

The Centre Reporter.

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THE CENTRE REPORTER.

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There is a match factory at Curwensville, Clearfield county, that makes 8,000,000 sticks a day.

The Clinton Democrat, of Lock Haven, has changed hands, Messrs. James W. Clark, Ira M. Harvey and John Noble being the new owners.

Here is the way General Fitz Lee commenced his speech at Winchester, Va. He made his speech on the famous battlefield of Fisher's Hill. This is the opening paragraph:

I thank God that white-winged peace now broods over the land. I came here to preach the peace and not war; to carry as my standard the stars and stripes, and not the bloody shirt. I thank God that the question of secession has been forever settled, and that now at last every star in our glorious old flag has a meaning. I thank God that no vestige of carpetbagism or scalawag government remains to vex the people.

There is no bloody shirt about that! It is rather in different tone from the speeches John Sherman is making in Ohio, attributing to the South a purpose to engage in a new rebellion.

A strange case has occurred in California, involving the resignation of a Judge, that has a local interest in this locality at this time. Judge Clough, of the Supreme Court, became insane. While in an asylum, as it was represented in a lucid condition, he resigned his office, and the Governor appointed Judge Levy in his place. Judge Clough has recovered his mental health, and claims his place on the bench, declaring he has no knowledge of his resignation and his wife testifies he was insane when he made it. The laws of California declare invalid any conveyance or contract made by an insane man, hence it is claimed the resignation is void, and the Judge entitled to his office. This will be an interesting question for the lawyers.

The Democracy of Clearfield held their county convention on 16. George Wooden, of Houtzdale, was nominated for sheriff by a vote of 51. Smith Wilson, of Clearfield, was nominated for district attorney, and Samuel Postlethwait for jury commissioner. Hiram Woodward, of Huston, was defeated for Sheriff by a few votes, and as he is a war horse of 30 years standing in the democratic party, and was defeated by Wooden, who has only been in the country seven years, there is a possibility that he will come out independently, in which case the republican candidate will stand a fair chance of election. The Crawford system of representation was defeated and hereafter there will be the old method of nominating by the delegate system.

The Bell Telephone Company will soon be brought into the United States Court at Memphis, where its right to the valuable patent under which it operates will be tried. Suit is brought by the U. S. District Attorney, the court being asked to vacate the patent, alleging it to have been obtained by fraudulent representations; that Philip Reis was the real inventor of the telephone, Bell having obtained the valuable secret from an official of the Patent Office in violation of the law; that the invention was known to the scientific world before Bell secured his patent; and that it is and of right ought to be the property of the public. The affidavit of Z. F. Wilber, the examiner of the Patent Office, is said to be the most important evidence in support of the petition. This is the gentleman, it is alleged, who gave Mr. Bell the valuable information which enabled the latter to forestall Reis in securing the patent, which, by every right, should have been awarded to the latter.

An upset of the telephone monopoly would be a good thing—it is the greediest leech now fastened upon the people.

BUYING ANOTHER RAILROAD.

Harrisburg, Sept. 21.—Political and railroad circles have again been agitated by rumors that the Pennsylvania Railroad has purchased the control of the Philadelphia and Reading road, through the acquiescence of the Vanderbilt. Mr. Vanderbilt is known to have for some time held the balance of power between the Gowen and opposition factions with his 90,000 shares. At the last two annual meetings he has voted in the Gowen side. The opposition which Gowen has made to the consummation of the South Pennsylvania deal has incensed both Vanderbilt and the Pennsylvania managers, and they, out of revenge, have made a deal in Philadelphia that will knock the Gowen party completely out. It is understood that the matter has gone so far that the Attorney General has begun a movement to prevent the consummation of the scheme, charging that it came within the clause of the constitution prohibiting the consolidation or merger of competing roads.

QUAY CAN AND MUST BE DEFEATED.

We say so too, along with the *Morning Patriot*, which adds that the demoralization of the Republican party in Philadelphia and the evident purpose of the best citizens of that political faith in all parts of the state to repudiate Quay, present the pending contest for State Treasurer in a light favorable to the prospects of Conrad B. Day. With the extraordinary majority of last year starting the Democratic party in the face, and the seeming unanimity with which Col. Quay was nominated the beginning of the contest was anything but hopeful. But a change has already set in, and with a fair measure of vigilance on the part of the Democrats there is excellent prospect of winning a victory.

The nomination of W. Elwood Rowan for Sheriff by the Republicans of Philadelphia, was the first step in the impending political revolution that promises to wipe out the Republican majority. Mr. Rowan is a member of the political ring composed of William B. Mann, Jas. McManes, David H. Lane, William R. Leeds and others of like stamp. They have robbed the city with merciless hands in the past. Differences growing out of the distribution of the spoils has recently caused breaks in the ranks, but the methods of the men are the same as when united in a common purpose they plundered the people right and left. The nomination of Rowan is an insult to the people not only of the city but of the state. It is noticed that the return of the Republican party to power means the revival of the boss methods of the old Ring. In State politics Col. Quay represents the same interests which Rowan voices in the municipal government. Those who desire to overthrow these men and measures must make common cause with the Democrats in the support of Conrad B. Day, in order that the ring may be uprooted and eradicated.

A SHORT ROUTE.

The shortest route of all, between New York and Chicago, is mentioned in a Chicago paper the other day, and it strikes Centre county. Possibly it is the route thro' the Brush Valley narrows, of which we mentioned in the Reporter a year ago. The Chicago paper says the Baltimore and Ohio is now maturing a project which will give it the shortest line between Chicago and New York, and which, if consummated, will bring on another conflict between the trunk lines as serious as that which followed the construction of the West Shore. It is asserted that negotiations are now in progress to build an entirely new line to New York direct, using the main line for Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia business only. The proposed project contemplates the construction of a new extension from the main line to Centreton, Ohio, in a direct air-line to New York City, passing through Medina, Leveana and Warren, Ohio, and thro' Mercer, Brookville, Clearfield, Bellefonte, Sunbury and Munch Chunk, Pa., and Belvidere, Morristown and Newark, N. J. This line will be only 750 miles long from Chicago to New York, and with a double steel rail track through trains may be safely run from Chicago to New York in from fifteen to sixteen hours.

There is a touch of sarcasm in this paragraph from that witty philosopher, Mr. Robert Burdette, of Burlington, Ia., which is not unsavory. But beside the sarcasm it has good sense enough in it to deserve a place here, that it may be seen and read of all men, and especially the croakers:

Yes, my son, I know. I know that the churches in the United States cost many thousands of dollars, which might be given to the poor. I know, my son, that our modern Christianity is much given to worldly show and grandeur, and has departed from the simple ways of the fathers. I appreciate your grief over all this. You are not alone in your sorrow. You are not the first man, my son, that lifted up his voice and wailed, "Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence and given to the poor?" Come, my son, let us reform things. Let us sell all the churches and give all the money to the poor. Let us bury our dead in unmarked ditches by the roadside, and send the cost of a Christian burial to the heathen. Let us paint our legs, let our hair grow long, and go naked, so that we may send the money we now waste in fashionable adornment to the perishing millions of India. Let us do all this. Then, you see, the poor heathen will have everything and we will have nothing; they will wear clothes and live in houses, and we will wear rings in our noses and live in caves; they will be civilized Christian men and women, and we will be wild barbarians, perishing in benighted ignorance, lifting up our appealing voices for the price of the box of ointment. My boy, when you are tempted to build a church that costs \$50,000, you sit down and hold your nose and wait until you see in how many years that church sends out \$100,000 to the poor and the sick and the heathen at home and abroad.

The Cleveland strike has ended by the iron workers accepting the reduction and resuming work.

A GRAVE CHARGE AGAINST QUAY.

The sentiments expressed by Mr. Geo. E. Mapes as to the fitness of Matthew S. Quay for the office to which he aspires, will doubtless be shared by a very considerable number of Republicans throughout the state. Mr. Mapes is not a careless talker on political topics, but he is a conscientious citizen, a strong Republican and a careful if not a profound thinker. He was one of the leading movers in the Wolfe revolt of 1881, a strong factor in the Stewart movement a year later, and has always preserved his self-respect by maintaining a consistent course in political matters.

The history which Mr. Mapes gives of the Kemble conspiracy to debauch the Legislature, the trial and conviction of the conspirators and the subsequent pardon, is sufficient reason for any conscientious Republican to vote against Colonel Quay, who, to borrow the language of Mr. Mapes, "was the biggest boss of the lot." Indeed if the statement connecting Mr. Quay with the transaction be correct, it will be the duty of that class of citizens to vote against him. The crime was one that "struck at the very foundations of society and government" and supporting Quay is not only condoning but commanding it.

HOW VOORHEES SAW VILAS.

"Oh, but it's hard being messenger here now," said one of the stable doorkeepers at the Post Office Department the other day. "So many men complain on account of the rules. Some of them, when refused admission to Mr. Vilas, swear at the managers and rail like madmen. One day Senator Voorhees came here to see the Postmaster-General. The messenger had been instructed to inform callers that the Postmaster-General would see no one. It appears that the Senator was in a hurry or had an engagement with Mr. Vilas, and when told he could not be admitted he became very angry. He caught the messenger by the throat, or coat-collar, and threw him across the room. Then he walked in. He said he was tired of this humbug, and he proposed to go in whenever he wanted to and no red tape could keep him out, or messenger either."

"What was done about the assault on the messenger?" was asked. "The Postmaster-General sent for the messenger and no one will tell what was said. The affair was dropped. But you may be sure that Senator Voorhees isn't 'stood-off' any more when he wants to see the Postmaster-General."

THE PURITAN WINS

AFTER THE GREATEST CONTEST THE WORLD HAS EVER WITNESSED.

The English Cutter Outwitted and Fairly Beaten by the Boston Boat.

New York, Sept. 18.—"The Cup stays in America!" These words were spoken by ex-Commodore James D. Smith as the Puritan's main boom passed the finish line of Scotland Lightship to-day, after the closest contest ever sailed over a forty-mile course. The Genesta was beaten one minute and thirty-eight seconds corrected time, and two minutes and nine seconds actual time. The course was twenty miles to leeward and return from Scotland Lightship. The wind being west northwest the yachts were sent away on an east southeast course, dead beat the wind. In this the cutter beat the sloop one minute and two seconds. From there to the finish they made but one short tack of a mile, and two long legs of nine and ten miles, respectively, in half a gale of wind, which came to north northwest soon after the "outer mark" was turned. In this work the Puritan gained three minutes and thirty seconds from point to point.

CHOLERA'S AWFUL RAVAGES.

London, Sept. 20.—Dispatches from Spain indicate that, although the cholera is vanishing from the infected districts, the distress in the provinces is fearful. Destitution follows death, and the path of the pestilence is marked by a broad swath of poverty. A dispatch from Jean, unless God takes pity on the wretched population they will entirely disappear by death caused either by cholera or starvation. Quarantine is enforced illegally by many towns, and travelers are left for days in filthy huts unless they are able to pay tribute or foot the distance necessary to take them beyond the line of these stringent measures. The Bishop of Coloharra, after being nearly dead with cholera, has returned to the city, and is now working in his slums, like a saintly slave, to alleviate the sufferings of the people.

A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT IN TENNESSEE.

Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 16.—An old farmer named John Hagerwood went to the woods yesterday with his son to cut logs. Not coming home a searching party was organized. The dead body of the old man was found with his head split wide open. Near by was the almost lifeless body of the son, who has since died. It appears that while they were passing through the forest a dead tree fell, crushing both the ground with the above results. A faithful dog kept the bodies from being devoured by hogs.

BARNUM'S ELEPHANT JUMBO DEAD.

St. Thomas, Ont., Sept. 13.—Jumbo, the \$300,000 elephant, was killed on the Grand Trunk Air Line track, half a mile east of here, last night. His keeper was leading him along near the track, when a freight train came up behind, unnoticed, and ran him down. He was injured so badly that he died in 30 minutes. The trick elephant Tom Thumb was also injured, his leg being broken.

HOW JUMBO WAS KILLED.

He Lost His Own Life in Trying to Save that of the Baby Elephant.

Buffalo, Sept. 17.—A. Haight, representing Barnum, said that the truth about the killing of Jumbo on Tuesday evening had not been published. After the show in St. Thomas, Ont., that evening, the driver started down the track with Jumbo and the baby elephant, Tom Thumb, to where the Grand Trunk freight train was standing. There are a great many tracks at that point used in the switching of cars on the Grand Trunk air line, which there joins the main stem of the road. On the one side of the track was the train and the other was a steep embankment. As the train came around the curve the keeper tried to induce Jumbo to go down the embankment, but he would not, for what reason was not at first apparent. The baby elephant was in the rear, and as the train approached Jumbo began to bellow and swing his trunk. The little elephant seemed dazed, but did not get out of the way. As the engine was about upon them, Jumbo raised on his hind legs as though to protect the baby, and then quick as thought dropped down and grabbed him in his trunk and hurled him with great force over all the tracks and against a freight car twenty yards away, where he dropped down whinnying like a puppy with a sore foot. Jumbo, in saving the life of his little protegee, had severely neglected his own chance to escape. The locomotive struck him with full force in the side, crowding him against cars on the siding nearest him, and fairly squeezing the life out of him. When they came to the end of the switch the engine left the track, and with it five freight cars that stood on the siding.

Then there was a scene never to be forgotten by those that witnessed it. The mangled beast roared with pain, and the little elephant roared as loud as he could in sympathy. The crush was too heavy to leave any chance of recovery, and the bystanders could only wait for Jumbo's death. It was not long delayed. In three minutes he turned over on his back dead. It was found that the baby elephant had sustained a broken leg, and as there was no help for him, orders were given that he be put out of misery, which order was carried into effect yesterday afternoon.

THE TRIAL OF JOHN LAPORTE.

Huntingdon, Pa., Sept. 16.—The noted homicide case of John Laporte, son of Judge Laporte, an associate justice of this county, charged with killing James Irwin, an intimate friend of his, on May 28, was taken up for trial here this morning. Young Laporte was seen with his friend near Warriors Mark on the evening of the murder, and within an hour from the time they were seen together the dead body of Irwin was discovered near the village and Laporte was nowhere to be found. Irwin's face was frightfully mutilated and his head severed from his body. Laporte turned up near his father's house near Franklinville the next day, but his father refused to harbor him, and bringing him here on the first train delivered him to the authorities. Judge Laporte cannot sit in judgement at the trial of his son, but throughout to-day's session he sat within the bar with his son's counsel. The trial is expected to cover a week and the evidence so far has been of the most harrowing nature.

FIGHT WITH A GRIZZLY.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 17.—Advice from British Columbia state that a short time ago, while two telegraph repairers were carrying on their work in the Selkirk Mountains, one of them named Johnston was attacked by a grizzly bear, which caught him by the calf of the leg while he was drinking from a stream. The bear endeavored to draw him into his cave, but Johnston threw his arms around trees and yelled for his companion, who came close to the bear and emptied seven Winchester balls into him. As these did not make the bear relinquish his hold, the friend got his companion's rifle from under the bear and poured seven bullets into the bear's head. When he fired the last shot the bear rolled over. The trouble then was to get the jaws open to release Johnston's leg. This was done by inserting the barrel of one of the rifles and prying it open. Johnston's leg was horribly lacerated, and it will be necessary to have the limb amputated.

A TERRIBLE PRAIRIE FIRE IN DAKOTA.

Steele, Dak., Sept. 18.—A terrible prairie fire raged west and north of here all day yesterday. Reports from Sterling, eighteen miles west, are that farmers in that region lost everything. Passengers on last night's eastbound train report seeing numberless stacks of wheat on fire at the same time near here. The losses in grain range from 1,000 to 3,000 bushels to each farmer. Mrs. W. L. Bedford, living seven miles from here, inhaled the flames while fighting fire, and is in a critical condition. The fire is still raging.

At Buffalo, Dakota, the fire destroyed 200 stacks of wheat on Wm. Hodson's farm, 150 acres belonging to Wylie, three harvesters and binders of Mr. Aldrus, and did great damage elsewhere.

Bad drainage causes much sickness. Bad blood and improper action of the liver and kidneys is bad drainage to the human system, which Burdock Blood Bitters will remedy.

THREE HUNDRED MINERS ENTOMBED.

London, Sept. 17.—A dispatch that a serious accident has occurred at Oakwell Colliery at Ilkeston, eight miles from Derby. The shaft of the colliery has been blocked and 300 miners are entombed. Efforts are being made to rescue them by way of the furnace shaft and they will probably be saved.

Beware of Frauds.—Be sure you get the genuine Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. It cures colds, croup, asthma, deafness and rheumatism.

MOSQUITOES-KILLING TROUT.

[American Angler.]

Mr. Murray, in a letter from Denver to Prof. Baird, describes what he saw under the shade of some willows skirting a shallow place in a creek. A small swarm of mosquitoes were circling over the water, where some fresh hatched mountain trout were readily described. Every few minutes the baby trout would rise to the surface of the water and remain there an instant, with the tip of the head exposed. A mosquito would at once alight upon the shining spot and transfuse the trout by inserting its proboscis, or bill, into the brain of the fish, which apparently was completely paralyzed and unable to escape. The prosecutor would not relax his grip, but holding his victim as in a vice would extract all the vital juices from the trout's body. When this was done the dead trout would turn over on its back and float down the stream. The observer witnessed the murder of twenty trout under the willows in the course of half an hour by these Western mosquitoes, each victim being sucked dry in his lifeless shell.

FIRE AT ALTOONA.

Altoona, Pa., Sept. 20.—Shortly after 3 o'clock this morning the large planing mill of S. J. Fries was found to be in flames, and before the fire department was in readiness the flames had communicated to a row of dwelling houses, five of which were burned. The mill was the most complete in the state, and the disaster will throw many men out of employment. The losses are \$40,000, with only about \$10,000 insurance.

EARTHQUAKE AND THUN BURNED OUT.

Madrid, Sept. 19.—The ruins occupied by the populace of Arenas del Rey since the recent earthquake have been destroyed by fire, and the people are again homeless.

George Campbell, Hopkinsville, Ky., says: Burdock Blood Bitters is the best preparation for the blood and stomach ever manufactured.

THRASHING-FLOORS

It was in the north of China that we first saw the thrashing-floor of the East and of the Bible. When we were traveling to some out-stations in Manchuria, the road bounded on both sides by endless fields of gigantic millet, there would come a farmer's house and farm-yard, of a small hamlet, and on the skirt of it, the trodden spot of ground hard and smooth as stone. But it was not till some weeks later, as we were journeying slowly up to Peking, and the harvest was now gathered, and we saw it in use. The grain was laid on the floor, and a pair of oxen were driven leisurely over the cars, treading out the corn.

Another form of thrashing was the stone roller, which was drawn over the ears by oxen or mules; and there was another still, where a flat board furnished with some projections, was drawn in the same way, the driver or children, perhaps, sitting on the board to lend it additional weight. Sometimes the grain was piled up in a large heap in the centre of the floor, unsifted, and then men with the winnowing shovel (the Bible fan) would toss the grain into the air, or else into a flat basket, from which the man who led it flung up the corn, and the wind carrying the chaff away filled the air with dust.

One Bible phrase after another was recalled to us. It was easy to see how the Philistines could rob the thrashing-floors at Keilah, those open spaces in the field on which the absence of any dread of rain induced the farmers to pile up their wealth of grain; or how the open floor, open to the sky and smooth, became the natural place to test the dew upon Gideon's fleece while all the rest of the ground was dry; or how, when the two kings, Ahab, of Israel, and Jehoshaphat, of Judah, summoned the prophet, the place to set the royal thrones was on the smooth and empty thrashing-floor just before the gate of Samaria; or how no better place than this could be found on which to build the altar that David raised when he had purchased the site of the temple from Araunah, the Jebusite, and found in the thrashing instruments—the wooden fans and boards and oxen poles—the wood for the sacrifice. It would be easy for the oxen to stop in the midst of the abundance they were treading out and eat; and the merciful Jewish law provided that they should eat if they would; there should be no muzzling of them; "thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth on the corn."

OCEAN-WAVES.

The results of a series of observations carried out by the Hydrographical Bureau at Washington, in order to determine the length, depth and duration of ocean-waves, have been published. The largest wave observed is said to have had a length of half a mile, and to have spent itself in twenty-three seconds. During storms in the North Atlantic waves sometimes extend to a length of five hundred and six hundred feet, and last from ten to eleven seconds. The most careful measurements of the heights of waves give from forty-four to forty-eight feet as an extreme limit, the average height of great waves is about thirty feet. These measurements refer to ordinary marine action, and do not relate to earthquake action or other exceptional agencies.

McCULLOUGH'S EARLY DAYS.

A writer in the *Troy Times* describing the unfortunate tragedian's early life, says: "Mr. McCullough came to this country alone, a poor friendless Irish boy when he was seventeen years old. He landed in Philadelphia, and while wandering about the streets in search of employment, was surprised to see the name of John McCullough on the sign over a door. He went in, found the proprietor, and discovered in him the uncle after whom he was named, and of whose whereabouts he had not known before. From his uncle, young McCullough obtained shelter, protection and employment, being apprenticed to his uncle's trade as a wood-worker. His inborn passion for the stage manifested itself in his devotion to dramatic literature, to the study of which nearly all his leisure time was devoted, and his fondness for the higher class of dramatic representations, which he attended as frequently as his very limited means would admit.

"He finally attracted the attention of Forrest, who soon recognized his genius, and from that time the poor Irish boy was under the care of the great tragedian, who personally conducted his education for the stage. When only about twenty years old, McCullough fell in love, and with the characteristic impetuosity of his race a temperamental, married a pretty young Irish girl. She was illiterate, and did not keep peace with the young actor's rapid intellectual growth, so that the union did not prove an entirely congenial one, though McCullough always retained an affectionate and chivalrous regard for her, provided handsomely for her support, and visited her at not infrequent intervals at the pleasant home which he furnished her in Philadelphia, and where I presume she is living now. No children were born to this marriage, so far as I am aware. That Mr. McCullough was married, as I have stated, admits of no question, and there may have been children; I only know that to his intimate friends, who were well acquainted with his history, he was not known to speak of children, nor yet of brothers or sisters. That he has two sons, one thirty and the other thirty-four years of age, as has been stated, is, I think, undoubtedly true.

"The facts above briefly stated are from Mr. McCullough's own lips to one of his most intimate friends."

HOW FLYING FISH FLY.

A correspondent writes to *Nature*: "An excellent opportunity of observing the aerial means of propulsion in the flying fish was afforded me during a six days' cruise lately when crossing the Bay of Bengal. I watched day by day some hundreds rise under the bows of the ship. The water surface was a glassy calm. As each fish rose it spread its wings at once, apparently beating the surface with them two or three strokes before they steadied out. I say apparently, for it was not a definite beat so much as a struggled to rise. The tail, which, of course, under water was in rapid motion, to escape from the ship, now gave ten or a dozen rapid beats, which could be counted by the ripples on the still surface, and the fish was off in aerial flight. As each fish lost the impetus of the first rise, which generally happened at about forty yards, the binoculars showed us the anal fins, which had till now been fully extended, drooping to feel the water. As soon as the surface was felt the tail was quickly introduced, and five or six smart strokes, also indicated by ripples, brought the impetus up again and carried the fish about another thirty yards, when another droop sent it on again, and so forth, some of the older fish traveling in this way 400 to 500 yards. The younger fish frequently fell awkwardly in this attempt to regain impetus. Where waves are running it requires a clever fish to gain impetus by a few judicious strokes on the crest of a wave, and many a fish tumbles over in the attempt.

"I once saw a fish ride close to the ship's quarter, and it flew parallel with the ship, pursued below by a dolphin or bonito. The latter followed every sway of the flying fish, keeping almost under it. At the first dip of the tail the pursuer made a dart forward, but missed it, and again dogged its prey by keeping just under it. On the second dip the tail went into its pursuer's mouth, and there was an end of the flyer. It always struck me that it seemed a strain on the Squal to keep the wings extended."

THE GENUINE ARTICLES.

Italian macaroni is made in New York; the best Neufchatel cheese comes from New Jersey, and genuine Schweizer case from Ohio. The real Albert biscuits are imported from Albany; Russian caviar is manufactured in the steppes of Harkau from the sturgeon of Lake Erie, and small fish from Maine are boiled in Texan cotton-seed oil, put up in tin boxes from Connecticut, and marked "Sardines a l'huile d'Olive" with labels printed in New York.