

COUDERSPORT, PA., April 11, 1913

The election frauds in Luzerne county have been investigated by a Democratic court, and the President Judge has delivered a carefully prepared opinion in which he details the most reckless system of election villainy ever practiced in Pennsylvania.

In one district, in the city of Scranton, containing but 467 legal voters, the Election Board returned a Democratic majority of over one thousand.

Throwing out the fraudulent vote elected the Republican candidate for Recorder of Deeds and Register of Wills, and three members of the Legislature.

We commend the charge of this Democratic Judge to the attention of Reformers McClure, Forney and Wallace, and submit to them that it is hardly worth while to harp quite so much about the Philadelphia Registry law. The people have eyes and they know that election frauds are the invention of Democratic politicians, and that they and their allies are not likely to advocate any measure of genuine reform. We believe the great mass of the people of both parties earnestly desire honest elections and that they will find the means of securing them. But they will do this outside of the agencies proposed by the men who carried this for Buchanan in 1856 by fraud and chicanery.

Governor Hartranft.

Every act of the new Governor, with a single exception, has been entirely satisfactory to his best friends and has confounded his worst enemies. Even the Philada. Press, the most malignant and unscrupulous of his opponents, is constrained to admit that John F. Hartranft is making the best Governor Pennsylvania has had for a long time. Not in twenty years have we had a Governor with sufficient backbone to have vetoed the Somerset gratuity act. This Bill appropriated seventy-five thousand dollars to make good the losses of certain citizens of Somerset by fire.

There was no more reason why the sufferers by this fire should be paid for their losses out of the State Treasury than the sufferers by any other fire. To have paid Somerset was to have thrown open the Treasury to the demand for all losses by fire and to convert the Commonwealth into one grand Fire Insurance Company. The Governor foresaw the disaster sure to flow from such a precedent and put his foot down firmly. He has been equally firm in vetoing a large amount of pernicious legislation to the great joy of all honest men.

It does one good to read the sturdy common sense vetoes of Governor Hartranft. They come frequently, and are always welcome as a specimen of the true Anglo-Saxon English with which these vetoes abound, we give the closing paragraph of his message returning without his approval House Bill, No. 653, entitled "An act extending the time for the payment of the enrollment tax on certain acts heretofore passed." After explaining the laws in relation to the enrollment tax and stating that the Bill returned affected sixteen hundred and twenty-two private acts, he closes with this wholesome and encouraging paragraph:

The amount due the Commonwealth upon these sixteen hundred and twenty-two private and corporate acts, time would not permit me to ascertain, but the sum must be large. It will be observed that thirteen hundred and thirty of these acts are for the creation of corporations or giving them additional privileges. The law permits the payment of the enrollment tax within one year—a time sufficient, and within which any bona fide corporation could and does pay. It is those gotten up purely for speculation, not from public necessity or for public good that profit by the character of legislation contained in the bill returned. It is a notorious fact, that for many years past, characters of incorporation have been obtained for the express purpose of sale—for the mere purpose of trade and traffic, and so used and so used to an extent not very creditable to the Commonwealth. They pay no enrollment tax under the system heretofore pursued of extending payment of same until their owners find purchasers. The sooner this class of legislation is ended the better, and one effective way of doing it will be not to extend the time for the payment of enrollment taxes. Surely those who consume the time of the Legislature for private advantage or gain, and often to the prejudice of public business, should at least be required to pay within the time fixed the tax imposed thereon. There are

now, as before stated, sixteen hundred and twenty-two of these private acts, of which thirteen hundred and thirty relate to corporations of various descriptions. By the law as it now stands, those of them upon which the enrollment tax is not paid on or before the first day of May next (1873), will then become null and void. It will end many, if not a great majority of these sixteen hundred and twenty-two acts, enable the Commonwealth to know what private acts she has granted in force and what are not, and prove a blessing to the Commonwealth generally. For which reasons I return the bill unapproved. JOHN F. HARTTRANFT.

The Indians.

There has been an effort made this winter to dispossess the Cattaraugus and Allegheny Indians of parts of their lands. We are glad that the President vetoed the bill. It will be time enough for our government to move in that matter when the Indians themselves apply for such modification of their treaties as shall enable them to sell if such ability is now wanting.

A writer in the Olean Times from Salamanca, gives another plan for procuring those lands that the white people covet, which he thinks more just and equitable than that proposed in Congress, and in one respect it seems so as it proposes their becoming citizens of the United States as fast as they desire it, and subject to our laws. We hope this poor little remnant of the ancient race may be suffered to live and die among us and that they may be treated as becomes the host of a nation to treat them.

Owing to delay of the mails several items of news which should have appeared in last week's JOURNAL, were not received in time for it.

The most important of these was the wreck of the Atlantic. Some account of this is now given for those who have not access to other papers. The first accounts were as usual exaggerated, the latest being that nearly half the whole number of persons were saved. No women or children escaped, those of them that were washed out of the ship being carried out to sea. They were mostly emigrants: English, Scotch, Irish, Welch, Norwegian, Germans and Swiss. As always when such disasters occur there were wonderful feats of daring and generous self sacrifice recorded. There have been so many wrecks within a few months, so many have gone out from life without a moment's warning that it seems as though we could hardly dare to read.

WHAT are called break-neck feats came to a sudden end in the theatre last week. The morbid desire to see hair-breadth escapes from death or injury draws large crowds to those places of amusement where these break-neck feats are performed.

It has been a subject of wonder for many years that so many even respectable people, will go to witness those terrible exposures of life and limb called acrobatic performances, circus performances, etc.

It is thrilling, exciting, almost exhausting to one's feelings, to witness the imperilling of human life, the hair-breadth escapes risked for the sake of saving life, offered up in cases of extreme need, but these can be endured because they are necessary, and admired because they are brave. But the risking of life for mere amusement, the putting men and women and even little children into such positions and actions of danger, as make one shudder and chill with fear, seems very much akin to the ancient gladiator contests which christianity looks back on with horror. Not only is there the present peril, we know it is daily encountered, and must have been for years that little children have been trained to it from even those infant years that should be passed in the safe shelter of mothers arms.

Are we really a civilized people when we encourage such things? Christianity should go much farther, and prevent them by making love to our brother too strong to endure such spectacles, but civilization ought to be sufficient to make such barbarous displays avoided and discouraged.

In alluding to the frightful loss of life by the wreck of the ship Atlantic, near Nova Scotia, and the loss of five hundred and forty-six persons, of whom over three hundred were women and children, the Buffalo Express says:

This frightful calamity will again call attention to the conservative and wonderfully successful principles on which the Cunard Line is managed. That company has made it a rule to sacrifice everything to the safety of the passengers and the ships. They do not make a commander's reputation depend upon the time he makes in a series of trips.

They let the mails go to faster ships. They are (comparatively) slow but sure, and they have never lost a vessel. They will not appoint a man to be third or fourth officer, even, who has not already commanded a ship. The discipline in their service is as rigid as that in the Royal Navy itself. The result of this system is that the Cunard Company have the most careful and efficient set of officers ever known in the Merchant Marine and their record as a steamship company is entirely unparalleled.

Surely if there is a safe line of ships as the above article says it should be known as widely as possible.

The sudden advent of spring seems almost like a surprise, for like most things long and anxiously awaited, it came with startling suddenness. The birds had been telling us for some time and we cannot think, really, that we did not believe them, but the snow lay in such masses and the winter seemed so fiercely to laugh to scorn the very idea of ever giving up that we were not quite prepared to see him slink away so quietly at last.

Probably he will turn back some of these days and give us some parting gusts and bites to teach us not to be too sanguine. But just now comes the "Southern breeze;" snow has almost disappeared from the open country and the fresh earth and starting grass smell sweet. Little flowers looked up to the bright sky as the snow melted off them and the whole country seems astir with new life.

Streams are very high and roads very bad—in some places it is a little difficult to discriminate between them—but as that is a necessary step to a better state of things we welcome it.

A NEW house appeared last Saturday afternoon, on East street, South, and is making rapid progress toward completion.

THE water has been very high for a few days past and now, Wednesday night, it is raining fast. The bridge at the foot of Main street is somewhat shaken and may yet go off. We only hope our monument may not be washed away. We like to think there is a piece of granite, or some thing, in some stage of preparation on our public square. But it is safe as yet. (We are about isolated, no mail from any place since Saturday until Tuesday night, and then a little meagre one from Wellsville to pay us for having our mail sent out that route when the new railroad was opened.)

No news—Queen Victoria may be dead and the Lady of Lorne quarrelling with somebody for aught we know. They may get along without us but how can we get along without knowing all about them. We don't even know who were elected in Connecticut and very likely they were just the wrong persons.

But there is one satisfaction through it all, and that is that we have not got our new railroad built to Coudersport. If we had and this flood had stopped its running how could we ever have borne it?

We have sincerely to regret the statement made in these columns several ago that Hon. John Scott, United States Senator from Pennsylvania received the extra back pay voted to themselves by the members of both houses of the last Congress. Senator Scott voted against the proposition, and has not received the money.—Philadelphia Press.

GOV. HENDRICKS assumed the responsibility and signed the temperance law recently enacted by the Indiana Legislature. His political friends urged him to withdraw his signature but he refused. The Lawrenceburg Register (Dem.) thus describes the effect of his course upon his future career as a politician:

"Politically he committed harikari, and as a Democratic politician has now no more vitality than a defunct army mule. In signing the so-called temperance bill he has voluntarily placed himself outside the Democratic organization and proven himself unworthy their confidence and regard. They are done with him henceforth and his name will be erased from the list of their party leaders and sink into obscurity.—Missouri Democrat.

DR. TYNDALL treats us to a long account of religiousmen who have opposed science and been defeated. I may say justly defeated, as in setting themselves against one way in which God makes known his will. But I could give a far longer list of men who have set themselves to oppose Providence and prayer, only to find that, as Beza said, "God's Word is an anvil which has worn out many a hammer."—Dr. McCosh, in the Independent.

LEXINGTON, N. C., APRIL 1, 1913.
MR. EDITOR: As some of my good friends send me your valuable paper, I thought that your many readers

might like to hear a word from me. Well, I have lived here almost three years, long enough for me to form a correct opinion of this part of the old North State, i.e., the part I reside in.

I saw a communication in your paper asking, "Where do our birds go to in the winter?" I think I can inform your readers where some of them go. First, I will name the robins. We have them here all winter by the thousands; they stay in large flocks and subsist on the cedar and holly berries, etc. We have crows and blackbirds by the tens of thousands; in fact we have double the quantity of birds here in winter that we have in summer. We have the sweetest singer of all our American birds—the mocking-bird. By day and night you may hear him sing. I have often heard him sing at midnight as I lay in my bed. We have a number of them that hatch in our yard; they love to stay close to the dwelling of man. We have a state law to protect them, a fine of \$5.00 for every bird killed.

A word about our State in general. We have both good and poor soil. I never saw a soil so easily improved in any country; if you put a light sprinkling of manure on it you will see the effects of it for ten years. The most of our soil is a dark loam with a red clay sub-soil. We raise the best of white wheat, corn, oats, rye, cotton and tobacco; clover does well but the people do not sow much. We can grow almost all kinds of fruits: the apple, peach, apricot, nectarine, cherry, fig, prune, quince and damson. We raise the Irish and sweet potatoes. No trouble to grow all you want, but our staples are cotton, tobacco, wheat and corn.

The price of our lands may be of some interest to your readers. The average price is \$10 per acre close to the railroad; well improved land is \$15 to \$25, according to location, etc.; very choice, with good buildings, as high as \$50 per acre. Water pure, soft and cool, and plenty of it. Timber in abundance and of the best quality. Oak and hickory predominate; in fact, I never saw as good hickory in any country. Our markets are good: cotton (upland middlings) 16 to 18 cents per lb.; wheat \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bushel, corn .75, oats .80, rye \$1.00; pork .10 per lb.; lumber \$15 per thousand; Eggs .15 to .20 per dozen; butter .20 to .25 per lb. in small rolls—they do not know how to make good butter in this country. The price of store goods as follows: prints .10 to .15, sheetings (standard) .14; coffee .25 to .30, sugar .12 to .16, syrups \$1.00 to \$1.25, molasses .35 to .75.

Our schools are in a very backward state but we are in hopes of having them in a better shape soon. As to the people they are kind and peaceable; no trouble about any one coming here to settle and live if he only does what is right. He can vote as he pleases and there will be no questions asked. I live in the banner county of the State; we elected every officer in the county by a handsome majority. I am as strong a Republican as I ever was and I believe a little more so.

I will close by saying I never saw a country that God has done so much for and man so little. Slavery did not go up too soon. H. S. SHAFER

HERE is a thought so vast it takes one's breath away. Taking the statement of the writer of "Sea and Shore," in Harper's Magazine, that the Pacific Ocean is in places fifteen miles in depth, that seems almost as great an obstacle as the distance:

A PACIFIC CABLE.—The scheme of connecting China and Japan with the United States by a submarine cable, will sooner or later be carried out, vast and to many, insuperably difficult as it may seem. A dozen years ago—as the Boston Globe aptly remarks—the distance between Newfoundland and Ireland was looked upon in much the same way, and hundreds of shrewd scientific men were ready with apparently logical reasons to show why it could not possibly be accomplished. The cable was laid, however, and the fact established that the current could be sent through the wire ten times the distance without diminution of power.

A cable laid from San Francisco to connect with the two great Oriental nations whose commerce with this country is becoming of immense importance would find no landing place short of the Sandwich Islands, a distance of 2885 miles. From Hawaii to Yokohama the distance is 3,415 miles; but the route between the two ports is broken with small groups of islands, furnishing points of relief if necessary. From Yokohama to Shanghai in China is 1625 miles, making a total length of cable of 6525 miles. The beneficial results which would flow from such a connection are too palpable to be dwelt upon at length. It would give to the United States priority over all other nations, corporations or individuals in the establishment

of new enterprises and the maintenance of present ones. It would not only place this country in the most favorable position for gaining and controlling Oriental trade, but it would give a wonderful impulse to our commerce in those waters and prestige to our name, and inspire the inhabitants of those vast countries with confidence in us and good faith toward us as a nation. Nor would it end with this. It would incite both China and Japan to a rivalry in the arts which go hand in hand with commerce and civilization.

To-day there is not a mile of railway or telegraph in China. Japan, more progressive, is now in the limited enjoyment of both systems. A quarter of a century from the day that sees America and those nations electrically joined will see a regenerated East. The vast areas of China and Japan will be crossed and recrossed by a network of railways and telegraph wires, able and permanent missionaries whose work can never be undone. Already the ancient prejudices in regard to foreigners are beginning to crumble away, and when once the Orientals open their eyes to the advantages which they have for centuries persistently thrust from them, the work of advancement will begin in earnest.—Alaska Herald.

Pen and Scissors.

HALIFAX, April 1.—This afternoon a report being current that a steamer had been wrecked on the coast and several lives lost was at first regarded as a cruel April fool hoax, but this evening the Cunard agents here received news that it was all true, and that little of the truth had been told, the fact being that the White Star steamer Atlantic, in command of Capt. J. Williams, from Liverpool for New York, while coming into this port for coal, struck on Messager's Rock, near Prospect, twenty-two miles west of Halifax, and became a total wreck. Of about 1000 souls on board, upwards of 700 were drowned. Third officer Brady arrived in this city this evening. He says the Atlantic left Liverpool on the 20th of March with upwards of 900 steering passengers and 50 cabin passengers.

The steamer experienced boisterous weather during the passage, but all went well until noon of Monday the 31st of March, when the supply of coal became nearly exhausted. The captain determined to put into Halifax. The captain and third officer were on deck until midnight. The position was then judged to be Sambre Light, bearing N. N. W. 39 miles. The captain then went into his chart room, leaving orders to be called if there was any change of the vessel's position.

About two o'clock the ship struck. PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 2.—The annual election for State officers and members of the Legislature took place to-day. Henry Howard, Republican, was elected Governor by a very large majority, with the remainder of the State ticket, except for Lieutenant Governor, for which there was no choice.

MR. TWEED, seeing that an investigation was to be had which would certainly cause some personal inconvenience to him and his friends, without a corresponding chance of advantage, sent his resignation to the Lieutenant Governor, protesting that the act was simply pro forma. It is broadly asserted that this act relieves the minds of various Senators who had been expecting to "get hit," to use Mr. Tweed's expression, if the investigation proceeded.

THE Baptist Bible and Publication Society of Philadelphia does not believe in the exemption of ecclesiastical bodies from taxation, and so, remarks the Standard, which holds the same views, "the Society, every year, steps up to the office like a man, and pays \$513, or thereabout, for city taxes and water rates."

It is reported that United States Treasurer Spinner has recently discovered that the certificates for the ten shares of Credit Mobilier stock handed to Judge Poland by Oakes Ames, as belonging to Judge Kelley of this State, still stand in the name of Oakes Ames as trustee, and that they have never been indorsed over to anybody else. This is an important fact in vindication of Judge Kelley.—Cameron Press.

WONDERS will never cease and the latest amusing novelty is the fact that a lady's hat, trimmed in the height of the fashion, and nicely packed in a hand-box, was carried through the United States from Maine to California for eleven cents postage!

"ANY letters here for Mike Howe?" asked an individual of a clerk in a post-office delivery window. "No letters here for anybody's cow," was the reply.

A MENTIONABLE old lady died in Newburyport, Mass., last week. This was Mrs. Abigail D. Cook. She died on the 73rd anniversary of her wedding and in the same room in which she was married. Singularly enough her age is not given, but she was one of the choir which sang at the welcome to Gen. Washington on his visit to Newburyport and she also sang at the commemorative services on the occasion of the General's death. She was the mother of nine children and for sixty-five years a member of the church. She is said to have been a very handsome woman in her prime and retained her sprightliness to the last.—N. Y. Tribune.

THE opening of the Boston Public Library upon Sunday, which has occasioned so much controversy between the liberal and conservative wings of

the clergy, and public men, seems, from the testimony of the newspapers, to have thus far proved the foresight of those who advocated the idea; it is filled on that day by an orderly assemblage of young men, who, contrary to the opinion of the mere theologians, call for such books as have a tendency to refine and elevate, while the worthier periodicals of the day and week are liberally patronized.—Cameron Press.

As a curiosity of journalism the Liberator Advocate may be mentioned. This newspaper discusses strictly national matters, such as coffee-growing, vanilla husbandry; the palm tree as a material for soap; and it treats of the religious as well as the social affairs of the Colony. The price of a year's subscription is "a bushel of unhusked, red-ripe coffee," and we are told that in Liberia "coffee lies waste and worthless under the forests in which it grows." The Advocate, though published in Monrovia, is really edited by Mr. E. S. Morris, in Philadelphia.—N. Y. Tribune.

OUR exchanges, without regard to party, almost universally condemn the recent salary grab on the part of Congressmen. If a limit is not now put in the Constitution of the United States, regarding the salary question, beyond which in all future time there shall be no possibility of passing, there is no telling where all this is going to end. Human nature is so constituted, you know, it can never get enough—Olean Times.

The Boston Transcript knows a man who has not given his wife a cent for the last month for fear of being summoned before a Congressional committee on a charge of trying to influence her action by the improper use of money.

THE Bank of England covers five acres of ground, and employs 900 clerks. There are no windows on the street. Light is admitted through open courts; no mob could take the bank, therefore, without cannon to batter the immense walls. The clock in the centre of the bank has fifty dials attached to it. Large cisterns are sunk in the court, and engines in perfect order are always in readiness in case of fire. This bank was incorporated in 1694. Capital \$90,000,000.

EVEN after boys get to be six feet high, they sometimes say queer things, as this by a correspondent proves: "A few years ago a student at B—College, a lanky six-footer from the backwoods, was introduced to me as my roommate for the session. Preparatory to leaving for dinner, I remarked (handing him a key), 'That is my key in the door, and here are yours.' He studied the door for some moments very intently, and at last broke forth: 'Wal—yaas—I see; but whar under the canopy is my key-hole?'"

HOW HE GOT OVER.—In Scotland they have narrow, open ditches, called sheep-drains. A man was riding a donkey one day across a sheep pasture, and when Mr. donkey came to a sheep drain, he would not go over it. So the man rode him back a short distance, and put the whip to him; thinking, of course, that the donkey, going so fast, would jump the drain before he even knew it. But not so. On they came—and when the donkey got to the drain, he stopped all of a sudden, and the man went over Mr. Jack's head. No sooner had he touched the ground than he got up, and, looking Mr. Donkey straight in the face, he said: "Very well pitched; but then, how are ye going to get over yersel?"

A NEW directory shows the population of San Francisco to be 188,323; increase during the year about 10,000. The directory shows also that there are 11,000 Chinese.

MENTIONING that wood fires are cheaper than a doctor's visits, Charles Dudley Warner apologetically adds: "Not that I have anything against doctors; I only wish, after they have been too soon in a way that seems so friendly, they had nothing against us."

THE great bridge across the Mississippi at St. Louis will be completed by the first of July. It will be one of the finest structures of the kind in the world.

GENERAL SPINNER yesterday entered upon his thirteenth year of service as Treasurer of the United States.

The majority against license in Centre was 1483. Union township claims to be the banner "Local Option district" in Centre—109 votes against license, and not one vote in favor.

WHEN one nation meets another in deadly conflict, individual intelligence is important, numbers are important, but more important than either is it that the moral standard of the country should be high, that it should have faith in its government, and that the government should be worthy of that faith.

If you live in a quiet town and wish to change, move for a railway and you will have a row on hand forthwith. There is a road now building only six miles long, from Hammondport to Bath—a road much needed—worth a pile to the location, and the people are quarrelling over it and as we judge by the papers are mixing with politics.

THE author of "Words and their Uses," needs to be abroad, it seems. We are getting to apply some expressions so singularly. A few days ago one paper gave us the meaning of "holocaust," to show the impropriety of using it to express a great drowning or starvation. Now we have in a daily paper a long article on "Coal famine," in another "Gas famine."

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Has been REFITTED and REBURNISHED
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and is now open to the PUBLIC.
The TABLE will be kept in strict order and no labor or expense spared to make it comfortable.
FIRST-CLASS HOTEL
GOOD STABLING, and careful always in attendance.
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The House is completely furnished bottom, and has all the conveniences the people; the table is the best in the State; and, in short, everything that can be done to make it comfortable for guests or others who visit the place.

The long experience of the Proprietor Hotel business makes them prepared to cater to the varied wants of the public. They solicit their old customers and they are able to supply the most complete all.
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