness was removed by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

OUR RAILROAD.

Beaver dam tunnel is through, and Paddy mountain tunnel, the great bugbear, we are reliably informed, can be finished in three or four months at the rate at which the work is now progressing. Then what is there to hinder the cars from running into the valley by next fall? The road-bed up to Lemont is graded and ready for ties and rails. The Pennsylvania railroad company, according to its recent report, is in a flourishing condition and abundantly able to go right ahead with our road. Now what is to hinder the work from being completed up to this point by next November? We see nothing. The road-bed will be ready for the rails, and the Penn'a R. R. has the means, and if it has the will, the cars can be seen in our valley early next fall. There should be no more delay. Our people have given their money several years ago, and our farms have been cut up, and as yet there has been no benefit for it all to our people. To delay the road longer would be an outrage and a wrong. We trust that the President, Mr. Miller, and the directors, will not cease to urge the Penn'a RR. officials on in this matter, and leave them no peace until they come up to their duty, and finish the road right ahead. They should commence now at Laurelton and put down the rails westward. If Mr. Miller can do any thing to put the work under speedy headway, let him do so now. He has been drawing a good salary for very little service thus far. If he can not do any thing, then let us have some one who can—and if the president amounts to a mere figure head, then there should be no pay for him and that money might be applied to pushing on the work. We know that the whole matter rests with the Penn'a railroad company and that upon them rests the real responsibility, but let the president, the directors and the stock-holders not cease in goading that huge corporation on to its work, and a fulfilment of its promises to our people.

THE PARDONED COMMISSIONERS.

Pottsville, Pa., March 17.—Governor Hartranft having pardoned Messrs. Benner, Conroy and Stine, the convicted Schuylkill county commissioners, they were this morning released from jail, having been imprisoned six months.

The crime these commissioners committed was letting the contract for building a barn to a party that were not the lowest bidders, thus paying out more of the public funds than others had bid to do the same work for.

FRAUDS IN POSTAL AFFAIRS.

The postal affairs are conducted with about the same nastiness as are found in the war and revenue departments of the general government. On 17 inst, the house Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads examined Wm. A. Danforth, of Chicago. He testified that Sanders, of the firm of Barlow Sanders & Co., had informed him they paid large sums of money to officers in the Postoffice Department under Postmaster General Cresswell's administration to secure valuable western mail contracts by means of straw-bidding devices. Sanders lived with the witness in Kansas City and they were intimate friends. Sanders told him the firm were bled heavily by postoffice officials and that they paid to one of them not less than five thousand dollars per quarter. To another they had given a carriage and a pair of horses, and to another a diamond pin worth a thousand dollars. No names were given by Sanders in making these assertions. The witness said he had seen one of the books of the firm which showed they set aside a considerable proportion of their receipts from mail contracts to be devoted to such payments. Barlow lived east and attended to paying out the money. Witness said that subsequently Sanders informed him they had burned their books, and suggested he had better not remember what had been told him on this subject. The Committee will next examine the bookkeeper of Barlow, Sanders & Co.

SCHENCK'S RESIGNATION.

HOW THE PRESIDENT AIDED THE GUILTY MINISTER TO ESCAPE FROM ENGLAND.

Washington, March 14.—Secretary Fish communicated to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House to-day so much of the correspondence relating to the resignation of Minister Schenck and all other correspondence which has passed by telegraph and letter between the State Department and our ex-Minister to England not heretofore received, at the time the first batch of official correspondence in relation thereto was forwarded to the committee in February. This correspondence will be submitted to the committee at their meeting tomorrow. The main point which members of the committee say it establishes is that the President either intentionally or innocently aided Schenck to escape from Great Britain while officers there were only waiting for him to drop the cloak of official immunity before arresting him for his conduct in the Emma Mine swindle. The dates of the cable despatches show that between the time of the acceptance of Schenck's resignation and the time it was made public several dyas elapsed, while Schenck was in England, to all appearances, our representative, when really he was simply an ordinary citizen of the United States, liable to arrest and punishment. Members of the committee say he left England under false pretenses, seeming to be and recognized as the American Minister while he was not. The committee feel that they are humiliated by the action of the President in accepting Schenck's resignation. If the committee as seems very probable from the present proofs in their possession, find the ex-Minister guilty of gross misconduct in office, the President has no longer the power, if he chose so to do to inflict censure upon Schenck and remove him from office when the notice of his Minister's wrong-doings is brought to his attention by the committee of the House who are investigating the same. The President's policy of "Let no guilty man escape" seems to be interpreted by him with the proviso, "If he doesn't tender his resignation." And the manner of getting Schenck out of office was very singular. Before the Belknap disclosure he cabled a dispatch in substance as follows, and very nearly in these words: "I again tender my resignation if my remaining here is to embarrass administration." To this Mr. Fish replied: "Your despatch requires no answer." Schenck then asked: "May I print my despatch and your reply in the London daily papers?" Before this came the Belknap matter came out and Schenck was thunderstruck at receiving something like the following: "It has been decided to accept your resignation." In reply he expressed his surprise at the sudden change and asked, "May I be granted leave of absence to appear before the committee, my resignation being held in abeyance?" To this Fish sent as the last, "Steps have already been taken looking to appointment of your successor."—*World.*

The Schuylkill County Commissioners, says the Times, who with one exception are the only persons convicted of malfeasance in office in Pennsylvania in recent years, have been pardoned by Governor Hartranft on the recommendation of the Board. The case against the Commissioners was very clear, and their punishment by judge Pershing, who presided at their trial with great impartiality, comparatively light. The crimes of the Commissioners are common in nearly every county of the State, and their conviction doubtless had a very wholesome effect. Whether this has been destroyed by the action of the Board of Pardons and the Governor, probably court proceedings in the future will show.

THE LAST SPLENDORS OF MRS. SECRETARY BELKNAP-EXCLUSIVE VISIT.

[Boston Herald.]

This season Mrs. Belknap determined to establish a precedent, and declined returning visits unless those made by the wives and daughters of officers of the army and navy, the diplomatic corps, and a few others. She gave no evening entertainment but her dinners, and she has had three or four each week since New Year's which were of the most refined and elegant discription. There were usually covers for fourteen, and the *menu* embraced every delicacy in and out of season, served on a table glittering with costly silver and fine glass, and illuminated by a profusion of rare flowers. These dinners have been the talk of the town, and it has been considered as great an honor to receive a card for one of Mrs. Belknap's dinners as for a dinner served at the White House. The toilettes have been of the most elaborate and expensive materials. At the last German, where she received the guests for the "Bachelor's Club" who gave it, the dress worn by her was said to have cost six hundred dollars, and came from Pingat in Paris, and this was one of the most modest of her costumes. Her laces and jewels were the envy of the ladies of the diplomatic corps, and that speaks volumes for their worth and magnificence.

Her last appearance in public was on Monday last, when she attended three entertainments, the first an elegant dinner party given by Madame Bergmont, at her superd house on H street. Here she seemed not to be very bright, and remarked to a lady near her: "I am not well; I am so nervous, and I ought not to be here." What wonder that she was nervous, with the sword ready to fall and destroy her and her husband. Later she went to the last reception given by Mr. Riggs, the prominent banker and his daughters; and still later to a leap-year party given by Admiral and Mrs. Porter. Her custume of shimmering silk was half hidden under the drapery of foamy costly lace, worth, they say, a prince's ransom. Her ornaments, as I heard the next day, were a costly parure of diamonds, which glittered and flashed forth a thousand colors, worn for the first time. She was surrounded all the evening by friends, and was acknowledged the most elegantly dressed lady of the evening.

From the New Haven Register (Dem.)—The Cabinet ladies in Washington, it is said, have held a meeting and voted that they cease to recognize Mrs. Belknap. It is further said that Mrs. Robeson was the most severe against her. These "Cabinet ladies" should move slowly, or they may find themselves "without a quorum!"

From the Hartford Times (Dem.)—Zach Chandler remarks: "I would as soon be in hell without a fan as to be Secretary of the Interior with a Democratic House in session." He is now realizing the comforts of the latter position, and may hereafter find out "how it is himself" in the other.

EXECUTING MURDERERS BY ELECTRICITY.—The Scientific American discusses hanging as a mode of capital punishment and proposes a substitution of electricity for the gallows. It recommends the following as the way in which to have executions conducted: "The battery and coil should be of sufficient strength to deliver an eighteen inch spark. In case of there being more than one person to execute, all of the condemned would be conducted, with all due ceremony, to the place of execution, the left hand of one man handcuffed to the right hand of his neighbor, and the conducting wire fastened to bracelets on the disengaged wrists of both criminals. If only two are to be executed, or to the wrists of the outer men if more than that number are to suffer. The culprits being seated so as to be seen by the legal witnesses, the sheriff presses a button. The current is instantly established from the coil, passes through the bodies of the men, and all is over."

Employment Scarce in Philadelphia.

MR. EDITOR: Please say to any of your readers who may be thinking of coming to Philadelphia to find work, that they had better *not come*. The city is flooded with men from all parts of the country, who have imagined that the Centennial would bring with it plenty of employment for everybody! They have forgotten the fact that thousands of good workmen, resident in the city, are now out of employment because of the stoppage of the wheels of industry in foundries, mills, shops, and stores—and while the Exhibition has given, and will give, work to thousands, yet the supply already far exceeds any possible demand. The new comers are not only bitterly disappointed, but worse, for their little means is soon exhausted, and they are driven often to the very verge of starvation, while hundreds have to seek the shelter of the station-houses, or walk the streets the whole night long.

In response to an inquiry made of the President of the House of Correction, the following has just been received:

OFFICE OF "THE HOUSE OF CORRECTION."
PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 6, 1876

JOHN WANAMAKER, Esq.,

Dear Sir: In reply to your favor of the 28th ult., I have had prepared the enclosed statement, exhibiting the number of admissions to this Institution during the months of December, January, and February last, and also the proportion of that number who were committed at their own request.

Of twenty-two hundred and forty-two (2242) admissions, no less than eleven hundred and fifty-one (1151) were self committed.

The supposition that, as a class, the occupants of the House of Correction are those who seek its food and shelter only to avoid labor is erroneous. On the contrary, as a rule, they work cheerfully enough even at the hardest and most disagreeable of out-door employments—stone-quarrying, ditching, etc., though in very many cases, the men have been educated to clerical rather than to manuel labor.

The result is, therefore, startling, as an index of the overcrowded condition of many branches of industry, and I can fully endorse as excellent, the idea suggested in your note, namely, to urge through the columns of the country papers, young men to *stay where they are*, and not crowd to the city in anticipation of obtaining employment, at least at the present time.

Yours, truly,
WILLIAM GULAGER,
President.

STATEMENT.

ADMITTED.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
December,	999	89	1088
January,	603	118	721
February,	354	79	433
Total,	1956	286	2242
SELF-COMMITTED.			
December,	659	15	674
January,	299	14	313
February,	156	8	164
Total,	1114	37	1151

The writer is led to send this communication because of the large number of letters and calls he is constantly receiving from persons in great distress, whose experience is suggested in the foregoing, and he feels that he cannot do a kinder service to the young men outside of Philadelphia, than to urge them, *for their own sake*, to remain at home, unless they have the positive promise of something to do when they come to the city, and come for the purpose of claiming the promise.

JOHN WANAMAKER,
President of the Philadelphia Young Men's Christian Association.

DRAW POKER—A KNAVE BEATS THE QUEEN.

The Tribune takes kindly to the Buckeye boss of Emma Mine, and compliments him thus:

There has been a lingering suspicion until now that the Great Republic had never been fully revenged. Other difference had been adjusted, but we may as well confess that till Schenck's reembarkation for home we harbored a feeling of revenge. But now old scores are squared. We have "placed" the Emma Mine on the British public, and taught the English people the game of draw poker. Ours is the proud satisfaction of having not only given to Great Britain the original rules of this noble game, but of having added one more, and illustrated the play, that "our knave beats a queen." We entertain none but kindly feelings toward the constable on the shore; it is his misfortune, that he represents the paw of the British Lion, while it is the glory of our homeward-hieing diplomat that he wears the pinions of our own noble bird, and that he could unfurl behind him to the wondering gaze of the constable who had been referred to, Lord Derby, these thrilling words of one of Freedom's own poets:

Keep your eye ever fixed on the American Eagle,
Which we as the proud Bird of Liberty hail,
For that wise fowl you can never inveigle
By depositing salt on his venerable tail.

And as for Mr. Dougall, who is the owner of The Hour newspaper and the representative of the stockholders in the Emma Mine, we shall be sorry if Mr. Schenck's somewhat abrupt departure shall prove to have deranged any of his plans. But he should remember that it rarely happens in this world that any one lays his hand simultaneously upon the Hour and the Man. The Hour is his. The Man is on the Abyssinia, and refers by permission to Lord Derby.

But ah, how good it was in our noble President to hold on to the resignation, till the boat of the returning Schenck was on the Sea and his bark was on the tide. If we may be allowed to use a figure of speech from the great American game, the President "raised everybody else out" and let Robert "get away with the pot." So cometh homeward Schenck. Comes probably with a "full hand," though that we shall not know till the Abyssinia is signaled. Shall we not publicly receive him? Say with the marine Band? Or a process sion? Where are the men who were lately telegraphing congratulations to Babcock and getting up a subscription for him? Let them start it. And let us be sure our welcome reaches seaward and widens till it takes him in its warm embrace. And when we "call him, though he may not answer back "a full hand," we may be certain that he will throw down nothing less than a "Jack at the top." Let us welcome him then cordially and heartily. He flies from a constable. Warm on his shoulder is the finger-print of despotism.

WHY FRED GRANT WAS SENT WEST.

[Washington Special to Boston Herald.]

No authentic explanation of the sudden and unexpected departure of Col. Fred Grant for the plains has yet been obtained, but that there was a very important reason will undoubtedly appear in due time. The fact that all the real estate operations here of the President and his family are about to be investigated, may have something to do with this hasty departure of the young man for the frontier. The investigation of the real estate pool which is now going on will not stop short of some highly important disclosures, and among the things likely to be shown is that Fred Grant received a large sum of money from Boss Shepherd, which he put into real estate. This is understood to have been ostensibly a gift by Boss Shepherd, and it is is futhermore believed that it was this kind of an obligation which has attached the President so firmly to the late Governor of the District of Columbia.

THE IMPEACHMENT PROJECT.

The Delay in the Judiciary Committee.

Washington, March 12.—Some days must necessarily elapse before the committee on the judiciary will be prepared to report articles of impeachment against Belknap, no material testimony, if any at all, having been taken since that of Marsh—which under present circumstances is of no avail—in support of the charges which the House has already informed the Senate it will make good. It is said that more than a week ago six or seven persons in the vicinity of Marsh and their arrival may therefore soon be expected. In response to a question recently of a member of the judiciary committee, he said that proof could be produced, independently of that of the witness Marsh, to abundantly support and prove the charges already made. Nothing has been heard from Marsh apart from what has appeared in the newspapers, but some of the members of Congress express their belief that Marsh will return if Congress passes the bill securing him from arrest in connection with Belknap's offense.

No Criminal Prosecution Without Marsh's Testimony.

Washington, March 12.—The grand jury cannot find any indictment against Secretary Belknap in the absence of Marsh, the principal witness. The Assistant District Attorney states the evidence presented thus far to the grand jury is insufficient to warrant it in bringing an indictment, and it is more than probable that unless Marsh can be brought back to testify it will be impossible to punish Belknap through the medium of a criminal prosecution.

THE STAY LAW.—The bill providing for a stay of execution, which has passed the house, grants a stay of execution for two years on judgments now remaining satisfied, or which may be obtained within six months from the passage of the act; provided, that the defendant can show that he is the owner of property to double the amount of claims held against him; or the defendant may give security to the court or justice of the peace before whom the judgment was obtained, which security shall consist of one or more persons, who shall satisfy the court or justice that their property at a fair valuation is worth double the claim. If it becomes a law many persons will be greatly benefited these hard times.

The testimony of Peck, of the frontier trading firm of Durfee & Peck, before the Clymer committee, displays in a some what startling way the extensive scale on which the traffic in trading posts was carried on by the Grants, the Babcocks, Belknap and Delano. Orville Grant and W. H. Babcock, the brother of Gen. Babcock, who held a territorial appointment from the President, appear to have been the active partners. Their business was that of jobbers or middlemen, receiving traderships from the President and selling or renting them out at handsome figures. Tomlinson, Mrs. Belknap's brother, turns up in Peck's testimony, but it does not appear how much either Balknap or Delano had to do with the cases in which Peck was concerned, the removals and appointments being made "by direction of the President." Delano, indeed, being remonstrated with by Peck on his removal, replied that "if he did not cut off a head when the President ordered him to, the President would cut of *his* head," which shows our friend Delano to have been a man of discretion, if not honesty.

Washington, March 18.—The investigations which were in progress at the Capitol to day were most remarkable for the testimony of an entirely reputable witness that $40,000 were paid by a firm of postal contractors to have an investigation discontinued in the Forty-second Congress in which they were interested. This witness is Mr. Barlow, President of the National Bank at St. Albans, Vt., and senior partner in the mail-contracting firm of Barlow, Sanderson & Co., who formerly had several routes in the Territories and western States. This firm obtained contracts for transporting the mails at enormous prices by use of straw bidders. The witness was extremely reticent, and had forgotten most of the transactions of the firm within the past ten years.

THE VALUE OF EDUCATION.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

Jake was heard calling across the fence to his neighbor's son, a colored youth who goes to school at the Atlanta colored university:

"Look hyar, boy, you goes ter school, don't yer?"

"Yes, sir," replied the boy.

"Gittin' eddykashun, ain't yer?"

"Yes sir."

"Larnin' rithmetick and figgerin' on a slate, eh?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, it don't take two whole days to make a hour, do it?"

"Wy no!" exclaimed the boy.

"You was gwine ter bring dat hatchit back in a hour, warn't yer?"

"Yes, sir."

"An' it's bin two days sence yer borrowed it! Now, what good's eddykashun gwine ter do you thick skulled niggers when yer go to school a whole year an' den can't tell how long it takes to fotch back a hatchit?"

The boy got mad and slung the hatchit over the fence and half way through an ash barrel.

—We would esteem it an especial favor if every friend of the Reporter would send us the name of at least one subscriber, with the Cash—for three months, 50 cents; six months $1,00, and one year $2. Reader, won't you try and do us this little favor, and will repay you by improving the Reporter. Send us the names of six new subscribers, with the Cash, and we will send you the Reporter one year free.

For the Reporter.

APPARENT CONTRADICTIONS.

No. I.

The Miracles of Moses and the Egyptian Sorcerers. Ex. 7: 10, 11, and John 3: 1, 2.

Sy Nicodemus, a judicious, sensible and inquisitive man says: No man can do the works thou (Jesus) doest except God be with him. But Moses and the Egyptian magicians did do such works.

Ques. How may these statements be harmonized?

Ans. 1. Moses and Aaron wrought their miracles by the power of God.

2. The Egyptian jugglers wrought theirs either by legerdemain, or a league with the devil; or by God interposing and changing their rods into real serpents, which were afterwards swallowed by Aaron's serpent: No man-power . . . . except in the slight of hand.

No. II.

The hard enemy of Pharaoh's heart Ex. 7: 3, and James 1: 13, 14 God tempteth no man.

Q. How may the contradiction be explained?

A. God does not persuade, tempt, or harden men in anything, which is in its own nature, evil; but God does harden men in *such* courses and dangerous attempts as shall and are intended by God to prove either a very sore punishment to them or their utter ruin.

No. III.

The unjust charges, Ex. 3: 22. Ex 20: 15.

Q. How may the borrowing of the Israelites from the Egyptians and not returning what they borrowed, be reconciled with the prohibition, not to steal?

A. Borrow in this case meant to ask request, and spoil means to recover property, wages, etc., of which the Israelites had been unjustly deprived by the Egyptians. Hence this was God's method of balancing accounts between the injured and the injurious, compelling those who had done wrong to make restitution. He sits upon the throne judging right.

No. IV

The Sin of unbelief. Ex. 17: 6. Num. 20: 7-12.

The smiting of the rock at Rephedim was right at Kadesh wrong.

Q. Was there not a contradiction here?

A. 1. God had ordered Moses only to speak to the rock at Kadesh and smite it.

2. The smiting of the rock was a type of the smiting of Christ, and needed no repetition; for as the rock needed only to be spoken to so Christ need only to be spoken to by the prayer of faith and the water will flow.

No. V.

The number of the children of Israel. Gen. 46: 26, 27, and Acts 7: 14 Moses says 70 came into Egypt and Stephen says 75.

Q. Can this discrepance be reconciled?

A. The 5 sons of Manasseh and Ephraim mentioned in 1. Chron. 7: 14-23, are to be reckoned to the 70 mentioned by Moses.

No. VI

God's countenance. Ex. 33: 11, 20.

The Lord spake to Moses face to face—Thou cans't not see my face—no man shall see my face and live.

Q. How may these texts be harmonized?

A. 1. Moses saw God symbolically, by literal signs—in the pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night.

2. Essentially no man can see God—His essence is invisible.

No. VII

The Cross bearing. John 19: 17, and Mk. 15: 21.

John says Christ bore it, and Mark says Simon bore it.

Q. How reconcile these Evangelists?

A. Christ carried the cross till he fainted under it, and then the soldiers, for fear he might die and future cruelties be prevented, compelled Simon to bear it for him, i. e. assist him.

No. VIII.

The angels in the grave. Mk. 16: 5, John 20: 12. John mentions 2 and Mark 1.

Q. Is this not a contradictory record?

A. Mark, I suppose, notices the one the woman saw first and that spake to them, and hence there is no real contradiction.

No. IX.

Three days and three nights. Matt 12: 40 and Jon. 1:17. In the Book of Jonah, it is said, The Lord prepared a great fish, etc., Matthew says a great whale.

Q. How may this difference be accounted for?

A. *Dag gadol* (H.) and *Ketos* (G.) means a shark, or any large fish. There have been shark in the Mediterranean weighing 4,000 pounds—and such a fish could certainly swallow Jonah.

No. X.

Christ's testimony of Himself. John 5: 31, and 8: 14. If I bear witness of myself my witness is not true.—Though I bear record of myself, my record is true.

Q. How may this discrepancy be accounted for.

A. 1. According to the common rule of judgment among men, what I say of myself, though infallibly true, will not be allowed by you, (Jews) as testimony and evidence.

2. His credentials were fully satisfactory, i. e. the nature of his doctrine and the power by which He worked his miracles.

No. XI.

The right use of earthly goods. Lk. 16: 9, Matt. 19: 23, 24. Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness. A rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of Heaven.

Q. How may Matthew and Luke be reconciled?

A. 1. It is difficult to convert a rich man.

2. It is exceedingly difficult for a rich man to be a *good* man.

3. Use your worldly goods so, that when you die you will be received into heaven—make the poor your friends.

No. XII.

Two different events. Luke 7: 36-50, Matt. 26: 6-13, Mark 14: 3-9, John 12: 1-8.

Q. How may the differences of the records of the four Evangelists above quoted be harmonized?

A. 1. The name and place of the woman that was a sinner Mrs unknown.

2. The other woman was Mary the Sister of Lazarus and Martha of Bethany.

No. XIII.

Two different rules. Prov. 26: 4, 5.

Answer not a fool according to his folly.

Answer a fool according to his folly.

Q. Does not the wise man contradict himself?

A. No.

1. Don't answer a foolish man in a foolish way, e. g., If he boast of himself, do not answer him by boasting of thyself.

2. Answer him so as to expose his folly and humble him and prevent him from deceiving others.

No. XIV.

Two different burdens. Gal. 6: 2, 5.

Bear ye one anothers burdens.

Every man shall bear his own burden.

Q. Does not Paul contradict himself?

A. No.

1. We should feel for one another—Sympathize with one another, etc.

2. Every man shall carry his own responsibility—answer for himself to God.

No. XV.

Hearing and not hearing Acts 9: 7 and 22: 9.

Luke says: They (those that sojourned with Paul) heard a voice, but saw no man. Paul says: They heard not the voice of Him that spake to me.

Q. How may the want of agreement be accounted for?

A. They heard Paul speak, but saw not *him* to whom he spake, nor heard distinctly what was said to him.

No. XVI.

Standing and not standing. Acts 9: 7 and 26: 14.

Paul says, before Agrippa, where we were all fallen to the ground. Luke says, the men that journeyed with him, stood speechless.

Q. How is this?

A. His companions fell to the earth but rose again without being bidden. (Paul did not) but stood speechless after they had gotten up.

No. XVII.

Repenting and not repenting. 1 Sam. 15: 29, and 35: 11. The Lord repented, etc.

Q. What does repentance mean in God?

A. A change of method, way, dispensation, conduct, and not of mind.

No. XVIII.

Seeing and not seeing. John 1: 18, and 14: 9.

No man hath seen God at any time—Jesus saith have I been so long with you and hast thou not known me—he that hath seen me, hath seen the Father.

Q. How can these passages be reconciled?

A. God in his essence is invisible, but was seen in his son who was the image of his Father.—Seen:

1. By sight.
2. By faith.

No. XIX.

To be and not to be. John 1: 21, Matt. 11: 14.

Q. How reconcile these texts?

A. 1. John, the Baptist was to be and not to be.

2. He was not to be Elijah in person, but in spirit and power. He was the Elias God promised. Matt. 11: 14—not of which the Jews boasted.

No. XX.

Temporal and Eternal. Eccle. 1: 4. 2 Peter 3: 10.

The earth abideth forever.—The earth and all the works that are therein shall be burnt up.

Q. How harmonize these quotations?

A. The earth will endure to the end of time, and then it will be burnt up.

The harmony of the Scriptures, a proof of their divinity.

X.

Aaronsburg, Pa.

A MATTER OF POPULAR INTEREST.

We condense from the *Lehigh Register* the substance of a conversation about Oak Hall, in Philadelphia, Wanamaker & Brown's "Largest Clothing House in America." A visitor and attendant are the speakers:

Visitor. "What corner is the Building on?"

Attendant. "South-East corner of *Sixth* and Market. Please note the SIXTH, for some strangers seeking Oak Hall, have been misled by designing persons."

V. "It is perfectly colossal! Do you know its dimensions?"

A. "12,000 square feet—66 on Market, and 180 odd on Sixth, six stories high, has over three acres of floor, and covers space once occupied by more than twenty different business places."

V. "Do you use steam-power?"

A. "A giant young engine furnishes power for the freight and passenger elevators, and the boilers furnish all heating, and the other operations of the house."

V. "What order do you take with goods?"

A. "They are first opened and arranged in the basement on long low counters, and taken thence on the fourth elevator to the inspector's room on the third floor."

V. "Is inspecting the first operation?"

A. "No, sir, measuring. The goods are first measured in the piece, then inspected. The cloth passes over rollers in the face of a strong light, and two men sit, one before and one behind the goods, watching with the eye of a hawk for the least pin-hole imperfection, and marking every flaw, so that the cutter may see and avoid it when he comes to cut the garments."

V. "You must employ an army of cutters?"

A. "Come to our fifth floor and see! We keep 70 hands all the time cutting up the cloth into garments—besides 30 machines that do a dozen men's work each at a stroke."

V. "Do you manufacture all your own goods?"

A. "We do, and most carefully. Our examiners inspect every stitch and seam, and certify to every garment as extra-well made before we put our ticket on it, and become responsible for it."

V. "Your system must save you a great deal."

A. "In every direction, sir. It is the system and economy we practice all the way through, that enables us to put our prices down to the people as we do."

V. "After inspecting the work, what becomes of it?"

A. "Before it goes into Stock it is *ticketed*. Every single garment has its number and other points noted on it, so that its entire history can be traced without fail, upon our books."

V. "You must have 30 or 40 salesmen?"

A. "Why sir, on busy days you may see 100 in the various rooms and suites of rooms, selling to the throngs of customers."

V. "Do you do an order business, by mail and express?"

A. "Very great. All over the country. Our perfect system and rules of self-measurement make it possible to please people 2,000 miles away just as perfectly as if they were here in person."

V. "I suppose you have at least half a dozen different departments?"

A. "My dear sir! we have more than *twenty*, each