Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 10, 1880.

Grant's Candidacy.

The New York *Times* has an authoritative announcement of the position of Gen. Grant as a presidential candidate, from which it appears that his friends withdraw him from the condition of a candidate asking a somewhat unanimous and enthusiastic nomination to secure his acceptance, and proceed to enter him in the regular way as a man who proposes to get the nomination if he can, and to take it in any way that he can get it. This is in strict accordance with the method by which he is credited with the Pennsylvania delegation. His grooms got these votes for him—if they have got them—any way that they could, and never stopped to consider the propriety of the means. After this demonstration of the manner of General Grant's candidacy it is somewhat superfluous in his managers to inform the world through the *Times* of the nature and degree of his candidacy. After Harrisburg he could only be one sort of a candidate, and that sort was so below the high standard of the sort that his advocates have been painting for us these many days that unsophisticated people, who did not realize what sharp corners politicians can turn when they must, concluded of course that Grant would be withdrawn as gracefully as possible, and that we had heard the last serious word in favor of the third term. But this seems to be all a mistake. There is going to be no withdrawal. Grant's nomination is to be pressed and the people are to be taught what is good for them. Republicans may squirm over the bitter medicine of the third term, but they will have to take it through a force pump if they refuse to swallow it easily.

But notwithstanding this inclination of the Grant managers it is very far from certain that he will be a candidate before the convention. It is not possible to conceal the fact that the Grant boom has received a severe check. His friends confess it in declaring that they mean to press his nomination despite his demonstrated weakness among the people, his supposed strength with whom was the great recommendation of his candidacy. The disaster which his cause has encountered, in the enforced change of tactics of its leaders, will follow it, and before the convention meets it will be apparent that the Grant movement has been struck by a fatal paralysis.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* suggests a cogent reason why Mr. Tilden should not be chosen to the presidency when it declares that there is an exhaustless number of comely maidens who are madly in love with him, and that should he become president the retinue of adoring virgins who never told their love will be as numberless as the household servants of George Washington. We do think that a man who is such a favorite of the fair ought not to want his condition to be changed, and certainly should not desire to be made still more an object of female favor. If the girls can love his seventy years he is a most fortunate man. And it would be a cruel thing all around to make him yet more attractive; cruel to him to give him a warmer love from more feminine hearts when he has so much trouble now with the exhaustless girls in his retinue; and cruel to the girls to give to the object of their already hopeless attachment a yet diviner flavor. And the people generally would have cause for apprehension that the public business would suffer from the girls' mad love for the president. A man can't do much when he has such embarrassments; and though Mr. Tilden has been able to carry his seventy years and the girls right along with him as he has piled up his millions, yet there must come a time when the camel's back will give way; and the presidency is more than the feather's weight to break it.

THE degree of a state legislator is not very exalted, but yet it is with somewhat of a shock that we see him asked to give place to a colored fellow-citizen as juryman. Possibly the colored man was the better man in the opinion of the counseller who chose him, or possibly he preferred him because he did not have any use for a good man; for attorneys with bad cases are apt to pick out the stupidest jurymen they can find. We cannot, therefore, feel that Representative Landis was absolutely degraded by his colored fellow citizen's elevation over him; but, nevertheless, it must have been with peculiar sensations that he gave him up his chair. Jurymen who are invited to walk out from the box are apt to do so with a somewhat sheepish air, as they realize that they are rejected, and are in a state of uncertainty as to the cause, and whether or no it is not something they ought to blush for. Often it is quite creditable to a juror to be cast out, and we trust that Representative Landis had an abiding conviction of his own merit which enabled him to at once conclude that an intelligent jury was not wanted when his colored brother was taken and he was left; for otherwise he must have felt that the great state of Pennsylvania, of which he was a representative, and the Republicans of Lancaster county who had chosen him to legislate for them, had been severely sat down upon when his chair was given to that colored man.

FITZ JOHN PORTER has a hard time of it. He got his vindication from an unjust sentence and long-continued aspersion on his integrity after many years of earnest effort and at great personal expense. Everybody seemed to agree that he was an ill-used man, and that scarcely any recompense could right his wrongs. But the Republicans in Congress will not accord him this compensation and resist the passage of the bill that proposes to restore his good name and the rights of which he has been so long and so unjustly deprived.

IT is the old story of Grant not refusing anything; and lest his silence might be misconstrued into dissent he wants it known that Barkis is not only "willin'" but anxious.

BY shiftlessness and mismanagement in our county finances for years and by reason of rapidly increasing expenditures, deficiencies have been incurred from year to year until, to pay interest and meet the current expenses, the county tax rate has to be increased the commissioners refuse to allow the assessors to reduce the valuation in accordance with the depression of real estate prices. They have raised quite a storm about their ears and before they get through with it there will be some searching inquires as to how nearly the valuation of the real estate of the county has been fixed at its selling price or above it, as appears to have been ordered by the commissioners in the city.

DROP a tear for Hooten. He has gone, and gone, he says, to stay. He sends word to Green and Lemon and Olmsted that he does not want to be chairman of the Republican state committee and that he will not take the place if he can get it. He does not say why, nor that he could get it if he would take it, but, whatever the reasons of his high resolve, our sorrow is poignant that he is determined to have none of it. For take Hooten for all in all we ne'er shall see his like again. Good-bye Hooten!

A "SOCIAL scandal" in Washington has been struggling into print for some days past. It involves great names and is to blast fair reputations, but it makes haste slowly. Its germination was announced nearly a week ago, and its sprouts have been shooting through the soil since Saturday, but like confidence, it seems to be a plant of slow growth. The man who stole Hayes's last message must be out of town or news of such absorbing interest could not be withheld from an agonized public.

PERSONAL.

Secretary THOMPSON, of the navy department, has been elected president of the Congressional temperance society in place of ex-Secretary McCrary, resigned.

Major RENO having learned of the approval of the sentence of the court-martial dismissing him from the service, has telegraphed to Hayes asking to be allowed to resign. The orders of the war department in Reno's case are delayed pending Hayes' decision.

In San Francisco, yesterday, a large number of unemployed working men assembled upon the sand lots and were addressed by Mayor KALLOCH. He "gave them to understand that within a few days Chinatown would be legally declared a nuisance, and that the work resulting from such a declaration would give them employment." He also advised them "to refrain from any illegal or injudicious action until they heard from him again."

BOB INGERSOLL, of lecture fame, is now a permanent resident of Washington city. He has a magnificent residence fronting on Farragut square, and a law office on New York avenue. He divides his time between legal practice, rostrum speaking and political manœuvring. The newspaper story to the effect that he makes $1400 a week from his lectures on atheistical subjects is quite correct. It is altogether impossible to fulfill the engagements he could secure at a profit running from $300 to $500 per night.

MINOR TOPICS.

"FASTNACHT" DAY.

THE Maryland Legislature is discussing the repeal of the tobacco inspection law.

THE British government announces that it will continue the ballot act for another year, and repress corrupt practices at elections.

THE Boston *Advertiser*, in its review of the lumber trade, says while the cut of lumber will be larger than last year, from advices covering a large lumber region, it will not be up to expectations, and will be considerably less than was expected early in the season. The *Advertiser* thinks the demand promises to exceed anything that has been seen for many years.

NEW YORK *Times*: A near personal and political friend of ex-President Grant, who doubtless knows whereof he speaks, authorizes the following as a correct statement of the general's position with reference to the presidency. He says: "General Grant is not now nor has he ever been a candidate for the presidential nomination. But should the Republican convention nominate him in the same manner as any other candidate would be nominated, he would deem it his duty to the country and party to accept. Traveling abroad he was a stranger to the contest now going on for the presidential nomination, and has written no letters on the subject to any person, and all assertions to the contrary are without foundation in fact."

A GOOD deal of attention is being paid as to where the national Democratic convention shall assemble. But two places are actively striving for the honor at this time—Cincinnati and Washington City, the chances largely in favor of Cincinnati. John G. Thompson has said that the West and the South were united in favor of Cincinnati. St. Louis is doomed to defeat, because the last national convention assembled there and the ticket nominated proved a disastrous one. Chicago cannot have it because she is to have the Republican convention. Indianapolis is too weak and insignificant a place, so there is no other Western city that can compete with the Queen Metropolis of Ohio. Mr. Thompson thinks that if the convention is held East of the mountains that Washington City would probably be the place, as it is neutral political ground, has all the necessary accommodations, and seems to be the general second choice, not only of the members of the national committee, but of the friends of the different candidates.

A Great Catastrophe.

Reuter's Constantinople dispatch reports that during a fete a barrack three stories high, near that city, suddenly collapsed. Two hundred soldiers were killed and 300 wounded. The number of casualties has probaby been exaggerated.

He Has Heard from Chester County.

Colonel F. C. Hooten has written to the two candidates nominated at Harrisburg, and to the president of the convention, declining to have his name considered in connection with the chairmanship of the Republican state committee for 1880.

LITITZ VS. LITIZ.

Was the Change an Improvement?

For the INTELLIGENCER.

Your correspondent "A. B. M." seems to assume that there was some special "honor" in having "Litiz" changed to "Lititz." Allow me to doubt that, and also to doubt whether it is the province of the postoffice department to change the names of places. It was said of a certain emperor that he had not the power to change the quantity of a syllable; by what right then does a cabinet officer prescribe how we shall spell? If he can change the spelling of the names of postoffices, why may he not change the names of postmasters as well? Doubtless some of them could be greatly improved. The department may say how a name shall be spelled in the postal guide, I suppose; but does that really change the name—especially an old name like Litiz—after it has entered into the public records, dictionaries, histories, gazetteers, etc? Several such changes of orthography have been made of late; probably some "spelling reformer" has been smuggled into the postoffice department—one of Dr. Haldeman's jokes, perhaps. "Chiques" has been changed to "Chickies"—a "pet name" for chickens, I suppose. That was undoubtedly some of Dr. Haldeman's work, and to him be the "honor." A man who can write *tung* for *tongue* can do almost anything. "Youghiogheny," in Westmoreland county, has been changed to "Yokegany"—"fonetic" spelling with a vengeance. Now let the department go on and change "Uwchland" and "Toughkenamon," in our neighboring county of Chester, to "Yooklan" and "Tufkenamon," and so on through the whole list of postoffices; then let them change the counties—"Schuylkill," for example, to "Skoolkil;" then the names of states, mountains, rivers, lakes, etc. Here is a grand field for orthographic enterprise. Perhaps our good-natured representative may recognize it as his mission. Some of these changes, actual and suggested, are in the direction of simplicity, but is it so in the case of *Litiz?* The word is lengthened, not shortened, and it is converted into a sort of mongrel, neither German nor English. What will be the penalty if an old fogy like myself continues to write *Litiz?*

O. FOGY.

STATE ITEMS.

Mrs. Zell's case has been argued in the supreme court, Mr. Shapley for the prisoner.

While lifting a wash boiler from the stove at her residence, No. 1016 Wood street, Philadelphia, the clothing of Mrs. Bridget Howard took fire and she was burned so badly that she died from the effects. Her husband and son were also badly burned in attempting to extinguish the flames.

The Clifton Mills, at Howard and Berks streets, Philadelphia, owned and occupied by Harpst, Montague & Co., manufacturers of carpet yarns, were totally destroyed by fire last evening. The loss is estimated at $187,000, of which $195,000 is covered by insurance. The mills were burned on January 11th, 1878.

Mrs. Anna Mellitt, an insane lady aged about 80 years, who resided with her son near McConnellsburg, Fulton county, wandered from her house, clad only in her night dress. After considerable search her blood-stained foot-prints were discovered and her lifeless body has been found lying in the snow some distance from her house, where she had perished.

Wm. Lehr, aged 65 years, residing with a son in Bethlehem, on Saturday took three doses of arsenic, and saved himself from death by an overdose of paison. He was drunk on Friday, and on Saturday morning his son upbraided him for the spectacle he had made of himself. He at once proceeded to Luckenbach's drug store and bought a package of "rat poison."

Rev. Job F. Halsey, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Norristown, at the close of divine service on Sunday morning, resigned his charge, which he has now held about twenty-four years. Three years had elapsed since he had previously tendered his resignation, which his kind brethern had persuaded him to withdraw; but now, admonished by age and increasing infirmities, his purpose was inflexibly taken to retire.

MOURNFUL SLEIGHING.

The Dangers of Transporting Glycerine.

Howard Hackett and James Feeney started from Bradford for Coleville in a sleigh, carrying one hundred pounds of nitro-glycerine. Four miles from Bradford the sleigh upset, which caused an explosion of the compound. Feeney jumped from the sleigh as it was going over. Hackett was thrown fifty feet from the scene and instantly killed, his body being horribly mangled. His right leg was shattered into a mass of shapeless flesh, and his side and shoulders were shockingly torn. A hole was torn in the frozen roadbed twenty feet in length and fifteen feet in width. In this excavation Feeney was found covered with debris, but still alive. His escape from instant death is regarded as almost a miracle. At present the extent of his injuries cannot be ascertained. The sleigh was blown to atoms and both horses were killed. The house of Charles Seeley, a one story and a half frame building, fifty feet distant, was shaken to pieces by the concussion. Mrs. Seeley was sitting in the house at the time, but escaped serious injury. A large frame dwelling house occupied by Henry Dalloff, five rods away, was also completely wrecked, but did not fall. Mrs. Dalloff and six children were in the house at the time, but suffered no further injury than a terrible shock. The windows, mirrors and wall ornaments were smashed to atoms. A barn was also wrecked by the concussion. Hackett, the man killed, was 37 years of age and unmarried. His home is at some point in Erie county, Pa.

Lancaster County Dissatisfied

Special to the North American by telegraph.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Congressman Herr Smith, of the Lancaster district, is authority for the statement that the Republicans of Lancaster county who are opposed to the Eshleman-Cameron rule will hold a mass indignation meeting in a few days to protest against and repudiate the action of the Harrisburg convention. He says that this movement, which found open expression first in Chester county, is a revolt against Senator Cameron, and that similar action will be taken by the Republicans of other counties. Hon. Butler B. Strang is in Washington, and does not hesitate to declare that he thinks that the Cameron rule in Pennsylvania is weakening.

The Woodsman's Axe.

The business boom has struck the lumber business, and efforts are being made to get out an extraordinary number of logs for the spring rise in the mountain watercourses. In Clinton, Elk, Potter and Clearfield counties thousands of loggers are at work, and hundreds of acres of choice timber are falling before their resounding axes. The lumbermen think there will be an increased demand for lumber for building purposes, and it is expected that not less than 300,000,000 feet will be sent down in the early spring.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

Pat Brennan and John Lloyd were burned at Eagle Hill colliery by an explosion of gas. Brennan's injuries are serious.

Sixty houses have been burned down at Aget, near Foix, in the department of Ariege, France, and the sufferers by the fire are in great distress.

Pentecost Sweet, fireman of the machine shop of the Quidneck mills, at Warwick, R. I., was struck by the arm of a pulley and was killed, yesterday morning.

In Charlotte, N. C., on operator in the Western Union telegraph office committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart. No reason is known for the act.

The First and Second districts of Albany, N.Y., yesterday elected delegates to the Republican state convention, and adopted resolutions in favor of nominating Grant for president.

The receiver of the Ocean national bank of New York, has secured a verdict for $3,767 against the executors of Calvin A. Stevens, one of the stockholders of the bank who were assessed forty per cent. to make up the deficiency due depositors.

The boiler in the malt house of the Hawley malt company, of Detroit, exploded yesterday morning, demolishing the engine house and damaging the malt house. Two men were in the engine room at the time of the accident, but escaped with slight injury.

Six lives were lost in the fire at the Theatre Royal, Dublin. The fire brigade succeeded in preventing the spread of the flames to the adjoiniug houses. The lord lieutenant of Ireland was present during the conflagration. The loss by the destruction of the theatre and contents is estimated at $200,000.

Alexander H. Smith, president of the Merchants' exchange of St. Louis, appointed yesterday one hundred and fifty leading members of the exchange, representing all branches of business, as a committee to solicit subscriptions for a fund to be expended in purchasing food and other supplies to be shipped direct to the destitute people in Ireland. Negotiations are pending with railroads and steamship lines, which it is believed will result in free transportation of whatever is purchased by this committee.

A personal encounter took place in Richmond, Va., in the rotunda of the House of Delegates between James A. Frazier, a member of the House, and W. W. Archer, a reporter of the *State*. The affair grew out of a publication in the Rockbridge *Enterprise* in which Frazier charges that the *State* had made the grossest misstatement and misrepresentations of every word uttered on the floor. Archer called Frazier out into the rotunda and asked him whether he referred to him, and receiving a reply in the affirmative he struck Frazier in the face, when a fight ensued.

New Let it be Settled.

Everett, Pa., Press.

On Wednesday of last week Judge Patterson, of Lancaster, summoned before him Messrs. Steinman and Hensel, of the DAILY INTELLIGENCER, on account of a criticism of the court in Tuesday's issue of their paper. The judge declared that they should be ruled to show cause why they should not be stricken from the roll of attorneys. Messrs. Steinman and Hensel denied the authority of the court to require them to answer as attorneys for editorial criticisms. We believe Messrs. Steinman and Hensel to be right in their views, and hope they will stand by them and have this question decided by the highest authority in the state. It is everywhere admitted that criticism of the acts of public officers is one of the high prerogatives of the press, and one of the strongest influences to faithful performance of official duty. There are hundreds of lawyers who are also editors, and we believe there are none more courteous to the judiciary in their position as attorneys; but as editors and for acts done out of court, we don't believe the courts have any power to reach or punish them except in an action for libel or slander. If the judge of a court can inflict summary punishment on an editor, who happens to be also a lawyer, these lawyers should at once abandon the editorial profession, for the worst thing that can happen a free country is to have its press muzzled. We hope, in order that judges and editors may both know exactly what their privliges and duties are, that this case will not be dropped or compromised, but carried to the supreme court and the disputed point clearly settled.

Yellow Fever.

H. M. S. Atlantic, training ship, for ordinary seamen, Captain Sterling, arrived at Glassy bay on Thursday from the West Indies. She left Barbadoes on the 9th, and on the 11th a case of yellow fever occurred on board, which proved fatal on the 16th. On the 15th a second case of fever occurred, but the staff surgeon of the ship reports that its nature was doubtful. The man who died and the man reported a doubtful case had visited one of the low dens in Barbadoes, and there doubtles contracted the disease.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

DIABOLICAL VILLAINY.

Attempts to Wreck Railroad Trains.

Yesterday afternoon about three o'clock, as engine 302 was coming east over the Pennsylvania railroad, just west of Mountville, it ran against an obstruction placed upon the road and the two front wheels of the engine were thrown from the track. The engine was drawing a very heavy train, and there is a heavy up grade at that point, so that the train was easily stopped before any further damage was done. An examination of the track showed that pieces of an old boat, cordwood, spliters and other obstructions had been wedged in the rails of the south track and had lifted the wheels of the locomotive above the rails and thrown it off.

A further examination of the road in the vicinity showed that similar obstructions had been placed on the north track some twenty yards away. Had not these last named obstructions been discovered and removed a most serious accident would probably have resulted. There is a heavy down grade all the way from Mountville to Columbia, sufficient to carry the cars along at a high rate of speed without the use of steam. Had a western bound passenger train, or even a freight train, been thrown from the track at this point, there would beyond doubt have been a heavy loss of property and perhaps of life.

Two or three suspicious-looking tramps were seen in the vicinity for some hours before the accident, and disappeared over the hills immediately afterwards. It is more than suspected they were the parties that obstructed the track.

A Serious Fall.

On Sunday morning as Mrs. Suter, wife of Francis Suter, sr., residing on Manor street, was crossing the street in front of her residence, she slipped on the ice and fell, breaking her right arm and otherwise injuring herself.

A Large Sale of Canada Horses.

Samuel Hess & Son, auctioners and real estate agents, sold at public sale yesterday for George Grossman at Fred. Brimmer's stable, 39 heads of Canada horses at an average of $201.25 per head.

MAYOR MACGONIGLE'S RECORD.

Some Points From His Official Career.

Rigid Economy and Strict Accountability.
Inaugural Message.

"In times of such widespread depression in industrial relations, nothing could better indicate our wisdom than a strict observance of economy in all departments of city government, to the end that business and prosperity may be taxed as lightly as possible. A rigid accountability should be required from all persons furnishing supplies by the committees of councils who have the immediate supervision of the expenditures in their respective departments."

To Each Ward its Due.

"Some means should be devised by which the citizens of each of the wards of the city should receive as nearly *pro rata* share of the city's expenditures on public improvements as circumstances would admit."

The Least Possible Tax.

"Those people are generally the happiest who are taxed the least."

Live Within the Municipal Income.

'Let us keep our expenditures within our income and our city will continue to be in the future, what it has been in the past, one of the cheapest, if not the very cheapest city, in the Union to live in."

Pause and Reflect.
Veto Message, Jan. 2, 1878.

"The reckless expenditure of the money of the taxpayers of our city, over and above the amount appropriated for the street purposes, year after year, should make us pause and reflect. It imposes upon me, at least, the city's executive, representing as I do the interests of the whole people, a calm consideration whether it is not my duty to interpose any authority resting in me against an abuse appalling in its nature from the very helplessness of the people to remedy the evil at this time in any other manner than through the executive."

Open and Above Board.
Second Veto Message, Jan. 2, 1878.

"If there be not money enough at any time let the required amount be obtained in an honest straight-forward manner, and let us not attempt to accomplish by indirection that which ought to be done, if at all, fairly and above board."

Stop the Leak.
Special Message, Feb. 6, 1878.

"Take a look at the mode of spending the appropriations with the earnest desire to cut up by the root all extravagance and useless expenditure. I am satisfied that thousands of dollars may be saved annually in this latter way."

Another Protest.
Annual Message, June 5, 1878.

"I respectfully protest against the expenditure of one dollar beyond the appropriation unless in case of emergency."

Curbing Undue Expenditures.
Special Message, Aug 7, 1878.

"After the experience of the past, it was hoped that no committee would pledge the credit of the city for the payment of bills not provided for beforehand. I am decidedly of the opinion that committees have no right to do so; they have power only to pledge the city's credit to the extent of the appropriations of which they are constituted the disbursing agents, and cannot incur debt. The functions of the committees are solely executive and limited to the extent of the appropriations. The councils assembled in the legislative capacity is the only authority which can pledge the city's credit."

Abolishing Useless Offices.
Special Message, Dec. 4, 1878.

"Your attention is respectfully called to the ordinance for the inspection and sealing of gas metres in the city of Lancaster. Since the office has been created there has not been an inspection under the ordinance. The consumers of gas have not applied in a single instance for the inspection contemplated. The gas companies have not such tests made of their metres before putting them in, as is provided for by the ordinance. Perhaps one reason for the neglect of the companies is that there is a total absence of penalty in the ordinance for its violation. As the law now stands it is a dead letter, and should be repealed and the salary of the inspector saved to the city, or such amendments made to it as would make it operative."

An Economical Administration.
Annual Message, June 14, 1879.

"An economical administration of the different departments of the city government for this year will enable us to return next year to a rate of sixty cents on the one hundred dollars, but the system lately practiced of charging the deficiencies of one year against the receipts of the next must be abandoned, or, in other words, there must be no deficiencies allowed."

Police Discipline.

"It has been my constant effort to make the police force as efficient as possible, knowing that the security of our citizens in their persons and property is greatly due to those conservators of the peace. There have been no derelictions of duty tolerated when brought properly to my notice, and I have endeavored by disciplining members of the force to impress upon all a wholesome regard for the interest of the community."

Breakers Ahead.
Special Message. Sept. 3, 1879.

"If it be the pleasure of councils to go on regardless of the close appoximation to the limit of debt allowed us under the new constitution, regardless of the known indisposition of our people to plunge the city further into debt and thereby increase the taxation, they will proceed to order work to be done without taking into account the condition of the appropriation; but the further increase of our debt is a grave proposition, involving penalties when carried beyond the constitutional limit, and should not be determined without serious deliberation. For myself I believe that councils have no right to spend one cent in any department beyond the appropriation. If they have what is the use of making one? Is it not intended to indicate the limit which they themselves have fixed by solemn ordinance and which, I believe, they cannot virtually undo by the passage of a mere motion ordering the committee "to have the work done." It is on the basis of these appropriations that our city tax is laid, and that tax is intended to cover all city expenses for the year; but this very proper intention is defeated the very moment one dollar is ordered to be spent beyond the appropriation in any department."

Exposing Improper Legislation.
Veto Message.

"A resolution to do certain work by councils where it conflicts with the statute law of the state, or the city's ordinances, is absolutely inoperative."

Let All Things be Done Decently and in Order.
Special Message to Councils.

"For calling the attention of councils to this serious condition of affairs, I do not wish to be understood as being opposed to some of the improvements proposed by the street committee, but to call a halt upon proceedings founded in most pernicious principles and disregard for law. If the citizens want this work, let their represntatives in councils assembled say so in a proper way."

The Way the Money Goes.
Lancaster INTELLIGENCER, Sept. 14, 1879.

"We know of some shameful expenditures. There, for instance is the macadamizing of the square of James street between Duke and Lime, which is of no possible public utility and of no conceivable advantage except to the row of houses which Select Councilman Boring has built as a speculation on that square. This was most obviously an expenditure of the people's money for the advantage of one man, and secured by him by virtue of his place in the city councils. None will defend this. Lime street is unpaved and ungraded, and while it is so the macadamizing of this square of James street is without the shadow of public advantage."

His Resolute Efforts.
From the Lancaster Examiner and Express Aug. 13, 1878.

We express but the sentiment of all right-minded, considerate, tax-paying citizens, of both parties, when we extend to Mayor MacGonigle thanks for having called the attention of councils and the public in general to the illegal and extravagant acts of the street committee or rather the ring which has been running it and the tool called the street commissioner. We hope the mayor will not stop at "protesting" and calling the attention of councils to their extravagance and illegal proceedings, but will, if necessary, proceed by injunction to restrain them, and also hold the ringleaders individually liable when they shall run the city in debt. It is notorious that there has been in this department at least RECKLESSNESS AND EXTRAVAGANCE IF NOT CORRUPTION, and so far as we are concerned WE SHALL SUSTAIN THE MAYOR in his efforts to compel an observance, at all events, of the forms of law, and we hope he will not hesitate when occasion requires to call the attention of councils and the public to the shortcomings of those in authority.

Calling a Halt.
Philadelphia Times, Sept. 4, 1879.

"Mayor MacGonigle, of Lancaster, has been trying to call a halt on the councils of that city in the matter of municipal finances. The mayor sees that the councils either won't see or decline to recognize, that a gradually growing debt must sooner or later lead to trouble, that it must sometime be paid, and that it isn't by any means as easy to pay a debt as it is to make it. If the mayor's advice is listened to and arrangements made to spend money no faster than it is collected, Lancaster may stop its financial pyrotechnics in time to save itself from embarrassment. Its credit stands high—some city bonds which were called out by councils, financial recklessness having been easily placed recently drawing only five per cent—but it cannot hope to retain any such position if the increase of debt is allowed to go on regularly from year to year without any apparently good reason for it. A number of the municipal corporations of the state have got into trouble in this way and some of them have sought to repudiate their obligations, but have been baffled in their efforts by the courts. With a population of some twenty-seven thousand and a property valuation for taxation of about twelve and a-half millions, the bonded debt of Lancaster is $594,454, and the tax rate 70 cents on each one hundred dollars of valuation. It may well be doubted if any tax-paying citizen cares to have either the debt or the tax rate increased, and yet that is the inevitable tendency of the policy against which the mayor so sensibly protests and in which protest he is most likely sustained by a large majority of the citizens. It will occur to anybody, with the history of so many financial disasters still fresh in the mind, that it is not a good time for anybody to go into debt, and it is particularly undesirable that any municipal corporations should go any further that way."

"GOBLINS."

A Merry Party of Them at the Opera House.

Last evening was presented at Fulton opera house one of the merriest entertainments that has been witnessed there during the present season, and in view of the reputation of the party, achieved by their great success at the Arch Street theatre, Philadelphia, and the delightful character of the performance, it is to be regretted that our people did not give them a warmer welcome; the size of the audience being far below the deserts of the entertainment. Mr. William Gill's "wild farcical conceit" of "Our Goblins" occupies a sphere that is secure against the inquisitive examination of critical analysis. It is a conglomeration of the most fantastic fun, interwoven with the prettiest tunes, that give to it just enough of the operatic flavor to render it palatable to the prevailing popular taste for amusements, which lately has run almost exclusively toward comic opera. It bubbles from beginning to end with the most effervescent humor, and there is not a dull nor stupid situation. And how the audience did enjoy the fun! They were *en rapport* with the spirit of the play and the players from the outset, and the fast-succeeding *mots* and witticisms were answered with bursts of laughter with, frequent calls for a repetition of some pretty song. The audience clapped their hands so briskly and laughed themselves into such a merry humor that they forgot all about the chilly atmosphere of the room (which it may be observed, in parenthesis and in the way of a suggestion to the janitor, has on frequent occasion been a source of complaint that ought to be obviated; as half the pleasure of an evening's amusement in-doors ordinarily lies in the warm room and cheery surroundings). It may be possible to convey some idea of the piece by the statement that the scene is laid in a ruined old castle on the Rhine which dates back to 1180. A party of four intensely modern American tourists, two ladies and two gentlemen, are discovered investigating its antique curiosities, and enjoying a day's recreation, and this constitutes a very pleasing scene, in which there is lots of pretty music and fun. One of the party relates a horrifying legend concerning the ancient castle, in which a persecuted maiden, a cruel stepmamma, a villainous old baron, and dark and bloody tragedy, constitute the chief features. One of the party falls asleep at the conclusion of the story and the second act represents the re-enactment of the horrid events narrated, and which are supposed to be taking place in the sleeper's dream. The combination of the antique with the very modern in this scene is inexpressibly ludicrous. The characters were all filled in admirable style. Mr. Willie Gill, the author of the piece, who in the opening scene is *Benjamin Franklin Cobb, of Chicago*, and in his vision finds himself metamorphosed into *Ludovico, a returned wanderer*, is a comedian *sui generis*, and the audience were kept convulsed by his eccentricities throughout the evening. His recitation of a poem entitled "That Little Spitz Dog" was capital, and he sings fairly too. Mr. Charles H. Drew, in the triple role of *Alfred Comstock Silverman, Franz* and *Baron Adolph Von Schwartzbruder*, carried off no small share of the honors, his fine baritone voice captivating the audience. The ladies of the company, Misses Elinor Deering and Marie Rostelle, were both charming, and sang and acted in complete harmony with the spirit of the piece; they possess good voices which won them repeated encores on their solos, and they entered with animation into the spirit of fun which reigned fast and furious. The duos and concerted pieces, in which the four voices were found to chord very nicely, were likewise given with charming effect, and on the whole the expectations of the audience were more than gratified in the performance of the evening, which was in every respect at once unique, mirth-provoking, and clean.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

Before Judge Livingston.

The first cases taken up in the afternoon were those of Charles Gill vs. Andrew Eichholtz, Henry Erisman and John McDevitt. The plaintiff in these cases is a constable and resides in Coatesville, Chester county. In the year 1877 a gang of thieves were operating in Chester and Lancaster counties, and Robert Black, a Chester county detective, was engaged in working up the case. He came to this city and made complaint against the parties before Alderman Spurrier, who made out a warrant, which was given by Black to the plaintiff. Some time then elapsed and the alderman also gave warrants to the three defendants, who were constables in this city, so that they might be on the lookout for the thieves, who were operating in both counties. McDevitt arrested two of the gang in Baldwin, and warrants were served on the others by Gill and by defendants in the West Chester jail. The defendants made the usual returns to the alderman and on them the cases were sent to the November court of 1877. True bills were found, but when the cases were called it was found that the prisoners had all been convicted in the Chester county court and had been sent prison for long terms. Verdicts of not guilty were therefore taken. After the cases had been disposed of, the Lancaster constables in the usual way, proceeded to draw their costs from this county. Their bills were paid, and when the plaintiff discovered this he brought suit against the defendants, to recover a share, which he alleged to be due him for work done, before Alderman Donnelly, of this city. The defendants appealed from the alderman's decision and the case came into court. After the evidence of the plaintiff was in the defense asked for a non suit on the grounds that they had failed to show any connection between the parties, and if the plaintiff had any claim it was not against the defendants. The court granted a non suit and remarked that if the plaintiff has any claim it must be against the county, and was a matter for the commissioners and solicitor. The amount claimed by Gill was $70.

In the case of Close & Kretz vs. James P. Knight, judgment was entered in favor of the plaintiff for $146.86.

The case of George M. Steinman & Co. vs. Jacob Druckenmiller and Catherine Druckenmiller, his wife, summons in ejectment, was compromised by the parties.

The case of O. P. Brubaker vs. Samuel Shaeffer was settled.

Frank Schlegelmilich vs. Mary Eckert, by her guardian, Jacob Jansen, issue to try the validity of a paper purporting to be the last will and testament of Frederick Eckert, deceased, late of Marietta. Geo. H. Ettla and E. D. Roath, esq., the subscribing witnesses, testified that they signed the will on May 22, 1877, in the office of Mr. Roath, who is a justice of the peace, in the presence of the deceased, who said it was his will. The will was afterwards read to the jury. By it Frank Schlegelmilich, the plaintiff, was made executor of the estate of deceased, and the defendant, his daughter, who is the only living relative of the deceased in this country, was allowed an annuity of $150. If the defendant would die without issue the principal on which this annuity was paid should go to the relatives of the deceased in Baden, Germany. The will was read to the jury and the plaintiffs then rested.

The defense then called witnesses to show that the wife of the deceased died in 1860, leaving an only daughter, who is the defendant, and who is a cripple. The amount left to this daughter is not sufficient to support her. Previous to the death of Eckert he was a very hard drinker, and his mind was not sound; while in this condition he was influenced by Schlegelmilich, who desired the defendant to marry his son and was angry because she refused to do so, and threatened to have revenge upon her. A part of the defense was that the deceased was immoral in his conduct, not only to strange people but also towards his daughter, the defendant. Previous to his death he said he had done something wrong at the 'squire's office; he had not done right by his daughter and wished to do so. At this time, it is alleged, that he wanted to get up out of bed and go to the 'squire's office, but Schlegelmilich told him not to do so. Since the death of Eckert the executor has done nothing for the support of the defendant, although the will provides that he shall. On trial.

Before Judge Patterson.

Elizabeth Mishler, administratrix of the estate of Benjamin Mishler, vs. P. W. Hiestand and Hilaire Zaepfel. This was an action in trover and conversion to recover a large mirror which was in Mishler's Exchange hotel Centre square, this city, when it was purchased by Mr. Hiestand. This mirror was claimed by the plaintiff who was not allowed to remove it by Mr. Zaepfel, the occupant of the premises, who was acting under the instructions of Mr. Hiestand. The defendants admitted that they were unwilling to give up the mirror when asked to do so by the plaintiff. The plaintiff called witnesses to prove how the glass is fastened in the wall, they stated that it was there as other glasses are. They also proved that the glass was valued at $100. Henry Shubert, auctioneer, testified that he sold the real estate but did not understand that the mirror was included in it.

The defense was that the glass was a necessity to the convenience of the barroom, as it was fastened to the wall and the shelving built around it. The property was mortgaged at the time the glass was put there and could not therefore be removed without the consent of the holder of the mortgage. The defense also was that after the death of Benjamin Mishler the executors were notified by the heirs that the looking glass was a part of the real estate and could not be sold, and that on the day of the sale of the real estate the counsel of the administratrix told Mr. Hiestand that the glass was a part of the real estate. On trial.

The Burnt Child.

John Green's babe, who was so terribly burned by its clothes taking fire on Saturday evening, continues in a very critical condition, and is kept almost constantly under the influence of anæsthetics.

In Town.

The many friends of James K. Alexander, hotel keeper of Quarryville, who has been ill for some months past, will be glad to learn that he is again able to be about. He was in town to-day, the guest of Cyrus H. Colvin.