

Daily Intelligencer.

Lancaster, PA., FEBRUARY 20, 1889.

the natural resolution of feeling. Nations will, whenever they can, settle their disputes by arbitration, but the day has not come, by many generations, when a nation can declare itself for peace at all hazards.

Albany Is Worse.

Corruption at Harrisburg is supposed to be prevalent, but Albany far exceeds it. We are wont to look upon our legislators as creatures of those who seek undue favor from the state; but we do not expect to see any direct stealing from the state treasury. The men who help themselves to the funds are content with the use and manage to return the principal, even when they lose it in their speculations; so Quay did, when he lost a hundred thousand dollars, more or less, and refunded it with Don Cameron's help.

At Albany there seems to be no hesitation in stealing money directly. The capital that the state has been building for thirty years, last year had to have a new ceiling in the assembly chamber, because the stone ceiling was falling down. An oak ceiling was advised, but was not got; and the inquiry set on foot shows that the contract was given out before the plans were made for the work and before the assembly committee ordered it to proceed; that the contract price was \$270,000; that nearly \$20,000 more than this contract sum has now been paid; so little account being taken of the contract; and it further appears that a full value for the completed work, including a liberal profit, is \$165,000; showing a theft so far of some \$125,000; and the stealing was still progressing when the inquiry was started which exposed it.

And all this was done under the nose of a legislative committee of five and of a superintendent specially hired for the job. It seems to have been the superintendent of the thieves; they kindly permitted the state, however, to pay him his large salary.

Albany steps ahead of Harrisburg. It is cheerful to be able to say a word for Harrisburg: it is wisdom we can.

There is now in progress under the most careful supervision and at great expense a transfer of \$7,000,000 in coin from Philadelphia to Washington. This is \$75,000 less than one third of the specie stored in the cellar of the Philadelphia postoffice. This is one of the beauties of the hoarding of money by the government in excess of government needs, but we may expect a more expensive sort of transfer when the Republican administration begins to get rid of the surplus.

Hawdun explosions have become rather familiar of late years, but the Canadian papers record one of a very curious kind. Early in January a party of men were travelling down the Ottawa river near Ottawa. They were on snow shoes and the ice was very thick. Suddenly an explosion took place beneath the ice, shattering it into small fragments and throwing several of the party into the water. The sergeant-at-arms of the Canadian Senate was one of those who narrowly escaped drowning. The explosion was caused, it is said, by the decomposition of vast quantities of gunpowder gathered in the river at that point.

There is no doubt about the hustling enterprise of the West. St. Louis men are organizing the "Mississippi River and Ocean Navigation company" to run between St. Louis and other river towns, and the sea coast cities of Central and South America. The project has been liberally supported, and is booming along grandly.

\$200,000 has been raised in London for the relief of the starving thousands of China, and money is being collected in New York for the same purpose.

The Nicaraguan can people are boasting that when the president signs their bill they will jump in and dash the ditch with a speed that will astonish the world. The world has already been astonished by the boasting power of De Lesseps.

The case of the London Times is growing desperate in spite of spy Le Caron. Mr. Macdonald, the manager of the paper, could say nothing to support the claim that the letters are genuine, and Mr. Houston, who furnished the letters, showed that he had a quite unwarranted confidence in Pigott, who gave the letters to him. The whole thing now appears to depend upon Pigott.

And actually it does not make much difference whether the state constitution is prohibited by the federal constitution to abolish the current license, because the state constitution does not enforce itself. Theoretically it is the supreme law; but practically it is no law, until the Legislature concedes to breathe life into it by adopting the punitive legislation needed to enforce it.

The constitutional amendment that the people vote on in June declares that "any violation of this prohibition shall be a misdemeanor punishable as shall be provided by law." And until the law provides the punishment, the infraction of the constitution will not be punishable. Consequently every one who has a license to sell liquor can keep on selling, until the Legislature says otherwise; and so may anyone who has no license. The money spent for the license will be thrown away, because a title privilege practically may be enjoyed without it. After the constitution is made to prohibit the sale of liquor, of course the courts cannot authorize it; and until the Legislature provides the whip, they cannot punish it.

The Legislature may or may not be convened before the regular session of 1889; that depends on what our very remarkably stupid governor may say about it; and what he will say will depend upon what the Republican bosses want him to say; and what the Legislature will say when it meets, will depend upon the same thing. Doubtless they would relieve licensed vendors from any penalties they might enact; they would hardly want an indicted party to plead in vain the license granted him, by the court that is trying him, to do what he is indicted for. No such absurd situation is likely to be allowed.

The Peace Society.

The Peace society had a fine time at their meeting in Philadelphia on Tuesday evening in spite of the unexpected refusal of the South American consul and ministers to appear upon the platform. These worthless doublets spoiled by their action many a well prepared bit of oratorical fireworks, but in view of their official position their conduct was certainly very sensible. They freely admitted that they had no love for war, but as the representatives of their governments they might some day, in the line of duty, be called upon to threaten hostilities, and it would hardly do for them to appear officially as endorsers of a policy of non-resistance to evil.

Every one will agree that war is very horrible and all humane and just people are anxious to avoid it at almost any cost, but the talk about Christian arbitration does not reveal any new way out of the difficulty, beyond indicating the general direction in which civilization appears to be advancing towards the universal peace forseen by the poet when he wrote of the "parliament of man, the federation of the world." Neither men nor nations will turn the left cheek when the right is smitten, but as the average intelligence of the race increases there will be fewer smiters because it will be realized that in the long run it don't pay. The president of the society remarked: "The day has gone by when you can decide a question of veracity, or of personal honor by an appeal to the sword." That day went by long before the times of our grandfathers, whose duels were fought rather as a proof that they held their honor and reputation for veracity as dear as life. Foolish and barbarous as the custom was, it helped to elevate the general valuation of honor and truth, and in its day was not an unmixed evil. And war is not an unmixed evil. If you would find a great prevalence of lofty and unselfish motives, turn to the records of a nation willingly at war. Even in the wars of conquest brought upon a nation by ambitious rulers, the brutalizing and destructive effects are often counteracted by the power influence for good resulting from

the waves, like a man stepping over to peer down into the depths of the tide. A nervous woman about midday heard the impact of the abandoned trousers, and, looking down with a shudder, said: "Me too, a woman being buried alive in a casket." The author of a loud yell, and all hands rushed to the guards with the cry of "Save overboard!" that awful cry which, once heard, can never be forgotten. A hundred hands with bare backs clutched around the waist of the drowning man in the vitals with a jolt, and, while fainting passengers looked the other way, he pulled out the now collapsed trousers and found on the inside of the waistband the name of a St. Louis tailor. Then they began to haul over the boat and in the drag of the river for the man who had occupied the trousers a fortnight, and that shy young man's name was in every mouth, and he died a gallant death. The tailors, and his old black mustache, which could be seen when he left St. Louis, from very frightened around and went back again.

THE READING EXPRESS DEAL.

The United States Official Ready to Take Charge.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

General Superintendent Topping, of the United States Express company, was in conference with Vice President McLeod, of the Reading, for a long time yesterday arranging details connected with the transfer of the express business. Late in the day a circular was issued by Vice President McLeod to agents and employees of the Reading company notifying them that the United States Express company had assumed charge of the business and directing them to promote and facilitate the business. Station agents who acted for the Adams Express company may act for the United States.

Superintendent Rigney, of the Adams company, issued a circular abolishing all rates of the line of express abroad. There is a good deal of bad feeling between the Adams officials and the Reading authorities, the Adams people claiming that they have not been fairly dealt with and other Reading authorities intimating that the Adams management sent business over the Pennsylvania and which should have been sent over the Reading just as well.

A HINT.

Oh, merchant, in thine hour of ease It on this paper you should see And look for something to pop Your pocket book, and not buy y' r Take my advice and not buy y' Go straight ahead and advert y' I'll find the protect of some u u u Neglect can offer no ex q u q Be wise at once, prudon your d a s, A silent business soon's d e k. From the Buffalo News.

Stop that coughing if you do not, it may kill you. A bottle of Dr. Bell's Cold Syrup will cure you in a week. It costs 25 cents, and it surely use may save your life.

I had been much annoyed by neuralgia and headache. A doctor I consulted recommended Dr. Bell's. I am glad to recommend it as it made a perfect cure in my case.

M. & J. K. NEW.

62 Alton St., Baltimore, Md.

Hopkins care guaranteed by Dr. J. H. Mayer, 531 Arch street, Philadelphia, Kas. At once, no operation delay from business attested by thousands of users after others fail, advice free, free for circular.

HODD'S SARSAPARILLA.

The PLAIN TRUTH

is that Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured thousands of people who suffered severely with rheumatism. It neutralizes the acidic solids in the blood, which causes those sharp pains and headaches. A doctor I consulted recommended it as a perfect cure in my case.

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Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. \$1 for \$5. Prepared by C. L. HOOD & CO., Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar.

AYER'S PILLS.

"Try Ayer's Pills."

For Rheumatism, Neuralgia and Gout.

Having been troubled with the inflammatory disease for many years, my favorite attention was called to Hood's Sarsaparilla by an advertisement of cures it had effected. I have now used three bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and can already testify to beneficial results. I highly recommend it as a blood purifier.

J. C. AYERS, West Bloomfield, N. Y.

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