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JOHN C. LINVILLE'S ESSAY.

HIS VIEWS COMMENDED BY SOME AND ANTAGONIZED BY OTHERS.

The Arguments of Members of the County Agricultural Society on "The Moral and Intellectual Aspects of Tobacco Growing"—Officers for the Year Elected.

The January meeting of the Lancaster City and County Agricultural society was held on Monday afternoon, in the Board of Trade rooms, with the following members present: Levi S. Reist, Manheim; E. S. Hoover, Manheim; Casper Hiller, Conestoga; W. H. Brosius, Drumore; Jonas Buckwalter, East Lampeter; Calvin Cooper, Bird-in-Hand; H. M. Engle, Marietta; Joseph F. Witmer, Paradise; John C. Linville, Salsbury; John H. Landis, Manor; J. Hartman Hershey, Rohrerstown; John son Miller, Lititz; M. D. Kendig, Creswell; F. R. Diffenderffer, G. C. Kennedy, S. P. Eby, Israel L. Landis and Daniel Smeych, city.

Mr. Engle, of the committee on farmers' institute, reported that nothing has yet been arranged for the institute, although the dates fixed for the same are February 5th and 6th. After some discussion as to the subjects to be considered at the institute and suggestions were made to the committee the whole matter of programme was left with them. It was announced that Eshleman's hall had been rented for the institute, that the first session would be held on Tuesday morning, February 5th, and the last on Wednesday afternoon.

For valuable services rendered to the society, Daniel Smeych was elected a life member by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Engle said that there was no change in the crop reports from a month ago.

Mr. Witmer reported that a large portion of the tobacco crop in his section had been taken down during the damp spell of the past few days, and that many farmers took advantage of the weather and worked on Sunday in getting their tobacco stripped. He also reported that several lots of seed leaf tobacco of this year's crop had been sold in West Hempfield township at 7 cents per pound.

Mr. Landis reported several sales in his neighborhood at prices ranging from 22, 5 and 2, to 28, 5 and 2.

MR. LINVILLE'S ESSAY.

Mr. Linville read the following essay on the subject: "The Moral and Intellectual Aspects of Tobacco growing."

It is said the tobacco crop brings an annual income of three million dollars to the farmers of Lancaster county. From a pecuniary standpoint this is encouraging When we consider the moral and degradation occasioned by the culture of this vile drug, we are led to pause and ask whether it is worth the price.

A generation or two ago farmers' boys were kept home from school in winter to assist at threshing. The advent of the steam thresher promised relief from this winter's job and an unbroken term of schooling for the boys. Then came tobacco stripping and the boys, and in some cases the girls, are kept one, two or three months in the stripping room. Thousands of them who would be pupils of the pupils schools of Lancaster county will thus be deprived of part or all their winter's schooling that they may help care for the immense tobacco crop now on the poles. Nor does it stop here. The pupils never get far enough advanced to attend the higher institutions of learning, and probably but few of them even will be aware of their own illiteracy.

The moral influence of this business is equally pernicious. The manual labor of tobacco stripping is light, and the workers' garrulous tongues are free to rehearse and rehash all the gossip and every scandal of the neighborhood.

If any fine poetry, any grand ideas, any great moral projects, or any valuable inventions came from a stripping room, I have never heard of them. If Whittier or John Bright or Thos. A. Edison had spent their youthful days and evenings in a tobacco cellar, they would go down to their graves unknown, unwept and unsung.

EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF THE ESSAY.

Mr. Cooper indorsed the sentiment set forth in the essay. He thought it was a great error to keep children in the stripping room when they should be at school.

Mr. Diffenderffer said the same argument applied to the cotton factories in this city.

Mr. Brosius made a lengthy speech in opposition to the views of the essayist. He said thousands of acres of which were barren twenty-five years ago, were now covered with tobacco, and hundreds of people in this county now own their own homes, which would not have been the case but for tobacco growing. As to vulgarity and profanity complained of as a frequent occurrence in the tobacco stripping rooms, where boys and girls work, he asserted that there was as much in the gathering of scholars of the public schools.

Mr. Witmer referred to the good accomplished in his township, several parties having been able to buy themselves homes with money obtained in tobacco farming.

Mr. Hiller believed that the morality in this county was as good now as 40 years ago, when tobacco was not raised.

Mr. Hoover took the position that tobacco farming inculcated habits of industry. He did not think that the boys and girls engaged in tobacco stripping would attend school if not engaged in that industry. In conclusion he said that in his judgment the culture of tobacco was a great benefit, and if properly pursued the greatest industry in the county.

Mr. Kendig did not think that the essayist wanted to stop the growing of tobacco, but desired specially to call the attention of the members to the moral influences that might be exerted. In his township he did not think any children were kept out of school to work at tobacco stripping.

Mr. Miller said tobacco raising was an immense amount of good in this county. Take it away and the county will be dead. In his judgment the manufacturing of tobacco has more bad influence on morals than the stripping. In cigar factories girls are employed from 10 years old up. They remain there for years and when they quit that work to get married they know nothing of household duties.

Dr. Wickersham referred to the laws of the state which prevented the employment of children under 14 years of age, but the law is being violated daily. There are in this city many under that age employed in manufactories, but the manufacturers employ them because the penalty is never enforced. The law does not provide who shall look after the enforcement of its provisions. When superintendent he sent agents through the state, and from reports made there were over 75,000 children employed, who were under 12 years of age, who never went to school.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE QUESTION.

Mr. Engle did not dispute that tobacco farming was of financial benefit to Lancaster county, but on the other hand where one family has been benefited by its culture, ten have been degraded by the use of tobacco. While millions of dollars have been received in this county, as much has been squandered. The tobacco habit, he held, was the first step towards degradation. "Show me a degraded person," he said, "and I will show you a tobacco user." He compared the tobacco business with the liquor traffic and argued that the one was as disputable as the other.

Mr. Diffenderffer, in answer to this speaker, referred to some of the brightest intellects of the country as tobacco users and they were not degraded by the use of it.

Dr. Wickersham referred to the smoking habit in Holland and said that almost everybody met on the streets smoked a pipe, yet they were healthy, cleanly and thrifty people. Tobacco did not appear to have any bad effect on them.

After some remarks by Mr. Linville, who said he had heard nothing advanced to change his convictions, the discussion was dropped.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year: President, John H. Landis; vice presidents, Henry M. Engle, Levi S. Reist; corresponding secretary, H. M. Mayer; recording secretary, Johnson Miller; managers, Dr. J. F. Wickersham, Calvin Cooper, A. B. Worth, Jos. F. Witmer, John G. Rush.

Mr. Landis returned thanks for the honor conferred on him and read a prepared speech in which he argued that the farmers of Lancaster county were greatly benefitted by a high protective tariff. In conclusion he said:

"The fourth of July next will be the one hundredth anniversary of the signing of the first tariff law enacted in this country. I would suggest that the farmers and business men of Lancaster county hold a protection centennial on July 4, 1889, in commemoration of the historic act performed by the first president of the republic nearly a century ago. Such a movement would, in my judgment, have an educating influence, and in this way would be productive of substantial good. No county in the Union could more appropriately take the first step toward such a movement than the county of Lancaster, and in no city of the Union could such a gathering be more appropriately held than in this city, the home of Stevens and Buchanan, both prominent and conspicuous representatives of the two leading political parties of their day. Let us think and talk about this matter, and see whether our society cannot be instrumental in starting a movement that will be a credit to the organization, to our county and to our state. Let us see to it that as an organization we become an instrument to accomplish more during 1889 than in any previous year of our existence."

THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Calvin Cooper was elected a member of the state board of agriculture. Mr. Engle, who has been a member for eleven years, declined re-election.

A state convention of agricultural societies will be held at Harrisburg on January 22d, and the following were named to represent the Lancaster society at the convention: H. M. Engle, F. R. Diffenderffer, E. S. Hoover, John H. Landis and W. H. Brosius.

The State Horticultural society will meet at Lewistown on January 16, and H. M. Engle, Peter S. Reist and Daniel Smeych were appointed to represent Lancaster at that meeting.

DEPRECIATION OF PROPERTY.

Mr. Reist called the attention of the members to the great depreciation in the value of property in this county. He instanced one tract of 30 acres of land bought a few years ago for $9,000 and sold recently for $6 000, and a mill property that cost $27,000 sold for $8,000.

The annual report of the treasurer showed $62 52 in his hands. Messrs. Brosius, Mayer and Hoover, appointed to audit the account, reported it to be correct.

THE BEST APPLES TO RAISE.

At the December meeting it was decided that each member report the three varieties of summer and fall and five of winter apples that thrived best in their neighborhoods. Following was the result:

Summer Apples: All Summer, Benoni, second, with an equal number of votes for Jeffries, Primate, Early Harvest and Gravenstein.

Fall Apples: Smokehouse, with Mellinger, Redstreak and Townsend for second and third places.

Winter Apples: Smith's Cider, York Imperial, Baldwin, Dominie and Romanite. Eight other varieties were also brought forward in rivalry but fell behind those already named.

Handsome specimens of Dominie, Tewksbury, Blush and York Imperials were exhibited by Mr. Hiller.

Israel L. Landis presented some apples for name. They were pronounced Krauser.

Henry E. Haines sent apples known in his neighborhood as Nottingham Brown. They were pronounced to be Thompson King.

The Liederkranz Concert and Sociable.

Last evening the first concert and sociable in the new year by the Lancaster Liederkranz was held in the hall of their society. The attendance was very large the crowd being much greater even than was expected. The concert began at 10 o'clock and was a great success. Prof. Jacob Grosh had charge of it. The programme: Grand selection, "Maritana" (Wallace), Grosh's orchestra; "The Solitary Rose of the Valley" (Ed. Zarmes), Liederkranz; "In this Hour" (Max Spicher), tenor solo by Mr. W. Freitag; Cookoo Polka (T. S. Cox), flute solo by Mr. H. Halbach; "Night Song of the Soldier" (A. Wrede); grand selection "Norma" (Bellini). Grosh's orchestra; "The Dying Grenadier" (Schulz Welda), baritone solo by Mr. Globisch; "Ave Maria" (Carlo Bassini), Messrs. Sarteiner, Grosh and Linder; "Eternal Bliss" (C. F. Adam), Liederkranz; "On the Rhine—Waltzes" (Keler Bela), Grosh's orchestra.

After the concert dancing began and it was kept up until early this morning. It was one of the most enjoyable affairs in the history of the society.

Blue Cross Castle Officers.

The following are the officers of Blue Cross Castle, No. 46, of this city, for the ensuing six months' term: Past chief, A. K. Mowrer; noble chief, George W. Daveler; vice chief, Daniel W. Eckman; high priest, J. V. Vondersmith; venerable hermit, Harry Kieffer; master of records, William J. Tomlinson; clerk of exchequer, John S. Beck; keeper of exchequer, Henry Eckman; sir herald, Jacob Allabach; worthy bard, Samuel S. Cross; worthy chamberlain, James H. Deen; ensign, F. W. Hoffman; esquire, Gabriel Sauder; first guardsman, William H. Lillier; second guardsman, Isidor H. Neuman; trustees, H. W. Pinkerton, J. V. Vondersmith, C. C. Carman; representative to grand castle, H. W. Pinkerton. The membership is now 223, admissions during the past six months 10, amount paid for relief $388, and amount of funds on hand and invested $2,662.48.

He Got Into Trouble.

John Quinn, a bottle of whisky, a fellow named Buchanan and some others went on the town yesterday afternoon. The contents of the bottle was soon inside of the men and they were drunk. Late in the afternoon Quinn appeared at the office of Alderman Deen and stated that he wanted to complain against Buchanan, charging him with felonious assault and battery. When the magistrate saw that he was drunk he refused to take the complaint. Quinn became very noisy, and, refusing to be quiet, he was sent to jail for forty-eight hours. On the way to the station house he tried to make complaint before Alderman Halbach against Buchanan, but no attention was paid to him.

Edmunds' Resolution Passed by the Senate.

In the United States Senate on Monday the Panama canal resolution was taken up and adopted by a vote of 49 to 3, the nays being Messrs. Blackburn, Hampton and Vance.

The existing order in regard to the tariff bill was (modified in consequence of the Panama canal resolution having occupied the day) so as provide that the vote on the bill shall be taken on the 23d inst.

GETTING READY TO BUY.

AGENTS FOR DISTANT TOBACCO MERCHANTS LOOKING OVER THE FIELD.

A Few Lots of New Leaf Sought in Manor Township, and a Rush Likely to Be Made For the Cream of the Crop—Transactions in Cased Goods Rather Small.

There was not much doing in old tobacco the past week. Skiles & Frey sold about 100 cases and about the same number were sold in small lots by other dealers. Jacob Wolf & Co. purchased last week a carload of '87 tobacco in York county.

A few lots of new tobacco have been bought during the week in Manor township at prices ranging from 22 to 28 cents for fine leaf and as low as 7 cents for ordinary leaf.

Brownstein, of E. Gosliuski & Co., the California packers, is in town and will buy some tobacco in the next few weeks if he can get the quality he desires at his prices.

A member of the firm of Spitzmer & Co., of New York, has also been here, but has bought none as yet. Within the next two weeks other dealers will be in the field and for a time there will be great activity among the buyers. They all want the best of the tobacco grown last season and the competition for it will enable the farmers to get their own prices for all that is strictly first-class goods. For the medium and poor grades there will be no demand at present. Packers do not want it at any price.

The New York Market.

From the U. S. Tobacco Journal.

While the closing week of the year offered an occasion for a retrospective view of the market, the first week of the new year almost challenges us to give a prospective view. Besides, we have been approached from every side to forestall a diagnosis of the trade for the coming year. But we are not prophets, nor do we claim to have the gift of prophecy. However, we will venture to predict that the healthy condition in which the market found itself in the latter part of the past year is certain to continue for the first few months of the new year. The stock, both in the hands of manufacturers and in our market, is very short, principally as far as wrappers and old fillers are concerned. The stock purchased in the fall season has by this time entered mostly in the process of manufacture and will be completely exhausted before spring sets in. Then there will be a regular race in the market for anything suitable and a proportionate advance in prices accordingly. The new crops cannot be available at the earliest before next July, and then the question arises, how will they turn out? To judge from the reports which we receive from our cigar leaf growing districts, the new seed crops, with but one solitary exception, will not reach the standard of the '87 crops. A year ago about this time some of our packers had gone into ecstacies already about the Pennsylvania Havana and bought it up at any extravagant figure the farmers might have asked. To-day the new Pennsylvania Havana seems to be under a cloud; it is dragging; buyers are few and prices are dropping. The same apathy prevails in other tobacco districts. The only exception appears to be the New England crop, which has found early buyers at high prices. But what will the few thousand cases of the New England tobacco amount to in the enormous demand for wrappers by our cigar industry? Evidently the bulk will have to be supplied again by Sumatra, but the quality of the new crop of Sumatra is yet an unknown factor. Since its deterioration two years ago it is not supposed that the new crop will improve in quality. Therefore, we know what we have got in the market for the next few months; but we don't know what we will get; consequently it is safe to rely on a continuance of an active demand for all the good and available stock still on hand.

Hardly any new business was transacted during the past week. The trade was busy with taking inventory and filling old orders.

From the Tobacco Leaf.

As is generally the case this time of the year, business in leaf tobacco is very quiet, and sales have been made only in a small way. All houses are taking stock. Buying of the new crop in the country has stopped entirely in some sections, and in others there is only a little being done. On the whole, judging from information we have received, business in the tobacco trade has been good.

Sumatra—The year just closed has not been, as a whole, a satisfactory or profitable one for handlers of Sumatra tobacco. The combination of high prices, inferior goods and unsatisfactory custom house appraisements have made the business of the importer a very unpleasant one, to say the least. Reports from Sumatra regarding the new crop are very meagre, but they indicate that it will be an improvement on its predecessor. The sales last week were 450 bales, at $1.20 to $1.95.

The reported sales for the last week in the year amount to 530 bales of Havana, most of which sold within the usual range of quotations; but a few fancy lots brought as high as $1.30. The business for 1888, considering that it was a presidential year, has been a satisfactory one with most of the importers of Havana, and the quality of the new crop gives promise that still a better business will be done in 1889. Prices of course, must rule high, but the quality of the goods will justify them.

J. S. Gans' Son's Report.

Following are the sales of leaf tobacco reported by J. S. Gans' Son, tobacco broker, No. 151 Water street, New York, for the week ending Monday, January 7, 1888:

200 cases 1887, state Havana, 12½@20c; 100 cases 1887, New England Havana, 13@35c; 100 cases 1887, Pennsylvania Havana, 14@28c; 150 cases 1887, Pennsylvania seed, 8½@13c; 150 cases 1886, Pennsylvania seed, 8½@13c; 150 cases 1887, Wisconsin Havana, 9½@12c; 150 cases sundries, 5½@32½. Total, 1,000 cases.

The Philadelphia Market.

From the Tobacco Leaf.

Seed Leaf.—As usual the close of the year is quiet in the manipulation of leaf tobacco suitable for cigar purposes, hence dealers are taking advantage of the lull, and are turning their attention to ascertaining what stock they have, and how the balance sheet of last year's business will appear. Prices are held firm and steady.

"THE CATTLE KING."

A Sensational Drama at the Opera House to Big Business.

At the opera house last evening James H. Wallick's company appeared. The audience was very large, as is usually the case with attractions of the kind, on the first night. Every part of the building was filled and the gallery had a very noisy crowd. The play given was "The Cattle King," which is sensational but somewhat tamer than "The Bandit King." The scenes are laid in the far West and Mexico. Mr. Wallick is a fair actor of his kind, and, as he impersonates the hero, who is always doing something brave, he is a favorite with the audience. His company is passably good. Several horses, one of which is said to have been the property of Jesse James at one time, are introduced in the play. One fine stallion performs a number of tricks. The best feature of the show is the scenery, of which the company carries an abundance. The transformation scene in the third act was remarkably well worked.

The Soup Fund Concert.

The concert for the benefit of the soup fund, to be given in Fulton opera house on next Tuesday evening, promises to be very largely attended. The police are selling tickets and they have been meeting with great success, having disposed of a large number already.

Failure of a York Merchant.

Reuben Hoffheins, dealer in agricultural implements, of York, made an assignment on Monday, to Dr. Wm. Lenhart and Edward A. Keesey. Judgment to the amount of $23,841.06 have been entered against him. It is thought the assets will cover the liabilities.

BOTH HELD FOR COURT.

Mrs. Hellinger and Her Paramour Have a Very Lively Hearing at Spurrier's.

Before Alderman Spurrier, last evening, Jacob Johns and Mrs. Fanny Hellinger had a hearing on the charge of adultery. Long before the time of the hearing, which began at 7 o'clock, the office of the magistrate was packed with people, who almost fought with each other to get a position where they could hear and see everything that was going on. In the crowd were a great number of women, who seemed to have no connection with the case, but merely came because they thought they would be able to hear some rich testimony. The husband of Mrs. Hellinger appeared as the prosecutor against his wife and Mrs. Johns against her husband. The accused were not represented by counsel, and when asked whether they were ready to have the case go on they replied that they had nothing to say. Mrs. Johns was the first witness called. She is a sad-faced woman, who seems to have had plenty of trouble. She told how her husband had been weaned from her by Mrs Hellinger, with whom he spent most of his time up to the latter part of November. He would remain away from home all night and failed to provide for her and six small children. When she spoke to him on the subject he said that he was spending his time with Mrs. Hellinger, and he did not care what she did about it. She told a long story of his abuse. It was shown by other witnesses that Johns was at Mrs. Hellinger's much of his time and spent many nights there. On one occasion when the officers went to the house for him he jumped out of a back window, without anything on but shirt and trousers. He ran home and told his wife that he and his girl had got into trouble. This part of the testimony pleased the audience, and the female portion kept up a giggle, which the alderman was compelled to suppress. After the testimony had been heard, the alderman concluded to return the case to court, although it is understood that the commonwealth has much stronger evidence against the pair, which will be brought out at the proper time. When the alderman asked the accused woman if she could furnish bail she said she could not. In reply to the same question Johns, with brazen effrontery, said "No, I guess I am a candidate for the stone pile." This caused another laugh and the alderman intimated that it might be a little worse than the stone pile before the end came. As the pair were marched back to prison by Constable Eicholts, a crowd followed them up South Queen and part of the way out East King street, and appeared sorry that the first act in the drama was over so quickly.

A STORE DAMAGED BY FIRE.

Some of the Stock of Isaac Musser Injured by Flames, Smoke and Water.

The alarm of fire, shortly before 11 o'clock Monday night, came from box 24, at Columbia and Marietta avenues, and brought out the engines. The fire was at the store occupied by Isaac Musser, at Dorwart and West King streets. The building is owned by Thomas Zecher, but has been occupied since last spring by Mr. Musser, who sells groceries, notions, drygoods, etc. He also resides in the same building with his family. The fire broke out in the southeastern corner of the cellar, immediately under the store. The family had retired for the night, but were not yet asleep. They were startled by the smell of smoke, with which the house was soon filled. Engines Nos. 1 and 4 soon had streams upon the fire, which was extinguished after some work. At the place where the fire started there were a lot of boards containing straw and other things. The floor of the store was soon on fire and large holes were burned in it. The joists were badly damaged. The cellar was filled with water and a number of barrels of sugar were ruined Up stairs a lot of drygoods was injured by the smoke and water.

Mr. Musser had his stock insured in companies represented by Bausman & Burns and Jeremiah Rife. He cannot estimate his loss as yet. The building, to which the damage is not very great, is insured with H. R. Breneman.

No one seems to know anything about the origin of the fire. There was a lamp in another part of the cellar, but it had not been used since early in the evening.

There was a stove in the building with fire, but it was upstairs. It may have been that some one entered the cellar by way of a door on the Dorwart street side of the house, which was left open, to apply the match.

Thos. McGovern Sent to Jail.

One lodger, whose examination developed that he was a professional bum, was sent to the workhouse for 15 days. Thos. McGovern was sent to jail for 80 days for drunkeness and disorderly conduct and at the conclusion of that term of imprisonment he will be heard before Alderman Barr on the charge of false pretenses, noted in Monday's INTELLIGENCER.

Suffered Ten Years for a Brother.

Ten years ago Jacob Bird was sent to the penitentiary from Dakota county, Minn., for murder. He has spent the past ten years in Stillwater, and fully expected to spend the remaining days of his life at that institution, but the governor heard certain matters which led him to issue a pardon on Monday afternoon. Recently the brother of the prisoner died, and on his death-bed confessed the murder for which his brother was then suffering an undeserved punishment.

Terms of the Settlement.

The settlement of the strike on the Burlington & Quincy railroad was made at the following terms: The company will not follow up, blacklist or in any manner attempt to proscribe those who were concerned in the strike, but will cheerfully give, to all who have not been guilty of violence or other improper conduct, letters of introduction, showing their record, and will in all proper ways assist them in finding employment.

Murder and Suicide.

Dr. J. H. Nyer, the oldest dentist of Hazleton, Pa., shot and killed his wife and then committed suicide on Monday. The crime was evidently premeditated by both, as stated in a letter left by the doctor. His wife had been an invalid for years, and he had spent all the money made in a large practice to obtain relief for her incurable malady. They had no children.

Want a New Fee Bill.

At a largely attended meeting of the Berks Bar association on Monday evening it was decided to memorialize the present Legislature to pass a revised fee bill for county officers, justices of the peace, constables and aldermen in all counties of the commonwealth having less than 150,000 population. It was represented that the present fee bill was inadequate, many overcharges being frequently made by public officials.

A Revival.

The protracted services which have been held for some time in the United Brethren church, on West Orange street, are still in progress. The pastor, Rev. J. B. Funk, is conducting them. Four penitents were forward last night.

Religious Notes.

Special services will be held at the Presbyterian church every evening this, the week of prayer.

Rev. Dr. McConnell, rector of St. Stephen's church, Philadelphia, a noted preacher, will preach a special sermon at St. James this evening.

A BAD GANG OF BOYS.

A SCORE CHARGED WITH STEALING FROM STORES OF THIS CITY.

They Are Suspected For a Long Time of the Crimes—The Arrest of Several Discloses the Extensive Operations of the Well Known Light-Fingered Youngsters.

Some interesting facts have just come to light in regard to the doings of a gang of boys and young men, of this city, who have been carrying on thieving operations for some time past. Over fifty suits have been brought before Alderman Deen, charging about twenty young men with larceny and receiving stolen goods. It has been known for a long time that sneak thieves have been getting in their work at several stores in this city, and if the facts are proved, as the commonwealth expect, it is likely that some boys will be put where they can keep their fingers to themselves. In June last a number of boys were arrested for robbing the cigar store of John Baker, on North Queen street. The cases were made out against them very plainly and all were convicted. Judge Patterson, in the hope that the boys would do better in the future, allowed them to go, after a reprimand, but told them if they again came before him, as offenders against the law, he would sentence them on the charges that they had been convicted. Late developments show that several of the boys had scarcely been liberated when they began stealing again. Officers of the law have been keeping their eyes on them for more than a year past and it was learned that they were in the habit of selling knives, revolvers and other new articles. It was found that they were taking the property from the hardware store of Isaac Diller & Sons, on East King street. Some time ago the officers gained possession of a number of knives that had been sold by the gang to different people. The knives were taken to Diller's store, where they were identified as the firm's property. The folks in the store were told that they were being robbed, and the names and descriptions of the suspected boys were given them. The clerks then concluded to be on their guard. About two weeks ago Miff Weitzel and Charles Bitner, two of the boys who were convicted of the Baker robbery, entered the store together. While Bitner engaged one of the clerks in conversation, by pretending to make a purchase, Weitzel placed a pair of skates under his coat and tried to get away. He was caught, however, and handed over to the police. The arrest of Bitner, Lew Wiley, Albert Auxer and William Chandler quickly followed, and all were returned to court by Alderman Deen.

Since the last arrest two of the boys have concluded that they are in a pretty bad fix. They resolved to make a clean breast of everything, and have given much information concerning the workings of the gang to the officers. If the stories of these boys can be believed, and there is much to corroborate them, it is high time that the crowd is broken up. The boys who have been doing this stealing range in age from 15 to 20 years, and it appears that there were twenty-five or thirty in the party. For more than a year and a-half they have been engaged in stealing and in that time have taken hundreds of dollars' worth of goods. The firm that suffered mostly from their operations were Diller & Sons, and they are unable to tell how much their loss is. The plan of the boys was for two or three of them to enter a store, under a pretence of making a purchase. One would buy some small article and thus engage the attention of the salesman, while his companion or companions would steal something more valuable. They operated in this way, until Weitzel and Bitner were detected, two and three times each week. According to the stories of the "equealers," large quantities of goods were carried off right under the noses of salesmen. These goods consisted of knives, revolvers, skates, whips, rules, locks, &c. They were divided among boys who sold them, traded them off for other things or disposed of them in some other manner. On one occasion three of the gang went to the store and carried off a double-barreled gun. At another time one of them stole a half dozen revolvers in one day, and sold or gave them away. At times boys who had money, but did not have the nerve to steal, would give it to their more hardened companions, who would go in and make a small purchase and steal something valuable. Upon coming out the two would either divide the property or sell it and share the money. Not only did the thieves work at Diller's store, but another favorite place was the cigar store of M. B. Weidler, on West King street. Between August 1st and last of November they stole cigarettes, cigars, smoking and chewing tobacco and pipes in the same manner that they operated at Diller's. On two different occasions they carried off whole boxes of plug tobacco which they sold, one by the pieces and the other by the box.

Among the boys who have been arrested are some of good families, who have gotten themselves into this trouble through their bad associates. Many of the boys accused have been in the habit of traveling together on the streets by night and day. They bore the reputation of being very bad and some have frequently been in trouble before. On the other hand there are some who have always been regarded as good square boys and these charges have surprised their friends. The charges against some of the boys are a year and a half old, and since that time the boys have given up their bad companions. Most of them protest that they are innocent, and some, who are charged with receiving stolen goods, say that they had no knowledge that the articles were stolen when they received them.

The boys have not all been arrested yet. Several are said to have skipped from the city, while there are others whose parents will have them on hand whenever wanted. Those held by the alderman are Ben Kline, George Wiebush, William and Charles Locher, Albert Auxer, William Chandler, Joseph Gerstley, L. G. Wiley, W. E. Hartman, George E. Florey. Additional charges have been brought against several recently arrested. Of the party Wiley, the Lochers, Kline and Auxer have been committed in default of bail. Other boys will be arrested shortly.

In addition to those above, Weltzel, who had furnished bail, was rearrested on more charges to-day. He was committed to jail.

Death of a Valuable Horse.

This morning the beautiful English horse "Fox Hunter Mike," belonging to D. W. Winters, proprietor of the Ephrata house, Ephrata, died after being sick for about a week. The horse was noted in the neighborhood for its staying powers in running with the hounds.

Death of a Citizen of Warwick.

Elias Becker, a well known citizen of Warwick, died on Monday, aged 70 years He had been ailing for some time, but on Sunday night took cramps and died rather unexpectedly. He was a tax collector at one time and also a school director. He was a farmer for many years. He leaves one son, Franklin Becker, of Lititz. The funeral takes place on Thursday.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS.

Banks, Market and Other Corporations Choose Their Officials.

Elections for national bank directors, market company directors and managers of other institutions were held to-day in city and county. Following is a list of those chosen:

First National Bank.

Directors: C. B. Grubb, N. M. Woods, Abram S. Bard, John H. Moore, M. H. Moore, A. Herr Smith, Solomon Sprecher, Peter S. Reist, Henry Baumgardner.

Fulton National Bank.

Directors: John R. Bitner, Samuel Groff, Lewis S. Hartman, John D. Skiles, Abram B. Huber, John R. Bricker, David Brown, E. J. Kendig, Jacob Wolf, Jacob R. Hershey, John M. Stehman, F. H. Bare, Jacob B. Rohrbaugh.

Northern National Bank.

Directors: J. Fred Sener, John H. High, John K. Stoner, Daniel G. Baker, John Sigle, John H. Landis, Isaac L. Hess, Benj. L. Landis, Aaron H. Summy, Levi S. Gross, Hiram K. Miller, Jacob Brubaker.

Peoples National Bank.

Directors: S. H. Reynolds, R. A. Evans, S. Milo Herr, C. Musselman, A. J. Eberly, H. G. Rush, A. C. Hyne, Dr. A. J. Herr, I. N. Leidigh, D. G. Eshleman, Chas. F. Miller, H. W. Hartman, E. H. Burkholder, John Gingrich, Joel L. Lightner.

Mountville National Bank.

Directors: I. H. Kauffman, John M. Weller, John D. Herr, M. G. Musser, Jonas G. Stehman, Chas. H. Rohrer, M. G. Shindle, E. F. Yohn, Jacob R. Myers, John M. Froelich, Chas. F. Charles, Jacob C. Newcomer, George S. Roland.

Lincoln National Bank.

Directors: R. W. Bard, Philip Doster, Sam'l H. Hess, A. R. Hollinger, A. F. Hostetter, C. S. Luts, Isaac H. Miller, Sam'l Nissley, Sam'l Royer, I. A. Snavely, Sam'l Wolf.

Lancaster County National Bank.

Directors: C. B. Herr, John L. Metzgar, David C. Kready, Henry Shenck, John L. Herr, David Huber, Martin G. Landis, Benjamin Long, jr., John B. Myers, John S. Mann, Christian R. Landis, John B. Warfel, David Graybill.

New Holland National Bank.

Directors: Cornelius J. Roland, Dr. Isaac D. Winters, Henry C. Weaver, R. H. Davis, Henry Worst, Jacob K. Raby, Benjamin B. Landis, James Diller, George O. Roland.

Manheim National Bank.

Directors: Jacob L. Stehman, Samuel Reist, Henry Arndt, E. H. Hershey, J. F. Hackman, A. B. Grubb, Samuel H. Erb, Abraham Martin, H. C. Boyd.

Strasburg National Bank.

Directors: William Spencer, John Bachman, A. R. Black, George K. Reed, C. W. Schults, R. S. McClure, Christian Rohrer.

Quarryville National Bank.

Directors: George W. Hensel, J. P. Ambler, Thos. P. Ambler, F. W. Helm, J. G. McSparran, E. M. Stauffer, John H. Bair, Thos. K. Pusey, John Coulter.

Union National Mount Joy Bank.

Directors: John G. Hoerner, Joseph H. Rider, Christian H. Nissley, C. J. Hostand, John D. Myers, Levi Rickenecker, Joseph Detweiler, John B. Stehman, James M. Breneman, John K. Rohrer, H. C. Shock, Eli S. Grosh, S. C. Pinkerton.

A Successful Bank.

The Peoples National bank publishes an announcement of a dividend of two and a half per cent. For an institution that has only been in active operation for one year and has built itself a home of rare architectual beauty and model appointment, this showing is considered highly satisfactory.

Farmers Western Market.

Directors: A. S. Bard, F. P. Coho, W. Z. Sener, E. P. Keller, D. B. Huber, Jacob H. Landis, Andrew Brubaker, John Bowen, A. B. Miller, A. F. Hostetter, John E. Hostetter, Emanuel Kauffman, L. S Hacker.

Farmers' Eastern Market.

Directors: James B. Fry, Milo B. Herr, Allen A. Herr, Martin Kreider, Tobias R. Kreider, A. S. Bard, Adam Lefevre, B. J. McGrann, Milton L. Landis, Geo. K. Reed, B. R. Stauffer, James R. McNaughton, E. E. Steigerwalt. Auditors: Ira H. Herr, A. K. Howery, H. E. Hoffer.

New Holland Turnpike.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the New Holland Turnpike company, held yesterday at Michael Dissinger's hotel, Mechanicsburg, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Abram G. Shelbly.

Treasurer, James Diller.

Managers: Geo. Mentzer, H. A. Roland, A. M. Frantz, Benj. B. Landis, H. G. Long, B. J. McGrann, O. Roland, T. M. Storb.

Officers of Union Veteran Legion.

The officers of Encampment No. 44, Union Veteran Legion, elected at the December meeting, were installed last evening by Col. W. M. Mintzer, of Encampment No. 22, Pottstown. After the installation speeches were made by the installing officer, Past Col. Commander Reed, Col. Breneman, Adjutant Hollinger, Chaplain Leonard, Comrades Urban, Rice and others.

OFFICERS FOR COLUMBIA'S INSTITUTIONS.

COLUMBIA, January 8.—Odd Fellows' Hall association: President, M. S. Shuman; secretary and treasurer, J. A. Meyers; trustees, M. S. Shuman, Hiram Wilson, John W. Stacey, R. J. M. Little, S. H. Boyd, J. A. Meyers, Henry Weiser.

Columbia Water company: James A. Meyers, W. Latimer Small, Wm. B. Given, Jos. H. Black, H. F. Black, M. S. Shuman, John Fleming.

Susquehanna Rolling Mill: President, Michael Schall; secretary and treasurer, J. E. Schall; general manager, Wm. Patton; mill superintendent, Edward Brady; assistant mill superintendent, F. G. Paine; directors, Michael Schall, William Patton, George Crane, J. E. Schall, F. G. Paine, H. F. Bruner, Andrew Garber. A quarterly dividend of 15 per cent was declared.

The Columbia board of underwriters: President, Andrew J. Kauffman; vice president, A. C. Bruner; secretary, F. X. Ziegler; treasurer, M. S. Shuman; executive committee, Jacob Sneath, H. A. Fondersmith, H. S. Hershey and John P. Frank.

First National bank: Directors, H. M. North, G. W. Haldeman, John Fendrich, Wm. Patton, H. N. Kehler, John Forrey, Jacob Seitz, jr., Dr. Alex C. Craig, Frank A. Bennett.

Columbia National Bank—Directors: James A. Meyers, G. W. Mehaffey, Joseph Eckman, H. T. Bruner, Wm. S. Given, Dr. J. A. Thompson, Geo. A. Mann, N. S. Shuman, John Westerman.

Mr. D. W. Witmer retires on account of advancing years, and John Westerman takes his place.

Central National bank: Directors, Jacob H. Bender, D. B. Case, Andrew J. Duden, Vernon Ellis, Andrew J. Kauffman, John H. Landis, Jacob A. Minnich, Wm. Morris, Andrew J. Musser, Jonas H. Nolt, Amos W. Rogers, Frank Shillott, Henry Westerman.

Messrs. Musser and Rogers take the places of Messrs. P. S. Brugh and F. A. Bennett.

To Amend the Brooks License Law.

A member of the Legislature from Pittsburg says that an amendment to the Brooks law providing for two sessions of the license court a year, and also providing that the judge of the quarter sessions court shall have power to grant license, will be presented at the present term. The country members have been sounded on the question, and they all express themselves as favorable to such an amendment. The Pittsburg member thinks the bill will go through without much trouble.

THE DEADLOCK BROKEN.

A RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE RULES IS RECOMMENDED.

The Vote Very Close—The Bill Directing Immediate Delivery of Letters Bearing Special Delivery Stamps Passes the Senate—A New Pension Bill to be Reported.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The Senate to-day at the conclusion of the morning business resumed consideration of the tariff bill.

The Senate to-day passed, without amendment, the bill which recently passed the House, directing the immediate delivery of letters bearing a special delivery stamp even though the regular postage on them be lacking or underpaid.

The Deadlock Broken.

The resolution to change the rules in the House has been recommitted—thus breaking the deadlock. The vote was: yeas 120; nays 117.

The House committee on invalid pensions has decided to report a bill making an increase in the amount of the pension allowed for amputated limbs. The bill will also contain a provision allowing additional pension to persons who now receive a pension for amputated limbs, but who are also suffering from gunshot wounds for which no pension is now allowed. The amount of increase, however, has not been determined upon. The committee has also agreed to report favorably a bill proposing to increase the rate of pension for total inability to perform manual labor from $30 (the present rate) to $60 per month; for loss of an arm below the elbow, from $36 to $36; for loss of an arm above the elbow, from $36 to $42, and for loss of an arm at the shoulder, from $45 to $50.

"Murchison's" Claims.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 8.—Mr. Osgood, the author of the famous Murchison letters, whose identity became known yesterday, claims that he did not have any conception of the