# The Republican.

GEORGE R. GOODLANDER, Editor.

CLEARFIELD, PA.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB. 14, 1877.


The officers of the Columbia life insurance company of St. Louis have been arrested for perjury.—*Exchange.*

Let the good work go on and send all the rogues to the penitentiary, where they rightfully belong.

SOLD.—A controlling interest in the Pittsburg *Commercial* has been purchased by the proprietors of the *Gazette*, and the two papers will be consolidated. Good bye, Mr. *Commercial*, you have lived and died long enough!

Congressman Mackey has our thanks for a daily copy of the Congressional Record, and a full supply of other "Pub. Doc's," the most valuable of which is Perley Poore's Congressional Directory, very useful to printers.

THE END OF A STATESMAN.—J. H. Runkle, late Republican solicitor for the Columbia, South Carolina, circuit, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head. He was 30 years of age. No cause is assigned for the act.

The present Legislature has two old friends to look after—the Boom Bill and the Local Option Bill. The session could hardly be considered a success without one at least, of these measures "to the fore," but our lawmakers—lucky beggars—have both of 'em this year. Dodging the ducats—take your choice.

COMPLIMENTED.—An exchange says: "The closing hours of the Mississippi Legislature, which has just adjourned, were marked by the colored Republicans on the floor of the two Houses rising and pronouncing sentiments of the most commendable character in favor of the economical and just government of the Democrats."

"The re-enslavement of the blacks," is what seems to trouble the discarded scallawag and carpet-bagger down South, and the "Christian Statesmen" in the North and East. Well, would that be any worse than robbing the black of all his money, *vide* the Freedman's Bureau Bank robbery. Who did that? Radical philanthropists, between prayers! Could a devil do more? Get out, you hypocrites!

A DOZER.—The Johnstown *Democrat* says: "The Republicans seem to think they are performing a great feat in proving that Littlefield was a rascal. Not at all. Everybody knows he is a rascal. He could not have been the clerk of the Louisiana Returning Board since 1872 if he was an honest man. Companionship with Wells damns him, as a companionship with Satan damned even the best among the angels.

George W. Dietze, who at the age of seventy-nine walked from Evansville, Indiana, to the Centennial Exhibition in thrity days, is now engaged in writing a history of Indiana. He has applied to the Legislature of Indiana for an appropriation to aid him in the work. In his petition he speaks of having "received the unanimous judgment and indorsement of the press as the greatest pedestrian of the world, age considered."

STEPHENS' OBITUARY.—An exchange says: "Alexander H. Stevens sat up in his bed on Tuesday afternoon with the bright, clear eyes of a convalescent, and listened while his clerk read a column and a half obituary of himself in a Baltimore paper. "Well," said the old man, as he rubbed his emaciated chin with his bony hand and his eyes twinkled merrily as he spoke, "they've written worse than that about me *when I was living.*"

"Mr. Beamish is yet in "retirement" and the school fund of Scranton is short $10,000. This is a bad showing for the late honored Sergeant at-Arms of the Democratic House of the Pennsylvania Legislature. But then, "Reform!"—*Journal.*

Yes, had Beamish been a "crooked whisky" dealer, or a post trader, etc., he would have appealed to Grant for a pardon, and would now, with the rest of his butties, be crossing his legs under the White House tables. But, as it is, he has made an exile of himself, and if he ever makes his appearance he will be sent to prison—not pardoned, condoned and petted, like Belknap, Babcock, McDonald, Avery & Co. There seems to be no pardon for an occasional offender of the Democratic persuasion, although a large number of Radicals carry that document in their pockets as a kind of voucher for their personal integrity. Democrats find the ten commandments and the prison in the way, and hence prefer to lead upright lives, but neither of those potent obstacles seem to annoy Radical office-holders. A pardon, or promotion, wipe both out on this Continent.

THE NEW MINING BILL.—Our wise Legislators are just now engaged in "ventilating coal mines," to the amusement of all practical operators and miners. On our first page will be found a bill, in full, bearing on the question indicated. We also give the dog-sheep bill, at length, as reported in the House. Senator S. R. Peale and Representative A. C. Tate, are the proper parties at Harrisburg to address by the citizens of this county who may favor or object to the passage of these bills. There is much other rare reading matter on our first page this week. Our fourth page is embellished by the Auditor's settlement, which must prove interesting to every tax-payer who takes any interest in public affairs. The title of the mining bill reads exceedingly nice, but we fear that behind all that there is some boomerang arrangement which will not add to the health of the miner nor to the profits of the operator. The bill may be necessary, but at this distance from Harrisburg, it looks a good deal like "a snake."

## THE WASHINGTON RETURNING BOARD.

As elsewhere indicated, the Electoral Commission has counted in the four Hayes Electors in Florida, although a majority of the people of that State had voted for Tilden. This is all right in Radical eyes, in Florida; but when the Democrats put in a claim for an elector in Oregon, the world is informed that a majority of the people of that State voted for Hayes. And, "it would be an infamous outrage to steal an elector in that way." Such is Radicalism. It is a crime to steal [illegible] but a *crime* to attempt to steal ONE for Tilden in Oregon. The decision of the Electoral Commission in the Florida case was read in joint convention of the two Houses of Congress on Saturday. Written objections were made to it by Mr. Field, of N. Y., on the part of five Senators and twelve Representatives, and then the two Houses separated to consider the objections in their respective chambers.

The Senate returned to its chamber at 1:20 p. m., and the objections to the decision of the commision submitted in the House of Representatives by Mr. Field having been read, Mr. Stevenson, of Ky., moved that the Senate take a recess until 10 o'clock on Monday. Rejected; yeas 26, nays 44—a strict party vote.

A discussion has sprung up on a motion to take a recess until Monday. The Republicans opposing it and arguing that under the electoral bill the House had no power to take a recess, but should consider the objections to the decision of the commission for two hours, then vote upon it, and then let the two Houses come together again. The Democrats are pressing for a recess and deny the correctness of the position taken by the Republicans. The Senate, after returning to its chamber, ratified the decision of the Electoral Commission, by a vote of 45 Radicals to 26 Democrats.

According to previous adjournment the House met at ten o'clock on Monday morning and after a vigorous debate rejected the report of the Commission, which had counted in the Hayes electors in Florida by a vote of yeas 103 nays 167.

The house then adopted a resolution to notify the Senate of the action of the House, that they were ready to proceed with counting the electoral vote.

The State of Louisiana having been reached four sets of certificates were opened and read. The first and third gave the eight votes of the State to Hayes and Wheeler, and the second (signed by McEnery as Governor) gave them to Tilden and Hendricks. The fourth was a mere burlesque, all the electors bearing the name of John Smith and it being authenticated by "John Smith, bull-dozer Governor of Louisiana," and ending "such is life in Louisiana." It was ordered that the latter be not printed in the proceedings.

Objection to the Hayes and Wheeler certificate was made by Senator McDonald, of Indiana. Messrs. Gibson and Wood also sent up objections to the Hayes and Wheeler certificate. Mr. Howe sent up objections to the Tilden and Hendricks electors. The papers were then ordered to be submitted to the Commission, and the Senate retired.

A resolution amending the rules of the House so as to allow legislative business to go on as usual during the sessions of the Electoral Commission was passed.

The electoral Commission was called to order at 4:30 p. m., to day, Monday, and received the certificates and accompanying papers in the case of Louisiana from the presiding officer of the joint session. Upon the arrival of the various counsel, Messrs. Field, Campbell, Trumbull, Carpenter, Merrick, Hoadley and Green for the Democratic side of the question, and Evarts, Matthews, Shellabarger and Stoughton for the Republican side, the presiding justice inquired who would represent the objectors. Mr. Field responded that Senator McDonald and Mr. Jenks, of the House, would appear as objectors to certificates Nos. 1 and 3. Mr. Evarts announced that Mr. Howe, of the Senate, and Mr. Hurlbut, of the House, would appear as objectors to certificate No. 2. The Commission then, on motion of Mr. Justice Field, adjourned until Tuesday at eleven o'clock, and as we go to press, the Commission is engaged on Louisiana. What the result will be no one knows at this distance from the Counting Board.

## THE SCHOOL REPORT.

We have before us a copy of the School Report of State Superintendent Wickersham, ending June 1st, 1876. The following aggregates will no doubt prove interesting to the reader:

| | |
|---|---|
| Whole No. of Schools | 17,497 |
| Average No. of months taught | 6.85 |
| Number of male teachers | 9,953 |
| Average wages per month | $39 72 |
| Number of female teachers | 11,239 |
| Average wages per month | $33 66 |
| Number of male scholars | 474,968 |
| Number of female scholars | 437,319 |
| Average cost per month for each | 99 |
| Average No. of mills laid | 16.16 |
| Cost of school houses | $1,735,149 57 |
| Teachers' wages | 4,856,893 91 |
| Paid for fuel and contingencies | 2,471,899 00 |
| Total expenditures | $9,063,928 48 |

This is a pretty good bill. The Secretary of Internal Affairs, in his report, informs us that we have 1,002,951 taxables in the State. From this it will be observed that it costs every tax-payer about nine dollars a year for school houses and teachers, and when we add to this the cost of books, we may conjecture what is the real cost of our *free* tuition.

For the purpose of contrasting the past with the present, we will give a synopsis of what it cost twenty-two years ago to "run the machine:"

| | |
|---|---|
| Whole No. of Schools | 16,186 |
| Whole No. of Teachers | 11,067 |
| Average salary of male teachers | 20 31 |
| Average salary of female teachers | 12 61 |
| Whole No. of scholars | 488,692 |
| Average cost of each pupil | 41 |
| Cost of instruction | $1,127,902 61 |
| Cost of fuel and contingencies | 110,283 19 |

It will be observed from this comparison, that nothing has advanced more rapidly than the contingent expenses and the wages of female teachers. The progress made in the former item is enormous; nearly reaching the one-third of the expenses of the system. If there is not some plundering done in this branch of "public instruction," we are greatly mistaken. Only one-tenth twenty-two years ago, and now one-third. What progress!

## IMPORTANT STATISTICS.

The necessity of a revisal of the assessment and tax laws of the State is strongly argued by General McCandless, to secure a uniformity throughout the State. Some of the County Commissioners neglect to levy any State tax, or omit to collect it from personal property subject to taxation. As an illustration of the lack of uniformity, the Secretary states that in Berks county, having, with the city of Reading, an area of 900 square miles and 73,180 taxable inhabitants, the aggregate valuation of real estate is [illegible] an area of 195 miles and 8,043 taxable inhabitants, the valuation is $832,151,608.

The following statement from Secretary McCandless' report is compiled from the annual report made by the County Commissioners for the year 1876. It gives the figures for the whole State:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of taxables | 1,002,551 |
| Valuation of real estate | $1,571,617,691 |
| Valuation of furniture and plate in excess of $300 | 9,321,857 |
| Money at interest or taking bonds | 81,776,761 |
| Number of horses and mules | 458,203 |
| Their value | $ 26,314,562 |
| Average value | 61 |
| Number of cows and neat cattle | 565,323 |
| Their value | $ 11,125,841 |
| Average value | 20 |
| Number of pleasure carriages | 40,143 |
| Their value | $ 4,321,082 |
| Number of gold watches | 27,165 |
| Silver and common watches | 13,113 |
| State tax assessed | $ 420,258 |
| County tax assessed | 17,028,829 |
| Debts of counties | 67,966,517 |

The irregularity of the assessment is illustrated in the returns of articles of personal property subject to State taxation. A good many counties don't return a single watch, gold or silver. Allegheny reports 3,613 gold watches and 1,116 silver. Of pleasure carriages and buggies Allegheny county reports 2,890, which is exceeded by the returns of a dozen other counties of less population. So too in money at interest and bonds. Allegheny county reports but $633,342, while twelve other counties range from one million in Cumberland to near forty millions in Philadelphia. Only a little over eighty millions is reported in the whole State, while we suppose the money at interest and bonds owned in Philadelphia largely exceeds that amount.

The law only provides for an annual report of the indebtedness of each county, which amounted in the State last year to sixty-seven millions. A similar report Gen. McCandless urges should be required to be made by the corporate officers of each city, borough and township, showing the amount of the indebtedness of their respective corporations. It will be observed by this statement that the average value of horses in this State is $61, and cows $20. Now, if Gen. McCandless will just push his inquiry a little farther and obtain from the several County Commissioners the number of acres of land and thereby ascertain the average assessed value of the land in a similar way he will add much to the information of the public. To do this properly it will be necessary to prepare two columns, one for the number of acres and value of seated lands, and another for the number of acres of unseated lands, so as to make a separate average of both. In counties like Clearfield where over the half of the territory is on the unseated list, without any improvements, this classification is essentially necessary.

Therefore, just as soon as the number of acres in any county accompany the value, anybody can ascertain the average value per acre. As now returned it is of no practical use, because the very first question an intelligent man would ask an official, would most likely be: "What is the average assessed value per acre of the lands in your county?" He cannot give the answer, because he does not know the number of acres. We have added in the above tabular statement the average value of horses ($61) and cows ($20), and if the official table had furnished us with the number of acres we would have ascertained the average value per acre in the State, or in any county. Let this be done then it would be an easy matter to assess all the property in the State by obtaining correct returns from the County Commissioners.

To still farther illustrate our view, why do the State authorities allow such wonderful discrimination in the value of horses, upon which there is a State tax of three mills. The average value as shown by the table is $61. Yet in the county of Bradford the average is only $38, while in Berks county it runs up to $80. Now, why are the owners of six thousand horses in Berks county required to pay $1,440 State tax when the owners of the same number of horses in Bradford county only contribute $684. A difference of over *one hundred per cent.* Why is this, thus? We will refer to this in the near future.

THE PRESIDENT'S SALARY.—The House Committee on the Appropriation Bill only provided twenty-five thousand dollars for the salary of President and accompany it with a provision repealing the section of the revised statutes which increased the salary to fifty thousand dollars. It will be remembered the Senate at this session failed to pass over the veto of President Grant the bill restoring the salary to the old figure although it passed both houses by a majority vote. It is likely that the provision as it stands now in the Appropriation Bill will be agreed to and the next President will have to be content with twenty-five thousand dollars per annum.

SEVENTY EIGHT—THIRTY-FIVE.—The last Washington sensation is to the effect that a thirty-five year old widow, clerk in the Treasury Department, has brought a breach of promise suit against Senator Cameron, widower, aged seventy-eight years, and has laid her heart damages at $50,000. Her ultimatum is, marry me or come down. Her desk in the Department is the one next to where Senator Christiancy, of Michigan, aged sixty-seven, found his eighteen-year-old dulcenia. It is strange how easily these old roosters are caged by the "young folks."

SOME COMFORT.—An Independent exchange says: "Gov. Hartranft says the balance of the Pennsylvania war claims will be paid. He has secured the services of Mr. Well, an attorney of ability in Washington, to push the matter through the departments and have the claim settled. The State is entitled to about $200,000 balance." Well, that's a pretty good chunk these times; but to whom will this claim be paid? To Kemble, Evans, Forney & Co., who got away with *three hundred thousand* ten years ago, or into the State Treasury?

A MERCIFUL PRESIDENT.—Grant has pardoned Lewis M. Roberts, with half a score of *aliases*, who were convicted a few years ago in Pittsburg, and sentenced to twenty years imprisonment in the penitentiary, for passing counterfeit money. Why not place Belknap in the War Department, and throw Cameron overboard? An exchange also says:

"The notorious Tom Ballard, the engraver of the most dangerous counterfeit plate extant, a $500 treasury note, who was convicted and sentenced by United States Judge, Wallace, in January, 1875, at Albany, New York, to thirty years imprisonment in the penitentiary, [illegible] tion on his one pardon.

Why keep annoying and arresting men and women for engaging in the "nickle" business, while the big rogues are being pardoned by the President after all the costs of a prosecution has been incurred. If the wholesale dealers in counterfeit and bogus money are set free, why annoy the retailers with vexations, arrests and imprisonment. Let them be pardoned now—treat all alike, "crooked whisky" dealers and the bogus venders.

UNHAPPY TWEED.—That notorious rogue, Wm. M. Tweed, who is serving a twenty years term in a New York penitentiary for his robberies, sent by Samuel J. Tilden and Charles O'Connor, is rendered very unhappy by learning of the pardon of his colleagues in crime, by President Grant. The difference is this: Tweed was a Democratic scoundrel and was arrested and convicted by Democratic officials; but Avery, Babcock, McDonald & Co., are Radical scoundrels, who were accidently convicted by order of the late Secretary Bristow, who was compelled to resign because Grant & Co. preferred men of this class to honest ones; hence the pardon of all the "crooked whisky" dealers, and the dismissal of the Babcock suit by the order of the President. The Democrats keep their rogues in prison, while the Rads. pardon and promote theirs. That is the difference in a moral point of view. The lesson implied in the conduct of the leaders of the two parties are worthy of study and practice.

MISCEGENATION LEGALIZED.—The little State of Rhode Island is evidently making true progress," as modern philanthropists term it. On the 2d inst., the House of Representatives repealed the clause of the general statute prohibiting the inter-marriage of whites and blacks. When the roll was called there were 30 yeas and 30 nays. The Speaker voted in the affirmative, thus repealing the penalty for the inter-marriage of whites and negroes in that State. This may be in accordance with the taste and sentiments of that insignificant Commonwealth, but we doubt if the moral sentiment of the people in any other State of the Union can be brought to that low grade. The intelligent and refined portions of both races will revolt at this legislative effort to ignore the designs of the Creator. This Puritan feature of refinement is in exact harmony with the witch-hanging efforts of the New Englanders one hundred and fifty years ago.

THAT'S SO.—An exchange says: "One of the cheekiest things that has transpired in the present National Legislature was Morton forcing himself on the Electoral Commission after fighting it day by day and declaring it an unconstitutional body. He not only determined to impose himself on the Committee, but attempted to force other Radicals of his own way of thinking on with him. Or, in other words, after he had fought to defeat the bill instituting the commission, and been defeated himself in the attempt, he sought to keep off of it every Republican member who had favored the bill. It was only Senator Edmunds' course in the Radical caucus that defeated Sitting Bull Morton in his scheme to make the action of the Committee abortive in the end.

THE FAMILY QUARREL.—Our Radical friends are in great agony over the Presidential court. Just now it is war to the knife, and the knife to the hilt, between Cameron and Morton on the one side, and Conkling and Edmunds on the other. Blaine hesitates upon which side to fall, but Grant seems to incline toward Conkling by his prompt signing of the Electoral Bill and his disposal of Morton's pretensions to the power of the President of the Senate, when he says "our whole history shows that in no instance of doubt or dispute has he exercised the power of deciding, and that the two houses of Congress have disposed of all such doubts and disputes."

BANKRUPT AGAIN.—J. B. Ford & Co., Beecher's publishers, will never get over the effects of the Brooklyn scandal trial. Having failed to carry out the terms of their compromise with their creditors, they have gone into bankruptcy a second time. They now offer thirty cents on the dollar, in sixteen monthly instalments, to their creditors. In the list of assets appears Mr. Beecher's contract to write the Life of Christ," indorsed "Value uncertain." Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe is one of the largest creditors. That trial knocked a good many things "higher than a kite," and the end is not yet.

PARDONS.—The members of the Board of Pardons, at their recent session, had no less than twenty-three cases before them for consideration. Among them were the cases of W. H. Etter, of Middletown, and B. Frank Eberly, of Lancaster, "the two gentlemanly" Custom House officials that made themselves particularly conspicuous on the Centennial grounds during the Exhibition last summer. They were convicted and sent to the penitentiary for plundering the Spanish and Italian departments during the Exhibition.

A DOZER.—A Radical exchange remarks: "While Governor Hayes is quietly attending to his gubernatorial duties at Columbus, Tilden is acting as advisory counsel in his own case now before the triumvirate. What a difference between the two men." The half of this is true. The Ohio man is the property of Simon Cameron & Son, while the New Yorker is a free man—an honest man—the noblest work of God. Mr. Tilden dare express his views like a man; but Governor Hayes obeys like a slave, although slavery has been abolished.

PENNSYLVANIA'S VOTE.—The Pennsylvania Senators divided on the Electoral Commission Bill—Mr. Wallace voting for it and Mr. Cameron voting against it. In the House, our delegation gave 18 votes for the bill—16 Democrats and 2 Republicans—and 6 against it—all Republicans. The Republicans supporting the Bill were Judge Kelley, of Philadelphia, and Mr. Townsend, of Chester. There were three absentees: Collins and Egbert, Democrats, and Ross, Republican. The following vote will be interesting to our Pennsylvania readers:

YEAS.—Wm. A. Wallace, D. Senator; Kelley, R., John Robbins, D., Washington Townsend, R., Hiester Clymer, D., William Matchler, D., W. H. Stanton, D., James B. Reilly, D., Joseph Powell, D., John Reilly, D., W. S. Stenger, D., L. A. Mackey, D., Jacob Turney, D., James H. Hopkins, D., Alex. G. Cochrane, D., Geo. A. Jenks, D., James Sieakley, D.—19

NAYS.—Simon Cameron, R. Senator; Chapman Freeman, R., Charles O'Neill, R., Allan Wood, Jr., R. A. Herr Smith, R., John B. Packer, R., John A. Wallace, R.—7.

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING.—Frank D. Collins, D., Sobieski Ross, R., Albert G. Egbert, D.—3.

FLORIDA FIXED.—The triangle Returning Board, sitting at Washington, counted in the Hayes Electors in Florida on Friday last. The vote stood as follows:

YEAS—Bradley, Edmunds, Frelinghuysen, Hoar, Garfield, Miller, Morton, and Strong—8.

NAYS—Abbott, Bayard, Clifford, Field, Hunton, Payne and Thurman—7.

The yeas are all Radicals, and the nays all Democrats.

This does not discourage us in the least. The same rules laid down by the Board in order to count Florida for Hayes, will compel it to count Tilden in, in some other States, unless "the Court" will assume the responsibility of reversing itself. This is not probable, although possible, because Bradley and Strong found their way to the Supreme Bench in a very crooked manner, and may betray their personal integrity again.

"A brave old man," is what the Radical leaders call Returning Board Wells, the fellow who first went to Grant and Cameron, and informed them that Louisiana had given not less than 8,000 majority for Tilden, but of those "Christian Statesmen" would agree to raise the said Wells *one million dollars*, his Board would count in the Hayes electors. Grant and Cameron being fully aware that Louisiana had voted for Tilden, refused to invest. Then "the brave old man" sent his agent to New York to negotiate with the Democratic Chairman, Mr. Hewitt, and others, also demanding a *million of dollars* for declaring the vote for Tilden. Mr. Hewitt did not invest, knowing that Tilden had carried Louisiana. Now "the brave old man" is locked up in the cellar of the National Capitol, for fraud, perjury, contempt, etc.

A FORNEY FREAK.—An exchange says: "Col. Forney spoke in favor of Stokley on Saturday night from the same desk wherefrom he opposed him three years ago. In the *Press* of Monday Morning is published very prominently an address of the Republican State central committee expressing its idea that every Republican in Pennsylvania should take the *Press*. It is not necessary for Forney to give such publicity to the *quid pro quo*. He is rated at about his proper price in the political market. Forney is just sinner enough to box the political compass from the four corners, and then can only keep his head above water-level. He sold Mr. Buchanan; he sold Stokely, and he is just ready to sell every friend he ever had, provided he can get cash enough down."

A NARROW ESCAPE.—There was a vigorous effort made in the Republican caucus to get Hale, of Maine, Zach Chandler's son-in-law, on the Electoral Commission, instead of Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts. The escape from such an affliction was narrow, the vote standing Hoar 42 to 40 for Hale. Hale is of small caliber, unscrupulous, and would have been sadly out of place on a committee composed as a majority of this commission will be. It is quite enough to have a Morton and Garfield on the commission to represent the corrupt element of the Republican party. The better element of the party will be represented by Edmunds, Frelinghuysen and Hoar. It was a very brassy effort on the part of Chandler to get his son-in-law on the committee so as to propitiate some of his crimes, if necessary.

A DAMNABLE CRIME.—The tax payers of Schuylkill county will lose $60,000 by the failure of the Radical Huntzinger Bank, where the county Treasurer deposited the county fund. The wives of three of the Huntzingers own nearly a half a million of dollars worth of real estate, and how much cash they have in their pockets no one knows but their dear selves. The depositors lost $1,200,000. How much of that sum those ladies have saved for their families will probably never be ascertained by the outside world.

WHY KICK.—If the Radicals fairly carried Florida, why are they so exultant that a committee of the highest character is not to inquire into their title to the vote of that State. They know it is a fraud, and hence these tears over the proposition to investigate it. More; if they are not afraid to have the eligibility of their Electors tested, why did they vote against the second order of the tribunal. The ineligible Postmaster may settle it. Too much office-holder did the business.

A QUESTION FOR THEORISTS.—If only TEN PER CENT. of the criminals who were sent to the penitentiary in this State in 1853, could neither read nor write, when we had but three months free school, why is it that SIXTEEN PER CENT. of the same class find their way there in 1873, after two months has been added to the school term. Is it because our education is based upon a false theory, or does the fault lie exclusively with the teachers, or parents?

Governor Vance, of North Carolina, is in receipt of a letter from the Secretary of War, demanding the records of the office of the Adjutant General of that State for the years 1861 to 1865, inclusive. Governor Vance has replied, refusing to comply with the demand.

## NEWS ITEMS.

—Secretary Morrill is seriously ill in Washington.

—Texas farmers are about to begin corn planting.

—Philadelphia merchants are shipping large quantities of apples to Liverpool.

—The *Patriot* has named the Louisiana Returning Board the "Pirates of the Gulf."

—The internal revenue agents are organizing a raid on illicit distilleries in the South.

—Fifty thousand grape-cuttings were shipped to France from Thomasville, Ga., last week.

[illegible] of Phœnixville, reached her 101st birthday last week.

—Col. Scott has invited the Pennsylvania Editorial Association to visit Texas next summer.

—The ice has gone out of the Allegheny river on an 18-feet rise without special damage to property.

—Philadelphia has 10,000 vacant houses, whole blocks standing where vegetables ought to grow.

—The first gold discovered in California was at the root of a wild onion which a man was pulling for greens.

—A resolution has been introduced in the House at Harrisburg, to dispense with the printing of the Legislative Record.

—The wild waves are wearing away the State of Rhode Island, and its disappearance is only a question of of time.

—The House passed the Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation Bill, which reduces the President's salary to $25,000.

—The debt of Chester county is $489,012.70; at the close of the war it was $1,000,000. The reduction last year was $20,250.

—John Staver, of Pine Run, Lycoming county, will put into the water this season 500,000 feet of logs and 400,000 feet of boards.

—Many of the schools in Cambria county have had to be closed on account of the great prevalence of diphtheria among the children.

—The Americans are shelling Constantinople. A steamer carrying 15,000,000 shells has just sailed for that port from New Haven, Conn.

—Rear Admiral Wilkes, United States Navy, retired list, died in Washington on Thursday, February 8th. He had been in bad health for a long time.

—It is a hard thing to find an old maid who doesn't look under the bed for robbers, but still harder to find a man who can run a skating rink and make money.

—The largest woman in Kansas died at Elk Falls, in that State, last week. She was twenty-two years of age, and weighed three hundred and twenty pounds.

—The residents of Woodbine, Harrison county, Iowa, have been holding indignation meetings because a farmer keeps nineteen dogs, which he allows to run at large.

—The Governor has issued a warrant for the execution on the 4th of April next, of Thos. Duffy, convicted in Schuylkill county of the murder of Benjamin F. Yost.

—Baron de Verner says, through the grating of a San Francisco cell: "I dislike a country where there is no respect paid to social distinction." He had been swindling.

—The Pintes are such inveterate gamblers that a party of squaws and bucks in Virginia City were entirely snowed in the other day while playing poker on a vacant lot.

—Thad. Stevens' old desk in the House of Representatives is the personal property of A. K. McClure, who now writes his ringing editorial in the Philadelphia *Times* upon it.

—Secretary Chadwick was inaugurated Governor of Oregon, last week, to succeed Grover, resigned. Mr. Grover will take his seat in the U. S. Senate after the 4th of March.

—A negro of Bozeman, M. T., drinking a pint of coal oil with suicidal intent, the other day, the emetic converted him into a petroleum well, with a flowing capacity of four barrels a day.

—Advices from Tuscon, Arizonia, say the Legislature has passed a supplemental bill exempting the Southern Pacific road from taxation for six years, instead of four, as by the original bill.

—For good hard common sense give us the Connecticut Legislature. It contains 123 farmers, 40 manufacturers, 21 merchants and oly 12 lawyers. The Maine House has forty farmers, 29 merchants and 9 lawyers.

—Moody, the Evangelist, announces that the contributions for the family of the late P. P. Bliss have been so liberal that with the addition of what he left they are well provided for, and the collections should now cease.

—Judge Poland, the profane old cuss, says he "don't know anything about the Electoral Bill and he don't care a damn." That's a frank acknowledgement and it is put in terms that are entirely understandable.

—Captain C. V. Gardiner, of Deadwood, D. T., has just completed arrangements in Omaha, whereby smelting works of the most approved kind will be established in the Black Hills this summer. Capital, $50,000.

—The freight business of the Pennsylvania Railroad has diminished considerably as compared with a few months ago, but it is much greater than heretofore at a corresponding period of the year. This is the dull season for railroad business.

—The stockholders in the Keely Motor Company are getting uneasy, and it is rumored that the great inventor will be called upon to show some satisfactory evidence that the money that has been put up for him has been productive of some tangible results.

—The Cambria *Freeman* in noting the death of Mrs. Catharine Trotter, in Hemlock, Cambria county, says that good lady, who had no children of her own, raised and educated no less than twenty-one orphans. Her funeral was the largest ever seen in the locality where she lived.

—Eastern statesmen should pattern their action in regard to the payment of school teachers by the statesmen of Nebraska, who, to their honor be it said, have enacted a law which provides that male and female teachers shall receive the amount of compensation where the same kind and amount of work is performed. Good for Nebraska.

—The liabilities of the firms in New York that have failed, assigned, or been adjudicated bankrupts during the past month of January is estimated at $3,000,000. Thirty-seven firms failed with liabilities of $1,000,000, thirty-two made assignments, their liabilities being $550,000, and nineteen were adjudicated in bankruptcy, their indebtedness being $850,000.

—It is mentioned as a striking illustration of the hard times among politicians as well as other folks that among the special police lately sworn in at the capitol were two Ex-Governors, one Ex-Judge, one Ex-Congressman, and several prominent State politicians, who have been hanging about Washington for months waiting for something to turn up.

## THE GOVERNMENT'S DOG.

Among the vouchers presented by O. E. Babcock, charged to the account of "Care and Improvement of the Public Grounds" at Washington, are some of a striking nature. Twelve of these vouchers, ranging in date from 1871 to the close of 1875, are for the quarterly "board and care of a dog" at the rate of thirty dollars for three months, and amounting in the aggregate to four hundred and twenty dollars. A friend at the capital sends us the numbers, dates and amounts of these vouchers, but he does not specifically state whether that dog belonged to the Administration or was the personal property of Gen. Babcock, [illegible] ership of the dog is a small matter, compared with the cost of his keep. But if he is a real dog, and was either ornamental or useful as he trotted over the spacious grounds of which Babcock had charge, we are not going to find fault even with the amount disbursed for his comfortable and proper support as a government dog. In this view of the case, he was probably one of the most faithful, sober and honest of the crowd in which he moved. The peculations that may be laid to his charge, if any, were incidental to his nature and his surroundings, and were trivial at most. He earned what he got, as well as the rest of the dependents upon the Treasury. At least he has escaped personal investigation, and he has had no connection with Cameron and Morton and Chandler. He is clear of all entanglements concerning the Returning Board frauds in Florida and Louisiana, and can only be pointed out as having lived upon the money of the people for forty-two months at the rate of ten dollars a month. All this we find in palliation of the dog if he was a real, live dog. But, if he was a stone dog, an iron dog, or a terra-cotta dog, that has been put upon the pay-roll for the sake only of swindling the Treasury out of the sum charged against him, these vouchers represent a fraud, and a committee should be appointed with power to send for persons and papers and the dog.—*Venango Spectator.*

## REAR ADMIRAL WILKES.

DEATH OF THE CAPTOR OF MASON AND SLIDELL, THE CONFEDERATE COMMISSIONERS.

Rear Admiral Charles Wilkes, who was on the retired list of the United States Navy, died in Washington yesterday morning. He was born in New York in 1801, his father being a brother of John Wilkes, of England. In 1818 he was appointed a midshipman, was commissioned as lieutenant in 1826, as commander in 1843, captain in 1855, Commodore in 1862, and Rear Admiral on the retired list 1866.

In 1838 he commanded five vessels in an exploring expedition to the South Seas. After visiting the Pacific islands the expedition discovered the Antartic continent, coasting it, westward, for more than seventy degrees. For this and other scientific explorations he received a gold medal from the London Geographical Society.

In 1861, being then a Commodore, was sent to the West Indies in the frigate San Jacinto to look after the Confederate steamer Sumter. In the fall of the same year he encountered the British mail steamer Trent in the Bahama Channel with Mason and Slidell, the Confederate Commissioners to England and France, on board. Mason and Slidell were taken on board the San Jacinto and on her arrival in Boston harbor they were transferred to Fort Warren, where they formally thanked Admiral Wilkes for this action.

In 1868, while Admiral Wilkes was in command of a flotilla on the James river, he shelled and destroyed City Point. In 1863, while in command of a special squadron in the West Indies, he captured many blockade runners. This was his last active duty. He was commissioned Rear Admiral on the retired list in July, 1866.

## THE MONTROSE DEFAULTER.

ASTONISHMENT OF HIS TRUSTING FELLOW-CITIZENS—THE AMOUNT OF HIS PECULATIONS $90,000—HELD IN NEW YORK.

The Scranton *Republican* of Saturday says that the news of Nathan L. Lenheim's enormous defalcation fell upon our neighbors of Montrose, Susquehanna county, the other day, like a clap of thunder from a clear sky. He was a young man who moved in the best society in the place, apparently a devoted member of a church, beloved and esteemed by all who knew him, the cashier of a bank in which the wealthiest men of the town were interested, besides being well-to-do himself—all this at the age of twenty-four. With such brilliant prospects before him, he dashed them to the ground in a single day, confounding the community in which he lived, and left the people of the place almost panic-stricken.

HIS QUIET FLIGHT.

But a few days since he left Montrose without stating a word of his affairs to any one, and a week ago today he was arrested in New York for presenting a forged note for the sum of $10,000, to be discounted at the importers' and traders' bank in that city. The forged note was alleged to have been drawn by B. T. Stevens, and endorsed by Mr. S. Kestler, of Easton, who is known to be worth at least $1,000,000. Fortunately, however, the bold trick was detected, and the forger taken in charge by the authorities. The receipt of the startling news completely shocked the people of Montrose, and especially the stockholders of the First National Bank, of which Mr. Lenheim was cashier. Accordingly an investigation was made, and it was discovered that his bank defalcations reached the enormous sum of $90,000 of money he had squandered in various ways. All efforts to ascertain how he had invested this plunder, or into what channels he could have directed it, have so far proved fruitless, and this portion of the transaction must remain a mystery until the dark sequel of the bold crime is revealed. Of this amount, $20,000 had been forged on the bank, and the rest was taken in various ways, for Mr. Lenheim had full control to discount notes and transact other business of the bank at will, and apparently without consulting any of the officers of the institution.

WHAT THE BANK WILL LOSE.

We have ascertained, however, that the defaulting cashier's bond is good for the greater part of the money stolen, and that the bank will lose only about $24,000. The confidence of the people in its stability is still unshaken, and up to Thursday noon there was double the amount of money deposited that was drawn out. On Wednesday last the bank was closed for an investigation and for the adjustment of matters that had been deranged by the sudden disappearance of the cashier, but it was opened yesterday, transacting business as usual. The stockholders have given their note for $40,000 to replenish the depleted treasury and meet present emergencies. They are all men of sound financial standing, and no extraordinary run is anticipated. In fact, one party, to show his faith in the stable character of the concern, deposited $5,000 in it on Tuesday, and others have testified their confidence in it in a similar substantial manner. The liabilities are secured by sound notes, and no such thing as a failure is expected.

STANDING OF THE BANK.

The First National bank of Montrose came into existence about two years ago, and ever since its inception Mr. Nathan L. Lenheim, the forger, has been its cashier. At the close of the first year's business, Mr. D. D. Searle, the vice president, expressed a good deal of dissatisfaction over the fact that the original plan of reterring all loans to a committee after being negotiated was not carried out, and that Mr. Lenheim was negotiating paper without the instruction of any one. This gave rise to such a state of feeling that he would either sell his stock or buy out Mr. Lenheim's. The consequence was that Mr. Searle sold out his $15,000 worth for a margin of 20 per cent. and retired from the bank, receiving $3,000 in cash, and the stock (which he still holds) as security. Mr. George V. Bently, was chosen vice president in his stead and Mr. Wilcox [illegible] Conal is the only National bank in town. There is another banking house there—that of Wm. H. Cooper & Co.—which has been in existence for twenty years, and is above reproach.

UNDER ARREST IN NEW YORK.

Lenheim, who is under arrest in New York, was brought up at the Tombs yesterday, and stated that he intended to waive further examination. Bail was fixed at $10,000, and he was also held in $5,000 to await a requisition from Governor Hartranft, when he will be taken to Montrose for trial on the charge of embezzlement and forgery.—*Williamsport Gazette & Bulletin, Feb. 8th.*

A SAD MISTAKE.—In a speech in court the other day, Mr. Henry M. Scudder spoke of Gen. B. F. Butler as a "Christian Statesman." The remark seems to have been conceived in dislike and uttered in sarcasm. But was it just? The phrase "a Christian Statesman" originated during the discussion of the Credit Mobilier bribery. It was used to designate frauds and hypocrites like Colfax and Garfield, men who took the bribe and swore that they had not taken it; men pretending to be Christians, yet all the time industriously serving the devil. Now, Butler is not one of this class of men. He does not pretend to be a Christian; in fact, he does not pretend to be anything that he is not. The hypocrisy of religion is not one of his vices. Indeed, we do not think him guilty of hypocrisy of any kind. Mr. Scudder was mistaken. Gen. Butler is not a Christian Statesman; and since the time, years ago, when the *Sun* exploded the story about his stealing spoons, there has been no good ground for calling him a Christian Statesman.—*N. Y. Sun.*


## New Advertisements.

CHEAP GROCERIES!

LUMBER C