



THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED KURTZ, -- EDITOR

What were ku-klux in the south, are white caps in the north.

Sugar refining by electricity has received a terrible shock, which was felt even in England. That stock is cheap now.

The mysteries of the 19 century:

1. Who struck Billy Paterson?
2. Where is Charley Ross?
3. Who killed the revenue bill?

The reason why Harrison has not yet been able to settle on a cabinet, is because he cannot find two men of the same mind on the Centre Hall and Bellefonte post office appointments.

If the present legislature does not appoint an investigating committee to find who killed the revenue bill passed last session, then there is no use in having a chaplain to pray for the members.

Quay says the coming legislature must be a model. No doubt it will. When Quay had control of the Pardon Board of this State it was a dandy, and why shouldn't his legislature be the same? asks the *Pittsburg Telegraph*.

Bellefonte should get up a big jubilate when it takes possession of its little depot, or dapo. The editor of the *REPORTER*, President Harrison, and other big fish might be invited to lend eclat to the occasion. It isn't often that Bellefonte gets a good thing.

Pennsylvania's Supreme Court Judges will hereafter wear gowns as a means of giving them dignity. Perhaps Judge Bacher is glad now that he declined the nomination last year.

That's why old women wear gowns, they want to be dignified like.

Here is a good suggestion from the *Philadelphia Ledger*: This is a good time for people who have means to begin squaring up their accounts, so that the smaller tradesmen may have opportunities to do the same thing. The nimble dollar will settle accounts representing a score of dollars if started out in time and kept moving.

The *REPORTER* says Amen to that—let all try the cash system and curse "tick" instead of "tick" cursing them longer.

The baggage master who stole \$4,000 from the railroad company and then tried to ship himself and the booty west in a trunk with the aid of a friend, realized what a baggage master is. Thumped and dumped, sometimes on his head and sometimes sideways, then around in a circle, made the journey so terribly sickening, that he began to yell and the train men opening the trunk, let him out. He said he only wanted to steal a ride, being out of money. But the stolen money was also found in the trunk and he is now under arrest.

Let the orphan schools be closed and the children be transferred to the state normal schools. This would be a saving of a good many thousand dollars to the state treasury and put the state normals to good use for once anyway. The orphan schools only serve as a bonanza to the managers, many of whom got rich, while an investigation showed that the children of the soldiers were badly clothed, badly fed, and a prey to vermin. The managers of the orphan schools are opposed to the closing of the same and every reading man knows why.

We are surprised that the people of Millheim should have thought it worth while to sign a paper pronouncing the fellow of the *Gazette* a dirty liar, and are surprised that the *Watchman* would lend the space to publish the dirty journalistic outlaw. We know him to be a dirty, contemptible liar, of the lowest, meanest order, who seems to have no decenter way of making a living—he is the fellow, too, whom Judge Orvis, publicly in the court house, branded as a forger, we are told, and said he could prove it, and the *Gazette* house had to take it.

An article in the recent number of *Science* illustrates how diptheria is spread by cats. It is said that domestic animals have often not only been suspected but found guilty of spreading infection. It is easy to imagine cats catching infectious diseases like diptheria, when we remember how often milk and other unused food from the sick room is given to the cat, or by some people thrown out in the back yard for the benefit of their neighbors' cats if they have none of their own. It is a frequent occurrence to see children carrying cats in their arms, and even kissing them. It is obvious that, if the cats were ill with diptheria, the children, under such circumstances, would almost inevitably contract the disease.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The *Pittsburg Post* sums up Governor Beaver's message thus: Governor Beaver's message is a very lengthy document of upwards of 40 pages, pamphlet form, and covers a great variety of topics. It is much longer than President Cleveland's last message. There is a great deal of talk about lengthy messages, but the fair presentation of the varied interests of this great Commonwealth is no light undertaking, and exacts a great deal of space.

The governor while profuse in suggestions, is very timid in the way of emphatic recommendation or the elaboration of a decided policy. He puts most of his suggestions in an interrogative form. "No argument," he says, "has been used to enforce statement."

The governor advises speedy action on the prohibition amendment, so that it may go to the people in May or June. He is non-committal as to its adoption.

The bill of the commission codifying the revenue laws is transmitted without positive recommendation further than that it may contain some good things and others not so good. There are suggestions for the more thorough collection of taxes on personal property so that the burthen may not fall so largely upon real estate, the rate on which in the State is from 60 to 12 mills on the dollar.

The public debt, less treasury assets, is \$7,078,235, and the reduction in 1887 was \$1,922,126, and in 1888, \$1,118,550.

The governor indorses the recommendations of the commission for individual manual training, which he is careful to distinguish from trades schools. Further State aid is advised for normal schools. The Soldiers' Orphan schools are reported in good condition, and the governor submits to the legislature the consideration of the extension of the system for some years or its incorporation with the normal schools, but makes no positive recommendation.

In addition to the present exemption of \$300, the governor asks if it would not be well to pass a \$600 homestead exemption law.

Much attention is given to the State institutions—reformatory, penal and otherwise—and the question is put whether it would not be well to erect a fire proof building to cost a million for the further and better accommodation of the executive department, the library and art treasures, leaving the legislative building intact as a "splendid specimen of colonial architecture" for its present uses. The governor thinks the money derived from the direct tax bill, now pending in congress, should be applied to this purpose; and it should not be undertaken until this money is secured.

The message as a whole, is weak and non-committal to the point of timidity. It is a very different document in vigor and character from the square, manly and hard-hitting message of his predecessor.

The *Renova Record* renews the suggestion that the children remaining in the soldiers' orphan schools at the time fixed for their abandonment be sent to the normal schools at the expense of the State until they shall become sixteen years old. This would be better than a renewal of State aid to the orphan schools under speculative management. But this management has secured the aid of the Grand Army to keep the schools open until June, 1895, when the soldiers' orphans born the day of Appomattox will be a trifle over thirty years of age. The purpose is to make these State boarding schools a prominent part of our educational system for the benefit of a favored class. The orphan school syndicate has a good thing and wants to hold on to it.

Farmers who are selling produce in the *Pittsburgh* market, that home market provided by protection, are complaining bitterly of the low prices for potatoes, cabbage, turnips, apples, cider and other products. They hardly realize enough from the wagon loads of stuff they bring in to pay the expenses of the trip. If they ship by rail, freight charges, enhanced by tariff taxed steel rails, eat up the whole price of the stuff. Yet many of these farmers were deluded into voting the war tax ticket last fall by the promise of a good market if the tariff was saved. So says the *Pittsburg Post*, and we may add that our Centre county farmers similarly deluded, in voting, feel quite painfully the lowness of prices.

Definite details from the Congo, respecting the whereabouts and movements of Stanley, are expected from day to day. Meanwhile the members of the British East African company, who are also the financial backers of the Stanley expedition for the relief of Emin Pasha, are convinced that Stanley was safe and in good health on about the latter part of September last, the last news received about him bearing the date of 28th of September. They also express their firm belief that he has been exposed to no danger since then.

THE PROHIBITION AMENDMENT.

There seems to be little doubt in any quarter but the prohibition amendment will pass the present legislature, and in that event, according to the constitution, must "be submitted to the qualified electors of the State, in such manner and at such time, at least three months after being so agreed to by the two houses, as the general assembly shall prescribe." This will probably necessitate a special election, and, as all experience proves, a light vote. By hurrying up action on the amendment in the legislature it might be voted on at the town and city elections the third Tuesday of February, and a full vote secured, but this is not probable. In his message, Governor Beaver advocates submission, but urges that the election be held as early as May or June, so that the vote upon it may be taken without any admixture of partisan politics or local interest to perplex the voters.

The opponents of prohibition in the legislature will probably endeavor to modify the proposed amendment by making provision for compensation; but this idea was voted down two years ago and is not likely to fare better at this time. Its adoption would naturally make the amendment a new one, and necessitate its passage by the legislature elected in 1890 before it could be submitted to a vote of the people.

There is a good deal of speculation as to the fate of the amendment on the popular vote. The liquor interest, at one time disposed to make light of any prediction of its approval by the people, now considers the question more seriously, and is apprehensive it may secure a majority. It will probably make a determined fight, and will have the sinews of war in abundance, as the traffic in its various forms in this State represents many millions of invested capital and thousands of employes. The farmers will also have a money interest in the question, as Pennsylvania raises more rye than any state (nearly 4,000,000 bushels) and about one fifth of the product of the Union. This is almost entirely sold to distillers, while the barley product (about 500,000 bushels) goes to the brewers.

The national convention of millers recently in session at Milwaukee, formed what is practically a flour trust, limiting production to advanced prices. "We want cheaper wheat and dearer flour," was their motto, cutting the farmers at one end of the line and the bread eaters at the other. No trust will so affect the pockets of the people as a flour trust. A copper trust affects the manufacturers. Sugar is a luxury, and a trust in it can be defeated by declining to eat it. But the people must have bread. None are so poor nor so strong that they can do without it. Therefore, when there is a deliberate, unnatural, combined effort to make bread dearer it becomes a subject of universal concern. Every family in the country is interested.

With the beginning of the new year the effects of the combine or trust have become apparent. A clear majority of the larger mills, representing a daily output of near 80,000 barrels of flour, have shut down entirely, or are running at half capacity. These mills are scattered all over the winter wheat belt and are 300 in number. At Minneapolis, the center of spring wheat milling, although the millers resent any talk of a trust, it is a fact the production of flour has been cut down to nearly one third—from 40,000 barrels a day to 13,000.

A very good suggestion has been made that doctors be examined by a competent State committee. The present practice is to license any physician having a medical college diploma, and to deny the privilege of practice to all who have not. The system probably does not bar out any competent doctors, as diplomas can be procured by such without any more expense or trouble than any one may overcome. But it is not so certain that diplomas are not issued too easily to persons who are not competent. A great deal of learning will not make doctors of some people, while others are fitted by nature and disposition for such work. A competent State examining board ought to do good.

This would operate a little against quacks who get their diplomas from third-rate medical colleges.

A PROBLEM OF THE DAY.

(Philadelphia Record.) There are 25,000 colored voters in Indiana, and only a Harrison plurality of 2,300. The number of colored voters in New York is also largely in excess of the Republican plurality. A party that is dependent upon colored pluralities should introduce a little color into the cabinet. This is the African problem of immediate interest in this country.

And the *REPORTER* would add here that a party with 108,000 majority against it, has no victory to boast of.

Harrison's administration is likely to be nicknamed the icicle administration.

HOW GOV. CURTIN PLANNED LINCOLN'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON.

The speedy coming of the contest was made even more manifest than it had been before by the circumstances of President Lincoln's journey from Springfield to Washington to enter upon the discharge of his duties. President Lincoln journeyed by way of Harrisburg, arriving there on Friday, February 22, and it was then that Governor Curtin met him for the first time. He addressed the State Legislature in the afternoon and later held a public reception. "After the reception," says Governor Curtin, "a private conference was held in the parlor of the hotel at which the Presidential party were stopping. There were present beside the President N. B. Judd, Ward H. Lamont, Judge David Davis, Colonel E. V. Sumner and one or two more of those who were traveling with the President. N. B. Judd told us that from two different sources—Allen G. Pinkerton in the first and a party of New York detectives in the second instance—information had been received of a plot to assassinate the President during his passage through Baltimore, and to guard against danger it had been arranged that the President should return on a special train to Philadelphia that evening and take the night express on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad, thus throwing the conspirators, who expected him to go to Washington over the Northern Central Railroad, off the scent.

"Encouraged by the President's cool and collected bearing I at first discouraged the idea of a secret journey, advising the President-elect to travel by daylight, volunteering to go with him in person. But when full and convincing proof of the plot was laid before us by Mr. Judd, knowing that the assassination of the head of the government would bring national ruin, I instantly changed my mind and joined in advising means to secure his safety. In the evening a public dinner was given the President, and at its close I invited him to go and spend the night at my house. He accepted the invitation, and to allay suspicion, all members of his party but Colonel Lamont were left behind at the hotel. We were at once driven in a closed carriage to the outskirts of the city, where a special train, consisting of an engine, tender and passenger car, was standing. I stood on the street crossing until I saw them enter the car and then went home. The wires between Harrisburg and Washington and between the former city and Philadelphia had already been cut to prevent any news of his movements getting abroad, and with Colonel Lamont as his only companion he started on the journey to Washington. Early the next morning we received word that the trip had been made in safety and that President Lincoln was in Washington."

Soon after Lincoln's inauguration Governor Curtin received a message from the President to visit Washington without delay, as he wished to confer with him. He did so, accompanied by Colonel McClure, chairman of the military committee of the State Senate, and found the President desirous that some of the loyal States should take action recognizing that civil war existed. With his splendid judgment of men, he had chosen Governor Curtin as the one of the Governors best fitted to make the declaration, and the prompt and resolute course with which the latter accepted the tremendous responsibility showed the President that he had judged aright. Governor Curtin returned to the State capital on a Monday morning determined to send a message to the Legislature that day. Some of his friends, however, strenuously urged him to postpone action for the time being, and he finally yielded to their advice.

Tuesday morning brought to Harrisburg a messenger from the President with this note: "I see you did nothing yesterday. I think if your action is to have any value that you ought to come out without delay." Upon receipt of this message, the Governor acted forthwith. Before noon he sent to the Legislature a message which, considering the time and the occasion, must go on record as one of the greatest of state papers. In the strongest terms possible he placed before the people the doctrine that the preservation of the Union was the first thing to be considered and that to secure it, too great sacrifices could not be made. "The government," he declared, "is based upon a compact to which all the people of the United States are parties. It is the result of mutual concessions, which were made for the purpose of securing reciprocal benefits. It acts directly upon the people and they owe it a personal allegiance. No part of the people, no State nor combination of States can voluntarily secede from the Union nor absolve themselves from their obligations. To permit a State to withdraw at pleasure from the Union without the consent of the rest is to confess that our government is a failure."

This message could not have been better timed and its effect upon the faltering ones throughout the North was immediate and incalculable. In the lower house of the Pennsylvania Legislature Gideon J. Ball instantly introduced a bill vesting the Governor with power to raise and equip troops and appropriating \$500,000 for the purpose.—*Phila. Times* cor.

The story of how Governor Curtin won one of his first law cases has passed into a tradition in Centre county. A school teacher, arrested for stealing a flute, was brought before a Justice's Court for a hearing, and Governor Curtin appeared as his counsel. The evidence of the prisoner's guilt was convincing and complete, but the young lawyer rose to the occasion. He offered no testimony in rebuttal, but risked all on an appeal to the mercy of the Justice.

"Your Honor," he said, "I admit that my client took the flute, but he did it for a laudable purpose. As your Honor well knows, he is an instructor of the young; he took this flute in order to instill in the minds of his pupils the first principles of music." And continuing in eloquent and glowing terms, he painted the culprit as a public benefactor.

The Justice, more sentimental than judicial, was touched by the pathos of this picture of virtue in distress, and, though the State's Attorney warmly protested against such proceeding, insisted upon discharging the prisoner. Governor Curtin, however, did not have need of legal victories won in this way.

The scientific newspapers are opposed to the execution of criminals by electricity. The *Scientific American* says that the law has been passed and no provision has been made to carry it out. Apparatus is not provided, no competent specialists have been appointed to superintend its administration, and in the present state of affairs the law appears to amount to little more than an indefinite suspension of the death penalty for murder. The *Electrical Review* says that electricity is not suited for such work.

To obviate this difficulty the *REPORTER* would call attention to the fact that nature, for centuries, has used electricity to kill men, and quite successfully too. Hence in the absence of the proper apparatus to do the work according to the law passed, why not take the murderer out and tie him to a tree until the next thunder-gust passes over, and nineteen cases out of twenty you will find the criminal executed by electricity? Nature has here provided a most simple "apparatus" upon which there is no patent.

One of the greatest undertakings of the times is a railroad across South America, connecting the most eastern seaport of Brazil on the Atlantic coast with Valparaiso, Chile, the nearest harbor on the Pacific coast to Australia. The proposed road will traverse Paraguay and the Argentine Republic as well as Brazil and Chile. Its estimated cost is \$150,000,000, and a syndicate has been formed in Rio Janeiro to obtain grants of land and money from the countries interested. In addition to the commercial results of a road which would traverse the Southern continent and open new and fertile regions to trade, there is another aspect of the question which is of peculiar importance to the people of the United States. When the railroad has fairly penetrated these countries and made their cheap, rich lands available for remunerative cultivation a large emigration would be attracted from Europe. The mighty stream of immigration that now pours on these shores would be largely diverted to South America.

THE INAUGURATION DANCE.

Ball or no ball at Harrison's inauguration is causing a lively time among Methodist and other ministers, who insist that Harrison shall put his foot down on the inauguration dance because he professes to be a good Presbyterian. The matter is quite hot among the Indianapolis clergymen.

The union meeting of the city ministers on Monday failed to develop anything in connection with the inaugural ball, as was generally expected, for the reason that the Methodists saw that they would be out-numbered, and they preferred to present the subject at the meeting of their own society next week.

All of them are against the ball and hint darkly of changing their politics unless "this abomination of the devil," as they call it, be cancelled forthwith. Several of them have written to the President-elect and influential members of their congregations to do the same.

To none of their communications has Gen. Harrison replied with more than a letter of acknowledgement through his secretary.

The Presbyterians seem to think that they have gained a point by providing for a committee to report an address expressing the cordial Christian regard of the members for the President-elect, the committee being appointed without objections and made to consist of one member from each of the seven denomina-

tions represented in the meeting.

At the same time a few leading Presbyterians have gone over to the Methodists, and are loud in their denunciation of "frivolity and godlessness" at the White House.

An Altoona special says that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has been robbed of brass from cars to the amount of \$100,000 during the past year. The work was done by a regularly organized gang of boys along the line between Cleveland and Philadelphia. They sold their plunder to local agents, who in turn sold it to Moses Silverman, of Cleveland. Wholesale arrests were made along the line of the railroad. At Altoona some boys did the stealing by breaking the brass work from passenger and other cars which was disposed of to another party in the plot at 3 cents per pound.

Judge Sadler has served notice on the new sheriff of Cumberland county, D. W. Totten, that from to-day the fees for boarding the worthless tramps will be but nine cents per day. Will these aristocrats of the high way strike for higher grub?

STORM KING.

60 PERSONS KILLED AT READING.

A cyclone swept over the City of Reading and laid waste everything within its reach and with terrible loss of life on Wednesday. The most reliable computation is that not less than sixty persons have been killed outright and 100 injured.

At Pittsburg the storm blew down a four story building and buried a large number of persons in the ruins.

Altoona beats any town in the state for mud during wet weather.

Will Pearlstone's store at Bellefonte, is closed.

The new creamery near Rebersburg is now under roof.

Jonathan Harter, of Millheim, was in town this week.

Dr. Frank, of Millheim, had a horse run off—result buggy damaged.

A Mr. Weidensaul has taken possession of the Campbell mill, north of Millheim.

A fierce storm set in on Wednesday afternoon, continued all night and next day, with colder weather.

Fauble's line for ready made clothing is complete in every particular, and cannot be beat by any dealer in the county.

J. D. Murray gave the Becker washing machine a trial a few days ago, and pleased with its work, he bought one. No machine like it.

Novels by Scott, Goldsmith, Verne, Haggard, Dickens, Doris Thorne, Hugh Conway etc., on sale at Murray's Drug store.

Miller's photograph car in town, and expects to locate only for a short time. Persons wishing fine work done should call between the hours of 10 and 3. The finest work done when snowing.

George Nearhood now occupies his house.

It was a terrible tug.

But now he is snug.

The reputation of the Philadelphia Branch for cheap clothing is an established fact and cannot be touched by any one in the county.

If you wish to be well dressed, get your clothing made by Fleming, the fashionable tailor, Bellefonte, who has a complete line of latest goods, and at cheapest prices.

Jacob Finkle, an old and respected citizen of Bellville, died Sunday morning, December 29, aged 80 years and 4 days. His funeral took place New Year's day at 11 o'clock at the Lutheran church. Mr. Finkle years ago was a citizen of Penn twp, this county, and a well known miller in that section.

If you desire your boy to have a Christmas gift that will last him to the end of the year, get one of those handsome suits for him, for which there is such a great rush at Lewins, Philad. Branch. The stock of clothing, for men and boys, is astonishing, and every piece honest goods, and lower in price by 25 per cent than elsewhere. Lewins leads and keeps up his old reputation for honest goods, lowest prices and latest styles.

For cheapest family groceries go to Sechlers old and reliable stand in the Bush house block. For the holiday season every family is desirous to have the best of everything on the table, and at Sechlers is the place to find it. They keep the best canned and dried fruits, syrups, teas, coffees, meats, and all the fine grades of candies, raisins, oranges, lemons and other good things.

FARMERS' MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF CENTRE CO., PA.—The annual meeting of the members and the election of 12 Directors to manage the affairs of the company for the coming year, will be held at the house of D. J. Meyer, at Centre Hall, on Monday, January 14, 1889, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m. of said day. Members are generally requested to attend.

F. L. Lase, Secy., Centre Hall, Pa., Dec. 20, 1888.

FRED KURTZ, President.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.—LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the estate of John Oswald, dec'd, late of Gregg township, having been granted to the undersigned, he requests all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same to present them duly authenticated for settlement.

SAMUEL J. HERRING, Executor, Penn Hall, Pa.

BOY WANTED TO LEARN THE CABINET Trade. To come well recommended.

JOHN CAMP & SON, Milroy, Pa.

MARKETS. Philadelphia, wheat 96 to 98. Corn 44, oats 31 to 32. Peas 22. Potatoes 10 to 12. In Pennsylvania, wheat 90 to 95, rye 50, oats 30, corn 40, butter 22, eggs 18, lard 8. Beet 80 per 100, pork 80 per 100.