Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, JAN. 22, 1881.

The Joint Assembly.

Against our suggestion that the joint assembly should adjourn without day if its members have firmly resolved, as they declare they have, to stick to their present choice for senator, it may be urged, with fair show of strength, that the law declares that the "joint assembly shall meet at twelve o'clock meridian of each succeeding day during the session of the Legislature and take at least one vote until a senator shall be elected." That is the law unfortunately, and it strictly construed it will be seen to be quite a daily meeting, and even nothing worthy of a vote is made. But we believe that a reasonable construction would enable the Legislature to have a quorum daily meeting and waste of time if the majority have fully determined that it is useless. Machinery of the majority of the joint assembly do not intend to elect a senator it is folly to meet daily to grind the mill. If it be true that the form must be gone through with, it is evident that it is in the power of the majority a way to defeat it by adjourning from day to day. The law says for a majority of both Houses to form a quorum, if a majority stay away they can do it. It is common knowledge that most of the members have business to attend to, and that they have to come to Harrisburg from a distance, and it is a hardship for them to be compelled to remain from their homes and families day after day, and week after week, and month after month, and they have to come with the power of the joint assembly.

The idea dinged here is that while the joint assembly is actually in session, because of its being in power neither House of the Legislature can meet, because they cannot be in both and separate assemblies at the same time. The proposition is more technical than sensible, but probably the state may benefit by it. While the legislators are absorbed in choosing a senator they seem to be capable of thinking of nothing else, and it is as well that they should have all their time free for the consideration of the subsidy question, that they may the sooner solve it. If our own joint assembly determines to persevere in its daily meetings, it might profitably consider whether it had not better take recesses rather than adjournments, that they may better do the one thing that troubles them so much, undisturbed by the consideration of general legislation.

A Portrait Not Wanted.

The editor of the New York *Sun* was afforded a fine occasion to submit some just remarks upon the present occupant of the presidential chair by an invitation which he received to contribute ten dollars to purchase a portrait of Mr. Hayes to be hung up in Memorial hall of Harvard University. The idea was that Mr. Hayes, being a graduate of Harvard law school, should have his portrait placed beside those of John Adams and John Quincy Adams, the only presidents who had graduated at the college.

Mr. Dana, an alumnus of the college, is not able to see the propriety of hanging Mr. Hayes's portrait on its walls. He does not consider him to have been chosen president. He declares that forgery, perjury and false counting secured him possession of the presidency to which another man had been elected, he himself conniving at the conspiracy and carefully rewarding its instruments with the offices of the nation, when he got the power to distribute them. He objects to insulting the memory of the Adamses by placing the portrait of such a man beside theirs on the walls of Harvard. The committee who received this letter will probably conclude that they would have done better to have taken a little more care in sending out their invitations, to have addressed them to more sympathizing souls. Doubtless, however, they would have been hard to find, for even on the rolls of Harvard it may questioned whether there are many men who admire Mr. Hayes enough to contribute ten dollars towards his portrait. It is a pity that anyone who has occupied the presidency should be worthy of popular contempt; but Mr. Hayes is not esteemed and is not worthy to be. His presidential record has not been much better than its promise. Nothing in the way of honorable and straightforward action could be expected from a man who was willing to crawl into the presidency as he did; and the deceit with which he entered into office has characterized his whole administration of it. Surely Harvard graduates cannot be proud of such an associate, whatever his accidental station.

JOHN V. WRIGHT, the late candidate of the regular Democracy of Tennessee for governor, and since spoken of for the senate, declines to be a candidate, being seemingly disgusted with the disposition shown by many of the Democrats who lately supported him, to compromise the principles which he defended and on which the Democratic party was divided, to save the senatorship. He is one of the old fashioned kind of Democrats who make his principles to the mastheard and proposes to have them stay there in all kinds of weather and regardless of consequences and profit. He thinks that political parties have a higher aim than to secure the spoils of office, and that the safety of the state should never be in antagonism with the safety of the party. He declares truly that "if political parties are now organized and intended merely to divide the spoils, and are to be held together by the cohesive power of public plunder, then the day has come when patriotism demands that honest men shall break the shackles of party and grind them in the dust and stand for the country first and party afterward."

MINOR TOPICS.

FOR the first time in many years all the chaplains in the navy are assigned to duty.

THE Chester Africans have organized a club to expose the names and sources of corruption.

JAY GOULD is to have an iron gas and passenger elevator for use in a telephone exchange.

THE Buddhist priests in Japan have taken the Bible in their course of study, so that they can the better oppose the missionaries.

A GROUP of the Italian monks, lately traveling in the Holy Land, went from Jerusalem down to Jericho in one day, and fell among thieves. He plundered them with tenacity.

THE will of the late George F. Armour, of Chicago, has bequeathed a legacy of $100,000 to the orphan asylum, founded by his mother in the most thickly populated part of Chicago.

FIRE PROOF THEATRE SAN FRANCISCO.—Plans were given to the mayor for the erection of a fire proof theatre in the upper part of the city, to be called the Tivoli, and which will be the most elegant place of amusement in the city.

THE Hayes Hayes Hayes wagon is again on the Lancaster *Tribune*. It crops from its obscurity upon occasions like this and the rule of thumb, and with its mummery about "legitimate" advocates Grover Cleveland.

A DOZEN or more people were killed in a railroad wreck near Bangor, Me., on the night of the 17th. The train was composed of a baggage car, a passenger car, and a sleeper, and was crowded with people returning from the Portland festivities. The baggage car was crushed to a mere mass of splinters, and the sleeper was thrown from the track. The passenger car was not much injured, but it was filled with people who were thrown from their seats and more or less bruised. The sleeper