

Lancaster Intelligencer.

THURSDAY EVENING, SEPT. 15, 1881.

Doctors as Pumps.

When those Washington doctors were sent home from Long Branch, people wondered why three should be taken and one left; and that one Bliss, whom a long-suffering country would dearly have heard from no more. But Bliss had a use. Bliss is the reporter's friend. They can pump him at any and all times. If it wasn't for what Bliss says they would not have much themselves to say; and it seems to be felt by the executive council about the president that the public has a great appetite for news that will be satisfied by any kind of quality, so that the quantity is great. That is no doubt a correct estimate of the reporter's appetite, though it is doubtful whether the public is as well pleased to read long strings of stuff with nothing of value in it, as the reporter and the newspaper are to provide it. Newspapers should know their business; and presumably when they for nearly three months steadily and daily print what Bliss says, notwithstanding nearly every time the next day's say is different, they know what their readers want. If so we must conclude that the majority of the people like to be humbugged and trifled with, and we must applaud the sagacity which has discovered and utilized the distinguished capacity of Dr. Bliss as a never-failing cucumber, well which may be vigorously and all the time pumped by the reporters and never omit to yield them a column of words. This is the office of Dr. Bliss. He fills it well. He never is without an opinion that he is willing to confess and a prognosis that is as hopeful as the circumstances will permit. Even while his Washington associates were with him Bliss was the best pump. Reynolds did pretty well and Woodward was not very slow, but Barnes was seldom heard from. As only one old oaken bucket was needed Bliss, who was easily chafed, was kept; and that explains the disruption of the quartet.

Agnew won't talk and Hamilton don't like to; they being the working members of the professional group are relieved by the ornamental and communicative Bliss; and a very excellent arrangement it is so far. But we protest that the working doctors carry their reticence a little too far. They don't seem to talk even to Bliss. They don't appear to tell him much; which is apparent from the fact that he gets his stories so crooked. Seemingly he don't know much; for he would hardly deliberately say so many things that he has to unsay and conceal so many things that finally leak out, if he knew any better. He would not willingly make himself so ridiculous.

Seriously, have we not reason to complain of the information sent out to us from the president's bedside? The only reliable statements we have had have been those furnished by Secretary Blaine to the English minister, which have been a notably concise and accurate account of existing conditions; Mr. MacVeagh does not succeed so well as the secretary in getting the meat into his cablegrams. The official bulletins, which ought to be entirely reliable, have not merited that distinction, because they have not been entirely frank. At the outset when the Washington quartet signed them they were painfully particular in insignificant details; and now, when better names attest them, they do not, we find, divulge important symptoms as they occur; a notable instance is the fact that the lung trouble was not alluded to in them until some time after there had been an outside rumor of it, and then it was coolly referred to as though everyone knew all about it. The people know that the president is desperately ill, and the doctors' concealments only make them faithless of the doctors' hopes.

The Fire Organization.

The Firemen's Union is not content with the councils' proposed reorganization of the fire department, and neither are we, nor do we know of anyone outside the councils who is satisfied with the result of their deliberations. The firemen object to giving to the city authorities entire control of their volunteer organization, and that is natural enough. Almost anybody would object to be a volunteer under such circumstances. It is not at all the idea of a volunteer organization that it should put itself under the absolute control of an outside body that it does not elect. Volunteers naturally want to choose their own masters. The city wants to administer the fire department; and proposes to men, whom it does not hire and whose time and services are their own, that they shall submit themselves to any disposition the city chooses to make of them. The volunteer firemen say that they will see the city burned first; and perhaps the volunteer firemen are right; which only shows that volunteer firemen are not the kind a city needs that wants to manage its fire department as it thinks it ought to be managed. The city must be content with volunteer management if it wants volunteer firemen; and we consider that in this the Firemen's Union have the logic of the situation.

The councils proposed to cut down the seven fire companies to five; but so long as the companies are volunteers, we do not see any particular advantage in reducing the number of companies if they are good companies of competent firemen. Of course, if they are bad companies, infested with bad men, there would be great advantage in disbanding them; but then let this reason be given for it and the act be based on its true and sufficient grounds. As the Firemen's Union says, a proper system would easily keep companies from going out of their district to a fire unless summoned; and the more the companies, the more advantageously can they be distributed over the city. Of course, the thousand dollars a year that the city proposes to pay each company could be saved to two companies; but that is a small consideration.

The union has appointed a committee to confer with the councils, seeking an agreement. As we look at it, there are

but two reasonable courses—either a volunteer department managed by itself or a paid department controlled by the city that pays it.

PERSONAL.

BISMARCK is daily growing stouter and now tips the scales at 251. "GENERAL GRAY" is "getting stoop-shouldered and graying."

GENERAL BURNSIDE's funeral will take place at Providence to-morrow. Senator McDONALD said to a reporter that he has no further political ambition.

Mrs. FLORENCE, the actress, says that she talked with the Princess of Wales in the box of a London theatre, and found her charming in manners and person.

Signor CAMPANINI will be heard here again this winter. At last accounts from Europe Mr. Mapleson had visited the tenor at Parma to effect an engagement with him.

General GORDON, having made considerable money since his resignation from the United States Senate, is disposed to enter politics again, and may make the race for governor.

Mrs. LANGTRY has disappeared from London society, and the society papers are worried about it. The Chicago Times consolingly remarks that perhaps she has a pimp on her nose.

Mrs. SHAW, the daughter of Professor Agassiz, and wife of the Boston millionaire, has established over thirty free kindergarten schools in Boston and the neighboring suburbs. She is suffering from a nervous prostration brought by her exertions.

The MARQUIS DE ROCHEMONT, accompanied by Madame, the Marquise, and by ten representatives of the families of officers who held commands in the French army at York, will sail from Havre on September 26 and arrive in New York about October 6. They are the guests of the Yorktown Centennial association, and the citizens of Philadelphia should assist in providing for their entertainment in the country as well as for their proper reception upon the historical field.

At the invitation of Mr. GEORGE W. CHILDS the members of the Aztec club held their annual meeting at the Hotel Bellevue, Wayne station, yesterday. The officers elected were: President, General Winfield S. Hancock; Vice President, General U. S. Grant; Treasurer, Mr. Randall Hagner; Secretary, Professor Henry Coppee, LL. D. After the business meeting a number of other distinguished guests joined the club at dinner, at which General Grant presided, flanked by Sherman and Johnston. Addresses were made by Generals Grant, Sherman and other distinguished gentlemen, among them Hon. John Walter, M. P., proprietor of the London Times, and guest of Mr. Childs. The menu is described as elegant in the extreme and the entire affair very brilliant.

MINOR TOPICS.

It is suspected in Ohio that Ludlow, the prohibition candidate, is running for governor as a cider and wine press advertisement.

The great problem in New Hampshire just now seems to be whether all people shall give up their usual occupations and go into the business hereafter of keeping boarders. The Boston Herald suggests that Dartmouth college be turned into a school of cookery, and that the state house be removed to the summit of Mount Washington.

That is a charming social episode reported from the White Sulphur springs, where a lovely belle bit the cheek of a young man at the moment when he expected a kiss. He had her arrested on a charge of assault, but failed to appear before the justice, and she was discharged. Such things as these it is that makes life endurable through the heated term.

GEN. BURNSIDE had just entered upon a full term of six years, and it is probable that a lively contest will take place for the succession, especially as the Republican majority in the Rhode Island Legislature is overwhelming, leaving ample room for internal rivalry among the leaders and would-be leaders. Ex-Governors Howard and Van Zandt will be the leading contestants, with Gov. Littlefield as a possible compromise.

LIEUTENANT D. A. LYLE has eaten grasshoppers out West, and he lately read a paper before a Springfield science association praising them as food. Although they naturally have a disagreeable smell, he says that when cooked they become pleasant to both smell and taste, no disguise being required. They can be eaten after boiling two hours, with pepper and salt, and thus prepared are not easily distinguished from beef broth. Fried in their own oil they have a nutty flavor.

The applications for space at the Atlanta cotton exhibition during the last week of the time allotted for entries (which ended on Saturday) astonished even the enthusiastic director-general. About 75,000 more feet than there was space to allot were applied for. The committee, however, is determined to make some provision for these late applicants. Every possibility of failure now seems to have vanished, and there is no reason to doubt that Atlanta's big show will occupy an honorable space in exhibition annals.

"BOLD" is certainly not an exaggerated adjective to apply to that festive New Hampshire highwayman who singly and alone ventures upon the capture of crowded stage coaches and the clearing out of their passengers. He is graphically described as "a large man, wearing a veil." There is delightful mystery about this characterization which allows a fairly free play of the fancy. It is to be hoped in the interest of the summer resorts in the interesting region where this romantic person is levying contributions upon tourists that his career may be brought to a speedy close.

THERE is a town called Tokarkana, lying partly within Arkansas and partly within Texas, with a broad street marking the boundary. It has two mayors, and the state laws governing on one side have no binding force on the other. Arkansas made a severe enactment against the free sale of firearms, whereupon the hardware merchants moved their stores to the other side of the street, thus going into Texas,

where the sale of revolvers, like their use, is free. The Arkansas mayor issued a proclamation against the sale of liquor on Sunday, greatly to the advantage of the saloon men in Texas, until the vendors on the other side moved over and regained their customers.

It is pointed out that the death of General Burnside adds another feature to the possible complication in the Senate. His temporary successor, appointed by the governor, will be present at the meeting of the Senate, but he can have no voice in the organization and election of a president pro tem, should Vice President Arthur in the interim be called to the presidency, as the oath of office can only be administered by the vice president or his constitutional substitute, the president pro tem. And in that event the Democrats would have a clear majority of the Senate, even should David Davis vote with the Republicans, as three Republican seats—two from New York and one from Rhode Island—would remain vacant until after the organization. When the new senators were in their seats, a Democratic president pro tem might be turned out with the aid of Mr. Davis, but such action on the part of the Illinois senator is extremely improbable; he may safely be set down as an offset to Mahone every time.

The Death of a Bird Foretold. Mr. Reynolds, who returned to-day from Europe, says that on board the Parthia, which yesterday reached her dock in New York harbor, was also Dr. William Warren Greene, of Portland, Maine, who was a delegate to the national medical congress in London. The ship was accompanied on its voyage from the shores of Europe by a Mother Carey's Chicken, a little bird which has a habit of venturing far away from land in the wake of vessels. When the ship was on a day or two the bird alighted upon one of the topmast masts and Dr. Greene, who had been very much interested in watching its movements, gave a sailor ten shillings to catch it for him. He had the carpenter make him a cage and seemed greatly pleased with his acquisition about which he talked a great deal with his fellow-voyagers. But after he had enjoyed its possession a couple of days it died, and when he announced the fact on deck an old sailor sitting by said: "Then there will be another death aboard this ship before she reaches port."

The next day Dr. Greene was taken sick, and was attended by a fellow physician from Boston, who had likewise been attending the medical congress, as had a number more of the passengers. Nothing was supposed to be the matter but sea-sickness, yet the day following Dr. Greene died.

Then it was said that he would be buried in the sea. His Masonic friends on the ship waited on the captain and urged that his body be taken to land. But they were told that the positive orders of the Cunard company were to cast into the sea all who died when over three days' voyage from land; a fact which will lend an additional apprehension to those awaiting by the shore their friends upon the deep waters.

It was done. Solemnly the ship's crew and passengers assembled by the vessel's side, where the coffin rested on a plank inclined towards the water and greased to aid the swift delivery of the burthen at the appointed time. Religious services were held, and a lady passenger sang "Nearer My God to Thee" to an audience in which there was not one dry eye. Then dust to dust, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, a stroke from the captain's hand, and the casket, freed from the severed cord, rushed down into the sea.

But saddest scene of all it was when at the docks stood the wife and servants of Dr. Greene to welcome him home. One passenger had been selected to break to them the news, the rest could not look upon them and turned away.

HOW IROQUOIS WON.

His Easy Capture of the St. Leger Yesterday. The St. Leger has been captured by the American old Iroquois. A large crowd was present, among which were many prominent Americans, who are jubilant. Geologist finished second and Lucy Gitters third. The betting immediately before the start was 100 to 30 against Iroquois, 4 to 1 against Ishmael and 5 to 1 against St. Louis. The other starters were Sobell, Limestone, Fortissimo, St. Louis, Falkirk, Bal Gal, Ishmael, Privateer, Eureka, Joyan, Lord Chelmsford, George Mansfield, Voluntary. Iroquois was ridden by the Red Horse, Falkirk by Cannon and Lucy Gitters by Knowden.

The St. Leger race was instituted in 1776 and the Derby in 1780. After a lapse of twenty years one horse won them both and then it was forty-eight years before the feat was accomplished the second time. Iroquois's victory at Derby, followed by his winning the Prince of Wales stake at Ascot, made him a favorite for the race to-day until he was reported to be troubled with colic on the morning of two weeks ago. This caused the betting to turn against him, but he entirely recovered, as was evident from his success to-day. He is said to have grown since his June conquests and is now sixteen hands high.

Sutton's brown coat Geologist, by Sterling, had Silurus, who came in second, occupied the same position for the Prince of Wales stake at Ascot on June 14, when Iroquois beat him by only half a length. In the race for the Derby, Geologist did not do so well, his place at the finish being ninth in a field of fifteen. The third horse to-day, Lucy Gitters, is a brown filly by Speulden, dam Bicycle.

Iroquois was the quickest away, but Archer immediately pulled him back. Joyan then took the lead, attended by St. Louis, Limestone and Geologist, with Iroquois next. By the time the Rifle Butts were reached Falkirk had taken the lead, Ishmael and Lucy Gitters having joined the leading lot in front of Iroquois, who continued to lead the second division. At the Red Horse, Falkirk succumbed to Ishmael, Lucy Gitters being second, with St. Louis, Geologist, Sobell, Limestone and Iroquois well up here. A half mile from home, Heric Limestone joined Ishmael. After a quarter of a mile had been traversed the second leaders were beaten. Bal Gal and St. Louis became distressed, Lucy Gitters momentarily took the lead, but before the distance-pole was reached Iroquois came on in full running, winning easily by a length. Geologist placed Lucy Gitters in the last fifty yards. St. Louis pulled up fourth, followed by Eusebe, Ishmael, Fortissimo, Limestone and Sobell in the order named. Lord Chelmsford, Joyan and Privateer were the last three, except Voluntary, who walked in. The time of the race was 3 minutes, 20 seconds.

The army and navy medal was won yesterday at Creedmore, N. Y., by the Thirtieth regiment of Pennsylvania.

TEACH WOMEN TO USE FIREARMS.

A Suggestion for Southern Women to Defend Themselves.

The account in our Jeffersonville correspondence of the assaults committed by a single scoundrel upon four ladies, which by the merest accidents were frustrated, impels the Commercial again to insist that husbands and brothers should teach the feminine inmates of their households the use of the pistol. A woman who can shoot a pistol is as powerful as a giant; that little weapon levels all distinctions of strength. Sergeant St. Prentiss, the brilliant orator of Mississippi, once got down upon his knees and thanked God for the invention of gunpowder. All of us might do it if women were made so familiar with its uses as to be measurably secure from the utterly horrible crimes perpetrated against them by the demons of the demon-crazed with lust. Think of that poor girl down South who dragged whilst working in her father's field, seized into a thicket, outraged and mutilated with razor cuts. If she had had a pistol she could during the struggle with the fiend who had seized her, have managed to send a bullet into him. Let it once be known that women in exposed places or situations are in the habit of carrying pistols, and that one fact will give them additional security. Do away with your petty archery practice until you have learned the management of a weapon that will guard your honor. Shame on it that grown up people and people assumed to be rational shall permit themselves to be so defenseless that any brute may overtake them at will. Do away with your race of amazons than a race of such helpless creatures. There's no difficulty in learning how to handle a pistol. Three days practice would teach women how to load, to aim skillfully and to hold their weapons without shaking. It would enable them to handle it without danger of accident; in short, to be careful. Now we do not mean that women should go armed all the time, with pistols in their girdles. Let's be reasonable in the discussion of this delicate topic. What their male protectors are about the woman can forego the pistol. What we do say is that women who are left in their homes with or without little children in their custody, the men folks being absent, or women who are obliged to make journeys on foot through the woods, ought to have some weapon of defense. It is a great big strong man does it necessary to keep such weapons, how much stronger the reason that gentler and weaker persons should be so fortified. Do our women read of the terrible details of outrage and of the dispatches without realizing that it may be their turn next? Nothing is so much more contemptible than the failure to display common prudence. Even the dog is endowed with teeth by which he can defend himself, and does defend himself. A woman's only defense is her scream, which can speedily be smothered. A 14 year old boy shows more sense. He at least can pull out his little jack-knife and make some show of defense. A woman can have a belt made in such a way that she can carry a pistol concealed in any such way that she can readily draw it. Give her this chance for the protection of what is most precious to her, and we shall have fewer accounts of the dreadful and mournful wrongs that are perpetrated upon her. This is not a woman's question, but a woman's duty. It is a vital one in a country which is flooded with tramps and villains of every stamp.

HAY-FEVER.

The Disease Less General than in Former Years—A Physician's Explanation. It has been reported in various quarters that hay-fever is not so prevalent as usual this year, and that many annual sufferers from this annoying disease have not been compelled to make their customary jaunts to mountainous regions in order to escape their long-time enemy. A New York Tribune reporter asked Dr. Alonzo Clark yesterday whether there was any foundation for the report.

"I am not informed authoritatively," he replied, "but hay-fever is not prevalent this summer. I have seen several who usually suffer from it and they are by the sea or in the mountains. The disease is produced by the pollen of certain plants, and as plants are a little sickle in their growth possibly they are not so abundant this year; but of that I know nothing. One of these plants is Ambrosia, Artemisia Folia, which is sometimes called hogweed, or ragweed. The pollen circulates in the atmosphere of a city, as has been demonstrated. Pieces of glass covered with glycerine and held over a candle flame have been afterwards found coated with pollen. Hay-fever varies in different years, and in a particular city will depend on the wind and still more on the prevalence of the plants in that part of the country. The pollen for hay-fever is to get into an atmosphere where this pollen is not found, but the cure will not be permanent. The disease will return the following year. There are, however, only a few persons who suffer from it. I have seen only one man who has pneumonia and another has not, I will explain why hay-fever is confined to a small class. It depends upon a person's constitution and susceptibility. Children are less subject to it than adults. The disease sometimes is a colic, and is a inflammation of the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and throat, and is simply annoying."

"Where is the pollen found near New York?" "New Jersey it grows in abundance. I have often run across it while out shooting. The plant producing it may have failed this year for lack of moisture. After a harvest the fields are usually full of it. The power of pollen to spread is limited, and it finally falls to the ground. The pollen of the White Mountains, affords relief. At Fire Island, also, the disease is said not to manifest itself."

"It is said that Henry Ward Beecher was able to forego his annual trip to the White Mountains this summer. How would you account for his escape from hay-fever?" "I would give three reasons—Mr. Beecher may have outlived his susceptibility to the disease; he may have been to the mountains other years when he did not know whether he would have the disease or not; or the plants that cause the fever may have been produced, as I have said, in less abundance this year."

A VEILED HIGHWAYMAN.

Attempted Robbery of a Stage Coach in New Hampshire. The following additional particulars have been received of the daring robbery of passengers on the road between the Glen House and Glen Station, New Hampshire.

"It is said that one man stopped the team of Mr. Frank W. Andrews, of Boston, who was driving with his family ahead of the regular coach, which contained several passengers. The highwayman was a large man, wearing a veil. Before the coach drove up he had stopped Mr. Andrews and compelled him to deliver \$300 and his watch. He also took a pin from Mrs. Andrews. He then allowed these persons to go on, and advanced upon the driver of the stage, but the driver of the latter started his horses and attempted to run him down. The robber fired his pistol several times, but was thrown to the ground by the horses. A passenger shot at him with a small revolver, and he retreated to the woods, leaving the stage to go rapidly down the

hill, the leading horse breaking loose and running ahead. As soon as the stage reached Glen station, was sent out to watch all the roads, and it is possible the robber may be captured, with two other men, who are said to have been concealed at the time of the robbery."

"SAY, COME OVER HERE."

Novel Advertisement for a Shoe Store. Magistrate Collins, of Philadelphia, held Mrs. Rachel Hyman of No. 934 South Street a \$500 bail for maintaining a nuisance by keeping poll-parrots, and, with the object of finding out how on earth a nuisance could be maintained by keeping parrots, a reporter dropped down to Mrs. Hyman's place. A genial and polite little old lady is Mrs. Hyman, but she seems rather cut up over the prosecution. She takes evident pleasure in showing off her collection of birds, but it is not for the mere sake of having them that they are there. The little woman is a widow and she has a family of three children to support. In addition to the bird-store Mrs. Hyman has a small shoe store adjoining, and here all the booter seems to come in.

On the opposite side of the street there are two rival shoe stores, and while the proprietors of each of these seem to get on very well together, it appears from Mrs. Hyman's statement that they have united in open hostility to her. The gentleman who runs one of these establishments appears to have been the party who took out the warrants, while the other shoe dealer and a brother-in-law of the first were the witnesses before the magistrate. Mrs. Hyman attaches considerable significance to the fact that no other neighbors complained, and that those on each side of her had never been disturbed by the birds. However, let's see about the parrots.

The shoe store and the bird store have separate entrances from the street, but communicate with one another in the inside. The reporter entered the bird store and was hailed by a voice. "How do you do?" "Very well, thank you. How are you?" he replied, looking about him to see who the party who appeared to be so solicitous as to "how he did."

"Ah, ha, ha, ha!" "I'm very sorry, sir," said Mrs. Hyman coming in from the shoe store. "Having stated his business, the lady informed the reporter that the prosecution was wholly vindictive, and pointed out that the birds were not making any noise just then. Neither they were. "But," she said, "the weather is so hot as it has been lately they do make a little more noise. Not so much, however, as to be a nuisance."

"I have been keeping the shoe store eleven years," she stated, "but have only had the bird store about six months. One of the dealers on the other side tried to get it, but I succeeded with the landlord better than he did. They are mighty mad, however, about one thing," she added, with a smile.

"What is that?" "You see that bird out there," pointing as she spoke to a fine specimen of the poll species. "Yes." "Well, that bird does just make them wild. When the weather warms and he sees people passing to and fro on the other side he yells out, and he has got a splendid voice."

"Say, come over here and buy some shoes." "They don't seem to appreciate the genius of that parrot of yours." "Not much; but I can't help it. I didn't teach the bird, and when I put him out there to get the air I can't keep him from talking. You can't reason with parrots."

STAR ROUTE FRAUDS.

The Prosecution Almost Ready to Proceed. Colonel William A. Cook, employed especially to conduct star route cases for the government, returned to Washington from Long Branch Sunday night, and left again Monday. Before leaving he stated that it was true that Bliss and Brewster had been employed to assist him. He said that there was a great necessity for their employment; the labor and importance of these cases has necessitated considerable labor, he said, "and the labor will continue with their prosecution. Even the cases of the laboring men and the efforts will be required in the trial of the cases. After indictments may be found, neither I or any other individual could conduct the case to final issue alone or unaided. Besides, it is understood that the persons who may be indicted will have a large number of attorneys, and, in view of this fact and the importance of the cases, there will not be too many on the part of the government."

"What are your relations with the gentleman named Bliss?" "I am well acquainted with each of them, and have been engaged with Col. Bliss in the trial of an important case and in several public movements with Mr. Brewster. They are both able and experienced lawyers—very able—and no better selections could possibly have been made."

"Were you consulted or aware of their selection prior to the announcement?" "It would not be proper for me to say."

"Will the attorney general take part in any of the cases?" "The usage of the office held by him, and the pressure of regular business upon his time and attention, would not permit him to be present at the trial. It has had the advantage of his rich experience and admirable ability in the actual trial of the cases."

"When will the cases be presented to the grand jury?" "Shortly. There are a large number of jail cases, including charges of murder of which cases, including charges of business will have to first be disposed of, but there will be no unnecessary delay in presenting the cases to the grand jury. The record evidence in a number of cases is already prepared, and witnesses are now on their way to Washington."

"What is your opinion of the cases?" "Well, it would not be proper, I suppose, for me to say, but the facts have been carefully collected, and the cases against a number are regarded as strong. The grand jury will be satisfied with the condition of affairs as they now stand."

STATE ITEMS.

Dauphin county's agricultural fair is now in progress at Harrisburg, and is a very creditable affair.

A \$1.90 tax rate is suggested by the Philadelphia county committee on finance. This is a reduction on last year's rate.

The Erie Democrats are engaging in a factional fight for a commissionership nomination, which the Herald says will seriously affect Hon. Orange Noble's canvass for the state treasurer.

A son of Henry S. Clark, of Susquehanna, has just died from eating beef from a barrel that had been killed after having broken its leg several days before. Clark's entire family is sick from the same cause.

James Trythall, of Warwick township, Chester county, was walking on the line of the French Creek railroad, near Springfield, when he heard a train approaching and stepped to one side to let it pass. He did not give the train enough room, and the locomotive struck him and inflicted injuries that proved fatal.

A young colored man named Benjamin F. Jones, aged twenty-two years was found

dead in his bed yesterday morning by the family of Samuel Nichols, of North ally, near the residence of James Nichols. The verdict of Coronor Shindle, who was called to come to his death from supposed affection of the lungs.

There is considerable excitement in Easton over small-pox and every measure is being tried to prevent its spread. Three new cases were reported Tuesday night on Wednesday, making five cases now existing. Two deaths have occurred. It is said that a disease was spread by a woman who had nursed a child who had died from small-pox, going around to different houses asking for money to pay the child's funeral expenses.

DEMOCRACY'S NEED.

How it is Proposed to Maintain Effective Political Work From One Year's End to the Other.

Of the seven members of the committee appointed by the Democratic state committee last July to prepare rules for the maintenance of better organization in the party, only three fulfilled the appointment of a meeting at the Girard house, Philadelphia, last evening. These were Andrew H. Dill, who is chairman of the committee, and two other members, W. U. Hensel, who was among the first to urge the necessity of the proposed new rules, and J. P. Barr, of the Pittsburgh Post. The absentees were William A. Wallace, who had telegraphed that he could not attend; Samuel J. Randall, who was in New York to receive the remains of his sister-in-law, who died recently in Europe; Benjamin Whitman, who had said that it would be too inconvenient for him to come all the way from his home in Erie; and Thomas J. Barger, who is on a visit in Monroe county, and is in ill health. There had been an understanding, however, that such members as might be present could discuss the matter—informally if there should be less than a quorum present—and Messrs. Hensel, Dill and Barr acted accordingly.

Briefly summed up, the idea is to supply the want of written rules and prevent in the future such complaints as have arisen from acting in accordance with disputed precedents. It is desired to secure a uniformity of practice in conventions and the selection of chairman of the state committee as well as some changes in the principle of representation in the state convention and on the state committee. The ideas of Messrs. Hensel, Dill and Barr will be submitted at a meeting of the committee prior to the assembling of the state committee in Williamsport on the evening before the state convention. The purpose is to have the new rules adopted by the convention. Abolition of senatorial delegates is recommended, as every county can have as many representatives in the convention as it has in the Legislature. The establishment of a headquarters with a paid secretary on hand all the time, is favored. There is some diversity of opinion as to how the state committee should be constituted, but the prevailing idea appears to be that it should consist of the chairman of the county committees, insuring harmony with the local constituencies and preventing abrupt and radical changes in the composition of the body. The committee will meet on the 21st and 22d inst. at Chattanooga, and will be held at the residence of Mr. Hensel, who is chairman at that time, say in January, when the election would be least likely to be affected by local conflicts. It is believed that by giving the state committee authority to provide for the temporary organization of the state committee, and national committees do in national conventions, considerable friction that often disturbs preliminary proceedings can be avoided. It is thought possible that regulations can be made by which at least the persons who may be indicted will have a large number of attorneys, and, in view of this fact and the importance of the cases, there will not be too many on the part of the government."

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"Were you consulted or aware of their selection prior to the announcement?" "It would not be proper for me to say."

"Will the attorney general take part in any of the cases?" "The usage of the office held by him, and the pressure of regular business upon his time and attention, would not permit him to be present at the trial. It has had the advantage of his rich experience and admirable ability in the actual trial of the cases."

"When will the cases be presented to the grand jury?" "Shortly. There are a large number of jail cases, including charges of murder of which cases, including charges of business will have to first be disposed of, but there will be no unnecessary delay in presenting the cases to the grand jury. The record evidence in a number of cases is already prepared, and witnesses are now on their way to Washington."

"What is your opinion of the cases?" "Well, it would not be proper, I suppose, for me to say, but the facts have been carefully collected, and the cases against a number are regarded as strong. The grand jury will be satisfied with the condition of affairs as they now stand."

Dauphin county's agricultural fair is now in progress at Harrisburg, and is a very creditable affair.

A \$1.90 tax rate is suggested by the Philadelphia county committee on finance. This is a reduction on last year's rate.

The Erie Democrats are engaging in a factional fight for a commissionership nomination, which the Herald says will seriously affect Hon. Orange Noble's canvass for the state treasurer.

A son of Henry S. Clark, of Susquehanna, has just died from eating beef from a barrel that had been killed after having broken its leg several days before. Clark's entire family is sick from the same cause.

James Trythall, of Warwick township, Chester county, was walking on the line of the French Creek railroad, near Springfield, when he heard a train approaching and stepped to one side to let it pass. He did not give the train enough room, and the locomotive struck him and inflicted injuries that proved fatal.

A young colored man named Benjamin F. Jones, aged twenty-two years was found

increase during the past year. The reports of the committee on law and supervision and of the committee on appeals were read and approved. The following committee on the subject of knights was appointed: E. Murphy, of No. 27; J. Wilkinson, of No. 50, and W. Charleston, of No. 64. Representatives G. L. Jones, C. W. Lutz, C. Wainwright, George Metcalf and Isaac Davis were appointed a committee on condolence on President Garfield. Supervisors, Commodore W. C. Brown being announced in waiting, was introduced and addressed the assembly. The Supreme Castle of the World will meet at Liberty, Indiana, on the eighth of October next.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

YESTERDAY'S FIRE.

The Prison Barn and Another Place Fired. Between 3 and 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon the stable of the county prison was found to be on fire. There are two portions to this building and they are connected by a state wall. The building was a shed with big doors. The fire was discovered in the portion of the building next to Orange street. Two tons of straw and some other things were destroyed by fire. The roof of this part of the building was burned entirely off and the floor on which the straw laid was damaged badly. The carriage called the Black Maria, which was in the shed was taken out. The horse was in the other part of the building and was removed. A pig that was in the burnt portion was rescued by the prison keeper. The southern portion of the building was not even scorched and the shed was very slightly damaged. The whole loss, including the straw, will be little over \$100. The firemen did good service at the fire. The cause of the fire is not known, but it was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary.

The Other Fire. Just as the firemen were getting ready at the prison another alarm was sounded, it having been discovered that a tobacco warehouse on Millin street, in the rear of No. 540 East King street was on fire. The building is occupied by James Prangle and is owned by Jacob Gable. It contained several hundred cases of leaf tobacco and no one has been working at the place for some time. The fire was started by an incendiary at the double door leading out on Millin street. The fire was first seen by the firemen who were on duty. The doors were almost burned off and a hole was burned in the floor at the bottom. It is believed that coal oil was poured on this post from the transom above, after which cotton waste was placed under the door and set on fire. The tobacco cases were burned somewhat. Five or six were broken and quite a number were damaged by smoke. The doors and floors of the building were all that were injured by the fire and that loss is not great. Persons in the neighborhood who were in the building, assisted by the American fire company with their engine, extinguished the fire. The building is insured in the Home Mutual company.

Mr. Prangle had his stock insured for \$15,000 with Hansman & Burns in two different companies. What his loss will be is not known, but the agent will not acknowledge any loss by smoke.

THE DRAMA.

"Connie Soogah" at the Opera House. In the expressive phrase of stage vernacular Mr. Charles Gray's alleged drama of "The Connie Soogah" may be described as a decidedly "lart snap." The story itself is not without interest, but it has been marred with an awkward handling and the amount of romance, plot and counterplot that are developed in its three acts soon sour on an audience of average intelligence; while the abundance "sensational" effects produced, apparently after intense strain