Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, JAN. 8, 1881.

A Bewildered Flock.

It is amusing to observe the open-mouthed bewilderment of the people who have been fixing things to get possession of the Reading corporation, and who have been so suddenly dropped in the mud by the pricking which a few words from Judge McKennan inflicted on their balloon, handsomely inflated though it was by the McCalmont support. Mr. John C. Bullitt often gets heavily into fancy speculations and has sometimes been mired, or stuck in Jersey sands, which is as bad; but we are sure he was never so suddenly and completely halted as he has been in this eventful movement. The elegantly appointed train of which he was the conductor, has been brought up so sharply by the McKennan patent brake as to make things rattle in the cars and upset all the occupants. They have not yet got their wits together sufficiently to distinctly understand what has struck them. When they do come to thoroughly comprehend the logic of the situation they will understand that the director of the Reading railroad trains is Judge McKennan, and that the engineer at present put in charge by him and likely to be kept there is Mr. Gowen. When Mr. Bullitt and Mr. Peale and the other advisers of the outs who would like to get in, become blessed with an ordinary degree of sagacity they will fold their tents like the Arab and quietly steal away, until such time as they can approach their desired prey without encountering it under the protection of the law administered by such an unappreciative observer of their virtues and merits as they find the present United States circuit judge to be. We can point them to no speedy hope of relief unless they have influence enough with Hayes to get McKennan put on the United States supreme bench; in which case they will probably also be able to put a man in his place who will reverse McKennan's estimate of them and their wise and disinterested devotion to the interests of Reading.

The pleasant gentlemen who have so sadly come to grief have our sympathy, because it is very disagreeable to lose your game and have everybody laughing at you besides. It is intensely disgusting to be seen making what you evidently consider a herculean movement that is going to tear things, and then to have it conspicuously observed that the thing is not to be given a chance to go off. Of our Philadelphia cotemporaries the *Record* is in decidedly the worst plight, so elaborate have been its efforts to prove to the world what a very beneficent thing the removal of Mr. Gowen would be and how worthless he has made the stock which has been steadily going up all the time it has been crying it down. The *Record* has been caught by the McKennan blast publishing whole columns of figures and things to affect that election on Monday that has now disappeared; but the columns of figures still pour out and go sadly to waste.

There are very many unhappy people on that side of the Reading fence, because there have been so many who accepted the opinion that the Reading stock was unduly high—in which they are no doubt right—and who went further and acted on their opinion by selling it at the high prices, when they did not have it. They have created a demand for the stock which keeps the price up; for the owners, having well founded faith in its future value, are not anxious to sell it. And now these people who have sold what they do not have find themselves compelled to furnish the deferred stock, which they have declared valueless, along with the stock they have sold, to which it is appended as a privilege; and one that has a market value, which is bound to be increased by the demand for it that must come from the "shorts." These gentlemen think it infamous in Mr. Gowen to mercilessly catch them in such a trap as this; but they fail to reflect on the propriety of their own effort to make money by depressing Reading shares with short sales. It is not surprising that they should be angry; but they are in such a peculiarly delicate position in regard to throwing stones, that one would think that they would refrain from the amusement.

The Fair Way.

Mr. James G. Fair has received the nomination of the Democrats of the Nevada Legislature for the United States senatorship, and undoubtedly has obtained it because of his money and probably by its use. That, of course, is not the way in which it should have been secured; but it is not clear that it is any worse than the way in which senatorships are secured in our own part of the country. Mr. Robert Mackey frankly declared the principle upon which Pennsylvania Republican politics were administered by himself and his associates with the distinguished success that always attended them. There were but two things considered in their operations; first, what the point they desired to make was worth; second, what it would cost; it being an accepted axiom that anything could be had if enough was paid for it. Mr. Fair secures his senatorship because he is ready to pay the price; and any equally ambitious Republican in Pennsylvania can get the seat of Senator Wallace if he is ready with the estimated cost. Mr. Oliver, with a few more years of successful business life and abstention from politics, might be in condition to purchase the place; but his available means are at present too small to enable him to secure the office in this way; and he cannot get a strong enough hold on it in any other. He will hardly go to meet Fair.

THE members of the bar began at the right end and disposed in the right order of the things they were invited to meet and consider to-day. All that they could do, or should do, as individuals, they could as easily do without a meeting as with it, and so long as no individual member of the bar, aggrieved or seeking the vindication of his profession, moved in matters of common fame nothing could be fitly done in regard to them save through a permanent association. Steps have been taken to organize a law association, which, when finally organized, will no doubt promptly and squarely meet everything that comes within its scope.

MINOR TOPICS.

COLORED BAPTIST associations in the West are beginning to take steps for the support of missions in Africa.

"WHEN I die," said a married man, "I want to go where there is no snow to shovel." And his wife said she presumed he would.

LUTHERANS in Germany are proposing to celebrate, on a magnificent scale, the four hundredth anniversary of Martin Luther's birth, November 10, 1883.

THE subject for discussion before the Philadelphia conference of Baptist ministers next Monday will be, "The rhetorical element in preaching, with special regard to its effect on the personality of the preacher." It will be opened by Revs. P. L. Jones and N. B. Randall.

THERE are nine Methodist bodies in Great Britain, with a total of 4,087 ministers. The Wesleyans have 402,520 members; the Primitives, 182,691; the Free Methodists, 79,477; the New Connectionists, 28,850; the Bible Christians, 21,292; the Irish Wesleyans, 25,186; the Retorm Union, 7,728.

PROFESSOR NORMAN FOX, in the *National Baptist*, concludes an article on progressive theology in this way: "To deny that there is a progressive theology in the progressive unveiling of Nature and history is, in effect, to deny the presence of God in Nature and history. It is the blankest materialism; a denial of creation; a denial of Providence; a denial of the very being of God!"

BISHOP HERZOG, upon his return to Switzerland from his visit to America, said that from what he had observed of American culture and religion, he had come to the conclusion that all the signs were extant that the Episcopal communion had a magnificent future before it, and might hopefully expect to develop in the course of time into the national church of America.

A PASTOR at Grundy Centre, Iowa, was very sick, and, believing that he was near death, confessed that he had not long before been on a most deplorable spree in Chicago. He did not die, however, and his wife not only deserted him, but reported him to the church. His people are more charitable, and will probably let him off with a reprimand, as his penitence seems genuine.

THAT was a wise admonition given by a New York clergyman to a band of enthusiastic reformers who have set out to break up corporate monopoly in general and railway monopoly in particular. As a foot-note to his letter, this gentleman, who seems to possess more worldly wisdom than most of his purely professional brethren, suggestively added: "Don't tag on all the reforms."

GENERAL GARFIELD, the president-elect, in a speech delivered in the House of Representatives, in June, 1874, said: "The divorce between church and state ought to be absolute. It ought to be so absolute that no church property anywhere, in any state or in the nation, should be exempt from equal taxation; for, if you exempt the property of any church organization, to that extent you impose a church tax upon the whole community."

THE *Christian at Work* has been asking postal-card opinions from various clergymen as to whether miracles are now to be looked for. The general opinion is that miracles have ceased, though Dr. A. J. Gordon, of Boston, with a few others less certainly, holds that the promise of signs following those that believe was for the church of all time. Dr. Howard Crosby says:

"Miracles for 70 years in time of Moses and Joshua.
"Miracles for 70 years in time of Elijah and Elisha.
"Miracles for 70 years in time of Christ and apostles.
"No others.
"Miracles
"Are marks and evidences
"Of a new Dispensation."

CHINAMEN in San Francisco buy their wives of importers, paying from $300 to $1,500, according to physical quality. Not much value is placed on mental acquirements, and the wife may be idiotic, if also pretty, without depreciation. Chin Qui was brought over by a dealer and sold for the highest price to a prosperous merchant. She did not speak for five days, and he did not mind her silence, for she was beautiful; but at the end of that time she began to break the crockery and furniture, and he was forced to send her back. She was sold successively to four Chinamen in six months, and in each case her lunacy took a destructive form, her fourth exploit being the utter destruction of a cigar factory. The importer has received $6,000 from the four husbands, and refuses to return the money.

PERSONAL.

The Nevada Democrats have nominated JAMES G. FAIR for the Senate.

MRS. SPRAGUE'S governess gives her a certificate of "unquestionable propriety."

Lord BEACONSFIELD is seventy-five years old.

DOM PEDRO has translated into Brazilian several of Whittier's poems.

HISCOCK and BURROWS are new dark horses to succeed Randall as speaker of the House.

Sewell, Robeson and Halsey is the order of the New Jersey senatorial race at present.

Baroness ALPHONSE DE ROTHSCHILD is reported to be the owner of the finest collar of pearls in existence. It is priceless.

LILLIE HINTON, the clever little leading lady at Wood's Museum, Philadelphia, has just been offered an engagement in a leading New York theatre for next season.

General NATHAN GOFF, the new secretary of the navy, is, strange to say, not an Ohio man. He however was born near the Ohio line.

MARK TWAIN lives in a house of oriental architecture; has two little girls and a boy baby; plenty of money; and his age is 40 something.

The death is announced of ARNOLD RUGE, Ph, D., the German writer, philosopher, and liberal politician, and distinguished as the "Father of the German Revolution." His age was seventy-nine.

Rev. WILLIAM JONES, for twenty years a minister of the Church of God, having been appointed for 1881 to the Phiadelphia charge, has united with the First Baptist church of Harrisburg with a view of entering the Baptist ministry.

The Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph* thinks that "if General Garfield would like to make a genuine sensation and take an immense stride forward in the solution of a national problem, he can do so by favorably considering and acting upon the somewhat startling suggestion of the Washington gossips, and give BLANCHE K. BRUCE a place in the cabinet.

Bishop SCOTT, senior bishop of the M. E. church, is completely broken down in health. One side is useless, and the other sympathetic. A few days since, in attempting to turn round, using his paralyzed limb as a pivot, he fell to the floor. His mind retains its usual vigor, and he only waits the time of his release in patient and joyous expectancy.

WILLIAM A. WHEELER expects to marry Mrs. Woodworth before retiring from the vice presidency. She is the widow of the eminent surgeon who lost his life during the yellow fever visitations two years ago, and appears to be very fond of the sad and lonely man whose hard lot she proposes to share and enliven. The incoming vice president is also a widower.

By special invitation SARA BERNHARDT went to the Thatcher & Ryman's minstrels burlesque of her *Camille*, under the name of "Sarah Heartburn," in Philadelphia yesterday. She shrieked with laughter all through the performance, but thought the introduction of a burlesque on her son was in bad taste; just as some people think the original son is in bad taste, you know.

BJORNSTJERNE BJORNSON, the famous Norwegian poet, who is now on his first visit to America, will wed Mrs. Ole Bull, widow of the famous violinist. Mrs. Bull is the daughter of Mr. Thorn, a wealthy man of Madison, Wis. She is young and beautiful and highly gifted in music and art. Ole Bull and Bjornson were fast friends. Mrs. Bull returned to America on the same steamer with Bjornson a few weeks ago and is now at home in Madison.

Last Sabbath Rev. J. O. CRITCHLOW preached his third annual sermon at the First Baptist church, Germantown. Financially, the church has been greatly blessed. They have been able to repair the audience room at large expense, to raise money sufficient to repair and renovate the Sunday school room, to pay off a large floating debt, to increase the pastor's salary one-fourth, to more than double the aggregate total of missions. Spiritually, the growth has been in proportion. They have received about 140 members in that time.

A Case of Conscience.

For the INTELLIGENCER.

When the *Examiner* man was writing suppositious letters to himself from public officials who consider themselves overpaid he omitted to include among them one like this:

To the Treasurer of the United States:

Moved by my conscience and a sense of fitness of things, enclosed find my check for $18,000, to be covered into the federal treasury. This is part of the proceeds of my term of office as naval officer of the port of Philadelphia, to which I gave little of my time, and which, at most, is a useless office. Yours truly,

JOHN A. HIESTAND.

LANCASTER, Pa., Xmas, 1880.

STATE ITEMS.

The Corry postoffice has been "cracked" and $7,000 stolen.

The Blooming Grove park club house, near Lackawaxen, Penn., was burned on Thursday night. It was rebuilt last spring.

The editorial department of the Clinton *Democrat* is now, and has been since Mr. Whaley's illness, under the control of H. L. Dieffenbaugh, esq., who will continue in that position until the office shall be sold.

The body of Joseph Snyder, lynched at Santee's Mill, Northampton county, for murdering the Gogles on the night of January 1, has been stolen from the grave. No effort will be made to discovered the body snatchers.

The Thirteenth and Fifteenth streets passenger railway company, Philadelphia, have filed a bill in equity asking for an injunction to restrain the Herdic personal transportation company from using their tracks for the conveyance of passenger for hire.

Sixty thousand dollars is the sum already spent by the father of Charley Ross in the effort to find his abducted child. There is no probability that he ever will find him. It is almost certain that the child was murdered by his abductors, in order to escape detection.

John Bender, a well-known ship carpenter, was buried yesterday from his residence, No. 219 Allen street, Philadelphia. He was born at Bridgeton, N. J., in 1791 and built a great number of vessels at his shipyard at Cooper's Point, several of which were purchased by the government and used in transporting troops during the war. Mr. Bender retired from business twenty years ago.

The action of the Pittsburgh grand jury in ignoring bills against certain employes of the Pennsylvania railroad connected with the dreadful casualty at Twenty-eighth street, in which upwards of thirty lives were sacrificed, has excited universal surprise. Two of the parties confessed to a violation of rules, and that somebody blundered is too palpable to be debated, and that it was not thought sufficiently important to be thoroughly investigated is monstrous.

The new verb, "to Henkelize," in Philadelphia, means to return to a street railway company the mass of snow that it has heaped up at the sides of the streets. It takes its name from an enterprising business man on Arch street who won the belt a few days ago, in a shovelling match with one of the railway companies. The example set by the original Henkel seems to have appealed rapidly to the intelligent sympathies of other citizens, and the railway companies are now being Henkelized in a very lively manner.

CHURCH MUSIC.

Sankey's Views About It.

Mr. Sankey, at the clergyman's convention in San Francisco, said of the church music that the choir should be at the same end of the church where the minister is, either behind him or beside him. The choir and minister are not independent performers—the one to preach and the other to sing. They unite in leading the worship of the congregation, and ought to be in harmony with each other. And in order to have harmony, the singers ought to be Christians. How can a man praise God acceptably when there is no love for God in his heart? A great deal of the proverbial troubles with church choirs grows out of the fact that the singers not Christians. Mr. Sankey does not object to quartet choirs, but he would have a large chorus choir around the quartet, to join it in certain parts. He liked solos and special pieces by the trained singers, yet he would have only one or two such pieces during any one service, and would have at least two hymns in which the whole congregation could join. He says that the minister should join in the singing, and not be fumbling over his notes as if he had nothing to do with praising God. The minister should not only sing himself, but urge all to sing. Choirs ought to behave like ladies and gentlemen. They have no business to be whispering, or flirting, or reading newspapers, while the minister is preaching. They ought to sing distinctly so that the congregation can understand the words. The church is not an opera, to gratify a taste for artistic music. It should furnish the music that will please and edify the majority of the worshipers, and not merely a cultured and fastidious few. The children should be brought to the church and accustomed to take part in the singing. Ministers ought to pray for a special blessing on the singing. It is a means of grace as well as the Scripture reading and sermon. And, finally, the hymns and the sermon ought to be in harmony with each other.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

Another very cold wave is advancing from the Northwest. It reached Chicago yesterday and the temperature in that city fell below zero last night.

A fire in Havana totally destroyed the large cigar manufactory (La Exception) of Joseph E. Gener. Of the persons who slept in the building, eleven are missing.

The superintendent of the census yesterday sent to the secretary of the interior, for transmission to Congress, a communication asking an additional appropriation of $50,000 for the completion of the census work and the publication of its results.

In Stanford, Ky., Alexander Killian, a constable, was shot three times by a young desperado, named J. W. Goock, while attempting to stop an affray at King's mountain. Killian is supposed to be mortally wounded. Goock escaped.

A delegation of Otoe Indians arrived in Washington on Thursday night and had a short conference with Secretary Schurz yesterday regarding their proposed transfer from Nebraska to the Indian Territory. There will be other conferences on the subject.

A mail train on the Newport & Passumpsic railroad, in Vermont, was thrown from the track near Newport, yesterday morning, by a broken rail. Twenty persons were injured, and an old lady named Cushing was killed. Of the injured, seven are seriously hurt.

The message of Governor Phelps sent to the Missouri legislature reports the affairs of the state in a very prosperous condition and says its population has increased at the rate of $50,000 annually for the last four years. The expenditures for education last year were $1,145,381.

Two boilers in the vitrol department of E. Balbach & Sons' smelting works, at Newark, New Jersey, exploded yesterday, causing damage to the amount of $20,000 and killing four men—John Mutz, engineer; John Schlee, George O. Gorman and John Quinn. All were married men and leave families. Two persons were injured, but not fatally.

The sudden withdrawal of Frye from the contest for the U. S. senatorship against Hale, in Maine, is construed in Washington as an indication that Blaine is to be Garfield's secretary of state. Blaine's resignation, when nominated for secretary of state, will leave the other senatorship open to Frye. Hale was unanimously nominated by the Republican caucus last evening.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE CITY TREASURY.

Election of Wm. S. Shirk to Fill the Office During Mr. Welchans's Suspension.

Pursuant to the resolution adopted at the regular meeting of city councils last Wednesday evening, an adjourned meeting was held last night for the purpose of taking further action in the matter of the suspension of City Treasurer Welchans. In the select branch Messrs. Barr, Eberly, Franklin, Judith, Sales, Zecher and Evans, president, were present, and on the other side of the chamber the following named members appeared: Messrs. Albert, Barnes, Borger, Brown, Cormeny, Cox, Davis, Downey, Hartley, Hershey, Johnson, Keeler, Lichty, McMullen, Ostermayer, Sing, Smeych, Sprecher, Springer, White, Yackly and Levergood, president.

As soon as an organization had been effected in the common branch, Mr. Barnes, from the finance committee, offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the suspension of Edward Welchans, as city treasurer, be continued until further action of councils, and that the select and common councils now enter into joint convention for the purpose of appointing a city treasurer to hold during the said suspension."

The resolution passed without a dissenting voice, and on Dr. Davis's motion the vote was reconsidered, and the yeas and nays being called it was unanimously adopted. In select council this action was concurred in, and then Messrs. Franklin and Zecher, from that branch, appeared in common council chamber and announced that select council was ready to go into joint convention for the purpose indicated in the Barnes resolution.

The two bodies at once convened in common council chamber, President Evans, of select, occupying the chair, and all the members whose names are above printed answering to the call of the roll by the respective clerks. Mr. Evans stated the object of the meeting, where upon Mr. Barnes nominated William S. Shirk for appointment to the office of treasurer during the suspension of Mr. Welchans.

There being no further nominations the roll was called and all the members present—29 in number—voting for Mr. Shirk, he was declared appointed.

There being no further business before the convention an adjournment was had, the two bodies reassembled separately in their respective chambers, and in select council the following resolution offered by Mr. Franklin was unanimously adopted.

"*Resolved*, That when councils adjourn they adjourn to meet to-morrow Saturday evening, January 8th 1881, at 7 o'clock to approve the bond of Wm. S. Shirk appointed city treasurer and receiver of taxes during the suspension of Edward Welchans from that office."

Common council concurred and both bodies then adjourned.

Turnpike Officers.

At the annual meeting of the Lancaster, Elizabethtown and Middletown turnpike road company, held at Mount Joy, the following officers and directors were elected to serve the ensuing year:

President—Hon. H. G. Long.
Sec. and Treas.—Jacob M. Long.
Directors—Col. Jas. Young, Wm. P. Brinton, A. J. Steinman, John Long, John Bear, Samuel Brubaker, Mr. Reist, Henry Mayer, James Lynch, Henry Hoffman, J. M. Long, H. G. Long.

Larceny of Tobacco.

On Thursday night thieves broke into the tobacco shed of Martin Shenk, of Lancaster township, and stole from the cellar about 500 pounds of leaf tobacco belonging to John Moore, who raised the crop "on the shares" on Mr, Shenk's farm.

A SHOCKING DEATH.

THE PERILS OF COASTING.

Charlie Lebzelter Runs Under a Street Car and is Instantly Killed.

Philip Lebzelter, the well-known proprietor of the extensive wood works and turning shops, on North Queen street, this city, received a telegram about 11 a. m. to day, that his son Charles, who resided in Reading with his mother, had died this morning. While Mr. L. was arranging to take the train for Reading this afternoon further particulars of the sad event came to the INTELLIGENCER in this dispatch by associated press:

READING, Pa., Jan. 8.—Charles Lebzelter, aged 11 years, residing at 27 South 11th street, while coasting on the hillside road near the residence of Congressman Clymer, about 9 o'clock this morning, ran under the hoofs of the rear horse of the Perkiomen avenue street car, No. 3. The front wheel of the car passed over the boy's head and his brains were scattered over the track. He died instantly.

It will be remembered that some years ago Mr. Lebzelter and his wife separated by divorce; and that the custody of the older son, Willie, was decreed by the court to the father, who resides in this city; and of the younger, Charlie, to the mother, who lives in Reading. The boy killed was a bright little fellow and his father and brother here were fondly attached to him. The hill where he met his death is a dangerous one for coasting, and the sad occurrence is full of mournful warning. Mr. Lebzelter went to Reading this afternoon.

THE BAR MEETING.

A LAW ASSOCIATION IN PROSPECT.

The Committee of Five on Organization. All Other Matters Temporarily Deferred.

There was a very large attendance at the meeting of the members of the Lancaster bar held in the large court room this morning, in response to the call of a smaller meeting last Saturday, "to consider a communication addressed to the Lancaster law association by the Philadelphia law association, to consider a communication addressed by J. M. W. Geist to the members of the Lancaster bar, to consider the organization of a Law association, and such other matters as may be brought before the meeting."

The following gentlemen were present at the first roll call, or arrived subsequently and participated in the meeting:

Robert M. Agnew, J.B. Amwake, D. G. Baker, J. W. B. Bausman, W. F. Beyer, James Black, Owen P. Bricker, M. Brosius, J. Hay Brown, W. W. Brown, Geo. Brubaker, H. C. Brubaker, J. M. Burke, E. Champneys, T. B. Cochran, J. A. Coyle, B. F. Davis, T. J. Davis, J. W. Denlinger, C. Denues, A. J. Eberly, S. P. Eby, L. Ellmaker, N. Ellmaker, D. G. Eshleman, R. J. Evans, E. Franklin, W. M. Franklin, J. H. Fry, H. R. Fulton, J. B. Good, Alex Harris, A. S. Hershey, W. U. Hensel, J. A. Hiestand, T. B. Holahan, A. F. Hostetter, J. W. Johnson, A. J. Kaufman, C. B. Kaufman, G. C. Kennedy, C. R. Kline, G. M. Kline, B. C. Kready, W. Leaman, D. Lecle, N. Lightner, R. H. Long, E. K. Martin, D. McMullen, B. F. Montgomery, A. O. Newpher, E. D. North, H. M. North, S. H. Price, S. H. Reynolds, R. B. Risk, W. H. Roland, S. M. Seuer, S. W. Shadle, A. F. Shenck, A. Slaymaker, E. G. Smith, C. N. Sproul, J. L. Steinmetz, H. B. Swarr, J. W. F. Swift, Zuriel Swope, W. D. Weaver, W. R. Wilson,

A Slaymaker, esq., was called to the chair; and W. U. Hensel to act as secretary.

Mr. Hensel read the call for the meeting and note was taken of the gentlemen present.

After some discussion, as to the best order of taking up the subjects to be considered, it was resolved, by a vote of 52 ayes, 10 nays and 8 not voting, that it was the sense of those present that the members of the Lancaster bar shall organize a bar association.

On motion of Mr. Brosius it was then resolved "that a committee of five, of which the chairman of this meeting shall be chairman, shall be appointed, to report to an adjourned meeting of this the body, a constitution and by-laws for the governing of the association."

Under this resolution the chair appointed D. G. Eshleman, S. H. Reynolds, J. Hay Brown, M. Brosius and A. Slaymaker, chairman.

It was resolved that action upon all other matters included in the call for the present meeting be deferred until after the permanent organization of the bar association.

The meeting then adjourned to meet in the court room on Saturday, Jan. 22, at 2½ p. m.

THE DRAMA.

"Our German Senator" at the Opera House.

A large audience greeted the reappearance at the opera house last evening of the favorite comedian Mr. Gus Williams in his somewhat hilarious play "Our German Senator." The performance and the performers did not vary much from the previous productions of the piece in this city, though the few new features that have been added constitute a material improvement. The introduction of a telephone in the second act affords the opportunity for a number of grotesque situations and amusing dialogue. While this play of "Our German Senator" cannot be said to possess any real intrinsic merit, and indeed presents several features that might be toned down considerably to bring it within the range of absolutely pure comedy, it is put on the stage in a spirit of rollicking fun that is contagious and continued roars of laughter and applause were evoked from the audience by the comical sayings and doings of *J. Adolph Dinkel*, retired Western brewer and German senator-elect, and the people who beset him on his unwilling political career. Mr. Williams is an actor of a good order of ability, and the role he fills in this piece is one just suited to his varied round of accomplishments. In appearance, voice, gesture and action, he is the slow-going, blunt, impassive Dutchman, and he carries out the character in capital style. During the second act he "brought down the house" in a couple of comic songs and a recitation, the business in which he earned his early reputation.

Mr. Williams's support was uniformly good, notably excellent, and worthy of special mention being the characters of *Mrs. Dinkel* as rendered by Miss Dora Stuart, *Louise Granville* ("Saratoga Lou") by Miss Arlington, and *Judge Spruce* by Mr. Hudson Liston; the remainder of the cast kept up the standard to a satisfactory elevation. A scarcity of house bills, always an annoyance in a dramatic entertainment, was the occasion of some complaint among last evening's audience.

Mayor's Court.

The mayor this morning had before him ten customers, five of whom were vagrants and were discharged, and the others, drunken and disorderly conduct, were committed for terms ranging from 15 to 40 days.

Visiting Schools.

In the neighborhood of Marietta the schools are taking advantage of the snow and are visiting each other in sleighs.

THE CHURCH OF GOD.

As Seen in Lancaster by a Sojourner—Our City at Christmas.

"O. F. A." in Boston Transcript.

In none of my former letters from this place (Lancaster) have I spoken of the sect of the Winebrennerians, who have several churches here and are rather numerous in this part of Pennsylvania. The sect was founded in 1830 by Rev. John Winebrenner, a clergyman of Harrisburg, in the German Reformed denomination. Believing in the efficacy of revivals, which that church does not encourage, he withdrew from that body and established a new sect, calling it, with exclusive bigotry, the "Church of God," a name which it still retains as its official designation, though commonly called Winebrennerian, after its founder. Baptism, feet-washing and the Lord's Supper are the three ordinances of the church, but the first is not considered a necessity preceding membership. Feet-washing is, however, pronounced binding upon all Christians, its defenders, in common with the Dunkards and Mennonites, basing their belief upon the injunction given in the thirteenth chapter of St. John. The Lord's Supper is frequently celebrated, and always in the evening. In their approval of experience meetings, anxious meetings and camp meetings, the Winebrennerians resemble the Methodists more than any other body. As a denomination, they have always set themselves firmly against slavery and the making and selling of liquor. The sect has recently celebrated its semi-centennial, but I have seen no late statistics as to its numbers. Its members are not usually of the cultured or fashionable class, but it is a steady-going, earnest denomination, and no doubt does its full share of the world's work, and probably the attainment of the virtues is as sedulously sought after within its borders as in Christian bodies of more profession.

"We? what do we see? each a space
Of some few yards before his face;
Does that the whole wide plan explain?"

Like the Methodists, the Winebrennerians celebrate the departure of the old year by watch meetings, but have an additional feature of the exercises—the ceremony of feet-washing; and on Friday evening last, at the Bethel church, a building whose excessive plainness amounts to positive ugliness, I attended an observance of this character.

After a sermon of some merit as well as length, the minister invited those persons who wished to participate in the ceremony to come forwards, and accordingly a number of men came out from the audience and seated themselves on benches in one corner in front, while several women did the same in the opposite corner. Small tubs of water, presumably warm, as it was zero weather, were then brought in, and two church members, a man and a woman, then prepared to perform the humble ceremony. Removing his coat and putting on a long apron, the man then washed in succession the feet of the men before him, giving each a resounding kiss on the cheek before washing his feet, an action probably intended to express a sense of human love and brotherhood, and, so interpreted, perhaps a fitting part of the service, while in the woman's corner a similar ceremony was performed.

At the close of this part of the observance the minister made some remarks of an explanatory character, and then ended by inviting any others present who desired to do so to participate in the ceremony, an invitation which the women appeared more readily to accept than the men, for while numbers of the former went forward, not one of the men could be induced to do so, being doubtless afflicted with the natural shame-facedness of their sex.

The ceremony, so singular to one unused to its performance, was ended at length, and I went away, edified after a fashion, and pondering much on the various beliefs and ceremonies by which each body of believers asserts its particular individuality, and wondering if these jarring creeds will ever make one music. Perplexed with rival claims, what wonder that some souls prefer to stand outside of recognized pales of belief, misunderstood by some, but saying in their secret hearts with the thoughtful "Scholar Gipsy,"

"It fortifies my soul to know
That, though I perish, Truth is so;
That, howsoe'er I stray and range;
Whate'er I do, Thou dost not change.
I steadier step when I recall
That, if I slip, thou dost not fall."

With even more than its usual enthusiasm, Lancaster this year entered into the observance of the Christmas season. Scarcely had the city recovered from the excitement and fatigues of the election before it began to prepare for the holidays. During the week before Christmas it did really seem as if Birnam wood had once more come to Dunsinane. Monument square was filled with evergreen trees brought there for sale, and crossing the square was like following a winding path through a small and spicily fragrant forest, while on every hand men were often to be seen literally as trees walking. On Christmas Eve the noisy, fantastic bells-nickels went their merry rounds, and many a housekeeper grew tired of answering their demands for Christmas cakes. At numerous private houses the Christmas displays were elaborate in the extreme, whole rooms being devoted to that purpose, ingenious mechanical contrivances being added to the other attractions, after the German fashion.

The number of holiday cards sold this year in this city must have been very large, one bookseller disposing entirely of a stock of five thousand, and other dealers selling in much the same proportion. The sending of Christmas cards is a pretty custom, but so general now as to be somewhat burdensome to the sender, while the receiver is but too apt to value the cards by the number received rather than as so many expressions of good-will. Now that a spirit of rivalry has entered into the matter and people have come to comparing notes as to which one has received the largest number, the real sentiment that was once the life of the custom seems to have disappeared.

Prof. Barnwell Last Night.

The art entertainment by Prof. Barnwell last evening, at the court house, was a grand affair. Everybody seemed to be delighted. The architectural and water views, the statuary and the interior views of noted buildings were given with a reality little short of the marvelous. The entire evening was one full of interest and instruction for all who were present. The objects exhibited are thrown into such fine relief that one almost feels himself among them. As these views have all been taken from what has seemed the best point of view to the several artists who made the photographs, the observer thus gains an advantage which is not always enjoyed in seeing the building or the objects itself even when standing before it. The calcium light used is strong and steady and admirably adapted to such exhibition, and the pictures being photographs are, of course, more truthful than paintings could be made. They must be seen to be appreciated. The court house could not accommodate those who would desire to attend these exhibitions if our people knew precisely what they are. To-night the grand programme of India will be given.

The Markets.

The household market this morning was well supplied with almost all kinds of seasonable marketing. Butter especially was abundant, and, although holders asked as high as 35 cents per pound when market opened, they quickly tumbled to 30 cents, and, before the close of the market, were anxious to sell for 25. There was but little change in the price of other articles.

OUR POSTOFFICE.

Great Increase in the Postal Business.

We are indebted to Postmaster Marshall for the following statistics showing the business of the Lancaster postoffice for the past year, compared with the business of the same office during the year 1870, and also the year 1879. The figures are of interest as showing the wonderful increase in the business of the postal service:

RECEIPTS.

	1880.	1870.
From sale of Stamps, &c.	$27,781 48	$15,469 62
" Box Rents	462 50	369 00
" Paper, Postage and Unpaid Letters		554 98
From sale of Waste Paper.	13 25	1 30
" Postmasters	107 65	27 37
	$28,364 88	$16,422 27

EXPENSES.

	1880.	1870.
Salary of Postmaster	$ 2,350 00	$ 2,000 00
" Clerks	3,560 00	2,000 00
" Carriers	4,696 85	4,408 14
" Route Agents	800 00	
" Mail Messenger	900 00	1,336 75
Rent, Light and Fuel	1,013 00	758 78
Repairing Street Letter Boxes	3 25	107 63
Contingent Expenses	34 43	15 75
Spoiled Envelopes returned	31 40	9 23
	$15,528 93	$12,236 28
Balance over Expenses	14,835 95	4,185 99

DISBURSEMENTS.

Transferred to Money Order account	$ 565 00	$ 1,400 00
Deposited at U. S. Treasury Philadelphia	7,235 88	
Paid to Penn'a Railroad Company	7,035 07	2,785 99
	$14,835 95	$ 4,185 99

LETTER CARRIERS' DEPARTMENT.

	1880.	1870
Registered Letters Delivered	2,028	
Mail Letters	575,105	346,457
Mail Postal Cards delivered	146,750	
Local Letters delivered	38,167	23,658
Local Postal Cards "	36,717	
Newspapers, &c., "	380,671	123,523
Total number pieces delivered	1,179,738	493,638
Letters collected	177,239	106,878
Postal Cards collected	70,214	
Newspapers, &c., "	24,081	11,652
Total number pieces collected	271,534	118,530

REGISTRY DEPARTMENT.

	1880.	1870.
Registered Packages, 1st class, despatched	3,436	318
Registered Packages, 3d and 4th class, despatched	619	
Free Registered packages	133	
Foreign " "	45	19
Registered packages for city delivery	3,239	1,425
Registered packages in transit	5,608	949
	13,081	2,711

MONEY ORDER DEPARTMENT.

	1880.	1870.
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1879	$ 396 51	$ 90 66
6,096 Domestic orders issued	67,978 13	41,250 58
Domestic orders' fee	715 05	311 25
49 British orders issued	711 07	
" " fees	20 75	
5 Canadian " issued	66 95	
" " fees	1 60	
151 German " issued	2,030 55	
" " fees	46 00	
33 Swiss " issued	910 80	
" " fees	22 75	
Transferred postage to the Money Order account	565 00	5,625 00
	$73,465 16	$47,227 49

PAYMENTS.

	1880.	1870.
Domestic orders paid	$57,738 64	$44,142 34
British " "	92 84	
Canadian " "	199 00	
German " "	694 04	
Swiss " "	20 49	
Repaid " "	598 45	279 65
Paid by order of Department	392 73	254 97
Deposited at Philadelphia, Pa	13,568 00	2,330 00
Cash balance on hand	161 27	240 53
	$73,465 16	$47,227 49

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Number of unclaimed letters and postal cards sent to the dead letter office	1,645
Number of unmailable letters sent to dead letter office	134
Number of letters returned to writers	1,700
Number pounds of newspapers and perfoliicals outside of Lancaster county	151,487
Postage paid on same	$3,025 74

A comparison with the business for the year 1879 shows an increase in the receipts of the office of $696.32.

In the carriers' department 142,525 more pieces were delivered, and 46,832 more pieces collected than the previous year.

In the registry department the number of packages registered has increased from 2,463 in in 1879, to 4,055. Registered matter for city delivery has increased 672. Registered packages passing through the office, of which a record is kept, have increased 1,317.

In the money order department 468 more orders have been issued; the amount of cash received showing an increase over 1879 of $8,700.88. The amount of orders cashed shows a decrease of $1,171.69.

An Old School Director.

Alt. Sanderson in Shippensburg Chronicle.

The mention of the name of Christian Zecher, brings to mind the fact that that gentleman is the oldest in years and experience of any school director in Pennsylvania. Think of it! A man 85 years of age, vigilant, intelligent and vigorous in the discharge of his duties, in summer and winter, in sunshine and storm, in season and out of season. Such a man is Christian Zecher. There is hardly an enterprise in his native city of which he is not an active promoter and advocate. He is far beyond the Psalmist's age, but few men who have completed their fifty years are more alive or athletic. There is nothing of senility about Christian Zecher. Would that this land were peopled with just such men. God bless the old man, and may he be spared for many years to the good people of Lancaster.

A Big Newspaper.

We have been shown by Jacob Gundaker, auctioneer, the New Year's edition of the *Rocky Mountain News* published at Denver, Colorado, and which was sent to Mr. Gundaker by his son Charles who lives in that far-off Western city. The *News* contains twenty-four pages of reading matter, six columns to a page one hundred and forty four columns in all, each column nearly as long as those of the daily INTELLIGENCER. It contains very full information regarding all the local industries and enterprises of Denver and vicinity, and shows that the newspaper men of the Rocky Mountains are at least abreast with their most successful rivals in the East.

Accident at the Watch Factory.

This forenoon George Wisner, who is employed at the watch factory, met with an accident. He was at the elevator with his face turned upwards looking