



THE CENTRE REPORTER

FRED KURTZ, -- EDITOR

It Don Cameron makes up his mind not to be a candidate for re-election to the senate, Gov. Beaver, no doubt, will be among a host of others, ready to step into Don's shoes.

The *Osservatore Romano* says that should the Pope be forced to exile himself from Rome he will not ask sovereignty from any power, but will merely request temporary hospitality, as he will certainly return to Rome.

Johnstown in New York state had a flood a short time ago in which about 18 persons were drowned and much property was destroyed. It is singular that two places of similar names should have such terrible visitations within so short a time.

Since the arrest of Sullivan upon orders of the Governor of Mississippi, it will be of interest to know what the law is against prize fighting in that state: An act of 1882 imposes a penalty not exceeding \$1,000 nor less than \$500, or imprisonment for 12 months, or both, for prize fighting. Aiders and abettors are subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000 or imprisonment for six months, or both.

A new danger threatens the farmers of Berks county. Many of them have stored in their barns the mouldy, damp hay which could not be cured because of the frequent and recent rains, and this now emits a fearful heat, threatening spontaneous combustion. The barn on the farm of Jacob Herbine, in Oley township, was destroyed, with its contents, from this very cause, entailing a loss of \$5,000.

What has become of Blaine? He is not being heard from at all any more, although he holds the highest place in President Harrison's cabinet. What has become of the magnetic man from Maine, who for the last dozen years made more noise and called up more huzzas from the Republican ranks than any half dozen leaders in the party? Has James G. been extinguished? Has some one put a bushel over his light?

The trouble at Carnegie's works, last week, took a serious aspect. The hands were on a strike and with the backing of the women, took possession of the entrances to the works and would allow no one to go in. A considerable force of policemen were sent to the spot to preserve order, but some, after getting there resigned and others left. The cause of the trouble is a reduction in the scale of wages. Carnegie had promised higher wages in case a high tariff was maintained and the men are not prepared to accept a lowering of wages instead.

Matters are going to an extreme in Haiti, for Legitime is arming women and placing them in the ranks.

The women serving in the ranks of his troops can readily be picked out by a close observer, as their faces do not possess the hardened features of men. They dress in male attire and appear to stand the hardships well. They are said to be all young girls and many of them mistresses of soldiers.

They may be able to hold their own in a battle of tongues, the Reporter would think.

John Wanamaker, the merchant postmaster general, has yielded to the be- guilments of politics and now aims to be a United States Senator. He covets the seat now occupied by Don Cameron. In alliance with him to secure it is Senator Quay and the acute coteries of political bosses who make Philadelphia their habitat. Mr. Cameron's seat will be vacant on the 4th of March, 1891. The legislature to choose the senator will be elected one year from next fall. The power of Cameron has always been centered in Philadelphia, which sends to the legislature a representation, numerically, at least, impressive.

The talk of Hastings for Governor is now stronger than ever, and his nomination seems likely. The Johnstown flood washed considerable popularity into the net of our friend, and he is on a fair way to scoop in the Governorship. Well, he's a clever gentleman, and the Reporter years ago predicted distinction in store for him.

But, while we are in this business we insist on Col. Spangler to go on the ticket for lieutenant governor, on account of the dam disaster and the services he subsequently rendered.

The Johnstown flood was a mighty big thing, but we predict that Dan and Jack have not yet reached their high water mark.

Solid Sense on Prohibition.

Francis Murphy, the apostle of total abstinence by moral suasion rather than by prohibitory laws, has no tears to shed over the defeat of prohibition in this and other States, but rather regards it as an encouragement to practical reformers. "The death knell of prohibition is sounded," he says, adding that it "is phariseism, fraud and hypocrisy." This is a little strong. We rather regard it as a delusion of well meaning men who have little knowledge of the world and its ways, although there is a class of prohibitionists undoubtedly amenable to Mr. Murphy's caustic description. Here is good sense from Francis: "The attempt to bring the church and State together again. The people will not permit it. When preachers band themselves together to get the legislature to enact laws to regulate the morals of people they are going counter to the will of God. The sale of whisky must be restricted, and the man who applies for a license must be known to be respectable and trustworthy before he is permitted to sell liquor. In truth, the liquor traffic should be in the hands of good men. It sounds paradoxical to say this, but I mean it. A man of judgment and with the right spirit, standing behind a bar, will refuse to sell to a man who is an habitual drunkard. Statutory laws do not stop the sale of whisky, and the best thing that can be done is to regulate and mitigate the evil in a legitimate way. In Maine, whisky is sold in every town. Of course prohibition works splendidly in Maine, because the people there know that they can get whisky whenever they desire it. They are content with the fraud that is going on. The law is a dead letter."

Mr. Murphy was long a resident of Maine and knows whereof he speaks as to the use and sale of intoxicants in that State, and besides that he has no motive to deceive any one, while his zeal in the cause of temperance cannot be questioned.

The prediction has been made by several eminent geologists who have made a study of the oil deposits of Pennsylvania that all the oil fields of this state will be exhausted in a comparatively few years. In an interview, Professor J. P. Lesley, of the second geological survey of Pennsylvania, expressed himself as entirely in accord with this prediction.

Professor Lesley has based his prediction upon the oil statistics of the geological survey of Pennsylvania, which show an unmistakable decline in the natural production of oil. Not only do they exhibit the approaching extinction of this great industry, but the immense increase in the quantity of shipments is draining the oil fields to the very drops.

Professor Heilprin, of the Academy of Natural Sciences, of Philadelphia, an eminent palaeontologist and geologist, does not coincide with Professor Lesley's views. In an interview, Professor Heilprin said: "In my opinion, we cannot rely on the present statistics as a proof positive that all our oil fields will soon be exhausted, either in five, ten, twenty, or fifty years, or longer still. While the approaching exhaustion of many fields has surprised the various geologists and oil speculators, they have also been surprised at the great number of very productive fields which have been and are now being opened from time to time. So where one oil area is being exhausted another springs up to supply the want."

"We are not yet sufficiently conversant with the conditions that make up an oil field as to designate with any degree of accuracy at what time they will become extinct."

An associated press dispatch from Pittsburgh says that one hundred Pinkerton men, armed with Springfield rifles arrived there Friday morning from Philadelphia and were taken to the Homestead Bessemer steel works of Carnegie, Phipps & Co., at Homestead, Pa. They will be placed about the mill property to protect it and the workmen from the strikers. It will be noticed that while the glorious tariff compels the American workman to buy in the "home market," it does not prevent the monopolistic employer from indulging in free trade so far as the employment of hands is concerned. In other words, when the wage worker refuses to toil for the compensation as fixed by the protected manufacturers, the latter seeks employes elsewhere, assisted by Pinkerton detectives and their trusty Winchesters.

It appears that Colonel Quay's candidate for governor, Senator Delamater, is to be opposed by Adjutant General Hastings who is being pushed to the front by C. L. Magee, of Pittsburgh. General Hastings is represented as saying, however, that he is not a candidate.

Nothing but violent rain and thunder storms from all parts of the country reported the past few days, from east and west.

Our Monopoly Combines.

While the people have a general knowledge of the growth of monopoly trusts, says the *Philad. Times*, they will be startled to learn the power of some of these combines as officially exhibited to the New York Stock Exchange. Being required by the Board to furnish the amount of their certificates, the following varied trusts have made these returns:

Name of Trust.	Certificates.	Capital.
Lead.....	890,188	\$3,018,600
Sugar.....	498,565	49,856,500
Cotton Oil.....	421,852	42,185,200
Dist's and Cattle F'drs.....	307,266	30,726,600
American Cattle.....	133,961	13,396,100
Total.....	2,191,832	\$219,183,200

The parent trust of all, the Standard Oil Company, sells no certificates on the Stock Board, and makes no returns. But the foregoing figures will astound the public when it is remembered that every one of the trusts named deals in the common necessities of life.

Every one of these trusts is capitalized at from double to treble the capital actually invested, and it is intended to make them pay large dividends upon the inflated capital at the cost of consumers. How long will the people submit? Can any doubt that the reckoning will come, and that it will come with the whirlwind in the near future.

Chicago, by the annexation of Hyde Park, Lake View, Jefferson and Cicero, previously suburbs of Chicago, has become territorially the largest city in the Union. It now covers an area of 150 square miles, and with this annexation, has a population of about 1,100,000, which makes it in population the third if not the second city in the United States. Philadelphia claims a population of 1,200,000; and if this is a correct estimate, as is probably the fact, then Chicago must, for the present at least, be content with being the third instead of the fourth city in the Union, and in this respect with having changed places with Brooklyn, whose population is set down at about 900,000. The growth of Chicago within the last fifty years is a marvelous development in the history of cities. Its present territorial area admits of a vast increase in population; and in the next fifty years the population will probably be more than doubled. A country that can, in a comparatively short time, produce such great cities as New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Brooklyn, has in it the elements of great industrial and commercial thrift. Cities in this country, more than in Europe, are the product of purely natural causes.

A Flexible Stone.

What is described as a geological curiosity is in the office of the acting chief clerk of the United States War Department, Washington. It is a piece of stone weighing about 1 pound, 13 inches in length, 2 1/2 inches in width, and 1/2 inch thick. There is no doubt about its being a genuine stone, but it nevertheless possesses the flexibility of a piece of India rubber. When taken in the hand and shaken in the direction of its flat surfaces, it will bend backward and forward with a dull sound. The movement is more of a laxity in the adhesion, apparently, than an elasticity. When held horizontally by one end, the other will drop and remain in that position. With the two ends supported on rests, the free center can be pressed 1/2 inch below the middle line. With one end held firmly on the desk, the other end can be bent upward over 1 inch. The movement is not confined to the one direction—in the place of the flat surfaces—but the entire stone seems to be constructed on the principle of a universal joint, with a movement perceptible in all directions under pressure. This is what is known as a calcumite, or elastic sandstone. It is stated that a whole mountain of it exists in Southern Nevada, a short distance east of Death valley. It is found in California, Georgia and other localities in the United States.

One of these stones can be seen also in the museum of the Lewisburg University where the editor has seen and handled it.

Ex Senator Wallace was interviewed the other day at Atlantic City. He said he had no intention to again enter political life. "It doesn't pay," was his plaint. "Moreover," he added, "the man in public life at Washington who seriously devotes his energies to the real questions which involve statesmanship acquires not fame or laureation, but simply abuse. There is no inducement in public life to a man of energy and ambition. I would rather," he said, "for the real good I could do my State, represent the district in which I live in the legislature of any State than to be a member of the United States senate." The people of Clearfield should act on this hint.

Governor Lowry, of Mississippi, means business. Arrangements for the prosecution of all persons and corporations connected in any way with the late, Sullivan-Kilrain fight are progressing, and a big affair it will prove to be. Sheriff Cowart, who witnessed the fight, and Mr. Rich, of Richburg, are likely to be participants, as well as other prominent parties in New Orleans and elsewhere. The governor does not doubt that he will eventually get the principals, Sullivan or Kilrain, together with the gangs, or some of them.

A bullet was fired at the emperor of Brazil the other day, which missed and the assassin was arrested.

A Bismarckian Measure.

Mention has been made of Bismarck's favorite plan for abolishing pauperism in the German empire. The plan is downright state socialism, pure and simple. It originates with Bismarck himself, however, and not with some poor, half starved, long haired creature, out at elbows and hunted of men, and that makes all the difference in the world.

The chancellor's system for abolishing the poor consists of three different laws, the last of which has passed the reichstag.

In 1883 a law was enacted providing for the insurance of the workman against sickness. During health a small sum, amounting to 14 or 2 per cent. of his wages, is required by law to be paid into the sick fund. His employer is obliged to pay one-third of the sum. During illness the workman receives half pay for a term not exceeding thirteen weeks. If he goes to the hospital his family receive half his allowance.

The next step on the road to state socialism was an accident insurance law, enacted in 1884. Its operation extends to sailors, tillers of the soil and to workmen in the building trades. Employers must pay all of the guarantee fund in accident insurance. The workman who is entirely disabled by accident receives as a pension two-thirds of his regular pay and a proportional sum for partial disablement. If he is killed his widow receives as pension 20 per cent. of his wages and each child 15 per cent., up to 60 per cent., which is the limit. A man's fellow workmen are the jury to pass on the amount of injury he has received. It will have a tendency to make employers careful of those in their hire.

The third and last law is the old age insurance act. It goes into operation in 1891. Under its provisions all Germans, male and female, above 16 years old, who work for wages, must pay regularly into a state insurance fund to take care of them when they are too old to labor or become invalid. Employers pay half the sum required for this fund and the employes half. The payments are very small, being from 3 to 7 cents a week. From these insignificant sums will be secured pensions ranging from \$15 to \$61. The state adds in each case \$10 a year to the pension. The government pays the insurance of men while they are in military service.

In a free republic, where working people get good wages, why can they not do for themselves what Bismarck and the government are doing for the laboring classes in Germany?

Foreigners in America.

The New Orleans Times-Democrat says: It is clearly evident that national sentiment is opposed to the naturalization of foreigners by the loose and speedy methods which now prevail. It is the firm conviction of the people of the Union that a long term of residence in this country must be required before the alien born can be fully clothed with the garb of American citizenship. This must be given to develop a patriotic spirit in the man that kneels at our doors for admission into the national household; there must be no Irish-Americans, no German-Americans, no British-Americans, no Swedish-Americans, but plain, simple, every day Americans.

It must arouse the anger of every true son of the nation to witness the horde of aliens—aliens of the very spirit of our institutions—who crowd our shores year after year, eager to wrest from America sufficient wealth to enable them to return to their respective climes, and there end their days enwrapped in their native flag. To such as these our laws will not long extend a welcome. We have tasted the bitter fruits of indiscriminate immigration, and the country is ripe for a policy of restriction. Those who will be welcomed will be those only who fuse with the American spirit; who burn their native bridges behind them when they come upon American soil.

In New York city there are 215 good class hotels. They accommodate ordinarily 40,000 persons. If crowded they can stow away 75,000. The boarding and lodging houses of the city can accommodate twice as many more. These facts are urged in favor of New York as the site of the American world's fair in 1892. Buildings can be erected in one of the parks, it is said, and New York has never had a great international exposition as yet.

Dr. Andrew D. White, ex-president of Cornell university, lays before the country the plan of a gigantic university at Washington, which should stand at the head of high education in this country and be on a level with Oxford and Cambridge and the great German universities, yet different from them. The faculty would be a board of trustees and examiners, who would encourage original research. They would examine scholars in different departments of education and then give them money to support them while they devoted themselves entirely to investigation in their separate branches. Several million dollars will be required for Dr. White's project.

The late Mr. Lick left \$100,000 to build an Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. The spacious and beautiful edifice for this purpose is now nearly completed. It is 80 feet wide and 195 feet deep.

Professor Carl Vignal claims to be the inventor of an air ship which can be successfully driven and steered by means of a screw propeller.

The Tammany Hall organization is a century old this summer.

Horseback Riding for Health.

Dr. David N. Patterson contributes to the *July Outing* a paper on horseback riding which has some points of real interest. He says that for both men and women who are closely confined indoors by sedentary pursuits there is no form of exercise which imparts to and energy to the whole physical system and at the same time gives such a wide range of mental enjoyment as horseback riding.

A rider must have a genuine affection for his horse. From horse to rider in this case flows a steady current of fine magnetism. "The horse is a regular battery for the generation of animal electricity." A horse must be comfortably saddled and bridled; his nervous, sensitive mouth must be at ease. His rider's weight must be adapted to him. Dr. Patterson remarks:

With these few suggestions properly attended to, together with such others as may be prompted by experience, a five or ten mile ride on a clear summer morning cannot fail to prove an invigorating blessing.

For invalids, too, horseback riding is invaluable. It will bring rest and healing to the anxious, the overtaxed and broken down. It often cures consumption in the earlier stages. If you are getting too fat, the good daily shaking up will bring your weight down. If you are too thin, and nervous and declining, it will tone you up and make your muscles firm and plump. If you suffer from insomnia, it will make you sleep. If you have dyspepsia, a ten mile ride will make you feel as if you could eat nails.

Best of all, it takes you into the sweet, open country. Finally:

That horseback riding is conducive to the elevation of good morals and the development of the "small, sweet courtesies of life" is evident to even the most casual observer. The exercise imparts a healthy tone of mind and spirit, together with a manliness and simplicity of manner. It is very rare to find a good horse-man who is churlish and lacking in that delicate and instinctive appreciation of the feelings of others.

Tenement House Life.

The population of New York city is now over 1,500,000. Of this great mass of people nearly 1,100,000 live in tenement houses. A tenement house is classed as one that contains over twenty inhabitants. Of the 400,000 who live outside the tenement houses, by far the larger part live in boarding houses and in the high class flats and apartments that are not classed with the tenement houses. Subtracting these, there remains only a very small number of families indeed who occupy a house to themselves. Rents and real estate are so high one must be almost a millionaire to have a whole house.

In the tenement buildings dens have been found in which human beings live twenty-two in a room. This is especially true of the Italian quarter. In several of the streets of the east side of the city it is literally and absolutely impossible to pass along the sidewalks early in the summer evening without pushing children and women aside. Human beings are packed together even on the sidewalks. A reeking smell strikes the nostrils as one passes the corners of these streets.

As New York city is already, so the other large cities of the Union are becoming with respect to the tenement system. Murder, death, crime, suicide and pestilence have their feeding ground and breeding places here. Not a day passes but some desperate deed is recorded. Even in several of the smaller cities it is dangerous to pass along certain streets in the evening unaccompanied by a policeman. These streets are always the ones on which the pestilential tenement house is situated. If the railway companies and philanthropists could only devise some plan of thinning out these seething masses of humanity and breaking up the hotbeds of crime, what a blessing to civilization it would be.

Several large parties of American school teachers, numbering nearly a thousand women and men, are in Europe this summer enjoying their vacation. They are from all parts of the Union, south as well as north and west. The good wishes of millions of their fellow countrymen, large and small, go with them. They have earned their vacation bravely and well, and the millions hope they will come back to school full of fresh, electric life and new ideas. For the hope of the country rests with the teachers. And we are glad America pays her teachers well enough for them to take this little outing over seas.

The Boston Herald believes that the time is very near when the steam railroad companies will build electric car tracks two or three miles out into the country from their suburban stations. These will enable working people to scatter out of the tenement houses into the country along the lines of the electric street cars. They can reach the station by the electric car, and the city and their work by the steam car.

More laurels for America. Buffalo Bill has been engaged by the French government to teach 100 officers of cavalry to ride American style. Col. Cody is about the most graceful horseback rider alive.