The Centre Reporter.

FRED KURTZ.....EDITOR.

CENTRE HALL, PA.; Feb, 3. 1881.

Don Cameron was at Harrisburg the other evening to take a look at the senatorial trouble. He advised his fellows to stick to Oliver "until hell freezes over."

Sitting Bull has surrendered with 70 lodges and some 500 souls. We suppose Uncle Sam can carry the whole caboodle in his vest pocket and not know there's anything in't,

The official vote for president is now in, and will be found in this issue of the REPORTER, from which it will be seen that Hancock's majority over Garfield is 6,332.

The democrats on 26 ended their contest in Tennessee by the election of H. E. Jackson, state credit democrat, for U. S. Senator. This choice insures a democratic majority in the U. S. Senate.

Is Charlie Ross found at last? A farmer named Peter McCollum, residing in the township of Oldborough, Ont., claims to have discovered the long lost Charlie Ross among the Tuscarora Indians. Mr. McCollum states that he has had correspondence with Mr. Ross which establishes the child's identity beyond peradventure, at which thousands would rejoice.

That fight in a Berks county church is still going on. On last Sabbath the opponents of Rev. Apple locked the doors of Bellman church, placed a guard outside and held it by force, compelling him to hold services and install the newly elected officers in the open air in front of the building. There was considerable excitement, but serious disturbance was prevented by officers of the law.

The latest cabinet rumor has it that Blaine will get the state department and Allison, of Iowa, the treasury department. Bruce, the colored senator from Mississippi, has written a letter in which he says he would also accept a seat in Garfield's cabinet. Will Garfield take his whisky straight or will he put a little color in't? Guess he'll have no color in his cabinet, the African is only intended for shedding crocodile tears over in election time.

The women's rights women are still trotting around with their hobby—women as voters—under their arms and on their tongues. If Liz Stanton and Sus Anthony were allowed to vote, we fear they'd not be satisfied, but go to fighting the post-office department because it is a purely mail institution; in the opinion of the REPORTER any woman who would strike the word "male" from the constitution, would strike the mail out of the post-office too, and then how would business men carry on their correspondence?

Commissioner of Pensions Bently has written a letter to the chairman of the Senate Appropriation Committee, in which he estimates that more than $500,000,000 will be required to pay all the claims under the arrearages of pensions law passed in 1879. Many claims for pension are fraudulent, crooked swearing being resorted to by the parties to filch money from the treasury. We doubt not that millions are drawn every year by parties who have not an iota of right to a pension.

It is likely the grave-robbers' occupation is gone, in the new use found for torpedoes. It was near Mount Vernon, Ohio, a few nights ago, that three men attempting a grave robbery struck a torpedo that had been placed on top of the coffin for protection. It exploded instantly, killing one and breaking the leg of another. This incident seems to point the way to great improvements in our mortuary practices. Hitherto it has seemed that cremation—a process repulsive to many—was the only safe refuge from the desecrating hand of the resurrectionist. It is now clear, however, that the true protection is an explosive coffin. The undertaker who first brings that improvement into use will grow rich while medical colleges grow poor.

Gen. Beaver was at Harrisburg recently and entered the stalls for dark horses, but no one coming to put senatorial fodder in the rack or oats in the manger, he very sensibly went back again to the romantic hills of the city of the beautiful fountain.

Why does not some one enter Dan Hastings as a good, heavy piece of timber suitable for Garfield's cabinet? Is Garfield ungrateful?

The *Watchman* admits Curtin, we are pleased to see, as a good enough democrat for U. S. Senator. So do we, only we knew he was good enough democrat before our neighbor.

Don's senatorial goose ain't done yet.

If Grow could manage to grow a little more, he might make it.

Wallace keeps having the highest vote for senator. He's the best man too.

The Sprague divorce case is soon to open up. A despatch from Providence, R. I., the other day, says that in the office of the clerk of the supreme court of Washington county, William Sprague filed a petition praying for a divorce from his wife, Catherine Chase Sprague. The petition recites the facts of the marriage and charges Mrs. Sprague with adultery and other gross misbehavior and wickedness and states that her extravagant style of living has defeated the petitioner's effort to extricate himself from his financial difficulties. The petition says that "she has persistently and against the express wishes and commands of the petitioner and after great public scandal had been occasioned thereby, kept company of and been on terms of close and improper intimacy with other men and of the same men whose names had been associated with hers in the public scandals aforementioned.

All this means Conkling, but that will not interfere with his being the republican leader or candidate for president, as Garfield's case was even worse in committing perjury.

A QUARREL INEVITABLE.

A disagreement in the Republican party is inevitable. It must come. It is beyound possibility for the President elect to prevent it. He may choose his Cabinet as he pleases; it cannot please everybody. The Conkling wing of the party and the Blaine wing of the party cannot be harmonized. They are bound to fly different ways.

A real and true Democratic party has now an opportunity to take great advantage of the dissensions among the leading Republicans.

The breaches which are now being made reach down deep, and will have a tendency to widen, and not to close up.

Will the Democrats be wise, and add to their ranks the disaffected, or will they perpetuate their own petty disagreements, asks the *N. Y. Sun.*

A PARTISAN ADVANTAGE.

Under this head the *Patriot* makes the following thoughtful allusions:

Some of the republican organs affect a great deal of indignation over an alleged proposition for an alliance between the regular republicans and democrats in the legislature with a fair apportionment as *quid pro quo* for a United States senator. The virtuous protest of Hon. Christian Kneass against a sacrifice of "the result of the glorious victory of November" meets with many expressions of warm approval. Speaking of the alleged negotiations for a compromise the *Press*, which is in hearty sympathy with the Grow faction, asks the following questions: "How could any compromise with the democracy be justified? If it sacrificed any legitimate republican strength in apportionment what possible excuse could be offered? If it did not surrender any rightful republican advantage what object would the democrats have in making the negotiations?"

The democrats could have a very important object in the apportionment bill besides asking the surrender of any rightful republican advantage. The present apportionment of members of congress and state legislature shows too well what democrats anxious for the success of their party and for its just representation are anxious to prevent. A greater piece of legislative scoundrelism than this apportionment was never enacted into law. It violates the solemn injunctions of the constitution in regard to equal and just representation of the people in its every section. In order to make the Pennsylvania delegation in congress to consist of six democrats and twenty-one republicans all the democratic districts are above the ratio of population and all the republican districts are under the ratio. When this did not serve democratic counties were mutilated and wards torn out of cities. In short, the law was framed so that it requires nearly twice as many democrats as republicans to elect a member of congress in Pennsylvania.

But it is in the apportionment of the fifty members of the state senate that this infamous measure is shown in its worst light. The ratio for a state senator was 70,000 inhabitants, and the constitution prescribes that the districts shall be as nearly equal as possible. It further prescribes that each county shall be entitled to one senator for each ratio. Under this apportionment the republican county of Delaware with a population of 39,403, or but little more than half a ratio, has one senator, while democratic Berks county with a population of 106,701 has one senator, and Lancaster with 121,340 has two. Lebanon county with a population of 34,096, or less than half the ratio, has one senator who can always be counted for the republican machine, but it requires 97,927 inhabitants in the district composed of the counties of Lycoming, Columbia, Montour and Sullivan for one senator. Here is the enormous difference of **62,881** in this shamefully fraudulent apportionment between a republican and a democratic district. By this infamous system, more disgraceful than the old "rotten borough system" of England, because deliberately and designedly fraudulent, is the Pennsylvania senate packed to-day.

The power of re-enacting this apportionment is what the *Press* probably means by a "rightful republican advantage," against the surrender of which the Hon. Christian Kneas makes such eloquent protest, regarding its abandonment as a sacrifice of the "results of the glorious victory of November." Is it strange on the other hand that democrats should be anxious to prevent even by a compromise the repetition of an apportionment seamed as is this from end to end with fraud and perjury? Such a negotiation by which the democrats of Pennsylvania would secure the rights of equal representation in congress and the state legislature is strenuously objected to as being in the nature of a ransom from corsairs. But as it has always been considered in accordance with sound morality to ransom a captive from pirates it is answered that there is nothing repugnant to political morality in a compromise that would rescue the democrats from an iniquitous gerrymander by passively consenting to the election of a United States senator by the republican faction capable of carrying out the compact. Against such a negotiation it is urged that the bolting republicans who surround Mr. Grow would unite with the democrats in preventing an unjust apportionment. The answer is that this faction is just as unscrupulous as the men of the machine, and that the majority of its members will go evan farther in partisan injustice to the democrats in order to vindicate themselves with their republican constituents.

While we are opposed, with the great body of the democratic party, to any negotiations with the machine on the basis suggested in various quarters, the shamefully infamous character of the apportionment will be sufficient justification for those democrats who have sought to save the party from its repetition. If the obligation to obey the constitution will not induce the republican majority in the legislature to make an apportionment in accordance with its provisions they will be bound by no compromise. Those who made the gerrymander of 1874 and are profiting by it are just as anxious to obtain all the advantages they can get from a like gerrymander in 1881. But this is a matter which concerns the honest masses of the republican party as much as it does the democrats. It is of as much importance to the republicans as to the democrats that the provisions of the constitution in regard to the rights of representation should be faithfully observed. This is a public matter affecting the rights and interests of the whole body of the people, and over it there can be no compromises or negotiations. The republicans may repeat the apportionment fraud of 1874 and the people may again avenge the wrong, as they did then, at the ballot box.

Among railroad news we notice that for the purpose of affording an alternate line from Hollidaysburg up the eastern slope of the Allegheny Mountains and through the mountain tunnel, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is contemplating re-laying what is known as the New Portage Road from Hollidaysburg to a point a few miles west of the tunnel. By so doing the company will be able to relieve the great pressure that is now felt on the eastern slope of the mountain by the transfer to the new line of some of the freight tonnage. This improvement will also give the advantage of two tunnels through the mountains and very close together in the event of any accident happening to either one of them.

We notice that the President of the State Senate has appointed our State Senator, Hon. C. T. Alexander, to positions on the most important Committees in that body, viz: Federal Relations, Judiciary (General), Finance and Apportionment. The Senator will have a lively time if he meets with all these Committees and attends to his place on the floor.

—Smith and Mrs. Miller, the Williamsport murders were hung to day—Thursday. They died without a struggle.

THE FUNDING BILL.

The Senate Committee on Finance heard Secretary Sherman, 24th, on the Funding bill. He favored a 5.20 bond at a rate not exceeding 3½ per cent., the rate to be fixed in the discretion of the Secretary. He thought that the funding certificates proposed by the bill could be floated at 3 per cent. He could not say whether the bonds could be floated at 3 per cent. if their term be fixed at thirty years without an option for earlier redemption. Mr. Bayard said to-night, when asked if there were any means of knowing what action the Senate would be likely to take, that he did not see how it was possible that there could be any, because for himself he had not given the matter any thought in this connection until the bill had passed the House, and he believed other Senators had been of his opinion while it was before the House; that it would be simply useless to predicate anything upon what the House might do, for until almost the end of the consideration of the bill one day's work in the House was as likely as not to be completely subversive of that of the preceding day. He thought it could be safely said that there was a general desire in the Senate to pass a Funding bill with the least possible delay.

Mr. Bentley, commissioner of pensions, speaking of fraudulent claims says: "Considering the whole case it is my opinion that not less than 10 per cent. of the pension appropriations are paid out upon fraudulent and illegal claims, which, by the adoption of a proper method for the preparation and presentation of the evidence in support of the cases, would be saved to the Government and the people."

It is a pity the parties who draw these fraudulent pensions can not all be discovered and brought to justice, an event that would leave but few empty prison cells. We sometimes think we could point out some of them. Commissioner Bentley says, that the Pension Office, as now organized, is "almost wholly at the mercy of criminals, for there is nothing to prevent a rogue from making up papers for claims having all the appearance of being genuine," it can be imagined what a temptation to perjury and forgery was sent out by Congress.

The Sun adds: On June 30, 1880, 250,802 persons were receiving pensions from the Government. This was 8,047 more than were on the rolls a twelvemonth before; although, as the war recedes in the past, the number of pensioners, according to the experience of all other nations, and according to our own experience before these days of demagogery and fraud, should steadily decrease with the lapse of years.

Fifty million dollars are now required every year to pay these pensions; while the Arrears act, passed Jan. 25, 1879, brought into the Pension Office 180,000 new claims. There were already in the office over a hundred thousand claims, then pending, to which the provision for arrears applied, so that there are, in round numbers, 282,000 claims on which, if they are allowed, the act will take effect. They average over a thousand dollars each; and this average will increase by more than a hundred dollars a year each, until they are settled. Taking eleven hundred dollars each as the average, we get a total of about $310,000,000 called for as the first payment. Now deduct thirty per cent. for claims possibly to be thrown out as detected frauds, and we still have $217,000,000 as the lowest sum we can expect to pay. In addition, we must reckon in the $25,000,000 already paid for arrears prior to the time of the annual pension report, and then we have $242,000,000—an amount which will be further increased, if too large an allowance has been made for the number of claims thrown out. It was this sum of $242,000,000 to which Mr. Hubbell lately invited the attention of Congress.

If the legislature adjourns, without a choice for senator, what then? can the governor appoint until the meeting of an extra session next winter? The following points of law bear upon the case:

The constitution of the United States provides in article 1, section 3, "That if vacancies happen by resignation or otherwise during the recess of the legislature, of any state, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancy."

The act of the legislature of this state passed January 11, 1867, and based upon the act of congress passed July 25, 1866, providing for the election of senators, provides in the second section "That in case no person shall receive a majority of all the votes of the joint assembly on the first day, the joint assembly shall meet at 12 o'clock meridian of each succeeding day during the session of the legislature and take at least one vote until a senator shall be elected."

There is not any provision made in the act of congress nor in the act of assembly above referred to authorizing the governor to appoint a United States senator.

The third section of the said act of assembly provides that, "Whenever on the meeting of the legislature a vacancy shall exist in the representation of this state in the senate of the United States, the legislature shall proceed, on the second Tuesday after the commencement and organization of its session, to elect a person to fill such vacancy, in the manner herein before provided for the election of a senator for a full term; and if a vacancy shall happen during the session of the legislature, then on the second Tuesday after the legislature shall have notice of such vacancy."

Do not the provisions of the act of assembly requiring the joint convention to meet each day during the session and take at least one vote until a senator shall be elected make it imperative for this legislature to elect a senator before a final adjournment? This is a problem which will bear some discussion.

Should they fail to do so, does the constitution of the United States, which provides that if vacancies happen by resignation or otherwise during the recess of the legislature of any state, provide for a vacancy created in this way and confer on the governor the power to fill it by appointment until the next meeting of the legislature? It is certainly clear that there is no provision made for such an emergency as now exists. If, therefore, the legislature fail to elect, the great state of Pennsylvania will be without its full representation in the senate of the United States until the next session of the legislature.

Does the absence of any power to appoint by the governor in the act of assembly of April 11, 1867, in any way conflict with the provisions of the constitution conferring the appointing power on the governor? is another point which will bear elucidation.

The state constitution makes no provision in the case. If the legislature should adjourn before the vacancy occurs, which will be on the fourth of March, the governor could appoint, but he can not appoint if the vacancy occurs during a session of the legislature.

HARMONY.—An exchange says that W. A. M. Grier, the Pennsylvania delegate who voted for Garfield on every ballot at Chicago, has been appointed a Trustee of the Danville Insane Asylum.

The REPORTER thought all along he needed quarters in an asylum.

The following bill was introduced:

Mr. Alexander, making it a misdemeanor for any minor to knowingly and falsely represent himself to be of full age for the purpose of obtaining intoxicating liquors.

Mrs. Simon Reiss died at Saucon, Northampton county, on Monday, aged 105 years.

THE POPULAR POLL.

A Carefully Complied Statement of the Vote for President in 1880.

[From the Baltimore Sun.]

Careful revision of the returns from all the states, obtained by correspondence with the best sources of information, enables us to lay before the readers of the Sun a correct table of the popular vote of the United States for president in November, 1880. The total vote of the country was 9,200,794, divided as follows:

Winfield S. Hancock, democrat.	4,444,313
James A. Garfield, republican...	4,437,981
James B. Weaver, greenback....	307,063
Neal Dow, prohobition.....	9,644
Scattering.....	1,793

The total vote polled for presideat in 1876 by the same states as in 1880 was 8,411,136, and the increase is 789,658.

The vote of the states for Hancock, Garfield and Weaver is as follows:

STATES.	Hancock.	Garfield.	Weaver.
Alabama.	90,687	56,178	4,642
Arkansas.	60,489	41,661	4,079
California.	80,620	80,348	3,392
Colorado.	24,647	27,420	1,435
Connecticut.	64,417	67,063	868
Delaware.	15,183	14,150	.....
Florida.	27,064	23,654	.....
Georgia.	102,622	52,552	481
Illinois.	277,221	318,037	26,858
Indiana.	225,528	232,164	12,986
Iowa.	105,848	183,904	32,327
Kansas.	59,789	121,520	19,710
Kentucky.	147,999	104,550	11,498
Louisiana.	65,310	31,891	.....
Maine.	65,171	74,039	4,408
Maryland.	93,706	78,615	818
Massachusetts.	111,960	165,205	4,548
Michigan.	181,300	185,190	34,895
Minnesota.	53,315	93,903	3,267
Mississippi.	75,760	34,854	5,797
Missouri.	208,609	153,567	34,045
Nebraska.	28,699	54,979	3,583
Nevada.	9,611	8,732	.....
N. Hampshire.	40,794	44,852	528
New Jersey.	122,565	120,555	2,617
New York.	534,511	555,544	12,373
N. Carolina.	124,204	115,378	1,126
Ohio.	340,821	375,048	6,456
Oregon.	19,948	20,619	245
Pennsylvania	407,428	444,704	20,668
Rhode Island.	10,779	18,195	236
S. Carolina.	112,821	58,071	566
Tennessee.	150,169	107,730	6,016
Texas.	156,628	58,220	27,405
Vermont,	18,181	45,090	1,212
Virginia.	127,976	83,639	139
W. Virginia.	57,391	46,143	9,079
Wisconsin.	114,634	144,689	7,980
Total.	4,444,313	4,437,981	307,063

Hancock's majority over Garfield, 6,332.

There is a rumor at Harrisburg, says the Herald correspondent, that Mr. Garfield has concluded to give Senator Cameron a position in the Cabinet in order to break the deadlock in the Legislature and to promote unity between the two contending republican factions by the election of both Oliver and Grow. Such an alliance is very improbable, even should Garfield interpose to restore peace in the party. The argument of the bolting republicans against the regular candidate for Senator has been that he is the choice of the "machine" and does not possess the necessary qualifications for Senator as to statesmanship.

The alligation has been repeatedly made that the bolting republicans are animated in their revolt by a desire for power and plunder, instead of by a desire to elevate the politics of the State. An alliance of this kind would afford justification for the charge. The breach between the factions is so wide that every indication points to a continuation of the strife. The only way they can come together, judging from appearances, is by withdrawing Grow and Oliver from the list of candidates. The appointment of Cameron to a Cabinet position would require the Legislature to elect two candidates for Senator, but as it has shown its inability to chose one, its troubles would probably be only duplicated.

The bill reported the other day by Senator Johnson, from the Committee on Pleuro-Pneumonia and All Other Contagious Diseases of Animals, provides for the organization of a bureau of animal industry in the Department of Agriculture, and authorizes the Commissioner to appoint a chief of the bureau, a competent veterinary surgeon, approved of by the National Board of Health, whose duty it will be to investigate and report on the causes of contagious diseases, and to provide for the prevention and cure of the same. The Commissioner is authorized to purchase and slaughter diseased animals, provided the sum paid shall not exceed two-thirds of the market value of healthy animals.

Next congress may find time to give its attention to the chicken disease, and the hog cholera and the best cure for mumps, and keeping on in this line congress may after all become a useful body.

What a source of pride it must be to our pure toned republicans that the bosses of their party are straining their utmost to elect Oliver to the senate—a man of no ability, no service to the party, no statesman, and of no record, simply because he is rich and because Don Cameron says it shall be so. Don Cameron and Harry Oliver to represent the great state of Pennsylvania in the U. S. Senate! But it is not astonishing from a party that did not hesitate to steal the presidency from Tilden, and set up a Garfield for their leader in the face of his proven perjury and bad public record. Verily, we believe these republicans will do what they unblushingly say: Vote for the most corrupt republican in preference to the purest democrat. Yet it is true even that they support the worst material in their own party to the ablest, fittest and purest. *O tempora, O mores!*

Republicans look in the glass and behold yourselves.

Land League meetings in different parts of Ireland have been prohibited, and numbers of the members have been summoned on the charge of seditious conspiracy. Among them are forty-three members at Listowel. Mr. O'Neill, Secretary of the Cork Land League, has been discharged from lack of evidence.

County Clare and several baronies of Sligo have been declared in a state of disturbance, and it is also said that much disturbance exists in the County Clare on account of the lack of food.

It is evident that the Government is fully alive to the exigencies of affairs in Ireland from the number of troops concentrated there. In Dublin there are 6,250 officers and men, with sixteen guns and 1,000 horses. They are of the very flower of the army. In addition, there is a very strong and well-drilled police and constabulary force to co-operate with the troops, should it become necessary.

A contract has just been agreed upon between the authorities of Florida and I. Coryel of Jacksonville and A. B. Linderman, representing capitalists of Philadelphia and the Pacific coast to drain Lake Okeechobee, in south Florida. If the scheme is carried out, 12,000,000 acres of the best sugar land in the world will be reclaimed. The territory will include the celebrated everglades, and will be in extent twice as large as the State of New Jersey. When the contract is fulfilled, Florida can produce more sugar than the United States now consumes.

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FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS. 3

CURIOUS USES AND WORKS OF ANTS.

At the recent Southboro session of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, Prof. E. S. Morse gave the following curious particulars about ants:

The ant belongs to the family of insects such as wasps, bees, hornets, but is the superior of them all, as are the elephant, the horse, and the dog, in other lines of animal life. Ants are constructed with the "back" bone in front, and the heart and other internal organs on the opposite side are put together up side down, as we might think. Their mouth is for biting and swallowing food only, not for breathing. Their bite is so determined and lasting that they are used in some countries for confining the edges of wounds and cuts. Ants' heads are presented to the cut surface, which they grasp with their nippers, when their bodies are cut off leaving a whole row of them to hold the flesh. They are cheaper than sticking plaster in some countries.

As an illustration of their ingenuity and intelligence, it was stated that they sometimes excavate tunnels under rivers of considerable depth and width, and use the tunnels for transporting supplies. They dig wells twenty feet deep and a foot in diameter for drinking water. The harvesting ants plant seeds on farms, which they cultivate with grea skill and neatness, keeping every weed down and harvesting the grain, curing and storing it safely in water-proof cavities in the soil. They also organize into divisions with commanders, each individual doing a certain kind of work. Some ants are smart enough for engineers, while others only know enough to do as they are told. They can count and make correct estimates of the magnitude of an undertaking, as proved by observers.

Eight chrysolides (often called the eggs of ants) were placed in a path where ants travel. A single individual found them and undertook to remove them to their home. Several were carried by the single and patiently enough, but when twenty chrysolides were placed in the heap, another was found engaged in the work. The pile was increased at intervals till eighty ants were engaged in the undertaking, showing that workers were detailed according to the demands of the cases.

Ants' battles sometimes last many days, in one case seven weeks, the victors finally taking the stores and removing them to their own houses. Their war is quite as justifiable as those of men, when the object—pillage—is the same. They have the power, too, of knowing members of their own communities even after six month's absence. Strangers are always driven off or killed. They are very helpful to each other, and show sympathy in case of accident or sickness. Some families of ants build arched roads covered by an arch of clay or mortar for protection against enemies, and show great skill in the work, which is under the supervision of trained engineers, who order a rebuilding if the work is not perfect. Some kinds of ants keep cows, build cow-yards, and milk their cows regularly, and don't throw milking stools at them either to make them "give down," but pat and stroke their backs very tenderly. Of course these cows are the plant aphides so familiar to all farmers and gardeners.

Two Organs. Regulate first the stomach second the liver; especially the first, so as to perform their functions perfectly and you will remove at least nineteen twentieths of all the ills that mankind is heir to, in this or any other climate. Hop Bitters is the only thing that will give perfectly healthy natural action to these two organs.—*Maine Farmer.*

NEW YORK WEEKLY HERALD.

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