The Centre Reporter. FRED KURTZ, . . . Editor. CENTRE HALL, PA., Jan. 4, 1883. The Largest Paper in Centre County.

THE CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM BILL.

Service reform bill passed the Senate. It provides for the appointment by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate, of three persons, not more than two of whom shall be adherants of the same party, who shall constitute the United States Civil-Service Commission. These Commissioners are to hold no other official posittions under the United States; are to receive a salary of \$3,000 a year, with travelling expenses; and are to aid the President in preparing rules for carrying the act into effect, and when the rules are promulgated it becomes the duty of all heads of departments and officers in the Government employ to which they may relate to see that they are carried out. These rules are to provide for open competitive examinations for testing the fitness of applicants for the public service, and all offices, places and appointments will have to be filled by selections from among the highest grades. Appointments are to be apportioned among the several States and Territories and the District of Columbia upon the basis of population, and those applicants selected will have to pass tbrough a period of probation before any absolute appointment is made.

Provision is also made for promotions from the lower grades to the highest, on the basis of merit and competition; that no person in the public service is under any obligation to contribute to any politcal fund or render any political service, and will not be removed or prejudiced for refusing to do so; nor has any official the right to use his official authority or influence to coerce the political action of any person or body. It is made a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 not more than a \$1,000, or by imprisionment for not less than ten days nor more than a year, or by both fine and imprisonment, for any person in the public service to furnish information to applicants calculated either to improve or injure their prospects, or in any way to obstruct or deceive them as to their for extorting higher wages are illegal rights under the rules, or make any false and has awarded an employer \$20 damrepresentations concerning the grade of age against a man named Bourden, a clerks and employees in their respective departments for the purpose of examination, and from time to time revise the classification as occasion may require, and no officer or clerk shall be appointed and no person shall be employed to enter or be promoted in either of the classes until he has passed an examination; but it is expressly provided in the bill that any preference conferred upon veterans shall not be taken from them, nor shall any authority not inconsistent with the bill be taken from the President. Officers not in the executive branch of the Government, laborers and workmen, and persons nominated for confirmation by the Senate, are exempted from classification and examination. Not more than two members of any family are eligible for appointment in the same grade; recommendations for appointment by any Senator or Member of the House are not to be received, and no person is to be appointed or retained in the service who numbers 15 cents. One specimen 6 cents, uses intoxicating beverages to excess. The soliciting, receiving or giving of any contributions or assessment for political purposes by any officer or employee is prohibited under a penalty of punishment by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, or imprisonment not exceeding three years, or both in the discretion of the court. Provision is made in the bill for the removal by the President of any member of the commission and the appointment of his successor.

The Morning Patriot mentions the charter of a big coal corporation, the Clearfield bitaminous coal company, with a capital of \$5,000,000. The incorporators are William H. Vanderbilt, New York; George J. Magee, Watkins, N. Y.; C. J. Langdon, Elmira, N. Y.; Cornelious Vanderbilt, New York; William A. Wallace, Clearfield; S. R. Peale, Lock Haven; James Tillinghast, Buffalo; John Lang, Corning; J. D. F. Slee, Elmira; William On the night of the 27 ult, the Civil D. Kelly. Elmira; John G. Reading, Philadelphia, Bishop L. Wallace, Clearfield. The principal office will be located at Clearfield and the business transacted in Clearfield and Centre counties, for "the

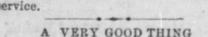
purpose of mining and selling coal, iron ore, fire clay and other minerals, and of manufacturing and selling coke made from bituminous coal." The Susquehanna and Southwestern railroad company, chartered last August and of which William A. Wallace is president, together with the Reading system and the Pine creek and Buffalo railroad will form the outlet for the business of this great corporation, which will open up a market hitherto practically closed in that section of Pennsylvania.

A most singular accident, burning to death on horse-back, is reported from Louisville. Patrick O'Neill, while lighting the gasoline street lamps in the outskirts of the city, overturned a lamp, and the burning fluid poured down completely saturating his cloths and covering the horse he was riding with a sheet of fire. The terrified animal ran down the street at the top of its speed, and finally in turning a sharp corner threw its rider. O'Neill, in a perfect blaze, ran to the

nearest house, but was fatally burned before the flames were smothered. His entire body to the waist was burned to a crisp, and the back of his horse was literally cooked.

The following fearful tale of burning to death may serve as a temperance lecture: A dwelling house situated near Corvallis, Benton county, Oregon, was destroyed by fire on Christmas night. Two young men were burned to a crisp, and a third was so badly injured that he is not expected to recover. The three went to bed drunk, leaving a large fire burning, which communicated to the and a third was so badly injured that he burning, which communicated to the building. The other inmates escaped.

Up at Montreal the other day Justice Laranger has declared that labor unions



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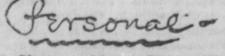
Cashier.

Banks.

The Baltimore Day finds that Confedate bonds can readily be sold in the South at the rate of \$9 per \$1,000, and that they have recently been purchased by London bankers at as high a rate as \$9.75. One London firm bought \$500,000 worth, and orders for them are being received by Southern banking houses every day. The Day is at a loss to account for the demand for the worthless stuff, but says there is a belief in some quarters that it will some day be worth something. It hears, however, adds the Pittsburg Post, that a great many of the bonds have been worked up into fireboards and screens-which is by all odds the best use that can be made of them.

The Clinton Republican states that Judge Orvis was just fifty minutes in dolivering his charge to the jury in the Pipher murder trial yesterday afternoon. Before closing his charge Judge Orvis took occasion to call the attention of the jury, and the public as well, to the shortcomings of the people of Clinton county in regard to the convicting of persons for selling liquor without license and the unlawful carrying of concealed weapons. Had it not been for beer and a revolver this man would not be here charged with murder. The Judge is right, and that there should be a reform in these matters is evident to al llaw abiding citizens.

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