## Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 5, 1881.

An Honest Man.

"Thirteen swore by the book, eleven with uplifted hand and six affirmed,' but Eckley B. Coxe, of Luzerne, declined to take the oath, because it required him to swear that he had expended no money for his election except for such purposes as the law expressly authorized it to be spent for.

The singular thing here is that Mr. Coxe refused to take this oath. But the singular thing ought to be that thirty men elected to the state Senate took it without wincing; although it is nearly certain that each one who took it committed perjury. And the hundred men who were chosen to the House took it; and it is very doubtful whether there was one who did not swear falsely.

The object of the law, in requiring this oath to be taken, was to prevent the corrupt use of money in elections. It was not intended to forbid such legitimate uses as are mentioned by Mr. Coxe as those for which he spent his money; and probably a majority of the senators and legislators could conscientiously say that they had used no money corruptly, as Mr. Coxe declares he did not, and so he has given his money to others to be used in the election. If a candidate could escape the law merely by handing his money to a committee, who would unlawfully use it, evidently the law would be nullified. This is the way in ern Pacific bonds allotted to the Ameri which candidates generally seek to escape the statute, but it is so manifest an eva- those apportioned to the European cension that it would not save them from the penalties of perjury, should they be called to account for their oath in the courts.

We are very glad Mr. Coxe has brought this matter so prominently before the people. We are glad for his sake, that he has had the courage to do what it was right for an honorable and conscientious man to do. We are glad for our sakes, since the resultant agitation of the question raised by him in the public mind must be beneficial. We are sorry only for the legislators who stolidly and spent nothing corruptly.

demonstrated their intelligence and rec. titude in their business relations among them. Mr. Coxe, who is about forty years old, is the leading member of the tinguished mining engineer. and his 300. Springer, of Illinois, has another, opinion in matters relating to coal is of the same as the present strength of the as much weight as that of any man in House-293-but there is a very strong authority under the law to increase the the region : no one would think of ques- feeling in favor of still further reducing valuation of any county unless the objects ters; and no one of good judgment now even as low as 200 members. will hesitate to accord him the best sense and the highest honor in political matters.

There may be those who will incline to sneer at him as over punctilious; but these will be only such as never felt fluence, of a sentiment of honor. They will be those, too, who have not the good sense to recognize the fact that a law should be obeyed by the citizen strictly; and if it is injudicious, that it should be amended or repealed, not vio. lated. We do not doubt that this oath required of the members of the Legislature is wise; for no money should be spent for political purposes that is not expressly authorized by law. But the law is in fault in not specifying all the uses for which money may be innocently and properly used. It sadly needs amendment, certainly, when it forces such a man as Mr. Coxe out of the state service; and the attention of the Legislature should be promptly given to its correction. Yet what can we expect of men who can so readily reconcile themselves to despising the oath of the constitution? If they were disposed to make the law what it should be, it is not impossible for them to do it; and one necessary safeguard against the improper use of money would be to prohibit its expenditure by anyone but the candidate himself; and another one would be to require him to field says: "We have traced the Morey file a bill of his expenses, naming each letter to its origin, and have ascertained item, in some public office, within three that it is a forgery. This acknowledgedays after the election.

WHEN people are to be poisoned or suffocated we do not imagine it matters much to them whether the old or new process of making gas is used to do it. fluence us to repudiate it. Likewise, hav- ure of such depositaries to make the And when an inferior quality of nonilluminating gas is measured by the character, no false pride nor selfish motive before called the attention of the Legislasition on the consumer is not assuaged by | ing our conclusion, and thereby allaying the assurance that it comes from the the doubt that now exists respecting its "old" works instead of the "new." It authenticity." will not take long to determine whether the nuisance from which so many gas consumers have been suffering is or is not due to temporary cause and subject St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad 3,667. to prompt relief. It will be interesting. six men were killed outright and a seventh however, to see whether the "consolida- man lost a leg. The men were engaged tion," which now has a monopoly of the in a cut north of Bancroft shoveling snow. | the fact that several state treasurers have manufacture of gas. will make that ing of the south-bound passenger, had ances resulting from certain losses susabatement for an inferior product which side tracked, and the men, eleven in all, tained in the failure of certain banks and it refuses to make for the prompt pay- had stepped from the track to allow the bankers, and he requests the attorney ment of bills.

YESTERDAY we read that up in Carbon county, moved by the example of curve, put on steam and rushed in. The the Northampton people, the mob had train consisted of a locomotive and tender, well-nigh hanged an alleged wife-mur- two box cars and one passenger car. The derer. To-day we read that he was not train with the exception of the latter a wife-murderer, the killing having in all probability been accidental; so that people who have been advocating mob law and justifying lynch courts may be serious injury.

induced to modify their judgments and to admit that twenty-four hours' investigation of guilt is at least reasonable before the accused is hanged.

IT was a wise provision of the new constitution which forbids city councils from making extraordinary increase to municipal debts without consulting their constituents and giving them a chance to approve or disapprove the proposed loan at the polls. No harm can be done by giving the people the opportunity to say whether or not they think proposed improvements are so urgently demanded as to warrant an increase of the city debt and the city taxes. The water supply of Lancaster city demands attention and the expenditure of public money. What plan of remedying present difficulties most merits approval need not be now determined. It must first be discovered whether the citizens are willing to make the necessary outlay to accomplish any. Unless councils shall determine to-night that this be done it cannot be submitted evasion. at the February election, and to hold a special election would be an utterly unnecessary expense.

THE present gas company undertook to make a saving speculation out of the people of Lancaster by buying out the was in many instances further delayed by old gas company, which had fleeced it as the neglect or refusal of the companies to saying would take the oath, knowing long as it had no opposition. After this make their reports. A number of settlethat they had not violated its spirit. absorption the present company proceeds But, undoubtedly, its letter was violated to increase the price of gas ten per cent. by nearly every one of them, if not, in- and to lower its quality very many deed, by all. Every candidate who con- per cent. Not content with that it unsettled, and possibly it will require one tributes to a campaign fund, without gives us gas of a disgusting smell and or two years of patient work on the part specified by every dellar of that fund is knowing how every dollar of that fund is poisonous character; owing to its not linquent cases. It is firmly believed that expended, and without reserving the being purified. Excuses of divers kind the total amount of these taxes which by law; that I have not knowingly violated power to forbid its use for any purpose and degree are offered. They do not suf- have been and may be recovered will be not "expressly authorized by law." is fice. This company has undertaken to forbidden to take the oath prescribed by provide us with good gas. It does not the constitution. For it is not possible do so. It cheats us. It poisons us. It for him to say that he has spent no money is a nuisance. Let us go back to our for purposes not authorized by law when coal oil and candles and save our money and our sensibilities.

THE continued plethora of money in this country receives fresh illustration in the immediate sale of all the Northcan market. Nor is it likely that of tres of capital any will be returned ; since Mr. Gowen telegraphs that a good bank in London has deposited two million 1880 the number registered was twenty dollars as a guarantee to take at full issue price, without commissions, all of the deferred income bonds not taken by shareholds and bondholders of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad company; and Mr. Gowen further telegraphs his confidence that he can sell \$20,000,000 five per cents, at \$1.10.

ONE of the strong points in Auditor unhesitatingly took this oath after Mr. | General Schell's highly efficient adminis-Coxe had raised the question of their tration of his office has been his diligent power to do it, although all of them collection of back taxes from delinquent no alternative but to decide that building knew that he was as able to take it as corporations. His report tells to what and loan associations were taxable under any one among them, and many of them extent the state treasury has been re- this act. This opinion was fully sustained knew that he could do it far more con- plenished from this source of receipts. by the attorney general. Appeals have scientiously than they could, if he had Some of his predecessors were grossly, if not criminally, negligent in this respect, is expected that decisions will be made in Mr. Coxe's honorable conduct shows and when they did make any effort in a January next. the people the advantage of selecting for proper direction were often actuated by a their representatives men who have desire to bag too much of the game for themselves.

## MINOR TOPICS.

strong mining firm of Coxe Brothers & to how the members should be apportioned equalized by them. Co., of Luzerne county, and is a man of under the new census. Cox has a bill education, fine business capacity, a dis- ready placing the future membership at tioning his good sense in business mat- the size of the House to 250, 225 and

It is now taken for granted that Blaire will be secretary of state and Conkling "consents" because he has been told that, at Chicago, when Blaine's case bethe imperative force, or even the mild in- came hopeless his friends made known to the Grant managers that, while Senator Blaine was unalterably opposed to General Grant, he would be willing to support Senator Conkling as a compromise candidate. The proposition could not be entertained: but it was conveyed to Senator Conkling, and, very naturally, had a tendency to place the two senators in amicable relations politically, not personally.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Philadelphia Ecening Bulletin seriously urges the following reasons for Oliver's senatorial election: "To carry on and complete the great and decisive campaign in Indiana 'the sinews of war' were sorely needed, for the other side were 'flush' and confident. All the weapons of civilized political warfare were furnished from Pennsylvania, and, with the aid of the state, local and township committees, a matchless political organization was speedily 482.24, which sum includes 84,428 for reeffected in Indiana. Much of the credit pairs and improvements to public buildings tribution of the tickets to the voters of outflanking the common enemy in the and grounds. West is due to the tircless energy of Henry W. Oliver."

THE editor of Truth in a letter to Garter in good faith, believing that you were firms or individuals with whom the monits author. While we so believed neither eys of the said fund are deposited, with temptation, threats nor force could ining now satisfied ourselves of its spurious monthly reports required by law. I have meter and charged in the bill the impo- of any kind can restrain us from announc- ture to this matter. Unless some penalty

The Swath of Death. By an accident on the line of the Sioux City & Omaha division of the Chicago, passenger train to pass. Some trouble in general to institute suits on their bonds. Retting through had been experienced the The balances are as follows: day before, and the engineer, approaching the cut, which is a long one and on a curve, put on steam and rushed in. The curve, put on steam and rushed in. The From R. W. Mackey 4,613 58 From A. C. Noyes. 7,906,54 II. I spent a large amount in printing

AUDITUR-GENERAL SCHELL. The Main Features of His Report to the Legislature—Interesting Facts and Figures.

In his report to the Legislature Auditor General Schell says that during the fiscal year ending November 30, 1880, settlements have been made against delinquent corporations for taxes overdue for many years to the amount of \$297,237.78, of which sum the amount of \$158,096.81 has already been collected and paid into the treasury.

In addition to the settlements already made, the department is in possession of sufficient reports and data to enable it to make further settlement against delinquent corporations to the amount of over the same in process of collection before May 1, 1881.

The collection of delinquent taxes has been strenuously resisted by many com-

Some of these companies claimed ex emption from taxation under special charters, and they refused to pay until compelled by law. Others had escaped taxation for so long a time that they imagined that they enjoyed prescriptive rights of

As the list of delinquent corporations extends back over a period of twenty-five years, the department has experienced great difficulty in obtaining the records of the officers and the location of the offices of many companies, and when the proper information was obtained the department ments, involving considerable sums, are still pending in the courts.

As a consequence of these manifold de lays and contests, many accounts remain about \$1,000,000.

The total amount of taxes overdue on December 1, 1879, collected during the fiscal year, is as follows, to wit:

Amount of delinquent corporation tax collected during the year, a portion of which extended back for twenty-flye years. \$158.0 6 Amount of tax on capital stock paid by the Pennsylvania railroad, in litigation from 1877. Amount of Reense tax collected from Allegheny county, which had been in litigation for several years 232,733 Amount of arrears of tax on loans from city of Philadelphia. 85,000

The number of building and loan associations registered in this department in the fiscal year ending November 30, 1879, was nine hundred and eighty-eight (988); in nine (29), making in all one thousand and seventeen (1017), of which number only one hundred and forty-four (144) have reported for taxation. The manifest reason is that the revenue act of 1877, as did prior revenue acts, contained an exception from taxation on capital stock of "all building associations, banks; saving institutions, and foreign insurance companies," and for those years no tax upon capital stock was imposed upon any of the excepted com-panies. The revenue act of 1879 excepted from taxation all capital stock except that of building associations, and the been taken to several cases to the court of common pleas of Dauphin county, and it

State Personal Tax.

In reference to state personal tax the auditor general said : " The board of rev-THE opinions of congressmen differ as ties of the commonwealth, as adjusted and

> "It appears that the board declined to increase the amounts of the valuations as returned to them by the commissioners of the several counties on account of the decision of the courts that they had no authority under the law to increase the valuation of any county unless the objects meetings and demonstrations, including This the board were unable to do; hence their action.

The total valuation of personal property for purposes of state taxation, as fixed by the board, is as follows:

Amount of property subject to a tax of four mills..... Amount of property subject to a tax of one per cent. mount of tax on watches.....

\$496,557 48 The auditor general says that if the de sision of his department relation and affirmed by the attorney general's, that there must be an appropriation for each year, and that the mere creation of an office and the designation of a salary therefor are not sufficient to constitute an appropriation, were sanctioned by the Legis lature there would be no friction in enforc ing the constitutional provision on this

The auditor general urged on the regis ter of wills of each county to certify monthly to the department all entries made in his collateral inheritance tax book, thereby furnishing the proper information to urge the collection of these taxes.

The auditor general makes a statement of the claims for which there are no appropriations and for which appropriations are necessary. The claims aggregate \$11,-

Under the law of 1849 the auditor general countersigns all receipts for moneys paid into the state treasury, and is thereby enabled to ascertain the amount of money which has been paid in at any given time

State Deposits, "This department has been unable to verify the correctness of the state treasurment is made voluntarily, and as an act of the treasury belonging to the sinking fund simple justice. Truth published the let- and the names of the banks, corporations, under the act of 1876, by reason of the failbe imposed for such neglect, it were better that the law should be repealed."

Registration of Corporations The number of corporations registered in this department on November 30, 1879, was 3,392. There have been registered during the fiscal year just ended 275. Total number of registered corporations

Ex-State Treasurer's Balances The auditor general calls attention to

Total amount due...........\$22,557 42 During the past year a portion of these by these banks in a short time. The other ex-treasurers allege a full legal defence to penses not expressly authorized by law, ing in an unfinished building adjoining the claims of the commonwealth. Border Claims.

governor has appointed B. M Nead, T. M. Mahon and Jeremiah Cook commissioners, under the third section of the act of 1871, whose duty it shall be to prosecute the collection of border claims. The claims retained by the quartermaster of Pennsylvania conclusive evidence of the amounts claimed and the identity of the persons claiming the same.

The state hospital for the insane at Norristown has received from the treasury one quarter of a million dollars, and to put for equipping, furnishing, insuring and maintenance \$48,000, for which the vouchers are yet to filed.

The auditor general spoke of the establishing of his office as a matter of information, gave a brief statement of the original powers of the office, and traced the gradual encroachments on these powers down to the present time.

### MR. COXE'S STATEMENT.

Why He Declined to be Sworn in as Senator HARRISBURG, Jan. 4 .- To my Constituents: I deem it my duty to state to you simply and clearly the reason which force me to refuse to take the oath prescribed by the constitution as a necessary pre-requisite to entering upon my duties as sen-ator, knowing as I do that this refusal forfeits my seat. The required oath is: "! do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, obey and defend the constitution of the United States and the constitution of this commonwealth, and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity; that I have not paid, or contributed, or promised to pay or contribute, either directly or indirectly, any money or valuable thing to procure my nomination or election or appointment, except for necessary any election law of this commonwealth or procured it to be done by others in my behalf; that I will not knowingly receive, directly or indirectly, any moneys or valuable thing for the performance or non-performance of any act or duty pertaining to my office, other than the compensation allowed by law.'

The words to which I object are "expressly authorized by law." A law entitled "An act to define the necessary and proper expenses incident to the nomination and election of senators, representatives, state, judicial, municipal and county officers, and to authorize the payment thereof," was passed in 1874, and in the only necessary expenses are defined to be -first. A .- For printing and traveling expenses; second. For dissemination of information to the public; third. For political meetings and conventions. The foregoing expenses may be incurred either in person or through other individuals or committees of organizations duly consti tuted for the purpose, but nothing contained in the act shall be so construed as to authorize the payment of money or other valuable thing for the vote, or influence of any elector. I did not lay out one dollar to procure my nomination. On the contrary, I was anxious not to be nominated, but after receiving the nomination I only for my own election, but also for that of the whole ticket.

In fact, I felt much more interested in the success of the other Democratic candidates, than in my own. The expenditures may be classed under the following

A .- Political assessments and contributions (this included my assessments by the county committee of Luzerne and Lackawanna, and contributions to several legislative district committees.

A large portion of this money I know was expended for the payment of taxes enue commissioners have certified to this and clerk hire, prothonotary's fees and department the amount of the value of other expenses necessary to procure the the property of the several cities and coun- naturalization of a large number of persons as, in consequence of the existence of the Greenback-Labor-Reform party, no Democratic naturalizations had taken place for several years. Neither of these are expenses expressly authorized by law. of taxation on which such increase was the traveling expenses of a large number based were shown to be in existence. of men and clerks who were carried by railroad to meetings in all parts of Lu-zerne county. For B and C I spent a very large amount of money, but as both are expressly authorized by law, I shall

refer to them no farther. D-A large number of men, most of whom are employes of Coxe Bros. & Co. were sent to nearly every part of my dis trict for the purpose of presenting my claims to the workingmen, and meeting the objections that were made to me that I was a coal operator, and that consequently no workingmen should vote for me. These men were anxious for my election, and glad to get work. I, of course, paid them for the time they lost at their work, and for their expenses. This cost a large amount of money but is expressly authorized by law under the head of dis

semination of information. E-I paid personally a small amount for tax receipts. This is not expressly author

ized by law. F-As election day approached I became satisfied by my own observations, and from information received which I considered reliable, that it was important that all the polls should be carefully looked after, both before and during the election There are about 128 election districts in my territory, some of which required very careful watching; and thoughtful, consid erate men had to be employed to see after the window books: to attend to the dischallenging; to bring out the entire Dem ocratic vote; to prevent the other side from getting more than theirs; to look after the Greenback vote ; to see that the tickets were straight, etc. I found also that men who understand their business, and would stick to it all day without giving up, could not be depended upon to do it out of patriotism : that, on the contrary, they expected to be paid for it, as they had a right to do. Work not paid for in polities, as in business, is unreliable. I was informed before election that tickets with my name misspelt or omitted

altogether, or with another name substituted, would be in circulation in some places : that the regular Democratic tickets were or would be in the hands of the opposition in other places; that, in political parlance, "jobs" were being set up on me at certain points, etc.

Believing that where there was so much smoke, there was probably some fire, I provided, as well as I could, that every one who wished to vote the straight Democratic ticket, or for me, would have a chance to do so without difficulty. This involved heavy outlays, many of which would come under the head of dissemination of information, but some of which are not expenses "expressly authorized by

G.—I spent a certain amount in travel expenses). I purchased a number of tickets of raffles for cows, guns, etc., for the benefit of widows and other unfortunates, and expended a small amount for

and distributing my own tickets, so that every one who wished to vote it could get t before November 2. This was entirely independent of the election day distribution, and of the distribution by the county committees. This is authorized as dissemination of information.

yet not one cent was spent with my knowledge or consent for any improper or fraudulent purpose. On the contrary, every dollar confided to any one for election expenses was given under a solemn

engagement that nothing not consistent with strict honesty should be done with it. It may be asked, Why did I send this general can be speedily recovered if Con-gress would enact a law similar to that answer is, I did not understand until I passed by the state of Ohio, making the was well into the campaign what I woull adjudication of these claims by the state of Pennsylvania conclusive evidence of the felt that if I should retire I would, as there was a third ticket in the field, endanger not only the success of the county ticket, which I was very anxious to have elected, but also, perhaps, of the national ticket; and although in the heat and confusion of the campaign I was always very particular not to contribute a cent for any mproper purpose. I was not able in the few weeks it lasted to consider the whole question as I have since.

> but hundreds of hands, some small part of it may not have been diverted to improper uses, but if it was I have never heard of it. have done nothing in this campaign that am ashamed of, or that was inconsistent with strict honesty. Although I would oath, were the words "expressly autorized" by law omitted (and also the words "I have not knowingly violated any election law," so far as they apply to the act defining necessary expenses), yet I cannot, after reading the act of 1874, deining necessary expenses, swear "that I have not paid or contributed, or promised o pay or contribute, either or indirectly any money or other valuable thing to procure my nomination or election (or appointment), except for necessary and proper expenses expressly authorized by

> I did, however, determine twice to retire from the field, but upon reflection I resolved to fight it out on the line of spending what I could honestly for the success of the whole ticket, as not to endanger its defeat by my withdrawal, and to decline to take my seat if, upon careful consideration of the subject in the nine weeks that would elapse between election day and the meeting of the Senate, I should decide that any part of the money was used for expenses not expressly authorized by law.

> Having made this full and frank statement of the facts, I wish to say that if I had done anything that I considered wrong, or anything which I would wish to hide, I could have resigned before the meeting of the Senate, giving as a reason my business engagements, or something of that kind; but such is not the case. I have nothing to conceal, nothing to be ashamed of, and am ready, as every honest man should be, to suffer the consequences of my actions. I make no claim to having been deceived and kept in ignorence. What I did I did with my eyes

Regretting that I cannot, as I had originally hoped, be of some service, however, slight, to Luzerne and Lackawanna counties in the Senate. I am yours, very respectfully.

ECKLEY B. COXE. Late Senator-elect for the Twenty-sixth

District. [ Eckley B.Coxe, is a member of the firm spent money willingly and liberally, not of Coxe Bros. & Co., which owns large tracts of valuable coal lands and is heavily engaged in mining, and is and has been for two or three years a director of the Reading railroad company. His name was brought forward recently when the McCalmont ticket in opposition to Gowen was first talked of. He has been a resident in Philadelphia as well as at Jeddo, Luzerne county, from which county he was elected to the Legislature. He is about thirtyeight years of age, is related to the Coxes who descended of Tench Coxe, and is a son of the late Judge Coxe. During the Centennial he was president of the Association of Mining Engineers, being a very talented engineer himself.

STATE ITEMS.

Howard F. Boyer has been re-elected chief and Geo. W. Miller and Joseph D. Fox have been elected assistant engineers of the Readingti re department.

The brewery of Lober & Bros., in Alle. gheny City, having a capacity of 12,000 barrels of beer annually, was destroyed by fire yesterday. Loss, \$45,000; no insurance. In the organization of the House yesterday Mr. Wolfe, did not vote for Harry Huhn for chief clerk. His ballot was east for Kirk, the Democratic candidate, but a Philadelphia Democrat voted for Huhn to even it up.

The House state committee had a protracted session last evening to apportion the minor offices of the House. Charles H. White, of Chester, was stated for sergeant-at-arms, Raymond, of Venango fo ostmaster, and Baul, of Allegheny, for ranscribing clerk. White's selection over Potter is another black eye for grow. Mr. and Mrs. John Babo, a young couple of Erie county, have got into financial dif

ficulties. Their little house has been seized and sold. The prospects of the county home for themselves and children so work ed upon the minds of the parents that they were discovered to be violently insane They will be taken to the insane asylum. A committee of the law association in Philadelphia has been appointed to take such action as may be necessary to prevent the passage of hasty and injurious measures by the state Legislature. The committee consists of Richard Vaux, chairman, P. Pemberton Morris, Richard McMurtrie, Pierce Archer, Wayne Mac Veagh, George M. Dallas, Lewis Waln

Smith, and Francis Rawle, secretary. In the appointment of Albert A. Outeroridge, esq., as state reporter, Governor Hoyt has recognized his duty as a lawyer to his profession by the selection of one who has shown himself thoroughly capable. In the position of editor of the Weekly Notes, Mr. Outerbridge has done most excellent work, and his appointment was asked for with great unanimity by judges and lawyers from all parts of the state.

| March | Day the state.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL. The Turcomans have whipped the Russians who lost 300 men and many arms. All the Northern Pacific railroad bonds allotted to the American market have been taken.

Grand hotel, New York, last night. Ben Harrison will get the Indiana senatorship and Gen. John F. Miller has been nominated by the California Republicans. Seven hundred and fifty thousand peasants are starving in Saratoff, a Russian province. Upwards of a million peasants are in absolute want in Samara.

ollege student, attempted suicide at the

The steamphip Brazilian from Boston, bound for Liverpool, with a cargo of 82,-000 bushels of grain and 706 cattle and 208 pigs, is wrecked on Burbo bank, in the Mersey. The was no loss of human life. The Dixon crucible company, of Jersey

said to be in the neighborhood of \$1,000,-000. Fowler, Cranston & Co. also failed in New York. Mrs. Harriet N. Cooper, a colored woman, died in Cheltenham, one of the suburbs of St. Louis, on New Year's day,

aged 115 years. She weighed 400 pounds.

Mrs. Cooper was the mother of twenty-

five children, the youngest of whom is 62

years old. Her husband is 101 years old, and is still living. ommittees. This is authorized as dissemiation of information.

Now, although I used money for ex.

Now, although I used money for ex.

Now, although I used money for ex.

Intertwee or content of the daughter of the words "nominated" and in an atmosphere charged equally with the two gases die simultaneously. Gas is not intended to be taken into the lungs. The thief who robbed the daughter of

premises he had plundered. While escaping he had fallen through the skylight and thence through the stairway to the parlor floor, crushing his skull and breaking both his arms and three of his ribs. When discovered his booty was scattered all around. The name of "T. Garvey" is imprinted on his arm.

The Kloefel Wife-Murder.

It is now believed by a large number of people in the community that Auton Kloefel killed his wife, Maria, near Weiss port, Carbon county, accidentally, or at least unintentionally. Kloefel did not know the gun with which he killed his wife was loaded, He cleaned the gun and set it away, intending to return it to a person in Mauch Chunk of whom he had borrowed it. During his absence from the room a younger brother of Mrs. Kloefel loaded the gun. Kloefel is still in jail at Mauch Chunk, and is said to be al-Of course I do not pretend to say that, most crazy with grief.

when money passed through not a dozen The " Happy Romb " Wrecked. The bark Happy Home, of Hantsport, S., struck Trinity Ledge, twelve miles from Yarmouth and capsized. The captain's wife, daughter and one man perished. Boats went off and rescued the remainder have no hesitation in taking the of the crew, all of whom were frozen, the captain and mate seriously. The wreck is less than two miles from the shore. The carpenter's wife was lashed to the quarter and heavily covered with cloaks and other clothing. She had seemingly lately died, as her body was warm. A girl about seven years old was embraced in her mother's arms.

## LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

The Microscope in the Study of Rocks. At the regular monthly meeting of the ancaster microscopical society, last evening, a paper was read on the use of the compound microscope in the study of rocks, by Dr. Crumbaugh, the president of the society, of which we present a brief abstract. Petrology is the name given to this branch of science.

The application of microscope in this special department has of late years afforded more precise information concerning the mineral constitution and minute struc ture of rocks than it was possible to acquire by the older method of research. The means at the disposal of the older

petrologists for identifying the mineral components of fine-grained or minutely crystalline rocks were so itive that we wonder not so much at the little that was known about them, as at the amount of information amassed by such simple methods, and at the truth or comparative accuracy of many of their statements. The pocket lens was their most important instrument in their work, and was indeed the only means they pos-sessed for distinguishing minute structure. For though the compound microscope was known and used in physical work, still the idea of slicing and grinding rock sections was not thought of. The great advantage derived from the examination of these sections lies in the circumstance that in many cases a mineral which, in ordinary hand specimens, would look to be opaque is many structures that would be totally undistinguishable by reflected light and rendered apparent when the section is thin enough to be seen by transmitted light, while in conjunction with the microscope, the polariscope, the spectroscope and goniometer may be used, and additional facilities are thus given for examining the optical properties of the mineral. Although in the present state of our knowledge but little practical use has yet been made of the recorded observations which now constitute merely a small nucleus of what will, no doubt, eventually become a vast fund of information, still we may look forward to the time when a knowledge of the minute structure of rocks will be recognized as indispensable to the right understanding of the changes which building stones undergo, and when not merely the few, but the many, will be benefited by this branch of scientific inqiury. A general knowledge of Petrology will always be found useful by those who may have to deal with architecture or with mining enterprises. Then followed a description somewhat at length of the preparation of rock sections, one of the most difficult operations in microscopical work.

Grade of Pupils. The following is the relative grade of pupils, in attendance at the boys' high school during the month of December. Two hours' home study is expected from each pupil:

-22	rings chang.
r	A. J., Witwer 98; Wm. M. Herr 8
r	C. L. Frantz 94 B. A. Spindler 8
T	C. H. Clark 92 Walter E. Kelly 8
-	W. S. Adler 91 Chas. A. Miller 8
	G. F. Erisman 91 Wm. A. Buckius 8
e	Wm. G. Landes 89 Howard T. Hays 8 John A. Hoover 87 W. H. Lindemuth 7
ſ-	John A. Hoover 87 W. H. Lindemuth 7
	L. W. Horting 87 Frank McClain 7
d	Geo. Hetrick 86
y	SECOND CLASS.
-	Chas. Carpenter 97tR. D. McCaskey 8
y	Chas. H. Obreiter 95 Wilson W. Fowler 8
	Geo. M. Dorwart 92 Carl R. Eby 8
•	Harry A. Shenk 89 W. L. Gable 8
	Dan'i H. Sensenig 38 Robt. M. Adams 7
n	E. G. Eicholtz 85 John R. Duncan 7
85%	W. B. Hollinger 86 M. B. Dissinger 7
e	S. R. Slaymaker 83 Wm. D. Rock 76 Grant Strine 85 Henry Gerhart 77
-	Grant Strine
8	Chas. Winower 81 D. S. Smith 7
e	Harry R. Smith 83 J. A. H. Hartman 7
١	THER CLASS.
d	Wm. R. Peters 91 Walter G. Peters 7
-	Geo. W. Cooper 91 Fred. S. Pyter 7
0	Edwin R. Garvin 88 Edw. C. Bursk 74 H. B. Shearer 86 Chas. D. Myers 75
•	S. C. Wiant 84 Geo. P. Killian 73
- 1	Chas. J. Zecher 81 Abram L. Miles 72
4	Monroe B. Hirsh 82 Geo. H. Ackerman 70
r	Geo, E. Zellers
٠.	Wm. G. Baker 78

Wm. G. Baker FOURTH CLASS. C. S. Stormfeltz ... 93 Edw. M. Hartman ... 88 Wm. H. Auxer ... 85 E. M. Stone ... 88 Chas. B. Brady ... 85 J. H. Welchans ... 78 Isaac H. Stirk ... 85 John A. Charles ... 76 

bridge Inspection Yesterday the county commissioners visited Mercer's Ford, to meet the commissioners of Chester county and the inspectors appointed to inspect the new intercounty bridge at that place. Commissionors Coble and Bushong went to Christiana Arthur H. Dada, of Palmyra, N. Y, a in the cars, and Commissioner Montgomery took a sleigh ride from his own home to the same point, and thence the party drove to the bridge some two miles distant. Only two of the Chester county commissioners were present—Messrs. Elliot and Otley. The inspectors, W. M. Cooper, D. B. Quigley, Patrick Swisher, W. W. Withers, F. N. Scott and A. B. Worth, of Lan- an caster county, and Messrs. Geo. Richmond. Peter Shoemaker and Thomas Hope, of Chester county, after inspecting the bridge made report that it was a substantial structure, built in a workman-like manner, substantially in accordance with the speci-City, suspended yesterday. The assets the contractor. The report will and liabilities, which are nearly even, are Lancaster and Chester counties.

> Revival Moeting. Interesting revival services are in pro. and hereafter in use at the new works, gress in the St. Paul's M. E. church- In reply to the assertion made by some Several penitents came forward to the persons that gas made by this process is altar last, evening. Rev. S. O. Garrison | more poisonous than that made by the old will preach this evening.

Correction.

tion of officers of Lancaster lodge, No. 68.

# DEADLY GAS.

PAYING FOR POISONING.

WHENCE IS THIS NOXIOUS ODOR?

Complaints About the Gas—Foul Odors and Poison in the Bed Chamber—Gas that Makes No Light, but Registers in the Maker and on the Gas Bill.

In many parts of the city last evening

there was loud complaint about the insufficiency of the light furnished by the gas, the foul odors arising from its consumption, and the suffocating and painful sensations occasioned by its inhalation. At first many persons thought it was the sulphurous fumes from coal, until it was discovered to be such a general source of complaint and from quarters where it could not have been occasioned by stoves or furnaces. Some of the stores in Centre Square were obliged to open their doors to the beating snow storm, and in some rooms in the Stevens house, INTELLIGEN-CER office, and other large buildings, the stench and pervading gases were too intolerable to be borne with safety. Inquiries set on foot to discover the causes of this state of affairs develop various theories :

Dr. Greene's Opinion. For the INTELLIGENCER.

Since the consolidation of the two gas ompanies of our city, the people who have taken any observation have noticed that at times the gas is very feeble, a large portion of the flame bluish, in other words the gas is much poorer made than before this unfortunate event occurred. It is far better for all communities to have oppos-ing factions or companies in all lines of manufacture or for other purposes. Opposition keeps down the price of the commodity or thing, and keeps up the quality. Monopolies make a poorer article and charge exorbitant prices. So it has been since the creation of men. The gas of Lancaster has become at times exceedingly poor, and the price has already made an advance of 10 per cent. The reduction that prompt payers heretofore received is a thing of the past.

MEPHITIC ODORS.

With the attempt of the present organization to make as much gas as possible at the least expense (not to the consumer but to the manufacturer), two decided evils have become apparent. First, the enfecbled flickering injurious to the eye; and, second, the passage through the burner of of mephitic poisonous, non-inflammable gases that are exceedingly dangerous to the consumer as well as expensive. The chemistry of the formation of illuminating gases, how they should be made and how dispensed to the public, is a study only known to the thorough student of chemis try, and to give anything like a fair explanation of these processes will occupy more space than I propose to occupy at present; but, sir, if you desire, I will in a future communication present some of the ost important portions prepared disquisition on these subjects. Within the last week it has been observed by scores of persons in our city that at night their premises have been full of a singularly unpleasant tasting and smelling gas, leaving in the mouth a metallic. coppery taste, and producing various uneleasant symptoms on various individuals. On one a severe headache, on others difficulty in respiration, on others sore eyes. So exceedingly unpleasant has it been that the gas has been extinguished and candles substituted in portions of the Stevens house and in other places where it was found to have proceeded from the gas pipes. At first many were led to look for the gases as coming from unconsumed, half burning coals in stoves or furnaces, but closer inspection soon found the author of all these annoyaces coming out of the burner. One thing is most certain; badly constructed gases have been generated and allowed to pass into the main gasometers and dispensed to the consumers. It may be caused in many ways, a portion of which I'll briefly speci fy: If the purifiers containing lime are not in order the above results will take place. If the retorts are out of order, or the materials to gasify are poor, it will occur; or, if there is a large amount of iron pyrites, known as sulphuret of iron in the coal, the sulphur will pass into the atmos-phere in some form. My present belief, without any critical examination, is, that the gas which is above referred to, contains formic acid; if not, most assuredly carbonie acid, or carbonic oxyde gas, all of which are exceedingly dangerous compan ions in a sleeping apartment.

Yours respectfully, C. A. GREENE, M. D. ADDENDUM, January 5, ? STEVENS HOUSE.

I find the air this morning overcharged with the mephitic vapors; same metallic taste in the mouth. A number have sore throats. Have made a few scientific 1. I find that one, at least, of the escap-

ing non-inflammable gases is very light, very subtle, and escapes even in the day time from the gas pipes.
2. I have made several tests for sulphurous fumes and find them very perceptible. I saturated a paper in a solution of acetate of lead, called by some sugar of lead, made up by the union of acetic acid and lead. Holding it above the gas jet it quickly became brown, showing that a large quantity of surphur was suspended in the gas; the lead having a greater affinity for the sulphur than the acetic-acid immediately

formed sulphate of lead.

The Gas Company's Explanation! A representative of the Intelligencer called at the office of the gas company this morning and stated to Mr. John H. Baumgardner the fact that there have been many complaints for some days past as to the quality of the gas. Mr. Baum gardner replied that he knew a portion of the gas furnished for a few days past was inferior quality and explained that the cause of it was an accident that happened at the old works on Monday. The cover of one of the purifiers was accidently broken while workmen were engaged in removing the ice from it, and it was impossible for some time to repair it; and until it was repaired pure gas could not be manufactured. The repairs have been completed and pure gas is now being manufactured. It is probable, however, that the impurified gas now in the mains of the old works may cause the light to-night to be of an inferior quality, but by to-morrow night the light will be all right. Mr. Baumgardner says all the complaints of poor gas come from those who are supplied from the old works; and that the gas manufactured there is coal gas made by the same process used by the fications furnished the builder, and recom- old company. There have no complaints mended that the bridge be accepted from he says, from consumers who use gas ide at the new works. It is the inter sented for confirmation to the courts of tion of the new company as soon as pra ticable, to connect the pipes of the old and new companies and to manufacture all the gas by the petroleum water process now process, Mr. Baumgardner says the gas made by both processes are deadly poisons In our report yesterday of the installation of officers of Lancaster lodge, No. 68.

K. of P., the words "nominated" and in an atmosphere charged equally with the company of the company