as thirty-eight Congresses had believed, and as the Supreme Court had affirmed, that the power of removal from office was vested by the constitution in the President? That was the question this court must decide.—Did the Senate believe that at the time Andrew Johnson honestly thought that the constitution lodged the power of removal in the hands of the President, that he is guilty of crime for acting upon that thought? What should be the effect of the long line of interpretation by every department of the government? Stability was as much needed in regard to powers not explained in the constitution as in regard to those that are explained. If the construction of one of the President's powers was to be fixed by interpretation and decision, when was it to be regarded as fixed? In 500 years? In 400 years? In 100 years? Well, here we have a constitution and an interpretation existing for 78 years, and this should establish it. The thirty-ninth Congress alone had given a different interpretation of the constitution.

He (Mr. G.) did not propose to institute any comparison between that Congress and the Congresses that had preceded it. He would not say that it was not just as able as any other Congress; but he did say that it was no better. And this brought us down to the question if the Senate would drive the President from office and convict him of crime because he believed as all his predecessors believed and as thirty eight Congresses believed? Was Mr. Johnson to lie down with his hands upon his mouth, and his mouth in the dirt, and be deprived of his just powers, or was he stand up as the chief magistrate of a mighty nation and defend the integrity of his department? It was for the President to execute laws, to execute even doubtful laws; but when he was called upon to execute a law against which all precedents were arrayed, was he not justified in seeking to get a judicial interpretation of the question, and was the Senate to undertake to brand him with criminality because he proposed to go to the Supreme Court and have the question settled forever?

Mr. Groesbeck, in continuation, adverted to the fact that the court had shut out all testimony as to the opinions of the cabinet upon this question, and the advise they gave the President. Suppose, he said, it had been brought to the attention of Senators that, in a serious question like this, the President had disregarded the advice of his cabinet, and in defiance of their wishes he had acted in the manner he had, can any one doubt that the managers would have put it in evidence against him? And yet the facts which would have proved just the contrary state of the case were excluded from the testimony. What was Mr. Johnson's condition in the whole matter? He had a cabinet officer who was unfriendly to him personally, and who had been broken off and Mr. Stanton himself had admitted, in a message to Congress, that he had had no communication with the President since August 12, 1867. He proposed to be an executive department in himself and carry on his department without even recognizing the name of the President. In that contingency the President communicated with General Sherman relative to a change in the department. [Mr. Groesbeck here read General Sherman's testimony, to show that the President's sole purpose was to have the war office well administered.]

Resuming, Mr. Grosbeck said a crisis was necessary, because the duties of the office could not be properly performed while this wangling was going on. It was the necessity of the case that impelled Mr. Johnson to act. It is well known that if the President had attempted to get possession of the office by a *quo warranto* he would have been impelled at, because it would have taken at least a year to determine the case in that manner." All the President wanted was to get the question before the courts. He therefore issued his letter of authority to Thomas, and Thomas was arrested. Here was the President's opportunity, and it is in evidence how eagerly he clutched at it, and it is also in evidence how quickly the opportunity was snatched away from him. He resorted to no force to get possession of the department.

All of the force used was the cordial embrace of Stanton and Thomas when they drank together, and when Stanton affectionately ran his fingers through the old man's gray locks, and that was all. Yet upon this point the court would not hear the President's cabinet officers, who could have shown that no force was ever attempted, and all of the force intended was left to conjecture upon the testimony of the man from Delaware, and the street and midnight masquerade conversations of an old man clothed with a little brief authority. The Senate was asked to let in the testimony of the cabinet officers upon the point of force, but it was not admitted, and there is no rescuing this trial from the manifest imperfections of the testimony upon that point. The President could do nothing less than give the letter of authority to Thomas, because there was no other way, as a nomination to the Senate would have left the case just as it had been before. In this whole movement the President's sole intent and purpose was to get rid of his unfriendly, defiant cabinet officer. That this was the purpose, Mr. Groesbeck referred to the fact that the President had applied in turn to Grant, Sherman and Geo. H. Thomas, the men of all others who could command the respect and the confidence of the nation. "You cannot," said Mr. Groesbeck, "make a crime of this, Senators. The President had but one purpose in view—that was to change the head of the department. It would have delighted him to make the change and to put there permanently any competent man."

Mr. Groesbeck then referred to a message to Congress in relation to Mr. Stanton's case, to show that the President had to some extent recognized the law, and had not, as was charged, torn it to pieces and trampled it under foot. He (Mr. Groesbeck) had carefully listened to all the testimony in the case, and he could not see how the President could possibly be convicted of any criminality. Where is the evidence of force? Where is the threat or the intimidation used? Is he criminal because he did not surrender the convictions of his mind on his constitutional rights, and make them conform to your interpretation of the act of 1867? Then so were Washington and Adams criminal the earlier Presidents criminal, for they had interpreted their powers just as Andrew Johnson interpreted his.

Referring to the right to make an *ad interim* appointment, Mr. Groesbeck said the President found his warrant for that in the act of Feb. 13th, 1795. An act of Feb. 20, 1863, partially covers some of the ground of the act first referred to. But the latter does not repeal the former, and there cannot be a repeal of a law by implications. Now in the law of 1863, the case provided for when the President may make *ad interim* appointments are those of death, resignation or absence from the city. Two cases are not provided for in the act of 1795, and it was therefore under the latter act that the President in this case made the *ad interim* appointment. To show the practice of the government upon this point, reference was made to cases that had occurred, including the removal of John B. Floyd from the war office, by President Buchanan, and the appointment of Mr. Holt. This case was inquired into by the then Senate, but they found that they had no power over the subject.

With regard to article 9, which charges an illegal act by the President in his conversation with General Emory, Mr. Groesbeck said he would dismiss that with a word. He read the testimony of General Emory, and said it must appear clear to all that the President's whole purpose in talking for Emory was to ascertain why certain unusual changes were being made among the troops in his department.

The 10th article he would leave to his colleagues to discuss, but he would ask whether the right of freedom of speech in this country belonged only to the private individual? Is it denied to officers of the government? Can't the President discuss the measures of any department of the government? May Congress set itself up as a standard of good taste? Is it for Congress to prescribe rules of Presidential decorum? Will it not be enough for Congress to preserve its own dignity. Can it prescribe a form of expression which may be used, and punish by impeachment that which cannot reach by any form of law? He would not dwell further upon this subject than to say that the sedition law of 1798 was very much like article 10, and that as we all know, was one of the most offensive laws ever enacted. It was, in a short time, repealed, and no attempt has ever been made to reiterate its precepts, but it has been reserved for the House of Representatives, of the 39th Congress, through its managers, to renew this questionable proposition, and he would take it upon himself to suggest that before any one was condemned in a court of impeachment, the country should have some few upon the subject. He had therefore prepared the draft of a law to meet the case.

Mr. Groesbeck then read, amid much laughter, a burlesque law, containing a large number of preambles, reciting the duty of the President to observe official decorum, &c., declaring that such expressions as "a body hunting upon the throne of the government" were subjects for impeachment for using such expressions, or not observing the rules of decorum as there laid down. That, said Mr. Groesbeck, is article No. 10. [Laughter.]

The 11th article, he said, would be investigated at length by his colleague. He would only say of it that there was nothing to support it except the telegram from Governor Parsons to President Johnson. He had heard the oration of one of the managers upon this article, sounding, sonorous and sensational, and he would ask if that was the sort of an article upon which a conviction was anticipated?

In reviewing the whole case he was glad that no political questions were involved in this. The questions are: Where is the power of removal lodged by the constitution? Is that power covered by the civil tenure-of-office act? Can the President make an *ad interim* appointment? Did he do anything mischievous in his interview with General Emory? Is he to be held accountable for exercising the right of freedom of speech? Stripped of all verbiage, these questions comprise the whole case. How meagre and miserable, then, is this case! It is simply a question of an *ad interim* appointment that may be terminated in a day, and of an attempt to remove Edwin M. Stanton, who stood defiantly, and poisoned all the channels of intercourse with the President.

We have been referred to many precedents in the past history of England, but those precedents should be to you, Senators, not matters for imitation, but beacon lights to warn you from the dangerous rocks on which they stand. What is to be your judgment, Senators? Removal from office and perpetual disqualification? If the President has done anything for which he should be removed from office, he should also be disqualified from holding office hereafter. What is his crime? He tried to pluck a thorn out of his heart, for it had become a thorn there, and the Senate had fastened it there. What more had he done? He had made an *ad interim* appointment to last for a single day. You could have terminated it whenever you saw fit. You had only to take up the nomination which he sent to the Senate, and which was a good nomination, and the *ad interim* would have vanished like smoke. The thing was in your hands. You had only to act on the nomination, and the matter was settled; that was no crime. I can point you to cases that have occurred, and I point especially to that case of Floyd's, where the Senate, in its legislative capacity, weighed the question, decided upon it, heard the report of the President, and received it as satisfactory. What else did the President do? He talked with an officer about the law; that is the Emory article. What else did he do? He made intemperate speeches. When reviled, he should not have reviled again. When smitten on the one cheek, he should have turned the other also; then he would have escaped impeachment. But, said the gentleman who addressed you the day before yesterday, (Mr. Boutwell,) he was eager for pacification, and to restore the South. I deny it, in the sense in which the gentleman presented it, as being criminal. Here, too, the President followed reason and tred the path on which were the footprints of Lincoln, and which was lighted by the radiance of that divine utterance of Lincoln, "Charity towards all; malice towards none." He was eager for pacification. He knew the war was ended; the drums were all silent; the arsenals were all shut; the noise of cannon had died away; the army was disbanded; not a single enemy confronted us in the field. And he was eager for pacification. The hand of reconciliation was stretched out to him, and he took it. Was this kindness, this forgiveness, a crime? Kindness a crime? Kindness is omnipotent for good, more powerful than gunpowder or cannon. Kindness is statesmanship; kindness is the high statesmanship of Heaven itself. The thunders of Sinai did not terrify and distract; it is the kindness of Calvary that subdues and pacifies. What shall I say of that man? He has ever walked in the path and by the light of the constitution. The mariner, tempest tossed on the sea, is not more sure to turn to the stars for guidance than this man, in the trials of his life, took to the star of the constitution. He does love the constitution; it has been the study of his life. He is not learned or scholarly like many of you. He is not a man of many ideas or much speculation; but he is a man of intelligence, and he will end his career a no one of you in the measure of his patriotism. He may be full of errors; I will not gainsay now his views. He loves his country, and I believe would die for it if need be. His courage and his patriotism are not without illustration. My colleague referred the other day to the scenes which occurred in this chamber, where he alone of all the Senators from his section remained, even when his own State had seceded. How his voice rung out in this hall on that occasion in the hour of alarm, and in denunciation of the rebellion. But he did not remain here. This was a pleasant and easy position. He chose a more difficult and arduous and perilous service, that was a trial of his courage and patriotism, of which some of you who now sit in judgment upon him know nothing. I have thought that those who dwelt at the North, at a safe distance from the collision of war, knew but little of its actual trying dangers. We who lived upon the borders knew it. Our horizon was always red with flame, and it was sometimes borne so near us that we felt the heat upon the outstretched hand.

Mr. Johnson went into the very borders of the war, and here he served his country long and well. Which of you has done more? Not one. There is one among you whose service, as I well knew, cannot be overestimated, and I withdraw all comparison. But it is enough to say that his services were greatly needed; and it seems hard, it seems cruel that he should be struck here upon these miserable technicalities, or that any one who has served his country and borne himself well and bravely should be treated as a criminal and condemned upon these miserable charges. Even if he had committed a crime against the laws, his services to the country entitle him to some consideration. But he has precedents for everything that he has done—excellent precedents. The voices of the great dead come to us from their graves sanctioning his course, and our past history approves it.

How can you single out this man now, in this condition of things, and hand him before the country? Will you put your hand upon him because he made an *ad interim* appointment, and attempted to remove Edwin M. Stanton? I can at a single glance, Senators, fix my eye on many of you who would not endure the position which the President occupied if you did not think it right yourselves. You framed this very civil tenure act to give every President his own Cabinet, and then the President whole crime is that he wants an officer in the War Department with whom he can communicate on public business and entertain friendly relations.

Senators, I am tired, and no doubt you are.—There is a great deal crowding on me for utterance, but it is not from my head, it is rather from my heart, and would be but a repetition of what I have been saying this last half hour.—Andrew Johnson's administration of the presidential office is to me as nothing in comparison with the possible consequences of your action in the government of the country. No good can come of conviction on these articles of impeachment, but how much evil will the heart of the country be rejoiced if it learns that the Senate of the United States was not unmindful of the storm and passion and strife of this hour of the constitution, of its country, and of its own dignity.

When Mr. Groesbeck concluded, the court adjourned.

Latest by Telegraph!

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, April 28th 1868.

SENATE.—Mr. Sumner said, I send to the Chair an amendment to the rules. Will there be any objection. It will go over until the close of the argument, when, as it is provided in the Constitution of the United States that on the trial of Impeachments by the Senate no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present; but this requirement of two-thirds is not extended to the judgment in such trials, which remains subject to the general law, that a majority prevails; therefore, in order to remove any doubt thereupon, ordered that when any question which—a question may arise with regard to the judgment—it shall be determined by a majority of the members present.

Senator Davis objected.

Mr. Williams took up the subject of the Presidents alleged justification by reason of advice given him by his Cabinet.

He held that the President could not shield himself behind the opinions of his cabinet when these sentiments were prompted by fear of losing their positions. He characterized the Cabinet as a fungus growth which sought to make itself a directory. He argued that if the members of the Cabinet were intended by the framers of our government to advise the President on questions of general policy, and shield him from responsibility for his actions, they would have been made independent of his control. He claimed that the President had failed to show any sufficient cause for his desire to supersede Stanton. True he was a thorn in his side, so was Congress, and Grant, and every loyal man.

Mr. Williams held that the President removed a meritorious officer from motives of personal dislike, of itself sufficient to warrant for Impeachment. He argued that the President's failure to commence legal proceedings, which he maintained would not have suited his purpose to have an Interregnum when his own will would be supreme.

He then gave a satirical and humorous description of the conduct of Mr. Thomas on the 21st and 22d of February, including his appearance at the masquerade. With regard to the defence set up by the President that he has right to resist and to bring to judicial decision laws, he considers unconstitutional.

Mr. Williams maintained that there were no provision required such judicial construction, and that extreme cases of clearly unconstitutional laws were not supposeable.

He would admit that the Senate was now sitting as a court, but it was a court holding executive jurisdiction, which could decide the whole matter according to its own iden, guided by but not bound by precedents and law. Mr. Williams then argued that no suspension of Stanton was intended under the Tenure of Office Law, which the President thereby recognized.

The Georgia Election.

SAVANNAH, GA., April 28.—The total City vote for the Constitution is 2,899; against 2,646. Bullock, Radical candidate for Governor, 2,854; Gordon, Dem., 2,685; Clift, Radical candidate for Congress, 2,816; Mitch, Dem., 2,641; Bradley, colored, Radical candidate for State Senator, 2,752; Leslie, Dem., 2,697.

Great Democratic Victory in Chicago.

CHICAGO, April 21.—The election to-day for Judge and Clerk of the Recorder's Court, and one alderman from each ward, passed off quietly. About twenty-three thousand votes were polled. The Democratic ticket for judge and clerk is elected by a majority of five hundred. At the election last November, Osborne, the Radical candidate for County Treasurer, received over four thousand majority. The Council stands twenty Republicans to twelve Democrats.

In 1864 Lincoln had a majority of over 14,000 in Chicago.

THE MORTGAGE BILL.—The bill exempting judgments and mortgages from *local taxation* was recently reconsidered in the Legislature, and *Lancaster* and a number of counties re-inserted; this was concurred in by both Houses and the bill has received the approval of the Governor. The following is the text of the bill, and shows that the impression prevailing in some quarters that the law will not go into operation until next year, is unfounded:

Be it enacted, &c., That mortgages, judgments, recognizances, and moneys due upon articles for the sale of real estate made after the passage of this Act, are exempt from all taxation except State taxes, and that from and after the 1st of December no taxes of any description except State taxes shall be assessed or collected on mortgages, judgments, recognizances and articles of agreement for the sale of real estate, whether made before or after the passage of this Act. Provided, that this shall not apply to mortgages given by corporations.

Local Intelligence.

LOCAL SUMMARY.—The name of the present month, April, is supposed to be derived from *aperire*, "to open," because the buds open at this period.

Every applicant for the benefit of the bankrupt act must show, after the 1st of June next, that he has property sufficient to pay 50 cents on the dollar, or has obtained a release from enough of his creditors to pay 50 cents on the dollar to the remainder.

Mr. J. A. Sprenger intends erecting on South Queen street, opposite the new Shiffler Hose House, an extensive malt house and brewery; it will be 134 feet on South Queen street, and extend back 50 feet. There will be two wings running back from the main structure; one at the south end 75 by 37 feet, and one at the north end 100 by 38 feet; the front will be four stories in height, and the wings three.

A splendid capitol building will soon be erected in Springfield, Ill. Mr. Jas. Gowan, a citizen of the neighboring city of Harrisburg, has the contract for erecting it. Mr. Gowan constructed the celebrated lake tunnel at Chicago, which supplies that city with water.

The wheat crop was never more promising than at present, and it is estimated that Lancaster county will produce three millions of bushels the present season.

There are over 12,000 Knights of Pythias in this State, and about 80 lodges. The order was first established in this State on February 23, 1867; $5,675 has already been paid out for charitable purposes. The lodge recently established in this city is said to be in a flourishing condition.

The recent national convention of quoit players in New York City resolved that the distance for playing shall be eighteen yards; the "mott" not to be less than one inch above the clay; the measurement to be from the centre of the "mott" to the nearest iron in sight without disturbing the clay. In case of two opposing quoits being equal it shall be declared a draw. Our quoit players will make a note of it.

The Lancaster Lyceum has elected the following permanent officers: President, Philip D. Baker; Vice President, Jeremiah Whitson; Secretary, Mariott Brosius; Treasurer, J. Q. Runion; Committee of Curators, J. W. F. Swift, Jay Cadwell and R. J. Houston.

The officers and soldiers of General Reynold's Corps have raised about $7,500 toward erecting him a monument. Less than $2,000 more will enable the committee to erect the proposed statue at once.

The Manheim Literary Society held a regular meeting on the 17th inst. and an election for officers for the ensuing term was held, resulting as follows: C. W. Miller, President; Amos Brackbill, Vice President; H. S. Getz, Secretary.

Marriott Brosius was, on Tuesday forenoon, on motion of Hon. Thomas E. Franklin, admitted to practice law in the Courts of this county.

The Orthodox branch of the Society of Friends held their yearly meeting in Philadelphia this week. Proceedings began on Monday morning in their meeting house at Fourth and Arch streets.

Lieut. Wm. S. McCaskey, formerly of this city, who is now with the 22d U. S. Infantry in Dakota territory, has recently been promoted to the position of Regimental Quartermaster and Commissary.

ESCAPE OF THE HERTZLER MURDERERS.—A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* writes the following account from Springfield Ohio of the escape from prison of the men who were about to be tried for killing Daniel Hertzler, a native and former resident of this county:

There are four persons who have been incarcerated in Clarke County Jail, and indicted for the murder of Daniel Hertzler on the night of the 9th of October, 1867; the names are Henry C. Roberts Charles Scott, Harvey Pope and Joseph Warren. In the Court yesterday afternoon, Warren, against whom there is the least amount of proof of complicity, was released upon giving bonds in the sum of five hundred dollars that he would report to the Court every day. Roberts and Scott, with Wur Cloud, Thomas Boyce and John Devlin were confined in cells adjoining that occupied by Mrs. Morehouse, who was imprisoned for refusing to pay a fine of $200, for theft. Yesterday Mrs. Morehouse stated that she was unwell, and was humanely allowed the freedom of the hall in the jail building; at eight o'clock the jailer took her to her cell, for the purpose of locking her up for the night. When he opened the door, the five prisoners, Roberts, Scott, Cloud, Boyce, and Devlin, sprang upon and overpowered him, and made their escape. It appears that the cells in the jail are ranged on the right side of the hall, and small apertures for ventilation between them: During the absence of Mrs. Morehouse, yesterday, these openings were increased, and the prisoners from the adjoining cells on both sides crawled through and secreted themselves in her apartment, with the result as given above. They were met in the hall by Mrs. Albin, the wife of our Sheriff, who endeavored to detain one by holding on to his coat, at the same time screaming for assistance. Her efforts, however, were unavailing, and they escaped. They were seen to start towards the National Road. The jailer immediately ran down town, gave the alarm, and procured the assistance of a *posse* of citizens to secure them.

The city was soon alarmed, and at nine o'clock an immense meeting of citizens assembled at the City Hall to devise means for the recapture of the fugitives. Mayor Snyder presided. It was resolved to send out men and arouse the whole surrounding country, and put them on their track. The vicinity of the city was picked up in the most thorough manner all last night: men were sent out to board all the out-going trains; telegrams were sent to all available points; in short, everything was done that was practicable for again bringing to justice the assassins of the lamented Hertzler. Above telegraph has informed you, a reward of $1,000 each was immediately offered for the capture of Roberts and Scott.

THE DELAWARE AND LANCASTER RAILROAD.—The Commissioners of the Delaware and Lancaster Railroad Company will open books for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to the capital stock of said railroad, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the 4th, 5th and 6th of May 1868, at Oakdale Seminary, Pughton, Chester county, Pa.

"Books will be open from 9 o'clock A. M. to 3 o'clock, P. M., each day.

Isaac W. Guldin, Jacob Y. Plank, Samuel K. Cassel, Geo. D. Sprecher, James H. Price, Committee on Stock."

We are glad to chronicle the fact that the initial movement for organization is made from a good stand-point. Pughtown is in the valley of French Creek, which rises in the Welsh mountain, and empties into the Schuylkill River at Phoenixville. French Creek valley is old railroad ground, having been surveyed many years ago, and more than once; but it is still unoccupied, notwithstanding there is high authority for the assertion that, the best and shortest route for a railroad from Philadelphia to Harrisburg is via the French Creek and across the Welsh mountain through the Springfield gap!

According to a survey made fifteen years ago, the grade on the Welsh mountain summit level was 618.8 feet above mean tide; but as the level was only 870 feet in length and the grade only 17 feet below the crest, heavier work and extra outlay will perhaps reduce the summit below the elevation given.

At Phoenixville, at the intersection with the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, the grade is 97 feet above tide; rise from Phoenixville to Springfield 523 feet, distance 19 miles, average grade in the mile 27 feet, maximum grade on old location 40 feet.

From Springfield descending west the line enters the valley of the Conestoga, which flows past the city of Lancaster, so that between Lancaster and Philadelphia the Welsh mountain which, at Springfield, is 19 miles from Phoenixville and 29 miles from Lancaster, is the sole water-shed. And as the railroad grade at Lancaster is 349 feet above tide and 271 feet below the railroad grade at the Springfield summit, the average grade per mile between Lancaster and Springfield, which are 29 miles apart, is 9.3 feet per mile—a very low average indeed—and showing that a moderate maximum may be adopted, on a judicious location, through a valley famed for its cultivation, fertility and luxuriance. To say that the Conestoga valley, where it will be traversed by the proposed road, is the garden portion of Lancaster county, is to convey pregnant meaning in few words.

The distance from Phoenixville to Lancaster (even via Hinkletown, with a view to Susquehanna and other connections) is not exceeding 48 miles. And when we consider that Phoenixville and Lancaster are at the termini of this distance, and that the country between is rich and populous, the local subscriptions for shares in the Delaware and Lancaster Railroad Company, on the division described, ought to be large in amount.

If located by a prudent engineer, and made to fit the ground as a coat fits a body, and be built for money, a railroad from Phoenixville to Lancaster will pay dividends on cost. The route is one of rare eligibility; and if occupied with a true appreciation of its possible future importance as a link in a freight route between the Susquehanna River and tidewater, its success and profit will both be assured from the outstart.—*U. S. Railroad & Mining Register.*

SENTENCED.—William Johnson, who claimed to be from Mountville this county and who was tried at the last Court of Quarter Sessions of Berks county for the killing of Policeman Levan, has been acquitted of the charge of murder. The Court, however, on account of his resisting arrest sentenced him to pay a fine of $5, the costs of prosecution and undergo an imprisonment in the Berks county prison for the term of four months.

WHO IS HE.—The Reading *Eagle* says. We are informed that a young Lancasterian now residing in this city has palmed off upon the people of this and adjacent counties, a new and worthless variety of the Jersey Blue potatoes as the *early* Goodrich, for which he received $6,00 per bushel. We advise our country friends to purchase their seed potatoes, &c., from reliable parties. Let this "big sell" teach persons to be more careful.

NUMBER OF PRISONERS IN THE COUNTY PRISON.—We are glad to state, that the number of persons now in the County prison is comparatively small. There are at present shut up within its walls 22 convicts, 23 vagrants, and about 14 trial prisoners. Total 59, very few criminals, considering the population of Lancaster county. The present management of the prison is said to give very general satisfaction.

Court Proceedings.

Common Pleas.—The Court of Common Pleas met this morning at ten o'clock. The following cases were set down for trial this week: The Com'th of Pennsylvania vs. H. Gerche; same Plaintiff vs. Amos Groff; same Plaintiff vs. Henry Dietrich; same Plaintiff vs. John Schaeffer; John Musser, Executor of Geo. W. Forry, dec'd, vs. Jeremiah Shaffner; George Reese vs. B. B. Martin, Adm. McKim, Christian Daisy, Elizabeth Dorwart, Leggot & Co., *et al.* John Dorwart vs. same Defendants; A. Herr Smith vs. Stephen G. and Sarah Bickham; Mary Montague and Francis Montague vs. Wm. Montague; Elia Kauffman vs. Christ. M. Hostetter Lewis Hartman vs. Geo. J. Diller and Henry D. Groff, trading as Diller & Groff. All the other cases on the trial list were either settled, or continued until the next term of Common Pleas Court.

Tuesday forenoon.—Court met at the usual hour Judges Long and Hayes present the latter presiding. The jury in the case of Jno. Musser, Exor., of Geo. W. Terry dec'd, vs. Jeremiah Shaffner, tried on yesterday, found a verdict in favor of the plaintiff in the sum of $621 84cts debt, with stay of execution for $371 84cts until april 1st., 1869, it to bear legal interest from date and the balance $250 to be paid forthwith. Hiester and Eimaker for plaintiff; Landis and Price, for defendant. Lewis Hartman vs. Geo. J. Diller and H. D. Groff, action to try by jury the right to certain property levied upon by the Sheriff. On trial.

APPOINTMENTS.—On Saturday forenoon the Court met and made the following appointments:

Hugh O'Nail was appointed Constable of Paradise township, *vice* James Smith, who was elected but refused the office.

Samuel Horst was appointed Constable of Lancaster twp., in place of Isaac Heiney, who failed to furnish security.

There being a tie vote between Daniel Bard and John Sharp for the office of Supervisor, for West Cocalico township, the Court appointed John Gensemer, Supervisor for said township.

Joshua Wilson was appointed Constable for Drumore township, in place of John Sterret, who was elected but declined serving.

LODGE TO BE ORGANIZED.—Another lodge of Good Templars will be organized in this county at Churchtown, on Thursday evening next. Delegations from Lancaster, Enterprise, New Holland and Churchville will be present and assist at the organization.

This order has now over 500 lodges in the State, and is still increasing rapidly in numbers. Its professed aim, that of reclaiming the drunkard and saving others from becoming such, is commendable, and, in the proper sphere of such a work it has our best wishes for its success.

IN MEMORIAM—REV. WALTER POWELL.—The Presbytery of Donegal, at its stated meeting held in Bellevue Church, Gap, Lancaster county, Pa., April 14th, adopted the following minutes, expressive of their views and feelings in reference to the death of the Rev. Walter Powell, late Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Lancaster city, Pa.:

"Since we last met as a Presbytery God has been pleased to call from the scene of his earthly labors to his heavenly reward the Rev. Walter Powell.

We feel that, in his death, this Presbytery, the Church which he so faithfully served for upwards of ten years, and his beloved family have met with a great loss.

As co-Presbyters we would bear testimony to the greatness of his mind, the unselfishness of his character, the unyielding opposition, his fidelity in the performance of his duties, and his humble piety.

We would extend our heartfelt sympathies to the family of our deceased brother in the bereavement, praying that God's precious promise may be fulfilled unto them: "I will be a Father to the fatherless, and a husband to the widow."

May this solemn event arouse us all to greater activity in Christ's cause, to work with all our might while the day lasts."

INTERESTING RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—On the 25th and 26th inst. Rev. D. Hertz, the esteemed pastor of the German Reformed church, in East Cocalico township, celebrated his 45th anniversary of his ministry over that congregation. On Saturday fifteen persons were received into full membership, by right of confirmation, Rev. Mr. Hertz officiating. On the Sabbath the Communion of the Lord's Supper was celebrated, and was very numerously attended. A very valuable practical sermon, from the 18th verse of the third chapter of 2nd Peter. In closing his discourse he alluded, with much feeling, to the fact that at the time when he had served those before him, in a ministerial capacity, he gave a brief history of his pastoral labors, extending over nearly half a century; during all of which time he had never failed regularly to officiate, except on two occasions, when he was confined by sickness. Many of his hearers had been present at the first of these occasions, when he had been long in charge of one congregation, and there are very few ministers who can say, after a period of forty-four years, that they have lost but two sabbaths from ill health or other causes.

TERRIFIC THUNDER GUST.—The Oxford *Press* says that about 4.15 o'clock on Thursday morning last our section was visited by a very severe thunder storm. During the short time it continued—about fifteen minutes—there was almost a continuous flash of lightning and an incessant roll of thunder, accompanied by a copious fall of rain. At times the flashes were extremely vivid, following immediately by deafening peals of thunder, rebounding its prompt to the earth. Quite a number of objects were struck by the electric fluid in this vicinity, among which we have heard of the following:

A fine cow worth $100 belonging to James W. Hutchinson, Lower Oxford, was struck and killed whilst chained in the stall, beside other cows—the fluid, it is supposed, passed in at a window near which she was standing. A heifer was killed in the barn-yard of Jackson Stephens, Esq., in Elk township, whilst standing under a large and very old chestnut tree standing on Peter Caldwell's farm, in the same township, was also struck and splintered. In Upper Oxford township the lightning struck in several places,—a tree on Peter Ferry's farm, one on John Christy's, and the fence on James Lynch's property. In Lower Oxford twp., a tree in David Hayes' woods, and a fence were struck. Several trees were also struck in the lower end of Lancaster county, and in Cecil county, Md.—one in H. J. Brinckle's field near the depot at Rising Sun. The shock of the latter stunned several of the railroad hands, who were out shifting cars, one of whom was whirled around and nearly thrown off his feet.

JURORS.—The following jurors have been drawn to serve in the Court of Common Pleas for Lancaster county, commencing on the fourth Monday of May, 1868:

Sem Brubaker, Mount Joy township; Amos Brackbill, East Lampeter; Samuel Benedict, city; John Bowman, Ephrata; Philip Brehm, Petersburg; Peter Brunner, Warwick; Moore Connell, Ephrata; Ephrata; Samuel Dorsey, Fulton; John Echternacht, Paradise; Ludolph A. Frey, Conoy; Christian Graham, Bart; Robert Girvin, Bart; Dana Graham, city; Henry Hoff, Conoy; Charles E. Hayes, city; Henry Hoffman, East Hempfield; Elias Hoffman, West Donegal; Edward Kauffman, Manheim township; David Kurtz, Salisbury; Henry Kurtz, Salisbury; Isaac Mishler, city; Cyrus W. Miller, Manheim township; Jos. Masterson, Rapho; Michael H. Moore, West Hempfield; John Messner, Ephrata; Fred'k Oldweiler, Mount Joy township; James Patterson, jr., Little Britain; Clark; Phillips, city; Jesse P. Runck, East Lampeter; Abraham W. Russel, city; Michael Royer, city; Frederick Sener, city; Joel Smedley, Fulton; Simeon W. Swisher, Colerain; Johnson Stauffer, Petersburg; John D. Swift, Little Britain; Benjamin F. Shenk, city; Hayden Tshudy, Warwick; George Wilson, Maytown; William Whitman, Carnarvon.

NEW PATENT.—Samuel Ehrman, of Chicago, Ill., (formerly of Mount Joy, Lancaster county,) has received letters patent, dated April 14th, 1868, for an improved table-leaf supporter. This is a neat, cheap, durable and highly desirable invention, very convenient, and so simple that a child of twelve years of age can operate it with ease, and cannot fail to come in general use, obtained through the agency of J. Stauffer, of this city.

AN IMMENSE FLEET OF RAFTS.—The state *Guard* says that there are at Lock-Haven and above it on the Susquehannah river from five to six hundred rafts, which will begin to reach Harrisburg on to-day, and pass on to the great lumber markets lower down the river. Each one of these rafts (say there are five hundred and fifty) requiring five men to run, it will shortly throw into Harrisburg 2,750 lumbermen, all of whom will pass over the Northern Central railroad for their homes in the great lumber regions of the northern part of the State. This will make business brisk in the railroad ticket office.

Lumbermen from the Clearfield region are of the opinion that the water in the creeks in that section of the State is not sufficient to "run out" the lumber now ready there for rafting, and a very large quantity will consequently be held back for another "fresh."

HOME BUILDING FUND.—The Managers most gratefully acknowledge the following:

	Amount previously acknowledged....	$13,255 27
Hon. A. Armstrong, from A. Herr Smith, Esq.,		10 00
Salisbury, Millwood School District...		6 59
Catharine Stoltzfoose.....		50
Christian Blank.....		1 00
Mr. Lenard.....		5 00
Lancaster Lodge No. 67, I. O. of O. F...		25 00
George Gundaker.....		5 00
H. Swinehart.....		5 00
Edward Brown.....		5 00
John F. Huber, M. D.*.....		5 00
Proceeds of Concert, conducted by Mr. Gleffer.....		204 50
A Friend.....		10 00
This subscription made some months since is just received.		

FOUND AT LAST, a remedy that not only relieves, but cures that enemy of mankind, Consumption, as well as the numerous satellites which revolve around it in the shape of Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Influenza, &c. The remedy we allude to is Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry, prepared by Seth W. Fowler & Son, Boston.—*Communicated.*

O. OF U. A. M.—Charters were issued to day for two new Councils, of the Order of United American Mechanics, one to be called Fraternal Council No. 127, and to be located at Reigelsville, Bucks Co., the other to be called Pinegrove Council No. 138, and to be located at Pinegrove Schuylkill Co. Penn.

A NEW HISTORY OF LANCASTER COUNTY.—Our readers will be pleased to learn that every necessary arrangement has been made by Mr. Elias Barr, a prominent bookseller of this city, for the speedy publication of a new history of Lancaster county. Abundant material exists for the compilation of a most valuable and interesting work of this kind, and in the hands of Rev. J. I. Mombert we have no doubt it will be skilfully used. The forthcoming book is to be methodically arranged, and will embrace a full and accurate account of all historical events of permanent interest from the earliest settlement of the county down to the present time. The geography of the territory embraced will be delineated, a description being given of the natural characteristics, and of the towns, villages and boroughs. The work will contain carefully prepared biographical sketches of prominent early settlers, and of all distinguished citizens. An account of the establishment of the different courts of the county, a list of practitioners of the law, Judges, Representatives in Congress and the Legislature, and other information of a similar character is embraced in the plan of the work. A description of the rise and progress of the various religious denominations, which have had an existence in our midst, together with a list of the clergy, will be another interesting feature. The physical character of the county, with its geological formation and botanical productions, will be fully noticed. The agricultural resources of this rich territory, and the mechanical pursuits and mining operations which employ our people, will furnish material for several interesting chapters. It will embrace copies of the ancient charters and other interesting documents relating to the county, together with maps and topographical delineations of different localities. The whole will make a volume of about 800 royal octavo pages. It cannot fail to be of great interest and value.

NEW EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—A new Episcopal Church has been built in Marietta, and was dedicated on Easter Sunday last. It is an exceedingly tasteful structure, beautiful in all its appointments, and reflects great credit on the taste and liberality of the people belonging to the congregation. It is of course a much needed improvement, and helps very materially to ornament the portion of the town in which it is situated. The flourishing state of the church there is owing in great part to the Christian earnestness and spirit which characterizes a few of the members, whose example influences others in the support of the good cause. Rev. Mr. Russell, the Rector of the new church, is a gentleman of fine talents, and is fortunate in the possession of a good voice and excellent delivery. His sermons are full of interest and exhibit profound thought and Christian learning. The choir is under the able supervision of Dr. Haldeman, of Chiques, and the lady members of it are amongst the best amateur musicians of the neighborhood. The singing is therefore, of course, very fine. Music is cultivated ear, and the worship is brought out in all the "*beauty* of holiness." In all respects the church is a perfect little gem, and no doubt will become a most popular resort for the world-weary pilgrim on the Sabbath-day.

HINKLETOWN LITERARY ASSOCIATION.—The Hinkletown Literary Association met on Saturday evening, April 18, in the Hinkletown School House.

The meeting was called to order by the President, after which the "Union Glee Club" favored the Association with music.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

Mr. Ira Trail read an Essay; subject, "Thinking."

Mr. A. Fry delivered a Lecture; subject, "Signs of Physiognomy."

The resolution—*Resolved*, That a man of pleasure enjoys the world more than a man of industry—was discussed on the affirmative by Messrs. C. B. Parson, A. Fry and E. L. Boyer; on the negative by Messrs. J. G. Brenisle, W. W. Feiter and J. K. Boyer.

The paper styled "The Literary Companion," was read by the Editress. It contained quite a number of choice contributions, written by members of the Society.

The Society adjourned to meet again on next Saturday evening.

BURGLARIES.—The office of Griest & Read, in the village of Christiana, was forcibly entered on Sunday night last, and a few articles taken. The entrance was effected by forcing open the window shutters with the help of two irons, which were left behind. There was an iron safe in the office, but no attempt was made to open it.

Another robbery occurred in Salis