



THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED KURTZ, Editor and Proprietor.

James G. Blaine is strongly in favor of Blair for President in 1888.

Senator Blair's education bill, which passed the senate a week ago, and of which we gave a synopsis in last week's REPORTER, was killed by the house committee.

Now is a good time to cross the continent. A ticket from Chicago to San Francisco can be had for twenty-seven dollars. The fare from New York is less forty dollars.

The President approved the bill increasing the pensions for widows and dependent relatives of deceased soldiers and sailors. Under this law widows get \$12 per month pension.

Miss Cleveland's letter on low necked dresses has the right tone and finds favor with sensible men and women generally. Eose is a girl of sound reasoning faculties, and might make a first-rate Vice President.

The nomination of Wm. A. Wallace for governor is agitated again in some quarters. If it does not happen to be Wallace it should be Judge Orvis, whose logic on the stump would set the state on fire during the campaign.

Poor Edmunds, he has got left in his effort to keep Republicans in office. The only fellows we know of who might sympathize with him are a few model Democrats hereabouts who also favor having Republicans in office. Edmunds might now go into the Bohemian cats business.

The natural gas wells, at Murrysville, near Pittsburg, are on fire, and saturating the atmosphere of the country around with gas. Pittsburg manufacturing establishments use this gas in place of fuel. The loss is great from the burning of the wells which has continued a number of days.

The newspapers in Eastern Prussia assert that the Emperor of Russia has signed a decree expelling non-naturalized Germans from Poland. Laborers without contracts must leave within three days, and those having contracts within a month. Mechanics are given three months, landlords six months, and manufacturers nine months within which to leave the country. This statement is believed despite Her von Puttkamer's statement in the Lower House of the Diet to the contrary.

Hotel men at Harrisburg are taking swift revenge against people who signed remonstrances against them. The feeling is very bitter indeed. The Lochiel hotel proprietor, Col. Hunter, notified a contractor to whom he has in the last fifteen years paid over \$100,000 for work of all kinds, that he should stop work on a job he was then doing for him. The contractor had signed a remonstrance against the Lochiel hotel. The hotel men have held two or three meetings and decided to boycott prominent dry goods men and butchers who signed remonstrances. The temperance agitation in this state is growing very bitter on all sides.

There is great distress among the inhabitants of the small islands along the Western coast of Ireland, and the people are alleged to be eating their seed potatoes to avoid starvation. Men and women are living upon moss and sea grass, and a great many of the fishermen have so that their last articles of clothing for food, while scores are dying of actual starvation. Of course the consumption of the seed potatoes means an even greater disaster at the time of the next harvest, and an earnest appeal is made to America to contribute to the wants of the sufferers. To avoid great mortality there is necessity for the organization of relief on a large scale.

Judge Gordon, of the Philadelphia Common Pleas, promulgates the doctrine that a lawyer of the highest character for probity who has one mortgage satisfied on the record when it is another one which has been paid, is guilty of constructive fraud, and the statute of limitation can not be pleaded in bar to an action by one who is wronged by such false entry. It is a wholesome doctrine that a man is presumed to mean to do what he does do. A mistake must be proven, it cannot be taken for granted; and, therefore, as the act of this eminent lawyer, performed in 1867, operated to defraud years afterward the innocent purchaser of a piece of land which appeared by the record to be unencumbered, the Court decides that the heirs of the lawyer who made the false entry must make restitution to the injured party. The lawyer referred to is the late Horace Binney, Jr., who was incapable of intentional wrong-doing. The decision restores a poor colored shoemaker's home to him.

COAL AND RAILROAD STRIKES.

About 500 Clearfield miners, employed by Liveright & Co., Holt, Chapman & Co., John Ashcroft, John Barnes & Co., the Powelton Mining Company, and the Empire Coal Company, went to work on Monday morning at an advance. The large operators have not resumed, but miners speak in an authoritative manner, and predict that the strike will terminate before next Monday. All the men in West Broad Iron are now at work, and the only strikers still out in West Broad Top are those at Robertsdale. President Hughes, of the Miners' Federation, has induced the men to go out at Gallitzin. The operators there gave an advance of five cents on March 1, but the Federation insists that there must be uniform advance of 10 cents. Berwin, White & Co. have ordered coal from England, and two of their steamers are now on the ocean.

The Governors of Missouri and Kansas have gone home saying they would do nothing more toward the settlement of the railroad strikes in four states. They obtained the final answer and terms of settlement from the Missouri Pacific officials, which are the same as the agreement of September, 1885, between the company and the men, and that the Knights' claim were violated and urge the Knights to accept. The company will not discharge men recently employed to take the places of strikers, neither will they employ any one who took part in or advised the destruction of the Company's property.

Martin Irons, the Chairman of the Knights' Committee that has the entire question to decide now, says that the railroad companies have united to crush the Knights of Labor and wipe out the 8-hour movement. He gave no opinion as to the acceptance of the final offer of the Missouri Pacific company, and concluded as follows: "I'll say, too, that if the grievances of the Knights of Labor are not adjusted within the next three days we will call out the Knights on every railroad in the country and stop every wheel from moving."

Edmunds will go up on his move to prevent the removal of Republicans from office. Half dozen senators of his own party will go back on him.

The present aspect of the Senate's dispute with the president may be stated in a very few words. It is felt that a mistake has been made, and the Republicans are in an un comfortable position, from which both are anxious to escape as soon as possible without incurring humiliation. This is the underlying cause of the finance committee's action in regard to confirming nominees in the internal revenue service. The public interests demanded that these nominations should be acted on. A similar course will probably be pursued in reference to most of the pending nominations, and in a few days the "great" debate which is now "running emptyings" will come to an ignominious end, with nobody hurt except Mr. Edmunds. Rumor has it that Sherman, Logan and various other prominent Republican Senators are not at all displeased with the effect which the affair promises to have upon Mr. Edmunds' political fortunes.

THE BRAVE "ARMY OF TWO."

Death of Abigail Bates, Who, With Her Sister, Frightened Away a British War-Ship.

Situate, Mass., March 18.—Miss Abigail Bates, so well known as one of the two heroines who frightened away the British during the war of 1812 by sounding life and drum, died here on Wednesday last, aged 89 years. Her sister and companion in the "army of two," Rebecca Bates, died December 13, 1881, aged 83 years. Reuben Bates, father of the heroines, was keeper of the old Lighthouse located in Scituate harbor, which was discontinued after the establishment of the Minot's Ledge Lighthouse. One day during the continuance of the war of 1812 the Bates sisters, Abigail and Rebecca, were left in charge of the lighthouse, their father, brothers and other male inhabitants being absent, as they were members of the military company. The girls described a British ship approaching the harbor, and divined that it was the object of those on board to burn the fishing boats lying in the harbor, and perhaps to sack the town.

Rebecca said to Abigail that if she could "drum" she (Rebecca) would "drum" and perhaps they might lead the British to think there was a force of armed men near by and thus frighten them away. Abigail replied she would. So the two girls went around behind some sand hills near the lighthouse and the music of the life and drum were soon heard sounding the lively music of "Yankee Doodle." The ruse proved very successful, for it is said that the British, becoming alarmed by the apparent nearness of the hostile force, quickly pulled back to their ship in their small boats without attempting a landing. The men were considerably crestfallen upon their return, at the smartness of the girls, and some of them have been small enough to question the authenticity of the narrative.

A SUIT OF INTEREST TO SALOON KEEPERS.

The first action brought in this state under the seventh section of the act of 1875, in relation to the liquor traffic, was tried before Judge Stowe, at Pittsburg last week. The section reads:

"The husband, wife, parent, child or guardian of any person who has or may hereafter have the habit of drinking to excess may give notice in writing, signed by him or her, to any person not to sell or deliver intoxicating liquor to the person having such habit; if the person so notified, at any time within 12 months after such notice, sells or delivers any liquor to the person having such habit, the person giving the notice may, in an action of tort, recover of the person notified any sum not less than \$50 nor more than \$500, as may be assessed by the Court or Judge as damages. A married woman may bring such action in her own name notwithstanding her coverture, and all damages recovered by her shall go to her separate use. In case of death of either party, the action and right of action given by this section shall survive to or against his executors or administrators without limit as to damages."

The Post says: In accordance with the above Mrs. Mary Hemp brought suit against H. A. Marford, a saloon keeper at Springdale, on the West Penn road, where Mrs. Hemp and her family also reside. Mrs. Hemp testified that her husband was about 40 years old, and employed as a teamster. Mr. Hemp is addicted to drinking, and when under the influence of liquor was abusive. By reason of his indulgence in intoxicants, Hemp failed for a number of months to provide in any adequate manner for his family, which is large. As most, if not all, his money was spent in Mardorf's saloon, Mrs. Hemp sent the saloon keeper written communication notifying him that her husband was a habitual drunkard, and as such was not to be served with intoxicants. Mardorf, however, paid no attention to the notice, but kept on selling to Hemp, whose wife, after waiting for an reasonable time for Mardorf to comply with her request, brought this action.

Judge Ewing held that the act of Assembly applied alike to the whole state. In his charge to the jury he said in a case of this kind there could be no mitigating circumstances; that the facts were clearly proved, and that under the law there was no doubt but what Mrs. Hemp was entitled to the highest damage permitted by the act—\$500. In conclusion, His Honor said: "Any man who sells liquor to a habitual drunkard, knowing him to be such, and that he neglects and abuses his family, is worse to the community than a thief, law or no law." The jury therefore returned a verdict for the plaintiff for \$500.

A MAN ACCUSED OF POISONING MOTHER, SISTER, WIFE AND COUSIN.

Harrisburg, March 15.—A strong suspicion prevails in Juniata county that Joseph McMin, who was arrested a few days ago for the murder of his wife, previously poisoned his mother, sister and a cousin. Their deaths were very similar to that of his wife, who is known to have died from the effects of strychnine taken by her for quinine, and purchased by her husband at a Millin drug store. The strychnine is alleged to have been mailed to Mrs. McMin, and when it got into her possession is said to have had the wrapper labeled "strychnine" and "poison" removed from it. At first McMin's death was supposed to be suicide, but a number of suspicious circumstances led to the arrest of the husband soon after he had accompanied the remains of the deceased to the grave. One of the damaging things against McMin is that he opposed a post mortem examination of the body of his wife, and those of some of the other relatives, who are now supposed to have died at his hands. The theory is that the mother and sister were killed for gain, and the cousin to hide another crime. The trial of the accused is expected to develop a blood-curling array of facts.

EMPEROR WILLIAM AND HIS EIGHTY-NINTH BIRTHDAY.

Berlin, March 16.—Contrary to the orders of his physicians, Emperor William has resolved to participate in the festivities on the anniversary of his eighty-ninth birthday on the 22d inst. The customary military levee will be held and a gala dinner will be given at the palace. A number of invitations to the banquet have been issued. The city will be brilliantly illuminated and unusual scenes of splendor are looked forward to. The Rathausen is to be illuminated with red Bengal fire until midnight.

The railroad strike in the west continues, and there are fears it will spread east of the Mississippi river.

Wages have been advanced in many establishments throughout the country within the last few days.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 19.—A heavy thunder storm visited this section this afternoon. George L. Pringle, an old and respected resident, of Kingston, while on his way home from New Columbia, was struck by lightning and instantly killed.

A HOLLOW MOCKERY.

Mr. Kenna Exposes John Sherman's Pretended Contest for Principle's Sake.

On Friday of last week, in the United States Senate, in continuing the debate on the President's refusal to send papers bearing on certain removals and confirmations, Senator Kenna remarked:

"The Senator from Ohio (Sherman) in a speech on this subject a few days ago said: 'That we have a right to call for information of any kind whatever in any department of the Government, whether it be by written order or by parole, I do not think there is the slightest doubt. Indeed, but for that we could not legislate; but for that we could not act wisely in executive session.'"

"The idea of a distinction between public and private in the public record never occurred until during the present administration and to meet an exigency."

The Senator from Vermont, alluding to the case of Arthur and Cornell and to the action of President Hayes, made a statement to which I desire to call attention. He said:

"In that connection I ought to call your attention—I seem to have mislaid the paper—to the proceedings that took place in this body on the removal of Mr. Arthur and Mr. Cornell as collector and naval officer at New York and the appointment of their successors."

I do not want to read the whole extract, but simply a sufficient part to give an adequate idea of what I propose to say. I think I am safe in saying that neither the President of the United States nor the Secretary of the Treasury nor any other of his advisers ever entertained the thought for a moment that it was not the right of the Senate of the United States to go to the bottom of the whole affair and have every fact and every reason that it desired to have of it brought to the light of day. With the permission of the Senate we will go to the bottom of the whole affair, and I will ask the Secretary to read a letter which I send to the desk.

Treasury Dep't, Nov. 17, 1877.

SIR:—Your letter dated the 10th inst. was received only this morning, and I take the earliest moment to reply to it. To answer in an official way the question put to me would not only compel me to violate that trust and confidence reposed in me by the President necessary for the transaction of the business of this department, but to disclose papers of a confidential character filed in the department and require me to enter into the discussion of questions totally immaterial to the nominations submitted to the Senate. I do not think it within the just limits of the intercourse of the Senate with the executive to answer in writing, or even verbally, all the questions submitted by you, nor have I ever known such an instance.

The President has power to nominate to the Senate a proper person for Collector of the port of New York, whether that office be already vacant or not, and it is within the power of the Senate to either confirm or reject. There are independent powers. No law requires the President to give the reasons for his nominations, and it does not appear that in this case the Senate even has directed this inquiry. The tenure of office set required of the President the reasons of a suspension made during the recess of the Senate, but this provision after a very brief period, was repealed. To answer your questions would compel me to state to the committee of the President, disclose confidential communications between the President and Secretary, and to enter into an arraignment and accusation of the officers superceded. In the free exercise of independent powers it is the common practice, as we both know, for members of the Senate to have full conference with the heads of Executive Departments on matters in which the concurrent action of the President and the Senate is required, and therefore it will give me pleasure to confer with the committee, or any member of it, on the subject of the appointment of Mr. Roosevelt to the office of Collector of the Port of New York.

It will also give me pleasure to furnish to you, or to the Committee on Commerce, or to any member of the committee, in the usual way, the several reports of the commission on the New York Custom House, upon which mainly the action of the President was taken. As the investigation progressed these reports made it of the highest public importance that a change should be made in the leading officers of that service. It was because abuses were thus developed that the President was convinced that it was incompatible with the public service to retain in their present positions the Collector and Naval Officers.

The other cases mentioned by you under the same envelope will be governed by what is here stated, and with these limits I will be happy to confer with you or the committee at your convenience.

Very respectfully,
JOHN SHERMAN, Secret. U. S. Senate.

HON. ROSCOE CONKLING, Chairman Committee on Commerce, U. S. Senate.

I very respectfully submit now that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Sherman) will find one reflection that "this emergency" is not the first time when he has heard of the distinction being made in the papers in the departments of the Government as between a private and a public paper.

I propose now to state what I believe to be the simple truth, and to state it candidly, and I state it deliberately, that looking at the history of this controversy from the day of its inception down to this moment in the light of every fact and detail it has developed, the one question and the only question involved in this entire procedure is the single one as to whether the present Chief of the Executive Department of this Government shall be allowed in fulfillment of his obligations to the people to administer it through agencies not only not of his choice, but agencies lacking his confidence, unworthy his faith, and wanting in the approval of his judgment, and actually interested in a multitude of cases in bringing him and his administration into disrepute.

Every conceivable class of men and horses present—Two Men Shake Hands—What It Means—England and Ireland Driving a Bargain—Bidding.

HORSE FAIR IN IRELAND.

A TOLERABLY FAIR SAMPLE OF PAN-DEMONIUM LET LOOSE.

To a novice an Irish fair appears to be pandemonium let loose. The main street is the showground and ride, and a convenient field, with a stone wall or two, serves the purposes of the "manege." Such a whooping and yelling! Doves of wild young colts, rough, unkempt looking animals rushing madly about, with fat riding barebacked as easy as a glove, with nothing but a "bit of a twig" and a halter for a bridle. Every conceivable class of animal is here, both biped and quadruped. The hunter which, if properly got up, will fetch in England a couple of hundred, is side by side with a screw not worth as many pence, and the autocrat of the dealer's yard may be seen in close confabulation with what looks like a prime dynamite, while above all the din and jangle floats an aroma of whisky and tobacco, to say nothing of blarney and bad language.

But what is going on in the corner of the wall? A small crowd gathered there, and from your position you can just make out one of the men who crossed in the boat standing opposite a true son of Erin in the middle of a ring, and seemingly either fighting or endeavoring to shake him by the hand—which? You can not quite make out. Presently the crowd breaks up with a cheer, and you can see plainly now the two men shake hands, and to your surprise money passes between them. Can it have been a prize-fight at all? No, it is only a deal, and if we come a little nearer to this new lot that are forming a ring we shall see. As we approach a lane is formed, and the vision of a flying colt appears, ridden bare-backed by a bright-looking lad. Over the wall is the order, and Pat, steadying his mount, takes it in first-class form. Then the crowd closes in, and two figures stand opposite each other—England and Ireland.

ENGLAND AND IRELAND BARGAINING.

"Well, what's the price?" says England. "It's the finest little horse in the fair this day, and I'll not be selling him under £130, and that's dirt-cheap," replies Ireland, holding out his hand. "Forty," says England, making a dive at the paw. Ireland is too quick, however, and snatches it away before England can grasp it, saying at the same time with an air of disdain: "Forty" and for a last like that that the lord lieutenant would be proud to be seen on. Is it trying to blarney me that you are! I'll just let you have it for £100 pounds, and not a penny less," and out goes the hand again. This time England springs a tenner, and the same pantomime is gone through, with the exception that England nearly catches the colt, and raises a laugh and "Mind your eye, Pat," from the crowd. After every bid this goes on, and at last five England catches Ireland by the hand and shakes it heartily, thereby signifying that it is a deal. The crowd cheer, and the two go off together to cement the bargain with a "drop of the cratur."

This is the way most of the deals are carried on, and it is an unwritten law that if you happen to be quick enough to catch hold of the hand of your offer, the horse becomes your property for the amount of your bid.—Scottish Agricultural Gazette.

GOATS, CLASSICS AND MANUAL LABOR.

The will of the late Rev. David Abel, of Burlington, N. J., recently probated, provides for the establishment of a Bible temperance school for the thorough classical education of young people of both sexes, at which the pupils may, by manual labor, pay such part of the school expenses as may be considered advisable. The executor is directed to devote as large parts of the grounds of the school as may be found advisable to the pasturing and propagation of goats, in order to encourage the use of their flesh as food in the place of that of swine.—Chicago Herald.

TELEGRAPHING FROM MOVING TRAINS.

The very latest invention that seems to have commercial value is by Thomas A. Edison, and consists of a device for telegraphing to and from moving trains. It is not by induction from a wire running near the cars, but the message is made to jump from the tin roof of the cars to one of the ordinary wires strung on poles twenty-five to sixty feet away, whence it goes to its destination, and the message and the answer jump back across the chasm in the same marvelous way. It has been put on a Staten Island train, and is said to work with entire success.—Frank Leslie's Illustrated.

PECULIARITY OF JAPANESE ADVERTISING.

Advertising in Japan sometimes attains a height of originality and force unsurpassed in the most progressive country. A book-seller of Tokio advertises: "Books elegant as a singing girl. Print clear as crystal. Paper tough as elephant hide. Parcels done up with as much care as that bestowed on her husband by a loving wife," and other advantages which, it is strange to say, the advertiser finds "too" many for language to express.—Foreign Letter.

CONTAINED TWELVE PAIRS OF BROTHERS.

A story is related of a Connecticut infantry company in the war of the rebellion which is believed to be without a parallel. The company, which was recruited in the town of Greenwich, had no less than twelve pairs of brothers in its ranks. There were, in addition, three instances in which father and son stood side by side and three brothers-in-law.—Chicago Times.

TOBACCO IN THE SCHOOL-ROOM.

Observations of a State Superintendent of Schools—Mental and Moral Results.

At a recent meeting of the State Teachers' association of Iowa, one of the ablest and most successful of the superintendents of schools in that state read a paper on "The effect of the tobacco habit on school work," in which he presented conclusions which may seem extreme and fanatical to tobacco lovers, but which experienced teachers are forced to accept as plain statements of fact. Boys that began the habit at an early age he has uniformly observed to become permanently stunted, mentally and physically, and especially that their reasoning powers are obscured, their memory treacherous and zeal for study altogether lacking. Indigestion, impaired taste, defective eyesight, dull hearing, nervous affections and diseases of the heart among the pupils under his care he has been able to trace, in a surprising proportion of cases, to an inveterate use of tobacco, often unknown to parents and home friends.

"In many instances boys who had been doing admirably in their studies showed a marked falling off in zeal, mental grasp and general success in scholarship, a change almost invariably traceable to the formation of the tobacco habit. The mental faculties of a boy under the influence of the narcotic seem to be in a stupor, and since the will power is simultaneously stunted and weakened it avails little to try and arouse the dormant energies or to interest the fagged desire.

"The moral results of the habit at this early age are no less serious. Pupils under its influence are apt to become constant subjects for discipline at home and at school. Boys that were usually even tempered and easily governed after beginning the use of tobacco become decidedly the reverse. When in such cases, by the influence of parents and teachers, the habit has been abandoned, the normal character has invariably been resumed. But to secure its abandonment is always a most difficult task, since one of its worst characteristics is a loss of self-respect and of regard for parents and real friends. All the evil results mentioned do not, of course, appear concurrently in each and every boy that uses tobacco; but the numbing and befogging effect upon the intellect is nearly or quite universal."—Boston Traveller.

'TIS HANS VON BULOW WOULD'N'T PLAY.

During Hans von Bulow's last concert tour, as he was about to take his seat at the piano, he saw some very plain women seated near the platform. At that he walked off the stage, and to his manager's inquiries and entreaties said: "Until those ugly women are removed I will not play a note, so you may do as you please about it." They stepped up on the stage, announced that Herr von Bulow had become suddenly indisposed, and the orchestra would play a symphony which was to have been played later in the evening.

While the audience looked on in wonder he had a number of palms and shrubs from the conservatory near the concert-room placed between the platform and the audience. They called Bulow to the wing the manager asked if the view suited him. "O, yes, that's all right," quietly said the great musician, "as long as I can't behold those monsters of ugliness I am quite indifferent to my surroundings." And without any more ado the capricious composer went on the platform and performed his share of the programme.—Chicago Tribune.

THE FINGER USED AS AN ERASER.

People who are fastidious about the perfection of their correspondence carefully scratch with a steel, or rub out with a rubber eraser, a word when they inscribe a wrong syllable. I have noticed hundreds of men who write a great deal rub out words, and even whole lines, while the ink was fresh, and then write over the place first written upon. "I never use an eraser of any kind," said a cabinet officer a few days ago, speaking of this habit. "It takes too long. If I don't want to cross out the word or words, I rub it or them out with my finger. It is quick and effective, and one scarcely notices the blotch afterward. I believe the habit is an English one. I venture you will find few blotches or erasers about the desks of old officers in the departments, or old statesmen in congress. No, the finger is good enough for me."—Washington Cor. Baltimore American.

A SHORT LESSON IN LANGUAGE.

Upon the authority of a Boston expert the Journal of that city maintains that every person who desires to speak correctly will say "all the woods were tinged with purple, not the woods were all tinged; he gave his views whether they were asked for or not, not that state to which the movement has fallen, not that state it has fallen into; we all can go, not we can all go; the 'we' us' of the South seems to have a more sure foundation than one might have supposed. Say the progress which has been shown in a career commanding respect, not which has been shown in a career which commands respect; between him and me, not between him for he and I."—Exchange.

FORMING ANOTHER UNITED STATES.

Another United States seems to be in slow process of formation down in southern and tropical. The Australian colonies of Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania, Fiji and Queensland, have formed a federation, and the federal legislature is in session in New South Wales. New Zealand and South Australia declined to unite their fortunes with this second British confederation.—Chicago Herald.

ONE VOLUME BETTER THAN THREE.

An English novelist, in protesting against that peculiarly British institution, the three-volume novel, cites the case of that most popular book, "Lorna Doone." It was a dead weight in the three-volume form, and it was at what seemed a great risk that it was at length brought out in one volume—to become immediately a success.—Chicago Tribune.

A CLASS OF WEST POINT GRADUATES.

The class of graduates which will leave West Point at the next commencement is declared to be the largest in number and highest in efficiency ever graduated from the institution. There are twenty-eight members of the class.

THE PROGENY OF DENMARK'S KING.

Few monarchs can boast of progeny so illustrious as King Christian IX. of Denmark. Five out of his six children are married and have families. The eldest son of each of these families are the prospective monarchs of Denmark, Greece, the British empire, Russia and Hanover.—Exchange.