

Father Abraham.

INDEPENDENT AND PROGRESSIVE.



LANCASTER CITY, PA.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1868.

FATHER ABRAHAM! EVERYBODY READS IT!

Make up your Clubs!

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: 1 copy, one year, \$1.50; 5 copies, (each name addressed), 7.00; 10 copies, 12.00; 15 copies, 18.00; 20 copies, 22.00.

ADDITIONAL INDUCEMENTS! Clubbing With Periodicals!

For \$3.75 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM and Godey's Lady's Book, (the subscription price of which is \$3) for one year.

For \$2.75 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM and Peterson's Ladies' National Magazine, (the subscription price of which is \$2.50) for one year.

For \$2.50 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM and Arthur's Home Magazine, (the subscription price of which is \$2) for one year.

For \$2.65 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM and Once a Month, (the subscription price of which is \$2) for one year.

For \$2.15 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM and Children's Hour, (the subscription price of which is \$1.50) for one year.

For \$2.75 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM and the Lady's Friend, (the subscription price of which is \$2.50) for one year.

For \$2.75 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM and the Saturday Evening Post, (the subscription price of which is \$2.50) for one year.

For \$1.50 we will send FATHER ABRAHAM for one year and a pamphlet copy of Pitt Schefflebreuner's Campaign letters, just published.

Send your orders, accompanied with the cash, to HATCH & COCHRAN, Publishers, FATHER ABRAHAM, LANCASTER, PA.

"SCHEFFLEBREUNER."

Those of our subscribers who have paid at or sent to this office the full price of subscription for FATHER ABRAHAM—\$1.50—are entitled to a copy of the Schefflebreuner Letters, published in pamphlet form. We have already forwarded such by mail. Should any have been omitted, we should be notified.

THE TRUTH OF HISTORY.

In the eloquent eulogy of Gen. Cameron, in the United States Senate, on Mr. Stevens, which we regret that our limits preclude us from publishing, there is a historical error, which it is but proper should be corrected. The General stated that Mr. S. was elected to Congress in 1850, and failing to obtain a re-nomination, he retired from Congress. This leaves the impression that he served but one term, and was elected for the first time in 1850. The fact is that he was elected the first time in 1848, re-elected in 1850, and served two terms, the usual limit of Congressional service in this country, at that period.

RIGHT!

Attorney General West, of Ohio, has written an opinion for the Auditor of the State, taking the ground that members of the Legislature are not entitled to compensation for services rendered while that body is not in session, and that any act or resolution directing payment for extra services of either members or officers, not provided for by law prior to their term of office, is unconstitutional, and should be rejected. This affects committees sitting during the recess. The decision would not be at all acceptable to the politicians of Pennsylvania.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

As the excellent wood-cut pictures of representative men which appear on the fourth page of FATHER ABRAHAM—one every week—are unsurpassed by any similar productions, it is simply just to say that these very beautiful and perfect engravings are executed by Messrs. Probasco, Rea & Sharpe, Ledger Building, Sixth and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia. Our to-day's illustration, was not only executed, but also designed by Messrs. P. R. & S.

ON THE RIGHT SIDE.

Among the Republican papers of the State favoring Legislative reform, are the following: The Lancaster Express, Lancaster; the Republican, Scranton; the Miners' Journal, Pottsville; the Village Record, West Chester; the Free Press, Norristown; the State Guard, Harrisburg. We are proud to find ourselves in such very good company. There are doubtless many others with us on the question, but failed to come under our notice.

CHRISTMAS!

To-day the entire Christian world is engaged in joyful observance of the great event—the birth of the Savior of Man.

A writer in one of the English magazines truthfully remarks that "The very rich people are to be pitied this Christmas season, with their turkeys, champagne, and all other good things, are over matters of course; they can hardly know how to celebrate Christmas with any extra festivity. Even with the servants of the very rich, the turkey, the champagne, &c., have become mere dress from the superabundance." It is not so with the millions of common people of this country. The coming of Christmas with us, particularly in Pennsylvania, means the coming of every possible luxury to supply the family board; social visits, sports, presents and congratulations; toys and good things innumerable for the little ones; and general mirth, joy and festivity among all classes of people—all in commemoration of the coming of the Prince of Peace.

The above quotation suggests a single idea—how to make the "very rich people" happy also. It is simply this: Remember the poor, all around you, and do something to afford happiness, and joy, and mirth in their humble and now cheerless homes. If so doing should fail to bring an abundance of Christian joy and happiness to the "very rich," then we shall be forced to the unpleasant conclusion that they were only created to be miserable, cold-hearted, selfish and unhappy.

THE DIFFICULTY.

In a conversation with a member of the House of Representatives, a few days ago, on the subject of legislative reform, we were told that the difficulty experienced by every member, himself included, was the fact that each one is committed and pledged to one or more friends who want places at the Capitol during the coming session. But for this fact, he gave us to understand, he would be ready to favor the plan of reform—as recently suggested in the columns of FATHER ABRAHAM.

We beg the gentleman referred to, and all others, to remember that these pledges are of a private nature, and entirely between themselves and their place-hunting friends; that with such arrangements the people have nothing to do; that they are members elect to represent the interests of their tax-paying constituents, and that, if the system of extravagance and speculation which characterized the Legislature last year is continued during the coming session, a justly indignant people will hold to a strict account every man who will dare to present himself before them for re-election. Let this matter be well understood now. The question is a very simple one—Whether you, gentlemen, acting under the solemnity of your oaths, will continue the system by which over thirty thousand dollars of the people's money has been wrongfully abstracted from their treasury, or, whether you will accept the proposition which we have made, to do the work of pasting, folding and packing the public documents for five thousand dollars, or by some other reformatory measure, reduce this item of public expenditure to an equally low figure?

To remove all doubt as to our sincerity and good faith in this matter, we intend to prepare a written contract, duly executed, with bond and good security in the sum of twenty thousand dollars, conditioned that the terms of the contract shall be faithfully performed on our part, and that all property entrusted to our charge shall be secure against the swarm of thieves who have for years infested our State Capitol. You will then have your choice, either to award us the contract as proposed; to adopt some other plan equally favorable to the State, or to continue to disregard the interests of the tax-payers, and keep up the brigade of private friends to gobble up and carry off everything they can lay hands on.

HON. O. J. DICKEY.

On our first page, to-day, the readers of FATHER ABRAHAM will find Mr. Dickey's first effort on the floor of Congress, being the formal announcement of the death of his distinguished predecessor, THADDEUS STEVENS. The following extracts from editorials and correspondence of leading papers, having come under our notice, will be read by the constituents for Mr. Dickey with great satisfaction:

"Mr. Dickey's opening effort will commend him favorably to the country, which will be too apt to look critically on the successor of the grand old statesman. Modest in tone, well weighed in language, and thoroughly earnest in the affection and kindly feeling evinced in honoring the memory of a dead friend and preceptor, it will be received this morning by the nation at large as a flattering credential of the new member."—Phil. Press.

"Mr. Dickey made an impression to-day as a man of great ability. His voice is not so loud and strong as it should be to enable the galleries, which, to-day, were crowded to hear. Only Judge Kelley, Mr. Maynard and General Ashley could be distinctly heard all over the House."—Cor. Phil. Inquirer.

The Baltimore Sun says: "As soon as the journal was read Mr. Dickey announced the death of his distinguished predecessor, and reviewed his life to the time of his appearance in the halls of Congress, leaving a review of his congressional life to his associates in the House. This was Mr. Dickey's first effort in Congress, and he, in all respects, acquitted himself with honor."

"The speech of Mr. Dickey the successor of the deceased statesman was a noble effort and attracted the undivided attention of the floor and galleries. As the maiden effort of that gentleman it was a decided success."—York Republican.

LEGISLATIVE EXTRAVAGANCE.

We are very strongly encouraged in our effort to call the attention of the public to the enormous system of extravagance which has characterized the last two or three sessions of our State Legislature. The Norristown Free Press, the Scranton Republican, and a number of other leading Republican journals, as well as our neighbors of the Lancaster Daily Express, are very emphatic in their demand for the needed reform, and as there is no getting over this subject; as there can be no more successful white-washing or humbugging the people, as was done last year, when "Honest" Andy Armstrong was made chairman of the Special Committee on Retrenchment and Reform, we hope and expect to see every respectable Republican paper in the State come out and take its position on one side or the other of this important question, for, if we as a party, refuse or neglect to carry out some substantial reform at the coming session, we will be very much weakened, to say the least, when we come to present our gubernatorial candidate to the people of the State for their votes. We must act now. It won't do for us to wait until the meeting of our State Convention, and see what that body will have to say in its platform on the subject of retrenchment and reform. To do us any good as a party, to serve the tax-payers of the Commonwealth and deserve their continued confidence and support, the Legislature must take a positive and radical course.

Since publishing our proposition to take a contract to do all the work of "Pasting and Folding" for the House of Representatives for \$5,000, which work has cost the State about \$21,000 during the session of 1867, and nearly or quite \$40,000 during last session, we have received a number of letters, including several from members of the Legislature, all expressing astonishment at the facts and figures stated in our first article. Among these enquirers are several members of the House from the democratic side, which leads us to suspect that they mean to place themselves right on the question of Reform, and thus make all the political capital which the subject affords, during the coming campaign, for themselves. This we cannot afford. We, as a party, cannot ignore the stupendous system of extravagance in question, and thus stand committed as the responsible party, and expect to win at the next election. Let us not flatter ourselves that the issues during the coming State campaign will be such as Equal Rights, Suffrage, Reconstruction, Klu Klux, Repudiation, &c., for these have been virtually settled by the triumphant election of Grant and Colfax. The issue will be, chiefly, on State Reform—just such questions as the one before us, and if the leading politicians of our own party can see victory at the next election with such a load of extravagance to answer for, without an earnest effort on their part to put an end to it, then, we confess, they can see more than we can.

WHAT WAS GAINED!

With the election of General Grant comes a higher standard of American citizenship—with more dignity and character to the name abroad, and more assured liberty and security attaching to it at home. Our diplomacy will be rescued from the subservient tone by which we have so often been humiliated in our own eyes and in the eyes of Europe, and the true position of the first nation of the earth in rank and prestige will be asserted; not in the spirit of bravado, or with the mere arrogance of strength, but with the conscious dignity which belongs to power, and with the moderation which is the true ornament of justice. And with this vindication of the rights and the rank of our citizenship abroad, will come also its protection and its pamper at home. That provision of the Federal Constitution which solemnly guarantees that "the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States" will not be a dead letter under the administration of General Grant, as it in fact has been from the foundation of the Federal Government down to this hour. Henceforward it is to be practically enforced throughout all our borders; and every citizen of the Republic, himself observant of the law and of the rights of others, shall go where it may please him, and speak as he may see fit, unawed by mobs, unharmed by murders, unmenaced in life, limb, or estate!

With these points settled by the people, Gen. Grant's administration will have high vantage ground from the day of its inauguration. Its responsibilities will indeed be great, its power will be large, its opportunities will be splendid; and to meet them all we have a true and tried man, who adds to his other great elements of strength, that of perfect trust and confidence on the part of the people.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

HON. THOS. H. BURROWES, of this city, has set vigorously to work to reorganize the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania, to whose presidency he has just been called. It is to be hoped that under his administration the troubles which have so thickly strewn the history of agricultural education in our State will disappear, and our knowledge of Mr. Burrowes, and his success as State Superintendent of Common Schools and Soldiers Orphans' Schools, justifies the expectation that they will.

STATE NEWS.

ALLEGHENY: A man named Wood was arrested on a charge of having forged the name of L. Swaney, of Beaver county, to a bond given by himself as agent of the Pennsylvania Life Insurance Company. Wesley Harman, aged 37, unmarried, committed suicide in his boarding house, at Pittsburg, on the 15th inst., by shooting himself through the heart with a pistol. The dead body of a female infant was found in an out-house in the city of Pittsburg, on the 15th inst., having a female stocking tied around its neck. The guilty party is unknown.

BEAVER COUNTY: The Beaver Argus last week opened a terrible hot-shot battery on Mr. Quay's new paper just started. The county temperance convention was held last Friday, at Beaver. The Argus appears in a beautiful new dress. A series of popular entertainments are announced by the Missionary Society of the M. E. Sunday school, to come off during the holidays.

BERRS COUNTY: A Christmas festival will be held at the Orphans' Home, Womelsdorf, to-morrow (Saturday) evening. The County Institute will commence at Reading to-morrow, the 26th inst. There are fifty-nine cases on the trial list to be disposed of at the January term of the county Court. The Keystone State Normal School, at Kutztown, will reopen its session on Monday, January 4th. Rafting and turkey stealing are among the popular amusements of Reading. The Daily Eagle names the following items as some of the improvements of Reading next year: A new public Hall, by a stock company; a new City Hall, by the city Fathers; an extensive new depot, by the P. & R. R. company; new Iron Works; another Church and several large buildings on Penn street. A Ladies' fair is now being held in Emanuel Church, at Hanbury. The County Teachers' Institute commenced its sessions on Monday. An opening address was delivered by the County Superintendent, Professor Emmentrot; address of welcome by Prof. Steward, of the Reading High School; Prof. Bruner was appointed chief secretary; Mr. Hamlin, Miss Stake, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Roberts a committee to select words for spelling exercises, and Miss Jones and Miss Harper were appointed to criticize the general delivery of the speakers in their manner, grammar, &c.

CHESTER COUNTY: A meeting was held at Chester Springs, on the 16th inst., to adopt measures for the construction of the Pickering Valley railroad—from Phoenixville to Dorlan's station, on the Wayneburg railroad. A subscription of \$50,000 is pledged by the people of the vicinity of Chester Springs. The warehouse of John K. Malone, at Penningtonville, was entered by burglars, recently, and fifty dollars stolen. An envelope containing \$550 was overlooked by the burglars. A new Hall for the use of the Knights of Pythias, at Penningtonville, is talked of. Mary W., wife of Eli Yarnall, of Willistown, was so badly burned on Sunday night as to cause death on the following day. She had been lying on the lounge reading, with a light on the table near by, after her husband and the children had retired. About midnight her cries aroused the family, and they immediately came down stairs and found her enveloped in flames, which were speedily extinguished. The diseased was sixty-three years of age.

CRAWFORD COUNTY: The Conneautville Courier says a lady's fur collar was found by a lively man in his sleigh, and he promptly took it to the house of the man who had hired the sleigh, and gave it to his wife, who said she knew nothing about it—belonged to somebody else—would keep it and ask her husband how it came into the sleigh—whom it belonged to—interesting domestic scene, &c. James Gillan, a driller, was burned to death at an oil well near Pleasantville, on the 8th inst. He was in the Engine House, which took fire through a leakage of gas, and before he could reach the door he was overcome by the flames.

DUPHIN COUNTY: George W. Holland, a colored man, whilst crossing the canal opposite Wister's Furnace, on Friday evening, broke through the ice and being unable to extricate himself, remained in the water for half an hour, when he was rescued, but life was nearly extinct, and all efforts to restore him, failed, and he died the same evening. George Berger, Est., was re-appointed Prison Inspector. The little child, Willie Gabriel, who was severely burned, at Harrisburg, on Thursday of last week, died on Friday evening. On Sunday morning a child was found at the entrance of the 4th street Lutheran church, Harrisburg, which was taken to the Mayor's office, and nobody appearing to claim it, was sent to the county Poor House. A free whisky fight at Harrisburg on Saturday night last. The Telegraph says they have a "what is it" in Harrisburg. Isn't this a mistake? The Legislature won't meet until week after next.

LYONNE COUNTY: The Scranton City Police appeared in uniform last week. Jennie Jones, aged sixteen, whilst crossing the L. & B. railroad track, near the Susquehanna river bridge, fell between the timbers of the cattle guard and was unable to get out of the way before a train came along, and passed over one of her legs which has been amputated above the knee. Carbonale has a Good Templar Lodge 200—strong, a Temple of Honor and a Strong Father Matthew Society—all temperance organizations. Christmas will be celebrated at Wilkesbarre by a Fire Company ball, A. M. Zion Church, Presbyterian Church fair, M. E. Sabbath school entertainment and a concert by the Welsh Glee Club.

LYCOMING COUNTY: Gleanings from the Bullfinch: I. M. Gernard has been appointed Notary Public for Muncy. Religious revivals in Price chapel, and in Third Street chapel, Williamsport, were successful, adding a number of new converts to their churches. At Mountoursville, a revival is also going on with good results. A riot took place in a Lager Beer saloon, at Williamsport, on the evening of the 10th inst., in which about twenty individuals were engaged demolishing tumblers, chairs, bottles, &c.

HOMERIDGE IN WASHINGTON Co.—On the 7th inst., Dr. Fenimore, of Hickory, whilst working in a corn field, with his two step-sons, undertook to chastise one of them, when the oldest interfered and prevented him. On the same evening the oldest brother went up stairs to pack his clothes, saying he was going to leave the house, and on his way down stairs the

step-father met him with an axe and struck at him twice, when the boy drew a revolver and shot him twice, from the effects of which he since died. Before he died he requested that the boy should not be arrested. The latter is ready to give himself up at any time.

WARREN COUNTY: A couple of Good Templars were married in Pittsfield Lodge, No. 619, one night last week. The ceremony was performed by the chaplain, under the order of "new business."

WAYNE COUNTY: Christian Hauser, whilst at work on the railroad near Honesdale, on Wednesday of last week, was instantly killed by a fall of earth. Much activity at Honesdale during the holidays, by getters up of Church fairs, entertainments, &c.

YORK COUNTY: The Lower Windsor Teachers' Institute met at Prospect School House on the 28th ult. On Monday night of last week an accident happened at Goldsboro, on the N. C. R. R., which resulted in the death of one and the serious injury of two other men. The deceased, Joseph Lewis, the Fireman, and Mr. Emy, the Engineer, were running the engine Lady Washington, which was used to run up and down the road by officers paying the hands, and forgetting to stop at Redbank Station, they passed on and collided with the up passenger train, causing the Lady Washington to explode her boiler and killing Mr. Lewis instantly. The injuries of Mr. Emy are also very serious. Wm. M. Conkey, Esq., is President elect of the Wrightsville Loan and Building Association, W. F. Lloyd, Treasurer, and J. H. Smith Secretary. At York, potatoes sell for \$1.00 to 1.25 per bushel; eggs 30c to 35c; butter 50c to 60c; chickens, per pair, 40c to \$1.00; beef, 12c to 25c; lard, 14c to 20c; white wheat, per bus, \$2.00 to 2.20; red do, at \$1.70 to 1.85, and coal from \$8.00 to 9.00.

BRUTAL MURDER OF A FARMER.

From the Marietta (Ohio) Register, Dec. 17. Thomas A. T. Jett, of this township, was murdered for his money last Saturday evening, on his farm, about five miles east of town, on the Little Muskingum, just above Long Run. He had been in town that day to get his two horses shod and to pay his taxes. He had considerable money with him, probably \$400, or perhaps \$500. He started home, and just at dusk was seen at the Brick Church, some two miles below his place. He was a bachelor, and at the time he was living alone. On Sunday morning, a German woman, who lives a neighbor, went to the house to carry him a plate of meat, and finding no one, went to the stable door, which was swinging, and there lay Mr. Jett, across the passage at the rear of the horse-stalls, with his head in the second stall from the door. She was alarmed, and without waiting to examine, went for her husband, who came, when he was discovered to be dead and frozen stiff. His head was badly beaten up, the back of the skull and the forehead both beaten in; also, the right cheek-bone and jaw both broken; besides, there were several cuts and bruises, evidently done with some sort of a club; the bleeding was profuse. Dr. S. D. Hart, Coroner, held an inquest, and the jury found that "the deceased came to his death by violence at the hands of some person unknown" to the jury, using "some heavy, blunt weapon."

It appears that when Mr. Jett arrived at the stable, just after dark, he turned his horse in; they went past their stalls, and one of them was found the next morning with his head in the stall, and said to be shivering with fright, as if from the violence and the smell of blood. Doubtless the assassin was concealed in the stable, and as Mr. Jett went into the door he received the deadly blows. It would seem as if the murderer had laid the dead body with the head at the foot of the stall, to create the impression that the violence had been done by the horse's heels. A year and a half ago, Mr. Jett had \$340 stolen from his house, in the day time, while he was out on his farm. Since that he had, as his friends say, carried his money with him. He was seen to have a large roll of bank notes in town on the day of the murder. No money could be found about the body or the premises, after the murder, but a purse was found in the house that was not his. Mr. Jett was a son of the late Deacon Thomas Jett, was born here, and was nearly 50 years of age.

Simon M. Devoil and Lafayette Lagrange (an uncle of Devoil's) were arrested Tuesday evening, and lodged in jail that night, by Marshal Darius Towlsley and Constable L. K. Dutton, on the affidavit of Wesley T. McKibben, brother-in-law of Mr. Jett. As we go to press they have not yet had their examination. The affidavit charges the parties with killing Mr. Jett, robbing him of \$400 or \$500 and four or five pounds of tobacco. Devoil has a family in the neighborhood of the murder, and Lagrange a family at Moss Run.

WHY DON'T YOU LEARN A TRADE!

This question was propounded in our hearing, a few evenings since, to a young man who had been for several months unsuccessfully seeking employment as a clerk or salesman in some of our leading houses. Complaining of his ill-luck, one of his friends who knew his mechanical talent, but doubted whether he could make himself useful either as clerk or salesman, put the interrogatory to him which we have placed as the caption of this article. The reply was, that a trade was not so respectable as a mercantile occupation. Under this delusive idea our stores are crowded with young men who have no capacity for business, and who, because of the fancied respectability of doing nothing, waste away their minority upon salaries which cannot possibly liquidate their expenditures.

Late, too late in life, they discover their error, and, before they reach the age of thirty, many of them look with envy upon the thrifty mechanic, who, in the days of their boyhood, they were accustomed to deride. The false views of respectability which prevail in the *soi distant* fashionable society of the present day, have ruined thousands of young men, and will ruin thousands more.

A SENSIBLE JUDGE.

Hon. J. Pringle Jones, late Judge of the Courts of the Lehigh and Northampton districts, recently charged a Jury, in the latter named county, as follows: "Gentlemen—If you believe the testimony of the prosecutor, convict. If you believe the evidence of Shirk, acquit. I find there is no use in any extended remarks to jurors in this country."

CONGRESS.

On Wednesday of last week, in the Senate, Mr. Morton, of Indiana, made a long speech on the financial question, and the resumption of specie payments. He favored an early resumption, but our limits prevent even a synopsis of his remarks. One of the California members presented a bill, some days ago, providing that the eight hour system shall make no reduction of the pay of Government employees, but the Senate refused to consider it. Current business was disposed of, and an adjournment was carried. The House received some bills, among others, one from the Committee of Ways and Means, to postpone the operation of the tobacco tax to the 15th of February next, which was passed. Mr. Jones, of Kentucky, offered a resolution, giving females in Government employ the same wages as males for similar services, which was adopted by a vote of 28 to 37. Eight. Other business was transacted of no special interest.

On Thursday, in Senate, a copierhead presented resolutions for the protection of minorities. Poor fellow. The resolution of censure of the President for his financial recommendation in his Annual Message, was passed after a long debate—the seven *topnotch* votes for it, the admirable closing sentences: "The death of Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, of 65 years, has been communicated from the House. Mr. Cameron introduced the usual resolutions, accompanying them with a brief address. Mr. Buckalew and Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, and Mr. Sumner, of Mass., also made some remarks. We extract from the speech of Mr. Sumner, the admirable closing sentences: "It is a defender of human rights that Thaddeus Stevens deserves our homage. He is supreme. Already he takes his place among the illustrious names which are the common property of mankind. I see him now as I have so often seen him during life. His venerable form, his white hair, his unobscured steps, but the gathering strength of years is in his countenance, and the light of victory in his path. Politician, calculator, time-server, stand aside—a hero statesman has passed his reward!"

In the House, after some current business, the death of Mr. Finney, a representative from Pennsylvania, was announced by the speaker, Mr. Pettis, and eulogiums were spoken by Messrs. Dawes, Blaine, Cullom and Beck, from their States. On Saturday, the Senate had a short session. Very little business was done. A resolution was adopted requesting the President to inform the Senate of the names of those who had been paid for Libby prison, at Richmond, and if so, by what authority. Well, suppose there was, what will you do about it? That's according to rule. It's an outrage, of course, but the great "criminal was acquitted," and he can do what he pleases. The resolutions passed by the Legislature in the matter of Libby prison, were presented by Senator Keilogg, of that State. The House was not in session.

On Monday, both Houses adjourned until Tuesday, the 5th of January, without transacting any business of importance. (communicated.)

EDITORS FATHER ABRAHAM:—Now, since Betsy killed the Bear, and the danger is past, I have crept out of my fossilized shell, and mean to take a little exercise in gymnastics, to bring my muscles in play again. Cold and indifferent as I was, I was warmed up by reading *The Lancaster Intelligencer*. I became interested in its daily productions, I studied the animus of its editors, with as much curiosity as a physician studies the actions of a madman, if possible to ascertain the cause of the aberration of mind manifested. How to account for such perverse views, dishonest garblings, and bold brazen, unfounded assertions and contortion of facts, was a puzzle to me. As men, they were gentlemanly and friendly, but as politicians they seemed ambitious to immortalize themselves with Vallandigham, Brick Pomeroy, and Andy Johnson. A Southern rebel, like Lee, I can respect, but such dog-berry, dough-faced Northerners out Herod Herod himself. I allow, that in politics, like in war, scheming and flanking is perfectly admissible, but to don the "blue" and act the "gray" is neither honorable or fair. Pampering the prejudices of foreigners, playing upon the jealousy of religious denominations, to a degree that disgusted the most intelligent readers of these classes, it seemed as if bent upon doing what mischief it could, and if it had been possible would have inaugurated civil contention and war, to the knife, in our midst. Truly the spirit manifested appeared to me demagogical. And well it is that such a morbid incendiary spirit could not exert a great influence in an intelligent and law abiding community. Save, setting a few rowdies to mob visitors, because these visitors wore red breeches, or capes, these untrifled Democrats, like sturdy turkey gobbles, could not abide the display of red in the streets of Lancaster. But these are by-gones. So let them rest. But I had hoped that they would lessen their sail and tack-ship, after seeing how the wind blows, but not they. There are none so blind as those who can not see. You may ask why I take the paper? Just to study what perverted minds can do. Since the conflict is between darkness and light, I take an interest to study the sentiments of the great opposers of advancement. *The Express* now and then gives them a whip, but they effect little good, only that it may add those whose ideas are crude in such matters, to get the truth on the subject. But what have they to do with truth? If the reading of their paper on political questions, operates on other minds like upon my own—let them go ahead—for great good will come out of that great evil. When error becomes rampant, public opinion will be awakened, and the law of equilibrium will establish a healthy public sentiment. It needs extremists when the moral pulse beats slowly in the masses, therefore, like the vulgarity and impudence of Brick Pomeroy. Sober, thoughtful citizens will withdraw themselves from them until the opposing forces shall be marshalled under their respective banners, and right and wrong in arms against each other. That none may ignorantly cling to error, give them rope, and let them spread themselves, and fairly ventilate their notions; it is the best service they can do, to point out the dividing line, and bring each to affiliate with those whose aims are for pressing forward from "good to better," and those holding on to the foggy skirts, and pulling back with the endeavor to go from "bad to worse." So says UNCLE SAM.