

THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING IN THE YEAR (SUNDAY EXCEPTED) BY STEINMAN & HENSEL. INTELLIGENCER BUILDING 8. W. CORNER CENTRE SQUARE, LANCASTER, PA.

THE INTELLIGENCER, (EIGHT PAGES) PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

LANCASTER, DECEMBER 20, 1884.

The Inter-State Commerce Bill. The House of Representatives is debating the Reagan bill to regulate the charges on inter-state commerce by railroad companies. We are not now sufficiently familiar with all the features of the bill to state an opinion as to them, but the general result intended to be secured is one which we heartily approve.

Those who are interested in the humane custom of matrimonial presents—and for there are who do not, will, nilly, belong to this category—should take pause when they next think of sanctioning this social barbaric habit. The particulars of the Paxton-Willard elopement still fresh in the public mind. The young lady, it will be remembered, was engaged to a distinguished son of New Jersey, and the cards were out and a number of presents already sent.

Business failures and divorces seem now to have the call. THESE are strong words that Senator Bayard uses to express the great labor that President-elect Cleveland must face on March 4. Mr. Cleveland is confronted with an enormous task, the like of which has hardly a parallel in history.

With the crisp, bracing air of to-day comes to the well-to-do feeling of healthy satisfaction that their lines have been cast in pleasant places, and inasmuch as it is a desire to reach in the pocket for means to lift the less fortunate poorer brother to the same happy plane of enjoyment, citizens of Lancaster are much to be thankful for their sanitary surroundings.

There is danger that the beautiful and highly symbolical custom of giving Christmas presents, like the bestowal of bridal gifts, will become inexpressive, burdensome and finally perforce fall into disuse by reason of the prevailing tendency to extravagance in social life.

Even dimples can be manufactured on women with soft, pulpy cheeks or chins. A spot is smeared with colorless glue, and then a fresh is pressed in, with the point of a pencil. The stiffened indentation retains the shape of a dimple. Care must be observed in smilling suddenly lest it be fractured.

PERSONAL. FERDINAND WARD is a scamp, but he showed good taste in the selection of his lady.

A "Woman's Exchange." The sign was displayed and somebody went in to see if a man who was tired of his wife could do better by her for another woman. It is impracticable. The best exchange for women is that which is provided by Brown's Iron Bits. Exchange good health for good. Broken down and debilitated ladies with impoverished blood find vigor and joy in the enjoyment of which this price of tonics bestows on them.

EATEN BY RATS. The Dead Body of an Unknown Man Found in an Unoccupied Building. A mystery somewhat similar to the Carlton hotel horror has been developed in Philadelphia. Pier No. 9 South wharves is used by Cope Brothers, shipping merchants at No. 15 Walnut street, as a landing place for the vessels operated by the firm.

THE CITY FIANNES. We have waited in vain for some one to explain on behalf of the present administration of the city government how it proposes to carry on the necessary work of the municipality when some of the appropriations for the fiscal year are exhausted at the end of the first six months, and of others there are not left more than from 15 to 25 per cent.

HERE AND THERE. There were three accidents on the Pennsylvania railroad on Thursday—all caused, it is said, by the sudden cold snap. Two broken rails and the fracture of a locomotive wheel flange, awakened the attention of passengers to the perils they suffer from the exposure of metallic railroad equipment to sudden changes of the weather.

The new asphaltum pavement laid around the public buildings in Philadelphia, when it got the first covering of snow on it presented a surface so slippery that the smoothly-shod horses of the street cars found it impossible to get along. They fell at almost every stop and as many as a dozen cars blocked the line at a time. It was hours before the difficulty was obviated and the usual ten trips daily each way of the cars were reduced on Thursday to nine. The route of these cars, which are expected to traverse the distance twenty times a day, is from the ferry to Forty-first street.

There are critics and critics. At one of the crowded receptions to Henry Irving in Philadelphia the other night, a cranky old man said bluntly to him: "I took my family to see you in 'Hannibal.' You can't play 'Hannibal' any more." John Stewart, lawyer and politician, who is an ardent Shakespearean student and critical patron of the drama, praised Irving's 'Hannibal' as extreme; and ex-Senator Charles R. Buckwalter speaks in lavish praise of Ellen Terry's accomplishments.

Ten or twelve years ago Irving was known only as a comedian. A gentleman who paid for a portrait reception to Henry Irving in London six years ago tells me that his support there was immeasurably better and the magnitude and exactness of his stage appointments in London far exceeded the presentation of his plays here. Yet most of the people who see him here pay \$2.50 for the privilege.

One of the most accomplished journalists of the country recently made this observation: "I don't see how the New Orleans show can be a very successful affair. I was down there a few weeks ago and was surprised to find on what a scale the scheme has been laid out. The preparations were as if for the Philadelphia Centennial. New Orleans is a thousand miles from prosperity and dense population, the centre of a poor country, and I don't see where the people are coming from to keep their turbanies busy."

It is rumored that the Philadelphia Chronicle-Herald has at length concluded upon a plan to make a journalistic sensation and attract to itself the attention which has so far failed it. Wharton Barker, its owner, proposes to write up what he knows of the inside of the Garfield administration, and of the scheme which was on foot to get up a difficulty between this country and England over Canada, resulting in war, conquest and annexation. The intention was to have passed tariff laws discriminating against the other country and in favor of United States England's refusal to ratify these or to permit them was to have been the pretext for international difficulties.

And then Barker will relate the negotiations at Chicago which failed to nominate Harrison, and which were modified to permit Blaine's nomination, and the much money which was raised and sent to Maine, and what part of it was returned. The Chronicle-Herald may yet be a paper.

No slight degree of indignation is felt among the Philadelphia Democrats and by the personal and political friends of Mr. Randall at the high-dry style of denunciation in which Mr. Watterson indulges, over his proposed visit to the South. He goes as he went before at the invitation and as the guest of many eminent Democrats, professional and business men, who are anxious to cultivate a better acquaintance of the masses of the Southern people, with trusted Democratic leaders of the North. Denunciation of such interchange of courtesies in advance is, to say the least, unchristianlike and unbecoming.

As I write I have lying before me a little brown-covered volume, bound in muslin, plain and unadorned. The title page bears this inscription: LAYS OF MY HOME AND MY HOME.

There are 122 pages of it, containing the earlier of Whittier's poems. The volume is dedicated to John Pierpont and the ode of dedication concludes with the stanza: And girded for thy constant fight with wrong, Like Nehemiah fight as thou hast fought. The broken walls of Zion, even thy song. Hath a rude martial tone, a blow in every thought.

And on the margin of the page below, some one has written in pencil "Nehemiah IV. 18: 'For the builders every one had his sword girded by his side.' I found the extract readily, because the story of Nehemiah rebuilding Jerusalem's walls by ordering every man to have a sword which ran by his own house is an effective way of enforcing the lesson of doing political work in detail—or any other kind of work for that matter. This old edition of it is so rare that one of the poet's biographers says its existence is even questioned, and I presume that book-hunters would eagerly snap it up at \$10 a copy." SINDBAD.

Invitation. You are requested to call at the old postoffice building, Lancaster, Pa., where will be given a practical exhibition of Becker's Self-rising Buckwheat and Flour, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 17, 18, 19, 20, 1884. Ladies especially invited. dec17-20

Most violent explosions of rousing are stopped by Hale's Honey of Horsehold and Ear-Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute. dec17-20

A "Woman's Exchange." The sign was displayed and somebody went in to see if a man who was tired of his wife could do better by her for another woman. It is impracticable. The best exchange for women is that which is provided by Brown's Iron Bits. Exchange good health for good. Broken down and debilitated ladies with impoverished blood find vigor and joy in the enjoyment of which this price of tonics bestows on them.

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