

## THE CENTRE REPORTER.

By FRED KURTZ.

Read the very sensible letter of congressman Hewitt, a large iron master, on the tariff. It will be found in this issue of the Reporter.

The Senate Committee reported, affirmatively, McDonald's judicial apportionment. This bill puts Centre, Union and Snyder as the 40 district. Clearfield having 40,000 population will constitute a district.

Pattison's appointment of Page, as Comptroller of Philadelphia, has been sustained by the Supreme Court.

The duty of a true organ is to sound the note of alarm at every indication of rottenness in the public service.

In our next issue we will publish a letter of Judge Black, giving his opinion on the tax-bill published by us two weeks ago.

That one of the star-route thieves intended turning state's evidence, we mentioned in last week's Reporter. This has been done. Rerdell plead guilty and made a confession telling on Dorsey. He testifies at great length as to the manner in which petitions expediting certain routes had been prepared at ex-Senator Dorsey's house in Washington and filed in the department. He said he went west by direction of Dorsey and procured petitions from various persons along the routes to have the trips increased. He established a station sixty miles off from a certain route in order to have it put on the route and the pay increased. At one time, when they were considering the question of admitting Valle into the company, Miner had said Valle stood very close to Brady. The court adjourned without completing the examination of the witness. Government counsel said that no promise of immunity was held out to Rerdell.

Mr. Merrick, of government counsel, said that Rerdell has given only about one-fourth of the testimony he is expected to give, and the present testimony was nothing like as important as that which is expected. Merrick said he believed the government would close its case next week.

President Franklin B. Gowen's address on the anti-discrimination bill, made in the house at Harrisburg on Tuesday evening, last week, will be issued in pamphlet form. Mr. Gowen will appear in the Crawford county courts at Meadville, in the next ten days as counsel in a case brought against the Standard Oil Company, and with the facts and data in his possession make it lively for what he terms arrogant monopoly.

Mr. Gowen deserves to be governor—he is the best and truest man the state has. He put down the Mollie Maguire's, and now he is going for the insatiate, robbing monopoly, the Standard Oil Company. Every good citizen will wish him God speed in the latter.

Mr. Gowen's address was a reply to the address of Mr. David W. Sellers, on the anti-discrimination bill. He said that corporations were a benefit to the State when they were honestly managed. He spoke strongly of the constant acquisition of wealth by the officers of corporations to the injury of the shareholders and the public. Another point was the unjust and unfair discrimination in charges in the interest of favorites. Mr. Hulings' bill fails to provide a remedy for these evils. It proposes to prohibit that which is proper and right, and to that extent will do injury. His objections are to those parts of the bill in which it seeks to prohibit that which is not wrong, and second, in not going far enough to enact measures which will be right and efficacious. He then went on to speak of the charges of railroads for discriminations in long and short distances. On the Pennsylvania railroad on the Allegheny mountains the grade is over 100 feet to the mile, and a car can therefore make more money by fifty miles down hill than it can by moving twenty-five miles up hill. There are grades on the Reading railroad 179 feet to the mile. Up these grades they can only draw twenty or twenty-five cars, while on the other it is double and triple that number.

Mr. Gowen presented a substitute for the Hulings' bill, embodying his views upon the question. Mr. Gowen spoke at length upon the extortion and exaction exercised by the Standard oil monopoly. He said the Standard company have defied courts. They insolently refuse to pay taxes justly due. They have robbed individuals of lands by a system of favoritism and now control a country in a bondage which nations of Europe would crush to earth. They are taking

\$100,000,000 from this State every year, and never pay one cent of tax into its treasury. He did not hesitate to charge and made no equivocation in his statements that in the recent case tried in the courts they bribed the witness for the Commonwealth to suppress his testimony and paid him \$7,000 for his venality. The State of Pennsylvania would be \$100,000,000 better off to-day had it imposed a tax of fifty cents a barrel on the wealth taken from beneath its very soil.

Mr. Gowen said that "when the Reading company acquired the Schuylkill coal field it bought and paid for all the lands now occupied. Some think they paid a high figure, but none say they stole the land." Although president of a large corporation himself, Mr. Gowen stated that the people had rights which the corporations should be bound to respect, and had he the time he said he would be willing to go through the State and stir up public sentiment against growing and audacious effrontery of some of the corporations of the State.

### 1001 ERRORS.

The statement of the county finances, printed at the Watchman office last year, contains errors of spelling, punctuation, abbreviation, &c., almost innumerable, which we now refer to for the reason that the Watchman quibbled at our few unimportant errors, last week, out of sheer jealousy, because it failed to get our job at two prices. That paper charges the supplements printed by the Reporter has too many inaccuracies to be circulated by the self-righteous Watchman. The charge is maliciously false. Every competent judge will say that the supplements printed by the Reporter are neat, better workmanship, on far better paper, more conveniently arranged, and with only one error to 50 in the Watchman's job.

The Reporter has the borrowed money and interest accounts where the eye is most likely to find these important statements. The Watchman's job has the one stuck away off in Alaska, the other in Patagonia. The scalp account having become important from Gano's operations, would naturally be among the first looked for, and so we have it where easiest found. The Watchman has his scalp away in the country of the Gergeneses; and so on.

Then it put on for all the papers a most outlandish heading, taking up almost one-third of a side. The Reporter's headings are neat and as required by a job of the kind. The Watchman's job is printed on two sides of same sheet, on cheap, rotten paper, altho' it got two prices for the job. The Reporter printed only on one side, and on best quality of paper, altho' we charged only \$126 where the Watchman got \$245.

As to errors—the Reporter supplement has scarce over a dozen typographical errors—let the reader look for himself and judge. The Watchman's is full of typographical as well as errors of ignorance, none of the latter kind being in the Reporter's work.

The Watchman, in near a dozen instances, spells Stationary, (writing material) with an a at the ending, which changes the meaning entirely (Stationary means not moving). This occurs so often, is fairly attributable to ignorance in the Watchman. The name of Foster, a family right in the same town, is spelled about a dozen times with an r in the first syllable and in about as many cases it is spelled without the r. This outrageous irregularity the Watchman has in the names of Ungart, Kepheart, Schroeder, Fansler, Hewes, Curwin, Stamm, Hamill, Karthouse, court-crier, road, venires, No., traverse, inquest, Nov., school, exonerations, and scores of others—all of them spelled wrong and where they are repeated spelled differently. These samples will suffice; then in one-half the words where required, the sign of the possessive case is omitted, while the other half have it; the same is true in perhaps 100 contracted words, the Watchman using the proper sign in one-third of them, the other two-thirds don't have it. In its 500 abbreviations or system whatever; in its capital letters there is the same gross irregularity, also in punctuation. In nearly a hundred cases words will be found huddled together without spaces between them. Thus we could go on for an hour yet, pointing out the errors in the Watchman's work. The Chief-clerk now acts the baby and declares he won't put out our supplements, yet all the papers covered its miserable supplement last year without a quibble. What is worse for the job printed last year, at Bellefonte, is that both the Watchman and the Republican had a hand in it and on that account it should have been entirely without errors. In the Commissioners' Acct with the Sheriff, nearly two columns, there is outrageous workmanship by the Watchman; it does not have the lines indented, following

the first line to an item, and worse yet, in the same acct the Watchman, in very bad taste has a bill of items with the figures hid in the body of the reading. There is no such bad workmanship on the job put out by us. We would insist upon the authorities making the Watchman refund the \$245 received for its outrageously bad job last year, were it not for the financial ruin it might bring upon our jealous neighbor.

Then the Watchman says no one can understand our supplement. Well, we went to the Commissioners' office, they say they understand it; we inquired of the attorneys and tax-payers, they say it's faultless, and besides saved the county one half the money.

We sent our devil to sound the devil of the Watchman office, and learn whether he understood the Co. finances. The Watchman devil related who lent the county money, who got interest, what paid the Sheriff, what forscals, and so on. Our devil then wanted to know how he knew all that, and he answered that Kurtz had sent a big pile of supplements to the Watchman office and he had read one. We next had our devil get in conversation, on a sly, with the Watchman editor, and inquire of him how the Co. finances stood. The editor said he did not know; that Kurtz sent him a bundle of supplements, and he wasn't going to touch 'em nor read 'em; that last year the Watchman got \$35 per 1000 for printing them, and this year they gave the job to Kurtz at \$18 per 1000 and he'd be cuss-darned (patent applied for) if he'd touch 'em, and he'd tell everybody there was bad spelling about them.

The Watchman will just come along now and enclose "them" circulars. You can't get the Commissioners to print you a new set, any more than you can fool them into putting up a grand, fancy forty or fifty thousand dollar bridge as an adornment and annex to your office.

It is no wonder Providence finds it necessary to clean out the Watchman once every three months by a flood. And if it were not for the sake of a couple of arm-fuls of sweet, pretty girls, employed as compositors in an upper story, it would have washed the whole thing off long ago. But Meek has already reformed a few poor women out of a job and Providence don't want to add to the number.

Put in "them" Supplements, now.

In another column we give an account of the fearful flood disasters along the Ohio. The rivers have been falling since Monday.

The Executive Committee have decided to hold the next Democratic State Convention at Harrisburg.

The Michigan Legislature is still balloting for a Senator in place of Ferry.

On the 8th of March next Simon Cameron scores his 85 year. Peter Cooper, a few days ago, celebrated his 93 birthday.

### PROHIBITORY AMENDMENTS.

The Senate Committee on Constitutional Reform decided on the following amendments to the prohibitory amendment:

- Sec. 1. The manufacture, sale or keeping for sale any intoxicating liquors that seem to be used as a beverage is forever prohibited within this commonwealth, and the General Assembly shall without delay enact such laws as may be necessary to enforce prohibition.
- Sec. 2. The manufacture, sale or keeping for sale intoxicating liquors for other purposes than as a beverage, shall be regulated by laws under sufficient penalties.

The long disputed title to the possession of the Arrington estate, comprising near 1,000 acres of land, including the National Cemetery, opposite Washington, will be settled by the payment by the Government to General Lee's heirs of \$150,000, less accrued taxes amounting to \$15,000.

The Truckee river is now frozen to the bottom. In passing along over the glassy surface of the stream whole armies of trout are seen frantically fight just where the cold waves struck them. The ranchmen living along the river now go fishing with axes.

The story of the assassination of Lord Cavendish and Secretary Burke, as told by the car driver Kavanagh at Dublin, if it shall be confirmed by other proof, will result in the conviction and execution of the assassins—ten in number, we believe. There is no doubt of that, nor that if the men are guilty they richly merit the extreme penalty of the law.

The sage of the Elk Creek Schmutzblatt still has Berichterungen in the brain, and occasionally falls into an "interlocutory." From all indications he is nearly exhausted and yet not one-fourth through with his program. If acceptable we will hire for him an 8 year-old school boy to assist in getting through with his essays and correct the spelling; by which the Schmutzblatt would be further improved. We always have a kindly feeling for our fellow men.

### THE FLOODS.

#### SIX HUNDRED FAMILIES HOMELESS.

New Albany, Ind., February 14.—The loss by the flood here is not less than a quarter of a million dollars. No lives have been lost. The farmers along the Ohio river suffer greatly, many losing their entire crops. Six hundred families are homeless and many are destitute. All the manufactories are stopped.

#### THE DISTRESS AT JEFFERSONVILLE.

Indianapolis, February 14.—Private information from Jeffersonville, Ind., says the city is flooded from two to twenty-five feet deep and five thousand people are homeless. Many have lost all they had on earth. A large number of cottages in the lower part of the city were swept away and hundreds of people are quartered in second stories in public buildings and in business houses. Food is sent to them in skiffs. The scenes of suffering are appalling. It is still raining and the river is rising. The loss will reach over one million dollars. The people will have to leave Lawrenceburg. No lives have been lost so far as can be learned.

#### THE CINCINNATI ACCIDENT.

Cincinnati, February 14.—Herman Wilburg says he and his brother Joseph and thirteen other boys were on the platform of the station when it fell yesterday, and all were thrown into the water and drowned except himself. No other reports of missing boys have been made to the police. Wilburg does not know the names of the other boys.

#### A VILLAGE UNDER WATER.

Indianapolis, Ind., February 13.—11 a. m.—The following dispatch has just been received from the railroad station near Lawrenceburg in regard to the condition of affairs in that town:

"Hardtown, Ind., February 13.—There has been no loss of life, as far as we can learn. The damages will be very heavy, but it cannot be estimated until the water goes down. The water is now about three feet higher than it was last February, and up to this morning it has risen about one inch per hour. Lawrenceburg is entirely covered. The entire village of Hardtown is covered with water. Some people had to abandon their houses entirely."

#### TERRIBLE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN LOUISVILLE.

Louisville, Ky., February 13.—Business is almost at a standstill, owing to the floods. The mayor is distributing food to the sufferers with liberal hand. The board of trade has turned over \$500 to the suffering fund and more is to follow. The German flood sufferers fund has been diverted to home use. It amounts to \$716. The theatres will give the gross receipts of Saturday's performances. The greatest disaster that ever befell Louisville is now upon us. The flood crisis came about midnight, and to-day nearly a square mile of territory is under water within the limits of the city. From five thousand to eight thousand people were driven from their homes. To cap the climax, there has been loss of life, how great it is impossible to say. This morning the entire section of the city from Preston street east is cut off, and north of the short line is in the river. People living there had plenty of warning.

#### AT CINCINNATI.

##### Twelve Boys Reported Drowned by the Depot Disaster.

Cincinnati, February 14.—The river is rising at the rate of an inch and a half an hour. It stood at 35 feet, 1 1/2 inches at 12 o'clock. The weather is storm and still rising. The first authentic report concerning the loss of life at the Cincinnati Southern depot yesterday was made to-day, by Herman Wilburg, a boy living at 17 Wilsack street. He says he and his brother Joseph, with 12 other boys, were on the platform when the water broke through Melan avenue; that the entire party were thrown into the water; that he swam to Gest street, escaped and went home; that his brother and all the other boys were drowned. He does not know the names of the other boys.

##### CARING FOR THE DESTITUTE.

Soup houses were opened to-day in various parts of the city to feed those able to get to them. Bishop Elder has ordered the Catholic churches open to accommodate the homeless, and sent a circular to the churches to-day asking contributions to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce and City Central Relief Committee. The standing trust trustees will advance money on the bonds yesterday authorized by the Legislature, so that relief will be prompt. There have been some tears of a meat famine on account of the difficulty in receipt of live stock, but several thousand dilliey cattle can be utilized in case of necessity.

##### A GLOOMY PROSPECT.

The river at 9 o'clock to-night was 65 feet 3/4 of an inch and rising slowly. The day has been the gloomiest in the history of the city. Business was wholly neglected on Change and all attention given to the saving of property and affording relief.

##### LAWRENCEBURG UNDER WATER.

Louisville, February 14.—The worst situation along the river is in the city of Lawrenceburg, 18 miles below here, at the mouth of the Great Miami, on the Indiana side of the river. There is not a spot of ground in that city to-day that is not four feet under water. The place is isolated from help by rail or river, and bread, has to be conveyed to the sufferers by skiffs.

##### MADISON ABANDONED.

Madison, Ind., February 14.—The river is rising an inch and a half per hour. Milton, Ky., opposite Madison, is com-

pletely submerged. Not a house is exempt from the overflow. Large cables are being used to anchor the buildings. The water is up to the second floors of many dwellings. Fulton, the eastern suburb of this city, has been abandoned; also all the front and extreme western section of the city. The backwater and Crooked creek have inundated the city on the north, and Springdale Cemetery is partially covered with water.

#### JEFFERSONVILLE.

Jeffersonville, Ind., Feb. 14.—Our city is flooded with water from two to twenty feet deep. Five thousand of our people are made homeless, many of whom have lost all they have on earth. A large number of cottages and houses in the lower part of the city are swept away. Hundreds of people are quartered in second stories. Food is sent to them in skiffs. The scenes of suffering are appalling.

#### CINCINNATI.

To-day and to-night, 14, in Cincinnati there are fully forty miles of uninhabitable streets which can only be traversed by skiff. Most of these boats are plying the waters on business, carrying food and fuel, and sometimes clothing—often conveying the doctor. These boats never stop day or night. At night they carry lanterns through the streets lighted with lanterns swung high on house fronts. The scene would be as beautiful as it is grand were it not inseparably associated with suffering, loss and destitution.

The loss of property from the direct effect of the floods will be enormous, to say nothing of the loss of time and the effects of the suspension of business. Nobody knows what the aggregate will be, but no one to-day puts it at less than 5 or 6 millions of dollars.

The flood at Cincinnati is receding. Business is resuming. Ten thousand people are fed and sheltered. Want prevails. The relief movement throughout the country proceeds with some earnestness.

#### SEVENTY MEN DROWNED.

##### Details of the Terrible Mine Disaster Near Braidwood, Ill.

Braidwood, Illinois, February 13.—This city is filled with excitement, owing to the terrible disaster of yesterday, which resulted in the death of seventy persons, who were overwhelmed by a landslide, a number of those killed leaving large families. The shaft in which the accident occurred has been working for the past eight years. It is situated at Diamond. The country thereabout is as level as a floor. The sudden flow and heavy rainfall have transformed the prairie into a lake for miles. With scarcely any warning there suddenly appeared an opening from the surface of the earth into the mine. The surface being covered with water it took only a short time for the water to permeate the entire mine, drowning all who were unable to get out before the rising water caught them. From the galleries narrow spurs or gangways are dug out in various directions. These spurs rise and fall with the ledge of coal, sometimes rising to twelve or fifteen feet of the surface. It was such a point, very near the top, where the break occurred. There was little time to give an alarm, for in less than an hour from the time the break occurred every avenue of escape was cut off and every occupant of the mine at that time must have been drowned. The galleries were long and narrow, and only by painfully slow crawling could the poor victims escape. The mine was not considered especially dangerous, though a break had occurred once before about a rescue, but in order to reach the bodies of the dead Mr. Fordyce, general manager of the company, has gone to the scene of the disaster with two steam pumps. Only drowned or suffocated remains can be recovered. The majority of the workers under ground are foreigners—English, Scotch and Irish.

#### EIGHT MEN CHARGED WITH THE PAOXEN PARK MURDER.

Dubuque, Feb. 3, 1883.—James Carey, a member of the corporation, Joseph Brady, a stockholder, Edward O'Brien, a shoemaker, Edward McCaffery, a van driver; Peter Carey, a mason; Lawrence Haulon, a carpenter; Peter Doyle, a coach builder; and Timothy Kelly, a coach builder, eight of the men recently arrested here, were charged at the investigation to-day with the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke in Phoenix Park. A witness named Fitzsimmons, identified Councillor Carey as being connected with the conspiracy. Great excitement was visible among the occupants of the densely crowded court room when the eight prisoners were placed in the dock. There was a painful pause when the witness Fitzsimmons was called. The prisoners in the meantime shook hands with each other and joked among themselves, nodding to the friend. The Clerk of the Court then read the charges against the prisoners, that they did on the 6th of May last, feloniously kill and slay Lord Frederick Cavendish and Thomas Henry Burke. The reading of the charge was greeted by the prisoners with a burst of loud laughter, which created a painful sensation in the court.

#### THE KNIVES.

Mr. Fitzsimmons deposed that he rented a room in South Cumberland street from James Carey; he discovered in the loft of the house two knives and a rifle, which were produced soon after Carey's arrest; the rifle and the two knives were found among a lot of rubbish; they were not much concealed; a fortnight afterward he went to the police and delivered the knives and rifle. Amid intense excitement Inspector Smith produced two long-bladed dissection knives, evidently as sharp as razors, and a Snider rifle, which is quite new. The knives were carefully examined

by the magistrates. While this was proceeding there was just a shade of uneasiness visible among the prisoners.

A chairman named Hann identified O'Brien as one of four men lying near to the scene of the murder, and Emily as being close by shortly before it was perpetrated. Hann identified Brady as the driver of the car on which the Phoenix Park assassins rode. Upon his identifying O'Brien the latter attempted to smile, but soon afterward broke into a profuse perspiration.

#### THE STATE COLLEGE.

##### Report of the Committee of Investigation.

One hundred and forty students now attend the State Agricultural college in Centre county. Quite a number are ladies. The institution has not been a success since its establishment, and in order to ascertain the cause of failure, and also to investigate certain alleged abuses, the Legislature two years ago appointed a special committee to examine into the charges. On this committee are Messrs. Mylin, Newmeyer, Coburn, Norris and Alexander—Senators and ex-Senators, ex-Representatives Milham, Biery, McClore, Mapes, Findlay, Jodge and Roberts, with Representative Hall. The report is ready and was brought before both branches of the Legislature. As it covers only 1,122 pages it was not read. The special committee have signed it with the exception of Mr. Biery, late of Williamsport. He did not sign because he is now in Texas, interested in cattle droves, and not in colleges in Pennsylvania.

The committee reports that they find all the vouchers of the trustees correct. This is the usual preliminary to a purifying political compound any further. They renege the old board of trustees for neglecting to give proper attention to the college's concerns, and state in the report that neglects ripped the college's best interests in the bud. They condemn the agricultural societies of the state for never selecting or electing one of the thirteen trustees to which they are entitled. Action of that sort threw the government back upon the local management, and General Beaver, the report says, was compelled to take entire charge. Much credit is given him for his action in the premises. One of the recommendations was for the abolition of the State experimental farms in Chester and Indiana counties, and the establishment of a central station similar to the 127 stations in Germany, which have been patterned after with much success in Ohio.

The committee makes the report a complete history of the college. It gives the progress of the State Colleges, which protest was made on the grounds that the neglect was in teaching the classics to the detriment of farming. Hon. Victor E. Prollet specially referring to that exception in his testimony. Another abuse referred to at length in the Westgrove farm in Chester county, where a state appropriation of \$8,000 made the total amount of insuring the experiment \$48,000. This farm, the report says, has been a great drain on the college and help to the farmers of Chester when they wanted blood cattle. The Chamford Farmers' Club, of Chester county, have referred to this farm largely in their discussions.

The committee, in closing its report, expresses the opinion that the trustees made honest mistakes of judgment, but the statement is made that the failure is largely due to the lack of interest taken by the agricultural classes in the State.

"Newspapers which neither advocate nor profess any political principles cannot resist without running a bit against some political organization or some political leader. They must do something novel from time to time in order to hold their readers. Such journals may be good for amusement but hardly for instruction. In giving expression to such sentiments, the Harrisburg Patriot administers a deserved rebuke upon so-called independent papers which never fail to take an opportunity to ruin a cause which they cannot direct and control absolutely."—Wellsboro Gazette.

But worse is a paper that announces itself two months Democratic and ten months leaning around on all sides.

#### AN INSTANTANEOUS LIGHT.

Such is a word in the unique apparatus on exhibition at the rooms of the Portable Electric Light Company, 22 Water Street. It occupies the space of only 5 square inches and weighs about 5 pounds, and can be carried with ease. The light, or more properly lighter, requires no extra power, wires or connections, and is so constructed that any part can be replaced at small cost. The chemicals are placed in a glass retort; a carbon and zinc apparatus, with a spiral platinum attachment, is then adjusted so as to form a battery, and the light is ready. The pressure on a little knob produces an electric current, by which the spiral of platinum is heated to incandescence. The Portable Electric Light Company was recently incorporated with a capital of \$100,000, under the laws of Massachusetts. Some of the prominent business men of the state are identified with this enterprise. In addition to its use as a lighter, the apparatus can also be used in connection with a burglar-alarm and galvanic battery.—Boston Transcript.

The Newcastle and Northern Railroad Company has chartered a few days ago with a capital of \$250,000. The road is to run from near Lawrence Junction, Lawrence county, through Newcastle to Snaverville, Mercer county—a distance of 25 miles.

Produce wanted all the time, at Brown's new grocery, Bellefonte. Especial inducements offered farmers to take their produce to Brown's.