The Centre Reporter.

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CENTRE HALL, Pa., Feb. 13, 1879.

Witnesses summoned in the Curtin-Yocum contest need not appear unless they are paid in advance by the parties who require them, and they should be sure of their pay before they go, otherwise they may not be so sure of it. Gov. Curtin pays all his witnesses cash down as they appear. It has cost him a good deal of money, but he will go the "last red" for his rights. That's the way to do it.

Hartranft, who has just vacated the governorship of this state, has been appointed post-master of Philadelphia. Some men are not happy unless they hold some office, no matter how little an office it is. Hartranft has been in office for about 18 years, and now he steps out of the governor's chair of the great state of Pennsylvania and down into a post-mastership. Who would have thought it?

The new President of the French Republic proclaims his purpose to avoid such troubles as disturbed President MacMahon. He announces in his message to the Chambers, that he is "sincerely submissive to the great law of parliamentary government, and shall never enter into conflict with the national will, conveyed through its constitutional organs." All the branches of the French Government are now harmonious in respect to the fundamental principles of republican institutions.

Machinery Hall, one of the principal Centennial buildings was knocked down a few days ago for $24,000. It cost $824,867.

A terrible scourge is raging in Brazil. Advices from Rio Janeiro, Jan. 12, says that in addition to smallpox deaths in Ceara at the rate of 70,000 to 80,000 a month, a telegram announces the appearance at Fortaleza, the capital, of a deadly plague, characterized by black spots, and by which the President's wife had died. The government sends off ten doctors to investigate, at the salary of $1,000 per month each.

Tilden's testimony on the cipher business is given in another column. It will be seen that not a blemish attaches to him, and this is strengthened by the testimony of Mayor Cooper, Marble and Pelton. It leaves the matter where all candid minds adjudge it—that Tilden was fairly elected and that Hayes was not, and that electors were bought for Hayes.

In the Army Bill, as it passed the House on Saturday, the effective strength of the army is limited to twenty-five thousand men. The proposition to transfer the Indians to the military was negatived, and the employment of troops at the polls in elections prohibited. The main features of the Burnside reorganization scheme have been adopted. General Butler's amendment allowing the railroad companies to use their wires for military and general public business was added to the bill.

From thirty to thirty five thousand men are reported to be on a strike at Liverpool, and some of them have no great respect for the peace of the city. Mobs and mob law were in the order of the day on Friday, and thousands of such burly ruffians as the average British laborer, inspired with a conviction that they are oppressed and wronged, and freed by their momentary passion from the little moral restraint they are commonly under, constitute an insurrection of blind and wild force well calculated to trouble the authorities wherever it may be show itself. From the operation of such a burst of ruffianly ferocity Liverpool will escape very well if it has no worse experiences than what are so far recorded.

One of the Pittsburg members has introduced a bill, which, if it should pass would saddle about three fourths of the riot damages upon the state treasury—or some three million dollars, leaving about a million to be paid by Pittsburgh. Under the present law Pittsburgh would have to pay all. Had the citizens of the Iron City done their duty at the outbreak of the riots there would have been no damage. But they stood by and looked on; more, they even encouraged the rioters until the devil of destruction could not be held in check, and state troops had to be called to prevent the entire destruction of that city. Now why should Centre or any other county in the state, help pay damages for which they are in no wise accountable? It is not right, and such a bill should never become a law—let an example be made that will teach other communities that to encourage lawlessness and the destruction of private property in their midst, is done at their own expense.

The cipher dispatch investigation has thus far shown nothing against Mr. Tilden, on the other hand it is vindicating him, and has put some republicans in a fix. Mr. Pelton in his testimony the other day, said, he could not remember the names of his correspondents; the telegram sent by Weed were sent by his (Pelton's) directions; witness shown the dispatch, said he could not remember anything about the dispatches; there is no question that the Tribune dispatches got near to the point, but they are inaccurate. "Give me more latitude and I will testify fully." Marble telegraphed in reply to the dispatch asking $200,000 that it was too high; Tilden was exceedingly severe when he heard of my action; I left for Baltimore without his knowledge or consent; he had no idea of what was going on; had no conversation with him on the matter until after my return from Baltimore, when I showed the governor the whole correspondence; he was still more emphatic in denouncing the whole proceeding. To all questions relative to the use and explanation of the ciphers witness' reply was that he could not remember.

Mr. Reed cross-examined Mr. Pelton at considerable length, but nothing of importance was elicited. Witness accused Hiscock of insulting him. Hiscock asked witness if he wanted the country to believe that without consulting any leading democrat or his uncle that he made these contracts involving a large sum of money, whereas witness had not a dollar? Witnessed answered, you are offensive again.

After recess witness said he had not made up his mind when he promised the money to whom he should go for it but probably to the active men of the democracy and possibly to the democratic committee. He denied emphatically and repeatedly that he expected the money from Mr. Tilden. The committee then adjourned until to-morrow but Mr. Pelton was required not to consider himself discharged.

THE CURTIN CONTEST.

We have not referred to this matter of late, in the REPORTER, and as frequent inquiries have been made with us as to how the contest is going, we will just say here, and it can be taken as reliable, that the contest is going on all right, and that enough of republican frauds have already been proven to seat Curtin and the work is not yet one third through with. Enough fraud has already been proven in Centre county alone to clearly entitle Gov. Curtin to the seat in congress. In Clearfield county there will be a much bigger haul of of fraudulent votes for Yocum and which will be thrown out, than in our own county. In the remaining four counties of the district there will also be shown the same kind of work to defeat Gov. Curtin; and when the whole thing is through with and summed up, it will prove that Curtin has a large majority of the legal votes cast.

Yocum is already disheartened with the case, and it is reported feels like abandoning it as hopeless. Well may he.

All we have asserted in the REPORTER, since the election, as to frauds practiced to defeat Gov. Curtin, will be found sustained by the evidence that is now being taken, and our prediction that the "war governor" will get the seat, will come true. Gov. Curtin will be seated without any 8 to 7 arrangements or any resort to precedents and if he wished to ro resort to precedents he would get the seat without proving anything. He will, however, be able to prove a clear title to it.

The Union Pacific railroad company's statement for the year ending June 30, 1878 is rather flattering, viz:

Total income, $12,756,854.67; expenses, $5,807,751.16; surplus, $6,943,603.41; interest, $3,333,967.02, and this with one-half transportation retained by the government on earning reduces the surplus earnings to $2,765,142.18, which is equal to 7.52 per cent. on the capital stock.

Conkling is down now. All along he had poor Hayes on his back, but at last Rutherford has the haughty New York senator by the collar and the seat of his pants, and Roscoe is humbled. Is he conquered? Fellows like Conkling are not likely to keep down; he may yet get the upperhand and blacken Hayes' two eyes. Conk some time ago gave plain hints that he knew something about the presidential that would sink this administration to everlasting infamy. If he has such knowledge will he not soon break his stoicism and tell all he knows.

This tempest is not in the democratic tea-pot. We are lookers on, and whenever the funeral of one or the other does come off we are not agoing to be among those who will cry.

The following little history of the Bank of England will be of interest. That institution will be 185 years old the 27th of the coming July, having received its charter of incorporation at that date, and having been projected by William Patterson, a Scotchman. Constituted as a joint stock company, with a capital of £1,200,000, the whole sum was lent at interest to the government of William and Mary, then much embarrassed. At the outset it was a servant of the state, and has ever since continued such more or less. The charter, granted at first for 11 years, has been from time to time renewed, the last renewal, subject to modification or revocation, having been in 1844. For a while the business was done in one room; now the bank occupies, as everybody knows, a large building in Threadneedle street, and employs some 800 men. Nothing less than a £5 note is ever issued, and no note is issued a second time. The average amount of notes in circulation is £25,000,000.

Careful estimates indicate an increase of population from 1870 to 1880 at 8,500,000, which would make a total population of 47,058,371 in 1880. Uncle Sam is getting to be a pretty numerous boy.

Blaine's Teller committee on southern intimidation, has wound up its business finally. The result is, nix kum raus.

The letters from the President, or those in his confidence, to Collector Arthur, which were read by Senator Conkling in the course of his speech on the New York Custom House appointments, caused a good deal of merriment in the Senate, but the merriment was ill-timed. Is it a matter for laughter that an administration should so disgrace and stultify itself? There was a letter begging an appointment for a son of the Judge whose voice as a member of the Electoral Commission placed Hayes in the White House in defiance of law and equity. There was another seeking a place for a man whose only named qualification was the authorship of a fulsome campaign biography of Rutherford B. Hayes. And there were more of the same kind. They did not make Mr. Conkling's cause better, but they made the administration's worse, and ought to bring the tinge of shame to the cheek of every man connected with it. In the teeth of such things how able and honest public journals like the New York Evening Post and the Springfield Republican can claim that Mr. Hayes is engaged in a battle for the reform of the civil service is far beyond comprehension. If the administration has not sunk to the depths of infamy to which Mr. Conkling said it would be consigned, when the truth about this business were known, it is not because it does not deserve that fate. Perhaps, however, Mr. Conkling has gone to prepare the way for it.

The increase of the hoard of gold in the treasury since the first of January exceeds two hundred thousand dollars. Some concern is manifested as to what will be done with all the gold now accumulated in the vaults of the treasury, especially on the part of the anti-resumptionists who predicted so confidently a little while ago that the specie would soon be drained. But there need be no alarm on that score. What is not required to meet the interest on the public debt will be paid out for current expenditures and it will return to the treasury in sufficient quantities to meet all the requirements of resumption.

POKING UP THE TAX COLLECTORS.—The new Commissioners have directed Attorney Ryon to send out notices to Collectors urging them forward in the collection of taxes, and he has notified them accordingly.

If Hartranft ever gets to be President, he will be the first white house incumbent who can boast he once held a post-office.

Sherman asked for the appointment for a son of Justice Bradley—of 8 to 7 fame—to a custom house appointment, for "manifest reasons."

The Pension Arrears act, with manner of proceedure in making out papers, will be found in this issue of the Reporter.

In the Indiana legislature they talk about passing a law not even allowing a candidate to treat for the purpose of influencing a vote. Such a law would knock all the "merit" out of nine-tenths of modern office seekers.

Strikes are spreading in England.

CONKLING'S DEFEAT IN THE SENATE.

Senator Conkling made an issue with the administration on the New York custom house appointments, and bitterly attacked Mr. Hayes. His point was to defeat the confirmation of Merritt and Burt, the men appointed to succeed Conkling's men. Hayes took so much interest in the matter as to send a message to the Senate, in which he went for Conkling in this wise: "For a long period of time the custom house has been managed and used to control political affairs. The officers suspended by me are, and for several years have been, engaged in active personal management of party politics in the city and State of New York. The duties of the office held by them have been regarded as of subordinate importance to this partisan work. Their offices have been conducted as part of the political machinery under their control. They have made the custom house the centre of a partisan management. The custom house should be a business office." It was a political nest of Conkling politicians, which Hayes and Sherman determined to burst. Let the battle rage. The vote 27 Democrats and 13 Radicals for the confirmation; 23 Radicals and 7 Democrats against it.

THE CIPHER INQUIRY.

TESTIMONY OF GOVERNOR TILDEN BEFORE THE POTTER SUB-COMMITTEE ON SATURDAY.

New York, February 8.—At 11.15 Governor Tilden entered. The governor came in smiling and took his seat quietly.

He was at once sworn by Mr. Hunton, chairman, who said: Governor Tilden we received your note expressing your willingness to testify.

Mr. Tilden replied: "I have read the publication and translations in New York papers. I did not recognize a single come, either in cipher or translation, which I had ever seen before. I never entered into any arrangements to purchase the votes of South Carolina or Florida. I had no information or suspicion that any such communications were being carried on until I saw dispatches published in the New York Tribune. I had no knowledge nor any dealings with any parties to these negotiations. I never authorized any such negotiations in any form whatever. On the morning of November 20, 1876, Mrs. Colonel Pelton mentioned in my presence that her husband had gone for the day. I did not know where he had gone nor that he was going out of the city. He went to Philadelphia, I believe. Later in the day I was called on by Mr. Cooper, who was on his way down town, and was told by him that he had received an offer from some party offering to obtain for money the vote of South Carolina; I said I would authorize no such transaction nor spend money for any such purpose; the whole conversation occupied only a few minutes; I obtained Col. Pelton's address in Baltimore and telegraphed him to come; I knew nothing of ciphers that had passed between him and others, and I could not have translated them. With regard to Florida I never saw one of the telegrams either in cipher or translations. I did not know—I was not informed that any negotiations were going on in regard to illegally obtaining certificates of the returning board. From the 7th of November, 1876, to December 6th of the same year, under no circumstances did I enter into any competition for seeking of certificates by venal inducements. There never was an hour or a minute that I entertained such a thought. To the people who, as I believe, elected me President of the United States, to four millions of citizens who were defrauded, I owed it as a duty to proclaim I would not yield one jot or tittle of my right. Whatever evil may result from this subversion of the electoral system and of free government I resolved I would enter into no auction for the purchase of the chief magistracy. [Here, which the chairman suppressed.] I was resolved that I would continue to protest against wrong by which the people were defrauded out of their rights.

Gov. Hartranft has been wanting to be President. He has already got as far as the Philadelphia post-office.

There were forty-two failures in Chicago in January, with liabilities of nearly twelve hundred thousand dollars.

At the Democratic caucus held in Washington a committee was appointed to draw up an amendment to be added to the Sundry Civil bill, repealing the test oath required of jurors.

The Ute Indians, of Colorado, have agreed to relinquish their right to some 12,000,000 acres of land in exchange for a reservation of $250,000 acres on the White River and a money consideration.

There are so many generals in Congress that a few old fashioned colonels would be a relief. Even a captain would be a tidbit.

The Chicago Times objects to having every little creek that empties into the Mississippi "improved" at enormous public expense.

Detroit Free Press:—"'Joaquin Miller,' says the New York Herald, 'likes to hold a woman's hand in his own.' We can't see why he shouldn't prefer a piece of pie."

A correspondent of the London Times says that celery cooked in milk and thickened with flour will cure rheumatism.

L. Brandeer, a French physician, says that in houses exposed to the north smallpox rages the least.

The "Grand National Dog-Fight" that was to have taken place at New Orleans during the last week of February will probably not take place, Governor Nicholls having signed a bill for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

Early Friday morning six thieves were taken by a mob from the Seymour (Ind.) jail, escorted out of town, tied to trees, soundly flogged and then allowed to go at liberty.

A prominent citizen of Reed City, Mich., recently eloped with a young lady and being pursued and overtaken at Kalamazoo by the girl's father, drew a revolver and committed suicide.

The New Pension Bill.—Under former laws a pensioner was given five years from the date of his discharge to file his application, and if this rule was not complied with, the pension commenced only from the time last evidence was furnished. As an example, if a soldier was discharged in 1865 and filed his application in 1871, his pension only commenced with the latter year. Under the new law, however, he draws his pension from the date upon which he received his discharge.

With the Prince of Wales waiting for the crown, his next eldest brother in training for the office of Lord High Admiral, the next eldest in training for the Commandership-in-Chief, the next eldest about to be made Viceroy in Ireland, the youngest about to go in for the Archbishopric of Canterbury and his sister's husband Governor-General of Canada, there does not seem to be much cause for anxiety that the Queen's children will not make their way in the world.

"Between Grant and Bayard, always for Bayard," says Secretary Schurz's paper, the Westliche Post, of St. Louis.

More outrages—On the 30th of January a tornado struck Iuka, Miss., and killed seven colored people, seven others being injured, while all the whites escaped.

It has been decided by the United States Circuit Court at Baltimore, Judge Bond presiding, that under the statutes of the United States stuffing, a ballot-box is not a penal offense.

The next President of the United States, according to the St. Louis Post-Despatch, "cannot be a Western man, but will be Thomas Francis Bayard, the biggest Senator from the smallest State."

AN INCIDENT OF CONKLING'S "GREAT EFFORT", IN THE SENATE.

[N. Y. Tribune Special.]

Mr. Conkling then began one of his most sarcastic and cutting speeches, sparing nobody who is connected with the administration, but charging home upon them all with all the eloquence and bitterness of which he is so capable.

In the midst of this speech the Senator from New York took from his pocket a large bundle of letters addressed to General Arthur while he was Collector, by different persons whose relations to the administration are, or were, more or less intimate, asking for the appointment of persons in the New York Custom House, for various reasons given. Among the writers of these letters were Secretary McCrary, Governor McCormick, when he was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Rodgers, the President's private secretary, and others.

The scene in the Senate during the reading of these letters was a most remarkable one. None such has been witnessed there for years. Mr. Conkling read one letter asking that a Mr. Bradley be provided for in the New York Custom House because he was a son of Mr. Justice Bradley of the Supreme Court.

"Son of whom?" shouted some Senator.

"Son of Justice Bradley," replied Mr. Conkling in a very loud voice.

"What Justice Bradley is that?" asked another Senator.

"Why, Justice Bradley, of the Electoral Commission," said Mr. Conkling, "and of the Supreme Court of the United States."

"Oh, ho!" shouted a third Senator, "then they wanted to provide for him did they?"

A similar scene occurred when another letter was read asking for the appointment of John O. Howard of Ohio, "who had written a life of President Hayes" "Whose life is that which he wrote?" shouted a Senator, with his hand at his ear.

"Life of the President, President Hayes," responded Mr. Conkling, with some other remarks which were not complimentary to the head of the administration.

And then there were exclamations of mock surprise and loud laughter in the Senate. One letter asked for the appointment of a man because he was the writer's wife's sister's son. Altogether the exhibition which Mr. Conkling made of the practice of the administration in civil service reform was a very humiliating one.

PHILADELPHIA APPOINTMENTS.

Washington, February 7.—Mr. Hayes this afternoon sent to the senate the following nominations:

James Pollock, to be naval officer at Philadelphia, vice J. A. Heistand, whose commission expires March 1.

A. Louden Snowden, to be superintendent of the Philadelphia mint, vice ex-Governor Pollock, appointed naval officer.

John F. Hartranft, to be postmaster at Philadelphia, vice A. Louden Snowden, appointed superintendent of the mint.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

The following bills were read in place:

Mr. Faunce, an act to permit persons charged with the crime of receiving stolen goods, knowing them to have been stolen, to testify in their own behalf.

Mr. Humphreys, an act to extend the term of township clerks and further define their duties.

Also, an act repealing an act to define and suppress vagrancy, approved May 8, 1876, so as to prohibit the payment of fees for arrests made by police officers and high constables.

Mr. Gatchell, an act amending an act to increase the length of school terms, approved April 9, 1872.

Mr. Barrett, a supplement to an act to provide for the division of counties of this state and the erection of new counties therefrom, approved April 17, 1878, empowering county commissioners to issue additional bonds.

Mr. Caughey, an act to provide for the expenses required by an act entitled an act to provide for the continuance of the education and maintenase of the destitute orphans of the deceased soldiers and sailors and the destitute children of permanently disabled soldiers and sailors of the state.

Mr. John H. Landis (joint resolution), instructing our senators and representatives in congress to urge such legislation as will secure the enforcement of the laws against polygamy and prohibit the practice of the same in any state or territory in the United States.

Mr. Nakel, an act relating to the removal of civil actions brought before justices of the peace or aldermen.

Speaker Long, an act authorizing the appointment of a commission to ascertain and adjust the losses occasioned by the riots in July, 1878, providing for the payment of the same and appropriating $4,000,000 therefor. The commission is to be composed, under the provisions of this bill, of three persons, who shall be appointed by the governor, and who shall adjust and properly apportion all losses caused by the late riots. They shall pay all losses and complete their work by November 1, 1879, and shall receive $10 per day and their necessary expenses as compensation for their labor.

The following resolution was offered:

Mr. Nakel offered a resolution urging congress to pass a bill giving a medal to each surviving soldier of the original 530 persons who, in response to a call for 75,000 troops in 1861, for the protection of the capitol of the nation, were the first to arrive in Washington in obedience to the call of the President, and who braved the mob in Baltimore. Adopted.

In the Senate there were some new bills, as usual, and also as usual, none of them of great importance. One by Senator Jones, of Philadelphia, provides that in convictions of crime or misdemeanor, where the minimum amount of punishment is within the discretion of the Court, it may enter of record an order suspending sentence for an indefinite time and may discharge the prisoner on his going bail to reappear for sentence when called upon. Mr. Thomas, of Bucks, offered one requiring the registration of practitioners of medicine and surgery in the office of the County Prothonotary. Mr. Lamon, of Philadelphia, offered a joint resolution to have a statement prepared, under the direction of the Governor, showing the corporations claiming special privileges under special legislation. Mr. Hall, of Elk, offered a joint resolution that the Legislature adjourn at 12 M. on the last Thursday in March. Five bills were passed, as follows: Relating to mechanics' liens; paying Judge Bentley his salary; supplementing the act of June 2, 1874, in relation to partnership associations; enabling hospitals, etc., to purchase real estate sold by the Sheriff, and authorizing corporations to borrow money to redeem previous loans. All these went through unanimously, the affirmative vote ranging from 34 to 43.

In the House, among the new bills, Mr. Weist, of York, proposed to outlaw Spitz dogs and fine or imprison their owners to the extent respectively of $10 and three months.

Among the other subjects of interest was the reception of a shoal of petitions from all the counties along the Susquehanna, from Sunbury down, asking the removal of the dam just below Columbia. The assigned object is to let the shad ascend the river and stock the upper waters.

The Atlanta Constitution cannot tell whether Mr. Hayes or Mr. Sherman made the appointments, but considers one thing certain—all the thieves connected with the electoral frauds have been provided for.

BROTHER TALMAGE.

A Committee Appointed to Make an Investigation.

New York, February 3.—The Brooklyn Presbytery met this afternoon for the purpose of calling the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle, to account for wandering from the prescribed lines of Presbyterianism and thereby bringing religion into contempt. There was a large attendance and the friends of Talmage rallied round him in force. Rev. Dr. Crosby said he had consulted with three members of the New York Presbytery in regard to offering resolutions and they had exhorted him to do so. He, therefore, offered the following:

WHEREAS, the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, D. D., is charged by common fame with falsehood and deceit, and with using improper methods in preaching which tend to bring religion into contempt, and,

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Presbytery to protect the good name of its members when they are unjustly assailed, and to subject those who offend to proper discipline, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of three ministers and two elders be appointed to investigate the nature and extent of the common fame report referred to in the preamble, and report to the Presbytery what, if any further action shall be taken.

There was considerable discussion as to whether the pastor of the Tabernacle had been guilty of the charges, and whether it was worth while to enter into an investigation.

ALMOST A FATAL BAPTISM.

An Invalid Woman Immersed and Taken to Her Home Unconscious.

Reading, Pa., Feb. 3.—A baptismal ceremony was performed at Palmyra yesterday which causes much excitement in the neighborhood. Mrs. Martin Bowman, an invalid, aged 55 years, and unable to walk, was taken to Spring Creek and there baptized according to the rites of the German Baptist Church, of which rites of the German Baptist Church, of which she was a member.

The mode of baptism is to immerse three times, and, notwithstanding the debilitated condition of the woman, the ceremoney was gone through with. Being unable to walk from extreme weakness, Mrs. Bowman was placed on a chair and carried into the stream by the Rev. Mr. Hertzle and an attendant, after which she was plunged under the icy cold water three times. After the third plunge, the pallid countenance and limp form of the woman seemed like death. When brought out of the water her husband and children, supposing her to be dead, wept bitterly. The supposed corpse was wrapped in blankets and taken to the house of a neighbor, where hot bricks and irons were applied to her feet, hot stimulants administered, and after exertion she was brought back to consciousness. Her first words were: "God, am I with you? I am so cold, so cold." It was some time before the ice in her hair was thawed out. Just before she revived she says she could hear her friends around her, but was unable to speak or move.

Several other persons who were to be baptized have concluded to wait until warmer weather. Up to this afternoon the woman was improving rapidly.

ARRESTED FOR MURDER.

Six Men in Jail Charged with Killing an Old Man to Obtain Insurance Money.

Reading, Pa., Feb. 4, 1879.—This afternoon the community of Lebanon, Pa., was startled when the announcement was made that Charles Truth, Israel Brandt, Frank Stechler, Henry Weiss, Josiah Hummel and George Zechman were committed to jail on the charge of having murdered Joseph Raber, an aged man, fifteen miles from Lebanon, last December. The body of the man was found lying in a small creek, near his residence, and at first it was supposed that he had dropped from a plank while crossing from an attack of vertigo, and had been drowned. Nothing wrong was suspected at first, but when it was learned that strange parties held policies of insurance on the old man's life to the amount of $15,000, the manner of the death was more closely investigated. The deceased had no relatives, and when the body was picked up, it was alleged that no efforts were made to resuscitate him. The coroner was even compelled to hold the inquest in a barn, as the body was not allowed to be brought into any neighboring house.

Driven by Conscience.

The information charging the accused with the murder was sworn to by Joseph F. Peters, of West Hanover township, before Squire Peck. Peters testified that he saw several of the accused strike the old man over the head with a blunt instrument and then throw the body into the creek to convey the impression that he had fallen in and drowned. Peters swears that the reason he did not make the information earlier was because his father-in-law, Charles Truth, was one of the parties concerned in the murder. His conscience, however, troubled him, and at last he gave way and told the terrible story. The warrant was placed in charge of four officers, who visited the scene of the murder and made the arrests. Peters was a soldier in the regular army and had just returned home. The scene of the murder is in a lonely portion of the county near the Blue Mountains. All of the prisoners, excepting Truth and Zechman, have policies on the old man's life. It is believed that there was a conspiracy among all the accused to get the old man out of the way to secure the money.

ORIGIN OF THE PLAGUE.

London, February 3.—The origin of the plague in Russia is thus given: A Cossack, returning from the war to Wettinska, brought his lady love a shawl, which she wore two days, and sickened with all the symptoms of the plague, and died. The following four days other members of her family died. The disease spread rapidly, the local authorities not paying any attention to it till half the inhabitants died, and the remainder were unable to bury the victims.

Then, when the epidemic had assumed serious dimensions, energetic means were taken for preventing its spreading, and strict quarantines were established; firstly, in towns and villages, shutting off the streets where the plague reigns from the rest of the place, and secondly, by surrounding the villages with troops so that nobody is allowed to pass in or out. The panic in Russia is almost incredible. Every class and station in life have petitioned for the entire cessation of all intercourse, even of postal communication between the rest of Russia and the Volga. Letters sent from Astrakhan and Zaritzin are not received by the persons to whom they are addressed. Some people even refuse to take paper money, fearing the germ of infection might be communicated through it.

It is almost impossible to describe the terror which has taken possession of the people. The Russian Sanitary Commission has proposed to shut off the Volga line from all intercourse with Western Russia, and permit communication only under quarantine.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Feb. 8, 1879.—A special despatch says:—Joseph L. Heath, a prominent citizen of Reed City, Mich., and married, eloped with a Miss Thayer. The father of the lady followed, overtaking them at Kalamazoo. Upon the approach of the father, Heath drew a revolver to shoot him; but, changing his mind, placed the pistol to his own breast and fired, the ball passing through his heart.

ARREARAGES OF PENSIONS.

How to Make out Papers.

The bill providing for the payment of arrearages of pensions has passed both houses of Congress and was signed by Mr. Hayes. It is as follows:

Be it enacted &c., That all pensions which have been granted under the general laws regulating pensions or may hereafter be granted, in consequence of death from a cause which originated in the United States service during the continuance of the late war of the rebellion, or in consequence of wounds, injuries or disease received or contracted in said service during the said war of rebellion, shall commence from the date of the death or discharge from said service of the person on whose account the claim has been or shall hereafter be granted, or from the termination of the right of the party having prior title to such pension; provided the rate of pensions for the intervening time for which arrears of pension are hereby granted shall be the same per month for which the pension was originally granted.

Section 2. That the Commissioner of Pensions is hereby authorized and directed to adopt such rules and regulations for the payment of the arrears of pensions hereby granted as will be necessary to cause to be paid to such pensioners, or if the pensioners shall have died to the person or persons entitled to the same, all such arrears of pensions as the pensioner may be or would have been entitled to under this act.

Section 3. That section 4,717 of the Revised Statutes, which provides that "No claim for pension, not prosecuted to a successful issue within five years from the date of filing the same, shall be admitted without record evidence from the War or Navy Department of the injury or the disease which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made; provided, that in any case in which the limitation prescribed by this section bars the further prosecution of the claim, the claimant may present, through the pension office, to the Adjutant General of the army or the Surgeon General of the navy, evidence that the disease or injury which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made originated in the service and in the line of duty. And if such evidence is deemed satisfactory by the officer to whom it may be submitted he shall cause a record of the fact so proved to be made, and a copy of the same to be transmitted to the Commissioner of Pensions; and the bar to the prosecution of the claim shall thereby be removed," be and the same is hereby repealed.

Section 4. No claim agent or other shall be entitled to receive any compensation for his service on making application for arrears of pension.

Section 5. That all acts or portions of acts, so far as they may conflict with the provisions of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

How to Proceed.

The commissioner of pensions is evidently determined to lose no time in securing to persons entitled to its benefits their rights under the bill granting arrearages of pensions which has just become a law. To this end he has just issued the following circular letter:

Persons who are entitled to arrears of pension, under the act granting arrears approved January 25, 1879, and whose pensions were granted previous to that date, will not require the assistance of a claim agent in obtaining the amount due them. All correspondence in relation to any claim for such arrears will be with the person entitled, and no claim agent will be recognized in such claim.

A letter addressed to the commissioner of pensions, signed by the person who was in receipt of the pensions at the date aforesaid, and two witnesses, in the presence of a magistrate, will be the only application required, and upon which the rights of all parties concerned will be adjusted.

The *Pension Certificates* should not be should not be sent to this office, but it *must* be exhibited to the magistrate.

The letter should be in the following or equivalent form:

"*To the Commissioner of Pensions:*

I, ———, a pensioner, under pension certificate No. ——, hereby apply for the arrears due me, under the act granting arrears of pensions, approved January 25, 1879. My post office address is—here insert the name of the postoffice, and if the claimant resides in a city, the name and number of the street and residence must also be given.]

Two witnesses. Name of claimant.

STATE OF ——, COUNTY OF ——, *ss:*

Signed in my presence, by ——, who is known to me to be the person he describes himself to be, and at the same time he exhibited to me his pension certificate, which is numbered——

Magistrate's signature."

FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE FOR MARCH.

This admirable magazine improves with age; and the Editor (Rev. Dr. Deems) seems determined that it shall be *the* Household Magazine of America, par excellence. Although it is a religious publication, the contents are by no means of a sombre character, but are peculiarly bright and cheerful; the pages teeming with pleasing, entertaining and highly edifying literature. The present number possesses some very attractive features; the opening paper on 'The Island World of the Pacific,' by Byron A. Brooks, embraces a succinct, graphic, and most interesting account of the social and moral condition of the Sandwich Islands Society, Samoa, and Fiji Islands before the introduction of Christianity there. Among other descriptive articles of much interest are 'Street Scenes in Madrid,' 'Funeral Procession in the Caucasus,' 'The Convent of La Rabida, etc., etc. The serial story, 'David Fleming's Forgiveness,' become more and more interesting; a new one is shortly to be commenced, entitled 'Little Hinges.' There are several short stories by popular writers; 'Thirteen Hundred Years Ago,' by Mrs. J. J. Hussey, and 'Andrew Fordham's Second Thought' by Frances E. Wadleigh, are particularly notable. The number is unusually rich in poems; those deserving special mention are 'Truth's Altar,' by D. Bethune Duffield; 'One Year,' by Augusta Browne Garrett; 'Shelter,' by Emily Huntington Miller; 'All Goeth but God's Will,' by Nellie C. Hastings, etc., etc. 'The Calendar of the Prayer Book,' is given monthly, containing a full account of the fixed and movable fasts and feasts of the Anglican and the American branches of the Episcopal Church. There are elaborate historical papers; a sermon, and the Popular Exegesis by the editor, and a laboriously and carefully prepared miscellany. There are 128 pages, quarto; and over 100 excellent illustrations. The annual subscription is $3; six months, $1.50, and four months, $1. Price of single copy, 25 cents. Postpaid. Address, Frank Leslie's Publishing House, 53, 55 & 57 Park Place, New York.

A SWELL MOHAMMEDAN WEDDING.

The Marriage of the Fifth Son of the Khedive of Egypt.

[Alexandria Correspondence London Times.]

Mahmoud Hamdi Bey, the fifth son of the Khedive, was married last week to a daughter of Edhami Pasha, a son of Abbas Pasha, son of Mehemet Ali, and Viceroy of Egypt from 1848 to 1854. Prince Tewfik, the heir apparent to the throne, is married to a sister of the bride, and Prince Ibrahim, now at Woowich, is betrothed to another sister. Certainly the viceregal family are obedient to the behests of their religion, which declare marriage a positive duty. "Art thou married?" asked the prophet of one of his followers. "No," replied the man. "And art thou sound and healthy?" "Yes," said the other. "Then," declared the prophet, "thou art one of the brothers of the devil." But the devil has not many brothers in a Mohammedan country, as every man of any position has his harem. Four wives are the limit, and the facility of divorce is so great that rich men do not at all shrink from the dangers of this quadruple alliance. Also, the companion of the prophet, is said to have married and divorced two hundred wives; and a certain old dyer of Bagdad has come down in history as a man who had been married nine hundred times.

Prince Mamoud, who had been betrothed for some time, was married on a Thursday—the lucky day of the week. All the old ceremonies were gone through, and Cario took a deep interest in all the proceedings. There is no religious rite, and the principal parties do not meet until all preliminaries are over. The Zeffeh, or procession of the bride, was performed by her in due form through the streets of Cario, which she promenaded in gorgeous attire, carefully veiled and shut up in a brougham. Infantry and cavalry, with martial bands, preceded her, and she was followed by crowds of female friends and harem slaves, by whom she was finally conducted to her husband's palace in the Ismailich quarter. The bridegroom, meanwhile, after dining with his father at Abdin Palace, was escorted by his male friends to the adjoining mosque, where a solemn prayer was performed. From the mosque, as the sun went down, he and his party marched on foot in procession through the whole city. All the Princes, Nubar Pasha, Abdel Kader Pasha, Shahin Pasha and crowds of other pashas and bey were of the party, and many of these stout dignitaries were exhausted by the fatigue of such a formidable pedestrian trip. Soldiers escorted the procession, attendants carried numbers of lanterns and the streets were densely crowded by natives eager to see the sight. The crowd of friends parted with the bridegroom at the foot of the staircase of his palace, when his brother Hassan gave him the customary blow on the back which signifies farewell to bachelor life, and he was then left alone to rescue his wife from her female attendants and see her face for the first time in his life.

—"When the swallows homeward fly," then is the time when coughs and colds begin to appear. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup cures every case. Price 25 cts.

Altoona, Feb. 6.—Bertie Weaver, eleven years old, boarded a passing train this morning to obtain a short ride through the town. As he was stepping off again a passing engine struck him and completely cut off his head and one arm.

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I will mail (Free) the recipe for a simple Vegetable Balm that will remove Tan, Freckles, Pimples and Blotches, leaving the skin soft, clear and beautiful; also instructions for producing a luxuriant growth of hair on a bald head or smooth face. Address, inclosing 3c stamp, Ben. Vandeff & Co., 20 Ann Street, N.Y.

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The advertiser having been permanently cured of that dread disease, Consumption, by a simple remedy, is anxious to make known to his fellow-sufferers the means of cure. To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used, free of charge, with the directions for preparing and using the same, which they will find a sure cure for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, &c.
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