"CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN,"
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY
GOODLANDER & LEE,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
ESTABLISHED IN 1827.
The largest Circulation of any Newspaper in North Central Pennsylvania.

Terms of Subscription.
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[illegible] after 3 and within 6 months 2 50
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Transient advertisements, per square of 10 lines or less, 3 times or less $1 50
For each subsequent insertion 50
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Local notices, per line 20

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1 square $8 00 | 1 column $50 00
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G. R. GOODLANDER,
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Publishers.

CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

GEO. B. GOODLANDER, Proprietor. PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN. TERMS—$2 per annum in Advance.

VOL. 51—WHOLE NO. 2,506. CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1877. NEW SERIES—VOL. 4, NO. [illegible]

Cards.

JOHN D. THOMPSON,
Justice of the Peace and Scrivener,
Curwensville, Pa.
Collections made and money promptly paid over. [illegible]

RICHARD HUGHES,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
—FOR—
Decatur Township,
Osceola Mills P. O.
All official business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to. [illegible]

GEO. ALBERT, HENRY ALBERT, W. ALBERT
W. ALBERT & BROS.,
Manufacturers & extensive Dealers in
Sawed Lumber, Square Timber, &c.,
WOODLAND, PENN'A.
Orders solicited. Bills filled on short notice and reasonable terms.
Address Woodland P. O., Clearfield Co., Pa.
W. ALBERT & BROS.

FRANCIS COUTRIET,
MERCHANT,
Frenchville, Clearfield County, Pa.
Keeps constantly on hand a full assortment of Dry Goods, Hardware, Groceries, and everything usually kept in a retail store, which will be sold, for cash, as cheap as elsewhere in the county.
Frenchville, June 27, 1867-1y.

THOMAS H. FORCEE,
DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE.
GRAHAMTON, Pa.
Also, extensive manufacturer and dealer in Square Timber and Sawed Lumber of all kinds.
Orders solicited and all bills promptly filled. [illegible]

REUBEN HACKMAN,
House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
Will execute jobs in his line promptly and in a workmanlike manner. [illegible]

G. H. HALL,
PRACTICAL PUMP MAKER,
NEAR CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
Pumps always on hand and made to order on short notice. Pipes bored on reasonable terms. All work warranted to render satisfaction, and delivered if desired. [illegible]

E. A. BIGLER & CO.,
DEALERS IN
SQUARE TIMBER,
and manufacturers of
ALL KINDS OF SAWED LUMBER.
8.772 CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.

JAS. B. GRAHAM,
dealer in
Real Estate, Square Timber, Boards,
SHINGLES, LATH, & PICKETS,
9:1873 Clearfield, Pa.

WILLIAM M. HENRY, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND SCRIVENER, LUMBER CITY. Collections made and money promptly paid over. Articles of agreement and deeds of conveyance neatly executed and warranted correct or no charge. 23:y'73

JAMES MITCHELL,
DEALER IN
Square Timber & Timber Lands,
je11'73 CLEARFIELD, PA.

JAMES H. LYTLE,
In Kratzer's Building, Clearfield, Pa.
Dealer in Groceries, Provisions, Vegetables, Fruits, Flour, Feed, etc., etc.
april4'75-tf

WARREN THORN,
BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,
Market St., Clearfield, Pa.
In the shop lately occupied by Frank Short, one door west of Allegheny House.

ASHLEY THORN,
ARCHITECT, CONTRACTOR and BUILDER.
Plans and Specifications furnished for all kinds of buildings. All work first-class. Stair building a specialty.
P. O. address, Clearfield, Pa. jan.17-77tf.

R. M. NEIMAN,
SADDLE and HARNESS MAKER,
Rumbarger, Clearfield Co., Pa.
Keeps on hand all kinds of Harness, Saddles, Bridles, and Horse Furnishing Goods. Repairing promptly attended to.
Rumbarger, Jan. 10, 1877-tf.

JOHN A. STADLER,
BAKER, Market St., Clearfield, Pa.
Fresh Bread, Rusk, Rolls, Pies and Cakes on hand or made to order. A general assortment of Confectionaries, Fruits and Nuts in stock.—Ice Cream and Oysters in season. Saloon nearly opposite the Post-Office. Prices moderate.
March 10-'75.

J. R. M'MURRAY
WILL SUPPLY YOU WITH ANY ARTICLE OF MERCHANDISE AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICE. COME AND SEE. (3:5:72y:1)
NEW WASHINGTON.

MARBLE AND STONE YARD.
Mrs. S. S. RIDDELL,
Having engaged in the Marble business, desires to inform her friends and the public that she has now and will keep constantly on hand a large and well selected stock of ITALIAN AND VERMONT MARBLE, and is prepared to furnish to order TOMBSTONES, BOX AND CRADLE TOMBS, MONUMENTS, &c.
Yard on Reed street, near the R. R. Depot, Clearfield, Pa. je14,76

WHOLESALE LIQUOR STORE.
At the end of the new bridge,
WEST CLEARFIELD, PA.
The proprietor of this establishment will buy his liquors direct from distillers. Parties buying from this house will be sure to get a pure article at a small margin above cost. Hotel keepers can be furnished with liquors on reasonable terms. Pure wines and brandies direct from Seeley's Vinery, at Bath, New York.
GEORGE N. COLBURN.
Clearfield, June 16, 1875-tf.

S. I. SNYDER,
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER
AND DEALER IN
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry,
Graham's Row, Market Street,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
All kinds of repairing in my line promptly attended to. April 25, 1874.

ANDREW HARWICK,
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.,
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
HARNESS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, COLLARS,
and all kinds of
HORSE FURNISHING GOODS.
A full stock of Saddlers' Hardware, Brushes, Combs, Blankets, Robes, etc., always on hand and for sale at the lowest cash prices. All kinds of repairing promptly attended to.
All kinds of hides taken in exchange for harness and repairing. All kinds of harness leather kept on hand, and for sale at a small profit.
Clearfield, Jan. 19, 1876.

JOHN H. FULFORD,
GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
Represents all the leading Fire Insurance Companies of the country:

Queens	$10,000,000
Royal Canadian	6,000,000
Home, New York	5,754,214
Lycoming, Muncy, Pa	3,519,452
Franklin, Philad'a	3,368,806
Phœnix, Hartford	1,837,392
Hanover, New York	1,424,955
Home, Col., O	515,369
Atlas, Hartford	506,642
Providence, Washington	616,589

Persons about effecting an insurance on property of any kind, should call at my office, on Market street, opposite the Court House, and see my list of companies and rates before insuring.
JOHN H. FULFORD.
Clearfield, Pa., Oct. 27, '75-1y

Cards.

McCULLOUGH & BUCK.
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
All legal business promptly attended to. Office on Second street, in the Masonic building. jan10,'77

W. C. ARNOLD,
LAW & COLLECTION OFFICE,
CURWENSVILLE,
Clearfield County, Penn's. 75y

THOS. H. MURRAY. CYRUS GORDON.
MURRAY & GORDON,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Pie's Opera House, second floor. 9:1874

FRANK FIELDING,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Will attend to all business entrusted to him promptly and faithfully. nov1273

WILLIAM A. WALLACE. DAVID L. KREBS.
HARRY F. WALLACE. JOHN W. WRIGLEY.
WALLACE & KREBS,
(Successors to Wallace & Fielding.)
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
11-1273 Clearfield, Pa.

JOHN E. M'NEALLY. DANIEL W. M'CURDY.
McENALLY & McCURDY,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Legal business attended to promptly with fidelity. Office on Second street, above the First National Bank. jan:1-76

G. R. BARRETT,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Having resigned his Judgeship, has resumed the practice of the law in his old office at Clearfield, Pa. Will attend the courts of Jefferson and Elk counties when specially retained in connection with resident counsel. 2:14:72

A. G. KRAMER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Real Estate and Collection Agent,
CLEARFIELD, PA.,
Will promptly attend to all legal business entrusted to his care.
Office in Pie's Opera House. jan1'76.

WM. M. McCULLOUGH,
DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in the Masonic building. Legal business promptly attended to. Real estate bought and sold. je11'73

A. W. WALTERS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in Graham's Row. [dec3-1y

H. W. SMITH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
11:1:73 Clearfield, Pa.

WALTER BARRETT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in Old Western Hotel building, corner of Second and Market Sts. [aug21,'66.

ISRAEL TEST,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in the Court House. [jy11,'67

JOHN H. FULFORD,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Market street, opp. Court House, Jan. 3, 1874.

JOHN L. CUTTLE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
And Real Estate Agent, Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Third street, bet. Cherry & Walnut.
Respectfully offers his services in selling and buying lands in Clearfield and adjoining counties; and with an experience of over twenty years as a surveyor, flatters himself that he can render satisfaction. [Feb. 28:6:tf.

J. BLAKE WALTERS,
REAL ESTATE BROKER,
AND DEALER IN
Saw Logs and Lumber,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Graham's Row. 1:2:71

J. J. LINGLE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
1:18 Osceola, Clearfield Co., Pa. y:pd

J. S. BARNHART,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Bellefonte, Pa.
Will practice in Clearfield and all of the Courts of the 25th Judicial district. Real estate business and collection of claims made specialties. n1'71

DR. W. A. MEANS,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
LUTHERSBURG, PA.
Will attend professional calls promptly. aug16'70

DR. T. J. BOYER,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Office on Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
Office hours: 8 to 12 a. m., and 1 to 3 p. m.

DR. E. M. SCHEURER,
HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
Office in residence on Market st.
April 24, 1872. Clearfield, Pa.

J. H. KLINE, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
HAVING located at Pennfield, Pa., offers his professional services to the people of that place and surrounding country. All calls promptly attended to. oct. 13 tf.

DR. J. P. BURCHFIELD,
Late Surgeon of the 53d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, having returned from the Army, offers his professional services to the citizens of Clearfield county.
Professional calls promptly attended to. Office on Second street, formerly occupied by Dr. Woods. [apr4,'68-tf

DR. H. B. VAN VALZAH,
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
OFFICE IN MASONIC BUILDING.
Office hours—From 12 to 2 P. M.
May 12, 1875.

DR. JEFFERSON LITZ,
WOODLAND, PA.
Will promptly attend all calls in the line of his profession. nov.19-'73

D. M. DOHERTY,
FASHIONABLE BARBER & HAIR DRESSER,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Shop in room formerly occupied by Naugle Market street.
July 14, 76.

HARRY SNYDER,
(Formerly with Lew Schuler.)
BARBER AND HAIRDRESSER.
Shop on Market St., opposite Court House.
A clean towel for every customer. may 19, '75.

Livery Stable.
THE undersigned begs leave to inform the public that he is now fully prepared to accommodate all in the way of furnishing Horses, Buggies, Saddles and Harness, on the shortest notice and on reasonable terms. Residence on Locust street, between Third and Fourth.
GEO. W. GEARHART.
Clearfield, Feb. 4, 1874.

COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

January 18, 1877. Recommend to the Select Committee on Counting the Electoral Votes for President and Vice President, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Payne, from the Select Committee on Counting the Electoral Votes for President and Vice President, submitted the following report:—

[To accompany bill H. R. 4434.]

The Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, appointed under the following several resolutions—

HOUSE RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, There are differences of opinion as to the proper mode of counting the electoral vote for President and Vice President, and as to the manner of determining questions that may arise as to the legality and validity of returns made of such votes by the several States;

AND WHEREAS, It is of the utmost importance that all differences of opinion and all doubt and uncertainty upon these questions should be removed, to the end therefore that the votes may be counted and the result be declared by a tribunal whose authority none can question and whose decision all will accept as final: Therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of seven members of this House be appointed by the Speaker, to act in conjunction with any similar committee that may be appointed by the Senate, to prepare and report without delay such a measure, either legislative or constitutional, as may in their judgment be best calculated to accomplish the desired end, and that said committee have leave to report at any time.

SENATE RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That the message of the House of Representatives on the subject of the Presidential election be referred to a select committee of seven Senators, with power to prepare and report, without unnecessary delay, such a measure, either of a legislative or other character, as may, in their judgment, be best calculated to accomplish the lawful counting of the electoral votes, and best disposition of all questions connected therewith, and the due declaration of the result; and that said committee have power to confer and act with the committee of the House of Representatives named in said message, and to report by bill or otherwise.

Ordered, That the Secretary notify the House of Representatives herewith.

Beg leave to report to their respective Houses:

That they have considered the subject named in said resolutions, and have had full and free conference with each other thereon, and now report the accompanying bill, and recommend its passage.

The substance of the bill embraces—

First. Provisions for the meeting of the two Houses, as required by the Constitution and the general course of proceeding, and the declaration of the result.

Second. Provisions for the disposition of questions arising in respect of States from which only one set of certificates has been received; that each House shall consider the question, and shall only decide against a vote by concurrent affirmative action.

Third. Provisions for so-called double returns from a State; that such conflicting returns and papers shall be submitted to the consideration of a commission, composed of equal numbers of the members of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives, and of the Supreme Court of the United States; that this commission shall be organized and sworn, and have power to consider and decide according to the Constitution and law what is the constitutional vote of the State in question; and that such decision shall govern the disposition of the subject, unless both Houses shall determine otherwise.

Fourth. It is provided that the act shall not affect, either way, the question of the right of resort to the judicial Courts of the United States by the persons concerned as claimants to the offices in question.

We have applied the utmost practicable study and deliberation to the subject, and believe that the bill now reported is the best attainable disposition of the difficult problems and disputed theories arising out of the late election. It must be obvious to every person conversant with the country and with the formation and interpretation of the Constitution, that a wide diversity of views and opinions touching the subject, not wholly coincident with the bias or wishes of the members of political parties, would naturally exist. We have in this state of things chosen, therefore, not to deal with abstract questions, save so far as they are necessarily involved in the legislation proposed.

It is, of course, plain that the report of the bill implies that in our opinion legislation may be had on the subject in accordance with the Constitution, but we think that the law proposed is inconsistent with few of the principal theories on the subject. The Constitution requires that the electoral votes shall be counted on a particular occasion. All will agree that the votes named in the Constitution are the constitutional votes of the States, and not other; and when they have been found and identified, there is nothing left to be disputed or decided—all the rest is the mere clerical work of summing up the numbers, which being done, the Constitution itself declares the consequence. This bill, then, is only directed to ascertaining, for the purpose and in aid of the counting, what are the constitutional votes of the respective States; and whatever jurisdiction exists for such purpose, the bill only regulates the method of exercising it.

The Constitution, our great instrument and security for liberty and order, speaks in the amplest language for all such cases, in whatever aspect they may be presented. It declares that the Congress shall have power "to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof."

The committee therefore think the proposed bill cannot be justly assailed as unconstitutional by any one, and for this reason we think it unnecessary, whatever may be our individual views, to discuss any of the theories referred to. Our fidelity to the Constitution is observed when we find that the law we recommend is consistent with that instrument.

The matter, then, being a proper subject for legislation, the fitness of the means proposed becomes the next subject of consideration. Upon this we beg leave to submit a few brief observations.

In all just Governments both public and private rights must be defined and determined by the law. This is essential to the very idea of such a Government, and is the characteristic distinction between free and despotic systems. However important it may be whether one citizen or another shall be the Chief Magistrate for a prescribed period, upon just theories of civil institutions it is of far greater moment that the will of the people, lawfully expressed in the choice of that officer, shall be ascertained and carried into effect in a lawful way. It is true, that in every operation of a Government of laws, from the most trivial to the most important, there will always be the possibility that the result reached will not be the true one. The executive officer may not wisely perform his duty; the Courts may not truly declare the law; and the legislative body may not enact the best laws; but, in either case, to resist the act of the Executive, the Courts, or the legislature, acting constitutionally and lawfully within their sphere, would be to set up anarchy in the place of government.

We think, then, to provide a clear and lawful means of performing a great and necessary function of government, in a time of much public dispute, is of far greater importance than the particular advantage that any man or party may in the course of events possibly obtain. But we have still endeavored to provide such lawful agencies of decision in the present case as shall be the most fair and impartial possible under the circumstances. Each of the branches of the legislature and the judiciary are represented in the tribunal in equal proportions. The composition of the judicial part of the commission looks to a selection from different parts of the Republic, while it is thought to be free from any preponderance of supposable bias; and the addition of the necessary constituent part of the whole commission, in order to obtain an uneven number, is left to an agency the farthest removed from prejudice of any existing attainable one.

It would be difficult, if not impossible, we think, to establish a tribunal that could be less the subject of party criticism than such an one. The principle of its Constitution is so absolutely fair that we are unable to perceive how the most extreme partisan can assail it, unless he prefers to embark his wishes upon the stormy sea of unregulated procedure, hot disputes, and dangerous results that can neither be measured nor defined, rather than upon the fixed and regular course of law, that insures peace and the order of society, whatever party may be disappointed in its hopes.

The unfortunate circumstance that no provision had been made on the subject before the election, has greatly added to the difficulties of the committees in dealing with it, inasmuch as many of the people of the country, members of the respective political parties, will, perhaps, look with jealousy upon any measure that seems to involve even the possibility of the defeat of their wishes; but it has also led the committees to feel that their members are bound by the highest duty, in such a case, to let no bias of party feeling stand in the way of the just, equal, and peaceable measure for extricating the question from the embarrassments that at present surround it.

In conclusion, we respectfully beg leave to impress upon Congress the necessity of a speedy termination upon this subject. It is impossible to estimate the material loss that the country daily sustains from the existing state of uncertainty. It directly and powerfully tends to unsettle and paralyze business, to weaken public and private credit, and to create apprehensions in the minds of the people that disturb the peaceful tenor of their ways and mar their happiness. It does far more. It tends to bring republican institutions into discredit, and to create doubts of the success of our form of government and of the perpetuity of the Republic. All considerations of interest, of patriotism, and of justice unite in demanding of the law-making power a measure that will bring peace and prosperity to the country, and show that our republican institions are equal to any emergency. And, in this connection, we cannot refrain from the expression of our satisfaction that your committees, composed of equal numbers of opposing parties, have fortunately been able to do, what has been attempted in vain heretofore, almost unanimously agree upon a plan considered by them all to be just, wise, and efficient. We accordingly recommend the proposed act to the patriotic and just judgment of Congress.

H. B. PAYNE,
EPPA HUNTON,
ABRAM S. HEWITT,
WM. M. SPRINGER,
GEORGE W. MCCRARY,
GEORGE F. HOAR,
GEORGE WILLARD,
House Committee.

GEO. F. EDMUNDS,
F. T. FRELINGHUYSEN,
ROSCOE CONKLING,
A. G. THURMAN,
T. F. BAYARD,
M. W. RANSOM,
Senate Committee.

A bill to provide for and regulate the counting of votes for President and Vice President, and the decision of questions arising thereon, for the term commencing March fourth, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-seven.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Senate and House of Representatives shall meet in the hall of the House of Representatives, at the hour of one o'clock post meridian, on the first Thursday in February, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-seven; and the President of the Senate shall be their presiding officer. Two tellers shall be previously appointed on the part of the Senate, and two on the part of the House of Representatives, to whom shall be handed, as they are opened by the President of the Senate, all the certificates, and papers purporting to be certificates, of the electoral votes, which certificates and papers shall be opened, presented, and acted upon in the alphabetical order of the States, beginning with the letter A; and said tellers having then read the same in the presence and hearing of the two Houses, shall make a list of the votes as they shall appear from the said certificates; and the votes having been ascertained and counted as in this act provided, the result of the same shall be delivered to the President of the Senate, who shall thereupon announce the state of the vote, and the names of the persons, if any, elected, which announcement shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons elected President and Vice President of the United States, and, together with a list of the votes, be entered on the journal of the two Houses. Upon such reading of any such certificate or paper when there shall be only one return from a State, the President of the Senate shall call for objections, if any. Every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely, and without argument, the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one Member of the House of Representatives before the same shall be received. When all objections so made to any vote or paper from a State shall have been received and read, the Senate shall thereupon withdraw, and such objections shall be submitted to the Senate for its decision; and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall, in like manner, submit such objections to the House of Representatives for its decision; and no electoral vote or votes from any State from which but one return has been received shall be rejected except by the affirmative vote of the two Houses. When the two Houses have voted, they shall immediately again meet, and the presiding officer shall then announce the decision of the question submitted.

SEC. 2. That if more than one return, or paper purporting to be a return from a State, shall have been received by the President of the Senate, purporting to be the certificates of electoral votes given at the last preceding election for President and Vice President in such State, (unless they shall be duplicates of the same return) all such returns and papers shall be opened by him in the presence of the two Houses when met as aforesaid, and read by the tellers, and all such returns and papers shall thereupon be submitted to the judgment and decision as to which is the true and lawful electoral vote of such State, of a commission constituted as follows, namely:

During the session of each House on the Tuesday next preceding the first Thursday in February, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, each House shall, by viva voce vote, appoint five of its members, who with the five associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, to be ascertained as hereinafter provided, shall constitute a commission for the decision of all questions upon or in respect of such double returns named in this section.

On the Tuesday next preceding the first Thursday in February, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, or as soon thereafter as may be, the associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States now assigned to the first, third, eighth, and ninth circuits, shall select, in such manner as a majority of them shall deem fit, another of the associate justices of said court, which five persons shall be members of said commission; and the person longest in commission of said five justices shall be the President of said commission. The members of said commission shall respectively take and subscribe the following oath:

"I, ——, ——, do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will impartially examine and consider all questions submitted to the commission of which I am a member, and a true judgment give thereon, agreeably to the Constitution and the laws: so help me God;" which oath shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate.

When the commission shall have been thus organized, it shall not be in the power of either house to dissolve the same, or to withdraw any of its members; but if any such Senator or member shall die or become physically unable to perform the duties required by this act, the fact of such death or physical inability shall be by said commission, before it shall proceed further, communicated to the Senate or House of Representatives, as the case may be, which body shall immediately and without debate proceed by viva voce vote to fill the place so vacated, and the person so appointed shall take and subscribe the oath hereinbefore prescribed, and become a member of said commission; and, in like manner, if any of said justices of the Supreme Court shall die or become physically incapable of performing the duties required by this act, the other of said justices, members of the said commission, shall immediately appoint another justice of said court a member of said commission, and, in such appointments, regard shall be had to the impartiality and freedom from bias sought by the original appointments to said commission, who shall thereupon immediately take and subscribe the oath hereinbefore prescribed, and become a member of said commission to fill the vacancy so occasioned.

All the certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes of each State shall be opened, in the alphabetical order of the States, as provided in section one of this act; and when there shall be more than one such certificate or paper, as the certificates and papers from such State shall so be opened, (excepting duplicates of the same return,) they shall be read by the tellers, and thereupon the President of the Senate shall call for objections, if any. Every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely, and without argument, the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House of Representatives before the same shall be received. When all such objections so made to any certificate, vote, or paper from a State shall have been received and read, all such certificates, votes, papers so objected to, and all papers accompanying the same, together with such objections, shall be forthwith submitted to said commission, which shall proceed to consider the same, with the same powers, if any, now possessed for that purpose by the two houses acting separately or together, and, by a majority of votes, decide whether any and what votes from such State are the votes provided for by the Constitution of the United States, and how many and what persons were duly appointed electors in such State, and may therein take into view such petitions, depositions, and other papers, if any, as shall, by the Constitution and now existing law, be competent and pertinent in such consideration; which decision shall be made in writing, stating briefly the ground thereof, and signed by the members of said commission agreeing therein; whereupon the two houses shall again meet, and such decision shall be read and entered in the journal of each house, and the counting of the votes shall proceed in conformity therewith, unless, upon objection made thereto in writing by at least five Senators and five members of the House of Representatives, the two houses shall separately concur in ordering otherwise, in which case such concurrent order shall govern. No votes or papers from any other State shall be acted upon until the objections previously made to the votes or papers from any State shall have been finally disposed of.

SEC. 3. That while the two houses shall be in meeting, as provided in this act, no debate shall be allowed and no question shall be put by the presiding officer, except to either house on a motion to withdraw; and he shall have power to preserve order.

SEC. 4. That when the two houses separate to decide upon an objection that may have been made to the counting of any electoral vote or votes from any State, or upon objections to a report of said commission, or other question arising under this act, each Senator and Representative may speak to such objection or question ten minutes, and not oftener than once; but after such debate shall have lasted two hours, it shall be the duty of each house to put the main question without further debate.

SEC. 5. That at such joint meeting of the two houses, seats shall be provided as follows: For the President of the Senate, the Speaker's chair; for the Speaker, immediately upon his left; the Senators in the body of the hall upon the right of the presiding officer; for the Representatives, in the body of the hall not provided for the Senators; for the tellers, Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House of Representatives, at the Clerk's desk; for the other officers of the two houses, in front of the Clerk's desk and upon each side of the Speaker's platform. Such joint meeting shall not be dissolved until the count of electoral votes shall be completed and the result declared; and no recess shall be taken unless a question shall have arisen in regard to counting any such votes, or otherwise under this act, in which case it shall be competent for either house, acting separately, in the manner hereinbefore provided, to direct a recess of such house not beyond the next day, Sunday excepted, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon. And while any question is being considered by said commission, either house may proceed with its legislative or other business.

SEC. 6. That nothing in this act shall be held to impair or affect any right now existing under the Constitution and laws to question, by proceeding in the judicial courts of the United States, the right or title of the person who shall be declared elected, or who shall claim to be President or Vice President of the United States, if any such rights exists.

SEC. 7. That said commission shall make its own rules, keep a record of its proceedings, and shall have power to employ such persons as may be necessary for the transaction of its business and the execution of its powers.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

Few men belong less to the age in which they lived than Columbus. In truth he can scarcely be said to belong to any age. Thoroughly imbued with the spirit of chivalry, he was a Knight Templar who had lost his way amidst the romantic cycles of the twelfth century, to find himself a discoverer among the practical though daring enterprises of the fifteenth. Had he lived during the first Crusade, he might have been sung by Tasso as the "star of knighthood" and the protagonist of the "Jernsalem Delivered." A singular compromise between a paladin and a philosopher, he would have been about equally at home with Peter the Hermit or Copernicus, Godfrey of Boulogne or Galileo. While he challenged philosophy at every point where she appeared to conflict with his cherished theories, in matters of religion he yielded a blind, unreasoning faith. To him a dream was a revelation. In his sleeping visions he heard a voice that to him was the voice of God.

His piety, though deep and fervent, was nevertheless tinctured with the superstition of his times. He engages in every important enterprise in the name of the "Holy Trinity," whether it be a voyage of discovery or the shipment of a cargo of slaves to be sold in the shambles of Seville. If, however, he enslaves untutored savages, it is with a view to Christianizing them—such is his implicit faith in the saving power of baptism and the efficacy of the holy water. At a time when the popular imagination had not thoroughly purged itself of the legendary lore fauns and salamanders, hippogriffs and anthropophagi, dog-faced women and lion-bodied men, flying islands and fountains of perpetual youth, it is not surprising that Columbus should have seen "mermaids," though "not so like ladies as they are painted," or should become the bearer of dispatches to that mythical potentate Prester John, or, fancying he had discovered the river that flowed from the fountain of the tree of life, should have located the terrestrial paradise upon the apex of the "pear-shaped" earth, far above the "heats and frosts and storms" of this lower world, like the enchanted gardens of Armida in the Fortunate Isles. It is some what surprising, however, in view of the apprehensive fears of his superstitious crew, that on his first voyage he should have set sail on a Friday, and not a little remarkable that he should have discovered America, and returned again to the port of departure, all on the same unlucky day.

In the life of Columbus, so full of illusions and strange vicissitudes, there is a striking disparity between the ends he aimed at and those he actually accomplished. Like Saul, the son of Kish, he went out in search of his father's asses, and found a kingdom. The son of a wool-comber, with the key-note of a grand discovery ringing in his brain, he emblazons on his shield the royal arms of Castile and Leon. His favorite dream had been to find a direct route westward to the rich and populous realms of Kublai Khan, and he discovered a new world instead, though he died in ignorance of the real grandeur of his achievement. He had stipulated with the Spanish sovereigns, in the event of his success, for honors and emoluments that were regarded at first as absurdly extravagant. But it he insists on a tenth of all the profits arising from his discoveries, it is not in his own personal interest, but that he may obtain the means for fitting out an expedition for the recovery of the Holy Sepulchre and the evangelization of the heathen. And yet at a time when he had vowed to furnish an ary of 4,000 horse and 50,000 foot for a crusade against the infidel Turk, he, who had "staked both soul and body on his success," had no resort but an inn, and was, for the most part, without the wherewithal to pay his bill; while it was reserved for another to confer his name upon the continent he had discovered: "a fine example," as Voltaire remarks, "of the *quid pro quos* of glory."

He went out in quest of gold, and discovered tobacco, the "divine weed" of Spenser—a discovery that has proved more productive, financially and commercially, than all the mines of Mexico or Peru. He sought to Christianize the untutored Indians, and thereby elevate them in the scale of modern civilization; but the lust, cruelty, and rapacity of his followers transformed a paradise of almost primeval beauty and simplicity into a land of cruel bondage, desolation, and death.

But whoever he is or whatever he does; whether a penitent at the confessional or a suppliant at court, a desperate adventurer or a successful discoverer, a viceroy of the Indies or a prisoner in chains; whether chanting a *Salve Regina* or performing a pilgrimage to the shrine of our lady at Guadalupe; whether quelling a mutinous crew, or combating a junto of cosmographical pedants, or curbing a cabal of Spanish hidalgoes; whether engaged in piratical expeditions against the infidel, or erecting wooden crosses on every headland of the New World—he is ever inspired with the same glowing enthusiasm—that sublime fervor of an ardent imagination that dignified his failures scarcely less than his success, and shed a halo of romance around the simplest of his acts as well as the grandest of his achievements.—*O. M. Spencer, in Harper's Magazine.*

SOME LOVE AFFAIRS.

Affairs of the heart, or perhaps we should say affairs of love, marriage and divorce, assume curious phases, or various interests affect them in different degrees in the diverse quarters of the globe. In semi-civilized countries, where courtship is such an unnecessary preliminary, marriage such an insignificant ceremony and divorce such a summary proceeding, love and affection seem to have but little part; but in our own enlightened country we find bridegrooms as eccentric, brides as contrary and parents as hard to suit as anywhere else. In the far West, where the people have grown up with the country, they seem to have ideas of of their own, as original as peculiar, and as interesting as any that we see developed in the more thickly settled and more conservative parts of their country. Witness three couples whose adventures are recounted in recent issues of the public press.

R. J. Owens, of St. Louis, is a gentleman of fine appearance, good family and excellent address, enjoying that moderate degree of patronage which is vouchsafed to young practitioners of the healing art. This did not make such demands upon his time as to prevent his winning the affections of Miss Julia Wilcus. The young lady is motherless, fatherless and brotherless, but not portionless, and therefore by no means relationless. The relations set themselves against the match, but the lady was firm and she clung more fondly to the idol of her heart. The wedding was to take place at five, but at four Dr. Owens, with a lawyer, arrived at the bride's residence with papers giving the prospective bridegroom certain control over certain property. This strict attention to business accomplished what all the expostulations of friends could not. The bridegroom returned with his lawyer and his document unsigned, the bride doffed her wedding garments and, as the organ was pealing forth its merriest, the surpliced clergyman announced to the assembled congregation that the marriage which they had come to witness was indefinitely postponed.

Herman Michaels, of St. Louis, had crossed the mighty river into the land of Egypt and wood and won a young lady of Quincy. She was pretty and she was fair, and Herman, putting full confidence in his Christian name, opened his heart and his pocket-book. His visits were frequent and long and his presents many and valuable. Bracelets adorned her wrists, and rings her fingers and bells her little toes for aught one knows to the contrary. One evening Herman was to accompany her to a sociable—perhaps they called it a party in the land of Egypt—and he came. But instead of the coventional black, Herman wore a suit of gray, gray jeans. The young lady objected to showing her jewelry under the escort of a man in gray, and Herman felt that he had spent too much money on her to spend enough on himself to buy the suit of black, and a coolness arose. Herman gave her a piece of his mind and she gave him a piece of hers. The peace once broken could not be patched up. Herman returned from Egypt, and he now appeals to the law to compel the return of the jewels, the bracelets and the rings, valued at $600 cash.

John A. Childs was a Secretary of a Fire Insurance Company in Indianapolis, but the insurance upon his heart for the benefit of his wife and trusting children proved insufficient to protect it against the fiery glances of his niece, a Mrs. Robinson, a young lady of twenty-five, who was blessed with husband and children two. The fire of love consumed their scruples and they fled by the western train. They were next heard from in the wilds of Omaha, where they appear as man and wife at the Grand Central Hotel—grand because it is not grand, and central because it is far from it. But Childs was still a man of business and believed in decency and order. He at once procured a marriage license, without stopping over in Chicago for a divorce, and ere the sun had set the Rev. Frank R. Millspaugh, rector of Trinity Cathedral, had pronounced them man and wife, and they were on their way to the Pacific coast to spend their honeymoon in the land of gold, with their sorrowing and deserted families mingling their tears in the Hoosier capital.

It's a queer world, and many queer people live in it.—*Philadelphia Times.*

NEW MARRIAGE CEREMONY.

Our wise legislators at Harrisburg are about making some new laws regulating marriages in this Commonwealth. The following is a copy of Senate Bill No. 12, which has passed first reading:

AN ACT relating to marriage licenses, providing for officers herein indicated to issue licenses for parties to marry:

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 from and after the——day of——, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, no person within this Commonwealth shall be joined in marriage until a license shall have been obtained for the purpose from the Clerk of the Orphans' Court in the county where the female shall reside, which said license shall be in form as follows, to wit:

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, } ss:
COUNTY OF——, }

To any Minister of the Gospel, Justice of the Peace, or other officers or persons authorized by law to solemnize marriages:—

You are hereby authorized to join together in the holy state of matrimony, according to the rites and ceremonies of your church, society, or religious denomination, and the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, A B and C D.

Given under my hand and seal of the Orphans' Court of said county of——, at——, on this——day of——, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy——.

A B, Clerk.

For which said license the said Clerk shall receive the sum of one dollar.

SEC. 2. The Clerk of said Court shall procure and keep a suitable book in his office and among his records, to be called the Marriage License Docket, and in which he shall make a complete record of the issuing of said license, and all the matters which he shall be required to ascertain relative to the rights of said parties to obtain said license, together with their ages and residences.

SEC. 3. That the Clerk of said Court shall inquire of the party applying for marriage license, as aforesaid, on oath or affirmation, relative to the legality of said contemplated marriage, and if the Clerk shall be satisfied there is no legal impediment there