

The Centre Reporter.



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THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED. KURTZ, Editor and Prop'r.

Middleburg, the county seat of Snyder county, is without a bank or telephone. Happy Middleburgers.

The editor of the Huntingdon Monitor lost his pocket book with \$11 in money. The Monitor, however, still makes its appearance.

If Fannegan, of Texas, were President and Edmunds would ask why he removed a fellow, Fannegan would answer, "What am I here for?"

If Edmunds wanted to know why certain Republican officials were removed he might have asked Fannegan of Texas, "What are we here for?"

The trouble caused in the Ohio Senate by the Republicans trying to steal several seats, which brought about two senators, is likely to be compromised.

Base-ball having become a "national game," we expect soon to hear of an effort in congress to organize a base-ball department, the head of which shall be entitled to a seat in the cabinet.

The House committee on appropriations heard the commissioner of Pensions in regard to the estimated cost of pensions for the next fiscal year. He said \$75,800,000 would be required.

On the third snow fell to the depth of 4 inches at Mexicalcingo, four miles distant from city of Mexico. This is the first snow that has fallen in that vicinity since 1856. The tops of all the adjacent mountains were also whitened. The weather is much cooler than is generally experienced in that latitude at this season.

The President stands by Garland in the telephone matter. That's right. Garland has a good right to own telephone stock as any one, and if he finds that a rival company has a fraudulent patent he should try to have it annulled and his being in the cabinet should not interfere with his private rights, especially against so unmerciful a monopoly as the Bell Telephone Company.

The most foolish piece of business that a set of senators ever engaged in is that by which Senator Edmunds and others thought of making President Cleveland give his reasons for removing certain Republican officials. The President has given these reasons no reasons in answer to their resolution, because it is none of their business. No senator ever before went into such granny business.

Says the Philad. Times: The Senators who started out so boldly to demand of the President his reasons for removals have been gradually abating their claims till now there is very little left of them. In fact, they have mostly assumed an apologetic position and are anxious to explain that they never wished to interfere with the independence of the Executive, but were only anxious that the President should have the opportunity to justify his course.

The noise made over the Pan Telephone company, which intends to test the validity of the Bell Telephone company's patent, is all noise and nothing more. The fact that the Attorney General Garland has stock is not as bad as the noise that is made over it, only so he has his stock in a legitimate manner, and that he has, and if the new company succeeds in overthrowing the Bell patent, a big monopoly will get a big black eye, and that's what we all wish to see.

In the Senate, on 5 instant, after a lengthy discussion the Dakota bill reported by the committee was passed—yeas 32, nays 22. The only Democrat voting in the affirmative was Voorhees. The negatives were all Democratic. The bill divides the Territory of Dakota on the line of the 46 parallel of latitude; provides for the admission of the southern portion as a State, and the organization of the northern portion into a separate Territory under the name of "Lincoln." The bill is not likely to pass the House.

The movement to defeat Gen. Beaver for the Republican nomination for Governor, seems to grow more earnest every day. It is said Cameron and some of his lieutenants are bound to have some one nominated for governor whose name is not Beaver. The election of Quay, the machine boss, has emboldened the machine politicians to undertake anything believing the party will back them up in any edict they issue. Quay's election meant no good for Beaver, it put the boss element of the Republican party in complete command by a full endorsement. Beaver is strong but when Cameron says wiggle-waggle and thumbs up, somebody will get a black eye.

BEAVER IN DANGER.

A STRONG ELEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO HIS NOMINATION.

The Centre County Gusher Likely to be Defeated on Account of His Headless Tongue Wagging too Freely.

Philadelphia, Feb. 3.—There is disclosed here a new development in Republican politics that threatens serious consequences to General James A. Beaver's aspirations to be nominated for Governor. It is an open secret that there has been a decided opposition to him from the beginning. Senator Cameron has been fiercely frank in his denunciation of the Beaver combination, and David H. Lau, Sheriff Rowan, and the coterie that keeps up the Cameron interests in this city are equally emphatic in their expressions. There is another element of opposition that is equally troublesome if not so dangerous. I refer to the so-called Independent contingent which three years ago supported John Stewart, and still adheres to the fortunes of that gentleman. This constitutes the commercial element in politics. Shouting loudly for reform it comes to market for a bargain, and while denouncing Beaver with varying vehemence asks a place on the ticket for its favorite. The western opposition is led by C. L. Magee, Fire Marshal Coates, Ex-Postmaster McClean, Mayor Fulton and others, and thus a combination of crafty politicians covering the entire state is formed to antagonize the Centre county gusher.

When the Attorney-General last summer began the equity writ to restrain the Pennsylvania Railroad from absorbing the South Penn. a public meeting was held at Bellefonte. At this meeting Beaver made a speech which was extravagant in its denunciation of the Pennsylvania Railroad. That company has the reputation of getting even with its enemies, and it sees the opportunity to pay Beaver back by helping Cameron in his scheme to nominate Hartranft who has been brought out. That is not the only instance in which Beaver's mouth made havoc with his hopes. Last fall he made several speeches in this city and urged Republicans to support Dave Mout, the convict candidate, for Council. This was exceedingly offensive to the more respectable Republicans and they are disposed to resist it now by joining against the man who insulted their intelligence and integrity.

Besides that Hartranft has another claim on the politicians. It will be remembered that the Bi-Centennial celebration in this city three years ago was gotten up for the purpose of helping Beaver in his contest against Pattison. The Board of Managers of that enterprise was composed almost entirely of Republican politicians. One of the features of the affair was a parade of the National Guard. Gen. Beaver was the Grand Commander in the Guard and rode at the head of the procession ostentatiously exhibiting his stump leg, and to emphasize the matter a servant rode behind carrying his crutches. The effect, it was expected, would be stunning. After the affair was over the managers held a meeting in Gen. Hartranft's office, at the Custom House. They agreed that the celebration had been a great success so far as its main purpose was concerned, and that Beaver's election was lifted out of the regions of doubt and made certain. That having been settled to their satisfaction they proceeded to name his successor and selected Hartranft, and mutually pledged him their support. But Beaver was beaten.

In the complications that arose in the election for United States Senator last year, some of the politicians promised Beaver a re-nomination without consulting Cameron or Hartranft. Thus the place has been positively promised to two aspirants, and both demand the execution of the bond. Hartranft is out of employment, has expensive habits, and must be provided for. Besides Cameron knows he is a safe man, and he is not so sure of Beaver. It is pretty safe to predict that there will be a lively struggle, with chances in favor of General Hartranft.

It is not safe to hold a check beyond the first day of receiving it. A check was given a corporation on the Penn bank at Pittsburg one day. The next day the bank failed. The corporation sued the party giving the check, but the court decided they could not recover because due diligence had not been exercised in presenting the paper for payment, and the corporation receiving it was the loser. According to this where it is possible a check must be presented the same day it is given to make the one receiving it entirely secure, so don't carry any person's check, no matter how sound they may be financially, if you want to be entirely secure.

The officers of the Seaboard, Pennsylvania and Western Railroad, who have obtained the right of way between Harrisburg and Pittsburg, except for a short distance on the south side of the Juniata River opposite Huntingdon have sent word to the farmers in the Kishacoquillas Valley, through which the road will run, that the work of grading will be begun as soon as the weather will permit in the spring. This will be another parallel and competing line with the Pennsylvania. It will cross the latter below Huntingdon and at Petersburg, six miles above, and will turn southward at Alexandria and run from thence along the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata to Hollidaysburg, where it will cross the Allegheny Mountains.

HALLECK AND GRANT.

Gen. Wallace Says Envy Once Nearly Gave Washington to Lee.

Gen. Lee Wallace, in a recent interview in the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette, having said that Gen. Halleck was envious of Gen. Grant and would have been willing to allow Washington to fall into Lee's hands in order to crush Gen. Grant, Gen. Boynton replied in his Washington correspondence, quoting from records tending to disprove Gen. Wallace's assertion.

Another interview with Gen. Wallace appeared later, in which he cited Halleck's treatment of Grant after the battle of Ft. Donelson, and again after the battle of Shiloh, to show that Halleck had a deep feeling against Grant, and that when the tables were turned, and Grant was commander of all the armies and Halleck only chief of staff, which close relations with President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton, Gen. Halleck would be in a position to use his power to Gen. Grant's injury. He then goes on to show how this was done by saying that Halleck did not notify Gen. Grant of the coming of Early; that he (Wallace) personally ordered the reconnaissance which discovered Early's intentions; that Gen. Ricketts, who, as Boynton said, was sent by Grant through Halleck's suggestion to meet Early, was ordered to Harper's Ferry to relieve Sigel, and upon learning from Wallace of the approach of Early, put himself under Wallace's orders, and with him fought the battle of Monocacy.

"This," he says, "will serve to show several important facts: First, General Ricketts was not sent to report to me, or in the way of reinforcements. Second, that I had no knowledge of his coming until his advance was stopped by my guards at the bridge, and that, in fact, he was not sent to me but to Harper's Ferry. If Halleck believed that Sigel and I were to be attacked, why send but one division not to exceed 5,000 men, to meet an army reported at 30,000 veterans, unless it was to make a show of resistance to the capture of Washington. Ricketts' force, with mine, was sufficient to meet a raiding party and that was all.

"The battle of Monocacy took place on the 9th of July. As I was following my troops off the field in retreat, about 5:30 o'clock in the evening, I stopped and dispatched a telegram directed to Gen. Halleck, informing him of the events of the day; that I was in retreat; that in my judgment there were about eighteen thousand men who had been fighting us, and that there was still a large body to be seen behind him, in the vicinity of Frederick City; that the enemy had been contending for the Washington pike. I concluded with the remark that it would require all the energies to save Washington. I also sent a despatch by the same messenger to either Gen. Grant or Secretary Stanton. My recollection is that it was sent to Grant.

"While Gen. Ricketts and myself were lying in a fence corner trying to get some sleep, about midnight of the battle, we were wakened by a messenger with a telegram from Halleck directing me. I read it in the evening, I stopped and dispatched a telegram to Washington, and wait for orders. Of course these orders were obeyed. Gen. Ord went to Washington and I resumed command. By mail I received a private note from Gen. Grant, inviting me, when my department was clear of the enemy, to visit him at City Point for a couple of weeks duration, bringing my horse with me, which I did, spending a couple of weeks very pleasantly in the evening, riding with him and observing the operations in front of Petersburg. The point of all this I stop to make. Gen. Boynton says it was Grant, and not Halleck, who removed me. If the records should substantiate Boynton's statement it will remain a mystery to me forever why Gen. Grant should have restored me so soon to the same command, and followed it by an invitation, what was his first friendly unofficial communication verbally or in writing, to me after the battle of Shiloh. The removal was an act of disapprobation in the severest form. The restoration was an unmistakable commendation, strengthened still further by the private note of invitation. What was there to disprove of, except that by the battle the enemy's operation and movements had been interrupted."

Gen. Wallace goes on to say that in the midst of the engagement of McCook's command in the defenses of Washington with the enemy, Halleck permitted President Lincoln to ride out in his carriage to see what was going on, showing that the President had no knowledge of the great danger overhanging the capital. He makes the point, too, that General Grant, when really notified of the danger of Washington, did not stop with sending a single division, but hurried forward the greater portion of two army corps. Gen. Wallace closes by saying: "In my judgment there are but two alternatives which present themselves under all the circumstances of the case as they appear to me; one that Gen. Halleck was an imbecile, the other that he was allowing his jealousy to lead him down, to the serious injury of his country."

A BIG OIL WELL.

Lima, Ohio, Feb. 3.—The largest oil well in the Ohio field was developed yesterday on the Moore & Brotherton territory. Oil shot in the air to the height of seventy feet when the tools were withdrawn. They were replaced to keep the oil down.

GENERAL HANCOCK.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE GREAT SOLDIER AT GROVER'S ISLAND.

ALTHOUGH CONFINED TO HIS BED, HIS DEMISE WAS UNEXPECTED.

A Malignant Carbuncle the Immediate Cause of the Sad Event.

New York, Feb. 9—4 p. m.—The following is the official notification of the death of General Hancock:

Governor's Island—Major-General W. S. Hancock, U. S. Army, died at 2:35 this afternoon. W. D. WHIPPLE, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Major-General W. S. Hancock's death was the result of a malignant carbuncle on the back of his neck, which had confined him to his bed for several days. No serious alarm was felt, however, until shortly before he expired.

New York, Feb. 9.—In front of No. 8, Governor's Island an orderly this afternoon was pacing to and fro. It was the late residence of Major-General Winfield Scott Hancock, who died therein at two o'clock. If the General had lived until the 14th day of the present month he would have completed his 62 year, having been born in Norristown, Cumberland county, Pa., on February 14, 1824. In the second-story front room, furnished with soldier-like simplicity, lay the remains of the General, who, as the guard remarked, had led his troops to more battles than any of his military contemporaries. The death of General Hancock was not a surprise to his family. It was a shock to them, as to his friends.

Twenty days ago he started on business connected with the Department of the Atlantic, to Philadelphia, where he remained two days and then proceeded to Washington. In Washington a boil developed itself on the back of his neck. It was lanced on January 30th and as the General was much inconvenienced by its presence he returned to New York several days sooner than he had designed. During the first week of Feb. the boil had developed into a malignant carbuncle, which suppurated constantly and prevented rest or sleep. Dr. Janeway was called in attendance and it was not until a marked weakness had resulted from the presence of the carbuncle that the surgeon discovered that General Hancock was suffering from diabetes and kidney trouble. The medical men concluded on Monday that the case was assuming a very serious form.

At 10 o'clock on Monday night Dr. Janeway found his patient in good spirits. At 6:45 o'clock on Tuesday morning Mrs. Hancock dispatched an orderly for Dr. Janeway, as she found the General was sinking rapidly. The doctor found the General in a comatose state, with a feeble pulse and all the premonitory symptoms of death. Drs. Sutherland and Stimson were summoned. Hypodermic injections of brandy and ether, and of carbonate of ammonia and brandy were administered. These however only alleviated the suffering of the soldier, who gradually sank away until death was touched at 2:35 p. m., as stated.

When death came the three physicians and the Hospital Steward only were present. Mrs. Hancock was then in an adjoining room.

The General leaves his widow and 3 grandchildren, two girls and one boy, issue of the General's son, Russell, who died in 1884.

Major-General Whipple will assume command of the department, until the President shall appoint Hancock's successor, from Generals Schofield, Terry or Howard.

The flags were at once placed at half-mast on the announcement of the sad event. The remains of the General will probably be interred at Norristown.

President Cleveland sent the following dispatch to Mrs. Hancock, dated Feb. 9:

Accept my heartfelt sympathy and condolence in your terrible bereavement. The heroism and worth of your late husband have gathered to your side, in this hour of your affliction, a nation of mourners.

Playing the "Disinfecting Racket."

The Chemist and Druggist tells how an astute rascal has been playing "what the Americans would call the 'disinfecting racket.'" He appears with a charcoal furnace and some bristons, saying that the health board has sent him to disinfect the house. Then he blows up his furnace and creates so outrageous a stink that the servants leave the house, and he soon follows them with everything he can lay his hands on.—Exchange.

Domestication of the Wild Cat.

A. J. Holland, of Mason Valley, Nev., has raised three kittens that he obtained from the nest of a wild cat that he had killed. They have become thoroughly domesticated, and though now but four months old, are good ratters.

TELEGRAPHING WITHOUT WIRES.

Messages Sent to and From a Moving Train—Mr. Edison's Explanation.

Among the cars of the regular train that started from Clifton, Stanten Island, at 1:45 p. m., on 1 inst., was one which bore the sign, "The Railway Telegraph and Telephone Company." Inside at a small table a telegraph operator sat sending and receiving messages to and from the outside world while the train was in rapid motion. The operator differed from others in having telephone sounding plates over his ears, held in place by a rubber band passing over his head. In front of the operator, on a table, was an ordinary Morse key, by means of which he sent the messages to an operator at Clifton, who received them through telephone sounding plates fastened on his ears.

This system of transmitting and receiving messages from trains in motion was first conceived in 1881 by W. Wiley Smith, manager of the Western branch of the Bell Telephone Company. It is called telegraphy by induction.

On several occasions while Mr. Smith was sending messages through the telephone he noticed that he could hear messages sent by other wires in close proximity to the one over which his message was coming. This set Mr. Smith to thinking, and the result was a method of sending messages to and from trains in motion by an extra wire, the patent for which was taken out by Mr. Gilliland, a friend of Mr. Smith and of Thomas A. Edison. The invention was shown to Mr. Edison, and he said:

"What is the use of the extra wire? I have already succeeded in sending currents of electricity without a wire through the air a distance of 50 feet."

Mr. Edison and Mr. Smith then experimented, and finally perfected the system which was shown yesterday, by which messages can be sent and received on a train in motion through a distance of 400 to 500 feet from the ordinary telegraph wires, without the aid of any extra wire, and without interfering in any way with the ordinary messages passing over the wires at the time. Mr. Edison, who was on the train yesterday, explained the method:

"The key note of the whole situation is that the air for a short distance does not make any perceptible resistance to the transmission of an electrical current. The current that we use for the transmission of these messages creates a continuous musical note, which may be interrupted by means of an ordinary Morse key."

Mr. Edison explained that in the Clifton office there was a condenser made of layers of tin foil separated by air, but that at the car a condenser was formed by the thirty Baltimore and Ohio wires stretched along the track, by the tin roofs of cars which were all connected by copper wires, and by the air between the wires and the tin roofs. Under the table of the operator in the car was a local battery. The current used may be conceived as passing first from the battery in the Clifton station and leaping through the condenser to the telegraph wires then passing along those wires without interrupting ordinary messages until it gets opposite the car, when it jumps across to the tin roofs, and passes down through a wire to an electro-magnet on the operator's table. Thence it returns through the axes and wheels of the car, and through the ground to the Clifton station. The Morse current, without the aid of the electro-magnet, cannot pass through the condenser so as to make a continuous musical note. It passes through, but its waves are so much lower that no distinct sounds are formed.

Many messages were sent to and from the moving car. This invention, it is asserted will be especially useful to train dispatchers, who may by its use communicate with any train at any point on the road.

Mr. Henry Seligman, who was on the train, received this message from his office in New York: "Pacific Mail, 88; Lake Shore, 83; David." Many messages were sent and received by invited guests on the train.

Silver is on top in the House. The first opportunity of the session was given on 3 to test the strength of the silver men in the House, and they were found to outnumber their opponents two to one. Mr. Bland, from the Coinage Committee, called up his resolution, which in point of fact was a call upon the Secretary of the Treasury to know if silver had been systematically prevented by him from entering into circulation, and if that was the future policy which would be enforced. Mr. Randall and Mr. Morrison both objected to the demand regarding the future policy of the Treasury Department, but a motion to recommit was lost by a vote of 88 to 168 and the resolution was adopted in its entirety. The House and the Coinage Committee also is now squarely committed to silver and it is now only a question of how much they will be willing to concede to the other side. There are a great many incidental questions concerning the subject, however, such as the issuing of one and two dollar certificates, etc., which will result in a practical discussion before any silver bill can be finally passed.

PLAINING MILL BURNED.

Williamsport, Feb. 4.—The plaining mill of D. H. Merrimen was burned this morning. Loss \$15,000. Insurance \$8,000.

A GREAT RAILROAD DEAL.

Pennsylvania, Reading and B. and O. in Queer Relations.

Philadelphia, Feb. 3.—The Record tomorrow will say: "There was fresh evidence yesterday that a movement is on foot looking to the foreclosure of the Reading Railroad property, under the general mortgage of a syndicate that is acting in the interest of the Penn'a R. R. It is given out, however, that the movement, instead of aiming at shutting the Baltimore out of New York, will give that company speedily access to that city, in return for which it will stop cutting passenger rates.

The version of the deal from a Pennsylvania R. R. source is that the movement is intended for the betterment of the condition of the Reading property, and does not aim to place that company under the direct control of the Pennsylvania. The movement dates back several months, and it is part of a program drawn up by the presidents of the leading railroad companies in this country and capitalists and bankers of New York and London who are desirous of seeking peace among the railways.

It is stated that at a meeting in New York President Roberts would make certain concessions which will result in the Baltimore and Philadelphia sending passenger business over the Penn'a Railroad until its own connections via the Reading have been completed.

It is also said that the syndicate will take charge of the Jersey Central and regulate the anthracite and bituminous lands. President Gowen stated that he had undoubted assurance that a syndicate had been formed to secure enough of the Reading general mortgage bonds to effect foreclosure under a plan most favorable to that company. The syndicate represents a fund of \$11,000,000, all to be applied, if necessary, toward getting the Reading in a position where it will absolutely get within the control of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

ANYTHING TO BEAT A RAILROAD.

In speaking of the movement of the general passenger agents to head off the ticket-scalpers, the New York "Daily Inquirer" says:

"The railroads have not adopted the rule requiring limited tickets to be used only for continuous train rides, without excellent reasons. The roads have a desire to prevent passengers from stopping over at places along their lines. On the contrary, they have heretofore made it as convenient as possible for people to do this very thing. But how has the traveling public shown its appreciation of the courtesy. Simply by trying, in every possible way, to avoid the railroads whenever they saw a chance. A man wants to go to Buffalo—what does he do? Buys a ticket to Chicago, and when he gets to Buffalo sells the unused portion of his ticket to a scalper. The railroad is doubly cheated. First, it carries the original swindler to Buffalo for less than it takes a passenger who is too honest to indulge in the luxury of cheating the railroad; and second, it carries another man from Buffalo to Chicago at less than the regular rate. The posted traveler, who cannot arrange to buy more tickets, than he intends to use, never thinks of going to the railroad office for the tickets he wants. He patronizes the scalper, and helps that one to sink the railroad. So it goes, the railroads by an extension of courtesy have been victimized and robbed by the traveling public. The everyday traveler at times has his eyes open to the chance to beat the public. And so widely has the influence spread that even, honest-going people, who travel only occasionally, have come to think it quite the thing to deal entirely with scalpers, and assist in whatever swindle may be necessary to effect a saving for themselves of a few dollars. We are glad that the railroads have decided at last to protect themselves from the dishonesty of people who claim to be more than respectable."

"The American Agriculturist," for February, comes to us with an announcement, that a brilliant galaxy of writers, not strictly agricultural, are to contribute to its columns during the year. Among the number are D. G. Mitchell (1k Maxwell), R. H. Stodard, the poet writer, Jas. Earon, biographer of Jackson and Jefferson, Julia Hawthorne, George Parsons Lathrop, Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, and Rev. Dr. Buckley, to be followed by other eminent writers. These writers are to contribute a series of papers upon the Farmer Presidents of the United States, and it is stated as an interesting fact, that nearly every one of our Presidents have followed agricultural pursuits at one time or other in their lives. These papers on the Farmer Presidents are to be accompanied with engravings 12x18 inches in size, illustrating the farm surroundings and associations of our Presidents. The first paper will be by James Parton. The February number also announces that Mr. A. B. Allen, who founded the paper nearly 50 years ago, and was its editor for 15 or 20 years, is now contributing a series of articles to its columns. The February issue contains over 100 original articles, 74 original full page and smaller engravings. Price \$1.50 per year; single copies, 15 cts. Address, American Agriculturist, 751 Broadway, N. Y.

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