

Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 26, 1883.

Appoint the Fittest. We shall be surprised if Governor Pattison appoints Mr. Schwartz to the orphan's court judgeship of Berks county, although the Harrisburg correspondents represent that to be his intention. We shall be surprised, because Mr. Schwartz is not the fittest man for the place that the Berks county bar can produce; and we believe that it is Governor Pattison's desire to discover and appoint the fittest man. We believe this because that is his duty, and so far he has given strong indication of his desire to do his duty without fear, favor or affection.

Mr. Schwartz is recommended to the governor by Judge Hagenman and some of the members—less than a score, we believe—of the lawyers of Berks county. A larger number of these lawyers protest against his appointment. In this state of the facts, Governor Pattison will need to inquire for himself not only whether Mr. Schwartz is fit to be a judge, but whether he is fittest. Such inquiry will be likely to result in informing the governor that he should not appoint Mr. Schwartz; in which case we have such confidence in him as to believe that he will not appoint him. Judge Hagenman's opinion of Mr. Schwartz's fitness for judicial duties does not conclude the question by any means; Judge Hagenman himself would better adorn other positions than the judicial one. He can hardly be satisfied himself that nature has specially fitted him to be a judge. He shines much better as a politician. Mr. Schwartz voted for Gov. Pattison's nomination in convention, we believe; but that is no reason why Governor Pattison should make him a judge. The governor will better justify Mr. Schwartz's vote for him by making the best judge he can get in Berks county. If judges are selected by governors because they are politicians, we will have to revise the opinion we expressed the other day that governors would be likely to appoint better judges than the people are apt to select. The appointment of Schwartz would give a very black eye to that opinion. The selection of Garret D. Stevens—for instance—would confirm it.

The Candidates' State. In most of the calculations for 1884 made nowadays reference is had to the doubtful states of New York and Indiana, and it is counted that the Democrats must take somebody who can carry one or both of these states. But it is by no means certain that such a man is most likely to be found in them. Indeed their very position as pivotal states has engendered fierce feuds in the party of these states which have well nigh killed off all their men of prominence and made outsiders stronger than their own men.

Meanwhile the party in Ohio and Pennsylvania has been strengthened by victory and more efficient organization, until both these states are fairly classed as debatable ground for 1884. There is a little friction over Hoadley's nomination, but it does not threaten to be serious, and if he carries the state, as seems altogether probable, the Ohio delegation will go into the next Democratic convention with an apparent right to be considered of that weight which attaches to the representatives of a great state whose electoral vote may be cast for the nominee. But in Pennsylvania the condition of the party is still better. There is an utter absence of factional strife here, and the old lines are entirely effaced. The party has learned wisdom from experience and its leadership has broadened and is pervaded by the best of good feeling. The party has acted upon the principle that the first contest it had to win was for the control of the state government, and that it could only prove its claim to that and to higher trust by good administration. Having given this to the commonwealth it reasonably asks this year for an extension of confidence, and if it makes its fight for this it will win again. And, having done this, if the present harmony and spirit of the party continue to rule its councils, the Pennsylvania delegation to the next Democratic national convention will be the most influential in its membership.

For Sound Reason. It is an old and wise maxim of the law that fraud vitiate everything; and while it is true that after a reasonable time there should be some limitation upon the power of a party to a contract to annul it on the ground that he was not fully informed as to the circumstances under which he made it, it is equally true that the Grady insurance bill, which the governor has vetoed, was so sweeping in its provisions as to legalize the most carefully planned and craftily hidden imposition. There has been abundant reason for complaint concerning the tendency of insurance companies to resist claims arising out of the deaths of persons whose premiums they continually took during their life without protest; and a sound public policy calls for relief to the patrons of life insurance from this and other sharp practices on the part of the companies. The bill vetoed seems to have had some good features about it, but these have had to fall because of the provision which comes within sound objections to any enactment which seems to invest fraud with the sanction of law. The governor is right in thus condemning defective legislation, notwithstanding the slaughtered bills have some merit. His wholesale dispatch of the work of the present Legislature will teach future bodies to be more circumspect and accurate. These qualities are more so long wanting in our assemblies that the statute books are cumbered with crudities and the law of the state is a jumble of contradictions and a maze of mysteries. Better no more laws than bad or doubtful ones.

Now that Berks county has its orphan's court judgeship, it has a deal of trouble finding out what to do with it.

The Candidate. In the current issue of our Continent, its editor, Judge Tourgee, who has made some reputation as a writer of political fiction, discourses at greater length than with abounding wisdom of the Democratic probabilities of 1884, and after bowling out nearly all the other conspicuous candidates for the presidential nomination of that part concludes that Gen. H. W. Slocum, elect congressman-at-large from New York, is the most available man whom the party can select. The fact that Judge Tourgee even intimates the possibility of Pattison's candidacy, when in fact he is not of the constitutional age, shows that his information on the subject which he affects to write about is not of the most thorough character, but speculation about the presidency is a matter which a great many people like to write about, and upon which one guess is nearly as good as another nowadays. The truth is that political lines are so wavering, the balance between the parties in the electoral college is so even, the issues upon which the next national campaign are to be fought and the incidents upon which its result may turn are now so vaguely to be seen, that it is ten to one against the nomination of any particular person, and almost anyone may lay his hazard on a dark horse or suggest a new name and take some chance of having picked out the winner.

The governor keeps on vetoing measures which do not meet with his approval, but the Philadelphia Times fails to point out wherein his condemnation of objectionable legislation exhibits any signs of "fatal surrender to Pilgrimage leadership," or tends to "disorganization of the honest Democracy."

If Jerome B. Niles of Tioga, will consent to take the Republican nomination for auditor general the bosses will convey it to him. He was the one man of prominence in the party, beside Senator Lee, who last fall managed to keep his seat on the fence.

AND the Virginia dualists still a hundred miles apart?

Our brilliant astronomical contemporary, the New York Sun, is exercised over the fact that the planet Vulcan, if it ever was seen, except in the imagination of the astronomers, has left the skies.

WM. H. ENGLISH, late Democratic candidate for vice president, announces that he is "out of active politics and out to stay, never intending, under any circumstances, to be a candidate for any office." The proclamation was unnecessary.

IMMIO furnishes a new idea in jails. They have a hole in the ground out there, into which they drop the prisoners, and when one is wanted he is hauled up with a rope. A man with a rifle at the mouth of it stands guard. The plan is recommended to Chester county.

HENRY VILLIARD is getting ready to drive the last spike of the connection of the Northern Pacific with the Atlantic, which will open up the development of the Northwest. It will be driven about ten miles west of Helena, and the implement will be a solid silver sledge and gold nail.

SENATOR ROLINS has a hard time of it securing a reelection. He is further off from it than when the voting began, but he announces that he will never withdraw nor consent to the breaking of the deal lock except by his own election. But, as a majority of the New Hampshire Legislature refuses to vote for him, it would seem that the control of the situation is not in his hands.

The correct way to write it is "bran new" not "brand." Over a hundred years ago or more the good people of Cork and Limerick, and other cities as well, had a habit of throwing a handful of "bran" or towards their new mayor after the election. They knew that bran or bran meant in Irish "new" and signified also the "hunks" of ground wheat, and they were always witty enough to love and act upon that most popular figure of speech in literature—the pun.

The Erie Observer, in common with many of the most intelligent Democratic newspapers of the state, recognizes that what the people of Pennsylvania want is the administration of their government in economy in every department, and legislation to curb corporations and abolish monopolies. "Governor Pattison and the Democratic majority in the House have reflected public sentiment and they will be sustained at the coming election if the canvass is made on state issues." To make it on any other plan would be not only to invite, but to deserve defeat. Last fall we fought and won on state issues: This year there is still less reason for dragging in outside questions since there is neither congressman nor legislators to elect.

A BABY'S DEATH. "The little eyes that never know Light other than of dawning skies, What new life now lights up anew?"

Who knows but on their sleep may rise Such light as never before lit through To lighten earth from Paradise?

No storm, no snow, may change the fine soft heaven that happily descends; No tears, like these in ours, beside The little eyes.

Angels by name love called him, seeing so fair The sweetest name; Meet to be called, if ever man's child were, Angels by name.

The memory of Garfield. Mr. Justice Matthews has remained silent under the great accusation. Mr. Reid has not seen fit to take any notice of the part ascribed to him in the negotiation. Silence is no answer to such a charge when responsibly made. The supreme court ought not to permit it to pass without a proper investigation, and Congress certainly will not allow the highest judicial tribunal to be aspersed without a full inquiry.

PERSONAL. DUKES will be his friend. It leaves \$2,000 to Miss Mary Beeson, his nearest lady friend, and the rest to his mother.

MARION CRAWFORD, author of "Mr. Isaac" and "Dr. Claudius" accepted \$3,000 for the copyright of the latter.

JOHN H. ALEXANDER, colored, has passed an excellent examination, and been admitted to the military academy at West Point.

REV. DR. GEORGE W. SMILEY, pastor of the Second Presbyterian church in Pottsville, is, it is reported, his last night here. He was hourly expected.

DON PEDRO, of Brazil, wears white silk and white satin when he sits on his throne, a necklace of immense diamonds and emeralds and a rich lace cravat.

DR. HERBERT JOHNSON, lately moderator of the Presbyterian assembly, has resigned his pastorate in Chicago to accept of a professorship in the Chicago theological seminary.

BUTLER'S promised visit to the Harvard commencement has completely scared off Senator Hoar, who will absent himself on the occasion and hide in some unknown place.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN has sat on the same bench in Madison square fourteen hours a day for nearly ten years past. He wears no hat and his face has bronzed deeply in the sun.

DR. THORPHEUS PARVIN has been elected by the trustees of Jefferson medical college to the chair of obstetrics and diseases of women, which was vacated by Prof. Elergie Wallace, who resigned a few days ago.

POSTMASTER GENERAL GRESHAM has failed, thus far, to make any statement as to the fact that he is "to inquire." With such a person as Mr. Frank Hutton in the department the postmaster general cannot be too inquisitive.

DR. W. H. BRADLEY publicly denies that he has sold his interest in the Wisconsin Register to the Boston Herald. The paper has simply given him permission to transfer the lease he holds. No sale or change has been made and may not be.

MRS. CELIA TRAXTER, who is not only a poet but a painter of much taste and skill, is not satisfied with her present lot, and is studying with a distinguished artist with as much ardor as if she intended to make painting her profession.

UNFIT TO HOLD OFFICE. Record of Revenue Agent Chas. H. Horton. Commissioner Evans is credited with having so far as is known, the fact that his recent appointments were open to criticism as to assert if he found that Mr. Charles M. Horton were not a proper person to be made a special agent no man would more quickly condemn and remove him than Evans. Some of the holders of Mr. Horton's fitness have already been given, and Mr. Evans has endeavored to defend him by publishing the fact that Governor Butler, ex-Collector Simmons, Secretary Chandler, and the Hon. James H. Smith, had all approved his appointment. What may prove to be only the first of a series of letters to that effect is unfit were received by the president and referred by him to Secretary Folger. One of the letters is from a prominent Massachusetts firm, protesting against Horton's appointment and contenting that while engaged as a special agent he distributed the cards of a firm of dealers in alcohol and sought to develop their business. The second letter tells its own story. It is from a member of the firm of Carter & Wiley, druggists, of Boston, and is as follows:

To the Hon. Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States: DEAR SIR.—Having noticed within a few days of your appointment as Hon. Walter Evans of Charles W. Horton for a position in the internal revenue department, I consider it my duty as a friend of the administration and of an honest government to let you know of my experience with him while he was in my employment. My business at that time was a wholesale drugstore. The firm then was Carter & Wiley, and in addition to the sale of medicines we dealt in wines and liquors, which is customary in that department of trade. Some time ago he was put in charge of whiskeys there was a supplementary bill passed by Congress requiring all whiskeys on hand before the tax was made to be stamped by a government gauger. It was my misfortune to be ignorant of that law. It so happened that he called on me, Horton called at my store and said that he wished to see my stock of liquors and that he was a government officer, and I readily acceded to his wishes and took special pains to give him every information he wanted. While he was in my store he examined my stock, and I had the curiosity to ask him the object, and the reply was that my stock was seized; that he made the gentlemen with him keeper, and that he would be in the afternoon. Much surprised, I asked him on what ground was the seizure made, and he showed me the act. I replied that I was totally ignorant of the matter and that it was an injustice. His reply was that it was my duty to know the law. I asked him what was to be done. His reply was that he would be in the afternoon and that he was entitled to one half of the value. I was very much agitated over the matter, not knowing what was my duty, and after consulting with a friend was advised to go with him to a friend of his, Horton's, and see what he could do in my behalf; and the result was that Mr. Horton and his friend came to see me in the afternoon, and after much negotiation through this friend, Mr. Horton being in the front of the store, and the friend and myself in the counting room, the friend going back and forth to Mr. Horton, I gave the friend for Mr. Horton a check for \$600, and the stock was restored. The above facts are my own experience. Many similar transactions I have heard of, but cannot speak from my own knowledge. His reputation here is very bad, and for the honor of our present administration I sincerely hope the appointment will not be confirmed by you. Mr. Hanson and Mr. Morse, our present representatives, I would refer to in regard to my character. Very respectfully yours, SOLOMON CARTER.

Why They Approve Them. While Governor Pattison is obeying the mandates of the constitution in his vetoes and putting the mark of his disapproval on bills notoriously objectionable as measures, all that his partisan opponents in the city can do through their feeble organs is to denigrate the gutter and throw mud with log epithets at him. There was a time when the Republican party was differently inspired and led, but in these days of its degeneracy those who profess to speak for it are not able to do so intelligently nor in the manner to do it decently. The mass of thinking men in Pennsylvania approve Governor Pattison's vetoes because the reasons on which they are based are sound and the argument by which he sustains them incontrovertible.

NEWS BY MAIL.

PREVAILING CRIME AND CALAMITY.

Tornadoes South and West—Chicago Has a Chill—Lightning Flashes Near in the North—St. Louis.

A tornado passed over Elberton, Ga., on Sunday, leveling sixteen buildings, three of them churches and killing one man.

Chicago experienced an extraordinary spell of weather yesterday. On Sunday midnight a cold wave set in which lasted until last evening. The mean temperature of the day was about 50 degrees, and fires were built in many offices and dwellings. Winter underwear and top coats were in much request. At the races the spectators, with overcoats buttoned up, had to keep moving to prevent being chilled through. A slight rain set in at 8 o'clock in the evening.

The Planters' cotton seed oil works in Algiers, Louisiana, was struck by lightning and destroyed on Monday evening. Several cottages adjacent were also destroyed. The works were the largest of the kind in existence, and the loss is estimated at \$1,000,000. Five firemen were slightly scalded by the explosion. A large quantity of cotton was burned on Monday night, and Captain William P. Burkes was burned to death.

The scowmer Wye, from Baltimore for Petersburg, Virginia, with coal, sank in the Appomattox river on Sunday evening. The scowmer, Captain W. J. Ashburn, on Nantuxet shoals. The steam scowmer Walker Armstrong grounded on the rocks in Boston harbor during a fog on Sunday, but floated yesterday at high tide. Her captain attributes the accident to the failure of the Boston light keeper to sound the whistle.

THE WESTERN FLOODS.

Condition of the Mississippi River. The river is still rising slowly, but the situation is practically unchanged. In East St. Louis the Bowman dyke and the other weak points are constantly being strengthened. The water is rising toward what is known as the Madison county dyke, a high embankment running east from the river about a mile and a half, and midway between Brooklyn and Venice, but after a long and angry wrangle between the city and the state toward the same place, and some people living north of the dyke, it was decided to do nothing at present. As the cutting of the dyke would increase the inundation of Brooklyn, the people were very determined, and guarded the levee all night with rifles and other weapons, but so far as is known, no attempt was made to interfere with it. A large volume of water still flows through the breaks in the Chicago and Alton and other railroad tracks, and it is spreading out and covering more and more bottom toward the bluff and along the Vandalia railroad, but no damage to the latter is reported. Reports from points along the Missouri river vary. At some places the water is rising, at others it has fallen from a few inches to two or three feet. It is expected that considerably more water to come down from this side of St. Joseph, and the rise may be a foot or more.

A dispatch from Bismarck says the Yellowstone river is already as high as it was last year, and that the water is rising at that point. The water is rising from other places high up the Missouri indicate that the usual June rise has begun, and probably some parts of it will reach here before the present flood has receded much. If so, the situation will become alarming, and the destruction of property along both the upper and lower rivers will be appalling.

The inhabitants of West Kansas City are preparing to leave, one or two families having changed quarters. There is much apprehension of the water rising and cutting other property along the river in that vicinity. The water is now considerably higher than at any time since 1881.

The magnitude of the disaster from the floods below Alton, Ill., is just beginning to be realized. The break in the dyke near Cairo, Mo., has caused destruction covering a wide area. Thousands of families between Louisiana and Crafton are homeless and fleeing before the floods. Stock to the number of 6,000 have already been drowned in the American bottoms. The city of Cairo, Mo., is in a state of alarm. The St. Charles bottoms are ruined for the year.

HECKER'S BIRTHDAY.

The Seventeenth Anniversary of the Brook lyn Freacher. The celebration of Henry Ward Beecher's 70th birthday at the Brooklyn Academy of Music Monday night drew a crowded and distinguished audience. Among those present were Mayor Low, Reverend Robert Collyer, Thomas Armstrong, Rev. Dr. Colwell, Lafayette Browder and William Thomas, in which Browder tried to murder his antagonist by burning him to death on a red hot iron slab that was being prepared for converting into nails. The slab for four feet long and six inches wide, and was of solid bar iron welded together. This trouble grew out of a friendly session in which the two parties engaged. Thomas, though a smaller man, was getting the best of Browder in the scuffle, which, together with the help of the bystanders and the excellent satisfaction of Thomas, so enraged Browder that he lost all control of himself, and seeing the red hot slab, immediately, with the strength of an infuriated madman, threw his antagonist on the seething iron, holding him there until the police authorities came to his aid.

When taken from the slab Thomas presented a sickening sight. From his head to his heels he was a mass of blisters, his back and legs being almost roasted to a crisp. The witnesses on the trial testified that the man was in a most unfortunate man of persons were compelled to leave the presence of the body to escape fainting. It was with difficulty that Browder could be dragged off the poor fellow, and he seemed determined to roast him alive. The man of the shoemaker and the tendons of the legs are frightfully burned, and should the wretched man recover, which is doubted, he will hardly recover himself enough to be able to work at his trade. Browder was promptly arrested by the police authorities on a charge of felonious assault, and was put upon his preliminary trial before a justice of the peace.

A TRAGEDY IN AN IRON MILL.

The Cruel and Barbarous Vengeance of an Infatuated Giant. Man's inhumanity to man was exemplified to-day at the Leith-Tredgar iron works in this city, where a difficulty occurred between the employees, Lafayette Browder and William Thomas, in which Browder tried to murder his antagonist by burning him to death on a red hot iron slab that was being prepared for converting into nails. The slab for four feet long and six inches wide, and was of solid bar iron welded together. This trouble grew out of a friendly session in which the two parties engaged. Thomas, though a smaller man, was getting the best of Browder in the scuffle, which, together with the help of the bystanders and the excellent satisfaction of Thomas, so enraged Browder that he lost all control of himself, and seeing the red hot slab, immediately, with the strength of an infuriated madman, threw his antagonist on the seething iron, holding him there until the police authorities came to his aid.

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BURNED IN A THEATRE.

Forty-seven Lives Lost by the Frightful Conflagration of a Fire Theatre. Intelligence of a frightful calamity at a place of amusement in the town of Derbio, on the shore of Lake Como, has just been received. The advice of the disaster state that while a performance was in progress at a puppet theatre there the building, which was crowded with spectators, forty-seven persons lost their lives and twelve others were injured. The show was held in a large hall over a tavern. There were ninety persons in the hall. A Bengal light was used to represent fire and sparks from this set fire to an adjacent room. On perceiving the flames the showman shouted "fire," but the spectators thought the cry was merely a realistic detail of the show and remained seated. Fires of fire were soon sprung on the stage. The audience, thinking an affray had arisen in the street, rushed with a heavy table the door leading from the hall. They did not discover their mistake until the flames burst into the room. After the fire was extinguished forty-seven persons were found around the table, including the bodies of the showman and his wife.

The Grady Insurance Bill Vetoed.

The governor has vetoed the Grady insurance bill. He regrets that he is obliged to do this, as some of its enactments are most just and desirable legislation.

He objects to the section, which provides that when two years have elapsed from the time of issuing any policy of insurance, the company shall be thereupon estopped from setting up, as a defense to its payment, the fraud or falsity of any of the answers made by the insured, upon the faith of which the policy was issued, but that such answers shall thereafter be regarded and considered as true. That is to say, if a company does not discover a fraud practiced upon it within two years after issuing a policy it cannot at any later period avail itself of the proof of such fraud as a defense to the payment of the policy. Is not this setting a premium upon fraud, and declaring that the more audaciously and covertly it is planned and carried out the more sacred it shall be? By this bill, if a fraud is so stupidly and blunderingly executed that it can be detected in two years, then it can avail itself of the proof of such fraud as a defense to the payment of the policy. 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