

Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 28, 1883.

A Subject for Legislation.

Nothing of greater importance can engage the attention of the Legislature than an endeavor to make fruitful the intent of the constitution, that no corporation shall issue stocks or bonds except for value received. It is known to every one that many of the great railroads of the country have issued stocks and bonds to an amount far exceeding the actual cost of the roads; with the result that the public are taxed unduly for transportation that dividends may be earned upon the magnified cost of the enterprises. The Pacific railroads are familiar instances of this unjust burdening of the people. They were built with the money realized from the United States bonds given them, their own bonds and stocks, now selling at high figures, being a clear profit to the projectors, who collect from the community large dividends upon the inflated cost of the roads. The elevated railroad in New York city is another illustration familiar to every well informed person of the injury done to a community by failing to restrain carrying companies from capitalizing their roads above their cost. These things, indeed, are so common that it has almost come to be a matter of course that the cost of a rail road should not be represented in its bonds and shares. The company which uses all its bonds in the construction of its road and keeps only its stock as profit is deemed moderate in its exactions. Customarily there is an inside ring in the shape of a construction company; or there is a favored contractor for the whole job, who divides his profits with those who give him the contract. The estate of the late Patrick McEvoy, of this city, who was building the low grade division of the Pennsylvania railroad when he died, was largely augmented by the fact of his death occurring before he had an opportunity to divide his profits, his partners not being in a position to demand their share from his executors.

Now, clearly, these things should not be. The capital of a road should represent its actual cost, and should not carry in its belly an undue profit to a contractor who builds it, or to the projectors who put it afoot. These men may be entitled to be paid for their idea and the energy with which they secure its fruition; but their compensation should not be a secret one. There should be no imposition practiced upon the public. The road should not be held out as costing what it has not cost. Those who lend money on its bonds with the belief that they have the security of the paid-up stock behind them should have that security in fact. If all the money that is to build the road is to be obtained on the bonds alone, that fact should be known to the subscribers. This is but common honesty. The road may, when built, be worth all it is capitalized at, but that is no reason why it should be falsely stated that it has cost the amount of its capital.

But the state is even more interested in protecting those who are to use the railroad than those who lend it their money or invest in its stock. It is to the interest of the state that transportation should be as cheap as possible. Freight charges are a very great element in the cost of every article of commerce. The cheaper the cost of carrying the farmer's grain to market, the greater will be the sum he realizes from his sales; and the cheaper the cost to the manufacturer of the carriage of his materials and product, the cheaper he can make them, and the greater, therefore, will be the number of factories in a state that daily protects its industry from undue tax by the common carrier.

Now is the time for the Legislature to consider this matter. The constitution declares that every corporation shall give value for its stock and bonds in labor, materials or money. But this mandate needs to be formulated in a law which shall secure its execution according to its spirit. It will be a difficult one perhaps to frame, so many are the ways in which a false statement may be made of cost, and so great are the inducements to make it. But it needs to be framed without delay. A great railroad is projected across our state as a rival to the Pennsylvania. It will be welcomed; but to be of due benefit to the state it must not be permitted to issue stock or bonds above its actual cost. The Senate has just repealed the limitation upon railroad capitalization in its behalf and upon the statement that it could not build and equip the line it wants to lay, as a proper rival for its great competitor, for the \$120,000 per mile to which the general railroad law limits the stock and bonds of railroads built under it. \$120,000 is a great deal of money to expend per mile on three hundred miles of railroad. The intent of Mr. Vanderbilt may be to level the mountains and make a grade as level as a race course. The great estimated cost of his road indicates such purpose; as the rails, cross ties and fastenings for a mile of double-track railroad, such as the Pennsylvania, will not cost fifteen thousand dollars per mile.

If the money he spends is honestly and judiciously laid out upon the work, the state can have no objection to his spending as much as he pleases. But it needs to secure this assurance and to provide a sufficient guarantee that the people of the state will not be called upon to furnish dividends on any watered stock. Mr. Vanderbilt's father made many of his millions by watering the stock of the New York railroads which he controlled. We want no such essay by the son in Pennsylvania. Probably he intends none; but nevertheless it is the duty of the Legislature to see that none is possible.

The board of county auditors nearly a year ago surplanted the members of the last board of county commissioners with certain amounts alleged to have been illegally and imprudently paid by them out of the county treasury. It is the duty of the present board of commissioners and their solicitor to press to

FREE IRELAND.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE ORGANIZED.

A Declaration of the Principles Upon Which the Organization is Founded—Who the Members Shall Be—The National Convention in Philadelphia yesterday afternoon the committee on resolutions presented a preamble and resolutions. The preamble says that the English government has existed in Ireland not to preserve the lives of the governed, but to destroy them; that it has annihilated the liberty of the people; that instead of protecting the property of the people, the English government in Ireland has been a conspiracy for its injury and ruin; that it has not maintained peace and order; that it has not allowed an equitable and efficient voice in the Legislature. In view of these facts the committee recommended the adoption of resolutions declaring that the English government has no moral right whatever to exist in Ireland; that it is the duty of the Irish people to resist its rule; that the Irish people in the employment of all legitimate means to substitute for the national self government; that all the societies represented in the convention, and all that hereafter may comply with the conditions of admission, be organized into the Irish National League of America, for the purpose of supporting the Irish National League of Ireland, of which Charles Stewart Parnell is president; demanding that the farmers allow the laborers a fair day's wages for a fair day's work; counselling their countrymen in Ireland to do nothing in England which they can produce in Ireland or procure from America or France, and pledging themselves to promote Irish manufactures by encouraging their import into America, and to assist American traders from keeping English goods on sale; declaring that an English ministry has earned the contempt of fair-minded men throughout the world by imprisoning more than a thousand citizens of Ireland without accusation or trial; that the policy of the English government in first reducing the Irish peasantry to abject poverty and then sending them penniless to the United States, depends upon American charity, is unnatural and an outrage upon the American government and people. The resolutions were adopted.

A Scheme of Organization.

The report of the committee on organization, setting forth the objects of the "Irish National League of America," was read and unanimously adopted, as follows:

1. Whereas, in the opinion of the citizens of America and Canada, Irish and of Irish descent, it is useful for the purposes hereinafter set forth, that sinking all private prejudice and creed distinctions, they do unite to secure this common end, do hereby declare and stamp the state of Michigan in favor of negro suffrage when an amendment was submitted to the constitution of that state, before the adoption of the national constitutional amendment. He remained with the Republican party until the nomination of Horace Greeley, for whom he had a strong personal admiration. He studied law in New York, and is now engaged successfully in his practice at the Illinois bar. He is the husband of Margaret Sullivan, a journalist well known in the West.

PERSONAL.

SENATOR ANTHONY was reported somewhat better yesterday.

CLAYTON McMICHAEL is very popular as marshal of the District of Columbia.

QUEEN VICTORIA will be able to stand unassisted upon her feet before a fortnight elapses.

GEORGE W. VANBRUNT, inventor and patentee of the Vanbrunt sewer, died yesterday at Oceanogrow, Wis., aged 53.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORMER EXAMINER NEW JERSEY says the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has filled the editorial chairs of the country.

MISS LIZZIE C. FRY, daughter of a leading citizen in Tamaqua and educated in Paris, made her operatic debut in Tamaqua last night.

REV. J. C. HUNT, of the Presbyterian mission, this city, who is about to remove to Elkton, Md., will preach his farewell sermon in the Orange street Presbyterian church to-morrow evening.

PARSON TAMMAGE said last night that some gubernatorial chair, or in some office of farm-house, is the man who will be the next president of the United States.

JOSEPH KEPPNER, Paiz's distinguished caricaturist, sailed for Europe yesterday, and will be absent several months. He was formerly an opera singer, and arrived in this country some years ago as a Castle Garden immigrant. Now he is rich and famous.

SENATOR BEER started in life as a farm hand, and a number of years ago he went to West Virginia as a brakeman. Fair bartender, Farley as a stage-driver, Gorman as a page, Vest as a reporter, Sawyer as a laborer, Jones of Florida, as a carpenter and Morrill as a country storekeeper.

REV. GEORGE THOMAS DOWLING, of Washington, Ohio, who has not been called to a church in Cincinnati, gets even with her unappreciative people by declaring that he would not live in Cincinnati on any terms because soap is too dear and a man cannot spend four hours a day in the bath tub.

REV. DR. C. B. BOYNTON died yesterday in Cincinnati, aged 77 years. He was for 25 years pastor of the Vine street congregational church in Cincinnati, and served two years as chaplain of the U. S. House of Representatives. He was father of General H. V. Boynton, the well known Washington correspondent, and of Mr. A. C. Boynton, the Washington representative of the Western Associated Press.

BUCHER SWOOPES' CONFESSION. The Charge of Forgery Fastened Upon Senator Wallace to Gratify Personal Hatred.

PITTSBURGH, April 27. To Charles Emory Smith, editor of the Standard, I notice the letter of Roland D. Swopes, published this morning. I knew his father, H. Bucher Swopes, former district attorney of this district, very well. He repeatedly boasted to me, and others that he had fastened on Senator Wallace the charge of forging naturalization papers, and that was to gratify a personal hatred of him. With respect to the death of Mr. Swopes he told me regretfully that "he had set that thing up on Wallace," that he was sorry for it; that he would send him, and as I understand, he did so, or not I am unable to say. Very truly, F. M. MAGEE.

Deaths by Violence. The total number of deaths caused by the tornado at Weston and Beauregard, Mississippi, on the 12th inst., showing the force of the storm, it is asserted, was "a solid iron srew of a cotton press, weighing 675 pounds, was carried by the cyclone 360 yards." Also, that "a piece of scantling, 3 by 4 inches and 10 feet long driven through a red oak sapling."

A HUSBAND'S REVENGE.

AN OATH FULFILLED IN COLD BLOOD.

Ex-Congressman Thompson shot his former friend—A Desperate Death—Unfortunate Victim's Wife.

There was great excitement in all the towns in Kentucky Friday when it was learned that ex-Congressman Philip B. Thompson had shot Walter Davis at Harrodsburg, Ky. Those who are intimate with them have been exposing the trouble for some time. Walter Davis and Philip Thompson were bosom friends, they got drunk together and played cards together. Their families were wealthy, and from their boyhood up they have helped one another in every way. Davis became a distiller at Harrodsburg and made money hand over fist. Thompson drifted into politics and was elected to Congress, first from the Seventh district and then from the Eighth.

When the friends bought adjoining farms in Merion county and their intimacy continued, Davis built himself a princely home, and it is said to have cost \$10,000 in Thompson's race against Ewell the Republican candidate last year. Not a word was whispered against Thompson's wife till last fall when in company with her husband and Davis she went to Cincinnati, Thompson went on to Washington and Walter Davis and Mrs. Thompson, who appear to have been on terms of intimacy, remained in the town. They visited all the variety theatres in an opera carriage, and ended their debauch in a disreputable hotel. When they returned to Harrodsburg, the faithfulness he disowned her, and swore that if he and Walter Davis ever met either of them would have to die. Davis avoided him till Friday morning. Harrodsburg 6 o'clock on Friday morning in the smoking car. Without saying a word Thompson reached back for his pistol and fired two shots at Davis in rapid succession. Both balls took effect in Davis' head. His brains splattered the car seat, and he lay motionless. He died without saying a word. When Thompson saw that he had killed his bosom friend he threw the pistol on the floor and exclaimed: "This man took my wife to Cincinnati and debauched her. I swore to kill him on sight. I hope I have done so, and then ordered him to be stopped and delivered himself up."

This is not the first time that Phil Thompson has killed his man. When a very young man, his family and the Davies family became engaged in a law suit over some land, and had a pitched battle in front of the court house at Harrodsburg. A father and two sons each side, and all armed with knives and pistols, after a hand to hand conflict that lasted for nearly an hour, the Thompsons whipped the Davises, and the father and the two sons of the Davies shot one of them through the head and his father stabbed the other two. Phil was the commonwealth's attorney. "Little" Phil Thompson, as his friends affectionately called him, is one of the most popular persons in Kentucky. The sympathy is decidedly in his favor, and the prevailing opinion is that he will certainly be acquitted.

A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

The Crazy Deeds of a Diamond Broker. Brooklyn reports a terrible tragedy. A man named William MacDuff, a diamond broker, doing business in New York, residing in Brooklyn, about 5 o'clock, Friday morning, murdered his wife Catherine and his six-year old son William, and then completed the crime by committing suicide. He used a large bull-dog pistol, with five chambers, and he shot his wife in the back of her head. Her death is supposed to have been instantaneous. She was found lying with her face down on the floor. The child was on the bed, and he had probably been shot while asleep. Near the foot of the bed was the body of MacDuff, lying on his right side, and wearing his night clothing. The wife and mother had been up probably a short time before she was murdered, for she was dressed and there were a few dishes on the table, showing that she had evidently begun preparations for breakfast. As yet the motive for the shocking deed is a mystery, and the following brief note which MacDuff left for his brother, J. S. MacDuff, does not explain it: "DEAR BROTHER JACK.—If anything happens to me I want you to have whatever I may have left, and bury me in your plot. This is my last request. "Your unfortunate brother, "WILLIAM."

The suicide has another brother engaged in the real estate business at the corner of Gates avenue and Broadway. He says William had been married about eight years, and appeared always to live on good terms with his wife, and he was not a quick tempered man and not given to dissipation, the presumption is that he was laboring under a temporary aberration of mind. A coroner's inquest may throw some additional light on the subject.

Other Tragedies. C. W. St. Clair, a colored barber, yesterday assaulted his wife with a hatchet and then cut his own throat with a razor, in Columbus, Ohio. It is thought both will die of their injuries. St. Clair formerly lived in Philadelphia.—Carrie Smedley, aged 13 years, committed suicide in Germantown, yesterday, by taking arsenic. Her two sisters, with whom she lived, could assign no cause for the act.—Frazier Copeland, colored preacher, was hanged yesterday at Waco, South Carolina, for the murder of W. J. Annicut, committed in December last.

A Temperance Lecture. The lecture to-morrow afternoon by Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, under the auspices of the Woman's Christian Temperance union, will be in the court house at half past three o'clock. Mrs. Foster is said to be an able speaker, and for several years has been practicing law in the courts of Iowa. She makes a specialty of suits against violators of the liquor laws, and has been successful in many of them. The special topic of her address here has not been announced, but those who know, claim that her Sunday lectures are adopted to the day. There will be no admission fee charged, but "all will have the privilege of contributing something in aid of the work when the collection is taken."

Capt. Wm. S. McCaskey. Capt. Wm. S. McCaskey, formerly of the 79th Pennsylvania volunteers of this city, and now of the 20th U. S. Infantry, and for some time past stationed at Davis's Island, N. Y., passed through Lancaster yesterday having in charge one hundred and sixty recruits for the army. His destination was Montana. He states that the rendezvous at Davis's Island, where recruits are drilled for about four months to fit them for active service, is almost stripped of troops.

Horses Shipped. Lazarus Pioso shipped fifteen head of draught horses from the Keystone stables to New York. It was a remarkably fine looking lot of animals, among them being five that were coal black, which were purchased from one man by Mr. Pioso. Five of the horses were taken to New York by the Lancaster county dray and driving horse.

COLUMBIA NEWS.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE.

Events along the Susquehanna—Items of Interest—And Around the Borough—Picked up by the Intelligencer Reporter.

Mr. John Weiner, a freight brakeman of the Pennsylvania railroad, was squeezed to death between the dead woods of two cars which were endeavoring to couple in the west yard here, last night. Life was gone by the time he was extricated from his terrible position. Deputy Coroner Frank and a jury will view the remains and render a verdict this evening. The time of burial is not yet determined upon, but will probably be on Monday. The mother of deceased was killed last fall in the east yards of the P. R. R., by the Harrodsburg accommodation train, while gathering coal on the track.

Mr. George Campbell, a Pennsylvania railroad roundhouse employe, had his right hand badly mangled yesterday while coupling cars. Amputation will not be necessary.

Mr. Joel Foster, Sr., a freight brakeman of the Pennsylvania railroad, was thrown from his train in the Philadelphia cars last night, about 9 o'clock, and severely injured. He was brought to his home in this place early this morning.

Adjourned meeting of council was held last evening. Tax rate for this year set at 6 mills on the dollar. Communication received from Reading & Columbia railroad company asking the opening of Cherry street from Second to Front street. No action taken. Also another petition requesting the borough to vacate alley I, from Bank alley to Pennsylvania railroad. A committee was appointed to confer with the board of directors of the matter. Council's action will be delayed until committee and reports results of conference. The churches.

To-morrow's subjects at the churches: "Presbyterian, morning. "Some elements of our Christian life." "Bethel Church of God, morning. "Backbiting and evil speaking." evening. "The terrible evil of drunkenness." Trinity Reformed, evening. "Saul, the Pharisee." Methodist, "Songs of the night." The pastor of this church will also preach at the M. E. church at the quarterly conference meeting in the afternoon. The E. E. Lutheran pulpit will be occupied to-morrow by Rev. C. A. Hay, D. D., of Gettysburg.

Educational Notes. The oral examinations at the public schools during the week were of the most satisfactory character.

Prof. B. G. Ames will remove his family back to Columbia from Philadelphia again.

Prof. E. E. Higbee, state superintendent of public schools, was much pleased with his examinations of the schools of this place.

Public Affairs. The free festival of St. Paul's P. E. church will be continued to night in the Lotus club room.

An important meeting of the Keely store company stockholders will be held on Monday evening, May 14th, in Old Fellows' hall.

On Tuesday evening, May 1st, Gen. Welsh Post, No. 118, G. A. R., will hold a meeting. The post intends to give an entertainment at the same place.

Post No. 226, of Marietta, is to be presented by the ladies of that place with six beautiful flags on Friday evening, May 11th. Numerous G. A. R. guests are expected to attend the exercises.

On Monday evening a public package party will be held at Mr. Simon A. Bland's residence, on Locust street, by the Methodist church congregation.

The new teacher of the Citizen's Band, Prof. Worrell, gave his first lesson last night.

The Lotus social club held a special business meeting last evening.

The "Orpheus" meet on Tuesday evening at Mr. Henry Pfahler's, Locust street.

A runaway horse on Locust street yesterday managed to demolish the shafts and a wheel of the vehicle to which he was attached.

Another runaway occurred on the same street this morning, but a broken hitching post, with which the wagon collided, was the only damage which resulted.

Boating has been temporarily discontinued on the Pennsylvania canal. A break has occurred in the canal bank at Espytown aqueduct, which will not be repaired for five days.

A large party of ladies and gentlemen will make a rafting excursion to Port Deposit, on Monday.

Nathan & Co's circus and menagerie will show about the middle of May.

Train Jumpers. Railroad officers Pyle and Kennedy yesterday arrested four train jumpers and locked them up. This morning three of them were taken before Alderman McCaskey and sent to jail for ten days each. The fourth, a man named Robert Harris, was sick when arrested, and on being examined by a physician was declared to be suffering from smallpox.

This forenoon officers Kennedy and Pyle captured three more train jumpers at Mill creek station and brought them to Lancaster. Alderman McCaskey committed them for ten days each.

OBITUARY.

Death of Postmaster Christ, of Leitz.

The death of Francis W. Christ occurred at his home in Leitz on Friday evening at 7 o'clock. Mr. Christ was 67 years old, and was born in Leitz. For many years he held the position of justice, and for the past ten years had been postmaster, which office he held at time of his death. He was president of the board of Trustees of the Leitz Moravian church, and also took an active part in politics as a Republican. He was most generously inclined and gave liberally to all who applied to him for aid, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. His funeral will take place on Tuesday afternoon, interment in the Moravian cemetery at Leitz. Mr. Christ leaves a wife, but no children.

Mr. C. was born in Leitz, Feb. 29, 1816, and was a pupil of the late John Beck, and with Franklin B. Gowen. After having served an apprenticeship at shoemaking, he taught public school in Manheim for two years. In 1841 he was married to Miss Sarah Kremer, of Leitz, and shortly afterwards opened a boarding house for Prof. Beck's academy pupils. He continued to keep this house until June of 1851, when Prof. Heppel took charge of both academy and boarding house. He resigned the office of justice of the peace to accept the appointment of postmaster under the first administration of President Grant, which office he held till his death, having always been a Republican and a member of the electoral college since 1850, and often in State and county conventions. He was a director of the Reading & Columbia railroads and had the general direction of the Leitz spring grounds. He was a prominent member of the Moravian church and for many years superintendent of the church school.

Death of Mrs. Hagen. Elizabeth Hagen, wife of the late John Hagen, died yesterday morning at the residence of her son-in-law, Moses Johnston, at Mount Pleasant, Bart township, in the 92nd year of her age. Deceased had apparently enjoyed good health up to the evening of the 27th, when she suffered a stroke of apoplexy and died from the effects the following morning. Mrs. Hagen was well known and highly respected. Her funeral will take place from the residence of her son-in-law on Tuesday next.

Death of John S. Brandt. John S. Brandt, a well-known citizen residing near Mastersville, Rapho township, died on Thursday evening, after a short illness, of mumps. He was a farmer by occupation, a man of high energy, and highly respected. He was past the years of age, and leaves a wife and several children.

The Young Men of the Moravian Church. On last Tuesday and Wednesday evening numerous visitors were present at the informal reception of the Young Men's social club, of the Moravian church in their rooms on the third floor of H. Z. Rhoads' building, and were very much pleased at the good work this young organization is doing in the city. Y. M. S. club, which already numbers over forty members, originated a little more than two months ago, in the young men's Bible class, of the Rev. J. Max Hark. Its membership is limited to fifty, and was started for the purpose of counteracting the temptations and degrading influences of the saloons, beer clubs, and other places of evil which offer so many allurements to young men in our city. To this end the club has a reading room, a billiard room, and a billiard table, and its rooms are furnished with a reading, smoking and hearing room, where the young men can pass their time in a pleasant and profitable and pleasant manner, reading, talking, playing games or engaging in athletic exercises, who otherwise would be out on the streets or in places of resort of a bad character. This club cannot fail to exert a good influence. It proceeds on the right principle of trying to keep young men from temptation, immorality and rowdiness by offering them equal inducements as attractions for the same. Where these are practiced, without their evil accompaniments and associations, and on the other hand without any ostentations and repelling display of religiousness. We need more such clubs.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS. Events Near and Across the County Lines. Forough's circus took \$1,600 out of Harrodsburg.

A Millin county farmer has a parrot which speaks Pennsylvania Dutch quite fluently.

1,243 German immigrants landed in Baltimore yesterday on the steamer Hohenzollern.

The grand jury at Dover, Delaware, yesterday indicted 11 persons charged with the attack on O'Brien's circus troupe last week.

Miss Emma Whitmer, of Lower Millford township, Leitch county, who was robbed one night last fall, while she slept, of a beautiful head of hair, died on Friday of grief over her loss.

A man named Slaven, aged about 26 years, who worked for Philip Dotts, near Springhouse, Montgomery county, was found on Thursday evening, at a water hole near that place, dead from the effects of an epileptic fit. His father died at the same place from the same disease.

A charter has been issued at the state department to the Delaware and Atlantic Telegraph and Telephone company, in the counties of Chester, Bucks, Montgomery and Delaware, with a capital of \$10,000. The general route and points to be connected are as follows: Philadelphia to Chester, Media, and state line via Darby, Philadelphia, to Coatesville, and to Lancaster county, with lateral lines to West Chester, Norristown, Phoenixville and other points.

It is well not to fool with the groundhog. Howard Martin, near Kennel Square, Chester county, while attempting to blow up groundhog holes in a water house, was horribly injured. He had poured powder down the hole and attempted to light it by the aid of a fuse, but unfortunately the powder ignited before he had time to attain a safe distance and his clothing was set on fire and he was burned to a crisp. The cases of a gold watch in Martin's pocket were completely melted.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS. The Hartman Will Case Still On.

The whole of this morning's session was taken up by the case of the contested will of the late Jacob Hartman. The defense contended that the testator, when they endeavored to show that Miss Ackerman the housekeeper of the deceased, and her son exercised undue influence over him to the prejudice of the contestants. At noon it was found that the case could not possibly be concluded by the close of the day, so the court was discharged until Monday at 10 a. m.

Mayor's Court. The mayor this morning sent two disorderlies to the work house for thirty days each. The men were disorderly persons, was discharged on payment of costs, and a vagrant was discharged.

A Severe Fall. Adam Blumenshock, a bricklayer working on the new building on North Prince street, fell through the joists last evening and was severely out.