

Lancaster Intelligencer.

FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 6, 1884.

The Collection of County Tax.

There needs to be some amendment in the mode of collecting the county tax in this town. The practice in the township is generally satisfactory, because it is the custom of the tax collectors there to wait upon the property owners personally before the day arrives on which the percentage is taken off for prompt payment, notifying them of the date and giving them the opportunity to pay their tax. In this city, however, the custom of the collectors is to advertise the day, and the place where they will receive the tax. If this advertisement was published continuously in the daily newspapers, and if the collector would employ sufficient clerical force to accommodate the taxpayers when they appear in crowds during the last few days of the abatement, there would be no cause for complaint. But the fact is that the advertisement is published but once, and that the collector has no assistants in taking the tax; so that many taxpayers are ignorant of the final day of the abatement, or forget it; and those who remember it, and appear at the tax collector's office, on the last days, are kept waiting for hours; and many go away because they are unwilling to endure the annoyance. To increase the evil, the two collectors, to whom the law requires the tax collection to be given in this city, are merged into one, by the assignment of his functions by the one to the other. Further imposition is practised by the refusal of the collector to keep his office open after three o'clock in the afternoon, on the plea that he must put his money in bank on the day he receives it, under instruction of his bail.

That is a plausible excuse, but it is well known that the real reason which prevents the collector from facilitating the payment of tax to him, while the abatement can be had, is the fact that he can pay all of the tax on his duplicate to the county treasurer any time during the week when the abatement ceases and himself receive the benefit of the three per cent. abatement which the county allows. It is because of this practice that the tax collection is taken for a nominal sum; and the abatement offered by the county for the benefit of the prompt taxpayer works for the benefit of the knowing collector and to the disgust and annoyance of the citizen. Perhaps the collector is not greatly to be blamed for eking out the pittance he receives for the collection of the tax by scheming to get the taxpayer's three per cent. abatement, at the cost of his repute for obligingness of disposition. But the county commissioners, when they see how unsatisfactorily their plan works in certain places should try to amend it. In Chester county they have a better system. There the county treasurer receives the tax on stated days at stated places in the county, and all that is not paid to him is collected as delinquent tax at the cost of the delinquent taxpayer. If our commissioners persist in their present plan they should at least see that proper advertisement is given to the taxpayers of the day of abatement, and that sufficient clerical force is employed; or that the collector's office is kept open sufficiently long on the final days to ensure an opportunity to every taxpayer to secure the abatement, which he desires to do. The collector has no right to cease collecting tax at three o'clock on the final day, as the time during which the abatement is allowed does not expire until midnight. The order of his bail cannot contravene the order of his warrant.

The Chicago Gymnasium.

They seem to be having a sort of a mass meeting out at Chicago. Outside influence and momentary impressions have come of late years to have so much force in national conventions that the friends of the candidates employ brass bands, and big canes, and whistles and admission tickets to their friends, as prime motors to the accomplishment of their aims. Their supporters among the delegates lend their active sympathy and aid to the outside crowd; and the result is one not conducive to a wise nomination; to secure which calmness and thoughtfulness are needed in place of excitement and enthusiasm; though this modern convention enthusiasm has generally nothing of the spontaneous character about it save in seeming, and the one in Chicago is running deep into the ground this style of electioneering business. The Blaine men wave and hammer, while their throats and legs and arms take their innings, and the smaller booms come along in their order; and when the Blaine fellows are rested they start the succession of uproar afresh; whereby it seems that the convention has only met for vocal and gymnastic exercise. That is not a decent way to do their business, nor an effective one. It don't do to uncover planned and plotted enthusiasm and make it ridiculous. Nor is the sort of thought and effort given to this manufactured excitement, the sort that results in good nominations. The people who plot it are not the kind to make a wise nomination, and the chance would be better for a good result from a convention that did not think at all, than from one that thought as such leaders would direct it. The Chicago convention with its uproar is not an impressive body and is not likely to bring forth anything bigger than a mouse as the result of its labor.

The Republican platform reminds us forcibly of the proverbial eagerness of the desire when sick to be a saint. The declarations of the beautiful intentions of the Republican party, if returned to power are delightful to read; or would be if we could forget that it has not availed itself of the abundant opportunities it has had in its long lease of power to do any of these beautiful things. It declares itself in favor of tariff reform, although not for a tariff for revenue only. But the tariff which it confesses should be reformed was its own work but a couple of years ago; and what reasonable reliance can it ex-

NEWS OF THE DAY.

A RESUME OF CURRENT AFFAIRS.

Incident and Accident at Home and Abroad - Politics, Business, Railroads, and Other Interests.

The body of John Anderson, the sixth victim of the Pleasanton, Kansas, tragedy, has been found in a deserted coal shaft on the Missouri side of the state line. He had been shot in the head and thrown into the pit. Parties are hunting for the supposed murderer.

The chemist of the New York sanitary bureau has reported on the subject of the artificial coloring of coffee, that he had found colors generally thought harmless and extensively used to color coffee show distinct traces of arsenic.

The bears threaten Louisville and Nashville with a reversion, and say that they have suffered a defeat of a million dollars. This story is denied, but the resignation of the present board of directors has been asked for and tendered.

The receiver of the Wabash road has made application for permission to issue a new series of bonds for the payment of employees, taxes and railway supply bills, amounting to \$2,000,000.

National delegates favorable to Tilden and Hendricks were elected on Thursday at the Democratic convention of Maryland, Vermont and Connecticut. Alabama Democrats selected Tilden delegates.

Five hundred laborers employed by Collins Bros., contractors for the Pennsylvania railroad, at Somerset, struck, and a free fight followed, in which one man was fatally injured.

Lewis Benjamin was convicted for perjury in Milford, committed during the trial of John F. Greening for the murder of Ammi C. Sawyer, and sentenced to six years imprisonment.

The altar of Notre Dame La Garde was destroyed by fire at Marseilles; loss \$3,000.

PARALYZING THE WORKERS.

The Lancaster Text of Running the Race

Yesterday afternoon one of the poorest exhibitions of ball playing ever seen in this city was given at McGraw's park. The contestants were the York and Lancaster clubs, and they were playing for the championship of the Keystone association. The visitors were very weak, and from their playing anyone would wonder how they ever won a game in the association. They were weak at the bat and their fielding was bad. The Lancaster played a careless game, for they knew that it was not necessary to do hard work. Their batting was very heavy, Hoffer leading with five hits. Two pitchers of the visitors were pounded and Ed. Greene made the best showing. For some unknown reason the game was stopped at 3 o'clock. By that time more than half of the audience had left the grounds. The Lancaster club were tired running and the Yorkers were sick of chasing the ball in the high grass. The score was as follows:

Table with columns for Innings, Runs, Hits, Errors, and Total for both teams.

First base by errors-Trenton 2, Ironsides 1. First base on errors-Trenton 4, Ironsides 1. Second base by errors-Trenton 1, Ironsides 5. Passed balls-Trenton 1, Ironsides 2. Wild pitches-Trenton 6, Ironsides 2. Doubles-Trenton 1, Ironsides 1. Triples-Trenton 1, Ironsides 1. Home runs-Trenton 1, Ironsides 1. Errors-Trenton 1, Ironsides 1.

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FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

GOVERNOR PATTISON'S ADDRESS.

Willis F. Hazzard on Better Farming - Lancaster Farmers in Politics - Prof. Wickersham's Closing Speech.

Thursday Afternoon.-Institute opened at 120 with a free discussion on the question of whether it is better for farmers to bear their employees, or to pay them higher wages and let them board themselves. Several farmers spoke to the question, a majority of them holding that it was not practicable for farmers to abolish the present plan of boarding their help.

Gov. Pattison's Address. Governor Pattison entered the court room by the private stairway, and as soon as he was seen was greeted with hearty applause, the entire assemblage rising to their feet.

Dr. Wickersham introduced his excellency to the audience, saying that Pennsylvania had several able farmers who had done credit to the commonwealth, and taken an active interest in agriculture, but among them all there had not been one who had done more in behalf of agriculture and agriculturists than Governor Robert E. Pattison.

Gov. Pattison said that he had come to Lancaster more as a hearer than a doer. He has always taken a lively interest in agricultural affairs, and especially the agriculture of Pennsylvania because it is nearly greater magnitude than any other interest. But after what has been said by Colonel Piollet, and said so well, he could not hope to say much that would call attention to the fact that while agriculture is the basis of our industry, and the source of all our interests its votaries were the last and the slowest to combine for their mutual benefit.

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THE SECOND CLUB NIGHT.

Hon. B. F. Meyer, Gov. Pattison and Col. Piollet Address the Jefferson Club.

The second regular "Club Night" of the Jefferson club was held last night in their handsome club room on West King street which they had recently moved into with respect. Hon. B. F. Meyer, of the Harrisburg Patriot, Gov. R. E. Pattison and Col. Victor E. Piollet were the distinguished guests of the evening.

The room was well filled with an appreciative audience when at 8:30 o'clock Mr. Meyer began his address on the principles of the Jeffersonian doctrine. It was a cogent and learned presentation of the striking points to the Jeffersonian doctrine and was very temperate throughout.

Gov. Pattison was next introduced and after an expression of his gratification for the hospitality showered upon him during the evening at Lancaster, spoke of the great value of Jeffersonian associations and of like nature in cherishing devotion to principle. He said it mattered not in what party such principles were contained, if they were true principles they were worthy of earnest consideration.

Gov. Pattison was followed by Col. Victor E. Piollet, of Bradford county, who spoke of the great and rare virtue of epikure of motive in men in public affairs. He said that the quality of the quality of devotion to principle.

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FATAL AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS.

A Republican Dies in the Neck Broken - Fatally Injured by a Horse - Killed by a Steer.

This morning at 8:45 o'clock James H. Meyer, a Republican, was killed in the employ of the Pennsylvania railroad company, as he struck and instantly killed by the cars, a half mile west of Pikesburg. The train which caused the man's death was the mail which reaches here at 9:35. However, was struck at the side of the track when the train first appeared but just as the engine whistled he seemed to be bewildered and stepped in front of the engine. He was killed instantly, his neck having been broken. The body which was not cut away from the engine until the train had passed, was taken to the morgue and buried in the morning.

A Fatal Lancaster County Man Killed. David Skene, who removed from Strasburg to Lancaster, was killed on Tuesday, June 4, at his home near Urbana, on Tuesday. He carried on the butchering business, and while driving cattle home he found it difficult to get them to cross the railroad track. He tied his horse to the fence but the horse fell and the man was run over and killed.

Yesterday morning Martin Bator, of Sporting Hill, made a narrow escape from being killed at his stables. He had just purchased a new horse which was placed in the stable. The horse was so excited that he began kicking. He struck Mr. Bator at least six times on the left breast and arm. Although no bones were broken Mr. Bator was terribly bruised and had to be removed to his home in a carriage.

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