

Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 13, 1883.

More Telegraph Consolidation.

The Western Union telegraph company has at last swallowed its latest great rival, the Mutual Union. It was a very bad thing for it to do, and no doubt Jay Gould and its other owners so recognize it. They make the operation for what they conceive will be its present advantage to them, expecting to get out of the property before the disastrous effect of the load they put upon it is experienced. The English telegraph expert, Mr. Ponder, who was lately in this country examining our telegraph system, said the other day at a meeting of the shareholders of the Atlantic cable in England, that he thought it was very unwise in the Western Union company to undertake to buy up the opposition lines as soon as they became formidable; and that it would be much better for the company to expend its means in perfecting and cheapening the service, so as to put it out of the power of the new concerns to deprive it of its business. Undoubtedly Mr. Ponder was right in his judgment. The buying-up process of the Western Union cannot be indefinitely continued, as new lines are constantly started for the purpose of being bought out; until finally the buying company will get so great a burden upon her that she will become an easy victim of a young and lightly stocked rival.

The lease of the Mutual Union is for ninety-nine years, but it is doubtful whether it will become an accomplished fact. Certainly the junction of these two companies cannot take effect in Pennsylvania, and the reported lease will suffice to drive both of these companies out of the state. As the Mutual Union cannot transfer her Pennsylvania line and as the junction of the companies will hardly be desirable under these circumstances, we have some reason to suspect that the effort to make it is for stock jobbing purposes and that it will never really be effected. If that is the case, the two companies together is a sincere one, it exhibits a great contempt either for Pennsylvania business or Pennsylvania laws, for there can be no question that the undertaking is forbidden by our law, and we believe we are not mistaken in our conviction that the law in this regard will be maintained by the state under its present government.

Progress of Legislation.

The Monday evening sessions of the Legislature are generally devoted to business and are profitless, but in last evening's session there was real work done. Senator Green introduced a bill for the reprobation by the state of the reports of the supreme court from first Dallas to first Overbridge; to be sold at the cost of publication, which would likely be about \$1.25 per volume, whereas they now sell at \$1.50, or more, and the purchase of a full set by a young lawyer is a very heavy tax on him at the outset of his professional career. For years, under the old system of state reporting, these prices were maintained until the Legislature recognized that the public had a right to the authorized decisions of the supreme court, like the pamphlet laws at the actual cost of their publication. Since the printing of them was let out by contract they are furnished at \$1.17 per volume, which is a fair price, and the republication of back volumes at this rate is a welcome proposition. But under the old law the reporter owned the copyright in these books. In the case of those reports for which this has not expired how can the state undertake their republication? In such cases as it has expired the supply of whatever demand exists for them might, we believe, be left to the enterprise of private publishers and need not be undertaken by the state.

When Mr. Hasson moved to call out of the committee's hands the anti-free pass bill, which it had negatived, the members who were responsible for that disposition of it and those who would have been glad to smother it had to hunt their holes, and by the emphatic vote of 136 to 34 it was put upon the calendar. Mr. Landis' bill against political assessments followed in its wake, and the motion to bring the anti-freight discrimination bill out of the committee was only lost because it was satisfactorily shown that the committee was giving its friends and opponents a fair hearing.

On the whole, things are working well at Harrisburg. There is an aggressive spirit of reform animating legislation. Some of the members may be voting with it against their inclinations, but it is better even thus than that they should vote wrong. It is a good thing that Reform is fashionable and popular. It was not always thus at Harrisburg.

The New Era concludes that Mayor Rowe, of Reading, is a profitable official, because during his term he has averaged for the city \$1,145.72 earned for its treasury in fees. But by the same token Mayor MacGougle is a still more profitable official. During his term he has averaged \$1,203 per annum in fees earned by him, all of which go into the city treasury, and this, too, notwithstanding the fact that under the present unfair law, which it is now sought to repeal, only half fees are allowed for cases heard by the mayor. But in many other respects Mayor MacGougle's administration has been a profitable one to the city. During his five years and a half of office there have been added to the sinking fund, for the redemption of the city debt, about \$96,000, while during the previous four years of Stauffer's administration it was increased only \$11,100, and to doubly offset this there was entailed upon succeeding administrations a floating debt of \$30,000.

Mr. HASSON is to be congratulated upon the success of his effort to bring the House to a vote on the free pass question. The committee which tried to smother the matter must feel a little cheap over the prompt reversal of their action in the House. There is nothing surer than that a determined charge of

the bayonets of reform will bring down the enemy every time. No matter how boldly the foe may seem to stand they are sure to take to their heels at the onset. There is something in the air which makes their legs run away with them against their will. Members of the very committee that voted a negative recommendation to the free pass bill, voted in its favor in the House. It takes nerve to withstand the popular will, when the popular eye is on you.

Some one about the Philadelphia mint has a mania for putting new faces on coins, and unfortunately good judgment and good taste seldom attend the performance. The five cent piece has been struggled with often, and once more is coined afresh. The artist, having exhausted his fertility of invention, has produced a coin resembling in size and one of its faces the half eagle, and on the other face he has omitted to say that the coin represents cents instead of dollars; so some one has gilded one of the pieces and begs to know why it is not as good as the half eagle it resembles. It is not a counterfeit, because it is a genuine issue of the mint; and as it does not say what the "V," which is the only expression of its value, means, it may as well be taken to mean dollars as cents. At any rate, a plated coin so close to the real thing that it may be readily taken for one; and consequently the new idea of the mint comes at once to grief and extinction; not withstanding the beauty claimed for it. It is not, however, any better looking than the old piece, and there seems to have been absolutely no excuse for its creation, except the restless desire for change so natural to the managers of the coinage.

The liquor question will not down in Jersey, and the Legislature, after stubborn resistance, has buckled down to consideration of higher licenses and more restrictions around the traffic.

NORTHWESTERN grain shapers think the price of wheat will not fall, but that a further advance is probable, the variety of winter wheat having had serious effect and European countries being short.

The Massachusetts Senate will investigate Butler's removal of the state prison warden. Then, perhaps, the country will see the promised but long delayed furnishing in Massachusetts.

The pension expenses are a very large and important part of the annual ordinary expenses of the government. In the year which ended June 30, 1882, the sum paid for pensions—nearly \$61,500,000—was one-third of the total ordinary expenditures of the government, outside of the interest on the public debt. The commissioner's estimate of pension expenses for the current year—\$100,000,000—was 42 per cent of the total estimated ordinary expenses outside of interest on the public debt.

The late Earl of Ashburnham's collection of masterpieces is offered for sale to the British museum. They extend from the Saxon period to letters of Cromwell including the refusal of Hampden and others to pay ship money. There are four thousand volumes. The price will probably be £169,000, and if Great Britain hesitates to purchase the collection America is certainly ready to do so; Chicago holds a bequest for the purchase of a library. Germany has already been treating for the purchase of the manuscripts.

Two Kings were sitting in Orkhal, By twilight glow in the distant hall. The minstrel sang, the wine foamed high; The Kings looked on with gloomy eye. Up spoke the one: "Give me the fair, Blue are her eyes and golden her hair." The other answered with angry mien: "My vow is recorded, she is my queen." The Kings then spoke not a word, But up they rose and each grasped his sword; And out they stalked from the lighted hall, Where the snow lay deep with silent fall. Bright shined the blades by the castle wall; Two Kings lay dead in Orkhal.

The superintendent of the Philadelphia mint states that he has no knowledge of an intention "to stop the coinage of the new five cent piece on account of the omission of the word 'cents.'" If he hasn't he ought to get it very soon, for there are gold washed copies of the coin out already, which are calculated to deceive the ignorant with the idea that they are worth "V" dollars. We have seen specimens prepared in this city well calculated to deceive the unwary and easily mistaken for five dollar gold pieces when mingled with that coin. Call in the ill-devised thing!

SWITZERLAND no longer presents the worst national record for drunkenness. "Sturdy and sober" Belgium, for the accommodation of its million and a quarter male adults, has 102,000 public houses of various kinds, or one drinking shop to every twelve persons. The medical officers at the Brussels hospital say that of every 100 cases under their care which terminate fatally, 80 are due to the effects of alcohol. While in 1875 there were 352 suicides in Belgium, there were 581 in 1880. There are also three times as many insane persons in confinement in Belgium now as there were thirty years ago, when the great increase in liquor drinking began to be manifest.

MISS MARTIN, an intelligent lady of central New York, who became reduced in circumstances, found that she neither sang well enough for stage purposes, nor had she any histrionic talent. In giving the subject serious consideration, she remembered that there was one thing she could do very well, and that was pickling and preserving. She told her friends that she was going to make a large quantity of pickles and preserves of different kinds, and that she wanted to sell them. They thought she was kidding and extended the dealers sought her goods and now she superintends a business worth from \$6,000 to \$10,000 a year. Everything she makes is the very best of its kind. All the ingredients she uses in her pickles and preserves are the best in the market, and though she employs a number of men and women, she superintends everything herself; and while her articles are all in the shops, they have a homelike taste that is unmistakable. All the jars bear her initials written in fac-simile of her autograph

FLOODED CITIES.

CINCINNATI LEFT IN DARKNESS.

Sad Scenes in the Streets—Funerals in Boats—The Sick Moved From Third Story.

Owing to the flood in Cincinnati last night 300,000 people were cut off from their usual gas, theatres and other halls had to supply themselves with electric lights, oil lamps or candles, and the audiences blinked their eyes under the ungodly light, and were hilarious and jolly, as they could not have been otherwise. The water works have about five days' supply in the reservoirs. Under the most favorable circumstances the works cannot furnish in time to more than keep ensembles afloat and supply the water of a great fire occur the result is disastrous to contemplate. Should it occur in the overflowed business district the department would be simply powerless and the flames would range unchecked. The flooded streets are full of people, rowing about in boats, rafts and skiffs. Many merchants tried to keep their stores by their cellars by pumps without success. A manufacturer of steam pumps, on Central avenue, near Second, built a dyke all around his building, only to see it swept away and \$5,000 worth of property destroyed. The Marietta and Cincinnati railroad freight and Ohio & Mississippi passenger depots are inundated. The freight depot has a foot of water on the floor, but the freight has been nearly all saved. The railroad track from Plum street depot is under several feet of water and the current is very swift. Commisive, the popular suburb lying north of Cincinnati, in the Mill Creek valley, is one vast lake. Over 500 families have been driven out of their homes, and the greater proportion of them are on the second and third floors. Newport, on the opposite side of the river, has one thousand houses under water. The scenes over there were indescribable. The sick in many instances, who were removed to the second story had to be taken out and lowered on boats. A most pitiable case was discovered by Chief of Police Smith in a house at the lower end of Chestnut street, where a woman named Mary Hall had lost her mind and was wandering around on the floor in several feet of water. She stubbornly refused any aid, and it required the united strength of four men to take her out and hold her fast in the boat. An aged woman named Hamilton, who lived on Elm street, while being lowered into a boat fell and dislocated her hip joint. She was taken to the Episcopal church, where a great number have sought shelter. An old woman at the lower end of Walnut street was found frantically engaged in bailing out the flood through a window. She was last losing her mind. A four year old child, both deaf and dumb, was taken to the Episcopal church, where it is being cared for. The child was dumb with the cold when taken out of the water. A woman in the last stages of consumption was rescued from a second-story window on Bellevue street. A family named Applegate, living on Bellevue street, had their house and the furnace, and mother prostrated with sickness, were taken out of a window.

PERSONAL.

COMMANDER FRANCIS MORRIS, U. S. N., died yesterday morning at Newport, Rhode Island. Dr. STEVEN A. SMITH, a promising physician in West Philadelphia, died suddenly yesterday, in his 68th year. JOHN McARTHUR, whose funeral took place yesterday, was the builder of many prominent structures in Philadelphia. PRINCESS LOUISE is expected to return to Ottawa from Bermuda on the 12th of March. GENERAL ROBERT TOOMBS submitted an application for a cataract in Atlanta, Ga., on Wednesday. He is nearly sightless. REV. PHILLIPS BROOKS is homesick in India. He writes to a Boston friend that the sun never warmed a dear part of the earth's crust than America. LOS M. ROMERO, Mexican minister to the United States, was a guest at a dinner given by a number of gentlemen interested in Mexico, at the Continental hotel, last evening. JAMES S. MACDONALD, member of the Legislative council of Nova Scotia, has been disqualified and compelled to vacate his seat in the council, as having become a bankrupt. GEN. FITZGERALD LEE says that after appointing an old Virginia remark to a party of returning soldiers: "Oh, this is Fitz Lee who surrendered; old General Lee never surrenders!" NICHOLINI is worth \$1,000,000, does not wish to increase his fortune, sings only for his own amusement and to please Mme. Patti, and doesn't care a rap whether the public like him or not. THE GOVERNOR HANMER, a member of the committee on railroads of the House, acquired extensive acquaintance with the mineral wealth and resources of the territories, and kept himself thoroughly posted regarding the extension and development of railroads in the west. He made investments and has made a million. EDMUNDS, the attorney of his party, is the conversational taker of the court room, while John Sherman, the most active and influential of the Republican leaders, is devoid of every trace of oratory. Senator Beck has been aptly described as "making like a Scotch bagpipe." Senator Bayard has a bad tender eye, while Pendleton is husky and stiff. SENATOR JOHN SHERMAN, has all of his correspondence carefully preserved, arranged and indexed, and of the 40,000 letters on his file the most valuable are those from his brother, the general, many of them written in his own hand before a battle and sometimes after one, but they gave the writer's ideas straight from his heart, and told what he thought the same as he would commune with himself. MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE WEBB MORELL died on Sunday at Scarborough, New York. He was a graduate of West Point and became a lieutenant of engineers, but resigned that position in 1837 to enter upon civil pursuits. He served in the war for the Union, participating in many of the battles fought by the army of the Potomac. He was mustered out of service in December, 1864. PETER COOPER celebrated his ninety-third birthday yesterday, and although not in his usual robust health, he is still able to attend to business, and participated in a dinner party given by a number of his friends at his residence last evening. A volume containing his principal speeches on finance, the tariff, etc., was issued yesterday, and in a few days another volume containing an outline of his life, his reminiscences of great men and great events will be given to the public.

DRINKS BY MAIL.

Condensation From the Morning papers. An epidemic of "winter cholera" is reported in Waterbury, Conn., about 250 persons being sick and 100 dead. The disease is attributed to the snow water in the reservoirs. John Casey, a polisher, unmarried, was killed by the bursting of an emery wheel at the establishment of the Wiley & Russell manufacturing company, at Greenfield, Mass. John Kelly, on trial at Sunbury, Pa., for the murder of Michael Mehan, committed in December last, was convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary. William Killman, who took part in the murder of old man Boulton last week, in Michigan has been arrested. He confesses his complicity, but declares that Manuel Leonard, who was arrested near Kalamazoo on Saturday, was the principal in the affair. He says the man who was killed with a boot-jack and his house robbed of \$400. Two engines and a snow plow on the Canadiana and Batavia Transit railroad in New York, were turned into a ditch at Kildyville on Sunday evening. No person was injured. A passenger train on the Silver Lake branch of the Rochester & Pittsburgh road was burned on yesterday morning, near Perry. Near Para, Ill., Reuben Corwin and his brother-in-law, James Hamlin, farmers who quarrelled over the possession of their wives, by a desperate fight with knives. Corwin was stabbed in the neck and Hamlin in the left breast. Corwin fired two ineffectual shots from a revolver. Both men are alive, but their wounds are serious. An explosion in a blacksmith shop in the deep cut on the Jersey Shore, Pine Creek, Buffalo railroad, about a mile from Jersey Shore, cost James Waters, a blacksmith, his life. There was a number of other buildings which were used for blasting purposes. By an unknown cause, as he was the only person in the shop at time of the explosion, several of them exploded with the above result. The building was demolished, and hardly a board was left standing. The unfortunate man was thrown some distance out in a field and was terribly mangled. He had just been married. John Wallace, a farmer, near Rockport, Carbon county, died, it is alleged from injuries inflicted by a party of drunken men who quarrelled with him on his farm. Seven of the men were arrested, but all discharged except two—Henry Adams and Henry Winnah. There were no marks of external violence and it is the general opinion that Wallace died from natural causes.

WHAT IS IT?

Certainly Not a Legal Coin. A new minor coin has just been put in circulation by the government. It is said to be a five-cent piece; but as a correspondent of the Sun pointed out on Sunday, it is not a five-cent piece, to show whether it represents five cents or five dollars. The only indication of its value is a big V. The inconvenience of the omission may be very great, especially to the thousands of immigrants who have to learn our coinage. As a mere matter of expediency, it is surprising that so defective a pattern should have been adopted. That a fuller inscription is required, unless a matter of five of the revised statutes of the United States has been repealed or amended, there must be upon the reverse a "designation of the value of the coin." The simple "V" does not comply with this requirement. The treasury department had better call in these coins and try again. While the authorities are about it, let them give us a prettier face than that of the Philadel-

THE RUSSIAN JEW.

HIS PROGRESS IN LANCASTER.

He Takes to Peddling—Remarkable Customs of the Streets—His Habits—Education and Business.

Most of our readers are well aware that about a year ago there was a very large immigration of Russian Jews into this country. They had fled from the terrible persecutions to which they were subjected by the ignorant and bigoted adherents of the Greek church, who charged them, without the slightest evidence, of being the authors of all the crimes with which that unhappy country has for years been afflicted. Those immigrants arrived in New York and Philadelphia in the most pitiable condition—ragged, friendless and penniless. They were kindly received by their Hebrew brethren, who organized relief committees, supplied their immediate wants, and took effective measures to distribute them among other towns and cities, and to impress upon them the duty and necessity of their becoming self-supporting. In pursuance of these measures a colony of about thirty or forty of them were sent to Lancaster for years been afflicted. 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