Lancaster Intelligencer.

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 9, 1880.

Reviewing the Courts.

The Carlisle *Volunteer* seems to have a queer notion of the proprieties of journalism and its relations to courts and juries. It is quite shocked at the modern tendency of "a certain class of writers to ridicule the jury system and to speak disparagingly of opinions emanating from the bench." It should remember that is not the jury system nor the judiciary, as such, that is criticised, but the too frequent abuse of them. Everybody knows, who keeps his eyes open, that influences too often creep into the jury box and determine verdicts which have no business there, and that under the present elective system mousing politicians crawl upon the bench whose reckless partisanship or incompetency are continually being manifested. When these abuses are certain it is the duty of the honest press to point them out and to score those responsible—indeed there is often no other remedy for the wrong nor any other means of vindicating the integrity of justice. The boundless power of a judge, which makes him capable of the most tremendous and arbitrary abuse of his functions and of yet saving himself from impeachment, renders it absolutely necessary that at times he should be reviewed fearlessly in the newspapers, and this sort of criticism is often only gauged by the high standard of a judiciary which intelligent journalism would apply. So, too, it often happens after jurymen have separated and their action is irreparable that the newspaper discovers their verdict to have been secured by improper means, and it is its duty to expose the wrong, regardless of the delusion that "twelve sworn men" "follow the testimony of the witnesses."

The case especially under consideration by the *Volunteer* seems to fitly illustrate both sides of the argument. A woman up in its town is under sentence of death for poisoning a neighbor. It admits that "a large majority of this community believe that the evidence in the case did not justify a verdict of guilty and a still larger number did not at any time in the proceedings expect a conviction." The newspapers which have commented on the affair have alleged that there was not even adequate proof that the alleged victim died of poisoning, that no evidence of act or motive connected the prisoner with the crime, and that despite an intense popular prejudice against her prior to the alleged crime the jury stood six to six when they went out and were fresh from following the "testimony of the witnesses." These statements have not been contradicted and the *Volunteer's* account of the state of local sentiment confirms them and makes newspapers "hundreds of miles from the scene" quite capable of fairly calling a halt when a woman has been tried, convicted, denied a new trial, and sentenced to be hanged, in the face of such doubts as to her guilt as to make "a large majority" of the people of the vicinage believe the evidence insufficient to convict her and a still larger majority doubted that the six jurymen who thought her innocent would yield to the six who thought her guilty.

We assure the *Volunteer* that the INTELLIGENCER has no interest in the case except by virtue of its general retention in the case of justice. Our notice was directed to it by the account of it published by the *Herald*, and if the facts there given were not correct why do not some of the Carlisle people make a correct statement of them? If that fair place wants to be disgraced by hanging an innocent woman it is chiefly its own concern of course, and yet it cannot expect the rest of the commonwealth to keep silent.

Down in Maine.

Things will get settled sometime up in the agitated state of Maine, and in accordance too with its laws and constitution; but meanwhile the Republicans are not displaying any very conspicuous talent for taking care of themselves. Since the Legislature has met and the Democrats have obtained full control of the situation, there is a subsistence of the talk about revolution, which seems remarkable in view of the decision of the supreme court that the Democrats are enjoying the Republicans' feast. It must be an exceedingly aggravating situation to the abused party, and one which would excuse a good deal of bluster. We do not hear it, probably because it is more prudent to bear the injury patiently and to expect redress from the Democratic sense of justice; which will no doubt in due time give it to them. By the kindness of Eugene Hale, the Republican leader, the Democrats were given a quorum of the Legislature, under which they have proceeded to set the machinery of the state in motion; and, though some people think it was stupid in Mr. Hale thus to aid his enemy, it was in fact the best thing he could do to throw himself upon the mercy of the Democratic party and trust to its magnanimity for justice.

We are bound to say for the constitution of Maine that it seems to abound in pitfalls for the unwary politicians and in devices to defeat the popular will. As it is of Republican manufacture and heretofore has been used against Democratic victims it would be expecting too much of human nature that its effective devices should not be used for the undoing of the authors of them who are now under their harrow. The latest illustration of the peculiarities of the Maine law is found in the embarrassment encountered by the sixty Republican colleagues of Mr. Hale in endeavoring to get into the seats which the governor and council gave them certificates of election to. When they appear a day after the fair for the purpose of being sworn into office, the governor and council before whom the law says that they shall take the oath are themselves out of office. The new governor is to be elected by the Legislature and the problem presented to the legal mind of the Maine Republicans is how to get their representatives into the Legislature in time to vote for a governor, who has to be elected before they can be sworn in. It would seem to be a reasonably hard question to decide, but no doubt the Maine supreme court, which has shown such facility in settling the law to suit the present Republican needs, will have a solution which will be agreeable to Mr. Eugene Hale's colleagues, now so very uncomfortably out in the cold. But, as that opinion may be long a-coming, the political life of the Republican party in Maine may be badly frost-bitten before it gets its medicine; which is the fault of the Maine laws, that have always been of a strange sort, past the comprehension of Democratic minds and generally devised to abridge the liberty of the people.

HORATIO SEYMOUR, in the talk from him which we print to-day, confirms the statement that the difficulties in the Democratic party in New York are not nearly so serious as some of our friends fear and all of our enemies hope. Wise councils will prevail there and the party will be solid for the nominee of the national convention.

PERSONAL.

BISMARCK is sick again.

Secretary SHERMAN'S only child is an adopted daughter.

It is said that Mr. BLAINE had a violent fit on Wednesday night, brought on by overwork. Physicians were with him five hours.

Chief of Police THOMAS DAVIS, for thirty years connected with the Syracuse police, and their chief since the organization of the city, died yesterday.

Mr. GORMAN, who has just been nominated for the Senate from Maryland, was a Republican page in that body many years ago, and now returns to it as a Democratic member.

The Cincinnati society of ex-army and naval officers held its annual banquet at the Burnet house last night. Judge M. F. Force presided, and about 150 persons were present. Letters were read from Generals Sherman, Sheridan, and others.

The welcome concert to ARTHUR SULLIVAN at the Acadamy of Music, Baltimore, last night, was financially and artistically a grand success. A chorus of 300 voices and an orchestra of 45 pieces, led by Mr. Sullivan, performed selections from his compositions.

Mr. John Austin Stevens, editor of the *Magazine of American History*, has invited four hundred of the leading citizens of Philadelphia, New York and Boston to a reception of JOHN W. FORNEY, to welcome him to New York on the occasion of the establishment there of his weekly perodical, *Progress*.

On Monday, the 5th, Mrs. Fisher, the mother of Mrs. CHARLES G. LELAND, died in Philadelphia. Mrs. Fisher was a Miss Callender, of immediate English descent. She was a great belle in her youth, and one of the chief beauties of Philadelphia when it had many. She married Rodney Fisher, a nephew of Cæsar Rodney, and cousin of the beautiful and celebrated Miss Vining, the queen and beauty of Washington's republican court.

There is a brisk contest going on in the Senate over the nomination of a son of the late Senator MORTON to the collectorship of San Francisco. Senator Booth opposes the confirmation with much vigor. He bases his objection mainly on the ground of want of sufficient residence to justify such an important appointment. There is a strong disposition among old friends of Senator Morton, without regard to their relations to party or to the administration, to vote for the son's confirmation. Meanwhile Senator Booth stands on his rights as a senator, and claims that the courtesy usually extended to senators in the case of an obnoxious nomination shall be extended to himself and his Democratic colleague, whom he has induced to take sides with him.

JOHN BRIGHT has recently been making a speech at Rochdale, in which, among many compliments to this country, he reports the views of a member of Parliament, who has adopted liberal and democratic doctrines because we have been paying off our debt rapidly, giving various other evidences of good sense, and because, as he remarks, while we talk a good deal of nonsense we take good care to act wisely in serious emergencies. We are also complimented on the fact that this country continues to be the refuge of victims of religious persecution, the emigration of Russian Mennonites being cited as an example; and praised for our effective maintenance of the barriers between church and state, for the heroism involved in the effort to overthrow slavery, and for the orderly manner in which a gigantic army relapsed into its normal condition of peaceful citizenship.

Another instance of Hayes's predilection for appointing people from Ohio to all the offices within his gift, to the exclusion of more meriterious persons, has just occurred, and creates much bitter feeling especially amongst Pennsylvanians. It appears that through the proper channel William A. T. Maddox, captain and assistant quartermaster on the general staff of the marine corps, and stationed at Philadelphia, has been placed on the retired list. The Pennsylvania representatives unanimously presented the name of W. R. Brown, the senior captain on the list, a native of Pennsylvania, and now stationed at League island, for the promotion. Notwithstanding his rank and long services and clear right to such recognition, Hayes ignored his claim, and has nominated Woodhull F. Schenck, of Ohio, and a nephew of Gen. Schenck, for the position, thus overriding the prior claims of one second lieutenant, thirty first lieutenants, and twenty captains.

A Startling Defalcation.

Frauds on the New York produce exchange to the amount of $31,500 have been discovered. The defaulter was Benjamin C. Bogert, who had been treasurer of the exchange for many years, and was a highly respected merchant in whom general confidence was felt. Mr. Bogert did not appear at the exchange or at his office after the discovery was made, and died suddenly yesterday afternoon at the house of a friend in the city. It is thought that, unable to bear his disgrace, he may have committed suicide. The disclosure of the defalcation was due to the determination of the finance committee of the produce exchange to transfer the account of the exchange from one bank to another. Mr. Bogert is supposed to have used the money which he took in his private business.

Philadelphia has 12,692 delinquent taxpayers.

MINOR TOPICS.

MOSBY is to be ejected from the Hong Kong consulate for telling the truth. We have always observed a resemblance between Mosby and George Washington.

WE are glad to read, day after day, the *Examiner's* hearty endorsement of the New York *Sun*. When the *Examiner* rebukes fraud and the *Era* shines as a "society organ" the millennium dawns.

THE Republican press of this state, with singular unanimity, raises its voice against the Cameron domination and the pretensions of Quay, but without practical leadership it will be *vox et prætereea nihil*.

THE American republic must be tottering. A Washington correspondent sends the harrowing intelligence that "for the first time in the history of Washington, a member of the House has come here with his wife, and they have gone into the lucrative business of taking boarders."

CARDINAL MANNING is in Rome, trying to induce the Pope to consent to his plan for subjecting the monastic orders in Great Britain to episcopal authority, they now being directly dependent upon the Pope. To say nothing of the male confraternities, there are 561 convents in the United Kingdom, with over eight thousand nuns.

THAT repentant pirate who pulled the plank from under the feet of Theodosia Burr Allston keeps on dying in almshouses and making a last full confession of his part in the tragic drama of the ocean. This time the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* dishes up the old fellow. Who'll set him up on the other alley?

THE Earl of Dunraven, who is himself a real Celtic Irishman, says that there is no such thing as a Celtic Irish people in existence. "The inhabitants of Ireland are a very mixed race, composed principally of Celts, Danes, and Englishmen, both of what is called the Anglo-Saxon and the Norman race. It would be hard to find many pure Celts in Ireland."

HAVING stolen the Transvaal Republic, the British begin to arrest leading citizens for high treason. This is on the same principle that the impudent robber, who has taken your watch, has you turned over to the constable for trying to snatch it back, and yet, when John Bull gets down on his marrow-bones at family prayers, he fairly shakes the turrets of heaven with the resonance of his devotions.

GOV. VAN ZANDT is said to be extremely anxious to succeed Burnside in the United State Senate, and his aspirations in that direction probably had more weight in determining his declination of the mission at St. Petersburg than his fears of the severity of the Russian winter. He has gained a gaeat deal of respect in his gubernatorial career, and would very probably make more of a mark in the Senate than the incumbent has whose term of office is soon to expire.

FOR the Democratic nomination of United States senator in Maryland Wm. Pinkney Whyte reconsidered his determination to withdraw too late. He had announced that he was no candidate, and Gorman made the fight and won it. Whyte reconsidered, but the ground was occupied, and in the caucus last night A. P. Gorman received 54 votes, Wm. Pinkney Whyte, present U. S. senator, 22, S. Teackle Wallis, 3. In Ohio the Democrats compliment Thurman with their empty nomination.

THE explanation which is made for Judge Orvis's exhibition of temper in sentencing a Centre county prisoner to three years' extra imprisonment for "sassing" the court, does not explain. The boy may be a man, as is alleged, and an old burglar, but the material fact is disproved that three years were added to his sentence because he made a very natural remark to the court, which its dignity should have passed over in silence and by resenting which it was exposed to the contempt of the public.

THE Philadelphia *Press* has an article on the "Infamy of Maine" in which it characterizes the action of Governor Garcelon and his council as "the most brazen outrage ever perpetrated in this country," entitling them "to rank with the greatest criminals in history." But it will be gratifying to the readers of the *Press* to observe in the next column that it still retains all its former admiration for J. Madison Wells and the Louisiana returning board. It describes the Louisiana returning board as "an invention" of a Republican state administration for thwarting the villainy of the Democratic politicians of the state, "clothed with powers which are admitted to be extraordinary, but which alone were sufficient for the emergency."

Patti's Kansas Critics.

In the Patti deposition case Leavenworth, Kan. yesterday, Thomas Giacomini, an Italian, keeper of the Delmonico restaurant, testified that Madame Patti sent for him about 9 o'clock on the night of the concert. When he arrived at the theatre he found her sitting at a table behind the scenes with a beer glass before her, containing what he supposed to be liquor. Although he had never seen her before, she addressed him as 'Dear Giacomini," and ordered him to cook some macaroni and cheese and some quail for her lunch after the concert, to be served at the Planters' house, and to furnish three bottles of French claret. She was quite familiar in her conversation with him. He then went into the auditorium and heard Madam Patti sing, and declared it was very poor singing. He served the lunch as ordered.

J. W. Craneer, Theo Egersdorf, R. N. Hershfild and William M. Leeper, prominent merchants, testified that from Madame Patti's appearance and manner on the stage, her poor singing, etc., they believed her to be under the influence of liquor.

The Eminent Liars of Reno.

New York World.

The most eminent liars of Reno collected a few days ago and the result is as below: Beck said he had seen it so cold in Ohio that it froze babies in the cradle; Tom Hymers said he had seen it in Thomas's canon freeze the mercury, and said you could not go within six feet of a spirit thermometer without running it up five or six degrees with the heat of the body, so he couldn't tell how cold it was; Ben Bacon said a cold snap came along when he lived at Green bay and froze the waves standing right up on end and the air ful of spray, and Finley Cook said it was so cold the winter he lived in Minnesota that when he threw a basin of water out of the door it turned into little balls of ice before it struck the ground.

CHESTER COUNTY IN ARMS.

Trouble Down There for Don.

West Chester Dispatch to New York Sun.

The first evidence of open rebellion against the tyranny of Don Cameron in calling the state convention to meet February 4, several months in advance of the regular time, has just been given by Sheriff James E. McFarlan, chairman of the Republican committee of Chester county, in calling a county convention to meet here on the 27th of this month—eight days in advance of the meeting of Cameron's state convention.

The object of this county convention is to select two delegates to the national convention in flat defiance of Cameron's orders that these delegates to the Grant convention at Chicago are all to be chosen in state convention at Harrisburg on the 4th of February next.

If the Harrisburg convention refuses to confirm the selection of delegates chosen by the Chester county congressional district, it will cause a contest at the opening proceedings of the Chicago convention that may unpleasantly air the despotism of Don Cameron, and if, on the other hand, these delegates are confirmed, it may result in precisely similar action to that taken by the two delegates from this district to the Cincinnati convention four years ago.

The delegation from this state was instructed by the state convention to vote as a unit upon all questions, but on the second ballot for president Messrs. Futhey and Darlington, the two delegates from this district, refused to be governed by that rule, and insisted on casting their votes for Blaine.

Don Cameron, chairman of the state delegation, and then Grant's secretary of war, announced the entire vote of the state as cast for Hartranft. J. Smith Futhey rose to a point of order, and demanded that the votes of himself and colleague be recorded for James G. Blaine. The chair decided that their votes should be so recorded. The chair rules that it is the right of any and every member equally to vote his sentiments in this convention.

Dick McCormick, of Arizona, appealed from the decision of the chair; but the chair was sustained, after a hot fight of two hours, by a vote of 381 to 359.

Under any circumstances this rebellion promises to interfere with the smooth working of Cameron's plans. Its significance is in the fact that Chester county is the home of Col. Hooten, chairman of the state committee.

The Zell Murder Case and the Newspapers.

Carlisle Volunteer.

The New York *Herald*, Philadelphia *Times* and Lancaster INTELLIGENCER simultaneously attack the verdict in the Kiehl murder trial, and all argue very much as if they were in the employ of the defense, in presence of the court and jury, and expecting large fees for their labor. The subject is an extremely delicate one for a public journal to comment upon upon, because so very few people consider the case as finally settled and because another person is under indictment for the same murder, but these newspapers, or those who write for them, seem to think that if they do err in their action they err on the safe side, and therefore write with a most reckless freedom.

Looking at the matter from a distance, they distort and misrepresent facts and jump at conclusions which we can not believe they would do were they not misled by some one. We are well aware that a large majority of the people of this community believe that the evidence in the case did not justify a verdict of guilty, and that a still larger number did not, at any time in the proceedings, expect a conviction, but in all deference to this belief we can not see the propriety of the newspapers, papers hundreds of miles from the scene of the trial, vigorously maintaining that their opinion of the facts and the law in the case is correct, and that the twelve sworn men and the court, who followed the testimony of the witnesses and the arguments of the counsel for both sides, day after day, through the whole term of the trial, should have erred. Hasty and ill-advised action of this kind, it seems to us, is just about as likely to injure as to help the cause of the defendant if it was taken in the interest of the defendant. In manufacturing public opinion by means of which verdicts are influenced the public press illustrates its power, but we seriously question whether in so doing it does not trench upon grounds which properly belong only to courts of justice. It has become popular of late years with a certain class of writers to find fault with and ridicule the jury system and to speak disparagingly of opinions emanating from the bench, if those opinions chance not to accord with the notions of these moralists; but admitting that the jury system is imperfect and that judges sometimes commit grave errors, it is certain that an individual, no matter how poor or how friendless, is always more likely to receive justice at the hands of a properly constituted court of justice than "in the great forum of public opinion." The powers that be should be respected.

An Eccentric Man.

The suicide of Leonard Case, the Cleveland millionaire, is a tragic ending of an eccentric but useful life. Mr. Case was fond of doing good in the most unexpected and grotesque ways. One day while out driving with the city editor of the Cleveland *Herald*, Mr. J. H. A. Bone, he pointed out several lots and asked Mr. Bone which he thought most eligible for building. Bone made a selection, and Case said: "Well, build a house on it and send me the bills when it is completed. I'll give you a deed to the property." Mr. Bone took him at his word and the promise was faithfully fulfilled. A few years ago he walked into a meeting of the Young Men's Christian association, laid $1,000 on the table, and left without saying a word. He would never notice a direct appeal for charity, and, some ladies having solicited his help, he rebuffed them flatly. The next day they received a $500 bill anonymously. He founded Case library, giving to the association a property worth $200,000. He employed an agent to dispense charity secretly, and gave away during his life thousands of dollars. He was a man of decided literary talent and thoroughly well read. For several years he has been suffering from consumption, and finally, unable to bear it any longer, he put an end to his miserable existence with chloroform.

High Water in Tennessee.

The *American's* Johnsonville (Tenn.), special despatch says:—"The Steamer Hettie Bliss, running in the Duck river trade, reports the destruction of 5,000 bushels of peanuts and 5,000 barrels of corn in the Duck river valley during the past month by phenomenal freshets which have swept down that stream, equal to the force and volume produced by the bursting of immense dams. Rains have been particularly heavy, amounting at time to water spouts. The weather in Tennessee is unusually warm, grass growing as in midsummer and peach tress about to bloom.

The Maryland Penitentiary Report.

The annual report of the directors of the Maryland penitentiary for the year ended Nov. 30 shows the entire income for the year at $98,543.25. The net earnings were $19,955.28, of which $6,953.93 were expended in permanent improvements and $13,001.85 paid into the state treasury. The average number of prisoners was 813—a decrease of 12 per cent. compared with the previous year. The average number of prisoners under contract was 693; expense per capita during the year, $105.21; number of deaths, a little over 2 per cent.

PARTY ISSUES.

Relative Positions of the Two Great Parties—Horatio Seymour's Advice to the Democracy.

A representative of the New York *World* has had an interview with Horatio Seymour at his home in Deerfield, near Utica. The interview seems to have been reluctantly accorded by Mr. Seymour, and he spoke at last with the understanding that he was giving his views once and for all. He spoke as follows:

In looking over the political field it is evident that on the Republican side there are sharp controversies and much bitterness. The Republicans are in a far worse way than the Demerats so far as feuds are concerned. It is true that the divisions in the ranks of the latter are more open and conspicuous, but they have reached a point where they admit of healing remedies. Hatreds and jealousies in the ranks of political organizations are like erysipelas in the human system—half cured when brought to the surface. Concealed hate and feverish jealousy poison the blood of the Republican organization. The party has no remedy for this state of things. Its disease is internal, and therefore dangerous, perhaps deadly. If it could be brought to the surface it might be cured, but now it is festering inwardly and with very bad symptoms. The poison has permeated the whole system, and there is no sage so skillful as to be able to prescribe successfully for a hidden distemper.

On the other hand, there is one advantage which the Democratic party possesses. It always comes up smiling after a defeat. Its vitality is wonderful. It has outlived a dozen opposing organizations, and it has held to its ancient creeds while others have caught at every excitement or novelty brought to the surface by events. In the country especially the Democracy have made their adherence to sound party principle a matter as personal as their religion—though in a different way. It is a matter on which they have permitted themselves to become enthusiastic. You cannot change them. The hard-fisted Democracy cling to their faith under defeats and trials, and are withal imbued with sentimental feelings never seen in the conglomerate ranks of their opponents. The Republicans fall to pieces unless they can be kept at a welding heat by passion and excitement. If these cannot be kept up against their opponents they break out in their own ranks.

Under these circumstances there is every reason to hope for the success of the Democratic ticket in the coming presidential election. The Democratic vote in this state last fall, under the circumstances, was a marvelous one. To my mind it amounts to a demonstration that the state can be carried by the Democratic candidates whoever they may be. We have had our fight and it is over. There are no feuds nor jealousies left to rankle inwardly.

There is another element now coming to the surface which will tend strongly to increase this harmony. The town meetings and elections are at hand. About twenty thousand town officers are to be elected and there is probably an average of three candidates to an office. All these men are doing everything that lies in their power to unite the party and concentrate its undivided strength on the town elections. People in the country really care less about who shall be president of the United States than who shall be supervisor of their town, or justice of the peace, or perhaps school commissioner. They will al vote for supervisor and will work with renewed energy to secure the election of their party's candidate. This is especially true of the Democrats, much more so, I think, than in the case of the Republicans. The old sores of the Democratic party, as I have said, are on the surface, and therefore not only are not dangerous but can easily be reached to be healed. What ever healing process is necessary will, no doubt, be completed by the spring elections.

As to candidates on the Republican side, the men who have opposed the present administration appear to favor Grant, and his strongest opponent now is Blaine. The fight is so sharp that it may end in bringing up a new man, as has happened before. The third term is against Grant, and Blaine is too much of a Republican to suit his party. The Republican party does not like violent men in office, though it always praises them for their boldness in the fight. Morton, Chandler, Blaine and men of that stamp were thrown over in 1876, and the more malleable and less well-known man from Ohio was picked up and made president. Something of the kind is likely to be done again.

On the Democratic side there is a readiness to take up any man who can unite all factions. As they are all anxious to harmonize a way will be found to carry out their wishes. Outside of this state Bayard, Thurman, Hendricks, English, and others have been spoken of as presidential candidates, and either of them, I should think, would prove acceptable. The Democracy cannot go astray in making selection. The man whom they will nominate has every prospect of success.

The controversies in the Democratic party in New York are much less dangerous than they seem to be. There are great and enduring reasons why this state should uphold the Democratic party and its principles. In the first place, there is here much less of sectional feeling than elsewhere. Our business men, merchants and manufacturers are constantly brought into contact with the people of the South in the course of their transactions, whereby they learn the difficulties under which they labor, and they desire not only to promote their own interests, but in so doing the interests of the country at large. This intercourse has much more influence than congressional debates or the appeals in our journals to political prejudice. The same thing is also felt to a degree in religious and other organizations. The war upon the South has been over-acted. It has been carried so far that now there is a reaction, and this cannot fail to benefit the Democratic party which is the party of enlightened conservatism.

There are other and stronger reasons why New York must be Democratic. Its commercial position demands that it shall oppose the centralizing policy of the Republican party. That policy is destructive of the interests and welfare of the state. With its great wealth and population it has the least relative representation in the United States senate of any state in the Union, and all questions of centralization will always be most hurtful to those who have the least representative power and the most wealth to be taxed. The Senate has gradually absorbed political power. It is filled with men of large experiences growing out of the tenure of their offices. They are usually selected after they have had a training in state legislatures, or the House of Representatives. The members control vast numbers of appointments under the general government. When a question comes up between this state and its rivals we stand no fair chance of justice.

Shot and Killed.

Milton White, aged seventy years, the keeper of a toll gate near Mockville, Washington county, Ky., shot Philip White, a boy of seventeen years, on Monday. There had been a previous quarrel between the parties, who are relatives, and Milton says the boy had threatened his life. On the day of the killing Philip was passing along the turnpike in front of Milton's house, when the latter came to the door with a shotgun and said he was going to shoot him. Philip threw open his bosom and told him to fire away, which Milton at once did, killing the boy instantly. Milton was held for murder and bail was refused. Fears of lynching are entertained.

STATE ITEMS.

The Baldwin works built 398 locomotives the past year.

The Renovo *Record* estimatas the total amount of lumber that will be floated from that point next spring at 14,000,000 feet.

There is a deep feeling of thanks in every Pennsylvania heart when he dwells on the fact that his state is not suffering from a Legislature.

Philadelphia reports 13,473 deaths in 1879, against 13,498 in 1879, a decrease of 25. About one-fourth of the deaths were from lung diseases.

Richard Merrick, aged forty, died at the German hospital from the effects of falling into a vat of boiling water at the dye works, Twenty second and Hamilton streets, Philada.

In Erie, yesterday morning, an unknown man was found dead and greatly decomposed in an old building. By his side was a bottle containing pure alcohol. He had evidently been dead some time. Later in the day the body was identified as that of Amos McClenthen, of Waterford, who has been mising from home.

Scofield Wolstencroft, 51 years old, committed suicide with strychnine yesterday, at the residence of his brother William, 309 East Cumberland street, Philadelphia. He was a married man, and had until recently been farming in Delaware county. Since his arrival in the city he has been drinking heavily and did not come home on Wednesday night. Yesterday when he reached home he went to the bathroom. A noise was heard by one of the children, who then peeped into the apartment and saw the uncle on the floor in horrible convulsions caused by taking enough poison to kill six men.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

In Frederick, Md., Felix Munshour was convicted of murder in the first degree for the murder of his cousin, James L. Wetzel.

A fire at La Grange, Missouri, yesterday destroyed the best business houses in the city, one of them belonging to ex-Congressman Grover. The entire loss will amount to $10,000.

The parallel rod of the engine to a paymaster's train broke, between Manchester, N. H., and Lawrence, yesterday, punching a hole through the boiler and badly scalding Chas. E. Jones, engineer, and Charles Webster, fireman, both of Concord.

The consecration of Thomas Alfred Starkey, Protestant Episcopal bishop elect of the diocese of Northern New Jersey, took place at Grace church, Newark yesterday, with impressive ceremonies, in which a large number of bishops and clergy participated.

Consul Bridgeland reports that the receipts of American corn at Havre decreased during the last year because of the use of false certificates of inspection. Many cargoes that arrived were fit only for fuel. The increase in the importation of American bacon and lard has been large.

The United States counsel at Valparaiso reports that the Edith Davis, an American bark, owned in Portland, Maine, was burned at sea on October 23. The crew of fifteen men are now enjoying the hospitality of Alfred Derote, the lessee of the island of Juan Fernandez.

The Indian government have decided to allow the rules respecting newspaper correspondents with troops in active service, to remain in abeyance, leaving to the discretion of commanders the question of imposing restrictions upon them if necessary. No correspondent will, however, be permitted to the front without license.

There was a fire panic at Deadwood, Dakota, yesterday, the city narrowly escaping destruction. The timber surrounding the city caught fire for miles around and it was only by superhuman efforts that the city itself was saved. Several cabins were burned as it was, and other damage was done.

A fire occurred at the boarding house No. 254 West 21st street, New York, yesterday. All the boarders except two escaped without injury. Mrs. F. A. Mullen jumped from a window on the fourth floor, landing on the balcony, where she was found by the firemen and removed to a place of safety, slightly injured. Mrs. Lowe was found in one of the rooms insensible. The loss was small.

The glycerine building belonging to the Laflin & Rand powder company's works at Oak Ridge, N. J., blew up yesterday morning. Two men, Fowler and Morrell, firemen, were blown through the roof, which was also blown off and one side of the building demolished. Both injured men are still alive, though Fowler is thought to be dying and Morrell will probably not survive his injuries.

The charge of criminal libel brought against Richard Smith, of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, was dismissed in the police court by the prosecuting attorney, on the ground that a criminal charge cannot lie against a corporation, Smith being charged as a representative of the Cincinnati *Gazette* company. Dr. W. S. Jones, the writer of the article in question, has been arrested on a charge of criminal libel.

Superintendent Campbell, of the Brooklyn police, on Wednesday came into possession of seven signed and eight unsigned bonds of the New York Central railroad, which proved to be counterfeits. The bonds were of the denomination of $1,000 each, and were discovered buried in the earth in the woods near Fort Hamilton by John Schwartz, a farmer, who dug them up in a bottle December 23d, while at work.

An Explanation.

Selinsgrove Times.

The Bellefonte *Watchman* lately reflected quite severely on Judge Orvis for giving a "boy" burglar an additional three years in the penitentiary for contempt of court for remarking as he was about to leave the court house with the sheriff, that he wished he had the chance to sentence the judge to the penitentiary for four years. It turns out now that the "boy" is twenty-four years of age; that he committed burglaries at three places in Clearfield county before he came to Centre county; that he was not sentenced for contempt of court; but that he had been convicted on two distinct indictments and only sentenced on one—the judge having agreed to let the other sentence hang over him on his good behavior; and only after his contempt of court was the sentence imposed. When he came to the penitentiary the warden at once recognized him, by a photograph he had, as old offender for whom there was a standing reward offered; and as soon as his term of service is up he is wanted in Brooklyn, N. Y., on similar charges.

A Horrible Murder.

Information has been received of a shocking murder which occured at Maniwakia, a lumber station, 100 miles north of Ottawa City. A French Canadian named Brisebois, it seems, had some altercation with his partner in the trading business, and the quarrel growing fierce, the men picked up axes when Brisebois, gaining an advantage, knocked his partner down and cut him literally in peices, and then fled from the spot before he could be captured. The lumbermen started in pursuit but being a good bushman Brisebois, eluded them and took to the dense forests using his show shoes with which to travel Intence disgust prevails in the camp of the lumbermen.

The Amenities of Literature.

The *New Era's* bard speaks of "the poet, Harry W. Longfellow." Next thing he will be calling the *Examiner's* poet by his first name.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.

Events Across the County Line.

Sneak thieves—evidently an organized band—are operating in the the lower end of Dauphin county.

The West Chester *Republican* favors the nomination of Col. J. A. M. Passmore for auditor general.

The river is in good condition for rafting, and if the weather continues as mild as it has been for the past ten days, rivermen might venture out with their floats.

Mr. William E. Gilbert, who resides in Pottstown, is the owner of a strange looking specimen of the chicken tribe, which instead of having "fedders like a hen," is covered with soft gray wool or fur, something like rabbit fur.

After an animated debate of two hours, six disputants participating, the people of Media, Delaware county, have decided that electing a president for a third term would not endanger republican institutions. "That settles it."

On Tuesday a cow belonging to Mitchell Baker, Thornbury, Chester county, showed signs of indisposition. Her owner had heard that coal oil was a good bovine appetizer, and so he administered a quart of that fluid inwardly. The medicine took immediate effect and killed the animal in three minutes. The cow was one Mr. Baker valued highly.

The water committee of Harrisburg councils has discovered that it has only $300 to pay debts of 1879 amounting to $3,000, and the members have finally decided to either let the bills go over and pay them out of the appropriation for 1880 or else take the unexpended balance left from the appropriations to other committees during the year 1879.

James Connor, of Phœnixville, was nearly killed on Wednesday at the Phœnix iron company's quarry by the discharge of a blast. Connor had prepared the blast, and after waiting some time for it to discharge, concluded that the fuse had not ignited, and returned just in time to have both his eyes blown out and a portion of his torn off. He was conveyed to the Pennsylvania hospital in a very critical condition.

In West Chester on Wednesday, a commercial traveler, who has three wives living, was walking on the railroad platform with wife No. 3, when wife No. 2 came up behind her, tore the bonnet from her head and gave her a good threshing. Wives Nos. 1 and 2, it is said, are sisters, residing near Glen Riddle, and No. 2 married her sister's husband, knowing him to be undivorced, and he then abandoned her for No. 3. No attempt was made by moral West Chester to arrest the bigamist.

It is contemplated by the owners of the Lochiel rolling mill, Harrisburg, to so arrange the machinery in it that steel rails can be rolled, and begin on a contract already offered by a New York party for a western railroad. It is designed to import the steel ingots from England, where, it is said, they can be purchased cheaper than here, and the cost of carrying them to this country will be small. New housings and rolls will be put up in the mill, strong enough for the new work to be done, at a cost of about $20,000. The contract will be for 20,000 tons of steel rails, and it is expected that the works will be ready by April 1st for the rolling. This work will give employment to several hundred more hands.

PROBABLY FATAL ACCIDENT.

A Boy Has Both Legs Cut Off.

Yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock, a lad 16 years of age, named John Nye and residing in Bainbridge, this county, met with a terrible accident, which will most probably result in his death. He had boarded the extra freight train, engine No. 208, and after riding some distance attempted to jump from the train, but was thrown under the wheels, and had both legs cut off, one arm broken, and sustained other severe injuries about the head and body. He was taken in charge of by the foreman of the train, and conveyed to his home where Dr. Bean was called to attend him. He was alive at 8 o'clock this morning, but the doctor said it would be almost impossible for him to survive. It is an almost daily occurrence for the Bainbridge boys to jump on and off passing trains and it is a wonder that a greater number of serious accidents have not occurred.

Malicious Mischief—Assault and Battery.

Before Alderman McConomy, Andrew Keels, colored, has made complaint of malicious mischief against Mary Winters, also colored, charging her with having thrown a brick through the front window of his house on Mulberry street, not only smashing the glass but breaking out the sash. Mary was held for a hearing tomorrow.

Before Alderman Spurrier, Mary Winters, the above named defendant, has made complaint against Rev. Wm. H. Keels, father of the above named prosecutor, charging him with assault and battery, the allegation being that the Rev Keels kicked Mary out of his house. The case will be heard on Tuesday next.

Sale of Real Estate.

B. F. Rowe, auctioneer, sold yesterday afternoon at the Keystone hotel, North Queen street, the property of Jacob Reinhold and the heirs of Jacob Graver, deceased, a lot of ground containing 36 feet front, on North Queen street, and extending in depth 245 feet to Market street, on which is erected a three-story brick dwelling, with two store-rooms, on North Queen street, and three two-story brick dwellings on Market street, to J. W. Byrne for $9,695.

Deep Mud.

Yesterday, a countryman with a four horse wagon loaded with grain, stopped at the corner of Walnut and Water streets, where the mud is at least a foot in depth. When he attempted to start the horses tore their harness almost entirely off their backs. After some time spent in the repair of the harness the man was able to proceed. This street is in a fearfully bad condition and we advise people who have business in that part of town to walk.

Recommitted to Jail.

Benjamin Bihl charged with riot and felonious assault and battery on Claude Butler, and who, after having been confined in jail for some weeks to answer at court, was released on $1,000 bail, as stated yesterday, has been rearrested on a bail-piece and recommitted to jail to answer at court. His bondsman was Andrew Filsinger.

Free Soup.

This morning 383 soup rations were given out at the station house.