American Volunteer.

CARLISLE, PA.,

Thursday Morning, January 28, 1869.

MORE ROBBERY.

The House of Representatives at Harrisburg having passed a resolution authorizing the Speaker and Clerk to appoint *twenty-seven* additional officers to lounge about the House, Forney of the *Press* is shocked, and objects in the following language:

"The Lower House at Harrisburg has made haste to pass a resolution empowering the Speaker and Clerk to appoint an additional corps of employees or officers, twenty-seven in number. What these twenty-seven new servants of the State are wanted for, the reports do not inform us. What is the new business which needs new officers to transact, we are not told. One thing we do know, that the step is distasteful to the people. The members who compose this House were elected upon a distinctly-understood platform of economy and retrenchment. If they do not intend, or cannot carry out the implied pledge of their acceptance of office, they had better resign. There are men in every county who can manage the affairs of the Commonwealth with the same economy that is usually shown in a well-arranged business house."

The remarks of the *Press* are sensible and to the point, but its assertion that "the members (the majority,) composing this House were elected upon a distinctly-understood platform of economy and retrenchment," is something new under the sun. Economy and retrenchment cannot be found in the Radical vocabulary, and it is a fact susceptible of proof that no Radical in a public position dare act the part of an honest man or even regard his oath of office without danger of ostracism.—When Fessenden and other leading Republican Senators stated in their places that they could not conscientiously and in obedience to the oath they had taken vote to turn the President of the United States out of his office, that should have satisfied any decent man, and these Senators, instead of receiving censure and abuse, were entitled to commendation for their integrity. But no—party ends and party malignity were to be thought of and cared for, even if perjury and dishonesty had to be resorted to. Mr Fessenden and the other Republican Senators who voted with him, were the fathers as well as the brains of the Radical party, but because they could not and would not barter their souls for party, their political lives were sealed, and from the hour they voted to this day a stream of vituperation and abuse has been showered upon them, and they, one by one, are cast aside to give place to more obsequious and less conscientious tools.

And who exhibited more bitterness than Forney toward these Senators?—Who so malignant, so remorseless in his denunciations of them? And yet this same editor has the unblushing impudence to intimate that the Republicans are the advocates of honesty, economy and retrenchment. And he pretends to lament the piece of robbery perpetrated at Harrisburg, by which the State Treasury is to be depleted of some twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars, all of which is to go into the pockets of twenty-seven "loil" suckers for doing nothing!

We repeat, we approve of Forney's condemnation of this most audacious and infamous robbery of the State Treasury, but we cannot agree with him when he attempts to make it appear that the members of the House who voted for this infamy violated any "platform" or principle of the Republican party. The public men of that party have been engaged in stealing from the hour they obtained power, and it has always been a mystery with us how it comes that the people no longer appear jealous of their rights and interests as they formerly were. Corruption coupled with party projects, are all-powerful in this our day and generation. We are ruled and governed by the party of "moral ideas," and the first lesson inculcated by this party is the art of plundering the public treasury.

Why is it that the people are so careless, so listless? Why is it that public men are no longer held to responsibility? Formerly it was not so, but since this Radical Jacobin party has been in power, the whole people are less watchful, and appear to acquiesce in the villainy that is eating like a cancer at the vitals of the State and Nation. Our State Legislature, like our National Congress, has become a sink of iniquity, a sore upon the body politic, a curse to the people, but yet with the exception of an occasional newspaper remonstrance, we see no condemnation of the men who are engaged in swindling the Treasury and disgracing the people. We would that a little of the spirit of our forefathers could be infused into the masses, and that as formerly, integrity and morality and nobility were the requisites for a public man to possess. *Then* we might hope for "better times" and for a speedy reduction of our State and National debt.

WHO RUNS THE MACHINE.—No doubt it is galling to the life-long Radicals to know that their party is not only run by renegade Democrats, but that they fill all the best offices. There is Geary, Governor; Brewster, Attorney General; Hartranft, Auditor General; Grow, Congressman and Chairman of the State Central Committee; Cameron, U. S. Senator, and Scott to take Buckalew's place, and a host of others.—Even Grant can be placed in this list, for he used to be a Democrat, and has never professed to be a Radical. It is the same thing all over the country.—The whole party has been sold out to cast off Democrats who crowd out of place and profit those who "are to the manor born." No wonder the Radicals think it rough. We are not surprised they howl over the nomination of John Scott. They will find one of the deeds that they had better have a wolf buttoned up in their waistcoat, than carry renegade Democrats in their bosom.

A CONGRESSMAN'S STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT FRAUDS.—Mr. Jencks, a Radical member of Congress from Rhode Island, in a lecture delivered in New York, on the 16th inst., said that from his own careful examination during the last four years, the government had been defrauded in the public service a hundred millions of dollars a year, and that Commissioner Wells makes the sum still greater. Was there ever such stupendous fraud and robbery before? A hundred millions or more a year stolen from the Government and the people!

WHAT NEXT?—A bill was presented in the House of Representatives to provide for the introduction of *loyal text-books* into the public schools of the United States, on the 11th instant. —*Exchange.*

"Loyal text-books" means books filled with sweltering lies and eulogies on the "American citizen of African *scent.*"

$5,000 A YEAR FOR MRS. LINCOLN.

It appears we are never to get rid of the Lincoln family. There are now two Bills before Congress—both to be passed into laws—the one allowing Mrs. Lincoln a pension of $5,000 a year for life, the other appropriating the cannon of the Government to an artist, who is to melt them up and cast a bronze statue of the late Abraham Lincoln, at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars! A project is also on foot, we learn, to recognize Mr. Lincoln's children as the "wards of the nation," who are to be provided with an annuity for life.

When we consider that Mr. Lincoln was a bankrupt when he was elected to the Presidency, and that at the time of his death he was worth over one hundred thousand dollars; when we remember, too, that Mrs. Lincoln, as the President's wife, had accepted presents from "loyal thieves," (in consideration of her influence with her husband,) valued at seventy or eighty thousand dollars; when we recollect also that Robert Lincoln, the President's oldest son, made his "pile" as the quiet partner of favored contractors, and that even little "Tad," the Lincoln baby, was the recipient of costly presents from Radical plunderers, who were fleecing the Government; when we remember all these things, we say, is it not a most intolerable outrage in Congress to continue to tax the people for the benefit of this Lincoln tribe?

God knows, the Lincoln's have cost this Government more than enough.—But for Abraham Lincoln we would have had no war. One word from him on the first day of his wretched administration, would have stilled the troubled waters, and our national name and our national prosperity would have been maintained. But no, "a little blood-letting" was wanted; spoils and party triumphs was the kind of *patriotism* that governed the adherents of the Lincoln administration; love of country was something they had never felt. War ensued, and such a system of robbery, swindling, debauchery and crime as followed, exceeded anything the world ever witnessed. For generations to come the people will feel the baleful effects of the hell-born projects of Lincoln's administration, and if not in our generation, in the next, the name of Lincoln instead of being revered by pampered favorites, will be a hissing and a by-word.

And yet this Lincoln family, made rich from the people's treasury, is to be imposed upon the Government as pensioners, and the farmer and mechanic is to be taxed to maintain this family in royal grandeur! This is the "economy" *talked* about by the Radicals in their last National Convention—this the "retrenchment" we have heard so much about.

The monument to George Washington, commenced at Washington some fifteen years ago, is still unfinished, only about half up. Since 1861—the year the Radical conspirators obtained power—it has not been touched, but remains covered with slabs, an eye-sore and a reproach to the people and the nation. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been squandered and stolen during the last seven or eight years; appropriations for every conceivable object have been made by Congress, but not one cent has been voted to complete the Washington monument. It is of no account; Washington, if living to-day, would be a disfranchised man, for his principles were not such as would be endorsed by our present "loyal" Radical party.

On, then, Jacobins; melt up the cannon of the Government and mould them into a Lincoln monument; vote $5,000 a year to Mrs. Lincoln, and as much more to her children; on, in your work of infamy; let the grave of Washington be neglected, and the Washington monument crumble and decay for want of care. Washington made this country. Lincoln destroyed it, and of course Washington is to be forgotten by "loyal" scallawags and the name of Lincoln revered. Untie the Treasury purse-strings, that Mrs. Lincoln and all other Lincoln's may help themselves. "God help the Common wealth!"

☞ Resolutions have been introduced into both branches of Congress, to ascertain whether life and property could not be better secured in and about the Capitol than at present. An aged person was knocked down and robbed the other day at the Capitol. It is said Washington was never more annoyed by thieves and burglars than at the present time. Washington is literally overrun with "loyal" negroes and Eastern carpet baggers, and, as in all such places, thieves and burglars are uppermost. The same condition prevails in the entire South: hence murder, arson, robbery and rapes are of every day occurrence in nearly every locality.

A NEW REGISTRY LAW.—An attempt will be made in the Pennsylvania Legislature this winter to pass another Registry Law. The principal object of such a law is generally to deprive Democrats of the privilege of voting. The laboring class being principally Democrats, and not being able to spend time in waiting upon Registry officers, a law requiring them to be registered prior to the elections every year, would, of course, have the effect to keep many of them away from the polls.—Hence the desire on the part of the Radicals to pass such a law. Having a majority in both branches of our Legislature, and the Governor, they will doubtless pass a Registry Law during the present session of the Legislature.

STATE TREASURER.—On Wednesday of last week, R. W. Mackey, Republican, of Allegheny City, was elected State Treasurer by the Legislature.—The Democrats voted for C. W. Cooper, of Lehigh county, who was unanimously nominated in caucus on Monday morning previous. Mr. Cooper is a well-known banker, and very highly respected wherever known. There was some talk among the friends of Gen. Irwin, of starting an independent movement against Mr. Mackey, but the backbone was lacking. The fact is there is not enough of that article among radical legislators to supply a horse-fly.

☞ Dana, of the New York *Sun*, complains that we have "too much government." We have entirely too much despotism, and if we had a little more government of law, no one would find fault.

AN INFAMOUS ATTEMPT THWARTED.

Last fall John M. Melloy, (Democrat,) was elected Receiver of Taxes of Philadelphia, by a decided majority. Notwithstanding this decision by the people, a bill was introduced and passed the House of the State Legislature, authorizing Mr. Peltz, (Radical,) who has held the office for the last three years, *to continue to hold the office for an indefinite period!* The bill was transcribed and immediately taken to the Senate, on Friday last, when it was to be put through in hot haste; but when the hour for the meeting of that delectable body arrived, the Democratic Senators were not in their seats, and no quorum being present, no business could be transacted. The Radical Senators, (who in this business were conspirators against the people of Philadelphia,) were nonplussed; they looked at each other in mute astonishment for some minutes. Finally the Sergeant-at-Arms was ordered to hunt up and arrest the Democratic absentees, but they could not be found—they had scattered. After remaining in this condition for several hours, the Radical Senators adjourned, first ordering the Sergeant-at-Arms to have the recusant Senators in their seats on the following morning.—Saturday morning arrived, and still not a single Democratic Senator was present. No quorum being present, the Senate could transact no business, and again adjourned. This was death to the conspiracy bill and to Peltz, for the Monday morning following, according to law, the new Receiver of Taxes had to be sworn in and take possession of his office. A telegram from Philadelphia, dated Jan. 25, says—This morning John M. Melloy, the Democratic Receiver of Taxes elect, called at the office and assumed the duties thereof.

The Democratic Senators deserve the thanks of every honest man for the firm stand they took against this attempt of the Republican members of Assembly to commit an outrage without a parallel. When men, for the sake of party will dare attempt to put the will of the people at defiance, and to deprive a man of an office to which he had been elected, is there anything they would not do? The man who could be induced to favor a conspiracy like this is a scoundrel, and a cell in the penitentiary would be a more suitable place for him than a seat in the Legislature.

SHALL THE CONVENTION BE POSTPONED?—We find in many of our exchanges a strong feeling for the postponement of the March Convention.—It is averred that the part of wisdom demands the Democratic party to await the course of events at Washington; that the policy of the incoming administration should be known ere our candidates are in the field; and, finally, that it is entirely unnecessary for the Democracy to nominate their candidates and adopt a platform of principles so early in the year. We deem the suggestions of the Democratic press eminently wise and sagacious, and think they will receive considerate attention at the hands of the State Central Committee. There is no decided virtue in early nominations. What we most need now is effective and perfect *organization*. Let the party then turn its chief attention to organization and discipline, and the nominations can afford to wait.

☞ Radical "love" for the soldier crops out now and then, in spite of all their bawling for the "Boys in Blue." While the selection of officers for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives was going on, Mr. Brown, (Clarion,) presented a petition, signed by Governor Geary and some of the heads of departments, asking that a soldier, named George Shindler, who had lost one limb, be appointed paster and folder.

Mr. Stang, (Tioga,) moved to amend by pledging the faith of each member of the House to give the soldier $5.—This amendment was ruled out of order as not being pertinent to the subject.

The House refused, by 60 nays to 30 ayes, to appoint the crippled soldier paster and folder. The Democrats supported the recommendation of the Governor.

☞ The House bill, repealing the Tenure-of-Office act, has been received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Retrenchment, which is composed of Messrs. Edmonds of Vermont, Williams of Oregon, Patterson of New Hampshire, and Buckalew of Pennsylvania, the latter being the only Democrat on the Committee. It is not thought probable that the committee will make any report on the subject until near the end of the session.

☞ The *North American* and *Germantown Telegraph*, and other newspapers advocate the erection of a new and expensive State Capitol building. This on the heel of expending some two hundred thousand dollars to enlarge the present building appears to us like great extravagance. Our tax-payers have load enough to carry at present without this additional expenditure.—If necessity called for it the case would be very different. We hope our Senator and members will oppose any and every such project.

☞ An exchange thinks the prevalence of crime throughout the country is truly remarkable. Considering that Congress is made up of thieves, murderers, robbers and plunderers belonging to the Republican party to so great an extent, and considering that those in authority have for four years set all laws at defiance, and won their way to the positions they hold by violence, we do not consider it anything remarkable.

ACQUITTAL OF MRS TWITCHELL.—Mrs. Twitchell has been acquitted of participation in the murder of her mother, Mrs. Hill, the Prosecuting Attorney abandoning the immediately after the conclusion of the testimony on the part of the Commonwealth. The evidence was not considered strong enough to justify further procedure against her.

☞ The 19th inst., was a Senatorial field day. Pennsylvania elected Hon. John Scott; New York, Hon. Reuben E. Fenton; Maine, Hon. Hannibal Hamlin; Massachusetts, Hon. Charles Sumner; Missouri, Carl Schurz; Delaware, Hon. Thomas F. Bayard; Indiana, Hon. William Cumback, and Minnesota, Hon. Alexander Ramsey.

☞ The Legislature of Tennessee has declared martial law in that happily reconstructed State. "Let us have peace!"

SENATOR FENTON.

Ex-Governor Reuben E. Fenton, of New York, having beaten E. D. Morgan for the United States Senatorship, will succeed the latter after the 4th of March next. In view of Fenton's success, the following from the New York *Commercial Advertiser*, a Republican paper, edited by Thurlow Weed one of the founders and fathers of the Republican party, becomes highly interesting:

"Governor Fenton retired from office at noon yesterday, and John T. Hoffman was welcomed to the honors, the trials, and tribulations of the office by the outgoing incumbent. Governor Fenton has held the office for four years, and has made some reputation. He will stand out as an illustration—showing that a man with very little ability and less honesty, a fair supply of political cunning and tact, and a large amount of double-dealing, can successfully humbug the country that he has some claims to statesmanship, and is entitled to the respect of the unsophisticated people of the rural districts. *He retires from office as the most successful fraud that ever held a high position in the Government of the country.* Of all the distinguished citizens who have occupied the Executive chair of this State, no one has ever brought the amount of *sea dirt* to the doors of the Executive chamber that Reuben E. Fenton has. Commencing with the signing of the New York Dry Dock Railroad bill, in which one of his most intimate back-door friends obtained $20,000 from the company for his signature to the measure; ending with the history of the Erie Railroad legislation of last session, when his most intimate and trusted friend was paid $20,000 by one of the directors of the Erie Company to obtain his approval of the bill, his administration has been made notorious by a system of blackmailing. Yet in the face of this most scandalous and infamous trade, he has managed *to impose upon the people* of the State, and leave the impression that he was an honest, fearless, and independent Chief-Magistrate. *Never was there such a successful fraud.* It was supposed because he vetoed the New York Central Railroad bill and various city railroad acts, that he was unapproachable by the lobby. Deluded and humbugged people! But few were aware that it was more profitable to certain Wall street shavers to have the New York Central Fare bill vetoed than approved. Whichever way he turned was geld to his mill. It was the same with the New York City police bill—*more money was paid for a veto than for a signature;* and so it went from the beginning of his administration to the end. Governor Fenton, unlike most men who have high official positions, retires from office with a larger bank-account, and more goods, chattels, bonds and mortages than when he entered the Executive chamber. We say nothing of the unscrupulous manner in which he has used his office for his own advancement. This, to a certain extent, may be considered by gentlemen of loose political morality perfectly legitimate. But we repeat *there is nothing in the history of the Executive of the State so scandalous and disgraceful as the administration of Reuben E. Fenton.*"

Such a man as Governor Fenton is here described to be will make an excellent United States Senator for these times! He will find some worthy associates in the Senate, as well among men from the north as among the "carpet-bag" vagabonds from the south.

GEN. GEORGE W. CASS.

The Indiana *Democrat* thus speaks of Gen. Cass of Allegheny:

"The Democratic press throughout the State have indicated pretty conclusively that Gen Cass is the choice of the people for Governor at the election next fall. It seems to be settled that he will receive the Democratic nomination, and we believe that his election, in that event, is sure. Gen. Cass is an honest, high minded gentleman; and whilst adhering firmly to Democratic principles, he will, if elected, perform the duties of the high office with a strict regard for the honor of his native State. We are perfectly sure that in the discharge of the duties of the position he will regard himself, in the event of his election, as the Governor of the entire people, and will not make the office a mere party machine to advance the interests of a particular clique. In his hands the honor of our people and the great interests of our State, as an independent sovereignty will be safe. It will be a happy day for our people when they can get rid of "the unhanged rascal Governor," and fill his place with a gentleman of real dignity of character and sound political views.

☞ In Congress recently, Mr. Freeman, a Radical member from Pennsylvania, introduced a bill to *incorporate the African college.* What think you of that, taxpayers of Cumberland? Congress incorporating colleges for negroes, and no doubt endowing them with your money.

☞ Manard, the negro, who came to Washington from Louisiana, with the design of taking a seat in Congress, has gone home in disgust. It is said he was necessitated to get money from the Freedmen's Bureau fund to carry him to Louisiana.

☞ The "Department of Agriculture" estimates the corn crop of last year in the United States at 905,178,000 bushels, and the cotton crop at 2,380,000 bales. Illinois produced the most corn, and Mississippi the most cotton.

☞ The *Tribune* says Washburne ought to hurry home to Illinois in the first train for making his speech on reform. So we think. It is worse than ridiculous for a party that has been plundering the country for eight years to talk about economy.

A FURTHER INCREASE OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.—The public debt statement for December was published last week. It shows a total debt of $2,652,583,622.—Cash in the Treasury, $111,826,782, of which $98,763,368 is coin. The debt in November was $2,645,711,154—*showing an increase of* $6,822,468.

☞ Governor Geary says in his message that there are 75,000 children in Pennsylvania destitute of school facilities. Is it any wonder that it went Radical?

THE INDIANS.

Important from the Indian Country—The Indians Starving and Suing for Peace.

IN THE FIELD, FORT COBB,
INDIAN TERRITORY, Jan. 5, 1869.

[By special messenger to Lawrence, Kan. Jan. 5, '69.]

To Brevet Major General W. A. Nichols, A. A. G, Military Division Missouri:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following for the information of the Lieutenant General:

The destruction of the Comanche village by Colonel Evans' command, on Christmas day gave the final blow to the backbone of the Indian rebellion. At twelve o'clock on the night of the 31st of December, 1868, a delegation of the chief fighting men of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, twenty one in number arrived at this place on foot. Their animals were not able to carry them on. They said they ruled the village, charged for peace and for permission for their people to come in, and asked no terms, but only for a paper to protect them from the operations of our troops while *en route.*

They report the tribes in mourning for their losses, their people starving, their dogs all eaten up and no buffalo. We have forced them into the canons on the Canadian and the Staked Plains, where there was no small game or buffalo.—They are in a tight fix, and desire to surrender unconditionally.

I acceded to their terms, and will punish them justly; and I can scarcely make an error in any punishment awarded for they all have blood upon their hands.

Yesterday we received a few papers, the first for one month, and I see it alleged by Indian agents that Black Kettle's band were on their reservation at the time attacked. This a falsehood.—The reservation extends but thirty miles up the Washita from Fort Cobb. The battle took place one hundred and twenty miles up the river from Fort Cobb.

It is also alleged that the band was friendly. No one could make such an assertion who had any regard for the truth. The young men of this band commenced the war. I can give their names. Some of Black Kettle's young men were out depredating at Fort Dodge when the village was wiped out. Mules taken from trains, matter carried by our murdered couriers, photographs taken from the scenes of outrages on the Solomon and Saline, were found in the captured camp; and, in addition, I have their own illustrated history, found in their captured camp, showing the different fights or murders in which this tribe was engaged the trains attacked; the hay parties attacked about Fort Wallace; the women, citizens, and soldiers killed. It is at the service of any one desiring information on the subject. It should be known, also, that I invited Black Kettle and his family to come in, through the Arapahoe Chief Little Raven, in my interview with that chief at Fort Dodge in September last. They did not come.

Yours, respectfully, P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 16.—A special despatch from Omaha says: "It is reported that a number of Indians recently engaged in the war in Colorado and Kansas have reached the Powder river country, where a council is being held by a large number of chiefs. The objects of the council are unknown. The Indians are quiet at Fort Fetterman, and also along the upper Missouri." A Denver despatch says: "A party has just returned from the pursuit of Indians in the Cache La Poudre Valley, having succeeded in recapturing one hundred head of horses and killing one Indian."

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

The Latest Radical Outrage—The Faithful Getting Afraid of Grant—The "Lobby" and its Iniquities—Mr. Lincoln Again—She Wants $5000 A Year—Curtin to go Into the Cabinet—Surratts Story.

Correspondent American Volunteer.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25th, 1869.

When the Radicals became afraid of Andrew Johnson, they immediately began to strengthen themselves in Congress, by expelling Democrats from the Senate and House. Stockton and Vorhies and Dawson and Brooks and Coffroth, and dozen others, went one after another, until a Radical two-thirds majority was secured. Now that the Radicals begin to fear that Grant will betray them, they resort to the same tactics to intrench themselves behind a two-thirds majority. On Wednesday, the House Committee on elections, of which Mr. Dawes, a leading Massachusetts Radical, is chairman, reported in favor of Mr. Switzler, who claims a seat in Congress from the ninth Missouri District, and against Mr. Anderson, a Radical who now occupies the seat. The committee made a thorough examination of the whole case, and reported that there "was no proof of the disloyalty of the contestant," as had been charged against him, that there had been "no such threats or intimidations as to prevent a loyal registration," and that he had received a clear majority of the legal votes of the district. The logical result of such a report was to convince every honest man in the House, that a great injustice had already been done Mr. Switzler and his constituents by the length of time this man Anderson had been permitted to occupy his seat. But logic, candor and honesty play a part in the tactics of the Radical majority, there is no outrage upon decency, fairness, and the principles of representative government, which they will not perpetrate. The Carpet-baggers made a howl over the report of the Committee. Mr. Poland of Vermont, another leading Radical member of the Committee on elections, declared that "upon a careful examination of the facts presented to the Committee, he believed that Mr. Anderson *was not legally elected.*" In the face of this report, a motion was made that Anderson, though "not legally elected," was entitled to the seat, and it was carried by a vote of 81 to 55. No words of mine can heighten the effect of such an audacious piece of political dishonesty as this. The force of insolent political rascality can go no further. Let the case speak for itself.

Many of your people doubtless hear and read about the "Lobby" and the "Third House," but have no definite idea what the terms mean. Let me give them a little insight into the manner of doing business here. The members of Congress are *too honest* (?) to take bribes directly, and, in order that they may save their reputations while sacrificing their consciences, it is necessary that the pay for their votes should be disbursed by a set of brokers, who, for a share of the plunder, act as the negotiators of Congressional prostitution. The system has given rise to what is known as the "lobby." The "lobby" is an institution which has added to every American Legislature one more branch than was contemplated by the Federal or State Constitutions. The "lobby" is familiarly styled the "third house," and in being created after the first and the second, it retrogrades the truth of the Scriptural saying, "that the first shall be last and the last shall be first." It is more powerful than both of the others. The persons who compose this formidable body are vulgarly termed "borers," and the revolution has so fully recognized and respected that all talk of foreign monarchy the people's money begin with them, instead of in the House of Representatives, in which such measures are constitutionally appointed to originate. A debt due by the Government to a private citizen cannot be recovered; a swindle by private parties with the Government cannot be made, unless the favor of the lobby be first propitiated by a liberal "bonus" paid in advance, or the promise of a munificent contingent. This state of things is disgraceful to the country. But it is a source of rich revenue to Congressmen, which they are not likely to relinquish. The regular pay of a member is quite inadequate to support him in the expensive style of living that has grown up in Washington since the Radical Republican party came into power and he is bound to eke out his deficient salary by selling his integrity for whatever price he can get from the claim agents, and other persons of the kind, who stand at the avenues leading to either hall of Congress, ready to bargain with anybody for the vote needed to pass a bill out of which money enough can be realized to satisfy all who are interested in the speculation. Wages made in this way not only corrupt the moral nature of Congressmen, but there is too much reason to believe that the fearful extent to which they squander their means in the gambling hells of the Capital and indulge in all sorts of devilish debauchery, is attributable to theease with which, through the bribes they receive for their votes and influence, their depleted purses are replenished.

The Senate Committee on pensions have before them again, in a new form, the periodical problem of the subsistence of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. Senator Morton has put in a bill to pay this lady a pension during her natural life, reciting that her husband was killed by an enemy of the United States while discharging his functions as Commander-in-chief of the army and navy. Mr. Sumner suggested that the sum be put at $5,000 a year, and the figures were accepted by Mr. Morton. Mrs. Lincoln's income from the residue of the $25,000 voted her by Congress is $1,728.15 a year, and on that sum she has sought the south of France, where living is cheap, and is keeping in strict and very humble retirement. The bill of Mr. Morton's is the first resection of the singular intelligence that Mrs Lincoln was reduced to the necessity of selling her wardrobe. The whereases by which Mr. Morton makes his out as the widow of a military man killed in the war will not be keenly questioned by Congress, as a disposition exists to obliterate the scandal of her poverty by believing it. The passage of the bill is probable, unless some Senator, morbidly fearful of making it a precedent, opposes it, and brings on debate, which the proposition cannot bear. If I am not mistaken, the widow of Ex-President Polk is yet living, and in comparative poverty. Would it be anything more than simple justice to give her a pension too. This much may be said of Mrs. President Polk—she was never proven to be a thief.

Col. Aleck McClure, and John Forney, have had an interview with General Grant, to secure a place in Grant's Cabinet for Andy Curtin. It is said that McClure and Forney asked Grant, point blank and plain, whether Simon Cameron was to have the carving out of the offices in Pennsylvania; and that Grant said most emphatically that such should not be the case, and that if he found Cameron or any one else promising offices, those persons could obtain no patronage while he was President.

I learn that orders have been issued to tear down the walls of Fort La Fayette, and that the work will not be rebuilt. This is as it should be. The name of this American bastile should be blotted from our history, and its story should be hung side by side with that destroyed by the French, in the Hall at Mount Vernon. It seems like a righteous retribution that the very site on which it stood should be purged by fire. So let all the evidences of unhallowed despotism perish from off the face of the earth.

Surratt is now in South America, but will return here in a month. I learn from one of his friends that he has prepared a full and explicit statement of the conspiracy which resulted in the death of President Lincoln. In this he denies all knowledge of any assassination plot, but confesses that Booth and himself and others were in a plot to abduct Mr. Lincoln. He declares that assassination was never spoken of to him, and was not agreed on by Booth and Payne until the night it took place. He further insists on the entire innocence of his mother, maintains that every effort was made to keep the abduction plot from her knowledge, and she was simply the victim of unfortunate circumstances, and the machinations of the witness Weichman, whose evidence, it will be remembered caused Mrs. Surratt's conviction. Surratt proposes to tell everything he knows, the good, bad, and indifferent, and make oath to it. He feels, it is said, that it will be so impartial and straightforward that it will be believed.

Wendell Phillips continues "spitting" at Grant. He is now out against him bitterly for his "childish reticence" and "obstinate silence." He compares him with the meanest and most contemptible character in American history, and describes him as "thoroughly American in the worst sense of the name during our worst times." He says he has "no extra trust in Mr. Grant's knowledge of the indispensable preliminaries to Peace;" and it is evident from his recent diatribes that he is getting the loudest words in his fishwife's vocabulary ready for use against Grant. I have no doubt that in less than a year from now Andrew Johnson will stand forth as a statesman, saint and philosopher in comparison with the etchings of Grant by Phillips.

Andrew Johnson,
"Moves in a mysterious way.
His wonders to perform."

Last Thursday, he nominated for an important position, one of the editors of the *Washington Chronicle* a paper which has poured out its vials of abuse upon him, for three years. Nothing has been too low or mean for the *Chronicle* to say of Andew Johnson, and yet the very man who has penned these filthy assaults upon the Chief Executive of the nation is to receive a lucrative appointment at the hands of the man he has abused.

CAUCASIAN.

Local Items.

REVIVAL.—Protracted meeting has been held in the First Lutheran church for four weeks, resulting in an interesting revival of religion.

NEW PASTOR.—Rev. George Norcross, pastor elect of the Second Presbyterian Church, preached his first sermon, to a large congregation, on Sunday last

NOTICE.—Executors', Administrators' and Guardians' accounts, for confirmation at the March Orphans' Court, must be filed in the Register's office, on or before February 13th.

SUICIDE.—An old German named Gottlib Koehler, residing in West King street, Chambersburg, committed suicide by taking a dose of arsenic on the evening of the 12th inst.

SHOE FACTORY.—We learn that the entire stock of the Shoe Factory has been taken, and parties are now in the East purchasing the requisite machinery.—The factory will be in operation in a few weeks.

GOOD ADVICE.—If you wish to have your public sales well attended and realize big prices, advertise in the VOLUNTEER. It circulates in every corner in this county, and is read largely in neighboring counties.

A FINE PICTURE.—Every person who buys a copy of the *Hearth and Home* for February 16th, will be presented with a beautiful engraving entitled "The Village Favorite." It alone is worth more than the price of the paper.

SALE BILLS.—Our fine assortment of job type enables us to do Sale Bills in elegant style. Those at a distance, who cannot conveniently visit town, may send their orders by mail. They will receive prompt attention, and the bills will be returned by mail if desired.

ANNIVERSARY.—The Good Templars intend holding their Fifth Anniversary in Rheem's Hall, on Monday evening, February 1st, 1869. It will consist of music, speeches and essays, which from all accounts will be very interesting.—Come one, come all. Admission free.—Exercises commence 7½ o'clock precisely.

GOOD NEWS.—The panier skirt, vulgarly known as the Grecian bend, is reported to be going out of fashion.

It deforms a good figure and does not improve a bad one. It is good news that it is going out; and if all sensible and decent American women would at once abandon it, sensible and decent men would think the better of them.

A CONTEMPORARY says: "Never chase your hat when it blows off in a gale of wind; just stand still, and you will see half a dozen persons in pursuit of it. When one has captured it, walk leisurely towards him, receive it with grateful acknowledgment, and place it on your head. He will invariably act as though you had done him a favor."

MAYNE REID'S MAGAZINE.—"Onward," the title of Capt. Mayne Reid's new candidate for popular favor is before us. Reid's reputation as a popular writer is enough to insure the success of his periodical. It is beautifully printed and profusely illustrated. Published by Carleton, 497 Broadway, New York.

GODEY.—This Nestor of the Philadelphia monthlies is on hand, for February The steel plate "Hush he Sleeps," is a beautiful home scene. The colored fashion plate contains six figures, equisitely gotten up. Apart from the handsome engravings, the literary matter is of the highest order.

TRY IT.—Here is an amusing trick, which a cotemporary recommends delinquent subscribers to try, some of these winter evenings: Take a sheet of white note paper, write on it your name and address, fold it carefully, and enclose in it a greenback sufficiently large to pay up arrearages. Keep your eye on the printer, and if you can detect a smile, the trick is a success.

NOTICE.—There will be a reorganization of the Good Templars Lodge, on February 4th, in Letort Lodge Room, at 7 o'clock. All persons desiring to become members in that good cause, will see to signing the application for charter, or be at the Lodge Room on that evening.

Application for charter in hands of A. E. Monasmith, or Wm. M. Ogilby, where they can be examined and signed.

SKATING.—The mild weather of the last few weeks has played hob with the skating, but there seems to be some chance of ice after all, if the present "cold snap" continues. Some festive youth in the city of "Brotherly Love" grows impatient at the delay of old Boreas, and thus complains:

Skate! Skate!
How long must we wait?
The ice is so slow in freezing!
The ice and the snow
Are horribly slow,
This singular winter season.

Rink! Rink!
Sir, by we think
You're a tedious thing to get open;
But when you are done,
We'll have lots of fun
In the queer old sort of a show pen.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' CONCERT.—We are gratified to learn that the Soldiers' Orphans of the White Hall School, under charge of Capt. Moore, intend to give a concert in this place, on Wednesday, February 24th. The previous concert of this school was so well attended, and their performance gave such unbounded satisfaction, that we have no doubt they will be welcomed with a perfect ovation on their second visit.

GOUGH COMING.—The Good Templars announce John B. Gough definitely for the 19th prox. In order that the Hall may not become excessively crowded, the committee have adopted the admirable plan of selling reserved seats, which will be held for the parties engaging them. By paying one dollar to any member of the committee, any one of our friends, in the country or elsewhere, may secure a seat in advance. Those who apply at once will, of course, get the pick of the seats.

HIGH RENTS.—Notwithstanding the number of Houses built in this place last season, rents seem to continue enormously high. Will not some of our public spirited citizens possessed of the capital wherewith to do so, erect a few blocks of comfortable tenant houses upon some of the many fine locations with which our town abounds, and thus advance the general good of our town by inviting emigration hither by making rents moderate.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY.—On Thursday night last, about nine o'clock, some villain entered the dwelling of Wm Eyler, on West High street by way of the back door, and proceeded up-stairs. Mrs. E., who was sitting down stairs sewing, hearing the noise, immediately ran into the street and gave the alarm, when some five or six men searched the house, but the thief made his way out of the attic window, on to the roof of an adjoining house and secured his escape.

SAD DEATH OF DR BODGE.—On Thursday night last, the body of a human being, terribly mangled, was found on the track of the Pennsylvania Rail-road, between Mifflin and Perryville. It was taken to Mifflin, where it was recognized as the body of Dr. Charles H Bodge, who at one time resided in this place.—Bodge was a poor, unfortunate creature, —his own worst enemy—given to the use of strong drink, and had been seen along the rail-road a number of times, from which it is inferred he sought death by that means, or became stupefied by liquor and fell upon the track.

IDLE YOUNG MEN.—Every town has its group of idle young men, and we believe our town has too many. An idle brain is said to be the devil's workshop, and parents who allow their boys to grow up unemployed, and without trades or business qualifications, will sooner or later regret their folly in this respect. Remember that the great turning point in life is between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one, and that whatever habits or bent of inclination your sons acquire during this period, will in all probability adhere to them through life. Without habits of industry and application a man is worthless, and parents should bear in mind that between the above ages is the proper time to train both.

SCARLET FEVER.—A correspondent of the Wilmington *Commercial*, writing from Kent county, where the scarlet fever has prevailed to an alarming degree, recommends as a cure for this terrible disease, that "the patient be greased with fat bacon, over the entire surface of the body." We have known the disease to be cured by enveloping the patient in a warm poultice made of Indian meal. Both these remedies may be old, but a trial of either, or both, can do no harm, while your physician is hesitating as to what experiment he shall try to save the life of your child.

WOOLENS AND WASHERWOMEN.—People are continually complaining how impossible it is to persuade washerwomen so to wash flannel clothing as to prevent it from shrinking. Washerwomen are but human, and if one tries to persuade them into unaccustomed grooves, the job will be found much like that of driving pigs to market. Now, by putting a little borax in to cold water, it will be found that flannels will not only come out better cleansed, but that there will be absolutely no shrinkage. We throw out the hint, and can vouch for the efficacy of the recipe. But then, of course, it would be very difficult to find a washerwoman who would wash clothes in cold water and use borax.

GOUGH'S LECTURE.—The date of J. B. Gough's lecture has been definitely fixed for Wednesday evening, March 17th.

In closing the engagement the committee bind themselves to send on the amount charged, $200, at least three or four weeks before the date of the lecture. They are now trying to raise the amount by the sale of seats. All persons wishing to secure seats can see the plan of the Hall at Ogilby's or Neff's stores and at the Farmers' Bank. Seats in any part of the Hall, $1. Tickets can be procured from

W. P. LYNCH, E. D. QUIGLEY, JR.
M. F. THOMPSON, A. E. MONASMITH,
W. M. OGILBY, *Com.*

☞ From the Army Hospital; the bloody battle field, the mansion of the rich and the humble abode of the poor—from the office and the sacred desk; from the mountain-top, distant valley and far-off islands of the ocean—from every nook and corner of the civilized world, is pouring in the evidence of the astonishing effects of Drake's Plantation Bitters.—Thousands upon thousands of letters like the following may be seen at our office:

* * * * I have been in the Army Hospital for fourteen months, speechless and nearly dead. At Alton, Ill., they gave me a bottle of Plantation Bitters.—Three bottles have made me a well man.

C. H. FLAUTM.

MAGNOLIA WATER.—Superior to the best imported German Cologne, and sold at half the price.

THE FAMILY CIRCLE.—What looks nicer, what is sweeter, what is pleasanter, than to see a family gathered together to have a talk after the business care of the day has gone by? In the evening the place for the family man is at home, where he can enjoy