

Lancaster Intelligencer.

THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 17, 1881.

The Speaker and His Accuser.

It is very right for Speaker Hewitt to be sensitive to public criticism upon his action, and no newspaper will have reason to object to the expulsion of his correspondent from the floor of the House if he has abused his privileges to falsely accuse the speaker or any member. The question is whether this has been done. We believe in the propriety of holding newspapers to a strict accountability for their criticism of public men, just as fully as we believe in holding public men to a strict accountability for the honest and efficient performance of their duties. Correspondents and editors are too apt to indulge in unfounded denunciation and so bring into contempt the information and the criticism which it is the function of the newspaper to publish. Injustice is daily done to public servants; and it cannot always be avoided. With the best intentions the editor must often be unjust. For the careful correspondent there should not be the same danger. The accusations made in the Pittsburgh paper against Speaker Hewitt, if they are not true, were unjustly printed, and their author has shown himself unworthy of his responsible place. An investigation of them is therefore very properly ordered; and it should have an important result. We see but one of two consequences, the speaker's resignation or the correspondent's expulsion. There is no fair room for the compromise that is the usual finality of such inquiries, though that will probably be the outcome of the investigation. Committees of investigation which act sternly up to the full measure of their duty are scarce; and legislative bodies, too, are scarce, which take downright hold of such questions and give a moral support to committees to declare that there is but a right and a wrong way of dealing with every matter, and set upon it as sensible men would do in the management of their private affairs. It is always wise to vindicate the right. If Speaker Hewitt has been maligned his malinger should be punished; if otherwise, the people should be relieved from the incubus of an unworthy servant.

What it Signifies.

It is a question whether the Democratic party has gained or lost by the defection of Mahone. Our own belief is that it will redound to its advantage. We certainly would have held the Senate by an uncomfortable close vote with a majority of one and that one vote, beside, cast by Judge Davis, who proclaims his independence of the party and his lack of sympathy with it in many particulars. If Judge Davis was a fit guide for the party it might have been to its benefit to have been practically placed under his dictation; but we would prefer for our leader a man whose Democracy was more closely bred in the bone. But even with a solid party vote a majority of one is not one to be greatly coveted. The Republican party with its Mahone tail, and its Hydra heads, may be expected to follow a very erratic course. Its leadership does not equal that of the Democratic party in its present harmony.

We see no occasion to fear the effect of the divided Democratic councils which have been so fruitful of evil to the party in the past. The responsibility for the conduct of the Senate is taken from it to its benefit. The party is much more free and independent with Congress and the executive against it; while the number of its representatives gives it great power. Past experience shows that the president who has Congress with him in the first two years of his term is very likely to have it against him in the last two; and there is little to encourage President Garfield to hope that his fortune will be any better than this. Republican cohesion is not very abundantly presaged in the signs of the times. It rests wholly upon the power of the public plunder.

A lot of insurance companies which had a lot of insurance on the life of Col. Dwight resisted the payment of his policies for not much better reason, it seems, than that his premiums had not amounted to as much as his policies, and for once the family of the insured had the best of the bargain. The company had insured him willingly and taken his premiums regularly, and it does not appear to have ever concerned them much about his habits until after he was dead they saw a chance to make them ground for objections to paying his policies to those for whose benefit he had taken them out and kept them up. The final determination of the cases in favor of his family will give general satisfaction.

We print the opinion of Judge Galbraith in the case in which he refuses a new trial to the editor lately convicted in his court for an alleged libel perpetrated in his newspaper by his local editor without his knowledge. The judge presents his side with characteristic ability, but we are not convinced that it is the law or common sense that a defendant should not be given a chance to show the absence of malice in a case in which malice presumed or proven must be a necessary ingredient of the offense.

As a presiding officer of the Senate, the new vice president does not cut a very imposing figure. There is complaint that he cannot maintain the traditional dignity of the upper house, though it must be confessed that the performances of his party there are not calculated to make his way easy to bring the Senate into high esteem as a decorous and honorable assemblage.

REV. DR. E. E. HIGGEE was appointed state superintendent of public schools yesterday by Gov. Hoyt and was promptly confirmed by the Senate. A faithful sketch of his life and a merited tribute to his worth will be found on our first page.

In the movement at Harrisburg to abolish the oppressive recorder's office in Philadelphia, Representatives Snyder and John H. Landis are voting with the Reformers. Snader, Courtney, Eschman and Peoples with the Roosters.

MINOR TOPICS.

An order is published at Vienna prohibiting the importation into Austria of swine, pork, bacon or sausages from the United States.

SELDOM has a meeting excited such profound and widespread interest among all the best citizens of New York—as among all those, in fact, who are anxious for the good government of the city—as that to be held at Cooper Union to-morrow evening in a cause which affects the city's health and prosperity probably more than any other—namely, that of clean streets.

GEORGE H. MORGAN, secretary of the Merchants' Exchange, St. Louis, furnishes the following statement of the pork-packing trade at that point during the season of 1880: Number of hogs packed, 474,159; average weight, gross, 230.96 pounds; average cost per hundred, gross, \$4.62; average yield of lard per hog, 35 1/2 pounds; mess pork made, 16,938 barrels; other kinds of pork, 3,073 barrels.

THERE is a new life insurance company in Selinsgrove called the "Fair Play." Any person is taken in from one year old to five hundred, all in one class. There is no medical examiner, but a person's policy is null and void if they die within 15 days of the date of the policy. There is a rumor that still another company is to be formed in that insurance town called "The Go-As-You-Please."

The suggestion of appointing Senator Stewart, of the Franklin district, minister to Mexico, is earnestly supported by his many friends, there being substantial personal reasons why he should desire a residence in a milder climate. His health during the past six months has been very precarious, and it is almost if not quite imperative for him to leave Pennsylvania for some time. No other reasons than these could be accepted, of course, by his friends, at the present time. The likelihood of his appointment is believed to be very strong; Secretary Blaine being one of his warm personal friends. He would make a very capable representative of the country at the Mexican capital.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. LANOTRY's effects are to be sold to-day at No. 17 Norfolk street, Park Lane, London.

SIR ALLAN YOUNG'S Antarctic expedition has been postponed on account of his health.

W. K. ROGERS, who acted as private secretary to Hayes during the latter's term, will shortly open an office for the practice of law.

In noticing the recent celebration of the Hon. Simon Cameron's 84th birthday, the Doylestown Democrat calls attention to the fact that just 62 years ago Gen. Cameron was editor of that paper.

Mr. J. STANLEY BROWN has been appointed private secretary to President Garfield. Mr. Brown was formerly stenographer to Major Powell, of the Smithsonian Institution, and went with Garfield in the same capacity while the latter was in the House of Representatives. He is a young man about 24 years of age.

Hon. TIMOTHY O. HOWE has formally notified the state department of his acceptance as commissioner on the part of the United States at the international monetary conference to be held at Paris. Messrs. Thurman and Ervins have already accepted. The commissioners will sail from New York early in April.

KOSSTER, who is now seventy-nine years old, enjoys not only good health, but the perfect clarity of his intellect. He has now a very pleasant villa, near Turin, surrounded by a handsome garden, which he planted himself and cultivated with the greatest care. Natural science is one of his favorite studies.

Rev. WILLIAM B. BROWN, of Columbia, Pa., will assume the principalship of the Oxford academy at the beginning of the next term, April 18. Mr. Brown is a graduate of Jefferson college, a gentleman of fine scholarship and a teacher of large experience. He was formerly pastor of the Presbyterian church at Mount Joy, Lancaster county.

Judge L. S. GRAHAM has died at Atchison, Kan., from the effects of disipation and exposure. He was found by the police lying insensible on the platform of the Union depot in that city, and the physician who was called pronounced it a paralytic stroke. Graham was at one time judge of the district court at Atchison, and was a lawyer of great ability, but of late he had been a drunkard, deserted by his family and supported by charity.

A complimentary dinner was given to Postmaster General JAMES at Wornley's hotel last evening by Elliott F. Shepard, of New York. Among the guests were the members of the cabinet (with the exception of Secretary Blaine), Chief Justice Waite and ex-Judge Swaine, of the supreme court. Senator Hawley, Adjutant General Drum, General McKee, Walker Blaine, Rev. Mr. Paxton, Colonel R. S. Kewell, Mr. William F. Rogers, Messrs. S. S. Rogers and Timothy Griffith.

Flashes from the Ocean Cable. Another strong shock of earthquake has been felt at Casamaciola, and many more houses have fallen.

The Oxford university crew will go to Great Marlow, on the Thames for a fortnight's practice before going to Putney.

The statement that French troops from Algeria are about to invade Tunis, supported by a naval demonstration, is officially denied.

In consequence of the outbreak of the plague, the government of Egypt has issued a notice of quarantine against vessels of the Persian gulf.

King Oscar II., of Sweden, has been suffering from a slight attack of fever since Sunday. Symptoms of inflammation of the left lung set in on Tuesday.

The North German Gazette says: "The United States holds, like Germany, that participation in the monetary conference will not bind any power to a particular view."

At Worcester, Eng., United States Minister Lowell, in his address opening the new library, specially referred to Presidents Lincoln and Garfield as conspicuously successful Americans.

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He succeeded in obtaining \$300,000 insurance in the Equitable Life Assurance Society of New York, \$20,000 in the Manhattan, \$15,000 each in the Germania of New York, Mutual Benefit of Newark, and Northwestern of Milwaukee, Wis.; \$10,000 each in the New York Life, Washington of New York, United States of New York, Metropolitan of New York, Equitable of Hartford, Traveler's of Hartford, Union Mutual of Augusta, Me.; National of Montpelier, Vt.; New England Mutual of Boston, State Mutual of Worcester, Mass.; Mutual of Springfield, and Berkshire of Pittsfield, Mass.

Each of them was on the plan of quarterly payments. The annual amount of his insurance was made known at a representative meeting of different companies, held at the Astor house, for the purpose of forming an association for the interchange of information in suspicious cases.

He made ample arrangements for the physicians to make a thorough autopsy of his body. A reputable undertaker took charge of the corpse, and fourteen respectable physicians signed a statement of facts that appeared at an autopsy. The insurance companies were represented at the autopsy. The doctors agreed as to the facts, but they disagreed as to the conclusion to be drawn from those facts.

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One of the most phenomenal growths in church work is that of the Church of the Advent in Boston. This church belongs to the Protestant Episcopal family corresponding closely in its theological and ecclesiastical attitude with St. Clement's in Philadelphia. Ten years ago, when Father Graf took charge of it, it was badly run down, with scarcely any prospect of recovery.

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AN UNFORTUNATE BRIDAL PARTY.

The bride's dress burned and Groom's Nose Broken. William Shock, of District township, Berks county, and Miss Sterner, daughter of David Sterner, of the same township, were on their way to Lewis Station to be joined for life by the Rev. David Humbert, when a lighted spark from the end of Mr. Schock's cigar fell on the beautiful dress worn by Miss Sterner. She did not notice it until it had burned through her clothing, and it was with some difficulty that the fire was extinguished. Mr. Schock's wedding suit was also damaged. After the knot was tied, and they were on their homeward way, they attended a sale at the John Geisinger's, near Huffs church. Here there was a German named Grossman, from near Yellow House, who had indulged too freely, and who was being tormented by a party of young men. When Mr. Grossman was going home he attempted to nip at his coat, and provoked him beyond measure. Mr. Schock, who was among the number of his tormentors, a sharp blow with the butt end of his driving whip, fracturing his nose. The young man returned from his matrimonial trip looking rather different from the average bridegroom.

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GIANTFO-ROBBERY.

Nearly One Million Dollars in Bonds Carried Off—A Quantity of Jewelry Stolen.

One of the most startling and extensive robberies that have ever occurred in this city was perpetrated yesterday, under circumstances which evince almost unparalleled boldness and skill on the part of the thieves. In broad daylight two or more men succeeded in entering a large apartment house with people, and a populous street, evading the servants with which the house was supplied, and breaking into into the apartments of one of the occupants carried off bonds, certificates and jewelry to the value of nearly \$1,000,000.

The matter was reported to the police authorities as soon as the gigantic theft was discovered, but it was not until an early hour this morning that a Herald reporter was enabled to learn the circumstances of the case, which the detectives have made every effort to conceal, for reasons known to themselves.

Mr. Abram E. Simons, a stationer and printer, doing business at No. 62 John street, resides with his wife in a suite of rooms on the second floor in the large apartment house at No. 177 East Seventy-second street. The case was reported to the police last evening. Mr. Simons and his wife were absent for a short time from home. On their return they found that their rooms had been broken open and literally every article of furniture and every other receptacle where valuables could have been concealed had been thoroughly ransacked. Every room was in confusion and the floors were covered with the contents of the drawers of bureaus and secretaries. Mr. Simons had been printing the bonds and stock certificates for some time. Every one of these securities he had taken to his rooms for safe keeping and concealment. They were signed by the proper officers, but it is said that they were not complete. Every one of these bonds and certificates were taken, together with \$2,000 worth of jewelry and valuables belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Simons.

An investigation by the detectives, who were specially summoned, satisfied them that the thieves had evidently entered the house by the basement doors and climbed into the enclosure where the dumb waiter runs. By means of this machine they had hoisted themselves up to the second floor, and had easily broken down the frail doors of the closet opening into Mr. Simons' kitchen from the lift or dumb waiter, which is used for sending coal, ashes, food, garbage &c., to and from the cellar. Once in the apartment they seemed to know where to look for their booty, and had made the most of their time and escaped successfully by some way in which they had entered. The securities, as stated, were unsigned, but if the thieves succeed in skillfully forging the necessary signatures they may be enabled to negotiate the stolen paper.

STATE ITEMS.

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LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Annual Meeting in Potomac—Standing Committees and Other Business of the Society.

In the M. E. conference now in session in Potomac the following standing committees were appointed and confirmed: On Public Worship: G. Cummings, S. N. Cherr, A. Howard, J. Dyson, J. F. Meredith, H. H. Bodine.

M. E. CONFERENCE.

On Education: J. B. Dobbin, W. Coffman, G. D. Carrow, S. H. Hoover, J. T. Satchell, T. M. Griffith, E. B. Snyder; laymen, A. M. Burton, Thomas E. Cope, S. B. Arlington, James Thomas.

On Sunday Schools: T. M. Jackson, H. T. Quigg, D. M. Gordon, J. C. Wood, A. L. Whitlow.

On Church Extension: The conference board of church extension. On Freedmen's Aid Society: J. Dickerson, L. D. McClintock, T. T. Mutchler, A. F. Ferley, W. W. McMillan.

On Ladies' and Pastors' Christian Union: T. Montgomery, C. F. Turner, A. M. Whiggin, N. D. McComan, L. M. Hobbs.

On Women's Foreign Missionary Society: J. H. Wood, A. Lougour, G. Alcorn, H. Wheeler, W. P. Howell.

On General Studies: N. Turner, E. C. Yerkes, J. W. Bradley, F. M. Collins, H. F. Isett.

On Missionary Statistics: C. Roads, F. A. Gilbert, P. S. Merrill, R. Smith.

On General Qualifications of Candidates for Admission on Trial and for Admission into Full Connection: J. H. Wood, Thomas J. Welsh, S. H. C. Smith, J. S. Hughes, D. W. Gordon, J. R. Boyie, J. Dungan, W. K. MacNeal.

Conference opened at 9 o'clock with Bishop Harris presiding. Rev. J. B. McConnell was elected secretary, and he nominated as his assistants J. O'Neill and J. A. T. Gray; financial secretaries, T. Kirkpatrick and William M. Ridgeway; statistical secretaries, G. W. Lybrand and J. S. Cook. Presiding Elder Swindells presented his charges, and acquainted Rev. Miller, concerned in the Philadelphia medical college revelations. It was said that Mr. Miller would withdraw from the conference as soon as he was vindicated.

The charges were referred to a committee of thirteen, to be appointed by the presiding elders, and submitted to the counsel on both sides. Dr. Rittenhouse, of Philadelphia, was appointed counsel for the conference, after which Dr. Paxson, of the same city, presented the record of the trial of Rev. Thomas Kelly of Philadelphia, convicted of immorality, and suspended from the ministry. This record will also be referred to a court of thirteen. Dr. Todd was appointed counsel for Kelly. Dr. A. S. Hunt, agent of the American Bible society, was introduced, and gave an account of the work of reading the gospel under directions of the society. In the afternoon the Women's foreign missionary society met and addresses were made by Mrs. Rev. Henry Wheeler, and others. Mrs. Wheeler's address was interesting and listened to with much interest. She urged more liberal contributions to the society, which accomplished so much good in foreign lands. Rev. Henry Wheeler also made an eloquent appeal. The evening's session commenced at 8 o'clock and the assembly was from 7 to 10. Presiding Elder Rev. G. W. Paxson read the annual report, showing fourteen students under patronage of the society. Loans were made during the year of \$1,155. The balance in the treasury is \$600. Dr. Thomas C. Murray, vice president of the society, together with board of managers. Short addresses were made by Dr. Kidder, late of Drew seminary. Dr. Murphy presided over the session.

THE NEW RAILROAD.

From Reading to the Chesapeake. A charter has been granted to the Reading & Chesapeake coal and railroad company, the purpose of which is to construct a road from Reading to the Maryland line, there to connect with a road leading to Chesapeake bay. The railroad is also to have a branch to the Potomac river. The capital stock of the company is \$2,500,000. This road will pass through a section of country rich in agricultural resources and underlain by valuable limestone, and the iron ores on the coast are extensive and almost inexhaustible. It will require a large amount of coal to reduce the stone-ore to lime and pig iron, and this road is to afford a new opening for the anthracite coal trade.

The projectors of the road claim that the wealth of the country, which will be tributary to it, its dense population, and the outlet which this line will afford to coal, give it superior advantages from the outset. They further claim that in the future it will afford a short cut-off for the Pennsylvania railroad to the Chesapeake bay, for its bituminous coal, where there is 30 feet of water. The capital for the construction of the road comes mostly from New York, and it is said to be the intention of the projectors of the road, as they will cross some six miles at right angles, not to cross any on a level, but to go above or below them, as it will be an independent freight and passenger route to Chesapeake bay.

The branch from New Holland to Lancaster is one of several schemes on foot to connect these two places, and the interest felt in such a road will in all probability result in the early establishment of some railroad connection between them. It is said that the subscriptions to secure the charter were mainly in the interest of New York parties, who have indicated a desire to subscribe for all the stock.

Pardon Refused.

The board of pardons has refused to pardon a Mrs. Susan Conoly, of this city, who was convicted of conspiring with Dr. Dixon to leech a minor under simulation of marriage.

Isreal L. Landis, of this county, has been granted a patent for a new and improved gate that is said to possess many advantages over any other now in use.

"OLD THAD."

A Magazine Sketch of our former Congressman.

In the XI. number of the "Reminiscences of Washington," now running in the Atlantic Monthly, the writer has reached the Fillmore administration, and he tells of a representative even then conspicuous who later became much more so:

Thaddeus Stevens, of the Lancaster district of Pennsylvania, was the recognized leader of the small band of anti-slavery men in the House, and as the Republican strength there increased he continued his despotism. No Republican was permitted by "Old Thad" to oppose his imperious will without receiving a tongue-lashing that terrified others, if it did not bring the refractory representative back into party harness. Rising by degrees, as a telescope is pulled out, until he stood in a most ungraceful attitude, his heavy black hair falling down over his cavernous brows, and his little eyes twinkling with anger, he would make some ludicrous remark, and then, reaching to his full height, he would lecture the offender against party discipline, sweeping at him with his large, boyish right hand, in uncounted gestures, and then shaking him, and then shake him. He would often use invectives, which he took care should never appear printed in the official reports, and John Randolph, in his braggart prime, was never so imperiously insulting as was Thaddeus Stevens to those whose political action he controlled.

Mr. Stevens was a firm believer in the old maxim ascribed to the Jesuits, "the end justifies the means," and, as he set morality at defiance, he was an early and a zealous supporter of the equality of the black and the white race. He was a good debater, and there was an undercurrent of dry humor about him that often disarmed his political opponents. When, on one occasion, a South Carolina representative undertook to lecture him for his anti-slavery views, and said that a slave on his own rice plantation was a pious deacon, Mr. Stevens gruffly asked what the price of deacons was in that vicinity, and whether a negro would command a higher price because he was a deacon.

Will Partridge Eat Partridge?

During the past winter a number of partridges belonging to the Lancaster Game association have died, although provided with plenty of food, fresh water, and gravel. The dead birds were removed from the room in which they died as soon as they were discovered; but occasionally they may have lain dead under cover a few days before being discovered. Three or four of the partridges were found with their feathers partly picked off and the flesh eaten away from the neck and back. It was thought the mischief might have been done by mice (rats could not possibly enter the room), and a trap was set to catch them, recently passed, to have the birds were being fed, a dead one was discovered behind a piece of canvas that had been arranged as a screen and retreat for