

## The Daily Intelligencer.

LANCASTER, DECEMBER 17, 1888.

Mr. Adams' View.

Charles Francis Adams has given an opinion upon the railroad situation, which will attract great attention, because both of his prominence and the novelty of his view. He believes that the fundamental difficulty in making the railroad business successful lies in the low character of the railroad managers, who will do anything, though dishonestly, to compass what they conceive to be their own advantage, and in whose good faith no reliance can be placed. Mr. Adams knows intimately the creature of whom he speaks and his opinion of him is that of the general public. He does no injustice to the average railroad manager, though of course there are honorable exceptions. It cannot be disputed that they habitually abuse their power and misuse their customers and their stockholders.

But strange to say, though Mr. Adams charges railroad demoralization upon the malice of railroad men, he does not propose to correct the evil by punishing the offenders in the usual way; but he would free them even from the restraint that is placed upon them by the civil service law. He advocates the repeal of that law, because he says it tends to permit the evil it is designed to suppress; namely, the centralization of railroad power. He argues that the law tends to drive the railroads into consolidation with each other, because it forbids the railroad pooling, which has heretofore enabled the separate roads to combine together. But, while there is force in the suggestion, it is by no means clear that it is a sound deduction; and if it is, it does not follow that proper amendment of the law will not perfect it. Mr. Adams seems to think that no amendment can be made which will better it, because the trouble is inherent in the existence of many independent and competing railroads; and that the only remedy lies in the consolidation of the roads; which he does not agree with the general opinion in regarding as a great evil.

Mr. Adams will not soon convert the public to his belief that the union of all our railroads would be a public blessing rather than a curse. The creation of such a power in our midst is not likely to be salutary, if the teaching of experience is sound. The government control which could be exercised over such a mammoth corporation would amount to nothing. The creature would control the creator. There will be little use in holding elections when that day comes around. It is not very encouraging to us to know that great and often decisive influence is exerted now by money and by corporate influence over elections; and it is not wise to propose to increase the chance that the popular will may be buried under such influence. It is an astonishing thing that Mr. Adams, after correctly diagnosing the railroad disease, did not find its remedy in the punishment by the law of the offenses against morality of the railroad officers, which are the causes of the trouble. Why should not the railroad president, director and superintendent be promptly sent to jail for violating the law, just as any other man would? If the jail is the proper punishment of the ordinary offender and is supposed to suppress him, why should it not be useful in punishing the railroad rascal and rascality? Let a sound law be made; and let proper punishment be visited upon those who violate it. That is our practice of government; and let it be carried out.

## What Is It?

We print elsewhere a communication from Philadelphia to the New York Times, which has for its text that particularly interesting product of the City of Brotherly Love, John Wanamaker; who is turned around and examined by "Philadelphia" with a critical eye, and with seemingly an anxious desire to properly answer the query, "What is it?" We have much sympathy with "Philadelphia's" perplexity in the matter, because it has been our own. We have been quite unable to make the many sides of the Wanamaker character come together in one beautiful, homogeneous whole; to fit the fortune maker into the Sunday day school teacher, and to reconcile the plausibility with the raising of money to corrupt voters. "Philadelphia" suggests that John is at the head of the Pharisees whom Judge Gresham has found travelling about in the late election; and the conclusion seems to be fairly drawn.

It is not a bit strange that such men exist, for all history tells of them and the types of men whom the Bible records still live and will live while time lasts. The only strangeness is that in these days of civilization and education the Pharisees can still flourish and command popular patronage. Strangest of all to us is to realize that such men can be readily accepted by the decent members of a political party as their representatives.

We cannot explain the readiness of the Republicans of Pennsylvania to accept John Wanamaker as their nomination for a cabinet place, save upon the supposition that they feel that it is his proper reward for the money he raised to elect their candidate. This is his sole title to political position. It is the sole service he has rendered to his party; and it is his sole certificate of fitness for the cabinet place he seeks. Partaking of the fruit of the victory that they knew was gained by the money he raised, the Pennsylvania Republicans feel that the biggest dish is rightfully his. And this is the demoralization of politics. Men who would not lie or do a dishonest or dishonorable thing, quietly accept as their political representative a Pharisee, whose only claim to honor is his dishonesty.

## PERSONAL.

HENRY C. DUNLAP, of Philadelphia, has been endorsed for public printer by the typographical and pressmen's union of that city.

SECRETARIES FAIRCHILD and Endicott and Congressman John E. Russell and Asbel P. Fitch have accepted invitations to speak at the meeting of the Massachusetts Tariff Reform League at Boston on Dec. 28. The president has also been invited, but has not determined whether he will go.

GEORGE W. CHILDS, of the *Ledger*, said to a reporter on Saturday that Mr. Drexel, of the great banking house, told him that he had given \$25,000 to elect Benjamin Harrison, but he thought there was no danger of Harrison being elected to the presidency, making James G. Blaine his secretary of state, he would have given \$10,000 to defeat him.

CHIEF JUSTICE CHARLES E. BOYLE, of Washington Territory, died in Seattle, W. T., on Saturday, of pneumonia. He had been ill for some time. The doctors attending him at first thought the quinsy. They gave him up early in the afternoon. He leaves a wife and son. Mr. Boyle's home was at Uniontown, Fayette county, Pa. He represented that district in Congress, and was appointed by President Cleveland as the successor of the late Judge Jones.

MRS. CLEVELAND will go to Philadelphia on Tuesday to return the visit which friends, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Wood, of Germantown, made at the White House last Friday. She wants to rest this week in anticipation of her gayeties, which begin at the White House on January 1. She will return, as Mrs. Folson, with George on Tuesday to visit her sister Mrs. Welch, in time for the dinner to the poor children, to be given by the Children's Christmas club, in which they are both interested.

A Mean Imposter.

It seems that the miners in the anthracite coal region are subjected to a great imposition, in being compelled to buy their powder of their employers, at an advance over the cost of two or three hundred per cent. The miners are trying to escape from this imposition by concert of action.

Their difficulty is that, while they may buy their powder where they please, they dare not do so; because they find that those who do so are not given work or are discriminated against in the kind of work given them; so that it pays them better to pay these prices for their employers powder. It seems to be a very mean business to thus cheat the laborer; and it should give the Legislature great pleasure to provide that any employer guilty of such practice be fined in the pillory.

A prudent man, according to Hoyte, for cut and bruise, and burn, and boil will use at once salve oil.

He has heard such a terrible curse, as the man goes to hell, that he could not be possible that helved in civilization.

He takes his old reliable, and stop swearing.

500 yards 27 inch all-silk Lyons Velvet at \$5. Here in good time to be scissored for the holidays. The most superb stuff for dresses and outside wraps we ever had for so little money.

East and West Transept.

The handiest shape for a dress pattern gift is the Boxed Robe. Sixteen pieces—\$3 to \$16.75; styles till you are all of a wonder.

If the precise thing you want isn't among them, it's sure enough in the yard goods.

With music, mirth and a multitude of sweet songs, we greet you! A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

PIANOS AND ORGANS.

CHOICE HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Choice Holiday Gifts.

With music, mirth and a multitude of sweet songs, we greet you! A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

PIANOS AND ORGANS.

Acco d'ans, Autochords, Banjos, Bugles' Clarinets, Cornets, Drums, Flutes, Flageolets, Flutes, Guitars, Harmonicas, Harps, Harmoniums, Piccolos, Tambourines, Triangles, Violins, Orchestral and Band Instruments.

There above are a few of the Choice Musical Gifts we have in stock for the Holiday Season.

We also have a Fine selection of MUSIC FOXES.

Having always made a specialty of Shawls, getting the best from whatever source they come from today, we are now able to offer a fine collection of French and very serviceable Shawls.

Our Double Shawls are to be found here. These Shawls, Double and Single, are the best made in the world. Single, \$1.75 to \$3. Double, \$1.75 to \$3.50. Extra Large Shawls, \$2.50 to \$5.00. Double and Single Shawls, \$1.75 to \$3.00. Double, \$2.00 to \$4.00. Double, \$2.50 to \$5.00. Double, \$3.00 to \$6.00. Double, \$3.50 to \$7.00. Double, \$4.00 to \$8.00. Double, \$4.50 to \$9.00. Double, \$5.00 to \$10.00. Double, \$5.50 to \$11.00. Double, \$6.00 to \$12.00. Double, \$6.50 to \$13.00. Double, \$7.00 to \$14.00. Double, \$7.50 to \$15.00. Double, \$8.00 to \$16.00. Double, \$8.50 to \$17.00. Double, \$9.00 to \$18.00. Double, \$9.50 to \$19.00. Double, \$10.00 to \$20.00. Double, \$10.50 to \$21.00. Double, \$11.00 to \$22.00. Double, \$11.50 to \$23.00. Double, \$12.00 to \$24.00. Double, \$12.50 to \$25.00. Double, \$13.00 to \$26.00. Double, \$13.50 to \$27.00. Double, \$14.00 to \$28.00. Double, \$14.50 to \$29.00. Double, \$15.00 to \$30.00. Double, \$15.50 to \$31.00. 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