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THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED. KURTZ, Editor and Prop'r.

Doctors say they will give no more bulletins on Grant's condition. All right—we'll apply to the nurses, they'll know about as much as the doctors did.

If England and Russia have any notion of blacking each other's eyes, then let them begin, and not tire the audience by longer waiting. Let the circus begin or pay back the admission.

At Asbury Park the Board of Commissioners have passed resolutions condemning as a nuisance the meetings of the Salvation Army and instructing the Chief of Police to prohibit the gathering of crowds at the doors of the barracks.

This is a sensible step. The Salvation Army has been no help to the cause of Christ.

Notwithstanding the depression in business the number of corporations in the State has largely increased the past two years and about \$203,000,000 have been added to the capital stock of companies incorporated by the State. There are in Pennsylvania about 6,700 corporations, over six hundred of which have been chartered the past two years. In that time railroad companies have been incorporated with a capital stock of \$11,000,000.

The state legislature has now sat beyond the 100 days and done hardly anything. Will the members sit over time and take pay for doing nothing, or for what might have been done in the first fifty days?

Let the members take warning from the fate of the members of the legislature who were kept at home for staying at Harrisburg over time and doing nothing and taking pay for vacation, adjournments and all.

No work no pay, say we.

There is little doubt that the winter wheat crop has been seriously injured by the unfavorable weather of the spring. It is estimated that the crop in Indiana will be 15,000,000 bushels short of that in 1884. This reduced the yield to less than half a crop. Much of the acreage shown was winter-killed and will be ploughed up and planted in oats or corn. The reports from many other districts in the western states as well as some parts of Pennsylvania are no more satisfactory.

There are now three thousand Federal offices made vacant by death and resignation, and the President and his cabinet have no time to fill them. They have such arduous duties in the great work of starting an administration that is to mark a departure in political history they have not been able, even working night and day, to keep up with the vacancies which have occurred. A cabinet officer states that there were not recommendations or names on file in the departments for half of the offices now vacant. Politicians talk about the necessity of party appointments and do not even have names offered when a new appointment is a necessity.

Huntingdon county has a strong anti-vice feeling. Court met last week with Judge Furst on the bench. The applications for liquor licenses were heard by the court at a session held for that purpose, and excited greater public interest than any other business transacted at the present term. The court room was crowded. All of the applications but one were strongly opposed with remonstrances proving past derelictions of the applicants. There were also depositions on the part of the liquor-sellers to disprove the allegations against them and to show that the licenses are necessary for the entertainment of strangers and travelers.

We did not learn the attitude of the court, but expect to hear that many applications went up the spout.

The statement is published that a powerful syndicate of New York and Chicago capitalistic speculators have been "bullying" and "bearing" English consols through a large speculator in London, and have been advised in advance of the probable course of the market to enable successful speculation in wheat. They move wheat up when they go down, and move wheat down when they go up. The most remarkable feature about them is that they have gone up and down with a sort of regular irregularity. For a fortnight they have opened very low down. Then they have strengthened, and finally have closed steady and composed. Perhaps more remarkable than anything else, however, has been this other fact that certain Chicago and New York traders have known in advance of everybody else just what consols were doing, if they have not, as is claimed in some quarters, known what consols were going to do.

LEGISLATIVE.

The following bills were passed finally in the legislature, on 24:

An act to distribute the publications of the geological survey, and amend an act entitled an act to provide for a geological survey.

An act to prevent the adulteration of and the traffic in impure and unwholesome milk in cities of the second and third classes.

An act making an appropriation to pay the salary of the secretary of the committee on lunacy.

An act making an appropriation to pay the expenses of the committee to investigate the Standard Oil Company's tax case appointed by concurrent resolution, approved June 2, 1885.

Bills were favorably reported as follows:

House bills imposing an annual license of \$1,000 on skating rinks and authorizing the formation of cattle breeding companies.

Senate bill authorizing the Pennsylvania canal company to abandon a portion of its canal between Huntingdon and Newton Hamilton.

The following bills were favorably passed on second reading:

Appropriating \$450,000 for improvements to the Western penitentiary, salaries of officers, etc., of the Eastern penitentiary; \$88,104, of which \$6,254 is to cover a deficiency and salaries of officers, etc., of the Western penitentiary, \$71,000.

The bill appropriating \$500,000 for the maintenance of indigent insane in the state hospitals for two years, beginning June 1, 1885, was amended at the request of the state lunacy commission, increasing the amount to \$650,000.

The consideration of the bill appropriating \$400,000 for the payment of the expenses incurred in caring for the insane from June 13, '83 to June 1, '85, was postponed because of the absence of accurate accounts from counties showing their claims against the state.

Mr. Sponsler opposed the bill appropriating \$25,000 to the Pennsylvania fishery commission on the ground that it had been hurtful instead of beneficial to the pisciculture in the state. He charged that the commission had placed in the Susquehanna worm-ridden fish which devoured the native fish. He considered it a gigantic, overtowering humbug.

Mr. Brown, of Erie, thought the commission had accomplished much good.

Mr. Colborn said the commission had been of some benefit—it has distributed some \$150,000 among the people, if it did not keep the money itself. He agreed with Mr. Sponsler that the commission was a magnificent humbug. The bass introduced in Pennsylvania waters were a villainous and murderous fish which had swallowed better fish than they are.

The bill passed second reading.

The bill appropriating \$168,500 to the Norristown state lunatic hospital having been called up on second reading, Mr. Evans moved that the amount (\$5,000) demanded for the enlargement of the home be reduced to \$4,000 and called for the yeas and nays. There being less than a quorum present the chair ordered a call of the house. Only 93 members responded to their names, and the sergeant-at-arms was directed to secure the attendance of a sufficient number of members to make up a quorum, 101.

In half an hour the sergeant-at-arms returned and made a statement that he could find none of the absent members, and the house adjourned until Monday evening.

CAN ORDER THE KILLING OF DISEASED AND INFECTED CATTLE.

The First Comptroller of the Treasury has given an opinion to the Commissioners of Agriculture in regard to his "authority under the appropriation for such disinfection and quarantine measures as may be necessary to prevent the spread of the diseases from one state or territory to another," under the bill for the establishment of a bureau of Animal Industries. The First Comptroller holds that the power of the Commissioner is broad and unlimited as to the means to be used by him to carry out the disinfection and quarantine and that he can cause such investigation as he deems proper and use such means as he may think best to carry out the purposes of the act. He says the slaughter of the infected animals may be ordered and any other means employed that do not exceed the limits of the appropriation.

Commissioner Coleman has sent the following dispatch to Gov. Marmaduke, of Missouri:

"It has been determined that I have full discretion in regard to the extirpation of pleuro-pneumonia. I am preparing rules and regulations under an act of Congress, May 29, 1884, to be submitted to the Governors of the respective States in order to secure their co-operation and they will be sent you as soon as they can be prepared. These rules will be full and effectual."

WHAT IS THE COST OF THE NATION'S FOOD?

An interesting computation, says the Sun, made by Mr. Edward Atkinson is presented in summary by Bradstreet's. Mr. Atkinson has been endeavoring to determine, not how much it actually costs the people of the United States for food, but what would be the aggregate expenditure on the basis of a fair average for individual nourishment, and how the expenditure would be distributed among the various items of subsistence. The conclusions of this intelligent and careful economist were reached by the following method: He took the actual cost of feeding seventeen adult men, most of whom were hard-working mechanics, and eight women, three being servants, for six months, in a Massachusetts town. He also took the actual cost of the food eaten by seventy-two adult female factory operatives and eight servants in a Maryland town. He assumed that the average of these two tables would be no more than a fair daily ration for all adults throughout the country. Here are the individual averages and the totals, the latter being reckoned on the basis of a population of fifty millions:

	Cts. per day.	Cost per year.	Total for U.S.
Meat, poultry and fish	2.70	\$87	\$1,740,000,000
Dairy and eggs	5.60	\$175	\$3,500,000,000
Four and meal	2.50	\$78	\$1,560,000,000
Vegetables	1.98	\$61	\$1,220,000,000
Sugar and syrup	1.94	\$61	\$1,220,000,000
Tea and coffee	1.02	\$32	\$640,000,000
Fruit, green and dry	0.62	\$19	\$380,000,000
Salt, spice, ice, etc.	0.49	\$15	\$300,000,000
Total	23.85	\$740	\$14,800,000,000

Of course it is easy to say that these results would have more weight if the average were based on a wider investigation of the cost of living, and a more extensive collection of data. But it is exceedingly difficult to get at the exact kitchen figures in any case, or to find an establishment where the margin of waste is not sufficiently large to destroy for this purpose the value of the facts. Mr. Atkinson probably selected the Massachusetts and Maryland households as representative establishments to all others within his knowledge, on account of the prudence there displayed in buying and the economy in the preparation of food. In the case of the Maryland women, less meat and fish were consumed and more vegetables than with the Massachusetts family, largely of men. The cost of living in Maryland was less than three-fourths of that in Massachusetts—19¢ cents a day in Maryland and 28 cts. in Massachusetts.

What will strike everybody in the table given above is, first, the large relative cost of sugar and syrup as compared with that of flour and meal; and, secondly, the fact that so great a part of the total expenditure is for dairy products and eggs. The milk, butter, cheese, and eggs consumed cost more than the flour, the meal, all the vegetables, and the tea and coffee together.

Roughly speaking, then, the average individual ought to live pretty fairly, so far as food is concerned, on 25 cents a day, or \$1.75 a week, or \$90 a year. Mr. Atkinson thinks that by judicious purchasing and economical serving the thing could be done for twenty cents a day in the East, and probably for less in the West. As for the beer and whiskey bill, Mr. David A. Wells recently computed that the nation spends \$474,823,000 a year for drink; and likes it too.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOLS DENOUNCED.

The State Normal Schools received a round of abuse in the House, on 17. In the opinion of the Reporter these institutions are a fraud. There are ten of them in Pennsylvania, and when the bill appropriating \$100,000 to them came up on second reading it encountered serious opposition. Mr. Evans, of Northampton, said that when the last appropriation was given to these institutions two years ago it was the express understanding that they should receive no more State aid.

Mr. Stubbs, of Chester, said the main purpose of the appropriation this time is to pay indebtedness on the schools hanging over from former years, and to pay for additions now being built to some of the buildings.

The normal-school system was then bitterly denounced by Mr. Evans and Mr. Neely, of Clarion, both of whom, by the way, were educated in those same schools. They charged that the normal schools are self-sustaining and have no further claim upon the State for assistance. They also declared that it costs a student as much for an education in them as it does at other schools, academies and colleges which do not have State assistance, and that their instruction is inferior at that.

Mr. Elkin, of Indiana, made an able defense of the normal schools against each of these charges, and made a strong point on the indebtedness feature, especially with reference to the school at Indiana. His colleague, Mr. Lowry, differed slightly with him, although he, too, desires this bill passed to facilitate the payment of indebtedness which the State has a right to pay. After these debates were left to their own resources.

Judge Furst held court on Monday 20, at Huntingdon for hearing of applications for license, and after argument by counsel on both sides held the cases over until Tuesday, when he decided to grant nine of the applications and refuse eleven. They were called before the court and required to give their personal pledges that they will not sell to persons of intemperate habits nor to others to whom the sale of liquor is prohibited by law, and that they will close their bars at ten o'clock at night. The other successful applicants were from Warriors' Mark, Mill Creek and Orbisonia. All the other places in the county will be without licensed houses.

NEWSPAPERS OF TO-DAY.

People generally, and even those who may be termed steady readers and close observers, have but a faint conception of the magnitude and influence the press of the country has attained. From a careful examination of the advanced pages of the 1885 edition of the "American Newspaper Directory," issued May 1st, by Geo. P. Rowell & Co., of New York, it appears that there are 14,147 newspapers and periodicals published in the United States and Canada; of these the United States have 12,973, an average of one paper for every 3,867 persons. In 1874 the total number of newspapers was 823 that at present, and while the gain this year is not so marked as in some previous years, it is still considerable. Kansas shows the greatest gain, increase being 77, while Illinois follows with a gain of 77. It is curious to notice that New York, the scene of so much political activity during the last campaign, should have only about one-third as many newspapers as the State of Pennsylvania. As an index to the commercial growth and prosperity of different sections of the country, especially the territories, the number of new papers forms an interesting study, and may well occupy the attention of the curious.

A WHIRLWIND IN TEXAS.

HOUSES AND STORES TORN TO PIECES AND MANY PEOPLE KILLED.

Fifty School Children Buried in the Wreck of Their Building and Many Badly Injured.

Galveston, Texas, April 23.—The Prairie Grove neighborhood, eight miles south of Mexico, was visited by a severe cyclone yesterday at 2 o'clock, causing serious damage to life and property. The two-story school house, in which were about fifty children, was blown down and torn to pieces, killing one child and wounding several. The casualties were as follows: A 14 year old daughter of J. P. Swain, killed; Estelle Cook, leg broken; two children of E. Herring, leg and arm broken; two children of Mr. O'Hara, legs broken and injured internally. The house of S. McKinnon was blown down, seriously injuring the owner. The store house and post office own by S. D. Hughes, were demolished and the goods promiscuously scattered. The residences of M. B. Cox, H. Thompson and T. J. Williams were demolished. L. Gentry's house, some distance from the village, is also reported as demolished and himself, wife and child killed. Other serious results are probable, as the country is thickly settled in the direction of the cyclone.

A dispatch from Denison says: In consequence of the heavy rain and wind storms endangering the bridge, railroad traffic on the Missouri Pacific, north and east of Denison, is impeded. A south-bound passenger train was derailed at the city limits. The Red river is rising at the rate of four feet per hour. Fears are entertained for the safety of the Missouri Pacific railway bridge. A freight train of eighteen cars is reported wrecked near Cary Station, Indian Territory. Lon Holland, who was injured by a fall from a building during the cyclone, died yesterday. A family of emigrants were suddenly surrounded by water on Tuesday night and sought safety in the trees. They were rescued yesterday.

Despatches from southeastern Kansas report the heaviest rainfall that has ever been known. Twelve inches of water are said to have fallen. Marmaton river has overflowed its banks and inundated a settlement of from 600 to 800 inhabitants and known as North Fort Scott. The water in the homes is from three to five feet deep. All the people were rescued. The Missouri Pacific railroad track is badly washed out both ways from Fort Scott, and no trains have moved since Tuesday. A freight train on this road went through a bridge at Clearwater and the engineer was drowned. Ten lives are reported to have been lost at Kingman. Traffic on the Wichita and Weatner railroads between the Wichita and Kingman is suspended, and the bridges on this road and on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Road at Cheney, Belle Plain and Clearwater have been washed away.

Other dispatches state that the storm extended into Western Missouri and that many streams have overflowed their banks, that much property has been destroyed and that railroads traversing that section have been washed away in places and traffic greatly interrupted. Advice also come from Northern Texas noting a very heavy rainfall, extending over a large portion of country, embracing Denison, Gainesville, Abeline, Fort Worth, Dallas and other places. At Gainesville the Pecan and Elm creeks overflowed their banks, and besides washing away much property several lives are reported lost. Women and children clung to branches of trees for hours before they were rescued, and in some instances whole families were swept away in their houses, but in most instances they were rescued. Several streets in Dallas were deluged with water and a high wind damaged a number of houses. The Red river is rising rapidly.

Send us three cash names for one year and we will send you the Reporter one year free for your trouble.

CAPTURED BY RIEL'S MEN.

FORT PITT ABANDONED AFTER A BATTLE WITH THE INDIANS.

The Garryjoun Retreats in Boats—Fears that they have been Massacred—Middleton's Troops Advancing to Attack Batouche.

Battleford, April 20.—Scouts from Ft. Pitt report finding it abandoned and badly wrecked. An Indian told them there had been a fight, and two of the police were killed, and that the police and others in the fort had taken to boats in the hope of reaching Battleford. They have been out five days and should have been here long ago. It looks as though the whole party had been captured or killed from the river banks.

The fort contained, besides the police under Inspector Dickens, who is the third son of Charles Dickens, Factor M. Lean, of the Hudson Bay Company, and his family of eight persons, and James Simpson, Stanley Simpson, W. B. Cameron, and Dufrene, employees, the Rev. C. Quinn and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Mann and three children, Alfred Quinn, and others. The story of the escape is extremely improbable, as it is not likely that such a large party would be driven out of the fort and allowed to escape. The Indians said that Riel threatened to take Battleford soon.

Troops were promised for our relief three weeks ago but none have turned up. The river is low, and no troops seem likely to arrive. Col. Morris is putting a trench around the barracks for greater protection. The Indians threaten an attack.

Winnipeg, April 21.—The latest advice from Clarke's crossing is that Middleton has been ferrying troops. Forty scouts under Capt. French, the Ninth Field Battery, and the Tenth Royals, having crossed the river yesterday and to-day, will march down the west side. At the same time the balance of the force, A Battery, C Company, and Boulton's troops, under Gen. Middleton, will march down the river on the east side. Communication will be kept up with the divisions. The advance will be made to-day and an attack on Batouche will probably take place to-morrow or early on Thursday.

A Swift Current dispatch says: Col. Otter's command has crossed the river and has left on its march for Battleford. There are 190 tons, rations for 25 days and forage for 20 days. The steamer Northcote left for Clarke's Crossing yesterday, taking supplies for Middleton and a portion of the Midland battalion.

A Calgary dispatch says: Saturday, April 11, about forty young Creebs raided the Hudson Bay Company's store at Battle River, and plundered it of stores and provisions. Taylor, who was in charge of the post, managed to secure all the furs and escape with them to Red Deer. A messenger overtook him en route and told him that the Indians had repeated their action and wished him to return. They returned all the goods that had not been consumed. I. G. Baker's store at the same place was gutted, and Colquhoun, the manager, made prisoner. A raid was also made on Geo. Gatr's store at Red Deer. Smith's battalion is in camp here. Middleton has been in a state of great activity all day, owing to the preparations by Manning, Steele and the scouts to march north to-morrow. Maj. Steele will take seventy mounted men with him.

Quebec, April 21.—The debate in the local Legislature on Mr. Turcotte's resolutions censuring the Federal Government for its action in connection with the Northwest troubles was concluded this morning, with the result of forty-one against the resolution and 15 for it.

BUSINESS TACT AND OPPORTUNITY.

A streak of pure good luck in business or the sudden achievement of success and wealth by a happy hit is rare, but there are many lucky and prosperous folk who are so because they watch their opportunities and make the best of them. Mr. Koehler, of Rochester, N. Y., tried his hand at canvassing for "Plain Home Talk" and made four dollars in the first two hours. Mr. Sandford, of Maine, took 43 orders from 47 persons to whom he showed the book. Mr. Taylor, in Cleveland, took 19 orders in one day. Why do smart, capable men complain of hard times and nothing to do when equal opportunities are open to them? They have only to call for circulars, prospectus and terms of the Murray Hill Publishing Co., 129 East 28th Street, New York City.

TEN YEARS IN A GARRET.

Philadelphia, April 22.—Upon the petition of Dr. Thomas Morton, of the committee of lunacy of the state board of public charities, and Dr. A. J. Gurt, the secretary of the committee, Judge Dreher, of Monroe county, has made out an order for the commitment to the hospital for the insane, at Danville, of a lunatic who has been locked up in the garret of Monroe county farm, house for the past ten years.

100 KILLED BY A VOLCANIC ERUPTION.

London, April 22.—Ispatches received here this afternoon, state that a terrible volcanic eruption has occurred at Passaroan, a province in the east end of the Island of Java. A number of plantations have been devastated and it is feared that fully a hundred persons have been killed.

FANCY PRICES FOR FANCY CATTLE.

New York, April 22.—Some very high prices were obtained at the sale of Jersey cattle to-day. Among them were the following: Eurastus S. Black Prince, 2 year old bull, \$2,650; Helen St. Heiler, 5 year old cow, \$675; Nanette Pujis, 1 year old heifer, \$2,000; Shirley St. Lambert, 1 year old heifer, \$900; Leo Pujis, 2 year old bull, \$875; Gastayette, 3 year old cow, \$1,400; Princess of Ashantee, 6 year old cow, \$2,000; Princess of Ashantee Fourth, 1 year old, \$1,900.

FIFTY-FIVE MILLIONS ASKED.

With Which to Carry Forward England's Preparations for War.

London, April 21.—Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons this afternoon, announced that the Government had received Sir Peter Lumsden's answer to the Government's inquiries of the 10th instant. "The message arrived to-day," said Mr. Gladstone, "and it shows how seriously Sir Peter Lumsden is at issue with General Komaroff. We cannot enter into details or state the effect of this difference in a few words. The whole matter will be laid on the table here early to-morrow."

He then asked a credit of \$55,000,000, \$22,000,000 for war purposes, in the Sudan and \$32,500,000 for other naval and military preparations. Mr. Gladstone, in presenting the Government's request for the vote of credit, said: "The Government feels that it is necessary to hold all resources of the Empire, including the forces in the Sudan, available for instant use wherever required. The credit does not include any provisions for further offensive operations or military preparations for an early march on Khartoum."

The Premier requested that debate be had on the credit on Monday next, and that the consideration of the Budget be postponed until the 30th inst. He concluded as follows: "The Government rely upon the patriotism of the House, but our intentions have been and are now based upon a strong desire that every specific means should be used to obtain a just and honorable settlement of whatever controversies England might be involved in."

Gladstone stated that the Government had received no communication from either Turkey, Austria, France or Germany concerning the closing of the Dardanelles.

CURED BY PRAYER.

Pittsburg, April 20.—Miss Mary Moorhead, daughter of the late Hon. J. K. Moorhead of this city, who was one of the most prominent and wealthy citizens, claims to have been cured by faith of a painful disease of thirty years' standing. Miss Moorhead says her ailment was pronounced incurable by some of the best physicians in the country. Last summer, while at a mountain resort, she met a lady who advised her to try the faith cure. She became strongly imbued with the idea, and, refusing all stimulants prescribed by her doctors, prayed almost incessantly. In a few days she was entirely free from pain, and her health is better to-day than ever before.

At Midway, near this city, there are nine persons who have been cured of serious illness through faith, under the instrumentalities of the Rev. J. S. Willets, pastor of the Methodist church at that place. Among the number is the pastor, who has published an account of his own case; Wm. Hamilton, aged 72 years; Mr. Faust, how has been ill for 14 years; Mrs. Easton, cured of spinal trouble; J. Paige, aged 69, cured of rheumatism, and others.

THE WHITE HOUSE DINING ROOM.

The Presidential state dinners are served in the White House dining-room, writes a correspondent. Here oceans of champagne, herds of fine beebes, thousands of turkeys, boat-loads of terrapin and great lakes of ice-cream have been swallowed year after year for the past half century or more. Jefferson was almost a bankrupt from his White House dinners. Jackson spent more than his salary, and not a President save, perhaps, Andrew Johnson, came out of the White House with anything more than he went in. Arthur's dinners have cost him a fortune, and each state dinner cost him from \$10 a plate upward. When it is remembered that each of these dinners have about forty guests at the table you will see that a state dinner costs at least \$500, and I am told that Mr. Arthur's ordinary meals, to which he always had several strangers, cost about \$5 a plate. There is always wine on the table, and this of a quality which adds materially to the table expenses. Last winter there were nine state dinners during the Congressional session, and every person of prominence in Washington sat down at the President's table. The usual dining hour is 8 P. M., and the guests sit as late as 11 or later. While the dinner goes on the Marine band plays charming music in the vestibule, and the strains float in, not so loud as to interrupt conversation, but gently and pleasantly. Mr. Arthur's state dinners usually consisted of fourteen courses. He had one of the best cooks in the land, and, it is said, he had as fine tables as the White House had ever known. Good wine, you know, tastes better out of cut glass than tin cups, and the White House dishes are the finest. The china set in use is of Limoges ware, representing the different flowers and fauna of America. It cost \$15,000 and contains 900 pieces. The light of his dining room is from colored wax candles, in beautiful gold and silver candlesticks, and there are many mirrors set into its walls. Its guests of ten appear in regimentals, and a state dinner at the White House is perhaps the finest sight in our social world.

UNTIL EVERY GOOD MAN IS BRAVE WE MUST EXPECT TO FIND MANY GOOD WOMEN TIMID; TOO TIMID TO BELIEVE IN THE CORRECTNESS OF THEIR OWN BEST PROMPTINGS, WHEN THEY WOULD PLACE THEM IN A MINORITY.