

Lancaster Intelligencer. MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 2, 1884.

Decorations Day Orator. The conventional Decoration day address does not contain much that is instructive or useful. It is chiefly ornamental. The blast of the war trumpet is heard through it; and those fresh from the passions of the conflict do not tell its story with impartial truth nor historical candor.

Col. McClure, who we believe does not claim to have been much of a soldier, steps out of the beaten path to give his Grand Army friends and their audience good advice, when he tells them they can best vindicate their own claims to the gratitude of the country—and its bounty—by weeding out the hypocrites and pretenders who abuse it to get pensions that they do not deserve.

The Decoration day orator has succeeded the Fourth of July speaker, and much of the florid and spread eagle style, which in the old time distinguished the latter, now characterizes the memorial orator. An annual oration in every community on a theme of public interest is not a bad thing; if it is upon some live topic, originally vigorously and honestly treated.

Cremation Methods. In our news columns to day will be found two sketches which exhibit the practical and poetical side of cremation. The observations of an eye witness upon the methods of this new and improved process of disposing of dead human bodies disclose nothing revolting nor irreverent in it, and it certainly appears with more force to the higher sentiments of our nature than the burial under ground of the body in its present form.

The argument for a cremation furnace in centres of population to be provided for the necessities of epidemic and periods of infectious disease is a very strong one, as presented by the advocates and friends of sanitary science and only needs to be stated to have its force admitted. It is the function of municipalities to protect their citizens from the dangers which cremation offers to conserve, and of patriotic people to give their approval.

On the Third Trial. It is again the field against Blaine, and that statesman has cause to be nervous over the situation. It is not long since he gave out that he had strayed into the green paths of literature and gone on forever from the dusty high roads of politics. We regret to say that he was not believed. Having twice almost reached the presidential nomination he actively pursued, no one was credulous enough to believe that he would not again seek it.

Dear Bell Suitcases. The Philadelphia Times calls upon the city authorities to take cognizance of the impudent scamps who ring at the door bells of private houses with all sorts of things to sell that no one wants. It is a great nuisance and ought to be abated. This custom of private solicitation at houses is an imposition on the housekeeper, whose time is taken up answering the door bell and dismissing the intruders, and it is also a wrong to the town store keepers, who supply everything needed in the household, and who are entitled to the trade which these foreign solicitors seek.

ringing vendors, since they cannot even stop bell ringing beggars, whom it is the duty of the police to arrest.

WHILE it is a subject of general regret that there is no organized historical society in this city and county to collect the valuable material for local history, of which too much is getting away, it is not to be forgotten that the Linnaean society has a historical department which has already apprehended and preserved much of this kind of matter, and which affords the best present fit depository for it. This useful organization, unpretending and few in numbers, has done a noble work and its self-sacrificing members deserve every aid in their labors and most grateful remembrance.

THE Philadelphia Record has been showing up for some time the fact that Philadelphians pay a great deal more for their coal than the people of more distant cities. President Gowen, of the Reading railroad, was ahead of the Record in showing this, and several years ago undertook to sell coal directly to the people; the trouble being that the local coal dealers charged a very high profit and were obliged to do so because there were so many of them and each sold so few tons that he had to get a large profit per ton to get a living out of the business.

BLAINE'S chances for the Republican nomination, and the size of his tattooed decorations grow larger in the same ratio. It is believed that more than 300 were caught in the recent Grant fizzle in Wall street. Each should be given a bronze medal in commemoration of Ward's rascality and Grant's criminal stupidity.

THE announcement that the toleration of Mayor Smith, of Philadelphia, would restore the fire cracker nuisance on the coming Fourth, seems to have been a little premature. The citizens had a taste of the explosive style of celebration on Decoration day and are very well satisfied to continue in the safe and orderly quiet established by Mayor King.

THE curious fact has been developed that the charter of the late rotten Penn bank, of Pittsburgh, which was moved from Wheatland, Mercer county, to that city, was presented along with the borough of Wheatland charter, to the speaker of the House and Senate for their signatures, and was signed by them and taken to the governor and signed by him. It never passed the Legislature of Pennsylvania, though it received the signatures of the proper officers, but was smuggled through and the price paid for the passage of these two charters was nine hundred dollars. It was conceived in fraud; appeared amongst the other acts of the Legislature by fraud; was sold twice by the incorporation; contained clauses clearly unconstitutional; and, as an eminent attorney said, "a sawmill as well as a bank could be run under it."

Blaine's Remorseless "Machine." Every editor who knows anything at all about the prominent candidates this year, knows that the cry of "machine" comes with a bad grace from Mr. Blaine and his supporters. Mr. Blaine was the original political machine. For a number of years he held the lever of the Maine machine, and under his direction its mechanism was brought to its highest state of perfection, working in perfect obedience to its master's will. Its movements were noiseless and graceful, but effectual. He ruled his own state during that period, as Pennsylvania, New York and Illinois have never been ruled under the so-called domination of Cameron, Conkling and Logan.

Terrible Balloon Accident. At Lille, France, the car of a captive balloon, containing twenty persons, became detached Saturday, and fell forty metres. Three of the occupants of the car were killed outright and the remainder were severely injured. The accident created a great sensation. The car was only built to contain ten persons.

CREMATION. THE PRACTICAL WAY OF DISPOSING OF A HUMAN BODY.

THE Practical Way of Disposing of a Human Body by Cremation, and to afford a clear conception of its effectiveness, beauty and attractiveness—was copied from a pamphlet written by "An Eye Witness" of the process, who had before regarded it with repugnance, but who had been led by witnessing it to be a most earnest advocate.

When the incinerator has been raised to the white heat it is ready for the reception of the remains. As the cover is removed from its mouth the rushing air cools it from a white to a red heat, and the whole interior surface is filled with a beautiful light which is fascinating to the eye. It is like the bluish dawn upon the sky, or like the exquisite tints which sometimes flicker about the Aurora Borealis. There is nothing repulsive about it, and nothing, as has been said, to suggest the idea of the crematorium. The body being decently clad for burial and tenderly laid in the crib provided for the purpose, is wholly covered with a clean white sheet which has been dipped in a solution of alum. The effect of this is entirely to prevent smoke or fumes of any kind, which otherwise arise from putting anything inflammable into the midst of such a heat; but under its protection, even the extraordinary heat of the incinerator does not produce upon the body the appearance of scorching or anything of the kind. There is no such impression as that of burning made upon the eye. The sheet, saturated with alum, retains its original position over the crib, and conceals the entire form until nothing but the bones are left; and when the eye rests upon the remains after they are left in the right light of the cylinder, it sees nothing but these bones gently crumbling away into dust under the mystic touch of an invisible agent, whose only appearance to the eye is like the tremor of light which is seen in the air, more exactly, the radiation of heat from the earth beneath the summer's sun.

THE Members of the Board of Health in Favor of the Plan, But Afraid of Public Opinion. The board of health of Philadelphia lack the necessary courage to take a single step in advance of public opinion, "to mark an eminent physician yesterday." For instance, the boxes of all persons suffering from infectious disease at the Lazarus or the Municipal hospital should be cremated. If for no other reason, the safety of the living demands the step. If you like, test my opinion of the courage of the board of health by asking questions of themselves. I will guarantee you will find that while some members of the board favor the cremation of bodies of people dying of infectious diseases for sanitary reasons, they are not ready to take the initiative until public clamor compels them.

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WHITSUNTIDE. HIS OBSERVANCE IN THE CHURCHES.

WHITSUNTIDE is observed in the churches of the city—members of the day. The joyous feast of Whitsuntide, when the Holy Ghost descended in the form of tongues of fire on the waiting disciples of the Saviour, was ushered in yesterday, a sunshiny, beautiful day. In all the churches of the city, the observance of Whitsuntide was large congregations and in most of the churches the observance was held in detail the noteworthy features of the religious celebration.

There was a very large communion at Trinity church in the morning, but the most interesting service took place at 6 o'clock in the evening. This was the "Whit Sunday festival" of the Sunday schools. The church was very beautifully decorated with white flowers and evergreen. On the pulpit were the letters "Alpha" and "Omega," in gilt, six feet high, and on a scroll above the word "Pentecost" wrought in ivy leaves. In front of these decorations was the word "Light," formed of gas jets, and the foliage above the altar was a Greek letter, was a white dove with outspread wings. The church was not lighted except at the pulpit, and as the twilight gradually grew fainter the fine effect of the decorations was greatly heightened.

THE Whitsuntide festival was observed in great part of children, nearly all of whom were dressed in white. The music was exceptionally fine. The pupils of all the classes made brief addresses, in which reference was made to the person and work of the Holy Spirit. The classes in turn marched to the pulpit and each pupil laid upon the altar or pulpit a floral offering, and in addition deposited money offerings in a floral basket made to receive them. By the time this interesting part of the service had ended the pulpit, altar, and every step leading to the pulpit were absolutely covered with flowers, many of the pieces being of beautifully designed crosses, anchors and other emblems. The money offering when counted was found to amount to \$150—a handsome contribution for the little flock.

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HEAVY BATTING. The Allentown Fall Out Club by the Score of 16 to 8.

THE Allentown Fall Out Club by the Score of 16 to 8. In their second game with the Allentown boys, the Ironclads easily defeated their opponents. The Lancaster boys excelled the Allentowners at the bat at which point the game was won. Healy, the crack pitcher, was knocked out of the box in short order, and A. Root, who excelled him, fared but little better. For the Ironclads Ingraham, late of the Trenton, appeared in the box for the first time and pitched a fine game. He was admirably supported by Dorby. Appended is the full score.

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