

Lancaster Intelligencer.

FRIDAY EVENING DEC. 15, 1882.

Civil Service Reform. The Senate is engaged in discussing the civil service reform bill of Mr. Pendleton, which is intended to make fitness instead of party service the test of office holding; a very good object, indeed, but one which we fear is beyond the control of legislation.

To get a civil service reform which will be wholly satisfactory, we must commence at the head, and retain the power to remove a chief executive who is not satisfactory.

The system proposed of making the subordinate officers of the government dependent upon competitive examination and promotion upon competitive examination is a good deal more plausible in its theory than it will be likely to be in its results.

Reciprocal Confidence Needed. It appears that the regular ring Republicans of Philadelphia do not number enough votes in councils to re-elect the present city officers, of whose terms Commissioner of Highways Baldwin's expires in January, and those of Superintendent of Water Works McFadden and Commissioner of Public Property Dixey expire in February.

A fusion between the Democratic councilmen and the dissatisfied Republicans simply for the spoils of office will be neither creditable to the participants nor beneficial to the city; but the election of King and Hunter—one a Democrat and the other a Republican—proved that it is practicable to find common ground in municipal politics for honest men to meet upon.

premise purpose of municipal reform there should be reciprocity of confidence, and this cannot be had by exacting all the concessions from one side.

A NEW YORK STATE committee is examining into the matter of the evils of speculation, and has before it the magistrates of the monetary world detailing to it what they know of "corners" and futures; and it does not seem to think that the Legislature proposes a large undertaking for itself when it essays to correct the American spirit of speculation.

This is a strange world, in which, for instance, General Pope—whom nearly everyone believes to have abundantly demonstrated his lack of capacity for generalship, and who, moreover, unjustly secured the dismissal from the army of General Porter, who is now universally considered not to have done the things of which he is accused, but to have ably and patriotically discharged his duty as commander of an army corps—is promoted to be a major general in the army of the United States, while General Porter is unable to secure the return of the colonel's commission which was taken from him.

Looks as though Jay Hubbell had been caught in a regular northwestern blizzard. A knockout cork from a soda water bottle knocked the eye out of a teetotal bridegroom and ribald drinkers of champagne declare that Pomery Sec has never been guilty of such reprehensible conduct.

It is said, "upon good authority," that the Senate's resolution of inquiry into the causes for the removal of Marshal Henry "was not intended as either an actual or a constructive attack upon Marshal McMichael, nor did it indicate any purpose to oppose the latter's confirmation."

They have had a queer legal contest in Brooklyn, the result of which is that ten of the city fathers have been sent to jail for five days each for their contemptuous treatment of the supreme court. The aldermen seem disposed to regard their imprisonment as a huge joke, and the obliging jail officials have arranged to make their brief sojourn as pleasant as possible, providing the distinguished guests with wine, liquors and cigars and all the delicacies of the season.

Verily the policeman's lot is not a happy one. A knight of the loudest rejoicing in the euphonious cognomen of Muldoon, and who is a member of Mayor Grace's finest in the world, has developed qualities as a weather prophet that have got his name into the papers. Before the stern guardian of the peace gets through with his unhappy venture he will realize all too late the miseries of those who would forecast meteorological occurrences.

The Commonwealth club of Philadelphia last night complimented State Chairman Hensel by a banquet which seems to have been made the occasion of the assembling of many of the Democratic luminaries of the state, who improved the time to say their say upon the significance of the recent political revolution and to point the uses which the voters ought to make of their well-earned ascendancy.

The cabinet makers are as much exercised over the official furniture of President Arthur's administration as they are over Gov. Pattison's. Reports from Washington say Mr. Lincoln is to be sent to England to make room for our own Hartgraft, while Judge Brewster is to step on to the supreme bench and be succeeded in the attorney general's office by a Western man. How much there may be in these rumors is hard to determine, but Secretary Lincoln's denial this morning that he is about to surrender the war portfolio and represent this country in the court of St. James will perhaps serve to put a quietus upon that part of the programme.

PERSONALS. OTIS LOCKE has been appointed postmaster at Tiffin, Ohio. He is a brother of "Nabby." MADAME NILSSON dined with the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise, at San Francisco, on Wednesday. Mrs. LAROUCHER lost fourteen hats in New York just before she sailed. They were found yesterday in a cellar, where they had been placed by the thief. LOUISE SOTTWICK, of Maryland, a writer of "serials" for a New York paper, took laudanum on Wednesday evening, with suicidal intent, and is in a critical condition. Mrs. MATTHEWS, wife of the supreme court justice, in her new house opposite the British legation, Washington, held thronged receptions, at which Miss Mary Everts, daughter of the ex-secretary of state, assisted. "Ju," who figures in the New Mexican dispatches as the latest terror of that section, is Juan Mata Ortiz. He is about fifty years old and until recently was a man of wealth and political influence, having been chief official of the Mexican town of Gallano. Miss AGNESS HENDON, the beautiful and gifted young actress, who is next week to appear here in the successful melodrama entitled "Only a Farmer's Daughter," is a near relative to President Arthur, being a direct descendant of the heroic Herndon of naval renown. During the engagement of the actress in Washington, she was the recipient of kind attention from the distinguished kinsman, who called on her and with whom she dined at the White House.

HENSEL COMPLIMENTED.

DINED BY THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB.

Disturbed by the reports of the honor of the State Chairman and Liberator of the Democracy, Philadelphia Times. To testify appreciation of the services, during the recent political campaign, of William L. Hensel, chairman of the Democratic state committee, the Commonwealth club had a dinner in his honor last night, in the club house, Broad and Chestnut streets. Surrounded the feast table, which stretched from one end of the east room to the other, were about ninety gentlemen. At the head of the table sat Brinton Cooke, president of the club, with the guest of the evening at his right and Governor-elect Robert C. Pattison at his left.

Mr. Hensel, who was seated at the right of Mr. Black, was at Mr. Hensel's right. None of the other newly-elected state officials were present, although, until shortly after the banquet, Messrs. Africa and Elliott had been expected. A group containing Governor-elect Chaucey P. Black was at Mr. Hensel's right. None of the other newly-elected state officials were present, although, until shortly after the banquet, Messrs. Africa and Elliott had been expected.

Chickens Hensel's Speech. You will believe me, my friends, and pardon me when I say that I have considered my own conduct during the past year with some anxiety. I have never been confined to the simple declaration of the fact that the Democratic party has been elected, but I have endeavored to do more than that, and to do it in a way that has been most satisfactory to the public mind.

Contested Election Cases. William P. Black, Democrat, has decided to contest the seat of George H. Davis, Republican, who has received a certificate of election from the State Board of Election. The grounds of the contest are fraud in the election and the use of bogus Democratic ballots.

The Ohio board of canvassers, in session at Columbus, on Thursday closed their report on the contested election cases for the year. They decided the doubtful districts in favor of Murray in the Third, Morey in the Seventh, Warner in the Fifteenth and McKinley in the Eighteenth. The application of Campbell, Morey's opponent, for an order to set aside the election in the latter district, was refused.

Four Children Drowned White Skating. "Abbot's Dam," near the Falls of the Schuylkill, was frozen over yesterday, and was used as a playground by a number of children. About 10 o'clock the ice broke, and a party of them were precipitated into the water. Before they could be rescued four were drowned, namely, Johanna Casey, aged 10 years; Violet Parker, 14 years old; and Thomas Kendall, aged 12 years. The boys were, one excepted, children of mill hands, employed at Dobson's carpet mills, in the vicinity.

A Lady's Terrible Death. Mrs. William Wynne, a highly respected lady of Mahoney City, who was on her way to the Lehigh Valley depot, had just ascended a steep embankment and stepped on the track when she was struck by a coal train. The engine and forty cars passed over her body, which was cut to pieces and scattered in every direction. She was placed in a sheet. The train was passing round a curve and the engineer was powerless to prevent the accident. Mrs. Wynne was the wife of William Wynne, outside foreman at Primrose colliery. She was the mother of 14 children.

A SON'S INHERITANCE.

QUITE A SURPRISE FROM THE SOUTH.

The reasons why Senator Williams' son asks for the control of his property. The course of True Love. Mr. Ernauld Williams, a young man about twenty-three years of age, has filed a motion in the circuit court of Baltimore to set aside a deed of conveyance by which he conveyed to his father, Hon. George Hawkins Williams, president of the state Senate, all of his property, in consideration of an annuity of \$2,000 per annum.

STAYING HIS CHILDREN. A Well-to-do Resident of Massachusetts left for New York, and on his way there, Merriek R. Colt, of New Ashford, Mass., was left nearly two years ago with five children by the death of his wife. His treatment of them has been gradually growing worse, and of late the family have been only half clothed and fed, the children being in a state of starvation.

RUNAWAY CARS IN ST. LOUIS. Demolishing Part of a Street and Tearing Off the Front of a Saloon. While a freight train, consisting of twenty cars belonging to the Iron Mountain railroad and hauled by two locomotives, was being taken up Poplar street grade, St. Louis, it broke in two, and the rear part, consisting of fourteen cars, dashed down the grade toward the city. The train was run into a wagon of the transfer company, killing the team and smashing the wagon. This threw the first car off the track, and it rushed across Second street, demolished the southeast corner of T. Kalb & Co's store, and dashed into the rear of the rear of the store, and spent its force upon a stock of glassware and chemicals.

Cholera's Frightful Ravages. Letters from Chiapas, Mexico, dated October 20th, say that the "cholera" has raged with such violence in that district that the negro owners of plantations and laborers on plantations have all died and that, as it has not been possible to bury their bodies have been burned. Sixty deaths a day have occurred in Tonala, and a terrible panic has ensued.

A Big Diamond Robbery. In Cleveland, Ohio, yesterday, a man walked into the store of P. L. Miller, manufacturing jeweler, and asked him to put a new spring into a watch. While Mr. Miller was repairing the watch the thief slipped out a bag containing about \$10,000 worth of useful diamonds, rubies, pearls and other precious stones, and walked off with it unnoticed, the thief not being discovered until some time after he left.

A Shocking Double Murder. A shocking double murder has been committed near Lilesville, N. C. An old woman and her son were found dead at their home. They had been slain and the body of the son had been thrown into the river and partially consumed. They were placed in a coffin and buried. The cause of their murder is not known.

Beautiful view. Snow is reported to be "about three feet deep on the level" at Quebec. The recent heavy snowfall has caused a freight blockade at Buffalo. There was a heavy snowfall at Halifax, Nova Scotia, Thursday, and the weather grew colder in the night.

Twenty Miners Drowned. Advice from Melbourne, Australia, report that the Australasian mine in Creswick, Victoria, has been flooded, and twenty miners have been drowned. SUICIDE CAUSED BY A SCANDAL. The Young Man Endangered to Death Asks For a Final Funeral. Alfred Muehler, a farmer residing near Moslem Springs, 14 miles from Reading, who, as briefly noticed in Thursday's telegraphic reports, committed suicide by shooting himself. He left a letter in which he bids good-bye to his parents, sisters and friends, and says that he was driven to the deed by a false report about himself and a young lady of the neighborhood. He says that the report gave him so much trouble that he decided to take his own life, and when he retired at night, he put on his bed and said: "Come up, Heaven!" He mentioned the names of the young men who should sing at the house, at the church and at the grave, "Safe in the arms of Jesus," and other hymns that he named, as he was writing a "final funeral" to be read at his death. "Now, I will go and shoot myself right away. Our Father Who art in Heaven."

THE QUARTER SESSIONS.

THE DEFENSE IN THE CASE OF THE COMMONWEALTH vs. EDWARD WAGNER.

Thursday afternoon.—Com'th vs. Edw. Wagner, rape. The defense called John King and Frank Donnelly to show that on the night of the alleged rape they were in the neighborhood of Duke and Chestnut streets by herself. Catherine Howarter testified that after this occurrence she had a conversation with Lizzie McClarren; the latter said that on this night she first met Mullen at the depot; with him she walked to beyond St. Joseph's hospital, and upon their return met Munroe; she invited them to accompany her to the reservoir, where Kiehrst and Tammy brought the liquor; she saw nothing about any one having anything improper to do with her except Kiehrst. The witness saw the girl out of the house on the day after the alleged rape (Sunday) and on Monday following being sent to the hospital she was playing with the common law dog, Mrs. Davis and Munblenberg testified that if all was correct that the girl stated in regard to her condition on this night, taken in connection with the fact that she was subject to St. Vitus' dance, they did not believe that she would afterwards remember any details of the same as testified by her father and against her consent.

Mr. Mary McMillen testified that she saw Lizzie the morning after the alleged rape, at which time there were no marks of violence upon her. She did not have the appearance of being in any ill health. The witness said she was the mother of the young man referred to as Mullen, but whose real name is McMillen; she believed that he is now in Scotland. Mrs. Alice Bowser testified that she was wearing a blue dress on the night of the alleged outrage, and that she had stains from a red flannel under-shirt.

Thursday evening.—Com'th vs. Edward Wagner, rape. For the defense Mrs. Matilda Albright testified that she was in the room at her house in July last. On the night of the alleged outrage he came in twenty minutes before one o'clock. Witness also saw his shirt; it had no marks upon it but those made from perspiration caused by walking in the rain. Miss Mary Dolan, of 311 North Myrtle street, testified that she met the accused on the night of the alleged outrage in front of Weber's jewelry store, on North Queen street, between 7 and 8 o'clock. They went to the bar and remained there until they took a short walk and returned to the house of the witness's father; he remained there with witness until a few minutes after 12 o'clock. Peter Dolan, father of the last witness, corroborated her.

Charles Werdiz testified that he saw the girl with Munroe on Chestnut street near the depot; they were going in the direction of the reservoir; she said, "Hurry up, come on!" Mullen was talking to the witness and he went with the pair. The defense called about forty witnesses to prove that previous to this charge the character of the defendant for chastity has been good. Friday morning.—Com'th vs. Edward Wagner, rape. The defense called Wm. Munroe, who is also charged with this offense, and he testified that he, Mullen, Tammy and Kiehrst were at the reservoir with the girl until a late hour on this night. Wagner was in the room with her until the time. He remained there a short time, but had nothing to do with the girl. J. M. Johnston and Harry Hull were called to prove what the girl had sworn to at the hearing, but they did not recollect. The defense then rested.

The Commonwealth then began to call witnesses. John McClarren was called and he testified that the statement made by Joseph Murphy was a lie, and that he was not the (witness's) attempt to get him to swear to certain things was false. It was also shown by this witness that Murphy made certain statements in the law office of J. L. Steinmetz against the accused, Wagner, and that he was not the witness who told Murphy that Wagner could be got to pay \$5,000. Murphy was sober when in the office of Mr. Steinmetz; (Murphy said he was drunk.) John E. Malone testified that he saw Wagner in Mr. Steinmetz's office, and heard him make statements which were untrue, which he now denies; he was then sober, and the statement made by him was voluntary.

Alderman Joseph Samson testified that Murphy told him certain things which he now denies. Alfred Briggs was called to contradict the statements made by Mrs. Albright and Mrs. Bowser, in regard to the condition of Wagner's clothing at this time. The testimony here closed. Messrs. S. H. Reynolds and J. Hay Brown then spoke for the defense until adjourning time.

Jumped From a Train in Motion. Frederick Kramer, a leather-finisher from Philadelphia, was shockingly mangled by jumping from a passenger train while it was passing at full speed through Middletown, on an early hour on Thursday morning. His left foot was crushed to such an extent as to render amputation necessary. The right nostril was torn open almost to the eye and the right hand badly lacerated and torn. Besides the above there are ten or twelve other wounds on the head, face and body of a more or less serious character. The unfortunate man purchased a ticket at Middletown, and got on a train that did not stop at the latter place. The conductor wanted him to get off at Lancaster, but Kramer refused to do so, and as the train sped through Middletown he made the well-known fatal jump. The injured man says he did so at the repeated commands of the conductor, but the latter denies that he ordered the man off. Kramer is lying at the Harrisburg city hospital, where his leg was amputated eight inches below the knee, and he is doing well.

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Police Cases. The mayor this morning committed to the county jail two drunken and disorderly persons for 10 and 15 days respectively, and dismissed eleven vagrants who had sought lodging in the lockup. Alderman Samson committed Mary Wise, an old offender, to the county jail for ten days. Joseph Spelling, arrested on complaint of John Weidler for assault and battery, was held for a hearing before Alderman McConomy to-morrow.

Blockading the Streets. A great crowd, principally women and boys, assembled in front of Plinn & Willson's store last night to look at the handsome Christmas decoration of their show windows. In the crowd were a number of unruly boys who seemed to take especial delight to rouse the women and girls, and make use of offensive language. After being warned several times to desist, two of the boys were arrested by Officer Herr, and locked up in the station house. They were released to-morrow, and, as this was their first offense, their names are withheld.