The Republican.

George B. Goodlander, Editor.
CLEARFIELD, Pa.
WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 19, 1876.

Reader, if you want to know what is going on in the business world, just read our advertising columns, the *Special* column in particular.

A Big Committee.—The legislature has ordered a Centennial committee, composed of seventy-six members. Why not include the whole House—201 members?

Seth T. Hurd, editor of the Brownsville (Pa.) *Clipper*, died at his residence on the 26th ult., at the age of seventy-five years. He was a man of ability, and long experience as an editor.

The house of General W. H. H. Davis, of the Doylestown *Democrat*, was entered recently and $600 worth of silverware stolen.—*Exchange.*

Well, an editor has no business to keep such trash on hands. It's just good for him.

All Right.—Beecher, like a stag at bay, has turned fiercely on his assailants, lay and clerical, male and female. He solemnly asseverates that Mrs. Moulton has committed perjury, and strongly hints that the Rev. Dr. Storrs is a sneak.

Modern Cruelty.—Among the resolutions introduced into the Ohio legislature was one requesting President Grant to dismiss his relatives from office and appoint Union soldiers in their stead. This is cruelty to animals. Where is Bergh?

No less than thirteen "crooked" whisky ring men in Chicago confessed their sins on Friday last. This last act puts Bristow considerably ahead of all competitors in the reform line. "Bab.'s" reputation is not being vindicated by these new revelations.

The defeat of the pious Harlan for United States Senator in Iowa, and the election of Kirkwood, shows that Christian statesmanship has undergone a heavy decline in the estimation of the Iowa people. Poor Harlan! Like Belshazzar, his days are numbered.

Relatives.—An exchange says that Gen. Babcock's father-in-law is United States Marshal at Chicago, and very recently enjoyed the pleasure of arresting the General for his connection with the St. Louis whisky ring. There is nothing like keeping as much of the costs as possible in the family.

A Thundering Majority.—A Democratic majority of 5,000 in the municipal election in Memphis, is the response to Blaine's ferocious anti-amnesty speech. Two years ago this city gave the Rads 1,500 majority. The old leaven is evidently at work.

Thanks.—Congressman Mackey has our thanks for a file of the *Congressional Record*, a bound copy of the Morse Memorial, the Congressional Directory, and other public documents.

State Senator Boyer is entitled to a similar compliment for a file of the *Legislative Record* and a copy of the Auditor General's Report.

It Needs Explanation.—A writer opposed to capital punishment says:

It seems a little strange, a little inconsistent, that Christian ministers are usually found among the strongest advocates of capital punishment. Yet while they act on an eye for an eye and a tooth for tooth, and the old Mosaic code they preach to the doomed victim awaiting execution the mild and benignant doctrines of the New Testament, forgiveness of enemies and good for vil! What must he think of their consistency?

Still for Haven.—Referring to Bishop Haven's call upon his Methodist brethern to pray for a third term, the *Catholic Review* wittily says:

It strikes a good many people that this special prayer was precisely one of those which would have been all the better had it been offered in the Bishop's closet with the doors closed. But no doubt he prefers to pray where he is sure of being heard.

A Good Idea.—We notice by the legislative proceeding that Senator A. H. Dill, of Union county, introduced the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Finances be requested to prepare and report to the Senate a compilation of all tax laws now in force for State purposes, showing the amount received by the Treasurer from each subject of taxation for each year, commencing with the year 1870 to the present time.

Our tax laws are scattered all through Pardon's Digest in such a manner that one-half of the lawyers cannot find them. This resolution is a movement in the right direction.

The Demagogue's Howl.—The Radical howl about turning out soldiers by the Democratic Congress was pretty good stock until a few days ago. An investigation has developed the fact that, whereas, out of 153 subordinate positions in the last House only 18 were filled by Union soldiers, there are out of 85 subordinate positions in the present House 26 of them filled by Union soldiers. That ought to be sufficient to stop the "one-legged" clamor of the "super-loyal fools," who are only anxious to award patronage to the soldiers when it is not theirs to give.

To the Point.—The sworn statement of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, published according to legal requirement, shows a balance in the Sinking Fund, Dec. 31, 1875, of $1,225,995.65. An exchange asks the important questions: "Where is it deposited?" "Who gets the interest?" A very pertinent query, "Who gets the interest?" and the taxpayers would like to see it answered. The new State Treasurer is pledged to account for every cent of interest accrued, and he will shortly have an opportunity to practice his honesty.

Hon. Geo. A. Jenks.—The following compliment to the member of Congress from the Twenty-fifth district, from a leading Republican newspaper, shows that Mr. Jenks' abilities are appreciated. The New York *Times*, commenting on the fact that Pennsylvania had received the appointment of chairmanship of but two important committees—Appropriations and Pensions, says:

Hon. George A. Jenks, chairman of the committee on Pensions, is one of the young members of the Democratic side who is destined to make his mark during the present session. The position to which he has been appointed is one requiring a greater amount of ability than is generally conceded to a first term member. The confidence of the Speaker in this case is well placed. Mr. Jenks enjoys the reputation of being the leading lawyer in his section of the State, is an energetic, pains-taking gentleman, and will in all respects meet the requirements fully of the responsible committee of which he is the able head.

AMNESTY.

The amnesty debate, says the Lancaster *Intelligencer*, closed on the 13th inst., with a substantial victory for the friends of the measure. The bill was referred to the Judiciary committee with instructions to report it back with an amendment offered by Mr. Banks, requiring those who desire the benefit of its provisions to take an oath of fidelity to the Government. Mr. Blaine objected to give the committee permission to report immediately, and the final passage of the measure will be delayed a day or two until the committee is regularly called on to report; but there is no doubt that when the bill is reported back it will receive the assent of two-thirds of the House and will go to the Senate. What its fate there will be or when it gets into the hands of the President cannot be toretold, since heretofore a similar measure has passed the House and been defeated in the Senate, but it is probable that in this Centennial year of jubilee it may meet a different fate. Grant will scarcely veto it if it comes to him for approval, since it is not his game to play into the hands of Blaine.

The universal verdict in regard to Mr. Blaine is that he has greatly damaged himself by his course upon this question. His object undoubtedly was to make political capital for himself, but he has altogether failed in it and is regarded as out of the Presidential race unless another turn in the wheel of fortune shall enable him to redeem his chances as suddenly and effectively as he now seems to have damaged them. At present Bristow and Morton stand out with Grant as the aspirants for the Republican nomination. Grant will strive to throw his mantle upon Morton if he can no longer wear it himself, and Bristow will be the choice of those Republicans who are opposed to the Administration. Cincinnati has been selected as the place for holding the convention, and the location may be considered as favorable to Bristow's prospects. Philadelphia and Chicago were the competing cities, and the influences at either would probably have been more favorable to the Administration than are those at Cincinnati.

An Important Decision—The suit of Thomas and Charles Booz, surviving partners of Noble & Co., against the Western Union Telegraph Company, to recover $380, has been decided by the City Court of Baltimore, Md. Some time ago a party at Portsmouth, Ohio, sent a telegram to Noble & Co., ordering two boxes of oysters of one kind, and one box of another. The telegram, as received, read "twenty boxes," instead of two, and this caused the loss claimed. It was argued on behalf of the plaintiffs that the telegraph company was responsible by reason of its occupation, irrespective of any agreement on its blanks. Judge Brown instructed the jury that the telegraph companies were not common carriers; that the printed rules adopted by them became proof of the contract, and that the plaintiffs could not recover; first, because the dispatch was addressed in ambiguous language, which did not explain itself to the common understanding, and, in consequence, the company could not be held liable; and, second, the dispatch was not repeated, as required by the printed regulations; and had this been done, the error would have been detected at once. Whatever law applied to the sender, also applied to the receiver of the dispatch; both must notice, at their peril, the regulations of the company. Judge Brown concluded by instructing the jury to find a verdict for the defendants, which was done.

Setting Political Traps.—A portion of the Republican press seems to be a unit in boasting that Mr. Blaine, in offering his amendment to Mr. Randall's amnesty bill, excluding Mr. Jefferson Davis from its benefits, "set a political trap into which the ex-Confederates have walked." The Baltimore *Sun* says that it is probably true that Mr. Blaine's design was to entrap the Southern members into indiscreet utterances, but the wisdom of such a course, even in a political point of view, is questionable. Indeed, it seems probable that while Mr. Blaine may have temporarily triumphed in his political tactics, it was at the expense of the statesmanship which his friends have claimed for him. In the better days of the Republic the setting of "political traps" would have been deemed beneath the dignity of a Presidential aspirant. On the other hand, the independent conservative press of the country have united in deprecating the debate in the House as worse than useless. As the New York *Post* remarks: "It is both actively and passively hurtful; actively so, because it re-opens old wounds and revives old quarrels to no good purpose whatever; passively, because it consumes time which ought to be devoted to the doing of things that greatly need to be done."

Executive Idea of Tramps.—In his recent message, Governor Hartranft devotes a paragraph to tramps. He takes the only sensible position which can be held on that subject, believing that a really deserving person, if physically capable, will willingly work for his support, and that those who will not work should be imprisoned as vagrants. The Governor suggests that a registry be established to which all these vagrants or tramps should be made to resort, and where a record of their names, place of residence and appearance could be made, and where, upon application, if they were in absolute want, they could be assigned to some work upon the streets or roads, or some other necessary employment, in compensation for the assistance they might receive. A failure to report to this registry and an application to a residence for alms, should subject the applicant to an imprisonment. A system of this kind is in operation in some portions of the State of New York, and is said to be operating admirably.

Rather Democratic.—The Republicans of New Hampshire held their State convention on the 5th inst., and nominated P. C. Cheney for Governor. Among the planks in their platform is one in favor of return to specie payment; they declare against a third term, and want reconciliation with the South. This latter clause is a new and sensible departure for a Radical assemblage.

Dr. T. J. Boyer, State Senator from this district, has been placed on the Committees of Banks, Pensions and Gratuities, Public Printing, and Military Affairs. Col. W. R. Hartshorn, our Representative, is on the following: Judiciary Local, Centennial, and chairman of Military. Our military account has been expanding very much the past few years, and if the State officers continue the same schedule it will soon be one of the most costly features on our State list, and is far more ornamental than useful. We hope our members will get an inside view of this ornamental arrangement, and see that the accounts stop doubling up every year. The people of this State cannot afford to pay for a regiment of ornamental Generals, Colonels, Majors, etc. Let these gentlemen turn grangers, and they will produce something advantageous to the State and to themselves.

A Compliment.—The editor of the New York *Sun* has never been credited for being partial to Southern statesmen. The prevailing corruption in high places causes him to look around for honest men. In a recent issue of his journal, he remarks in this way:

Before the war the Southern States, as a rule, were represented in Congress by men who, whatever else might be said of them, never suffered under the imputation of being open to bribery. In those days a Congressman from the South, if he had been even suspected of venality, would not only have incurred political annihilation, but likewise, social ostracism. Since reconstruction, until now, the South has been mainly represented by carpet-baggers and scalawags, many of whom obtained their seats by the most reprehensible means, and have been notoriously corrupt. It is to be hoped that the native Southerner in the new House of Representatives will retrieve the character of the Southern delegation by firmly rejecting all inducements to trade their votes, whether these come in the shape of promised appropriations for objects beneficial to their constituents, or in the more vulgar form of direct personal emolument. A Southern Congressman who consents to condone any of the iniquities of the existing Administration for the sake of obtaining legislation advantageous to his own special locality, is guilty of as disgraceful treachery as one who would sell his vote for cash in hand, or an interest in the Washington real estate pool.

All New Hands.—The Harrisburg *Patriot*, in alluding to the fact that a general turning out of members of the Senate and House occurs next fall, unless the present members are re-elected, says that the legislature which assembles in this State next January, 1877, will be composed entirely of new members in both branches. The terms of all the members of the present State Senate will expire on the first day of December, 1876, and consequently at the election this year fifty new Senators will have to be elected. In the twenty-five odd numbered districts Senators will be elected to serve for four years, while in the twenty-seven even numbered districts those elected will serve two years. At the elections subsequent to 1876 Senators will be elected for four years. Two hundred and one members of the House will be elected every two years.

Another Radical Shebang Suspended.—The Lancaster Inland Insurance and Banking Co. closed its doors on Monday of last week, the 10th inst. This was a Cameron-Muhlenburg concern, and was run in the interests of politicians rather than for the benefit of business men. The Lancaster city school boards have $1,500 of its funds locked up. State Treasurer Mackey had $10,000 on deposit; ex-Sheiff Graft $6,000, City Treasurer Herr $10,000, and others with their thousands follow. This was a pure Radical shebang, run in the interests of a few politicians who have sqandered their own funds and those of their friends like water.

Moody is Funny.—An exchange says that in his sermon on Friday a week, Moody spoke of the shaky old patriarch Lot, as "the Honorable John C. Lot, Representative from Sodom." The Philadelphia *Bulletin* shudders to think of the horror with which many of the good people who enjoyed this diversion would regard a wicked newspaper which should allude to another patriarch as Alexander T. Noah; or the Lamentations as William B. Jeremiah.

Now Settled.—A Radical exchange says:

A smart Democratic paper suggests that "the next National Republican Convention be held in the St. Louis penitentiary, as quite a number of the leaders of the party have secured quarters there already.

The National Committee did not heed the suggestion, but selected Cincinnati instead of the building indicated, for fear, no doubt, that it would be full of "crooked" whisky delegates by next June.

The Williamsport *Sun* says that "Brother Meek, of the Bellefonte *Watchman*, neglected to puff Governor Hartranft when he visited Bellefonte, and now gives him a handsome apology on new type, which should satisfy the most ambitious Governor the world ever saw. There can be no doubt Hartranft is ambitious enough."

Save the Dollar.—It appears from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States that our debt is now $2,192,000,000. There are $147,000,000 in the Treasury. In the name of conscience why have we not with it bought bonds, and to that extent paid off the debt? The interest on $147,000,000 is $7,500,000 a year. By saving it, which should have been done, we would have saved a dollar to every voter and head of a family in the United States. This, in these times of scarcity of dollars, is no trivial saving. Why was it not done? We will answer. The money is being kept to resume specie payments with. This proposition costs everybody annually a dollar. We have thrown away in the last ten years near seventy millions of dollars, which might have been saved in taxes from the people. This is what we are paying for what Governor Allen forcibly and appropriately termed "a barren ideality." The policy of the Government in its presents hands, is not to pay our debt, but to continue it indefinitely upon a specie basis.

The Difference.—The editor of the New York *World*, while moralizing over royalty and mock royalty, says: It is better to be the son of a Republican President of the United States and a cadet at West Point than the son of a prince of the House of Orleans and a lieutenant-colonel in the French Navy. Mr. Frederick Grant, a youth of less than thirty summers considerably, has already become a lieutenant-colonel in the American Army. But the Duke of Penthievre, aged thirty, a son of the Prince de Joinville, who is a lieutenant in the French Navy, and who has just applied for promotion, has been informed by the Council of the French Admiralty that he has not held his grade long enough and must wait his proper time.

There is a bill before the Ohio Legislature, to make forcible entry at night into chicken coops and corn cribs, burglary. If it wouldn't be interfering with the "civil rights" act, such a law would be desirable in Pennsylvania.

LETTER NUMER TWO.

Home, January 17th, 1875.

That the enemies of the Democratic organization are willing at all times to sink their own principles in any scheme that promises to bring success to them and defeat us, needs no proof to those who remember the repeated change of principles and of name their party has undergone. In days past they have changed their name, covered themselves with darkness and avoided light, appealed to prejudice, and ignored sense and reason, and did all of these only to beat and defeat the success of our principles. Their victory was short-lived and our resurrection came quickly.

History repeats itself, and Jefferson's maxim, "The arraignment of abuses at the bar of public reason," is again forgotten and ignored, and Grant and his party are preparing now to seek darkness and avoid light. They will not appeal to reason, but are endeavoring to arouse prejudice and passion. Secret societies and oath-bound conclaves are about to be substituted for an appeal to the intelligence of the people. If any one doubts that the sole purpose of these political secret societies is to deceive Democrats and to perpetuate the power of those who have brought the country to its present condition, let him remember 1850 and its dark-lantern history. Why are the O. U. A.'s brought to the front now? Why is it necessary to meet at mid-night, and with the right hand on the Bible and the left on the flag, swear to be secret and to support the Constitution and the Common Schools? Who are attacking them? Who can attack them under the Constitution? The answer is a plain one. This O. U. A. Society and its kindred, the '76ers, are intended only to capture silly Democrats to maintain Radical power. Look around you; who led them among you? Is it Democrats in whom you have confidence? No! the very worst element of Radicalism in your county is at its head, and you *blindly* follow! An appeal to predjudice by men who seek public office and political power is no new thing, but it is a strange thing that those who believe in the principles of Democracy are willing to follow such leaders through the O. U. A.'s and the '76ers into the camp of Grant and the Radicals. *Do the blind lead the blind?* How earnest is the convert who has already been the leader of faction when he meets you at the door and speaks for you, proclaiming that you "have been oppressed by capitalists and have come for relief." And how true his words were too, if you happened to be a man who has sought office for years and was never known to labor, or was then living on the industry of your wife, or was an active seeker for a deputy-ship about the Court House. In all of these cases, you and each of you needed relief. With what unction you must have received the lecture of the *laborious* schoolmaster, who told you his object was to protect you against the oppressions of capital, and how the sonorous periods of this long-winded address must have split the ears of the groundlings. And then comes the oath. How grave and solemn! The open Bible in the centre of the sacred place. How binding and how forcible! Administered by those who neither follow its precepts, nor believe its teachings! Of course, you were bound by that oath to vote for and elect to office a man who neither believed nor followed its teachings. And then the terrible penalty! Hear the judge pronounce the anathema: "If you reveal the secrets of this organization, or violate its injunctions, "we will hurl at your head a curse so "potent that you will never recover "from it." *Duck your head or send for the doctor!*

But enough. We reserve for the future more of the workings of the majestic power of the secret circle.

A secret oath-bound organization for political purposes is always a wrong in a free State and among a free people. It is sure to become the tool of its worst members, and to be used for the vilest purposes. Are the manipulators of this organization men who labor? Are they recognized as pure and honorable men? Are they street-brawlers, political mendicants, or vagrant office-seekers? There are honest men in all such associations, but they become the tools of designing demagogues and are deceived to forward the ends of those who betray them. The liberty of obeying their own judgment is taken from them. They are sworn to obey the command of those who lead. Is this liberty? If you have grievances, does your common sense tell you this is the way to correct them? Is it not wiser to heed the maxims of Jefferson, and arraign the abuses that oppress you at the bar of public reason? Remember you are following the blind into the camp of Radicalism, and you are forgetting your own

Common Sense.

SENATOR STRANGS BLUNDER.

We regret the spirit of unfairness which induces the Republican newspapers of the State to condemn in advance the actions and motives of the Democratic House at Harrisburg.—The point has been the howl against the House on the subject of the threatened deadlock on the question of beginning legislation anew. From the remarks of Representative Parker in the House, on Thursday, it seems the whole trouble arose from Senator Strang's resolution of last winter, providing that legislation should begin anew.

Mr. Parker said, that while the Democratic party intended no factious opposition to the proposition of the Senate, yet in as much as the position of the Senate under Senator Strang's resolution *assumed* that under parliamentary practice the legislation must begin where left off last session, unless otherwise ordered by joint resolution, the Democrats made the issue for the purpose of determining through a committee what was the rule of practice in other bodies, in like cases.

The recognized authorities on the subject declare the practice to be to begin anew, unless otherwise ordered by joint resolution. The joint committee of the Senate and House so reported, so it appears that if Senator Strang's resolution had not misled the discussion, the whole question would have been determined under the recognized rules of Legislative practice without any muss at all.

Equally unfair is the insinuation of the correspondent of a contemporary that the House was backed from its position through Mr. Mackey's refusal to pay members their salaries on the ground that unless this is a new Legislature the law would not authorize such payment.

If the correspondent be a legislative "solon" himself he should depend on the act of Assembly rather than Mr. Mackey's say so. The act declares that for an adjourned annual session the members shall receive the same compensation as at other sessions.—The correspondent has been gulled by Mackey, who, if he had given the real reason, would have said he had no money in the Treasury. We think that in this matter the House is entitled to the credit of having acted with dignity, wisdom and honesty.—*Doylestown Democrat.*

One of the late zephyrs in Minnesota is reported to have blown two sheep into the top of a tree a mile away from their grazing place. The rest of the flock had presence of mind enough to hold on to the grass with their teeth.

Jesse Pomeroy, the Boston boy murderer, says he has read sixty dime novels. To hang a young man of his literary culture would be an outrage.

NEWS ITEMS.

—George Francis Train is again in training for the Presidency.

—John Allen, aged 83 was married way down in Maine to a lady of 65.

—Dickenson & Co., bankers, of New York, made an assignment last week.

—A resident of Huntingdon county, has caught thirty-six racoons this season.

—General Gordon Granger died at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the night of January 10th, of paralysis.

—The snow is so deep in the mining districts of Utah that all travel and transportation of ore is impossible.

—The Michigan lumbering interest, which is one of the heaviest in that State, is suffering from an over-supply.

—It is estimated that about $12,000 worth of dried fish are monthly sent from San Francisco to China by the Chinese.

—A recommendation to abolish several United States Navy Yards, including that at Washington, D. C., will shortly be considered.

—Timothy Kirby, an old citizen of Cincinnati, died in that city recently, leaving an estate valued at between $2,000,000 and $3,000,000.

—Less business is done on tick here than in England. The number of our watch and clock makers is 3,595, while Great Britain boasts 21,273.

—In Bradford county, the other day, a father aged ninety years boxed his son's ears severely for abusing his wife. The boy is about sixty years.

—Washington Hays, of Butts county, Ga., has lost three sons through gunpowder accidents. The last of the three was killed on Christmas.

—In the court house at Sunbury may be found a desk and eagle quill which dates back to 1772. So say the grand jury in their official report.

—Jimmy Hamill, the renowned oarsman, at one time champion of America, died in Pittsburgh, on the 10th inst., in the thirty-eighth year of his age.

—Last year New York had 1,418 fires, an average of nearly four a day, involving a loss of $2,500,000, four-fifths of it representing goods and merchandise.

—The Governor of Maine wants the Legislature to pass a law enpowering juries to affix either the penalty of death or imprisonment for life in capital cases.

—The Georgia negroes are said to be migrating westward. Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana, being the favored localities where they intend to pitch their tents.

—Robberies in the rural districts of Berks county are so numerous that farmers are employing private watchmen to protect them against the depredations of thieves.

—The Lackawana coal region, it is said, will continue to produce coal throughout the winter, unaffected by the suspension in the Schuylkill and Wyoming districts.

—The net earnings of the North Pennsylvania railroad for the year ending October 31, 1875, were $512,192.35. After paying interest and taxes there remained $160,527 on hand.

—Thad. Stevens' housekeeper has been allowed $7,714 for services as housekeeper by the executors of Mr. Stevens, and Dr. H. Carpenter gets $4,000 for professional services.

—Plymouth Church has succeded in preventing the "mutual council" demanded by Mrs. Moulton. Henry Ward is afraid to face the music of an honest investigation of the scandal.

—Allentown, Pa., has thirty segar factories, which turn out monthly 300,000. She is the third largest manufacturer of segars in the United States, New York being first and Detroit second.

—One of the important points of contrast between the days of 1776 and the present time is found in Wall street. When the Declaration of Independence was signed there was not a bank in America.

—A Massachusetts man is making trunks entirely of paper, without any frame and with no other material except trimmings of leather. Baggage masters will be apt to make *papier mache* of them.

—There are now in the Pennsylvania Training School for the Feeble-Minded 221 inmates, of whom 155 are from this Commonwealth, one from India, and the remainder divided among different States.

—The last descendant of the famous navigator, American Vespucci, who gave his name to the New World, has just died near Florence. He bore the same name as the great sailor of the fifteenth century.

—Dr. S. G. Howe, founder of the Institution for the Blind in Boston, died on the 9th inst., aged seventy-four years. He was affected with a disease of the brain and had been in feeble health for several weeks.

—Thirteen of Chicago's "crooked" distillers appeared before Judge Boutell, in the U. S. District Court on Friday, and plead guilty to the charge of conspiracy to defraud the Government. "Let no guilty man escape."

—The Hebrews have made application to the Centennial Commissioners for permission to erect a restaurant on the Centennial grounds for the accommodation of the 75,000 Israelites who are expected to visit the exhibition and who will observe the dietary laws of their religion.

—Mr. Joshua Montgomery Sears, a student in Yale College, attained his majority on Christmas day, and with it stepped into the possession of a neat little property estimated at $9,000,000. About one-half of the property consists of real estate in Boston.

—Clinton county, Iowa, stood in the way of a thoroughbred hurricane last week, that cut across the country without any regard for line fences, and unrooted more barns and demolished more small buildings and little shops than can be repaired in a month.

—John Dillon, of Chester county, has been imprisoned for stealing 20 steers from the stable of Sylvester Kennedy. The thief was detected by the owner in driving sixteen of the steers to the farm of a man to whom he had sold them.

—The Philadelphia Chess Club offers playing accomodations and the sum of $250 at least as a nucleus for a fund for a grand international chess tournament, to be held under the auspices of the Philadelphia Chess Club during the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

—A resolution has been introduced in the Senate, fixing a fine of $500, or one year's imprisonment, or both, upon any physician falsely and wilfully certifying to the insanity of any person under the provisions of the act providing for the admission of the insane into hospitals.

—Jos. LaPage, was tried at Concord, N. H., last week, for the murder of a school girl, by cutting off her head with an axe, on the 4th of October last. He was found guilty and sentenced to be confined in the State prison at Concord, until January 19th, 1877, and then to be hanged.

—Burglars broke into a drug store at Osborn, Mo., on the night of the 6th inst., and stole a bottle of chloroform, with which they drugged the whole town. They robbed two hotels, all the stores and many private residences, securing several thousand dollars and making good their escape.

ASSOCIATED PRESS LETTER

Philadelphia, Jan. 17, 1876.

THE CENTENNIAL.

New England having contributed a couple of dollars or so towards the Great Exhibition, and the president of the Centennial Commission—salary $10,000 per annum—the land of steady habits has devised a plan whereby she can get her money back again. Yankee enterprise does it in this way: A log house is to be erected, in one end of which will be, on a large scale, the kitchen of a New England farmer, about the period that Israel Putman performed some wonderful feats of equestrianism; at the opposite end of the cabin will be a kitchen of the present period, with all the appliances for broiling chop, making lobster salad or any other compound concoction of culinary artistes. Each kitchen will have six beautiful female cooks, the 1776 girls will be dressed in homespun, the others in the quite fashionable costume of Bridget of 1876. A dinner will be served daily to a limited number of guests—say at five dollars per man per dinner; those who want cold pork and molasses, or hot pork and cabbage, corn bread, rye coffee, etc., can obtain them at the homespun end, where the cooking is all to be done in a huge open fireplace. If the epicure wants to dine on fish en Matelotte, steak a la Soyer, cutlets a la Brochette, Braised beef a la Francaise, turkey a la Anglaise or terapin a la Claremonte, he must go to the 1876 end of that cabin.

As the keeper of the restaurant pays $50,000 for the privilege of giving a hungry man a fifty cent dinner and charging him $2.50 for it within the Exhibition grounds, and as this New England kitchen pays nothing for the privilege of humbugging us out of our ducats I confess that the "Yanks" have played a sharp trick on our Commissioners. As the 1776 girls are to wear short gowns reaching to where the garter used to be worn, I really regret that unattractive brown and gray woolen stockings are to be worn; how much more patriotic would be those red and white striped hose, with stars at the top, now so fashionable.

A number of Japanese houses are on their way here; they will be erected without the sound of hammer being heard, no nails being used in their erection. 300 bundles of bamboo have arrived from China; from this cane the Chinese make almost everything, from a temple to a toy.

Things are far from peaceful in the Womens' Centennial committee. One lady wanted to exhibit the style of costumes worn from 1776 down to this time and Mrs. Gillespie, president of the committee, will not have any such old "trumpery" in her new pavilion. The would-be exhibitor of antiquated costumes threatens to appeal to Director Goshorn, and the bachelor Director threatens to resign if the women don't quit flaunting their habilments under his official nose.

By all who have given the question proper consideration it is considered that at least three millions of people will visit the Centennial city during the 6 months the exhibition is open. As there will be 150 working days in which to carry passengers, it will require transportation companies to provide conveyance for a daily average of about 40,000—20,000 each way—for a period of six months. All our railroad officers are doing their level best to meet this extraordinary demand upon them, but while doing this I fear they are overlooking the importance of fast freight lines. These 3,000,000 people will have to be fed, and the subsistence they otherwise would take at their homes must be brought here, and butter, eggs, poultry, fresh meats and vegetables will require to be transported as rapidly as passengers. Thus far too little consideration has been given to this food freight business, and as a consequence many of our citizens have bargained for the butter, from April to November, at one dollar per pound; eggs at sixty cents per dozen, and everything in proportion. Once again I remind your readers that they will find here a ready market for all kinds of farm products, at prices higher than ever before, and they who get the earliest spring chickens, lamb, green corn, etc., into market will reap the richest harvest. This is the healthy year for the farmers' boys, and if they are wise they will take advantage of it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Fletcher, the man who entertained a grudge for two years against George Hanley, and who "made it up" with him in the morning, and at night killed him, has been found guilty of murder, and before 90 days he will shoot up in the air like a huge rocket, as the 700 pound weight at the other end of the hempen cord drops to the earth. Judge Biddle, before whom the case was tried, stated that it was time that a stop was put to these rum murders; that the verdict must be guilty, or, not guilty. Far better men have been hung and I apprehend that Governor Hartranft will permit Fletcher to dance a minute in mid-air.

Mr. Jones, from Moorestown, N. J., came to this city with a heap of money in his pocket which Mr. Thos. Plyacite nearly transferred from Jones' pocket to his own, as the Jerseyman was leaving the ferry boat. Fortunately officer Neff saw the operation, and took the pick-pocket into custody. That thief will *ply* a *sight* at shoemaking in the penitentiary during the two years of incarceration

Mr. James Dougherty lives in Wilmington, Del., he is a "broth of an Irishman," and had about $50 in his pantaloons, which Mary Jackson, a buxom looking oat-straw colored wench, relieved him of after enticing him into her boudoir. Dougherty says "the bloody nagurs, they will steal even if they ain't black at all, at all."

A thief by the name of Freeman went into one of our largest jewelry stores about two years ago, under pretense of purchasing a valuable ring; while examining the tray containing rings, Freeman managed to slip a $1,500 diamond ring into his pocket, leaving a paste ring—almost a fac simile of the genuine—in its place. Immediately after he left the store the exchange was discovered, and a few days afterwards Freeman was arrested, tried and convicted. His sentence was delayed in order to investigate the allegation he made that the police officers stole the diamonds from him at the station house, that he abstracted from the jewelry store; the investigation proved him a liar as well as thief, and so an indignant judge was about to impose the heaviest sentence of the law upon him.

Freeman saw mischief in the eyes of the judge, and asking the tip stave, who stood beside him, to get him a glass of water from the cooler a short distance off, Freeman took advantage of his absence, leaped out of the dock over the heads of lawyers and clients, and out of the nearest window, a high second story one, to the yard of Independence Hall, through the Hall into Chestnut street and around to Fourth and Market, three squares away, before judge and jurymen, counselers and clients recovered from their astonishment. From there this *free man* went to California, carried on the same business and was nabbed by the police, gave straw bail and escaped to England, where he did a thriving trade in exchanging paste for pure diamonds. From England he came to Baltimore, and last week he was caught and brought back to this city, and as I stood beside him in Court Freeman remarked: "All I have lived for these few years is the Centennial; gladly would I give $10,000 to get out of this scrape."

DISTRICT TREASURY LAW.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the qualified electors of the several borough and townships in the county of Clearfield shall, at the next election for borough and township officers, and every second year thereafter, elect one citizen of said borough or township as district treasurer, who shall hold his office for the term of two years from the first day of January after his election, and who, by virtue of his office, shall have the charge, keeping and custody of all school, road, poor and other moneys and taxes of whatever name and kind there may be belonging to such borough or township; and the said district treasurer shall be required to give bond, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties and for the prompt payment of all moneys, by him received, in accordance with law, upon the orders of the proper officers, and to his successor in office at the expiration of his official term; the said bond to be in double the amount of moneys likely to come into the hands of such district treasurer, the amount whereof shall be fixed by the borough or township auditors, as the case may be; and there shall be two sureties in said bond, both of whom shall reside in said township or borough, and their sufficiency shall be approved by the said auditors by endorsing the word "approved" upon the said bond, and signing their names thereto, and the said bond shall be filed and remain with the prothonotary of the court of common pleas.

Sec. 2. That said district treasurer shall give bond, as now provided by law, for the custody of all moneys that shall come into his hands, and shall in all respects be subject to the laws now in force providing for the receipt, collection, security and disbursements of such money.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the board of school directors, supervisors, overseers of the poor and town council to assess and make out two duplicates, one each of which shall be placed in the hands of the district treasurer, and one each for the collector of school, road, poor and borough tax; and all such collectors of taxes shall pay the same to the district treasurer, taking his receipt therefor; and they shall not be discharged from liability on their respective duplicates by payments made to any other person; *Provided*, Persons working upon the roads or streets of the respective boroughs and townships under existing laws, may obtain credit upon their taxes, by an order drawn by the supervisors or town council upon the district treasurer for the amounts of such taxes or any part thereof, which order shall be charged to the supervisors or town council, and be settled by the auditors in settling his accounts, as provided by existing laws; *Provided further*, That the district treasurer shall give due notice, by posting not less than three written or printed notices, of the taxes levied, and that if the said taxes be paid to the district treasurer within thirty days thereafter the party paying shall be entitled to a discount of five per cent.

Sec. 4. That in case of death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, of the treasurer elect, it shall be the duty of the judges of the court of common pleas of said county to appoint a suitable person to fill the vacancy until the next election or until a successor is duly qualified, and all laws or parts of laws inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved—The ninth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

A SUPPLEMENT.

Section 1. *Be it enacted, &c.*, That it shall not be lawful for any District Treasurer elected or that may hereafter be elected, under the Act to which this is a supplement, to hold any other office in said borough or township, and said District Treasurer shall not be entitled to receive any percentage for moneys received or paid out by him.

Sec. 2. That the expeses of advertising by the District Treasurer and all necessary books and blanks furnished by him shall be paid to said Treasurer by the different boards, bills and vouchers being furnished them and approved.

Sec. 3. That if said District Treasurer, at the expiration of his term of office, neglects or refuses to pay over to his successors, when duly qualified, all moneys or balances remaining in his hands, he shall be liable for interest on the amounts, at the rate of six per centum per annum, to be recoverable as debts of like amounts are now recoverable by the laws of this Commonwealth, after having received fifteen days notice, which notice shall be given by the Auditor of said borough or township when the bonds or sureties of the Treasurer elect shall have been approved by him.

Sec. 4. That all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed.

Approved—The twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three.

A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT.

Section 1. *Be it enacted, &c.*, That the first section of the Act of this General Assembly, entitled a Supplement to an Act entitled an Act authorizing the election of District Treasurers in the county of Clearfield, approved the twenty-seventh day of February, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, be so amended so as to add to the end these words:—"Except such compensation as shall be fixed and settled by the Auditors of the said borough or township."

Approved—The twenty-seventh day of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three.

PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN.

We had thought that this motto was always emblazoned on the Democratic banner. We are sure that it ought to be there. But, judging by what we read in the newspapers, we are inclined to think that some Democrats would reverse the words, and inscribe, "Men, not principles." Why has there been so much felt, and said, and done, within the party, in relation to men?—Why has there been so much charged or hinted against certain candidates? Why has there been such a display of disappointment, vexation, even bitterness, because certain men did not receive nominations? Recalling to mind what was said and done in connection with nomination for United States Senator, Governor, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, we venture to say that some of our cotemporaries are rather forgetful of principles, and, at the same time, rather forgetful of sound policy. Of course, every citizen has a right to name his candidate and state the grounds of his choice; but every Democrat should, on the ground of justice, be cautious how he disparages the character of public men. Good character is a man's best capital. Good character in political leaders is very important to a party. Good character will surely win votes.

The Democratic party must maintain great principles. It must reform the Government. It must do all this by the instrumentality of men. It must succeed in the elections; and, to do this, it must have candidates whose characters are irreproachable. The Democratic party will soon need candidates for President and Vice President. It must have candidates who will command universal confidence, arouse enthusiasm, secure united energetic action. Happily the Democratic party has the advantage afforded by a strong array of able and good men. Let the party use this advantage carefully and wisely. Let there be no charges or insinuation recklessly flung or whispered around against this man or that man. Personal like and dislike, sectional feeling, State pride, should have no influence whatever in the selection of candidates. Strife about men, or contention about the claims of a section, is always foolish and dangerous, and, in the present critical condition of the country, would be sheer madness. Let Editors and all others write and speak prudently; let the National convention calmly and deliberately select a ticket; let the party promptly and fully acquiesce in the nominations; and let every Democrat go to work to secure a victory—a victory, not for men, but for principles.—*Clarion Jacksonian.*

WORDS OF WISDOM.

The wisdom of the Methodist church did not die with the advent of Bishop Haven's folly. The Pittsburgh *Christian Advocate* has a recent bold article upon the subject which has flung into the political arena and arrives at very decided conclusions upon its addle-headed ecclesiastic. It commences with the God-in-the-constitution lunatics and gives them this below:

For four years at least there has been an unbending effort by a considerable body of men with more zeal than discretion to force into our fundamental law a recogniton of God. To this, merely, very few will object, for very few object to it when made in the President's thanksgiving proclamations, in the prayers in Congress and in other ways by those who stand for the national authority. The opposition to this movement springs out of the settled conviction of the majority that those who are opprobriously called 'The God-in-the-constitution party,' will not remain satisfied with such a constitutional acknowledgment of the Supreme Being as the Jew, the Unitarian and the large class of Freethinkers who have not gone beyond Theism will be content with. To suppose that they will is to suppose what the whole history of such movements renders doubtful.

The character of our government is thus set forth by the *Advocate*:

This is not a Catholic government, it is not a Protestant government; it is simply a Christian government, and that in the broadest possible meaning of the word. An eminent minister once asked Alexander Hamilton why a recognition of God had not been placed in the Constitution. Hamilton answered, "indeed, doctor we forgot it." But that was not true. They did not forget it. The men of convention were the last men in the world to forget anything of the kind. If we mistake not they rejected Franklin's proposal to open their daily sittings with prayer. And why? Certainly not because they had met to frame a secular instrument of government and wished to be consistent in so doing and to leave no precedent which any association or party ever thereafter could use in establishing a union of church and State, directly or indirectly.

Why did they make our constitution secular? Because they knew that the most galling despotism that their fathers ever suffered in the mother country was the despotism of the house of Stuart. They knew that the basest tools of that despotism were the prominent clergy of the church of England. They knew that religion in the hands of the Stuart kings was the power that crushed the ancient liberties of the realm. They knew that it was this power, wrested from the hand of the First Charles, which brought him to the block. They knew that it was religion in the hands of Cromwell which enabled him to supplant the Stuart despotism with one of his own. They knew that it was religion, perverted and corrupted by political associations, which brought upon England the woes of two revolutions. In a word, they knew that the blackest period in the constitutional history of England was the period in which religion mingled with the strife of political factions. That is why they made our constitution secular. They meant to sever church and State, faith and faction, once and forever. They meant to establish a government which would secure the utmost religious freedom to all, which would protect every sect in the enjoyment of its rights, while itself stood apart, the friend of all sects, but the patron of none, and with no religious character whatever except what it received from the people composing it, and from accepting those great principles of truth and justice which underlie all nominally Christian governments. Doubtless they one and all believed that to give the government a constitutionally expressed creed of any kind would be to open the door to the very evils which they most earnestly sought to shut out. They knew, what every man ought to know now, that it would be impossible to state a creed which would satisfy all, and therefore consistency as well as safety required them to do just what they did—make a government without any creed.

We end as we began; the religious question, which has caused more sorrow, cruelty and crime than any other which ever vexed a nation, is fairly and squarely before us. It remains for all patriotic men to say whether our government shall be what its founders intended, and what one of its noblest citizens said it should, a "government for the people and by the people," the whole people; or whether it shall be the prey of whatever Popish or Protestant sect may grasp it.

THE RATE OF INTEREST.

The following excellent article on this subject we clip from a late number of the Pittsburg *Commercial*.—Read it.

One of the strongest arguments used by the inflationists during the last political campaign was the fact cited by them of the high rate of interest still exacted from borrowers. While money on call was a mere drug in New York and at other money centers, and the banks were overflowing with unused money, the needy borrowers who could not put up first-class collaterals were still compelled to pay exorbitant rates of interest.

Those high rates became established when money was plenty and times were easy; and when times grew hard the necessities of borrowers compelled them to pay whatever lenders chose to exact. In the cases of many who have failed within the year just closed, the assets of which would have afforded a good dividend to creditors in 1873, have been since used up in trying to avoid bankruptcy by paying high rates of interest. The usurers have thus got what should have gone to the creditors had that been yielded to in 1873 which in 1875 proved inevitable.

We do not mean to engage in any warfare upon money lenders, nor to indulge in any reflection upon those who choose to invest their means in the purchase of evidences of debt, but we feel justified in submitting to all who are engaged in such business whether the time has not come for reduced rates of interest? This is not a question personally addressed to particular individuals, but a question of general interest for general consideration, involving the business prosperity of all who are engaged in manufacturing or commercial pursuits. And it is a question which cannot be shirked.—It is pressing now for consideration, and it is one that must be met.

The prices of everything else are coming down to the old basis very fast, and why should not the prices of money keep pace with the general reduction? The prices of labor, of iron, of the necessaries of life, and of all the products of human industry, are tending rapidly to the standard which prevailed prior to 1861, and the general cry is that we must get down to "hardpan" before the shrinkage ceases and before recuperation begins. But why should everything else get down to "hardpan" but money? We venture to predict that there will be no general recovery from the present depression until money, like everything else, has got down to its normal and real value.

We have heard of instances where new mortgages have been negotiated at six per cent. to take up old mortgages at ten per cent., and we have been glad to note this willingness to come down to the legal rate, even if it be but partial. Many a man can afford to pay six per cent. who cannot afford to pay eight and ten; and such has been the shrinkage in values, and in the profits of trade, that it is unwise to expect that men who, in flush times, were able to pay high rates for money, can now afford to continue their payment. The times have changed; trade has changed; the rate of compensation has changed; and the rate for the use of money should adapt itself to these changes. The man who earned two dollars a day by his labor, a few years ago, can now earn but one; the merchant who made twenty per cent. on his sales has now to be content with five, and the manufacturer who was wont to reap a high rate of profit on his goods is now satisfied, in many cases, to sell his wares at cost.

If, therefore, the borrowers are compelled to accept of less profit on what they make or sell, the lenders must be content to accept a corresponding rate for what they lend. Otherwise borrowers must cease to be borrowers. Men will not long continue to pay out all their gains for interest, and it is as great a folly as it ever was to kill the goose that lays the golden egg. We must all get down to the same common level in business affairs, and the change for the better will not come until we do.

We repeat that all we have here said is strictly impersonal, and incapable of any special application. It is intended to be general in its application and effect. If labor must come down, rents and other charges must also come down, and if trade is to recuperate, the burdens upon trade must be lessened. Money lenders must learn to be satisfied with less profits. They may prosper, for awhile, upon the misfortunes of the community; but their permanent prosperity depends upon the general prosperity of the community in which they operate.

We will not press this matter further, just now; but it is time that public attention should be directed to it, and we have done our duty, for the present, in suggesting it for public consideration.

SIGNS OF WAKING.

No one who observes the signs of the times could fail to see the lethargy which had seized upon the people within the last decade, and the almost superhuman efforts it required to stimulate the attention of the masses to the fact that selfish politicians, for sinister purposes, were drawing them into a vortex of destruction not less fatal than the delusion with which they were bound.

Words of admonition and warning fell on the listless ear of the public as an idle tale, and no amount of the strongest appeals would seem to have aroused to action the dull sleepers who guarded the citadel of freedom.

As it the siren song had lulled the mighty hosts that make up the army of the nation's freemen, to their last long sleep, thus dreamed, or lay helpless the avengers of a nation's wrongs—of wrongs not inflicted by a foreign foe, but by the insiduous snares that were twined around their feet by their own chosen rulers and their wily masters.

These rulers and masters, or better, these corrupt schemers for wealth and position at the expense of their constituents, tickled the fancy of their dupes with false promises and flattery and with great surges of the bloody shirt, so as to madden the people, as they do in the Spanish arena the taurean victim with the red flag, luring the raging beast to defeat and disaster.

Thus it has been, and thus it was done in our high places, and by the rabble who elevated and sustained them until the whole prosperity of the country has been destroyed, and until business languishes in every county in all the States, until starvation stands in its gaunt form at many a cabin door ready to strike down, with hunger and famine, the inmates of what was, but a short while ago, a happy home.

It may be said by some that the party in power is not responsible for such a result, and that it is due to the business management of the people.

It would take a vast amount of specious pleading to make the people believe this. Legislators and executive officers are chosen to provide for the exigencies which effect the masses, and especially has the constitution charged Congress with the control of the national finances. There has been blundering, and that blundering has been most disastrous to the laboring and business classes, and, that the rich have become richer, and the poor, poorer, is an undisguised fact and luminously potent to all eyes not blinded by gloating over undeserved gains.

There is, now, however, a gleam of light. Plundering rings in Philadelphia are trembling on the brink of conscious ruin, overturned by the fury of a robbed populace. In Pittsburgh, the crack of their final doom is startling the vampires of public plunder.

The whisky rings of Chicago and St. Louis are drinking the cup brimful of fraud and bribery, and our legislative halls are resounding with the welcome words of economy and honest reform. These are cheering words for the people, and let them charge boldly and defiantly home for reform and relief, and hurl from power a party which has ruled for the ruin of a once Democratic people, proud in their simplicity and happiness.—*Westmoreland Democrat.*

Still the same Fellow.—The St. Louis *Republican* insists that "it was not O. E. Babcock, Colonel of Engineers, United States Army, upon whom the cloud of suspicion rested, "but upon O. E. Babcock, Private Secretary of the President of the United States." We desire to amend by saying that it was O. E. Babcock in his capacity as a swindler, a defrauder, a robber of the government, that was indicted and is subject to trial. He didn't conspire as a soldier, for nearly every man has forgotten that he was a soldier. He didn't cheat simply as the President's Private Secretary. If that fact bounded his offense the President alone might have jurisdiction. It was intimated by the grand jury at St. Louis that Babcock was a citizen and a public thief, and it will be in those capacities that he will be tried. After the civil trial the army may expel him, and Grant will give him a foreign mission, but those are seperate matters.—*Cincinnatti Enquirer.*

Mr. Murat Halstead, of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, declares that the phrase to "make night hideous" has acquired a new meaning, and adds, in his paper of January 1: "After the experiences of last night we contemplate the remoteness of the next Centennial New Year with satisfaction.

An elderly maiden, who had suffered some disappointment, thus defines the human race: "Man, a conglomerated mass of hair, tobacco smoke, confusion, conceit and boots. Woman, the walter perforce, on the aforesaid animal."