

The Centre Reporter.

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CENTRE HALL, PA., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1885.

NO. 11.

THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED. KURTZ, Editor and Prop'r.

Cigaretts smoking caused the death of a young man in Washington the other day.

The Bellefonte Republican not having an idea of its own about Cleveland's inaugural adopts that of the Philadelphia Press.

What will our Republican friends say if the Democrats don't pay the rebel debt? which saying was their main electioneering cry.

Cleveland means business—he has his breakfast at 8, which Arthur had at 12, and has dismissed one-half of the white house employes.

President Cleveland has dispensed with the service of a lot of useless clerks at the White House, appointed by Hayes and retained by Arthur.

Brick Pomeroy is going to start a new Democratic paper at Washington to be called the "United States Democrat." Why not call it the Early Riser?

Some of our exchanges have horrible pictures of the inauguration scenes. The fellows who took them don't seem to have been in Washington at all.

President Cleveland orders his breakfast for eight o'clock, and don't use his fingers instead of a fork. The first may shock the snobs while the latter may convince some that he is not a barbarian.

The state legislature has done nothing so far but having adjournments, and drawing \$10 per day for each day of adjournment. Is there no one to look after the people's interests?

There are 176 varieties of snakes in the United States, says an exchange. If you include the "snakes" in some fellows' hats and the "snakes" in legislative bills, the above figures would need an addition of half dozen ephers.

Attorney General Gray will be Mr. Bayard's successor in the U. S. Senate, from Delaware.

The great railroad strike in the west ended, on 16, and trains are running again.

The chief of the bureau of statistics reports that during the month of February, 1885, there arrived in the customs districts of the United States, 15,317 passengers, of whom 11,019 were immigrants, 2,967 citizens of the United States returned from abroad, and 1,331 aliens not intending to remain in the United States.

The news is decidedly more warlike as to the relations between England and Russia. The Russian advance into Afghanistan continues, only evasive replies are made to English remonstrances. Active military preparations are in progress in both India and England. War is looked upon as certain in many quarters.

One of the last acts of the Republican administration was to make over to a railroad monopoly near one million acres of the public lands. One of the first acts of the new Democratic administration was to call a halt on the steal and take measures to save the lands to the people. Good.

Secretary Lamar is to be succeeded in the Senate by Gen. Walthall, one of the strong men in Mississippi, intellectually and physically. He is a leading lawyer of the southwest, and as an orator is said to excel Lamar, and as a practical legislator and politician also to go ahead of the Secretary. From Delaware Secretary Bayard is likely to be succeeded by Attorney General Gray.

Gov. Curtin is mentioned as on the slate for one of the foreign missions. Gov. Curtin would make a first class minister to England and we enter our protest against Cleveland's taking all the best men out of the senate and house. Gov. Curtin is in the house what Bayard, Lamar and Garland were in the senate—a safe leader and eloquent debater, and one who just now under Democratic rule is needed upon the floor of congress.

War is brewing between England and Russia, about matters in India. London financial circles are somewhat excited over the official reports received confirming the report published to the effect that Russian troops had advanced farther into Afghan territory.

The Russian government admits that such a movement has taken place, but asserts that it was only intended for the purpose of seeking a more suitable position in case of a war with Afghanistan. It is generally believed here that both the Afghans and Russians are hurrying forward, and that a collision is imminent. British consols have fallen 1-16 of 1 per cent., and Russian securities 2 per cent., in consequence of the above news.

The Harrisburg Patriot says the present legislature is not only the most worthless, but, if appearances are not deceptive, it is the most venal that has assembled for years. The lobby swarms about it like crows about carrion. There is an oil lobby, a telegraph lobby and a lobby ready to turn its attention to any scheme that promises to produce plunder.

Governor Martin, of Kansas, has signed the new Temperance bill, which contains a provision investing the county attorney with all the power of a grand jury, whereby citizens are required to appear before him and testify on oath in regard to their knowledge of the purchase and sale of liquor. Upon refusal to do so the county attorney can commit them for contempt.

There will be no war between England and Russia. A cablegram from London, March 13, says: In the house of commons this afternoon Mr. Gladstone announced that an agreement had been arrived at between Russia and England by the terms of which neither the Russian nor Afghan forces would advance any further on either side of the frontier.

War has been formally declared between several countries on the Isthmus. It is the result of the proclamation of President Barrios, of Guatemala, some days ago announcing a Central American Republic, composed of Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. General Barrios, who is ambitious to be president of the third great Republic of North America—the United States first and Mexico second—placed himself at the head of the military to bring about the desired union with the aid of the sword.

There will be two changes in the postal law that will take effect on July 1st that will be gratifying. One to the other to newspapers. After that date letters will be carried for two cents an ounce instead of two cents a half ounce. This will save a great deal of annoyance as most letters now weigh so near the half ounce that persons are often required to pay two cents extra for a letter that is of no value to them. The other change in the law is carrying newspapers from publishers for one cent a pound instead of two as heretofore, and allow publishers to send marked copies to anybody at the same time.

AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

The Harrisburg Patriot, of 14, says: At noon yesterday the tenth week of the session of the legislature was completed. When the session resumes its sitting on Monday evening seventy days will have been expended in the work. As the limit of the session is one hundred and fifty days the middle will have been reached in a few days more, and yet there has been little work accomplished.

It is clearly apparent that the present legislature is the most glaringly incompetent and inert body that has ever assembled in the state. The minority has done everything in its power to expedite the work, but the majority seems incapable of accomplishing anything, even when all opposition is removed. It may be said there is not much time wasted in talking, but the time is wasted nevertheless.

It costs the people more than \$3,000 a day to keep this worthless body of lawmakers in operation. During the week that closed with yesterday's adjournment nothing was considered in the house except the Bates bill. In the senate the record was better, but not up to an excellent standard. This is an expensive and humiliating fact. It is the price the people pay for keeping up a republican majority.

RAILROAD COMPANIES CONSOLIDATED.

Articles of merger and consolidation of the Bellefonte and Buffalo Run Railroad Company and the Nittany Valley and Southern Railroad Company were filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth on 10. The first named road is projected from Bellefonte to a point near the Pennsylvania State College, in Centre county, and the other from Bellefonte, Centre, to Mill Hill, in Clinton county. The name of the consolidated company is the Buffalo Run, Bellefonte and Bald Eagle Railroad Company and the first officers and directors are as follows: President, James A. Beaver; Secretary and Treasurer, John L. Kurtz; Directors, Edmund Blanchard, J. D. Shugert, Frank McCoy, W. H. Blair, Robert Valentine, William A. Wallace, D. G. Bush, C. A. Magee and Philip Collins. The present capital stock of the consolidated company is twelve thousand shares, of the par value of \$50 each, and this is to be issued as far as necessary in exchange for the old stock of the two companies, which is to be surrendered. The company is authorized to issue bonds to the amount of \$12,500 per mile for the purpose of construction and stock to the amount of \$12,500.

Judge Krebs, of Clearfield county drew the lines pretty tight when he came to grant licenses. Out of one hundred and fifty-one applications to sell liquor he refused sixty-seven and granted eighty-four. And some of these were granted under a rule to show cause why the licenses should not be revoked. Judges generally throughout the state reacting with great caution in granting the privilege to sell intoxicating liquors, and in some cases the number have been greatly reduced. This is encouraging to those interested in the question of temperance.

PENSION FRAUDS.

For the past two months agents from the pension office at Washington have been engaged at the agency in Philadelphia making a thorough examination of the twenty thousand odd claims on the list there, and have discovered that fraudulent claims amounting to at least \$20,000 have been paid. It is probable that, as a result of the investigation, the bondsmen of the late pension agent, Gen. Sichel, will be called upon by the government to make good the loss it has suffered.

The examination by the experts is still in progress, and the loss may possibly exceed the amount named above. One of the clerks of General Sichel has already been convicted and sentenced to four years imprisonment, and another is under indictment for trial. The frauds so far discovered have been the payment by the government of pensions to the names of persons who were properly on the list, but who were dead.

The method of the clerks was to suppress the fact that by forging the dead person's name and secure the money themselves. The government does not charge that General Sichel had any knowledge criminal or otherwise of what was going on, but the pension bureau says that the frauds were made possible through lack of vigilance and consequently his bondsmen are responsible for the loss.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

The Farmers' Institute met in this place on last Friday and Saturday. The attendance was not as large as it should have been owing to a prejudice that had sprung up against it, from a mistaken notion of its objects. These institutes are held under the auspices of the Agricultural Society annually, and a program upon living agricultural topics framed by the President of Pennsylvania State College with professors of that institution to lecture upon them. The sessions of the institute were of a highly interesting nature and profitable throughout, and those farmers who missed them lost a rare opportunity to hear and learn some valuable facts to the husbandman. Those who were present at the opening session were so much interested that they attended every session and were anxious to have the sessions continued another half day when the final adjournment came. The venerable Christian Dale was elected chairman and Fred K. Kurtz, secretary of the institute. The first lecture, by Professor Jordan, of State College, Friday afternoon, on the Purchase and Use of Fertilizers, was listened to with marked attention, and proved that the lecturer was perfectly booked upon the subject of fertilizers, and wound it up by advising farmers to purchase the different ingredients which make up the commercial fertilizers, in their pure state, mix them themselves, and thus guard against imposition and save much money. Plant food, from the earth and air, was elaborated upon, in this lecture in a manner highly instructive to the audience.

A free talk followed in which many questions were put to Prof. Jordan and answered. These talks were participated in by Messrs. Hoy, Rhone, Keller, Alexander and others, and lent additional interest to the session. At the evening session the subject of the dairy interests of Centre county. The thread of the lecture was that as what raising was not paying, dairymen might be resorted to with profit, and that a better article of butter be made, which would insure a better price for the article. The Professor expounded the plan of it. When he closed a free talk was had upon the subject, some doubting the success of a dairy project, some contending that the butter made here was as good as any other, while the majority seemed to side with the Professor that the most sent to market was poor stuff. These talks were full of interest, brought out many points, and were participated in by Messrs. Dr. Hale, Judge Hoy, Kurtz, Keller, Wieland, Rhone and others. Saturday morning's lecture, subject, The Principles of cattle feeding, also by Prof. Jordan, was replete with interest and information upon cattle foods and cattle feeding. At the close of this lecture Prof. Buckhout of State College entered, and delivered his lecture upon Ornamental Grounds and Ornamental Planting for Farmers. The lecture was lengthy yet interesting, and was listened to with great attention. Prof. Buckhout gave evidence of understanding that subject thoroughly. A free talk was now had upon promiscuous questions, which became so highly interesting that there was no thought of adjournment until 12:30, and many clamored for an after-noon session. The discussion was carried on by Gen. Beaver, Messrs. Rhone, Keller, George Bos, Hoy, Jordan, Kurtz and others, at the close of which the institute adjourned sine die.

The institute we should like to see held here again, we think when the absent farmers learn of the value and interest that was found in its sessions by those who did attend, they will crowd the hall to its utmost. The chairman being obliged to go home before the close of the institute, Mr. J. J. Arney was chosen President instead.

THE MILITARY CALLED OUT.

To Subdue the Striking Railroad Men at Sedalia, Missouri—The Situation at Other Points.

Sedalia, Mo., March 10.—The situation is unchanged to-night. One freight train arrived from St. Louis but none have departed. The Adjutant General of the State has been in consultation with both strikers and citizens to-day. Governor Marmaduke sent the following telegram to Adjutant General Jamieson here to-day:

If I understand the situation at Sedalia, the employes in the railroad machine shops decline to work longer for the pay offered by the company. They have a right to do, but they are violating the law by interfering with property and transportation of the company and with the great commercial interests of the country by hindering or preventing the movement of freight. This is a palpable violation of law and must not be continued. Please notify the parties to desist at once, which I honestly hope they will do, but inform them if they do not, all lawful methods will be resorted to, backed up by the power of the State to compel submission to law, and to relieve the embarrassment of the interests of the country by hindering or preventing the movement of freight. This is a palpable violation of law and must not be continued. 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