

Lancaster Intelligencer.

MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 31, 1881.

Electoral Defects.

The subject of greatest importance to the American people, which receives the least attention in the quarters where such attention should be had, is the rickety condition of our present ill-defined plan of electing president and vice president.

An intelligent correspondent of the New York Sun calls attention to an omission in the present electoral provisions, which has often occurred to us and for which there seems to be no direction in the existing law.

One of Allentown's citizens, whose conscience was never known to keep him awake at nights, became tired of his wife, and gave her away to a friend for her keep.

On Wednesday of this week the moon will be near Venus; on Thursday Jupiter will receive a call from her; early on Friday morning it will be old Saturn's turn, and on Saturday distant Neptune will become yet more dim in the presence of our brilliant satellite.

The startling discovery is made that our Bill English will get in after all. Arthur, vice president-elect, is foreign born.

These and many more serious supposable cases illustrate that the present law is silent or ambiguous on points where the present political temper of the country cannot be safely trusted to construe silence and ambiguity.

The Utica Observer presents a remarkable illustration of how the public standard of popular rights has been lowered by the aggressive attitude of corporations and money.

MUSICAL criticism is a good thing—when it criticizes. As four Pittsburgh morning papers discovered after they had published elaborate critiques of Miss Carey's singing at a concert where she was announced to sing—but didn't.

MINOR TOPICS.

Up to Dec. 31, the French government had expelled, all told, 5,768 members of religious orders, including 2,464 Jesuits, 409 Franciscans, 406 Capucins, 294 Dominicans, 240 Oblates, 239 Benedictines, and 198 Redemptorists.

ONLY twelve members of the committee of 100 Reform Republicans in Philadelphia have resigned because the committee withdrew from Stokley's support and went for Samuel King, Democrat, for mayor.

CONKLING makes no secret of his determination to prevent, if possible, the confirmation of George H. Foster as Stewart L. Woodford's successor. He writes either to have the nomination rejected or else not acted upon.

YESTERDAY the opponents of Rev. Apple looked on the scene of Bellu's church, several miles from Reading, with a great outside and held it by force, compelling him to hold services and install the newly elected officers in the open air in front of the building.

THE DAUPHIN county court has set aside the special session in March for the trial of the alleged murderers of a farmer named Troutman in the upper end of the county.

Small-pox and diphtheria are reported making fearful ravages in the counties of Belle Chasse and Dorchester, Canada.

JOHN KINNAMOND, the son of a butcher of Haverford, Pa., was shot and killed at Babylon, L. I., by the accidental discharge of his gun.

THE PHILADELPHIA Record is no doubt justified in saying that William V. McGrath never lent himself to or was benefited by any bargain, consideration or sale that either compromised his own manhood, his party principles or the success of the organization to which he belongs.

March 16, 1848, for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of San Cruz de Rosales, Mexico. He resigned February 1, 1853, but entered the army again during the rebellion.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

The Norristown Herald urges that the senatorial dead-lock be broken by the election of Grant.

Frederick Fry, a countryman, aged 23 blew out the gas in a Williamsport hotel. He may live.

In Berryburg, Dauphin county, the clothes of Mrs. Diggins, but she was not killed, as she was smoking and she burned to death.

The re-union of the 50th regiment P. V., Reading, on the 29th prox., will be attended, it is expected, by members from Berks, Schuylkill, Luzerne, Bradford, Lancaster and Chester counties, in which counties the regiment was recruited.

YESTERDAY morning a party of citizens from Kinzua, McKean county, went into the woods to see a well torpedooed. Forty quarts of nitro-glycerine were put into a barrel to blow.

On Saturday afternoon Paul Quigley and John Temple, who were confined in No. 64 in the prison, were detected in an attempt to break jail by Boss Cigar Maker Frailey and Underkeeper Murr.

JOSEPH Goldwater, formerly of the firm of Goldwater, Goldstein, Peabody and Ehrenberg, Arizona, has left for Arizona after victimizing a number of wholesale merchants of San Francisco to the extent of \$90,000 to \$100,000 worth of goods.

FOR some time rumors have been frequently circulated that a young lady named Miss Gertrude Manning, residing with her uncle, W. L. Manning, in Malony, N. Y., was being systematically poisoned.

The Adams cotton mills at Bainbridge, Ga., were destroyed by fire yesterday. Loss, \$30,000; insurance, \$12,000.

W. Trow & Co.'s flour mill at Madison, Wis., was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. Loss, \$185,000; insurance, \$56,000, mostly in foreign and New York companies. The mill will be rebuilt.

A fire last evening in the upper floors of the "Down Town Club" building, at Nos. 50 and 52 Pine street, New York, caused a damage of \$20,000 to \$25,000. The furniture, etc., was badly damaged by water.

A large fire at Johnstown, N. Y., destroyed the furniture store of Wm. Arsenault, valued at \$20,000 to \$25,000. The fire originated on the second floor and is attributed to incendiaryism. The loss is heavy and the insurance light.

The mail train on the Sunbury & Lewisburg road, between Sunbury and Lewisburg, was wrecked on the 29th prox., by a broken rail, by which the train was run off the track.

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THE PRIZE SHOW.

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OUR LOCAL SCIENTISTS.

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TOBACCO.

After an interesting and friendly conference the society adjourned.

After the activity of the previous week the market was comparatively quiet. The continued reports of the bad condition of the '80 Pennsylvania have caused jobbers and manufacturers to provide themselves with larger quantities of the '79 crop of that state than they would have had the '80 Pennsylvania been more promising.

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