

GEORGE B. GOODLANDER,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 16, 1873.

The Constitutional Convention re-assembled in Philadelphia on the 15th, after an adjournment of two weeks.

A VICTORY.—The Connecticut Democrats have gained a glorious victory over the "nutmeg" radicals. Ingersoll, Dem., is elected Governor over Haven, Rep., by 5,429 majority.

STORY IT.—The annual report of the President and Directors of the Pennsylvania rail road, for 1872, will be found at length in this issue. It is worthy of perusal, and should be critically examined by every citizen of the Commonwealth.

A VISIT FROM "THE GOVERNMENT."—Gen. Grant spent several days at Harrisburg last week. He looked in on the Legislature and the Legislators looked on him. There was not much fuss made over him. He was stopping with Senator Cameron.

SETTLED.—A number of Philadelphia Bank Presidents got into a muddle as to whether Good Friday was a legal holiday, and telegraphed the Attorney General at Harrisburg, who decided that the Act of the 12th of April, 1869, makes it a legal holiday.

ADJOURNED.—In accordance with the joint resolution, passed some time previous, the Legislature adjourned sine die, on Thursday, the 10th. Butler B. Strang, Senator from Tioga, was elected ad interim Speaker. The Democrats cast their votes for Wm. McSherry, of Adams county.

A SPEECH.—The following is the speech "The Government" delivered at Harrisburg last week. It is very statesman-like, embellished with a mining intimation. Gen. Grant said: "Gentlemen of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, I am happy to meet you here, and hope that by wise legislation you may develop the great resources which have been bestowed upon this Commonwealth."

AN EARTHQUAKE.—The city of San Salvador, capital of the Central American Republic of that name, was nearly destroyed by an earthquake, on the 10th of March. From 800 to 1,000 persons perished, and \$12,000,000 worth of property was destroyed. One hundred and ten shocks were felt, between the 4th and 10th.

MAJOR JACK CUMMINGS.—We regret to chronicle the sudden death of this well-known Democratic politician, which occurred at his home in Selinsgrove, on the 6th, from apoplexy. He was an unwavering Democratic advocate in those benighted counties of Snyder and Union, where the majority has for 35 years voted for "Joseph Rittner" and Stevens & Co.

AN ABLE SPEECH.—John H. Orvis, Esq., member of the lower House from Centre, delivered, on the 8th, the ablest speech made in that body this session. He proves by the Governor's Messages and Auditor General and State Treasurer's Reports, that somebody has stolen two million nine hundred and eighty-four thousand one hundred and sixty-eight dollars (\$2,984,168.14), out of the State Treasury since 1866. We propose to lay Mr. Orvis' speech before our readers just as soon as we can find room.

TRIPLE MURDER.—The small but savage tribe of Modoc Indians, which have infested Northern California and Southern Oregon, have molested the Government for a quarter of a century and murdered many emigrants.—The treachery of their Chief, Capt. Jack, on the 12th, we suspect, will wipe him and his tribe out of existence. Jack and his tribe have been very reticent for some time, and Gen. Canby and two Indian Commissioners, named Thomas and Meacham, were ordered to hold a council with him and learn what he wanted. On the 12th of April they entered his camp by his permission. But they never returned. The three were deliberately murdered. The body of Gen. Canby was found with two bullet holes through his head. He was one of the bravest and best officers in the army. He went through the Mexican and the late war, and now has been assassinated.

THE CONNECTICUT ELECTION.—The radicals are struck dumb over the result of the election in the "nutmeg" State. The majority of 5,406 for Ingersoll, the Democratic candidate for Governor, over Austin and Smith, the Radical and Temperance candidate, and a Democratic majority of eighteen on joint ballot in the Legislature, is overshadowing enlightenment to Radical cars. This State gave Grant over 4,000 majority last November. St. Louis elects a Democratic Mayor by over 4,000 majority. This is a clean turn round. Cincinnati, which has been Radical, to the tune of 3,000 to 6,000, elects a Democratic Mayor by 1,200. Cleveland, Toledo and other Radical strongholds have turned a new leaf. Grant and his relation, the Credit Mobilier business and other corruption rings, are yielding their seats.

The breaks caused by the recent wrecking of the Erie Railway have again been mended, and trains are again running regularly.

Real Estate Taxation.

Soon after the assembling of the Legislature Senator Wallace introduced a bill in the Senate repealing all the laws exempting real estate from taxation. This was to get on the tax-book millions of dollars worth of property which the Legislature in years past had foolishly exempted from taxation. The property alluded to was principally confined to the cities and boroughs throughout the State, consisting of Masonic Halls, Odd Fellows' Halls, etc., and was done in this way: Some sharp lot owner would conceive the idea of building a three or four story brick, with fine large store rooms and well arranged offices in the two lower stories, which he would rent for \$5,000 or \$10,000. He would rent the third or fourth story to the Masons or Odd Fellows and have it christened the Masonic or Odd Fellows' Hall. At the next meeting of the Legislature some philanthropic member would read a bill in place exempting such hall from taxation, and the bill would pass without even a call of the yeas and nays. And in this way a large amount of property in the State paid neither county, road, school, poor, borough, city, or any other taxes.

Under the bill passed below this property must pay its due proportion of tax, as well as farms and houses and lots, which are not half as profitable to the owners as that which has been stealthily exempted from all manner of taxation by stupid legislators. The following is a copy of the bill as it passed both houses:

AN ACT

To repeal all laws exempting real estate from tax.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, etc., That all real estate within this Commonwealth shall be liable to taxation for all such purposes as now is or hereafter may be provided by general laws, excepting only therefrom the classes of property specifically exempted from taxation by the twenty-ninth section of the act of the General Assembly, entitled "An Act to authorize the committee of Michael Fox, a lunatic, to sell and convey certain real estate and for other purposes," approved April sixteenth, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, as construed by the third section of the act of this General Assembly entitled "An Act to authorize the administrators of Henry Museum, late of Crawford county, deceased, to sell and convey certain real estate and for other purposes," approved July second, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, except that the quantity of land thereby exempted shall be and is hereby increased to ten acres instead of five as therein enacted, also exempting from taxation all parsonages owned by any church or religious society with the lands attached thereto not exceeding five acres, also exempting and exempting from each taxation all burial lots exempted by the provisions of the act of April fifth, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, entitled "An Act relative to incorporated cemetery companies," and the lands and premises of all cemetery companies where such property is held in trust for the sole purpose of improving said lands and premises and whose revenues of whatever kind are devoted to that object and in no way inure to the benefit or profit of the corporation or any of them, and also exempting and exempting from such taxation all lunatic asylums, almshouses, poor-houses, houses of refuge, penitentiaries, and asylums, schools and hospitals supported by the appropriations annually made thereto by this Commonwealth, together with the lands attached to the same, and also exempting and exempting from such taxation all charitable institutions founded by charitable gifts or otherwise, the chief revenues for the support of which are derived from voluntary contributions, together with the lands attached to the same; and all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this statute be and the same are hereby repealed. Provided, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed as repealing the fourth section of the act entitled "An Act to amend the revenue laws of this Commonwealth," approved February twenty-third, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six. And provided further, That no burial lots sold to individuals for burial of the dead shall be liable to levy and sale for any taxes whatsoever.

PROPERTY EXEMPTED FROM TAXATION

BY THE FOREGOING BILL:

All churches, meeting houses or other places of stated religious worship, with ten acres of land annexed thereto. All universities, colleges, academies and school houses belonging to any county, borough or school district, or incorporated, erected, endowed or established by virtue of the law of this State, with ten acres of land annexed thereto. All courthouses and jails. All parsonages owned by any church or religious society, with five acres of land attached thereto. All burial grounds belonging to any religious congregation. All burial lots belonging to any person or family.—All lands and premises belonging to cemetery companies where the revenues are used solely to improve such lands and premises. All lunatic asylums, almshouses, poor-houses, houses of refuge, and penitentiaries, with lands attached to same. All asylums, schools and hospitals, with the lands attached to the same, where the same are supported by State appropriations. All charitable institutions and lands attached thereto whose chief revenues are from voluntary contributions. The repealing clause subjects all classes of property not covered by these descriptions to general taxation.

STATE TREASURER.

The Radical leaders have about as much respect for the Constitution and the rights of the people as a wolf has for lambs.—No better evidence of this fact is needed than the action of that party in the Legislature upon the State Treasury question. The people last fall adopted an amendment to the Constitution, authorizing the election of a State Treasurer by popular vote. Yet the Legislature has just passed a bill continuing Mr. Mackey, the present incumbent, in office until May, 1874. It is a wonder they did not amend it five years. We are every day stating that a few Democratic Senators and members deported themselves very strangely upon this question, and it took us at this distance, as though "Bob" had "seen them."

The Appropriation.

The Congressional appropriation bill, as finally adopted, is one of the most infamous measures passed by the now deceased infamous Legislature.—If there is no improvement in morals and intelligence in the future, the members will steal the Capitol before three years pass around. But to the bill. The Twenty-third District is composed of the counties of Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Millin and Union. The State is apportioned into twenty-seven Districts. The Democrats will carry the following—eight—Districts: First, Eighth, Tenth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, and the Radicals will have nineteen members. The vote polled for Governor last fall was 67,141.—For Bucklewell, 317,700; for Hartman, 353,387. Thus every 21,110 would be entitled to a Congressman. But as arranged, in the bill in question, it takes 59,720 Democrats to elect a Congressman, while it takes but 18,600 Radicals. A discrimination of more than a hundred per cent. Can anything be more infamous and damnable?

The act in question transfers us from the XVth, by the bill vetoed by Gov. Geary, to the XXth, and strikes Snyder county off and is made up of the following counties:

Counties.	Dem. vote.	Rad. vote.
Centre.	3,112	3,292
Clearfield.	2,432	1,195
Clinton.	1,937	628
Elk.	1,343	1,746
Millin.	1,743	2,069
Union.	1,743	2,069
Total.	15,099	12,497
Dem. maj.	2,603	

Our Grand Inspector and Inquisitor of Consuls and Consulates.

When a man is out of his regular line of employment he will often turn his head to anything rather than rust or starve. *Vide Newman*, the divine, who not long since was the delight of the delightful congregation of the Methodist Episcopal church of Washington. The Rev. Newman, for some cause not positively known, lost his parsonage, and he and his family were reduced to the level of the common herd. He could pray at the Chief Magistrate no more, and the chaplaincy of the mighty Senate was insufficient to solace him. Where could he find comfort? Our amiable President has found it for him. The Washington correspondents tell us that his ex-parsonage has been appointed to the exalted office of Grand Inspector and Inquisitor of Consuls and Consulates to China, Japan and all the Oriental countries. Of a variety he was in luck in losing his parsonage. Poor pay and plenty of work were his lot in the Methodist temple. Rich rewards and easy times are before him now. He has nothing to do but travel like a prince, draw without limit on the Treasury and study the Heathen Chinee. Who wouldn't be pained to his ex-parsonage on such terms? When he returns all he will be expected to do is to imitate his wonderful predecessor. (Shades of laughter.) That you seek liberal counsel to have good seed sown in the chaos of virtue that surrounds you, is a hopeful sign of the times, and if you do not cheat us more than 30,000 in Philadelphia next fall, the places that know you now, will know most of you no more forever. [Laughter.] But I turn to the faint silver lining on the deep cloud of your record.—An act of this House gladdened the hearts of the whole people of the State, and re-inspired hope throughout its length and breadth of the Commonwealth. I refer to your vote in the midst of disorder that, at a Philadelphia fair, would be called a riot, on Monday evening last, fixing an early day for your final adjournment.—[Laughter and applause.] I have heard of no citizen of the State who [Laughter.] I am happy to point to it as the oasis in the wilderness, desert that you have made about you, and accord you credit for it. Hoping, gentlemen, if I may be pardoned for the use of the term, [laughter], that the length of your lives may correspond with the measure of your virtues, and that you will be succeeded by better men than yourselves, I bid you good night.

The Senator retired amid roving applause and a shower of paper balls.

Col. McClure's Lecture.

Just previous to the adjournment of the Legislature, on the 10th, the "Roosters" in the House had a resolution passed requesting Senator McClure to give them a lecture on reform.—The invitation was a long foretold, and the direction of the Philadelphia Ledger has the full speech, and as it is so much more to the point, and just as the Colonel would say it, we cannot refrain from giving it a place. It is rich, rare and rare:

Mr. Speaker and Commons of the State of Pennsylvania: I thank you for the distinction you have conferred upon me by your invitation to address you on the subject of reform. I know of no other body of men, either of the present or past, that needs instruction on the necessity of both public and private moral reform as much as the House of Representatives of this State, now before me (laughter), or that has so broadly and deeply experimented in the line of individual and official profligacy. [Laughter and applause.] I am not surprised, however, that it is when I consider that of the members serving in this House from my immediate locality, many were not even nominated, and few, if any, were ever elected. [Shades of laughter.] I am not surprised, however, that many days of anxious thought and labor, perfect, but you danced not when I piped to you, neither did you weep responsive to my mourning over the degeneracy of the body politic. I must admit, however, that you were prompt executors, for every bill that looked toward reform was negatived by a well-aimed and well-timed veto. But in political, as often in moral and religious circles, the darkest hour is just before the dawn of day, and it is gratifying that, after you have consumed all the harm you can possibly inflict upon the State, you have by a unanimous resolution called for a confession. [Laughter.] It was well to pause thus, just for the sake of novelty or reference, so that when the tempest breaks you can point to this coming act of contrition for the wrongs of the past, and constitute and to the Commonwealth. [Applause and sarcastic shouts.] Most of you who have for three months been serving in the places to which other persons were elected by the people, have discounted the retributive wave of popular reprobation by creating officers by legislative enactments, to which you hope to retire; and those unprovided for hope to be placed on the indefinite pay-roll of the pasters and the prevalent custom here to pension decrepit statesmen. (Shades of laughter.) That you seek liberal counsel to have good seed sown in the chaos of virtue that surrounds you, is a hopeful sign of the times, and if you do not cheat us more than 30,000 in Philadelphia next fall, the places that know you now, will know most of you no more forever. [Laughter.]

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New Advertisements.

Mercantile Appraisers' List

Class.	License.	Class.	License.
1. John G. Wright.	14 Wm. Har.	14 Wm. Har.	14 Wm. Har.
2. Miss E. A. Gray.	15 Thompson & Co.	15 Thompson & Co.	15 Thompson & Co.
3. R. Armstrong.	16 Catharine Graff.	16 Catharine Graff.	16 Catharine Graff.
4. Wm. Dickey.	17 Wm. A. Dick.	17 Wm. A. Dick.	17 Wm. A. Dick.
5. C. J. Keagy.	18 J. B. Spent.	18 J. B. Spent.	18 J. B. Spent.
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REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

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