

Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, FEB. 7, 1880.

Is He a General?

The Washington correspondents are puffing Don Cameron's mastery general-ship of the Harrisburg convention, by which they say he plucked victory from the jaws of defeat and, single-handed, turned back the tide which threatened to overwhelm the Grant movement.

It did seem to be a pretty tight fix. But when it is remembered what tools he had at hand, it did not require a very expert workman to frame a different result. In Philadelphia McNamee had forty-eight delegates in hand; in Allegheny Chris Magee had eighteen, and here in Lancaster any order drawn on Hiestand, Esleman, Brown and Cochran was certain to be honored.

The Mutual Friend.

The Philadelphia Times certifies that Gen. Bingham is a warm friend of both Blaine and Cameron, and that this was the reason that while he talked for Blaine he voted with Cameron at Harrisburg. It may be that Blaine does not appreciate a friendship which gives its substantial favor away from him; but if his friend Bingham acted with the best intentions, as the Times declares, he can only condemn his head while still trusting his heart.

With the same facts to base an opinion on, people somehow manage to come to totally different conclusions. The Philadelphia Record, for instance, on the indication of the Harrisburg convention, considers it beyond a peradventure that Grant will be the Republican candidate; while our conclusion has been entirely different; and the press generally has concluded that the bare majority with which the Pennsylvania convention presented the ex-president's name is fatal to the chances of his nomination, which must be made with enthusiasm and unanimity if it can be made at all.

A commotion is raised in New York over the discovery that a society which was formed for the purpose of stopping the unlawful traffic in liquor has extended its sphere of usefulness so as to embrace the suppression of all houses of ill repute, and has chosen, as its most efficient means of doing so, a system of espionage over those who visit them. The detectives of the society watch persons of wealth and social position in their incomings and outgoings, and when the society's officers have secured positive proof of the individuals' delinquencies from the paths of virtue, he is notified thereof and it is required as a condition of secrecy concerning his doings that the houses whose character has been established shall be closed. The pressure brings the result, and the society suppresses these places without the aid of the police or the law.

If Mr. Hayes proposes to pay old campaign debts by nominating J. Madison Wells's son to the post to which he is assumed to appoint the notorious father it is a very good case for the Democratic

Senate to start with in showing him that his nominations are made only "with the consent of the Senate."

The "Star Club" for astronomical study has done a good work this winter, and we are glad to see that it is to be continued and its work expanded into botanical investigation.

PERSONAL.

Senator LAMAR is recovering rapidly and expects to be in his seat in the Senate in a few days.

Miss MAGGIE MITCHELL, the actress, has printed a letter in which she announces that she is not a bit ashamed of her age. She is forty-four, and she doesn't care who knows it.

The trustees of the State College have accepted the resignation of Prof. CALDER. Who will be chosen to fill the place is not known, but rumor has it that the position is to be tendered to State Superintendent Wickliss.

The Nebraska City Press has this to say of a former "Intelligencer boy": JEFF DIETRICH, for a year or more a sterling type in this office, and as genial a gentleman as one wishes to meet anywhere, leaves to-morrow for Lincoln to accept a situation on the Journal.

Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin: "Queer things occur in this world in all phases of life—and none queerer than in politics. The Hon. WILLIAM H. ARMSTRONG left here a booming Blaine man, and not a delegate. He turns up at Harrisburg as a delegate in place of D. P. Bricker, and is out and out for Grant and Cameron."

The Senate has refused to confirm JOHN MORTON, son of the late senator from Indiana, to be collector of the port at San Francisco, in spite of Senator Voorhees's strenuous exertions to secure him the place. The arguments in opposition to his confirmation were to the effect that Mr. Morton is not identified with California, having within the last four years, been appointed to a treasury special agency at the Alaska fur seal island, from Indiana; and that, while his personal character is unexceptionable, he is not fitted, by business training or experience, for the highly important office for which he has just been defeated.

H. S. McNamee, of the York Republican, is mad—very mad. He and his paper are for Blaine. So the Harrisburg convention would not admit him and he publishes a black list "of the delegates from the 19th congressional district to the Republican convention, which met at Harrisburg on Wednesday, who at the solicitation of Cameron and Quay deliberately and dishonestly disregarded the wishes of the Republican party of the district, and grossly misrepresented ninety-nine-one-hundredths of its members, by voting for the motion to instruct the delegates to Chicago for Grant." Among them of course, is "the fellow who stole our seat."

DISGUSTING EXHIBITION.

A so-called "Exposure" of Masonry the cause of riotous proceedings in a Church—Police Interference to Restore Order.

One of the most disgraceful exhibitions ever witnessed in a church was given last night in the Chambers street Presbyterian church, Boston, when Rev. J. P. Stoddard and D. P. Rathbun, of Iowa, undertook to expose Masonry. The object of the exposures is to break up the order by divulging the secrets. They say that Masonry is organized infidelity, and in the interest of religion they seek its overthrow. Both the gentlemen claim to be Masons and they attacked their attention to hold up the rites and ceremonies to ridicule. The forms and oaths necessary to taking the first degree were illustrated by the exponents. They were assisted by eight or ten persons, and all were attired in Masonic regalia. The public service was held in a large room, three large lighted candles being arranged in a row in front, and the senior and junior wardens, grand worshipful master and other officers in the persons of the exponents and others being seated behind and on the sides. The "candidate," an individual whose skin had apparently not seen soap and water for many days, was about an hour and a half in passing through the ordeal, and as the ceremony developed the scene became disgusting and many ladies left, the remaining spectators also becoming restless. The "candidate" while taking the degree was dressed, according to the "exposers," in the customary manner, and was simply disrobing, as his only garment was a pair of blue trousers, under-shirt and white underdrawers, the left leg of which was rolled up to the knee. Over his eyes was a green shade such as is worn at night by the working force of a newspaper office. Here, barbaotated, with one leg bared and only partially clad, the candidate received his instructions from the various grand worthy officers, and then came the administration of the various oaths. An immense crowd filled the building, and the performance of the disgusting farce the wildest confusion prevailed. Hymn books were pelted at the performers by people in the building, while a large force of roughs and street loafers stood on the sidewalks and threw snowballs into the building. Captain Ford, of the Third precinct police, fearing a riot, tried to put a stop to the exhibition, but it kept on for half an hour, while a storm of hisses and indignant yells greeted every word uttered by the speakers. Ex-Chief of Police Danrell made a speech in which he freely and forcibly denounced the two reverend exponents, and was loudly applauded, the spectators cheering loudly at the several points made. He claimed to belong to the same denomination as Mr. Rathbun, and asserted that the conference that would recognize him as a minister of Christ's gospel ought to bow its head in shame. The police broke up the meeting about half past ten. It was the intention of the two ministers to remain in town for a week, and continue their exposures, but they have changed their minds and will leave. The minister who gave the use of his church for such purposes is stoutly abused by all classes.

Dreadful Drowning Disasters. The steamer Bengore, laden with coal, from Penarth, for Gibraltar, foundered when two days out from port. Thirteen of her crew were drowned; six were saved. A violent storm has raged in the Mediterranean for two days past, and disasters in shipping are feared. Official dispatches have been received giving further details of a recent hurricane in the Philippine islands. Twenty-five vessels of various classes were wrecked, including four foreign frigates and a large number of other vessels were damaged. Forty-six persons were drowned.

Nearly 1,000 boxes of frozen snails were exported from St. John, N. B., to Boston on Thursday.

MINOR TOPICS.

A Chicago Presbyterian clergyman has been preaching upon the wickedness of entering church late and disturbing the congregation, and his sermon has had the effect of decreasing the number of tardy worshippers in his church.

An esteemed contemporary seems to think that a Republican national convention composed of delegates elected by the Pennsylvania plan, with attendant hummers yelling for Grant, would be an edifying spectacle for the heathen to contemplate.

The Maine Legislature has had a prayer offered for, before, at or to, by a "Rev.," which the Lewiston Journal pronounces "spicy and full of practical suggestions." If, as we suppose we have a right to presume, the prayer was addressed to the Almighty Ruler of the universe, the kindness of the gentleman who made the "practical suggestions" is noteworthy.

DAN RYBOLT started for church, at Freeville, Minn., and on the way asked a neighbor who was to preach. "Parson Newling," was the reply. "I'd rather die than hear him," said Dan, and turned off toward a wood. He was afterward found hanging lifeless to a tree. The belief is that, as the clergyman was delivering a course of sermons on the dreadfulness of sin, and as Dan was an unregenerate sinner, an awakened conscience led to the suicide; but the scoffers have a theory that death might reasonably be preferred to hearing one of Newling's long discourses.

GORDON PASHA gives a correspondent this graphic and pleasant description of King John of Abyssinia: He is about forty-seven years old. Never smiles; never looks joy in the face, and has a most ungovernable temper. He cuts off the lips of all those who smoke tobacco, and cuts off the noses of all who take snuff. He detests the use of tobacco in any form. By means of torture he has converted one hundred thousand Moslems to the Christian religion. His favorite method is to pour boiling tallow into the eyes and ears of his victims. His people all hate him.

To take a pound of flesh from the body or his debtor without touching a bone or shedding a drop of blood is a feat which that eminent merchant, Shylock, ere while of Venice, did not venture to undertake; yet nothing could be more simple, and scarce anything could be easier. The London Sporting Times is responsible for this story. A noted horse trainer was witnessing for the first time "The Merchant of Venice," and Irving, the renowned tragedian, was the Shylock. When they had reached the trial scene and while Shylock was pondering over the dilemma suggested by Portia, how to take flesh without the blood, the excited horse trainer shouted "Sweat him, Shylock, sweat him!" Actors are at liberty to adopt such emendation of the text as may enable them to avail themselves of the jockey's advice.

The New York Herald's splendid gift of \$100,000 to relieve the distress in Ireland, has excited the admiration of the world, and it may be questioned, in view of the abuse Mr. Parnell is rewarding the great newspaper with, whether that gentleman has not the interests of Parnell nearer at heart than he has those of his starving countrymen. The matter reduces itself to this simple proposition: The suffering people of Ireland will receive the benefit of that money; the method of its distribution is of minor importance to the outside world, only so the object is fulfilled. For Mr. Parnell, therefore, to broadly intimate that the Herald's generosity is nothing more than a gigantic scheme of advertising, and all because the proprietor of the newspaper preferred to place the money in other hands than his own, is calculated to repel the popular sympathy which hearty and disinterested co-operation in a work of charity is always sure to receive. Mr. Parnell has carried his quarrel with the Duchess of Marlborough and her colleagues too far.

MAYOR MACGONIGLE has received an urgent circular from the Citizens' Irish famine relief committee of Philadelphia, John Wamamker, chairman, appealing to our charitable citizens to constitute an auxiliary aid society, or to make private individual subscriptions to the philanthropic cause of relieving the sufferings of the Irish folk. In the southern, western and northern counties of Ireland, and in some parts of the central and eastern districts, a multitude of our fellow creatures are now on the verge of famine. Their potatoes rotted in the ground during the continuous wet weather of the past summer, and their annual gatherings of turf have been destroyed. Letters and appeals for instant aid speak of sore and increasing suffering for want of food and fuel—of children found dead for want of proper nourishment—of mothers slowly starving to death that they may save their scanty store for their children. The distress has already reached proportions which are beyond the capacities of local means of relief to cope with. Their calamity has become one for the world's pity and the world's help. The first need is money. There is food in Ireland, but it is in the hands of those who are themselves too poor to give largely, and who must sell it out of the country, as in 1847, to meet their own necessities. Mayor MacGonigle will take charge of and promptly forward all contributions left with him or at this office.

STATE ITEMS.

Patrick Dougherty, aged 18, the only support of a widow mother, and seven small children, was killed in East Colby by being caught between a wagon and the slutes in the slope.

Last evening the citizens of Easton to the number of several hundred assembled at the town hall at eight o'clock, and headed by a band, proceeded to the residence of the Hon. Henry Green to serenade him in honor of his nomination by the Republican convention for judge of the supreme court. Speeches were made and cheers given repeatedly. Judge Green was confined to his room, but he sent his respects and thanks to the assemblage.

In Allentown, Bernhard Winkler, aged sixty years, entered a saloon of doubtful reputation on North Eighth street, and after drinking with the regular female occupants three or four times, he entered a rear room where he was for a time alone with one of the women. He gave her a silver watch and chain, after which she

left the room and he was all alone. Ten minutes later a shot was heard and the bartender, rushing into the room, found Winkler lying on the floor, shot through the heart, still holding the smoking revolver in his right hand. Deceased was evidently an inmate of the saloon, a hansom driver, Ohio, and was absent on a furlough, which had, however, expired on the 29th of November last.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

In the U. S. House of Representatives yesterday, Mr. Darity of Ohio, introduced a bill appropriating \$25,000 for the purchase of an equestrian picture of General Scott.

In the cabinet meeting yesterday, the sentence of the court-martial in the case of Major Reno, recommending his dismissal, was affirmed, and orders to carry out the decision were issued.

The Albany Republican general committee gave only a few hours' notice of primaries to elect delegates to Utica. An indignation meeting has been called, and two sets of delegates will probably be elected.

The Conservative candidate has won at Liverpool by a majority of 3,231. General Roberts reports officially that ninety-seven Afghans were hanged with his sanction. The Panama canal surveys are making favorable progress. The Irish distress was the subject of a long debate in the British Parliament last night.

The trial of John S. Vertz has commenced in Camden. The accused is charged with contributory negligence in causing the deaths of five persons at Clermont station in a collision between an express passenger and freight train. Vertz was superintendent of the road at the time of the accident.

It is reported on what is apparently excellent authority that Senator Conkling announces that under no circumstance will he permit the use of his name, at Chicago, as a candidate for the Republican nomination for president. He says his name will be brought out, and that all his influence in New York will be exerted in behalf of General Grant.

The House committee on patents yesterday, by a vote of 7 to 3, decided against the petition of Ezra Miller for an extension of his car coupling patent. The length of time his patent has run—seventeen years—is the limit contemplated by the act of 1861, and that the general policy of the government is adverse to extending patents beyond that period.

A quarrel between W. M. Clifford and John Shadd, at Hickory, was settled in true Kentucky fashion. Shadd threatened Clifford's life, and went home to get his gun. Clifford armed and concealed himself, and when Shadd returned he fired both loads from his shotgun into his enemy, one taking effect in Shadd's neck, the other in his legs. Shadd cannot live. Clifford surrendered.

The board of Indian commissioners, after examining the charges made by General Clinton B. Fisk, has approved the action of Secretary Schurz in removing Mr. Hayt from the office of commissioner of Indian affairs. Mr. A. C. Barstow, chairman of the board, dissents, on the ground that the evidence leaves room for doubt, of which, he thinks Mr. Hayt should have the benefit.

Jay Gould and Thos. A. Scott, representing the Texas and Pacific and the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroads, have purchased all outstanding bonds and securities of the Dallas and Wichita railroad, which will be extended so as to connect with the Donnan and Pacific extension of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad, thus making Dallas the terminus of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad and making the latter a competing line with the Texas Central railroad.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE TOBACCO MARKET.

Another heavy Day's Receipts. The old, old story may be repeated. At most of the city warehouses that receive on Saturdays the receipts have been very heavy, several firms receiving from 60,000 to 100,000 pounds each. Mr. Shultzze, agent for Rosenwald & Bro., reports that for four or five weeks past their receipts have averaged weekly from 60,000 to 70,000 pounds. Skiles & Frey's receipts during the past week have been 100,000 pounds. Frey & Weidner, Wertheimer, Levin, Kerbs & Spiess, Jos. Mayers Sons, Bunzl & Dominer, Estman & Co., the Moores, and other receivers visited, are as busy as bees. John S. Rohrer reports that the bulk of his purchases have been received, but he is still busy and overworked in getting it out of the way. The state of trade at the above houses may be taken as a fair sample of what is going on at the others.

Although there has been a great falling off in the amount of leaf purchased recently, the buyers are nearly all in the field anxious to secure every "fancy" crop they hear of. These are getting scarce and are only to be found off the main roads. It is no unusual thing for three or four buyers, who may have heard of a choice lot, harness their teams and start off at full speed to get it, and, after riding a dozen miles or more, ascertain that they are just a little too late—someone got in a few minutes ahead of them. We hear of one buyer who higgled with the grower for half an hour, the difference between them being half-a-cent a pound, and the former finally left without purchasing. On another occasion, on a sabbath forenoon, second thought, he resolved to buy; drove back to the farm house, and found that the choice lot had been sold to another buyer. This eager competition for choice lots keeps up the price of them and they sell at from 20 to 25 cents for wrappers and some a trifle higher.

For medium goods there is much less demand, and there is a perceptible fall in prices. We have heard of lots selling as low as 10 and 3. Mr. Shultzze bought Emanuel Denlinger's crop of right good tobacco, and has secured shipping lots at prices running from 8 to 11. He has paid during the week as high as 20 cents for choice lots.

Joseph Miller, of Martie township, sold 1 acre to Hoffman & Son for \$18 and 4. B. Simpson, of Martie township, sold 1 acre to Amos Fenstermacher for 15 cents and sold. David Kreider, of Martie township, sold 1 acre to Hoffman & Son for 20 and 5.

Perhaps 16 for good medium wrappers and 4 for fillers might be quoted as the average price paid during the week. There is a disposition among buyers to lift the entire crop, but at reduced prices.

In old tobacco there has not been so much doing during the week as there was the two or three preceding weeks. The sales of 1878 Pennsylvania are reported at about 400 cases.

The Rockland Undermunicipal Sunday School.

This Sunday school had a free entertainment in the East Orange street public school last evening, which was very largely attended, and an adult recitation society were singing. Bible reading, recitations, dialogues, instrumental music and addresses, and the whole affair was a highly satisfactory entertainment.

OUR LOCAL ASTRONOMERS.

EIGHTH MEETING OF STAR CLUB.

Crowded House—The Lion—The Sickle. "Cancer, the Crab—Bee Hive Nebula—Hydra—The Zodiac—Planet Club—Lecture, etc." There was a crowded house at the regular meeting of the Star club in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian association last evening. The list of stars has already been carried beyond one hundred. It will be increased to one hundred and twenty-five or one hundred and thirty, so that each member may be sure of at least one hundred, as the result of the work of these evenings.

The constellation of the Lion is now rising above the eastern horizon in the early evening, and can readily be traced at any time after 8 o'clock as it moves toward the meridian. It is some distance south of the Great Bear, and is that sign of the Zodiac which lies between the Crab and the Virgin. We take it upon our list now, as it will aid us presently in fixing the few faint stars in the Crab to which names have been given. The group of stars in the head of the Lion is widely known as "The Sickle," because of its striking resemblance to that old-fashioned implement of husbandry.

The bright star Regulus, of first magnitude, is in the handle of the Sickle, which is towards the horizon—the blade lying in the direction of the zenith. This star, which was named from a distinguished Roman consul, is known also as Cor Leonis, or the "Heart of the Lion." Its distance from the ecliptic is less than one-half a degree. It has been much used by nautical men in determining their longitude at sea. When on the meridian it makes a large triangle, nearly isosceles with Castor, which is distant about forty degrees to the northwest, and Procyon, in the Little Dog, about the same distance to the southwest. The star at the point where the handle joins the blade is not named. Al Giaba some nine degrees from Regulus is the first in the blade of the Sickle. It is double; its period about 1,000 years. The second star in the blade is Adhafera in the neck of the Lion, four degrees from Al Giaba. Six degrees from Adhafera is northern Ras Al Asad, third star in blade, and continuing the blade, we have for the fourth star southern Ras Al Asad, in the mouth of the Lion. Both stars last named are double.

Twenty-five degrees northeast from Regulus is found the well-known star Denebola, of the second magnitude, in the tail of the Lion. Between this and the Sickle are two conspicuous stars, making almost a right-angled triangle with Denebola, or in the opposite direction, a parallelogram with Al Giaba and Adhafera. The upper star here, which first reaches the meridian is Zozma. It is in the back of the Lion, a triple star, thirteen degrees east from Al Giaba and ten degrees northwest from Denebola. The star below Zozma is not named. These are all that have received names in this constellation. Taken together they constitute a group which, once learned, will not be forgotten.

We turn now to Cancer, the Crab, a constellation which shows no bright stars and which would attract but little attention from the ordinary observer, were it not that it is one of the twelve signs of the Zodiac. It occupies its thirty degrees of space between the Twins and the Lion, but none of its stars can be distinguished in the moonlight. They should be looked for in the absence of the moon when the sky is clear. Midway upon a line drawn from Regulus to Pollux will be found the two stars, Asellus Borealis and Asellus Australis, in the body of the Crab. Both are faint, but nearly in line between them a good eye may distinguish the dim cloud-like nebula Præsepe, the Bee Hive, apparently as large as the human hand. This is almost the only nebula in the heavens that can be seen with the naked eye. It must be looked for in the absence of the moon, as has been said, and is seen even then with some difficulty. The stars just named are at the eastern angles of an irregular quadrilateral which encloses this nebula. The upper star on the eastern side is Asellus Borealis and the lower on the same side is Asellus Australis. Asellus Borealis, very faint, is half way between Al Giaba and Procyon. Half way between Asellus Borealis and Procyon is another faint star not named. Between this and Pollux, midway, is Tegmine, which is also in line with Castor and Pollux, about ten degrees from Pollux, near the line last indicated.

The constellation Hydra, only a part of which is yet visible in the evening, winds along through more than a hundred degrees of longitude. The head is a striking group of small stars directly south of the Crab, to which it might readily be supposed to belong. Tracing the curving line of stars from this point, in a southeasterly direction, we reach the star Alphard, an Arabic word meaning the Lone One. The name describes the situation of the star. Alphard is also known as Cor Hydræ, or the Heart of Hydra. A line from Al Giaba, through Regulus, will reach Alphard, about twenty degrees beyond Regulus. The Lone Star also completes a quadrilateral with Regulus, Pollux and Procyon.

We close our list for the evening with what is known as the Egyptian X, comprising five stars in as many constellations, Betelgeuse in Orion, Procyon in the Little Dog, Sirius in the Greater Dog, Phæta in the Dove and Naos in the Ship. The first three are already on the list as Nos. 51, 79 and 92. The last two we fix by completing the X southward, Sirius being at the crossing of the lines and Betelgeuse and Procyon at their northern extremities. Naos is found to the southeast as far beyond the triangle in Canis Major, named by Wesen, Aludra and Adhafera, as this triangle is from Sirius. Phæta is fixed by a line drawn 32 degrees directly south from the Belt of Orion. This figure, the Egyptian X, should be looked for when Orion is on or near the meridian, as Naos and Phæta are then high enough above the southern horizon to be recognized with certainty. To recapitulate, continuing our nomenclature list, we have: No. 98, Regulus; 99, Al Giaba; 100, Adhafera; 101, Northern Ras Al Asad; 102, Southern Ras Al Asad; 103, Zozma; 104, Denebola, all of which are in the Lion; 105, Asellus Borealis; 106, Asellus Australis; 107, Præsepe, the Bee Hive Nebula; 108, Acubens; 109, Tegmine, these five, including the Nebula, in the Crab; 110, Alphard in Hydra; 111, Naos in the Ship Argo, and 112, Phæta in the Dove.

The carefully-prepared paper on the Zodiac, by Miss Marie Kemp, of St. James School, presented the grand "Circle of the Heavens" in a manner as only highly interesting and instructive. Her blackboard illustration was excellent. There being less matter in the text-books upon this than upon any other subject yet discussed before the club, it was necessary that more orig-

inal work should be done in presenting it satisfactorily.

A spirited discussion was had as to the probability of Alecyone, in the Pleiades, being the centre of our stellar system, the views of a dozen different authorities being quoted for and against this bold guess of the astronomer.

A show of hands was called for, of those who wished tickets to the lecture by Rev. Dr. Warren on the 26th inst. Mr. McCaskey had thought it desirable to supplement the work of the Star club by illustrated popular lectures from the most distinguished platform men in this department of science. The lecture by Prof. Proctor had cost him about \$100 more than the receipts. If the receipts from the lecture by Dr. Warren should make good the loss on the Proctor lecture, any balance remaining will be paid over to the treasurer of the Christian Association.

At the close of the Star club work and before adjournment, it was decided to organize a Plant club, which shall study the elements of botany, giving attention to the wonders of plant growth and to the practical analysis of plants according to the tables of an approved text book. Each member of the class will need a text book for home study and field work. The class will arrange for eight or ten meetings between this and the middle of June, and a part of the work to be done by each member will probably include the analysis of at least thirty of the native Spring plants, with description in proper form of family, genus, species and habitat in the case of each plant analyzed.

The first meeting of the Plant club will be held at the call of the committee appointed to consider the details of its organization. The members of this committee are Messrs. J. D. Pyott, J. C. Burrows and Miss Marie Kemp.

About Stickers.

Those who were present in court when the Seventh ward ballot box was opened for the purpose of determining the contest-electors for constable of that ward could not have failed to observe that the placing of a "sticker" over the name of an objectionable candidate is not a very rare way of having the vote counted against him. Sometimes the sticker won't stick, and sometimes dishonest election officers may take occasion to pull off those that do stick, thus not only depriving the candidate of the vote to be cast for him, but giving it to his opponent. In the Seventh ward case the repeated handling of the tickets caused quite a number of the stickers to fall off. Fortunately none of these belonged to the illegal votes which alone were examined by the commissioners. But had it been necessary to make a recount of all the tickets in the box it would have been impossible for the examiners to have determined the result with accuracy, so many of the stickers had fallen off.

At the coming election the great army of "scratchers" should bear this in mind. The voter should first carefully erase the name of the candidate he don't want to vote for. The best plan is to carefully write in the name of the candidate he does want to vote for. If stickers are used let him see that they are properly put on and will not be likely to come off.

STATE AND COUNTY TAX.

Who is Responsible for the Increase? The county commissioners have issued their orders to the assessors, fixing the rate of state and county tax for next year, and notices of the same are being served in the several districts. The state tax has been raised to forty cents on the hundred dollars instead of thirty, last year's rate, while the county tax is also put up to thirty cents as against twenty-five last year. The commissioners have refused to allow the assessors to make a reduction in the valuations of properties (notwithstanding the fact that real estate is at least ten per cent. lower than it was at the making of the triennial assessment three years ago), but have ordered an addition to be made in all districts. From this valuation our city and school tax is also levied for the next three years, so that our property owners can see as well as feel the wondrous benefits we are deriving from the continued control of the Republican party in our county.

The Winter in France.

From a private letter received by a lady in this city from a lady friend in France, we are permitted to make the following extract. The letter is dated Cannes, on the Mediterranean coast, some 500 miles south of Paris. The writer says: "We ran down from Paris to Cannes to secure a few weeks of sunshine, having had a very hard winter in Paris since early in December. Such cold is rare in France. For four long weeks the city of Paris was in a deplorable state, most sad for the poor. Heavy snow had fallen after intense frost. The Parisians seemed for days spellbound, not knowing what they should do to clear away the mountains of snow that had drifted in some places several feet high. All the roads surrounding the city were impassable. The farmers could not reach Paris with the necessities of life, and for awhile it was similar to the Prussian siege. Fuel and vegetables were increasing in price, so that very few, even among the rich, could obtain sufficient even for immediate wants. Where we are now the sun shines out hot during the day, but the mornings and evenings are cool."

Quick Work.

Yesterday Charles Carr and Harry Goodhart, two boys who are in the employ of H. P. Carson, city bill-poster, put up 500 sheets of bills in different parts of the city. This was quick work and as there are a number of entertainments billed for next week nearly every board in town is covered.

At the meeting of the school board Thursday evening Alderman Sprurrier voted for Miss Carpenter, and not for Miss Guthrie as we reported. The vote did not change the result, but, as the alderman had made a promise to one of the applicants, he would like to be known that he fulfilled it.

Lamp Post Broken.

This morning a tobacco wagon was run against the city lamp post at the corner of Chestnut and Market streets and snapped it off as though it had been a pipe stem. The gas pipe inside the lamp post was bent but not broken. One or two of the glasses in the lamp were also broken.

Committed for Larceny.

Jacob Shenk, charged with the larceny of groceries and other articles, the property of John Wesley Harkins, of Martieville, had a hearing before Alderman Sprurrier this morning, and in default of bail was committed for trial at court.

Handsome Building Improvements.

The old McConey property, afterwards owned by Isaac Strik, on West Orange street, which was sold some time ago, has been improved by the erection of six very handsome and substantial private residences, which are a credit to their builders and an ornament to the flourishing "West End." They are built of brick, with green serpentine stone fronts. Each is on a lot 23 feet front, and 245 deep. The base of the front is marble; the windows and doors are trimmed with a beautiful Ohio stone. On the first floor are three rooms—a large parlor, dining-room and kitchen—with the hall and vestibule. The parlor has walnut graining, the kitchen and dining-room oak; the mantel-pieces are of Plymouth Rock and Spanish marble. In each kitchen is a range, sink, closet, hot and cold water. On the second floor are four chambers and bath room, and on the third floor under the mansard roof are two sleeping apartments.

The bath-rooms are finished with bath-tub, wash-stand and water-closet, the plumbing being of the best modern plans. They are furnished with gas heater, closets and all the modern conveniences. Urban & Burger were the builders and owners, and the wood-work was furnished from their mill. The other work was done as follows: Plumber, gas-fitting and tinwork, John Scham; painting, Allen Guthrie & Son; brickwork, Blumenthal & Keller; stonework and marble, A. Ridgeway, Philadelphia; slating, Sprecher & Pfeiffer; plastering, Humphreys Bros., J. Druckemiller and Henry Harding; the iron fences were erected by Bender & Holman; Mr. McClure, of Columbia, put up some of the mantels and others were done by Reading parties.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.

Events Across the County Line. The York Republican has placed at the top of its editorial column the name of James G. Blaine for president.

The grocery store of Mr. A. Baker, of Hanover, York county, was entered last night by some person or persons unknown who stole therefrom about \$25 in money from a drawer. No goods, as far as known, are missing.

The "meanest man" was in York a few days ago. His name is Spangler. A little girl in passing along the street dropped some money. Spangler, who was standing near, placed his foot upon a five cent piece which rolled in his direction, and kept it there until the child picked up all she could find and started off, when the man deliberately pocketed the five cents.

SEEN AND HEARD.

President Twenty-five Years. Last evening Major Charles M. Howell was tendered a salute by the members of the Empire hotel and ladder company in honor of his twenty-fifth election to the presidency of that company. The firemen, headed by Clemmens's City band, left their truck house shortly after 9 o'clock and marched to the residence of Mr. Howell, where the band played a number of lively airs. After the music Mr. Howell appeared at the door, and in a short speech thanked the company for the compliment. The company and band afterwards visited the restaurants of John A. Snyder and Al Fulmer.

Slight Fire at the Prison. Shortly before 11 o'clock this forenoon, a slight fire occurred at the county prison in the room known as "Bummers' Hall." It is supposed to have been caused by a defective flue as the heater is under the room. The joists supporting the floor were burned somewhat, and the floor was charred. The fire was extinguished by the prisoners and the officials with several buckets of water. The room was filled with smoke and the prisoners who were in it were frightened for a time. The American fire company had their engine there, but it was not needed.

York County Tobacco. Our Washington borough correspondent writes that "yesterday about twenty two-horse teams, loaded with York county tobacco passed through that borough on their way to John Wissler's, packing house at Highville. One of the drivers on being asked how the prices rated answered only medium. Our friend across the river have not yet learned to grade their reasonably fair crop as well as it is done in Lancaster county, and the growers, or rather the buyers, should not attempt to palm it off as grown here."

The Man He Would Choose. Mr. MacGonigle, whose term is about to expire, has been renominated by the Democrats. We would be faithless to our duty as a journalist if we failed to declare that he has made a good offer. He has not been without faults; but in the main his administration has been a creditable one. If a Democrat must be elected Mr. MacGonigle would be the man we would choose.

How They Voted. The Lancaster county delegation at Harrisburg did not vote as a unit on the nomination as auditor general. Delegates Andrew M. Frantz, Thomas B. Cochran, A. L. Esleman, Jacob S. Wimer, Washington L. Hershey and Colin Cameron, voted for John A. Lemon. John E. Wiley and Nathaniel Eilmaker, voted for J. A. M. Passmore.

Fingers Cut. This forenoon George Yudith, residing on St. Joseph street, who is employed at the bending mill of his brother Frederick Yudith, on Manor street, had the four fingers of one hand almost entirely cut off by having them caught in a saw while at work. Dr. M. L. Herr attended