

Advertisements, letters, contributions, generally of merit and of the nature to be acceptable from friends from all quarters.

The Republicans of Lancaster county are a patient kind of people, who have submitted for many years past to the most glaring impositions by some of the most corrupt politicians. By fraud and falsehood, unscrupulous men who have made politics a trade, and bartered office and patronage for money, have taken from the honest tax-payers the control of their own political interests and placed at every avenue to official position a corrupt ring or clique whose continual cry is money! money! money!!! No man, no matter how popular, competent or deserving, can reach a position unless he precedes his approach with greenbacks, and conciliates the leaders by yielding the required amount to their demand. Every aspirant must run the gauntlet of the rings and cliques, and submit to be fleeced and stripped of more than the emoluments of office if he would be successful. Hence, honest men will not encounter the disgrace of such a conflict, and the field is left to those who will bribe and be bribed. A seat in the Legislature is legally worth \$1000 a year and mileage, and no more; but we know that some realize from ten to twenty thousand dollars. They of course can afford, and do spend thousands of dollars to be elected. It is therefore, an imperative necessity that in the present campaign the good and true men of principle should unite in the support of no man for any office who belongs to the Thugs, the Kings or Cliques, or who can be tampered with or bribed. The history and proceedings of the last Legislature, and of some of our county officers should be enough to put all upon their guard and indicate the class of men worthy of support.

Interesting History of a Tree. There is in Independence Square a large and beautiful tree which has a very interesting history. It is located on the north-west corner of the square, and is recognized from the fact that it inclines to the south, and is the only tree of the kind in the city. The late Hazard P. Simpson who was recently found dead of Independence Square, was the owner of this tree a short time before his death. Mr. Simpson was at one time a wholesale grocer in Philadelphia, and was the proprietor of the business company for his integrity. During his business career he became intimate with several persons, among them being a man named Bonaparte, and after relinquishing business occupied a position under that gentleman, and lived with him several years at a country seat near Burlington, N. J. Mr. Bonaparte, who was a man of great talents, and took much pride in his fine vineyard, and from the great wheat-growing regions of the west the reports are almost universally favorable. Kansas has suffered more than any other section from winter killing and from the deprivations of grasshoppers.

The Coal Strike. The strike of the miners in the coal regions is literally to come to an inglorious end, as is properly should. The fact is, the miners never thought of striking. They were proceeding with their work as usual, until the proprietors of the mines induced them to throw down their tools and go through the formalities of a strike, in order that the price of coal might be increased the coming fall. Failing to see how they were to be benefited by the operation, many of the miners have wisely resumed work, and if the consumers of coal will only obtain from purchasing any more than they absolutely need, the designing operators will find themselves caught in their own toils.

An Indian's War Trophies. A young Cananche chief, recently killed in an attack on a train in Texas was decked out with a white woman's scalp, a corporal's stripes, a beaver skin, bow and arrows, quiver, looking glass, butcher knife, ear-rings, bracelet, fine bead pouch, flint and steel, haversack, necessaries, breech cloth, breastplate, Mexican hair brush, Mexican scarf on his shield, two small silver bells, and an almost innumerable number of beautiful feathers on his shield. He also had in his belt a Mexican bridle worth about fifteen dollars, a common Mexican blanket, a fine rawhide lariat and an extra pair of moccasins in his belt.

American in the Cuban Army. Samuel Pratt, formerly a dry goods merchant of New Haven, returned to that city on Saturday, from the headquarters of the rebel army at Cienfuegos, Cuba. He was wounded in a recent battle near Cienfuegos and was given leave of absence to recover, when he came to New York to assist in the work of recruiting. He is enthusiastic in the Cuban cause, and predicts that by December next, Cuba will be in the Union. He says General Céspedes has 3,500 Americans in his army, and that he expects as many more in a few weeks. During the war Mr. Pratt fought in the Union Army.

Five young women have just been admitted into the Vinton (La.) Agricultural College.

Criminals as Witnesses. The law recently passed by our Legislature to admit interested parties to testify in their own cases, seems to give general satisfaction. We think the Legislature might go further and make a law to allow alleged criminals to take the witness stand. There is such a practice in several of the States and there appears to be no evil resulting from it, and in some cases much good. The New York Herald speaks of the law thus as follows: The law passed in the Legislature permitting prisoners in criminal cases to take the witness stand and testify on their trial has already had one or two practical illustrations in our courts, and thus far there does not appear to have been any evil results from it, although several lawyers in the Legislature took strong grounds against it on the plea that the practice would greatly embarrass the courts and obstruct the course of justice. Setting aside the fact that the privilege of testifying in one's own behalf in criminal cases may induce perjury, the law seems to be a good one. The presumption is fair that a man guilty of an offense which is made the subject of indictment by a grand jury will not stick at taking a false oath in order to escape conviction; but it does not follow, therefore, that an innocent man should not be permitted to tell a plain, unvarnished tale, which may not only establish his own innocence, but perchance throw such light upon the story upon the crime as may point the finger of justice towards the true criminal.

In Germany we know that the system of allowing the accused to testify in his own case is the basis of jurisprudence. Hence the practice is universal, and we do not know of any instances where more evil than good has come of it. Experience in our criminal courts may establish a like result. At all events, the principle is worth a fair trial, and we are disposed to look upon the law with favor. If it is abused or proves to be mischievous it can be remedied by repealing it at the next session of the Legislature.

Agricultural Report. The reports on the condition of crops in all sections of the country are of the most encouraging kind, and at present the harvest promises to be a large and luxurious one. The last monthly report of the Agricultural Department states that the condition of winter grains is considerably above the average of former years. The cold weather of March did some injury to the wheat plants; but the damage for winter killing has been less than for many years, and the promise for a good crop is quite flattering. In the New England States, and in New York and the north-west, snow still covered the ground; but, so far as developed, indications were favorable. In Maryland and Virginia our correspondents represent the prospect as very fine, and from the great wheat-growing regions of the west the reports are almost universally favorable. Kansas has suffered more than any other section from winter killing and from the deprivations of grasshoppers.

Manufactured Ice. Of the manufacture of ice in New Orleans, the following is a report: The Louisiana Ice Company have now far added to their works that they can, with their six machines now in use, manufacture seventy-two tons per day, or, on an average, twenty losses and interruptions fifty tons. They are now in the place this winter, and it keeps equally well with any other. Thus they can and will hereafter continue to manufacture it at all times of the year, and accumulate it in ice houses, so that there may not be the least apprehension of a failure of supply. A number of our manufactured ice can and does undersell the imported. At first the ice, as manufactured, was opaque, but now the air is withdrawn so that it is as clear as any Northern. It should be recalled that the water used in the manufacture of the ice, river, filtered and made clear by standing, and nothing is put in it to make it freeze. It is only put in cans, and these are surrounded with the freezing material. A cake of this ice, weighing 3,000 pounds, is now on exhibition at the amount of \$2,000.00.

Occupations of Congressmen. Once in a while the Congressional Globe contains a little really interesting reading. Thus we learn from it that in the present House there are one hundred and thirty-one lawyers, seven editors, ten merchants, seven bankers, eight manufacturers, fifteen farmers, two planters, five general business men, one coal operator, two lumbermen, two real estate agents, two physicians, two railroad managers, three clergymen, one printer and one agriculturist. One of the "general business men" is Hon. George M. Adams, of Kentucky, who last year bore a solitary testimony against the democratic tendencies of the day by describing himself as a "gentleman." The "agriculturist" is a Marylander who was quite bent upon bearing a similar testimony, but finding after a thorough canvass of the House that he would be the only gentleman by profession on the list, took the other title. We should, perhaps, explain that "agriculturist" is the snob for farmer.

Unsubstantiated Girls. Two servant girls were given tickets to go to a theatre. Returning in a short time their mistress asked them why they did not stay. They answered that they had been to the theatre and had seen a pair of scales and a pair of compasses, and that they had seen a pair of scales and a pair of compasses, and that they had seen a pair of scales and a pair of compasses.

What Women Work For. Poor women in Portland, Maine, make clothing for New York houses for 25 cents a piece, for woolen socks each, 12 1/2 cents for pantaloons, for ordinary overcoats 40 cents, and for the heaviest and best made 60 to 75 cents.

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A colored man was appointed police magistrate in the District of Columbia, on Friday, May 21. A boarding house in Dayton, Ohio, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. One man was burned to death, and several others were severely injured by the flames. The fire broke out at the boarding house occupied by the boarders saved themselves by jumping from the windows. The fire is believed to have been caused by an incendiary.

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