

Lancaster Intelligencer.

FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 21, 1883.

City Finances.

Those who approve or pass lightly over the tendency indulged in by councilmen, from whom the taxpayers have a right to expect better things, to draw upon the appropriations of the next fiscal year to meet the expenses of this year, will do well to take warning from the exemplary example of this city during the years 1874-75.

During that time the total increase in this fund, established by law to liquidate the municipal indebtedness, was not equal to the interest on the balance in the fund at the beginning of this period. The amount in the sinking fund June 1, 1874 was \$88,158.06.

Had even the interest on this fund been faithfully applied and reinvested annually its total, without further additions, by 1875 would have amounted to \$111,295.06, whereas there was really only \$99,238.06 in it, or \$12,057 less than the amount to which the interest account should have swelled it.

At the time Mayor MacGonigle's induction into office there was no money in the city treasury to buy bonds for the sinking fund and none available for this purpose until after June 1, 1878. This, too, in spite of the ordinance which declares that it shall be the duty of the finance committee "to direct the investment in the bonds constituting the funded debt of the city, of all appropriations that are now or hereafter shall be made to the sinking fund, and also the interest accruing upon moneys now held."

Since the time Mayor MacGonigle entered upon his duties the sinking fund has been increased from \$99,238.06 to (June 1, 1883), \$199,658.05. This has been done only by holding the financial management of the city to the plain direction of the law. If the policy advocated by the chairman of the finance committee—who, by the way, was also chairman in 1876, '77 and '78, shall prevail—if one appropriation shall be robbed to swell another and the deficiencies caused by extraordinary expenses this year are to anticipate next year's revenues, the sinking fund will be again attenuated and the city will be again plunged into such financial embarrassment as in 1878 made it necessary to add \$30,000 to the permanent debt, to meet deficiencies incurred by a wasteful and reckless street committee.

Mr. Wm. B. Smith, a Republican councilman, of Philadelphia, elected by the Reform element and not acceptable to the "boss" politicians of his party, has been making a most persistent canvass for the regular nomination for mayor. His methods are of the most radically self-seeking character and betray such an utter lack of modesty that the Committee of One Hundred do not regard his aspirations with favor. He has, however, so far succeeded by such methods as to drive every other competitor from the field, and the extreme Reformers and the obnoxious bases are alike embarrassed over the situation.

Neither faction wants him; they cannot vote on any one to defeat him, and his nomination now seems likely. Mr. Thompson, who is the strongest candidate to run against him, has withdrawn from the race, apparently because those who were backing him would not consent to put John Hunter, Jr for receiver of taxes on the ticket with him. The result is a general break-up among the Republicans of Philadelphia, and a very much brighter prospect for the Democrats of that city if they will sensibly avail themselves of it. They need to be very careful, however, not to make haste so rapidly. Three years ago they elected King and Hunter and took the vast patronage of two important city departments out of the hands of the Republicans who made unscrupulous partisan use of it. They can do it again and perform valuable services for their party in the state, if they will. But if they reach too eagerly for the shadow of the boge they will lose all. Can the name of a more surely winning ticket than that which they elected in 1882?

The Examiner deems it notable that the Democratic House of Representatives in Washington should select one who had been a confederate soldier for clerk and another for doorkeeper. When reminded that the Republican Senate has selected an ex-rebel soldier over an armed Union veteran for sergeant-at-arms the Examiner replies that "in all probability the late rebel soldier has been so thoroughly reconstructed as to be a better Republican than the Union soldier, and moreover, probably better qualified to discharge the duties of the office he has been honored with." "The rebel" sergeant at arms was chosen in part because he represents a Southern State where the Democratic majority is doubtful—in short, so small that it may be wiped out in 1884. To this end the said "rebel" may bear a good part. We trust he will. There is no sentiment in his election?" This is the frankness we expected from our stalwart contemporary. There is no "sentiment" about the practical politicians of the Republican party. The deepest dyed rebel can be acceptable to them if he will only profess Republicanism and "bear a good part" in dividing the Southern Democratic. The hypocrisy of the apologists for Republican exaltation of confederates only appears when one of them gets a Democratic nomination. The Examiner should be stalwart in its consistency, too.

SARA BERNHARDT can act effectively off as well as on the stage. We hope her latest enterprise will not add a prison experience to those which she can give from personal experience, though it seems likely to do so, as the continental countries are not such respecters of women as to consider that the laws are not made for them. Though Sara may have our sympathy in her exploit, she was clearly without the pale of the law in executing her vengeance, and it would never do for the police authorities to permit to pass unnoticed the raid of an angry woman and attendant men-

with upraised cowhide and her forcible entry in the domicile of her female foe, with her men folk about her. We greatly fear that Sara's present triumph will have a penitential term to it.

A FRENCH FIGHT.

SARA BERNHARDT'S ACCOUNT OF HER ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE ATTACK ON HER TROUBLESOME TRUANT-OBSTACLES.

To the reporters of the Paris newspapers Sara Bernhardt has obligingly told her story of the late assault, which she made on her female assailant, and the causes leading to it. The interview which she relates is:

"But what have you done to Marie, Marie, Marie? What are you doing with her? I remember well, Marie, Marie, Marie was your most intimate friend." "An acquaintance, who was under obligation to me, but never my friend. Marie Columbiere was my comrade at the Conservatoire. We started together and after leaving the conservatory, we used to see a great deal of each other."

"Columbiere's hard luck." "She had no luck and was always with my money, and on the 21st of December she was under such obligations to me, that she counted me very often, but there is no use talking about that."

"How does it happen that Marie, Columbiere, who is under such obligations to you, did not really mean to approve him. It is not a good thing for constituents to catch their representatives in any such games of gammon. To call upon Republican voters to regard Keifer as a worthy candidate for the speakership, but to condemn him as an unworthy leader on the floor is asking their party members to leap about and turn about and jump Jim Crow in a way which is appropriate to the season only in the view that Republican voters are all children."

PHILADELPHIA has made a contract for electric lighting at the rate of from 55 to 90 cents per lamp for each night of 14 hours. This would average over \$200 per year for each lamp, though in the summer season the time of service can be reduced to eight hours per night and the expense accordingly. Even at the best figures the price of their system seems to be inordinate in comparison with the actual cost of it.

COL. GEO. W. McCook had rather a civil than a military charge of the Ohio soldiers camped here early in the war. His brother, the present secretary of the Senate, was in immediate charge of the soldiers and was their drill officer, and we recollect well the "hap" "hap" with which he marked their time.

LIVESTOCK men gaze upon the winding sheet of snow in which the earth is wrapped and smile seraphically.

UNCLE SAM gets a very acceptable Christmas present in the two weeks adjournment of Congress over the holidays.

THE CROWN prince of Germany has been a very dutiful boy and his royal papa should give him a nice Christmas present on his return, in recognition of the discreet manner in which he conducted himself while visiting in Spain and Italy.

ANOTHER literature is smarting for notoriety and a horsewhipping. Foreign services report that Prince George of Prussia, the poet of the Hohenzollern family, has just completed a play in French entitled "Mademoiselle Esther," based on incidents in the life of Mme Sarah Bernhardt.

ENGLAND is having a very pleasant time with her Irish subjects. When she is not making them dance at the end of a halter, she is ordering their arrest for supposed complicity in dynamite plots. English rule must be greatly loved and respected by the average Irishman, as under its benign sway his most innocent acts may land him in a prison cell as a plottier against the government.

WHEATHER is the wintery frost of the depression in trade, Matthew Arnold's audiences grow slimmer day by day. "Spasms of sweetness and light" in his lecture in Baltimore on Thursday evening had an audience of only 150 persons. If Matthew desires to draw larger houses, we will give him a "quiet pointer" for which we make no charge. Let him enter a walking match, or become involved in some mad divorce suit, and we venture to predict that halls large enough to contain his audiences will not be easily found.

THE CONTINGENT FUND. Auditor General Leman has furnished Governor Pattison, by request, with a itemized statement showing the amount expended at the extra session in the payment of employees of the Senate and House and how the contingent fund, which embraces all items of expense not covered by specific appropriations, had been applied. The statement shows that the salaries of the Senate employees amounted to \$25,789 and mileage \$875.70 and the salaries of the House employees \$22,868 and the mileage \$817.80. Chief Clerk Cochran, of the Senate, expended \$4,528.82 of the \$5,000 of the contingent fund allowed him. Of this amount the twenty-nine north women received \$1,217, whose pay ranged from \$39 to \$112. For washing the towels \$150 was expended; for making paste \$120; for portrait of Judge Black, \$109; for stationery, \$895.15, and for buy run and other articles used in the Senate bar shop, \$234.80 and for an extra barber, \$919. Chief Clerk Cochran returned \$471.18 to the treasury. Chief Clerk Meek, of the House, paid \$2,359.75 to seventy-four north women for extra labor, \$1,459; for flowers for desk of J. McDowell Sharpe, \$18.59. Meek's contingent fund amounted to \$5,400, of which \$4,473.22 was expended. The aggregate warrants paid to employees and for contingent fund on both branches of the Legislature was \$52,341.54.

LANCASTER DAILY INTELLIGENCER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1883.

THE SCHOOL BOARD.

MR. MORTON RESIGNED A TEACHER.

MR. MORTON, who resigned as teacher in the boys' high school, has accepted the position of a principal in the same school.

The resignation of Mr. Morten was accepted by the board of directors. The salary of the principal position was fixed at \$2000.

MR. HARTMAN, who resigned as teacher in the boys' high school, has accepted the position of a principal in the same school.

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MR. GABLE, who resigned as teacher in the boys' high school, has accepted the position of a principal in the same school.

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COLUMBIA NEWS.

MR. SMITH'S ROUTE FOR LARK, where he will make his future home.

A pleasant party was given by Miss Anna Booth at her home on North Locust street last evening.

By the late marriage of Miss Ella Ackerman to Mr. R. H. Supple, of this place, the public schools will lose an efficient teacher.

Columbia assembly of Artisans, Olive Branch Lodge No. 137, G. V. O. of F., and Cymene Commandery No. 84, Knights Templars, met at night.

KILLED IN COLUMBIA. Michael Smith, a foreman of track repairmen residing in Columbia, was run over by the night shifting engine last evening about 6:10 o'clock.

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