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THE LANCASTER INTELLIGENCER

LANCASTER, MARCH 12, 1885.

The Anti-Discrimination Bill. The anti-discrimination bill, drafted by Senators Wallace and Lee and reported by the judiciary committee to the Senate, will be generally satisfactory to the public sense, as it accomplishes probably all that can be done at present by a state legislature toward the suppression of the evil of railroad discrimination.

The greatest good this proposed law will effect will be in the way of preventing secret drawbacks to favored shippers. It requires all rates to be publicly posted in the railroad stations, and forbids the charging of any greater or less rate than those thus posted.

This is a most beneficent provision, coupled as it is with a civil and criminal penalty sufficient to secure its observance. It gives to the people a guarantee of protection in the enjoyment of their common law right to demand from the common carrier equal consideration. It is one of the strangest things in the world, and the most lamentable refection upon the execution of the laws, that this common law obligation upon common carriers to carry for every customer upon equal terms, has been so steadily violated that this law, establishing the same right, reads as a new law, and is welcomed as a fresh defence; and such it is. Its requirement of the posting of rates and its penalties are new and fresh and effective to secure to the law pronounced respect and observance. It is all there in it, but it is enough at present. The prohibition of undue discrimination will amount to nothing more in practice than a prohibition of secret rates to favored shippers; but it is only secret rates that can be made very inequitable.

Garland and Frills. Of all the changes made by the advent of the new administration in Washington, that in the attorney general's office is the most amusing. No two men could be more radically different from each other than Mr. Garland and Mr. Brewster, attorney general. The new incumbent of the office is a plain, unpretentious man, accustomed to hard work during all his life, with a taste for the substantial, but with nothing of the show about him. Brewster, on the other hand, is a collection of frills and furbelows. He delights in surrounding himself with all that pomp and show which distinguish the vain man with a tawdry taste. The furnishings of the office have been made in strict accord with this desire for display. Congress has been implored for liberal appropriations of money for this purpose, and the result is such that "Fagan Bob" Ingersoll, after viewing "Brewster, attorney general," upon his throne, averred that he only remained in a chair of a heathen god. This is not surprising when it is known that the visitor to the departments of justice, upon opening the door, steps at once upon wolf-skin rug of the most showy and costly kind. When he advances toward the attorney general's throne it is found to be a mahogany desk, covered with fancy figures, upon which a large number of tall, brass candlesticks, with lighted tapers, are standing, and the object of all this search is found sitting in a chair which is in perfect keeping with the surroundings. All these fixtures rest upon a \$750-rug—not of Philadelphia work, but of the most exquisite Turkish order.

It is not difficult to picture the satisfaction of "Brewster," at the same time, the feeling of Senator Garland, a plain, blunt man, may also be imagined. With the manner and training of the true gentleman, with a strict regard for the proprieties, the new attorney general has always been accustomed to hard work rather than to display. Having entered the department with business ideas in view, he can but endure the fripperies of his predecessor until a decent time arrives, when they can be carted away to be replaced by the tools and surroundings of a real working man. Nothing is more certain than that Democratic simplicity will in due time be applied to the department of justice, where of all departments, gaudy display is out of place. Superfluous frills, like the superfluous ostentatiousness in Washington, must go.

A Horrifying Outlook. The present legislature of Pennsylvania has been more or less in session since early in January. Upon the important questions of enforcing the constitution of the state and wisely appropriating its money, that body seems to be no nearer a conclusion than at the beginning of its session. Now that the Republicans have a big majority in both branches they seem to be

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In a partisan view the Democrats need not be apprehensive about such an ending of the session. It would tend to revolutionize the political complexion of the legislature. Thus far the general assembly of 1885 has made a worse showing than the unpopular "extra session" of 1883. Its work seems to be of less honest purpose and far more futile in its outcome. In the view of patriotic citizens, however, regardless of party, there can only be mortification and shame over the present outlook at Harrisburg.

Should be Looked After. Councils need to look after the superintendence of the water works. To say nothing of the expensiveness of that department in its running, we have admissions of gross inefficiency in the explanation offered of the failure of the stand pipe supply of water for the past month. The water works man was so drunk or asleep as to let the pumps stop, and the water fell in the basin; which let the ice down upon the supply pipe to break it; because it had no support, the wooden trestle put under it having floated out of place. If that is the explanation of the deprivation of the whole city of the use of the stand-pipe, it ought to suffice to induce councils at once to change the management of the water department. This city cannot afford to risk its water supply upon the temperance of intemperate managers of the water supply. There is too much whisky evidently consumed in that department, and there is too little intelligence in it. Who could conceive of an ordinarily intelligent mechanic undertaking to support the pipe to the stand-pipe upon a loose wooden trestle under the water. The official who permitted such work to be done in China would be asked to disembowel himself.

Not a ripple on the Democratic stream disturbs its deep and silent flowing. The twenty-two young women who received their diplomas as doctors in Philadelphia on Wednesday, illustrate the great advance that women have made in the medical profession. Thirty years ago similar occurrence would have excited the greatest consternation. But woman is making her presence so necessary in the field of medicine that the graduation of twenty-two females for work in the Esculapian art now excites no comment.

CLEVELAND does not adhere to the old time policy of Augustus Caesar, *festina lente*, which freely translated means "make things easy." As one reads the newspaper reports of the Russian advance toward Herat in the disputed Afghan territory and the speech of English opposition that has now become a huge cloud, it seems like much ado about nothing. Of what matter that the Russian outposts are 300 or 300 miles from Herat? Why embroil two nations for a difference of opinion over a few thousand square miles of Afghan territory? And yet it will make a great difference to England if she yields one inch of what she claims to be her territory to her powerful rival. Russia would possess the rich valley of the Murghab, with the great Afghan trade centre, Herat. Through that gate has gone yearly millions of dollars worth of Manchester cottons, Sheffield cutlery and Birmingham hardware. The commercial supremacy of Great Britain is at stake in this region, and if Russia is allowed to get a foothold English goods may be crowded out. This is the bone of contention. And thus it is that the greed of commerce may again bring in its train the dogs of war.

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It seems that long-term prisoners sent from this county to the Eastern penitentiary earn more than they cost. Lewis Sowers, of Mt. Joy, convicted of manslaughter, cost the county, according to the latest statement, \$72.20, while he earned \$92.40; Jeremiah Dugan was an expense of \$63.70, and his earnings were \$104.04; M. E. Eldersheim and Charles Gery, both balanced accounts. Upon this showing it would seem to be cheaper to send the overflow to Philadelphia than to build a new jail.

By the way, what has become of the appropriation bill at Harrisburg? Has their manifest unfairness touched the Republican conscience? This visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Ireland in the near future arouses new attention on all parts of the globe as to what will be the outcome of the parliamentary agitation that Mr. Parnell is so ably conducting. There are English journals that affect to believe that the National party will be satisfied if Ireland achieves a relation to Great Britain similar to that occupied by Sweden to Norway, or by Hungary to Austria. The London *Standard* insists that this state of affairs is perfectly compatible with the restoration of "Grattan's Parliament," having in it enough of separation of the English and Irish governments. It will be hard to make the Nationalists and those in America and other lands who have been contributing of their means to the Irish cause, view the situation in the same light. So often has Ireland in the centuries of oppression that have passed over her head, asked for bread only to receive for answer a stone, that it will be very strange if now with the promised land faintly outlined on the distant horizon, she will be satisfied with anything else than complete autonomy.

It is downright mean of Russia to beset England just when the latter's hands are full of Irish and Egyptian troubles; but it is business. A Son's Brutal Attack on His Old Father. A sensation was created Wednesday at Bowling Green, Ky., by Chas. Moore entering the house of his father, Dr. J. R. Moore, one of the best known and wealthiest citizens in the state, and demanding his aged parent to sign notes to the amount of \$5,000, which he refused to do. The young man then seized his father by the throat and choked him severely. Releasing his hold upon the old gentleman's throat, he brought forth two revolvers, which induced the father to come to terms and sign the documents. As soon as he could recover he had his son arrested. Moore's case is in the government's hands at Evansville, Ind. The father is in a very feeble condition and refuses to prosecute his son.

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