The Star & Sentinel.

Friday, Jan. 15, 1869.

Advertisers and others interested will bear in mind that the regular circulation of the "STAR AND SENTINEL" is much larger than that of any other paper published in the County, being read weekly by not less than 11,000 persons.

IN the U. States Senate, on Monday, Mr. SHERMAN introduced a bill providing that any judge of any court of the United States, who is now 70 years of age, or whenever he shall arrive at that age, may, on his written application to the President, be retired from active service on full pay. When a judge over 70 years will not retire from office an additional judge is to be appointed. The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

In the House Mr. WASHBURNE, of Indiana, introduced a bill to repeal the Tenure-of-Office act, and demanded the previous question on its passage. Mr. WILSON, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, stated that the resolution had the approval of the committee, and he hoped it would pass.—Without further discussion, the rules were suspended and the bill was passed —yeas 119, nays 47. The Republicans divided upon the question, and the Democrats voted as a unit in its favor. Its fate in the Senate is doubtful, some Senators favoring the principle of the Tenure-of-Office act, and others holding that its repeal before the termination of JOHNSON's administration would be injudicious.

Mr. BOUTWELL, with the approval of the House Judiciary Committee, reported a bill enacting universal suffrage in all the States to this extent, namely: Presidential Electors, Representatives in Congress, and members of the State Legislatures. A majority of the Committee hold that the exercise of this power is entirely constitutional, under the Fourteenth Amendment. The bill contains provisions for its enforcement by penalties for its violation. The Committee are understood to agree that they cannot prescribe by statute the qualifications for electors for purely State officers. Legislatures are included because they elect United States Senators. The Committee also reported a constitutional amendment embodying the whole question of universal suffrage, to be submitted to the States for ratification. The reasons adduced for proposing both bill and amendment are that at present, with the amendment alone, there are not more than twenty-five States that will ratify it; but with suffrage for President and members of Congress enacted by law, and once exercised, the prejudice to it will give way, and it will act as an inducement for the ratification of the amendment. The Bill and amendment were ordered to be printed.

In the Senate, on Tuesday, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN presented a memorial from certain parties stating that the proposed subsidies of the Northern Pacific and Eastern branches of the Union Pacific Railroads will amount to one hundred and twenty-five millions, in addition to the enormous land grants, and proposing, on the part of themselves, to do the work at a saving of seventy-five millions.

In the House, Gen. BUTLER submitted his bill to authorize the issue of a national currency—the Secretary of the Treasury after the 30th of June next to issue $300,000,000 of non-interest bearing notes, and such further sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the bill, which looks to a closing of the National Banks as Banks of issue, and the substitution of an irredeemable national paper currency—the notes thus issued to be received in payment of all debts, taxes, and demands whatsoever. Gen. BUTLER followed with a carefully prepared speech in support of his scheme, lauding the beauties and advantages of an irredeemable currency, which he declared to be "by far the better agent and instrument of exchange of an enlightened and free people than gold and silver, the money alike of the barbarian and the despot." The bill will receive little or no support, as it would indefinitely despone a resumption of specie payments.

A NEW phase has been given to the investigation of the New York election frauds. A committee of Congress has been taken testimony in that city, and last week Sheriff O'BRIEN (Democrat) came into the room where the committee were in session and attempted to arrest some of the witnesses who had been suppoened, on the allegation of being thieves, &c. Three were taken to the police Station-House. It is charged that O'BRIEN's action was instigated by Democratic politicians to prevent ugly developments. The matter will probably come before Congress. A number of witnesses have already been examined by the Committee, including Mayor Hoffman, (Governor elect,) Judge McCunn, and other prominent Democratic politicians. Many of them were notorious thieves, and other offenders against the law, who had been let out on bail after indictments were drawn against them and lodged in the hands of the District Attorney. These testify, that before the election the Democratic Executive Committee gave them the choice of being Democratic repeaters or be called to trial and take their chance of going to Sing Sing. They testify that they voted from six to thirty-nine times each, and would have done more if the Republicans had been less vigilant.—Nearly two hundred voters were registered from Sheriff O'Brien's house, and complete lists of repeaters from there have been obtained. One man who was under indictment for burglary, testifies that he was let out on condition that he would vote early and often for Seymour and Hoffman, which he did.

IN a recent case in the U. States Supreme Court, President JOHNSON's General Amnesty Proclamation was plead in bar of further proceedings, Gen. BUTLER put in a counter plea to the effect that while under the Constitution the President can pardon certain offences, a pardon to be operative must be special, directed to the particular individual who pleads it—that the only legal evidence of such pardon, of which Courts can take cognizance, is the production in Court of the writ of pardon—that the power to issue a Proclamation of General Amnesty is not a constitutional prerogative but derived from Act of Congress passed in 1862—that this Act of Congress having been repealed, the power fails, and hence the recent Proclamation of the President can have no vitality. The case remains for argument. It is said Gen. BUTLER's view is supported by many of our ablest lawyers, and it may yet turn out that unrepentant Rebels who have been gloating over JOHNSON's last declaration of friendly regard for traitors, have been "counting their chickens before the eggs were hatched."

GEN. GRANT is extremely reticent as to his Cabinet, and the newspaper speculations as to its composition may be taken as mere *guesses* and nothing more. We take advantage of the absence of our colleague at Washington to note the fact, as an item of interest to our readers, that the name of Hon. EDWARD MCPHERSON has been suggested in connection with the Postmaster Generalship, and that the suggestion has been favorably noticed by a number of the leading Republican presses of this and other States—among them the Erie Republican, Pittsburg Commercial, Chambersburg Repository, Somerset Whig, Bedford Inquirer, Greensburg Herald, Johnstown Tribune, Lancaster Examiner, Harrisburg Telegraph, York Republican, Lebanon Courier, Reading Journal, Stroudsburg Jeffersonian, Clarion Banner, Father Abraham, Conneautville Courier, Meadville Journal, Indiana Register, Clearfield Raftsman, Shippensburg News, Allentown Register, Hanover Spectator and Montour American. There may be others which have escaped our attention; we note these as among our regular exchanges.

The cordiality with which the suggestion has been hailed by so large a proportion of the Pennsylvania Press, is all the more complimentary as we happen to know that Mr. MCPHERSON has had no agency in the matter, and has not been seeking the position—interposing objection even to any notice of the matter in the columns of this paper. As a voluntary expression of Republican sentiment, it is a tribute that must be gratifying to his personal friends, and our colleague would be more than human if he did not feel himself complimented by it. And now as we have our hand in, as our readers may desire to know what is said in this connection, at the risk of still further incurring the displeasure of our modest colleague we annex one or two of these notices as a sample of the whole:

HON. EDWARD MCPHERSON is presented by friends and admirers for the position of Post Master General under Gen. Grant. A better man for the place cannot be found. He has that untiring application that seems to make labor agree with him; he has had much experience in public affairs; he has an extensive acquaintance with prominent men in all sections of the country; he has a fondness for statistics which would make him master of all the details of the department; he has the confidence of the entire Republican party; and he has a character for integrity above suspicion. His selection for the place would be an excellent one.—*Lebanon Courier.*

We endorse every word of the above. MCPHERSON is true as steel, and is possessed of that magnetic attraction, force of character, ability, and thorough knowledge of the wants of the Post Office Department, that could not fail to make him a successful and popular officer.—*Redding Journal.*

HON. EDWARD MCPHERSON.—We notice that a number of Republican papers in this State and elsewhere are urging the appointment of this gentleman as Postmaster General. Mr. MCPHERSON is one of the rising young men of the country, of undoubted executive ability and scholarly attainments. Affable and courteous, with a character beyond a taint of suspicion, he has successively filled the position of Member of Congress, Deputy Internal Revenue Commissioner, and Clerk of the House at Washington, with marked acceptance. He has been elected Clerk three times in succession, and that in the most stormy period of the Republic, demanding rare tact, prudence and fidelity. In 1865, when the collision between the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government culminated in open rupture, the Clerk held in his hands largely the destiny of the country, as upon entering or refusing to enter on the roll the names of the bogus Representatives from the Rebel States depended the success or failure of the Congressional plan of Reconstruction. Resisting the blandishments of power, Mr. MCPHERSON manfully asserted his devotion to Republican principles, and in assuming the responsibility of refusing to regard the certificates or enrol the names of these claimants, he saved the country from much embarassment and danger. We advert to this bit of history as an illustration of Mr. MCPHERSON's fidelity and courage, and what may be expected of him in any official position he may be called to fill. The Post Office Department requires rare business tact, close industry, and strong, common sense, for a successful administration of its affairs, and all these requisites Mr. MCPHERSON possesses in an eminent degree. We cordially endorse the suggestion, believing it an appointment not only eminently "fit to be made," but one which would be popular and strengthen the new Administration.—*Crawford Journal.*

PRESIDENT JOHNSON continues to send nominations for various offices to the Senate, although but six weeks of his term remain. He is surrounded by sycophants anxious to get at Uncle Sam's teat if only for a few days. It is generally understood, however, that the Senate will refuse to confirm any further appointments by his accidency, following the precedent of 1845, when the Senate laid over JOHN TYLER's nominations, on the ground that their confirmations would be an outrage upon the incoming administration of Mr. POLK. There is nothing in President JOHNSON's relations to Congress or the country to make him an exception to this precedent. JOHN TYLER, or betraying the party which entrusted him with power, made for himself a record of infamy; but ANDREW JOHNSON has reached a far deeper depth of degradation.

THE Republican U. States Senators, who stood firm in their fealty to Republican principles in the Impeachment trial, are receiving substantial recognition from the constituents.—Senators CHANDLER, of Michigan, and STEWART, of Nevada, have both been re-nominated and will be re-elected.—CHANDLER, of Michigan, RAMSEY, of Minnesota, MORGAN, of New York, and SUMNER, of Massachusetts, are certain to be re-elected. HENDERSON, of Missouri, who went against Impeachment, will be left at home, and his place supplied probably by CARL SHURZ. BUCKALEW, of Pennsylvania, will give place to JOHN SCOTT, Republican. In Maine, there has been an animated contest between HANNIBAL HAMLIN and LOTT M. MORRILL—the vote in the Republican caucus standing 75 for Hamlin, 74 for Morrill, and 1 blank. The Democracy are not making much headway in the U. S. Senate. The small corporal's guard that has been representing them in that body, is growing "small by degrees and beautifully less."

SINCE the pardon of JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE by the Amnesty Proclamation, the rebel sympathizers in Kentucky are preparing to run him as the Democratic candidate for Governor of that State, Kentucky needs to be reconstructed.

THE Hon. HIESTER CLYMER, of Berks, in a letter to the Hon WILLIAM HOPKINS, of Washington, formally declines being a candidate for nomination for Governor before the next Democratic State Convention.

HIS EXCELLENCY, Gov. GEARY, will accept our thanks for an advance copy of his Message. We are also indebted to Auditor General HARTRANFT and Surveyor General CAMPBELL, for early copies of their annual Reports.

GEN. GRANT'S PURPOSES.

GEN. GRANT seems to be as reticent as to his purposes in the administration of the Government as he was in Military affairs, preferring to be judged by his acts rather than premature speculation. Since his election to the Presidency, he has been treated and feted, dogged by politicians and newspaper correspondents anxious to pick up some indications of his purposes, but he contents himself with politely bowing his acknowledgments of complimentary speeches, and foils the army of shrewd correspondents who cross his pathway by "talking horse" or leading conversation to ordinary social topics. Thus nothing has been developed as to the probable personale of his Cabinet. On one or two points, however, he seems free to develope his views, and upon these all the newspaper correspondents professing to represent his views uniformly agree—1st, That he will rigidly insist upon a recognition by all men, north and south, of the logical sequences of the War—that the flag of the Republic must be recognized and honored—the laws enacted by Congress be obeyed, and protection accorded to every citizen in the full enjoyment of personal and civil rights. The murders and outrages in the South, instigated by Rebel malignity, to drive out loyal men, must cease, and to this end Gen. GRANT will resolutely and boldly use the entire power of the Government. Loyalty—not disloyalty—will be the test of favor under his administration.

2d. It seems to be pretty well agreed that Gen. GRANT will carry into his administration of the Government the same rigid economy which characterized his military administration—exacting from all his subordinates fidelity in the discharge of official duties and a rigid accountability. Official stealing, peculation, and schemes for depleting the treasury will find no recognition. The army of corrupt lobyists and speculators, who usually constitute the "third House" at Washington, will have to stand aside. In a word, under GRANT we may expect to have a "Government of the People for the People."

On our first page will be found an article from the St. Louis *Democrat*, professing to give the results of an interview with Gen. GRANT, which we copy as a sample of the general testimony bearing on this point. The Cincinnati *Gazette*, usually well-informed, in a recent editorial, expresses the same idea as to Gen. GRANT's loathing of the army of cormorants that have so long infested Washington, threatening to bankrupt the Government by their schemes of plunder. Says the *Gazette*:

"Grant, in his late trip from Chicago to this city, remarked to a gentleman in company that he feared the carpet-baggers would swamp the Government before he could take possession of the White House. By carpet-baggers he meant the large congregation of individuals now at Washington with their pockets full of schemes, the object of which is to deplete the Treasury. The General spoke very freely on this subject. He did not hesitate to denounce the business as public robbery, and the schemers as public robbers. 'I am not in favor, Sir,' said Grant, 'of directly or indirectly increasing the public debt, while there is a party in the country that talks about repudiation. Furthermore, it is absolutely necessary that we should have the strictest honesty in the collection of revenue, and the strictest economy in all expenditures.'"

THE enormous and systematic frauds perpetrated by the Democracy in the recent elections in Pennsylvania, New York, Indiana, New Jersey, and other States, have done more than all things else combined to shake popular confidence in the permanency of Republican institutions. Heretofore we had developments of frauds to a greater or less degree, requiring, however, close legal scrutiny to ferret them out. But last November, the system of fraudulent voting culminated in a bold, daring attempt, openly and confessedly, to control the popular will, by frauds so gigantic that one stands appalled at the wickedness which could conceive and the shameless villainy which could dare to carry out the conspiracy. Take Philadelphia, where the ballot-boxes were tampered with and votes put in *en masse* in excess of the entire population of the district—or New York, where, by an organized system of ballot-stuffing and repeating, over 20,000 illegal votes were counted. If these things are to continue, our popular elections must become a farce, and the Government, municipal, state and national, be handed over to the plugs, bruisers, shoulder hitters and gamblers, who have the nerve to carry out the behests of unprincipled demagogues.—The worst enemy of the Republic is he who strikes at the purity of the ballot-box. The experience of the past year demonstrates more than ever the absolute necessity of a stringent Registry Law to secure fair elections—a law which will render this wholesale system of ballot-stuffing, voting dead men and men of no local habitation, utterly impossible. Honest voters may thereby be put to some inconvenience in exercising the sight of suffrage, but better this than to endanger the ballot itself and with it Republican Government. We are glad to see that Gov. GEARY, in his annual message, urges the enactment of such a law for this State, and we look to the Legislature for prompt action in the premises. Let us have an enactment free from the objections indicated by the Supreme Court. Copperheadism—which thrives best amid the filth and perfidy of our large cities, and hugs fraud at the ballot-box as a cherished idol—may hiss and howl; but honest men of all parties, who love their country and desire fair expressions of the popular will at elections, will hail with joy a judicious, effective Registry Law.

THE Pittsburg *Gazette*, published at the home of two prominent candidates, Messrs. Moorhead and Marshall, says:

"In selecting Mr. Scott the Republican members of the Legislature have done decidedly well. He is honest, even beyond suspicion; has intellectual powers of a superior range and quality, and instead of aiding in the distractions of faction by which the State has been disgraced, will do much to restore political affairs to a sounder basis."

—The nomination of Mr. SCOTT is generally endorsed by the Republican newspapers throughout the State.—The Philadelphia *North American*, speaking for the East as the *Gazette* speaks for the West, says:

"The nomination of John Scott, of Huntingdon, by the Republican caucus at Harrisburg, has given general satisfaction to all branches of the party, and not the less so because it insures a cordial harmony between the Senators from our State. Mr. Scott is admirably qualified for the high position, and will represent the State with honor and fidelity, and, in co-operation with Gen. Cameron, will give that influence to Pennsylvania which her great services have won."

IT may not be improper to say that our colleague, Hon. EDWARD MCPHERSON, who largely shared THADDEUS STEVENS' confidence, is preparing a life of the Great Commoner, Mr. STEVENS, before his death, entrusted to Mr. MCPHERSON various papers and official documents bearing on his eventful life. The work will be looked for with more than usual interest.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

The annual report of the State Superintendent of Common Schools, Hon. J. P. WICKERSHAM, is a document of more than usual interest. It embraces the operations of the system during the year ending June 1, 1868, and develops some interesting facts, which we extract for the information of our readers. The entire number of children attending the Common Schools, including Philadelphia, is 800,515, and the total cost of tuition, buildings, &c. $6,200,588. The annexed table shows the condition of the system, excluding Philadelphia:

Whole number of districts	1,917
Whole number of schools	13,285
Whole number of pupils in attendance	566,316
Average attendance of pupils	438,222
Percentage of attendance	657
Average length of school term	6 months 19½ days
Average cost of tuition per month for each pupil	90 cents
Whole number of male teachers	6,955
Whole number of female teachers	8,569
Average salary of male teachers per month	$37,28
Average salaries of female teachers per month	$21.76
Total cost of tuition	$2,617,000
Total cost of fuel and contingencies	642,219
Total cost for purchasing, building, renting and repairing houses	1,367,727
Total expendiures for tuition, fuel and houses	4,618,056
Total State appropriation	355,000
Total State appropriation for common school school purposes, excluding county superintendents' salaries, &c	296,784
Average number of mills on the dollar, school tax	7.53
Average number of mills on the dollar, building tax	5.51
Amount of tax levied	4,016,919
Amount of tax levied and State appropriation	4,371,919

The total value of School property in the State, as estimated by the School Directors, is given at $10,556,765; Adams county being put down at $68,000, Cumberland $138,000, Franklin $126,500, and York $141,100.

Mr. Wickerham renews and supports at considerable length the proposition to bring the Colleges and Common Schools under State supervision, under certain restrictions, so as to develope a harmonious and thorough system of Education, to be in charge of a Superintendent of Public Instruction.

A change in the present mode of fixing the salaries of County Superintendents is recommended, so that the pay may be in proportion to the labor required and the work performed. At present the Directors of each county fix the salaries, without any standard. The consequence is great inequality.—For instance, McKean county, with only 70 schools, pays its Superintendent the same as Dauphin with 229 schools.

A census of the children of the State is urged, and we have the statement that at least 75,000 children, of school age, are never sent to school, to say nothing of the large number who attend but a month or two in each year. These neglected children must either be brought into schools, or many of them will find their way into our houses of refuge, our alms-houses, or our jails and penitentiaries. This is the sail in which the crop grew that is now housed in these institutions. In this connection, some interesting statistics are submitted, showing the intimate relation between crime and ignorance. There were admitted into our Houses of Refuge during the past year 536 children, and their average age was 14½ years. Of this number there were:—

Of those who did not know the alphabet	57
Of those who could but know the alphabet only	27
Of those who could read poorly	262
Of those who could read well	21
Of those who could not write	246
Of those who could write poorly	177
Of those who could write badly	11
Of those who could write well	19

This table tells a sad and startling story, but not more sad or startling than that told by the statistics of our almshouses, jails and penitentiaries.

There were in the almshouses of forty-six counties in the year 1867, when visited by the county superintendents who made the reports, 2809 persons over 10 years of age. Of these:—

The number who could not read was	1181
The number who could read only	1169
The number who could read well	462
The number who were good scholars	70

There were in the jails of the same number of counties, as reported by the same officers at the same time, 1601 occupants, of whom—

The number, who could not read was	424
The number who could read a little was	434
The number who could read well was	104
The number who were good scholars was	23

There were received into the Eastern Penitentiary for year 1867, 291 convicts. The classification of these, by the officers of the prison, according to their educational relations, is as follows:—

Illiterate	62
Read only	24
Read and write	203
Good education	2

The whole number of convicts received at this prison is 5975. Of this number there have been—

Of illiterate	1210
Of those who could read only	1019
Of those who could read and write	3714
Of those well instructed	32

In the State Penitentiaries of the States of Ohio, Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa, for the year 1867, there were 1339 convicts, of whom only 28 had received a good education.

These facts show conclusively that our dependent and criminal classes are composed very largely of persons entirely illiterate or educated only in mechanical branches, which cannot be expected to affect, except indirectly, the moral nature.

THE Pennsylvania Legislature met again last Tuesday, having adjourned over. The Speaker of the Senate announced the Standing Committees—Mr. DUNCAN, of this district, being on Pensions and Gratuities, Canals and Inland Navigation, and Public Buildings. No business of importance was transacted in either house.

UNDER the direction of Attorney General EVARTS, and in accordance with the proclamation of the President, the indictments against Jefferson Davis and John C. Breckinridge were disposed of by a *nolle pros.* in the Criminal Court at Washington on Monday.

ALL the wholesale slaughter of the buffaloes—much of it merely wanton—for the past fifty years has not lessened their apparent numbers. Immense herds fill the Plains this winter. A gentleman recently saw one herd, on the Kansas Pacific road, two hundred and fifty miles west of the Missouri river, covering a surface of five hundred square miles! The number of dead buffaloes lying on the line of the road, shot by passengers as the cars go along, is very great; and there is enough meat lying there at this time, easy of transportation, to feed all the poor people of America.

THE new suspension bridge at Niagara Falls, which was opened to the public a few days ago, has the longest single span in the world. The width of the chasm from cliff to cliff, over the Niagara river, is 1,190 feet. The span between centres of towers is 1,268 feet.

A "PRIZE-FIGHT" took place at Perryville, Md., last week between two bruisers from New York and Pennsylvania, Abe Hicken and Peter Maguire. On the 5th round a blow from Hicken broke Maguire's jaw and ended the brutal fight.

THE grand jury at Washington have ignored the new indictment against John H. Surratt, on the ground that the President's recent Amnesty Proclamation covered Surratt's offence, as the murder of Mr. Lincoln was an act of rebellion.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES FOR 1869.

Accompanying the State Treasurer's report is the following estimate of the ordinary revenue of the Commonwealth for the current year, ending November 30, 1869:—

Land office	$40,000
Auction commissions	20,000
Auction duties	55,000
Tax on corporation stocks	900,000
Tax on personal property	275,000
Tax on loans	350,000
Tax on net earnings or income	800,000
Tax on gross receipts	400,000
Tax on enrollment of laws	18,000
Tax on tonnage	350,000
Tax on coal	200,000
Tax on national bank stock	150,000
Commutation of tonnage duties	460,000
Tax on writs, wills, deeds etc	80,000
Tax on certain offices	20,000
Collateral inheritance tax	250,000
Tavern licenses	280,000
Retailer's licenses	375,000
Sample licenses	8,000
Theatre, circus and menagerie licenses	5,000
Billiard-room, bowling saloon, and ten-pin alley licenses	5,000
Eating house, beer house, and restaurant licenses	40,000
Peddlers' licenses	5,000
Brokers' licenses	8,000
Patent medicine licenses	2,000
Distillery and brewers' licenses	4,000
Millers' licenses	3,300
Foreign insurance agencies	240,000
Premiums on charters	50,000
Pamphlet laws	1,000
Annuity for right of way	10,000
Fees of public offices	7,000
Interest and miscellaneous	20,000
Total	$4,931,000

Also, the following estimates of the ordinary expenses of the Commonwealth for the current year ending November 30, 1869:—

Expenses of government	$800,000
Military expenses	100,000
Charitable institutions	850,000
Common schools	500,000
Interest on loans	1,900,000
Redemption of loans	250,000
Public buildings and grounds	40,000
Houses of Refuge	50,000
Penitentiaries	75,000
Miscellaneous	80,000
Total	$4,645,000

NEWS OF NEIGHBORING COUNTIES.

CARLOL.—The First National Bank of New Windsor has declared a semi-annual dividend of six per cent.

CUMBERLAND.—The *Carlisle Herald* has just closed its sixty-eighth volume, the paper having been established July 3, 1801, by John P. Thompson, Esq.—Adam Titus, in jail at Carlisle, has confessed the murder of Henry Stem, near Shippensburg.

DAUPHIN.—Calvin Hollinger, son of Levi Hollinger, Esq., aged 12 years, broke through the ice on a skating pond, and was drowned on Monday.—Hon. W. W. Hays, the first Republican Mayor of the city of Harrisburg, was inaugurated on Monday.

FRANKLIN.—Joseph H. Crebs has purchased the house and lot of Mary Nuce, in Waynesboro', for $1550; and John Hamilton the property of Dr. Lechler in the same place for $2250.—Rev. I. N. Hays, recently installed pastor of the Central Presbyterian church, at Chambersburg, was the recipient, on New Years evening, from his congregation, of a large and bountiful supply of the necessaries of this life.

FULTON.—The *Democrat* announces the marriage, on the 31st ult., of John Spriggs to Elizabeth Neice, of McConnellsburg, (both colored,) with the statement that Spriggs is already the father of 28 children by former wives.

WASHINGTON.—The 1st National Bank of Hagerstown has declared a Dividend of 6 per cent. making for the year 12 per cent.—David Schindle has purchased the Toms farm, 191 acres, near Funkstown, at $70 per acre.

YORK.—Daniel T. Stine, of Spring Garden township, had his shoulder dislocated last week by being thrown from a buggy.—The following gentlemen have been elected officers of the York county Agricultural Society: President, Jno. Evans; Vice Presidents, Peter M'Intyre, Daniel Reif; Managers, [illegible] Hake, Emanuel Horner, Z. K. Loucks, Jacob Brillinger, Jr., and Geo. D. Beeler: Recording Secretary, Dr. Wm. S. Roland; Corresponding Secretary, Prof. S. B. Heiges; Treasurer, George A. Heckert.—The Columbia Bridge has been opened for general travel.

HON. JOHN MINOR BOTTS died at his residence in Culpepper, Virginia on Friday last. He was born in Dumfries, Prince William county, Virginia, September 16, 1802. At an early age he took an active part in politics. When the Whig party assumed its definite form, in 1834, he became one of its most ardent and prominent supporters. Though long a warm and intimate friend of John Tyler, Mr. Botts at once abandoned him on his secession from the Whig party; and in the Presidential election of 1844 he supported Mr. Clay. After the death of Mr. Clay and the dissolution of the Whig party he became attached to the American party. He was opposed to the repeal of the Missouri comprise, and sympathized with those Southern members of Congress who opposed the passage of the Lecompton bill in 1858. When the rebellion broke out Mr. Botts took the side of the Union, and suffered much in consequence, having been for a long time imprisoned by the Confederate authorities at Richmond on account of his principles, and his life was several times threatened. At its suppression he allied himself with the Republican party, and in the recent Presidential contest advocated the election of General Grant, but since that time he has not taken much part in politics. He had many friends throughout the country who will sincerely lament his death.

HORRIBLE DEATH.—The Harrisburg *Telegraph* of last Saturday says: Yesterday afternoon Robt. D. Noidig, a brakesman employed in shifting trains between Harrisburg and Marysville, fell from a car of the Empire Line, and in some unexplainable manner became entangled in the gearing of the car, and was dragged, head downwards, a distance of two miles, before he was discovered. When found he was dead. His head and face were so shocking ly mangled as to render him past recognition, except by those who were acquainted with his general personal appearance.—The eyes were torn from their sockets, and the whole face presented an appearance most shocking to behold. The right arm was broken and cut considerably, as was also one of the legs. A deep wound was also visible on the breast. All the clothing except a boot and stocking was torn from the body. The various articles of clothing were found scattered along the road over which the unfortunate man had been dragged.

LONDON despatches say that indications of the first day's session of the Conference on the Eastern question leave little if any doubt of ultimate success. The Turkish Government, through its representative, consented to maintain its present status until the close of the Conference. It is the general impression that war between Greece and Turkey will be obviated.

THE late Baron James Rothschild left a fortune amounting to the enormous sum, in round numbers, of $250,000,000. Of this vast estate he left $50,000,000 to his widow, $100,000,000 to his eldest son, $40,000,000 to his second and $30,000,000 to his youngest son. He also left $10,000,000 to his nephew, son of his brother Solomon.

ADVICES received at San Francisco report the end of the civil war in Japan. The Mikado has been re-established in power at Yeddo, and the Tycoon has retired with his people to the new province of Shamidi.

THE Democratic legislative caucus of New Jersey has unanimously nominated John P. Stockton for United States Senator.

ANOTHER MURDER EXECUTED.

Chloroform Administered on the Scaffold.

ROME, N. Y., January 8.—William Henry Carswell was executed here to-day for the murder of Abby Elizabeth Sanders, on the good hill road, near Camden, last summer. The crime was too revolting for newspaper details. Abby Sanders was a mere child, who fell a victim to the brutal lust of Carswell, who afterward murdered her to conceal his crime. The evidence on the trial was purely circumstantial. The prisoner strenuously denied his guilt, but a net of circumstances was woven about him through which he could not escape.

On Wednesday night Carswell made a desperate attempt to commit suicide. Previous to this he had made an attempt upon his life, but failed. He was then chained to the floor, but was still able to rise and sit in his chair, and to some extent use his arms. His cell at night was afterward occupied by a fellow-prisoner, who carefully guarded him, and also by the jailor and other persons. On Wednesday night he managed to twist the surplus chain about his neck in such a manner as to partially produce strangulation. A choking noise came from his throat, which awakened the attendants, who untwisted the chain and saved his life. He was gloomy for a long time, but finally laughed, and remarked: "You can keep your eyes skinned, for I am going to cheat the gallows yet; mind that, boys!" He then averred that if he had not confessed he would certainly have been burnt as he believed the Bible: "that, and that alone, gentlemen, is all that made the boy confess."

Last night he was fearfully nervous, and had but little sleep. A clergyman was with him during the greater part of the night. The hours were spent in prayer. His mind was evidently ill at ease, though he expressed a change of heart, and said that he felt sure that God had forgiven all his sins. In the morning he ate a very little breakfast, after which he was visited by a crowd of friends and relative. He shook them warmly by the hand, and shed a few tears when told that his father and mother were too ill to come and see him, but sent him a final message. An immense crowd was assembled without the walls of the jail, and an occasional murmur could be heard from them in the interior of the prison. Cars, well became terribly agitated, and quivered like a leaf. His temples were swollen, and his eyes were feverish and partially bloodshot.

By the advice of physicians, sixteen to eighteen ounces of blood were taken from him. During this operation, which was performed by Dr. Studevant, his pulse ran as high as 134 to the minute. Even this great loss of blood had but a temporary effect on his nerves, and as the hour of execution approached, his emotions gained a complete mastery of his body. In the mean time the militia had arrived at the Court House, and guards were detailed and stationed in and around the jail and other buildings, so that no persons were admitted except those who had tickets from the Sheriff.

At half past twelve the prisoner's arms were pinioned. The scaffold was cleared, only the guards and physician standing thereon. The condemned man was brought out to die. He was accompanied by a clergyman and officers of the jail, and walking free and uncontrolled. As he mounted the scaffold he bowed to numerous friends and acquaintances, and, in a clear voice, bade them all good bye.

After talking as long as he pleased, the knot was slipped under his ear. During this time the prisoner was nervously bowing, and continually bidding good bye to those about him.

Then followed a singular scene. A sponge was saturated with chloroform and held under the murderer's nose. A few long respirations followed, the eyes became partially closed, and the chin gradually dropped upon the chest. When he was apparently sound asleep the sponge was passed from the scaffold and Carswell was held in an upright position till the black cap was drawn to the roots of his neck, when the trap door was dropped, and the pitiful wretch was launched into an unknown world.

A hollow gurgling in the throat was soon heard, the hand twitched nervously, became red and blue, and the blood leaped through the distended veins of the neck. In twelve minutes the pulse was less. After hanging thirty minutes the body was lowered into the coffin and given to his friends for burial.

[From the Rochester Chronicle, Jan. 7.

ACCIDENT AT ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Fall of a Floor Crowded with People—Eight Persons Killed and About Twenty Wounded.

A most appalling accident occurred last night, about 9:15 o'clock, at the school-house of St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, on Maple street. An Epiphany festival and concert was being held for the benefit of the school, and a portion of the second floor, about twenty-five feet in length by forty in width, fell with a crash to the floor beneath, precipitating its load of human freight into one mass with the broken joists and beams. The groans of the wounded, mingled with the cries and calls of those in search of missing friends, were heart-rending in the extreme. It was estimated that there were fifteen hundred people in the assemblage. At the time of the accident there was quite a large audience on the floor that fell, listening to the music. Upon the floor below, or first floor, the tables were spread, and upon that portion which received most of the falling mass a number of ladies were engaged in washing dishes, but, fortunately, the ends of the joists clung to the wall sufficiently to form a protection, and most of them escaped unharmed.

Eight persons were killed outright, as follows: Bernard Dunner and wife, Emma Reese, aged about 14 years, adopted daughter of Charles G. Beers, George Popp, aged about 60 years, Mrs. Bartlemay Sperl, Maggie Weis, aged about 14 years, Kate Lawrence, aged about 15 years, Mrs. George Rinck. Besides these some fifty others were more or less seriously injured.

The building is of brick, three stories high, and is about as large as the largest of our public schools. The first floor is supported by brick piers sixteen inches square. Above these are iron columns sustaining the floors above. The cause of the giving way of the floor was the crumbling of one of these light piers, a portion of the brick of which it is composed being soft and calculated to yield to the pressure of the superpersucture, augmented by the weight of people on the floor.

THE cars of the public for two months past have been stunned by reports of outrages committed in Arkansas by the loyal State militia organized by Governor Clayton. The reports were concocted by the Memphis *Avalanche*, a sheet as bitterly hostile to the Government now as it was throughout the war. General Grant sent General Porter, of his Staff, to Arkansas to investigate and report on the actual state of affairs. The report of this officer, bearing on its face the evidences of truth and impartiality, is given in despatches to headquarters. General Porter rehearses the condition of affairs, the murders, assassinations and general reign of teror that existed in that State before Governor Clayton organized the militia, and tells what the militia has done in restoring order, driving the Kuklux Klan out of the State, and in protecting quiet and well-disposed people. No outrages except one was committed by the militia, and that was promptly punished. The Governor's course has been justified, even in the estimation of those who first objected to it, and General Porter says that it "has accomplished much more good than the most sanguine expected," and "the result has perfectly justified his action."

GENERAL NEWS.

ILLINOIS raises twenty-five million bushels of potatoes.

HENRY CLAY's son, Theodore, is confined in a Kentucky lunatic asylum.

THE annual auction of pews in Mr. Beecher's church in Brooklyn brought $54,000 this year.

NEW YORK is discussing the question of a bridge over the North river to Staten Island.

HON. Olden Bowie entered upon his duties as Governor of Maryland on Wednesday.

GEN. Kilpatrick was presented with a magnificent silver service, worth $2,000, by the soldiers of Connecticut, on Saturday evening.

The official vote of Minnesota shows 39,493 votes for, and 30,121 votes against, the Constitutional Amendment authorizing negro suffrage.

WOLVES have become numerous, fierce, and dangerous in Yazoo county, Mississippi. Seven dollars and a half each is offered for wolf scalps.

THE rebel Gen. Longstreet has written another letter advising confidence in Gen. Grant, at the same time urging support of the Congressional plan of reconstruction.

THE Kentucky Legislature proposes to authorize the Governor of the State to test the constitutionality of the Civil Rights bill. Alas, for Kentucky, it learns nothing.

A SEVERE shock of earthquake was felt at Colima and Mansella, Mexico, on the 21st ultimo. Buildings were thrown down, and a considerable number of persons perished.

EUROPEAN advices announce that in view of President Johnson's Amnesty Proclamation, Jeff. Davis, John Slidell, James M. Mason and other ex-Confederates, are preparing to return to the United States.

GEO. S. TWITCHELL has been convicted of the murder of Mrs. Hill, his mother-in-law, in Philadelphia. His wife is next to be tried as a party to the crime. All the parties occupied high social positions.

THE Roman Catholic Bishop of Chicago, Rev. Dr. Duggan, has been summoned to appear at Rome, and show cause why he should not be removed. Charges have been preferred against him by members of his congregation.

A CONVENTION of the officers of the Army of the Potomac is called to meet in New York, on the 22d of February, for the purpose of forming an association similar to the Societies of the Armies of the Cumberland, Ohio, and Tennessee.

A young lady of Indianapolis recently used corrosive sublimate to remove a light mustache on her upper lip. The application proved unexpectedly successful, for it removed the mustache and a portion of the lip besides.

The last Boston notion is a Great National Musical Jubilee, to take place on the Common on the 15th, 16th and 17th of June next, in honor of the restoration of Peace and Union throughout the land. A "Coliseum" to accommodate fifty thousand people is to be erected, and the singers and musicians are to count by the thousand.

ADVICES from Alabama represent that affairs in that State continue in a deplorable condition, and that murders of Union men for voting for Grant continue to be of almost daily occurrence. Several leading Republicans at Huntsville have been warned to leave the State by members of the Kuklux organization or be summarily dealt with at an early day.

In a test case involving the Constitutionality of the whisky tax in the United States District Court of Chicago, Judge Drummond decided that the sections of the acts of July 20 and March 31, 1866, imposing restraints upon the free manufacture of spirits, and giving extraordinary powers to the revenue officers to