

Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, NOV. 13, 1890.

The editor of the New Era in his paper last evening says editorially: The Intelligencer, for about the fortieth time, repeats its stale charge that the editor of the New Era "goaded" Mayor Stauffer into bringing a criminal suit for libel against the publishers of that paper.

Now mark how plain a tale shall set him down! On February 2, 1875, the INTELLIGENCER charged Mayor Stauffer with taking illegal fees, and that thereby he had drawn from the county treasury hundreds of dollars to which he had no shadow of right.

On the very next day the Express, then edited by the present editor of the New Era, said with reference to our charge against Mayor Stauffer:

The article in the Intelligencer to which we refer was not only a tissue of the ordinary misrepresentations peculiar to a strictly party organ, such as that journal is, but it contained one of the most gross and unprovoked libels ever invented against a candidate by any newspaper now in existence in this city. It is a libel cut out of the whole cloth, without a shadow of foundation or justification.

We take it for granted that Mayor Stauffer will promptly make his own identification with our "gushing" neighbors in the only manner such a case admits of, by giving them an opportunity to make good their allegations before a tribunal where the reckless assertions of newspaper boys will not pass for facts and matter of record. But it is our duty to say to the citizens of Lancaster that there is not a word of truth in the above.

This was a distinct declaration that our charge was a libel and notice to Mayor Stauffer that he must prosecute it as such. His organ gave him plainly to understand that he had no alternative. A libel suit was the only manner which such a case admits of. If this was not advising him to resort to it we should like to know how such advice can be more positively expressed!

Moreover, we repeat that when we met Mayor Stauffer before the tribunal he had chosen for his vindication, he shrunk from an investigation of the facts and fled the tribunal of his own selection—a fact which we believe our accuser and his adviser has never published to his readers to this day. Nor has he made good his promise of February 12, 1875, that "should the court in construing the fee bill decide that he and his advisers were mistaken in their construction, we pledge our faith to the public that he will insist upon returning every dollar that may be ruled out by the authoritative judgment of the court."

For in order that that authoritative judgment could not be rendered—adverse as it would have been—the case was sneakily smuggled out of court, without notice to us and without our consent.

We recall this fact not to discourage the New Era in its promised course against illegal fee-taking. We wish it success. We will give it our most earnest help. But we warn it against leaving the trail when the scent gets fresh, as it did in the case we have recalled. Besides the "lie" ought to be properly located in justice to all concerned.

Give the Voter a Chance.

In Tammany loud voices are heard protesting against John Kelley's management, and against the policy of having the admitted leader of the organization holding a lucrative city office; Irving Hall has already divided into two organizations; the young Democracy of New York city are organizing on a new basis, and altogether the work of disintegrating the inner societies in the Democratic party there is going on at a lively rate. The wheels within the wheels are having the spokes knocked out of them. The process may continue until in the fullness of time the individuality of the New York city Democrats may have a chance to assert itself, and the party management be remanded to where it belongs—with the voters of the party. If we understand anything about the democratic principles of Democracy, indeed if any one thing be plainer in them than all others, it is this right of the individual voter to participate, at some stage of the proceedings, in the party direction, on a level with every other individual voter. The plan which puts the management, the nominations, the caucuses and the selection of delegates to state conventions into the hands of a self-constituted association, whatever its name, its motives or its management, is improper, undemocratic and inevitably leads to the arbitrary exercise of power and the ruin of the party. What the New York Democracy needs is to take the power of controlling it out of the hands of all associations, to disregard them all, to shut out from conventions all delegations who come with any brand on them or any credentials except those of the great body of Democratic voters, meeting at primaries, where every individual voter is privileged to cast his ballot and assert his opinion.

Tammany, Irving Hall, the Young Democracy and as many more associations as choose to organize may be tolerated in their own spheres, as factors of the Democratic party, but to give any one of them or to divide among them all the rights of the voters themselves to constitute the authoritative organization of the party is to wrongly delegate a power which is almost certain to be abused.

Bribery of Electors.

The English people seem to have as much trouble under their parliamentary system about the bribing of electors as we have under our plan of popular suffrage. They are giving the matter earnest attention, however, as may be inferred from the article in the London Spectator, which we reprint and which ably combats a too popular opinion that a man's vote is his property to be disposed of to the highest and best bidder. It would surprise and, we hope, alarm a great many people who never look below the surface, to know just how many people there are in this country who take

this mercantile view of their right of suffrage. They constitute by long odds the determining class at every election. They are for sale to the highest bidder. Each party has an element of members who expect to be paid to vote as their supposed convictions incline them to vote, and who possibly wouldn't sell themselves to the other side, but their vote to be paid for staying on their own. Between the parties, and ready to fall to either as "circumstances" determine, is a larger element which, under some guise or other, is in the market. The people who make up this class are numerous enough to decide every election that is seriously battled, and the worst of it is that most of them have no sense of shame nor disgrace in their position, but justify it as a warrentable one. It is about time that decent people whose votes are not for sale to be put at the danger of this state of things. It is, of course, of great moment how elections shall result, but it is of a good deal more importance whether there shall be any elections or merely auctions hereafter.

WAYNE MACVEAGH is now suggested for the MacVeagh State senatorship from Pennsylvania. With Don Cameron appointed to the cabinet, Cameron gave elected to his seat, Brother-in-law MacVeagh succeeding Wallace and Uncle John Sherman made United States senator from Ohio, THE FAMILY'S chief concern would be to find a senatorship lying around for the young man who is about to marry Don's daughter.

MINOR TOPICS.

THERE are 1,000 pupils in the missionary Sunday schools of Lucknow, India.

NEARLY a hundred missionaries sailed from this country for foreign fields in the past five months.

SOON Jerusalem will be robbed of its ancient attractions by the formidable vandal, Progress. The city is to be lighted with gas, and a horse railroad is to be run to the top of the Mount of Olives.

BIDDENISM is on a rapid decline in Japan. Since 1873, in a single district, seventy-one temples have been diverted to secular uses. It is estimated that in the empire more than 700 temples have been thus secularized within nine years past.

THE sale of the Penny Testament, the cheapest edition ever published, has already reached nearly 400,000, and the publisher, Mr. Elliot Stock, confidently expects that 1,000,000 copies will be disseminated in the course of twelve months.

A PREACHER in Syracuse recently told his congregation that if the women would all dance by themselves in a ten acre lot surrounded by a high board fence, and the men in another inclosure of the same kind, there would then be no harm in dancing. Not much fun either.

A SOCIETY of Mormon girls, having for its object the breaking up of the plural marriage system, has been discovered and broken up at Salt Lake City. The members took a vow to marry no man who would not pledge himself to be content with one wife. Five daughters of Brigham Young had joined it.

A TABLEAU after Millais's familiar picture, "The Huguenots," was part of an entertainment in the Baptist church at Canton, Kansas. The Rev. Mr. Banker, the young and handsome pastor was chosen to pose as the male figure, but the question who should tie the scarf and be hugged was not easily settled. The pretty wife of a leading member was finally accorded that felicity. The tableau is said to have been a success; but afterward some of the sisters said that there had been a needless amount of rehearsing, the husband got furiously jealous, and the pastor resigned.

JUDGE MCKENNA, of Pittsburgh, does not want to be United States senator; Cougar, of Michigan, does; the gentleman who are mentioned in the New York newspapers and by politicians as aspirants for Senator Kernan's place, are Congressman Levi P. Morton, Conkling's closest political friend; General George H. Sharpe, General Grant's brother-in-law; Tom Platt, Frank Hiscock, John H. Starin, John M. Francis, of the Troy Times, and a host of others, even including such positive opponents of Conkling as Ellis H. Roberts, George William Curtis and Judge Robertson.

A LADY who had heard a vigorous charity sermon, and yet had given nothing when the contribution box was passed around, had her pocket picked while she was going out of church. On making the discovery she remarked: "God could not find the way to my pocket, but the devil did!" The Baptist Weekly argues that while this may be regarded as a special and peculiar visitation, other people who give nothing need not think that their escape is owing to any merits of their own. A clearer inference would be that the services of an efficient policeman are urgent ly required at the church door.

The average pastorate grows shorter instead of longer. The evils of such a brief service have been set before the churches for thirty years with no effect. All denominations are troubled in about equal degrees, and no system of ecclesiastical government is exempt. The Baptists, the Congregationalists, the Presbyterians, the Episcopalians, lament it alike, and the thoughtful men of all persuasions that it is increasing. In one of the New England states it is said that the average duration of the pastoral settlement is one of the largest of these denominations in two and a half years. In some of the Western states it is even shorter. Taking the country at large, we doubt that the average duration of the pastorate in our own churches will exceed three or three and a half years. The facts are amazing and disgraceful, and disastrous as they are amazing.

All the Nihilists tried for being implicated in plots against the life of the Czar have been found guilty. Five of them have been sentenced to death and eleven to hard labor in the mines, their terms of punishment ranging from life to fifty years. Three women were sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude. The court announced that it would intercede for the mitigation of the sentences in the cases of the women and in the case of one of the men condemned to the mines.

PENNSYLVANIA'S POLL.

Official Vote for Electors, Supreme Judge and Auditor General.

Table with columns for County, President, Governor, Auditor General, and Supreme Judge. Lists election results for 67 counties across Pennsylvania.

THAT MOREY BUSINESS.

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE ISSUE AN ADDRESS.

They Disclaim Any Connection with the Production of the Letter and Explain Fully the Course that Has Been Followed in the Fraud in New York.

The executive committee of the Democratic national committee held a private meeting last night, which was not over until nearly midnight. The matter presented for consideration was the letter of H. Warren, of Philadelphia, to the Hon. M. A. Prince, of New York, dated the 28th of October, 1889.

Second. That it was first called to the attention of the chairman of the committee on the night before its publication in the Truth on the 20th of October.

Third. That the chairman thereupon requested Smalley, member of the committee, to examine the letter, but permission to do so was refused him at the office of the Truth.

Fourth. That no member of the committee ever saw the letter, or any copy of it, either before or after its publication, or was in anywise concerned therein, or gave any advice in reference thereto.

Fifth. That the original letter to headquarters on the afternoon of October 19th, when it was first put in by an anonymous member of the committee and then examined by several members of the committee and other persons not members. All those who were familiar with the handwriting of the letter, and in whose possession the letter was genuine.

Sixth. The committee decided to purchase a reasonable number of electrotype copies of the fac simile which had already been prepared by Truitt.

Seventh. That no denial having come from Garfield of the authenticity of the letter, notwithstanding the telegraphic demand of the New York Herald and a very sharp leader in that paper, the committee decided to give out electrotype plates, which was accordingly done.

Eighth. That the first complete denial was published two days after the original publication in Truth and to this denial, unsupported by any other evidence, the committee, in view of Garfield's connection with the scandal, attached no weight.

Ninth. That, therefore, when evidence was offered to show that Morey was a real person and not a myth, the committee called for its production, as they were bound to do, in order to arrive at the truth.

Tenth. That if the letter has been forged or any fraud committed in reference thereto, or any false evidence been given, it has been done without the knowledge, consent or privity of the committee or of any member thereof. Finally, the committee approves of all honest measures to punish any and all persons who have committed any violation of the law and have no interest in this matter, but to arrive at the very truth of the affair. That there should be doubt as to the authenticity of the letter is largely due to the failure of the promoter to put Garfield on the stand. By order of the committee.

WILLIAM H. BARNUM, Chairman.

FREDERICK O. PRINCE, Secretary.

The following resolutions offered by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Armstrong:

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THE MORALITY OF BRIBERY.

Earliest Discussion of Electoral Abuses in London Spectator.

An accomplished historical student maintains in another column, that the sole ground that can be alleged for the immorality of bribery-giving and bribery-taking in elections is the general immorality of being the recipient of a bribe.

But apart from the law of the land—it may imply gross insensibility on my part, but I really do not see how you can say that buying or selling votes is immoral, or wrong, or any other thing, if it is really honest, and does not rather act as a sort of intellectual crocheting worth the trouble of overthrowing, does imply an insensibility on his part which may fairly be described as gross.

Without any element of chance at all, on a bribe, or a bid, or any other pleasure, the element of chance being, in the former case, part of the amusement, but not a less legitimate part than the fragrance of the flower, or the stimulus of the change of place. Nor is the element of chance in the case of bribery any part of the consideration. If the briber could absolutely ensure, by his bribe, the vote he buys, he would be committing just the same immorality as he is now, when he tries to buy a vote, but he pays, nevertheless, for the chance that he may not get it.

It is not the gambling element of the matter which affects the moral question at all. It is the wish on the part of the briber, and the willingness on the part of the bribee, to load the scales by which the political convictions of the country are to be weighed, that is the wrong.

Supposing that the element of science were engaged in a great dispute as to any point of practical engineering, say, which of two modes of constructing the Tay bridge is the safer for the public, and the question were at last submitted to the vote of the engineers' profession. We may well suppose that many of that profession would be entirely without an opinion on the subject, that they would not understand the issue, and would not care which of the two sides gained the victory, yet, nevertheless, they would be voting, as members of the profession, who did not feel that they had any right to a voice in the matter? Would it not be to abstain from voting until they had gained some real opinion on the merits? Could anything be less than that, if the votes were cast on either side, by voting for the candidate who paid them most? Could anything be more disgraceful than for the honest advocates of one side—having agreed to the arbitration by vote—to swell the number of their own side by purchasing votes which would represent, of course, no scientific judgment at all. Would it not be perfectly plain that if another train of victims plunged into the Tay in consequence of a verdict obtained by such means, every man who had paid a vote, and every man who had given his vote for payment, would be morally guilty of that act of wholesale murder?

Said, precisely the same may be said of bribes and bribees at an election. If there be any sane man who hold, with Mr. Ruskin, that the contest between parties in an Electoral struggle is nothing more than a competition between rival ratcatchers, all we can say is that it is the plain duty of those men not to vote. The tacit assumption of an election in every parliamentary constitution—the tacit assumption of both sides alike—is that the nation is to decide for itself whom it trusts and whom it distrusts. Every vote given in an election is given as immorally as the votes of engineers on an engineering question delivered not on scientific, but on wholly selfish grounds, if it is given for any other reason than because the voter feels more personal trust in the candidate or party for whom he votes than he feels in the candidate or party against whom he votes.

And it is almost wasting words to point out that the result may easily be of infinitely greater moment even to human life—of nothing of human honor and happiness—not the right or wrong judgment on the engineering of a Tay bridge.

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THE INSTITUTE.

OUR ANNUAL TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

The Closing Session—Prof. Schaeffer on Spelling.—Dr. Hedges and Dr. Shumaker on Reading.—Prof. Schaeffer on the Orphan's Court Room.

Friday Afternoon.—During the noon vacation, and in the entire afternoon, a great number of teachers visited the orphan's court room to look at the wonders shown under more than a dozen instruments there exhibited.

From half-past one until two o'clock Prof. Whittall lectured on astronomy, his topics being the phases of the moon and eclipses, of the sun and moon, which he explained and illustrated with the heliostat.

Prof. N. C. Schaeffer, formerly of the faculty of Franklin and Marshall college and now of the Pennsylvania State normal school, was introduced and delivered a lecture on "Spelling." He commenced by stating that the great naturalist, Agassiz, remarked on one occasion that if his son went to school he would learn to spell, but that he himself could not do so.

Prof. Schaeffer added that there are only about fifty of the one hundred and twenty thousand words of the English language that are spelled as they are pronounced. So great is the proportion of words in our language containing silent letters that many of the finest scholars, both in America and Europe, have been engaged in efforts to accomplish something in the way of the facts of the question is asked, "Shall we continue in our schools to teach the spelling of words as we have taught it in the past?"

The lecturer answered affirmatively; he came here to preach the gospel of the old-fashioned spelling-book, which has been used so especially creditable to spell well it is disgraceful to spell incorrectly. He regarded it as a greater accomplishment in a lady to be able to write a letter correctly than to be able to do all kinds of crocheting and needle work. He would not do an art of spelling, crocheting or needle work, unless she had mastered the correct pronunciation of the word, and he would have them write down the words dozens of times if necessary, to fix in the mind the letters of which it is composed.

Every strange word should be learned in its own right, and all points from head to foot, so that it should be recognized if it should happen to be seen again. If pupils mispell words they should be compelled to write them over and over after school hours in writing books, and the words should not be written until the correct spelling is fixed in the mind. The only practical use we make of spelling is in writing, but the practice of spelling orally, besides teaching us correct pronunciation, is a good exercise in writing, and should be made a part of our studies. It would have them write down some rules for capitalization and the means of fixing the true spelling of such words as Tuesday, leave, believe, niece, Musselman, etc., the correct spelling of which he regarded as being of great importance. He would have them write down some rules for capitalization and the means of fixing the true spelling of such words as Tuesday, leave, believe, niece, Musselman, etc., the correct spelling of which he regarded as being of great importance.

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