Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 8, 1881.

A Sham Union.

Mr. Jay Gould makes fine promises in behalf of the united telegraph companies. He proposes to make telegraphing cheap and to embrace the world in the operations of his company. Unfortunately Mr. Gould's reputation for veracity is bad. He never tells the truth when it is inconvenient to do so; and the only way of judging him is to determine his interest and construe his language according to it. And to us it seems that if Mr. Gould really did desire to introduce cheap telegraphing, and has the ambition and the means to extend it over the world, he would not start out by buying a company at a price four times greater than its intrinsic value; but he would begin on the ground and seize the commanding advantage of duplicating the lines of his competitor at a cost so much less that he could earn a dividend for his new company, while the old one was kept busy paying its expenses. Evidently a telegraph business is not different from any other business in the rules governing its successful administration; and every one knows that Mr. Gould could send a message at a less cost, if his capital on which a profit was to be earned was twenty millions instead of eighty: provided he had money enough to stand the fight with his opponent until it was forced to the wall. Mr. Gould is a shrewd man, and if he intended to keep in the telegraph business he would face the fight with his opponents, as Commodore Vanderbilt used to do; until they were sick enough to surrender. Mr. Gould's method of combining with the Western Union on terms apparently profitable to the two companies, but which load the combined company down with a weight which will make it an easy victim of the lightly equipped telegraph enterprises that will now start up to do her battle, shows clearly enough that the whole thing is a stock jobbing conspiracy.

We do not ourselves believe that the union will be finally accomplished. When the time comes that it can be dropped with profit it will be dropped. It is contrary to public sentiment and contrary to the law: at least in Pennsylvania; and what chance is there for the realization of Mr. Jay Gould's great telegraph enterprise, to cover all the world, when he cannot even get into his neighboring state with it? There is no possible chance of the combined company existing here under the prohibition of our constitution, and that fact of itself shows that the whole project is rotten.

A Decision Wanted.

The judges of the court do not seem to realize the serious inconvenience the creditors of the city are put to by reason of the paralysis of the treasurer's office, else they certainly would decide without delay the application pending before them for a mandamus, and so settle the question as to who is in fact the city treasurer. We have heretofore emphatically declared our belief that the proceedings of city council have been unfair to Mr. Welchans, even to the point of maliciousness. We believe they have subjected the city to a heavy claim for damages on his part: and that, moreover, the members of the committee who reported him to be a defaulter were guilty of a gross libel, for which they deserve to suffer smartly. Still he seems to have been lawfully ousted from his office and only has his remedy in his action for damages. The court, as we understand, has substantially so decided already. Why then does it not formally render the decision which will enable the city to pay its creditors? The interest upon a great many bonds has become due since the first of the year, and remains unpaid. A sum due the state for tax on city loans is likewise in arrear; as are other items of indebtedness, which cannot be paid until the court acts and releases the twelve thousand dollars in Mr. Welchans's hands belonging to the city, and which now yields it no profit and really is the property of its creditors. The stupidity of the councils has very unnecessarily produced this state of affairs. The whole quarrel with the treasurer has been as senseless as anything we ever knew to be done, even by the authorities of our town. And there is no remedy but the interposition of the court, which should act one way or the other; and it don't matter a copper which, so that it acts.

ALL reports from Harrisburg agree that the present week will see a sharp turn in the senatorial situation there. It is not believed for an instant that the election of either Grow or Oliver will be the outcome of the struggle if its end is near at hand. But the supporters of each will make resolute effort to control the issue. Nor likely will any one of the seven names proffered by the Grow faction get enough votes from the caucus wing to elect him: and Scofield is talked of as the coming man. He would not be unacceptable to Cameron; for although he is brilliant enough to outshine the present senator on the floor, he is just indifferent enough to hand over to THE FAMILY exclusive control of the Pennsylvania patronage.

GOVERNOR HOYT, it seems, is hunting up a successor for Superintendent of Schools Wickersham; which is wicked in Hoyt. What does he do it for? They do really say that he has already offered the place to two gentlemen, who have declined it, because, we presume, it did not suit their tastes. It does suit Mr. Wickersham's taste. The Philadelphia *Press* thinks he ought to be allowed to taste its joys and profits yet a little longer. We do not know that we have any opinion to express; as we are not of the family our interference might be deemed obtrusive and impertinent. But why does Hoyt look coldly upon Wickersham? Does he really linger reflectingly upon the last syllable of his name?

IF Pennsylvania is to have, say, the postmaster generalship, John Cessna thinks he is just such a shaped peg as will fit in a hole of that shape.

"UNCLE REMUS" tells us that in that early assembly of the animals, which he has so graphically described, at one stage of the proceedings "sech a racket wuz a gwine on dat nobody ain't hear it, 'cep pin may be de Mud Turkle en de Spring Lizzud, *en dere enfloons wuz pow'ful lackin'*." It seems to us that the bosses of state politics must be beginning to realize that their influence at Harrisburg is "pow'ful lackin'."

KING, Hunter, Worrell and Reform are marching on in Philadelphia at a pace which gives reassurance to the hope that on the morning after the election the "Blossom Bricks" and "Mike Mulhoolys" will find that their "enfloons wuz pow'ful lackin'."

MINOR TOPICS.

REPRESENTATIVE BIERLY, of Williamsport, has introduced into the Legislature "an act to preserve the secrecy of the ballot," which provides that it shall be unlawful to print or cause to be printed for use or cause to be used at any election in this commonwealth any ticket or tickets with any engraved fancy or ornamental head, or with any distinguishing mark, type, design or designation by which the character of the ticket would be made known when folded according to law; and affixing a heavy penalty for violation.

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN H. LANDIS, to whom we are indebted for many other state documents, sends us a copy of an act introduced by himself and reported by Mr. White, of the committee on elections, "to prevent bribery and fraud at nominating elections, nominating conventions, and at elections of delegates to nominating conventions in the several counties of this commonwealth." It makes bribery, direct or indirect, or fraudulent voting at primary and delegate elections, a misdemeanor, punishable with fine and imprisonment.

THE value of Evangelical church property in the country increased from $71,275,900, in 1850, to $271,477,391, in 1870. Church debts also increased alarmingly in the same period. Within the past thirty years, American Protestants have raised more money for purely missionary purposes that the Protestants of all Christendom raised in the previous three centuries—the total falling only a little short of $100,000,000. The members of the Evangelical Protestant churches in the United States numbered about 6,500,000 in 1870, and in 1880 about 9,700,000.

THE expenses of the White House, paid out of the federal treasury under Polk, were about $4,000. In 1876 Congress appropriated for the same purpose $24,000 besides the $50,000 presidential salary. The last appropriation, entitled in the statute book, "Officials in the office of the president," read thus: Private secretary, $3,250; assistant secretary, $2,250; two clerks, $4,000; stenographer, $1,800; one clerk, class four, $1,800; one clerk, class two, $1,400; one clerk, class one, $1,200; steward, $1,800; two day ushers, $2,600; five messengers, $6,000; two doorkeepers, $2,400; one night usher $1,200; one watchman, $900; one fireman, $864; contingent expenses, $8,000; total, $39,464.

THE *American*, of Philadelphia, clearly sees that the agricultural college in Centre county, created out of the grant of land made in this and other states, "for the encouragement of agriculture and the mechanic arts," is a failure. It ascribes its lack of success not to its situation nor to a lack of energy in its managers nor to a want of external impulse and help. "The farming class cannot be induced to send their sons to it. Those of them who wish to make them farmers, keep them on the farm; those who are ambitious of a more liberal education for them, send them the colleges and universities. It is true, that as our state and our country are closely settled, the need of scientific training for the farmer will be felt, and there will be room for such agricultural colleges as have been found beneficial in Europe. But for the present, we are wasting every year $30,000, which might be laid out, in other ways, in advancing just the class of interests the grant was meant to benefit, and which might again be delivered to an agricultural college when the time comes for such an institution."

PERSONAL.

The Japanese minister at Washington has three children—Foomi (literature), Kipokasi (clear mind) and Ulysses Grant.

GLADSTONE remitted 20 per cent. of his tenants' rents. BEACONFIELD "saw" him and did the same.

BISMARCK'S son Herbert, who has become his father's private secretary, is like the paternal prince in many things.

MRS. HAYES has a record of the White House entertainments under her rule in the shape of a large album, containing diagrams of dinner parties, names of guests, etc.

Queen VICTORIA departs from her usual India shawl in the wedding gift which she is going to present to Princess Stephanie. It is to be a magnificent embossed silver service, with epergnes of the most splendid sort.

The relatives of the late Mr. CARLYLE have declined the proposal of Dean Stanley that Mr. Carlyle's remains be buried in Westminster Abbey, because he expressed a decided wish to be buried with his wife at Haddington.

Ex-Vice President HENRY WILSON, until he was twenty-one years old, never had a dollar in money to spend for anything. During his whole apprenticeship his master never gave him a penny but once; then he presented the boy with three cents and allowed him to spend it at a muster.

Madame ANNA BISHOP sang at Steinway hall, New York, on Sunday night, to a third generation of auditors, who were surprised by the power and sweetness that her voice retains, though she is sixty-six years of age. She made her first appearance in concert forty-four years ago.

Mr. AARON BURR HAYS, of New York, who died the other day, was remarkable for two things. He was the oldest bank cashier in the world and the only man in America named after Aaron Burr. His name was a thorn in his side, and he never signed his name other than "A. B. Hays."

MAJOR D. G. SWAIN was nominated for the judge advocate generalship over the heads of six senior officers because the major is an Ohio man. Equal indignation is excited by the nomination of Capt. R. L. Law, of the navy, to be commodore. The allegation is that thirty-six senior officers were skipped in order to advance this gentleman.

Mr. WINANS, the son of the late Baltimore millionaire, lives in great splendor in England, having one of the most magnificent places in London, and with one exception, the finest deer park in Scotland, which is kept up in royal style. He has a morbid dread of the sea, and says nothing would tempt him to cross it again, and neither of his two sons had ever been in America. His income is nearly $1,000,000 with a prospect of trebling in ten years. He spends his money *en prince*, but himself cares for nothing but engineering.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

The total destruction of the Hudson Bay company's buildings and fort at Bellaco'a, British Columbia, is reported.

The ship Bremen was wrecked near Lerwick, Shetland Island, on Friday. Thirteen of the crew were drowned and seven saved.

Seventeen men are imprisoned and supposed to have perished by a colliery explosion in the Whitfield colliery, near Chell, Staffordshire, England. The pit took fire and is still burning.

D. P. Burnett, familiarly known as "Doug" Burnett, aged 38, a well-known Chicago telegraph operator, committed suicide last night by shooting himself in the head in the Olympic theatre building, in that city.

A fire a Omro, Wis., yesterday morning, destroyed one-half of the business portion of the town, including ten stores and a planing mill, Thompson & Hayden's carriage works and a large business block. The loss is not less than $200,000.

The pigeon match at Henden, England, between Dr. Carver and Mr. Scott—each shooting at one hundred pigeons—for £200 a side and the championship, was won by Dr. Carver by four birds, although Mr. Scott was leading at the fiftieth round. The score was: Carver, 66 birds; Scott, 62 birds.

Some time ago the citizens of Lebanon purchased a gold spike for the central tie of the Cincinnati Northern railroad track at the Broadway crossing. The golden nail attracted great attention. A few days ago the spike was missed and it was discovered that a thief had drawn it, driving in its place an iron spike. A reward of $3,000 has been offered for the return of the spike and $700 for the capture of the thief.

The new court house at Wilmington was opened formally yesterday, the February term of the court of general sessions being opened at 11 o'clock. The 300 chairs in the court room were filled in a few moments after the dors had been opened and every foot of standing room soon was occupied. Chief Justice Comegys delivered a long charge to the grand jury. In the course of it he said that as most of the crime that required the attention of the court was committed in Wilmington it was right that the county seat should be located there. He charged vigorously against Bob Ingersoll's blasphemies and dog fights.

STATE ITEMS.

Maggie Jones alias, Minnie Ryan, a dissolute woman of Pittsburgh, has poisoned herself in grief over the death of her lover.

The John Welsh boom having flashed in the pan the Philadelphia *Bulletin* now starts Daniel J. Morrell.

Judge Galbraith, of Erie has dissolved the marriage of Flora Grace, a child under twelve, who by force and fraud was married to Louis Grace, a man old enough to be her father.

Mrs. Eve Williams, an old lady of 73 years, is lying in danger of death at her residence, No. 1508 Sansom street, Philadelphia, from the results of being knocked down by a Herdic coach on Market street, near Thirteenth.

Addison Kowland a miser died in a miserable hovel in Meadville on Saturday. Among his effects were $456 in gold, $1,952 in silver and $2,640 in greenbacks. Besides these there was a box of fractional currency, a bushel of pennies, large sums of county orders, six gold watches, twenty four silver and a large amount of silverware and jewelry. He was a cobbler.

Thos. Loomis, living near Coatesville, was out sleighing on Saturday night, when the horse got the better of his driver and ran away. Loomis jumped out and the horse, a fine Hambletonian colt, ran onto the Pennsylvania railroad bridge and fell between the sleepers, and was cut literally in two by a train, which came along a minute or two later.

STANLEY MATTHEWS.

The New York Board of Trade Forward a Telegram to the Senate Judiciary Committee Protesting Against His Confirmation.

The following telegram was forwarded by the president and secretary of the New York board of trade and transportation.

"To the judiciary committee of the United States Senate: In behalf of eight hundred business firms, members of the New York board of trade and transportation, we respectfully but earnestly protest against the confirmation of Hon. Stanley Matthews as a judge of the supreme court of the United States for the following reasons: We are informed and believe that the great railroad corporations of the country are endeavoring to obtain control of this court of last resort, which has heretofore been the most important bulwark in defending the public interests against the encroachments of corporations; that Matthews has been educated as a railroad attorney, and naturally views railroad questions from a railroad standpoint; that his action while a member of the United States Senate proves this, and in this important respect renders him unfit for the position of a judge of the supreme court."

Why Is This Thus?

We read in the Chester county papers that a runaway horse and sleigh becoming extricated in a high railroad bridge at Coatesville on Saturday night remained there until a freight train running very fast, came along, striking the obstruction, knocking the sleigh over the south side of the bridge fully two hundred yards from where it was struck, and dragging or rolling the horse over the floor beams of the bridge under the engine until the head and front legs were forced down on one side of a beam and the hind legs down on the other side, leaving him thus suspended." Luckily the train was not thrown over the bridge, and luckily it was not a passenger train "running at a high rate of speed," which encountered this danger of a terrible accident, threatening death to all on board, on the highest bridge on the road. Which leads us to inquire why such an obstruction—as experience has shown is very liable to occur at that point—was left remain "until a freight train running very fast came along" to knock it off. Is there no watchman stationed there; and if so what does he watch? A good many people whose precious lives are carried over that frightful height by day and by night want to know to what danger they are exposed

A MARRIAGE AT MIDNIGHT.

MITCHELL'S STARTLING EXPERIENCE IN MR. FORSYTH'S HOUSE.

A Young Man and a Minister Acting Under the Compulsion of a Revolver—Strange Revelations of a Baltimore Divorce Case.

In Baltimore Judge Dobbin granted a decree divorcing Mellon Mitchell from Carrie B. Mitchell and forbidding the latter to marry again during the lifetime of the former. The circumstances leading to the divorce constitute an astonishing narrative.

Mitchell is 22 years of age. Mrs. Mitchell, who was a Miss Forsyth, is 18. Both have moved in good society in the West End. On the night of August 5 Mitchell received a note from Mr. Frank J. Forsyth, 177 George street, requesting him to call at once, which he accordingly did, arriving about midnight. Mr. Forsyth opened the door and in a mysterious manner invited Mitchell up stairs, saying that his daughter, Miss Carrie B. Forsyth, wished to see him. Mitchell went up stairs and was shown into a bedroom by Mr. Forsyth. Mitchell was astonished at seeing Miss Forsyth in bed. She appeared to be in great mental distress and was deadly pale. Mitchell, after a slight pause, advanced and took the hand of the young lady, asking her if she was ill, and expressing his regret. Before he received any response he heard the click of the lock, and turning found that Mr. Forsyth had locked him in and stood in front of the door with a drawn pistol in his hand. Mr. Forsyth exclaimed: "You have taken advantage of my daughter, and must either marry her at once or die on the spot." The astonished visitor vowed and protested that he was guiltless of the offence charged, but Mr. Forsyth, cocking his pistol, said furiously that the marriage should at once take place or Mitchell should die. Mitchell was finally frightened into giving his consent.

The Rev. Thomas Dougherty, a Methodist Episcopal clergyman, was then sent for. He at first strongly objected to marrying the couple, demanding that a license should first be procured. Mr. Forsyth flourished his pistol, and said that license or no license, the man who had wronged his daughter should be married to her. Mr. Dougherty was at last prevailed upon to read the marriage ceremony, and pronounced the couple man wife. Mr. Forsyth then retired from the room, leaving Mitchell behind. The latter promptly made his escape, and, overtaking Mr. Dougherty, informed him that Forsyth's accusations were entirely false.

In the hearing before a commissioner after the suit for a divorce had been begun testimony was introduced to the effect that the condition of the girl was misrepresented, so as to induce the clergyman to marry them, and as a part of a scheme to force Mitchell into the marriage in order to gratify Miss Forsyth, who was in love with him. The Rev. Mr. Dougherty, in his testimony, stated that he was sent for by Mr. Forsyth on the night of the marriage to come and see his daughter, who was dying. He was conducted to the house and shown into an upper bed-room, where the girl was in bed. Under pressure of threats from Forsyth he had performed the ceremony under protest.

In the answer filed by Miss Forsyth she denied that her father employed any violence toward Mitchell, and stated that the latter did not hesitate a moment when asked to marry her; that she became acquainted with him in July, 1877, and they became engaged to each other and interchanged promises of marriage in the month of August, 1877, and that the engagement continued in full force up to the time of their marriage. After their marriage he was very kind to her, came to see her every day, and in all respects recognized and treated her as his lawfully wedded wife until last Aug. 29, when the marriage was announced in a Baltimore newspaper. He then ceased to visit her, having been sent, as she was informed, out of the city for several months by his mother.

The fact that the families of both the parties to the suit are responsible and quite wealthy people adds another to the singular features of the case. The decision of the court granting the divorce, and condemning the girl to celibacy during Mitchell's lifetime was a great blow to her family, and they will probably take the case to the state court of appeals.

A MANIAC'S FURY.

THE ATTEMPTED SHOOTING IN BALTIMORE.

Captain Ames Believed to be Insane and an Asylum Instead of a Prison Likely to be His Punishment.

The startling sensation created in Baltimore on Friday night, at the residence of Mrs. Harriet Stirling, No. 143 McCulloch street, by the attempt made to shoot that lady and Mr. M. W. Hodgdon, of New York, has furnished much food for comment in northwest Baltimore. Captain E. R. Ames, only son of the late Bishop E. R. Ames, who is accused of the shooting, was placed in a comfortable cell with a bed and a chair, and spent his time in reading the papers and smoking cigars He is a tall, fine-looking man, with dark blue eyes and a full black beard. Occasionally, while he was not smoking or reading, he sat back in his chair with the unmistakable expression of the deepest melancholy on his face. He refused to talk, and at the hearing before Justice Rhodes he listened to the evidence and ventured nothing in reply.

The evidence as given by Mr. M. W. Hodgdon went to show that he and Mrs. Stirling had finished their supper and were sitting in the dining room in front of the fire, about eight o'clock in the evening, Mrs. Stirling remarked that Captain Ames had not been to tea, and calling a domestic she sent him to Captain Ames's room to see if he was in and if he would have his supper brought sent to him. The servant had hardly left the room when heavy, hurried footsteps were heard in the hall, and a moment later Captain Ames stood in the room, his face flushed with a strange, wild excitement, and a pistol in his hand. Mrs. Stirling and Mr. Hodgdon started to their feet, the latter endeavoring to dodge the ball fired at him from Captain Ames' pistol. Before the trigger could be pulled a second time Mr. Hodgdon had Captain Ames in his grasp and endeavored to wrest the pistol from him, but without effect. Two discharges were fired while the men were struggling, but, like the first, they fortunately went wide of the mark.

Mr. Hodgdon seems to be willing to withdraw from the prosecution provided it can be shown, on competent authority, that Captain Ames is insane, as claimed by his friends; but he thinks that he is a dangerous man to be at large. The general opinion is that Captain Ames is a hypochondriac. He was honorably discharged from the United States regular army some years ago on account of lung disease, and a short while after, in 1876, he was sent to Mount Hope. At that time, while he was living in his father's house, he was arrested by Sergeant Wessels, who seized him while he was in the act of firing off two revolvers at the same time.

With the consent of the state's attorney, of Baltimore, Captain Ames has been sent to a private asylum for the insane, where he will remain until his sanity or insanity, as the case may be, has been established by a competent court. The physician who has been attending Captain Ames for the past two years claims that he is a victim af melancholia and nervous exhaustion, and that he should have been sent to an insane asylum months ago. The fact that he was disinherited by his father, Bishop Ames, is also alleged as a cause for the loss of his reason.

The News John Cessna Brought.

Harrisburg dispatch.

Hon. John Cessna returned from Mentor, where he had a lengthy interview with Genera Garfield. Mr. Cessna says that General Garfield was very communicative and talked in a frank, free manner concerning present and future events. Among other things the president-elect touched upon was the Pennsylvania senatorship, saying that it would be greatly deplored if the Pennsylvania Republicans did not settle their differences and elect a good Republican to the United Sates Senate. General Garfield also said that he had resolved to take a Pennsylvanian as a member of his cabinet, but if the factions in the state do not reconcile their divisions and unite in recommending a man with some degree of unanimity he will have to pass Pennsylvania by.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

EAST END NEWS.

Our Salisbury Correspondence.

The tobacco market has been lively in Salisbury during the last week. Messrs. Worst & Shertz have bought quite a number of crops. Messrs. Shingle, Moore, and Skiles & Fry, have all secured several crops each, at figures ranging from 12 and 13 to 22 and 23; but there still remains about one-half of the crop in this township. Some of the largest and finest crops are still unsold. Messrs. Worst & Shertz commenced packing last week in Mr. Isaac Coffroath's warehouse, about a mile north of Springville; they were compelled to pack there on account of the early freeze-up, which delayed the finishing of their own warehouse in time to commence packing. They have about ten hands at work.

The snow has again blocked up our roads, thereby causing considerable work in shoveling them out, the high winds refilling them almost as fast as they are opened. Several heavy loaded teams stuck fast in the drifts during the week and caused the neighbors to turn out with shovels before they could be extricated.

David W. Kurtz drove from this place to Carlisle one day last week and returned two days afterwards, in a day making a drive of about 160 miles in two days. Rather good driving to be done with a farm horse.

Your correspondent met with a slight misfortune a few days since. While cutting wood he froze both hands, and at present is wearing a large blister on each finger to remember the cold snap by.

An outrage was committed on one of our most respected young men last Sunday evening. Mr. Lorenza Hilton and sister visited Bridgeville church, and on their way home, near the Sorrel Horse hotel, in East Earl township, their horse was caught by some ruffian while three others of the same stripe proceeded to assault Mr. Hilton in his sleigh. Two held his head down and the third dealt him several very severe blows about the head. The screams of his sister finally brought him assistance, who compelled them to desist and release his horse, thus allowing him to escape. Mr. Hilton does not know what the motive was, but most likely the scoundrels meditated robbery, as he frequently is known to carry considerable money with him. We hope that when the same party undertake to play the same trick on our young men again they will meet with the kind of reception that their conduct deserves, which will be a few ounces of cold lead.

Small politics are again lively in Salisbury, there being six candidates for road commissioner and all claim that they are sure of election. There will either have to be more offices created or fewer candidates if all their assertions prove correct.

Sleighing is still good and our young folks are making good use of it, surprise parties being the order of the day. There are three or four in this neighborhood every week, but still weddings are scarce. May be they will take place later.

A. D. Ammon, of this place, has leased the Swan hotel in Chester county and will remove there on April 1st. He is a good fellow and should receive a fair patronage in his new undertaking.

Mr. A. B. Ayres lost a valuable cow by death last week and Mr. John Wanner lost a valuable driving horse in the same way.

Our school was visited this week by their old teacher Mr. Geo. W. Horne, accompanied by Miss Mamie Kulins, also a teacher. He was warmly welcomed by his class of 1879 and '80, and he in turn highly complimented them on their progress since he left, and they have passed into the charge of their able and efficient tutor, Miss Clara N. Fitch. They passed a pleasant half day together and a profitable one to all.

EMPIRE HOOK AND LADDER.

Election of Officers Last Night.

The Empire hook and ladder company elected the following officers last night:

President—C. M. Howell.
1st Vice President—A. S. Edwards.
2d Vice President—H. C. Demuth, jr.
3d Vice President—J. P. Shirk.
Recording Secretary—H. Carpenter.
Financial Secretary—Sam. Sprecher.
Treasurer—I. Carpenter.
Directors—J. C. Carter, J. Levy, B. J. Brown, W. J. Fordney, H. Carpenter, I. Carpenter, W. C. Arnold, H. J. Martin, T. C. Wiley, F. R. Howell, J. W. Reed.
Trustees—J. Levy, W. J. Fordney, A. Lechler, sr., P. E. Slaymaker, F. A Demuth, T. C. Wiley, C. M. Howell.
Delegates—T. C. Wiley, Sam. Sprecher, J. Levy, C. M. Howell, H. N. Howell.
Delegate to Firemen's State Convention—A. S. Edwards.

The report of the treasurer showed that from May 5, 1879, to February 7, 1881, the company received $1,116.06, and from May 13, 1879, to to February 7, 1881, they paid out $1,151.12 Of the first amount but $375 was received from the city, and none of the latter was spent in going to Chambersburg.

After the meeting adjourned the members of the company were taken to Copland's where they were royally entertained by the newly elected officers, and a couple of hours were very pleasantly spent.

DISMISSED CASES.

The Mayor and Aldermen's Fees.

Following are the amounts paid by the county commissioners to the mayor and the several aldermen of the city for cases heard before them and dismissed during the past month:

First ward,	McConomy	$ 40.45
Second "	Wiley	5.40
Third "	Barr	182.40
Fourth "	Spurrier	234.65
Fifth "	Good	00
Sixth "	Samson	25.75
Seventh "	Alex Donnelly	54.30
Eighth "	Patrick Donnelly	51.80
Ninth "	Miley	00
Mayor		42.75
Total		$637.50

The amounts paid the aldermen are of course for their own "use and behoof;" but the amount paid the mayor goes directly into the city treasury for the use of the city.

Foot Amputated.

Ex-Commissioner John McWilliams, of Coatesville, who had his ankle badly mashed by a water wheel a few days ago, has been obliged to suffer amputation of the foot, which operation was performed by the surgeons at the hospital at 39th and Powellton avenue, Philadelphia, on Friday last, where he was taken after the accident.

ABOUT APPLES.

Essay Read by Calvin Cooper at a Meeting of the Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Monday, February 7, 1881.

It has, for some years, been manifest that Lancaster county cannot compete with western New York and some of the northwestern states, in growing apples for market. Our apple crop of 1880 was a plentiful one, but about the holidays very few good Lancaster county apples could be found in our market, while York state apples, of the best quality, were plenty, at about two dollars a barrel. Owing to the extreme hot and dry summers that have been the rule for ten or more years past, our apples ripened so early in the season that they were not to be relied on for winter use. Many persons pronounce apple culture unprofitable, and in consequence orchards are left to go down, and new ones are sparingly planted. It may be admitted that, in a commercial sense, nineteenth-twentieths of our orchards are a failure, but it is, nevertheless, a mistake for any one the think that he has a well-regulated farm on which there is no orchard. An acre orchard of good varieties with ordinary care will one year with another, without selling a dollar's worth of fruit, realize more to the owner than his average acre of the farm. It furnishes us with sauce, pies, cider, vinegar, apple-butter, suits, a supply of ripe fruit from early in July to winter, giving comfort and health to the children and all about the house; also, taking into consideration the saving of bread and meat and it will also be quite an item in the saving of corn by feeding the scrubs and surplus to the pigs.

Add all these together, and see if your orchard does not compare favorably with your other acres. But apple culture is not so entirely discouraging, but that by judicious selection of varieties, soil and care, orchards could be made profitable, commercially.

An intelligent farmer in Strasburg township realized five hundred dollars (actual sale) from an orchard of one hundred and fifty trees. His selections of varieties is a good one, but for his special market purposes his profits would have been better if he had only had half or perhaps one-third as many varieties.

A good selection of fifty trees for home use would be about as follows, viz.:

1 Early Harvest, 2 All Summer, 1 Red Astrachan, 2 Benoni, 2 Maiden's Blush, 2 Jeffries, 2 Townsend, 2 Hubbardston Nonsuch, 4 Smokehouse, 2 Mellinger, 2 Rambo 4 Baldwin, 4 Greist's winter, 4 York Imperial, 4 Smith's Cider, 4 Willow Twig, 4 Russets, 4 Sweet.

If the fruit is wanted for a general market during the season the list would be better somewhat like this:

2 Early Harvest, 4 Red Astrachan, 4 Benoni, 6 Mellinger, 6 Maiden's Blush, 8 Smokehouse, 6 Hubbardston Nonsuch, 8 Baldwin, 6 York Imperial.

Or, if the fruit is wanted for a special market, the list would admit of further improvement, say:

10 Smokehouse, 10 Baldwin, 10 Ewalt, 10 York Imperial, 10 Smith's Cider, 10 Greist's Winter.

Many years of observation has shown that the foregoing varieties are reliable and valuable, but there are many other kinds that are equally good.

The rule by which the planter should be governed is to plant largely of varieties that he knows are especially good and profitable in his own neighborhood.

In order to be more successful with our future orchards, we will have to pay more attention to the soil and location. Our dry southern slopes must be avoided as much as possible. Northern inclinations are preferable, because they are not so much affected by the sun and dry weather. Deep clay loams retain moisture better than sandy soils, and therefore should have the preference.

To grow the special list above given, it will be of the highest importance to have a rich moisture, retentive soil, a level bottom or a drained swamp, where the water may be but a few feet beneath the surface, but where no stagnant water remains after a rainfall, or a rather steep northern slope of a hill.

Any one having such a situation could hardly fail in having an orchard that would yield far better returns than the average crops of the farm.

If these northern slopes, or moisture-retaining soils, are not available, we must guard against the effects of heat and drought by cultivating and mulching.

If all the water that falls in our summer thunder showers could be made available, our trees would want very little more. But these fall so fast, and often last but a few minutes, that the soil becomes moist only an inch or two, while the bulk of the water flows away. Some one has suggested that a basin be made around the tree by banking up the earth that would hold a hogshead or more, into which the waste water could be turned with very little labor. The water would soon sink away and moisten the earth so deep that it would take some time to dry out. The suggestion is worthy of consideration.

After the selection of a site, and the proper planting of the trees, it is important that we give our orchard proper attention and care. We do not attempt to raise a crop of corn or tobacco without manuring and cultivating. We sometimes think it expedient to put $50 worth of manure to an acre for tobacco. But as the seasons come around we look for a crop of apples, never thinking that the trees too want manure and cultivation.

Ten dollars worth of manure to the acre in the shape of wood ashes or superphosphate would no doubt be a paying investment, adding not only vigor to the tree, but also size and beauty to the fruit. Trees are very grateful for cultivation. It is astonishing what vigor, with the aid of manure, it will put into trees.

A plot of ground was dug and manured, and has been annually top-dressed for a few years for an experimental grape patch. On this plot stood an old dwarf pear, over twenty-five years old, a poor, stunted thing. This, under the treatment, took a new lease of life, and is now as thrifty as a fruit tree can be. Where it is impracticable to continue cultivation, the next best thing is to sow to grass and give liberal treatment afterwards. An annual top dressing of a fertilizer, rich in potash and phosphoric acid, to the amount of from two to four hundred weight to the acre, would make a crop of grass and keep the trees thrifty. The first cutting of the grass could be made into hay, while the second should be spread over the ground where it would act as a mulch and as a manure. It has been recommended by a good authority that a top-dressing of half a cart load of pond wash or earth from ditches, swamps, &c., spread around each tree is highly beneficial.

Orchards so situated, where the wash from roads and hillsides can be conducted over them, are always among the best bearers. This may also be a hint for selecting a site. The secret of success with orchards, therefore, would appear to be to a great extent in our own control.

COAL GAS.

Narrow Escape from Suffocation.

Last night Dr. A. Groff, wife and daughter, residing at No. 3 Middle street, made a narrow escape from asphyxiation. Having replenished the fires before retiring, the doors of the heater burst open some time during the night, the result of course being that a large quantity of coal gas rushed out and soon pervaded the house. On awakening this morning the doctor and his wife were unable to get up, though finally after some effort Mrs. Groff succeeded in crawling out to the balcony, opening the window and allowing fresh air to take the place of the poisoned atmosphere of the bed-room. Then, with great difficulty, Mrs. Groff aroused her daughter in an adjoining apartment, who was yet asleep and apparently overerpowered by the gas. Medical aid was quickly summoned, the proper restoratives were applied, and no injurious effects are anticipated.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

Before Judge Livingston.

In the case of the Hanover Junction & Susquehanna railroad company vs. Spangler & Rich the plaintiff suffered a non suit.

E. K. Smith, trustee of and for the sole and separate use of Annie M. C. Hinkle vs. Franklin Hinkle. A verdict was taken in this case in favor of the plaintiff for $12,933.33.

E. K. Smith, in trust to and for the sole use and benefit of Annie M. C. Hinkle vs. Franklin Hinkle. Verdict taken for plaintiff for $1,847.

In the case of Samuel Truscott, guardian of the minor children of Charles Pantle, deceased, vs. Clara R. Shreiner, surviving executrix of Philip Shreiner, deceased, a judgment was entered in favor of the plaintiff for $1,121.

In another case, between the same parties judgment was entered in favor of the plaintiff for $1,111.

Mary Ann Kreider, by her next friend, David Cramer, vs. Amos Kreider, subpoena for a divorce. The parties to this suit were married in 1877. The plaintiff brings this suit to procure a divorce from her husband, the defendant. The parties were residents of Pequea township, where they lived together, and the defendant yet resides there. The plaintiff alleges that she was badly treated by her husband; when she married him they went to live in the home occupied by his parents; she was there badly treated by her mother-in-law as well as her husband; the latter did not wish her to attend church; she was compelled to do work on the farm, and to do other work from early in the morning until late at night; the defendant threatened to hang and shoot himself, and in other ways so worried her that her health was injured; she left home once for three weeks but went back when her husband promised to do better; he did not and she then left him, and now sues for a divorce.

The defense showed that the parties were married when the plaintiff was living with defendants folks. She understood her duties, but it is claimed that after the marriage the failed to perform them, but was in the habit of running to church night and day; defendant did not object to her going to church, but did not think she should go so often; he was always a kind and affectionate husband and provided well for the family; he did take a rope at one time, but it was not with any intention of committing suicide; all the work done by the plaintiff she did of her own accord, as defendant did not compel her to do so; defendant's mother lived in the house with them, as she had a right to do under her husband's will; she was not cross to plaintiff, but endeavored to teach her; the plaintiff became angry at this and quarreled at times with her. On trial.

Before Judge Patterson.

David F. Herr vs. Isaac Baer. Action for damages The parties to the suit live on adjoining farms in Leacock township, which were formerly owned by brothers. A stream of water run from a spring through the land of the defendant into that of plaintiff. The latter claims that he has a right to the use of this water for four days out of each week for the purpose of flooding his meadow through which it runs. It was decided in our courts in 1876 that he had that right and it was sustained by the supreme court. The plaintiff alleges, however, that they have not received their share of water, and they sue to recover $2,000 damages alleged to have been sustained by them between between December 1, 1877 and December 4, 1879. They say that after the case was settled, for a time they received their supply of water and had a good first crop of hay in 1878. The second crop was very poor, and so were both of 1879, because they were deprived of their supply of water by the defendant, who at times would place obstructions in the water channel and would not allow it to run over the lands of the plaintiff; when the latter demanded these rights the son of the defendant, who lives on his farm, would get angry.

The defense is that they have always given the plaintiff his full supply of water and all that he was entitled to; they have never dammed up the water nor obstructed its flow; at times the spring is almost dry and scarcely any water runs in the stream. That was the case in 1879, and that was the reason of the failure of plaintiff's hay crop; defendant admitted the plaintiffs right to the water and claims that he has always given him it; he always told his son to give them their share. On trial.

THE LEAF.

The Local Tobacco Market.

The continued cold and dry weather has prevented farmers for some weeks past from doing anything in the way of preparing their tobacco for the market. In the language of one them who was present at the Agricultural society's meeting yesterday, "we have very large crops of ice and snow and tobacco on the poles, and that is about all." While the principal thoroughfares throughout the county are open and pretty well broken and the sleighing first-rate, nearly all the by-roads are completely blockaded by great banks of snow, rendering them almost impassable; and farmers living on such roads are obliged to reach the main roads by taking down fences and crossing the fields, thus avoiding the snow-drifts. Under such circumstances it is no wonder that the dealers are "backward in coming forward" for the new crop. The bulk of it is not in shape for market, and it cannot be got at if it were ready.

The only sales we have to report since our last are the following:

Samuel Moore, jr., bought one acre from John J. Long at 25, 10 and 3, the crop realizing $505.55.

Capt. J. O. Wilcox, has had delivered to him the following crops grown near Goodville, Earl township. Wm. Johnson, 2¼ acres at 20, 7 and 3. Christian Martin, 2¼ acres at 20, 7 and 3. Barton Stauffer, 2¼ acres at 20, 10 and 5. Barton Sensenig, 2¼ acres at 23½, 10 and 3.

H. C. Moore bought a half acre from Abram Kurtz, of White Horse, at 28 for all wrappers over 24 inches; 20 for wrappers under 24 inches, and seconds, and 5 for fillers.

Transactions in old tobacco continue active. Mr. Cohen, the largest buyer of the 1879 crop this winter, has shipped a large part of his purchases to St. Louis.

Harry C. Moore bought 50 cases of 1879 from Isaac Phenegar, at 13 cents per p