THE LANCASTER WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1869.

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Publication of Laws, Reports, &c.

The *State Guard* has a timely article upon the cumbersome and expensive method which has long been employed for the publication of documentary and official business. Every year large sums of money are wasted (we can use no milder term) in printing voluminous and verbose documents, some of which are franked and sent out by members of the Legislature, but many of which go to the paper makers, in the original packages, to be ground over again. Fifty years of experience in this State has demonstrated that the system of publishing unwieldy and voluminous reports for gratuitous distribution is a great tax upon the people, from which they derive no compensatory benefits. A few men receive unwieldy reports which they seldom read. The members of the Legislature confine such favors almost exclusively to their party friends, and the bulk of the community, those who pay for the printing and circulation of such matter, never see a line of it. The cost of public printing for 1868, aggregated the immense sum of *one hundred and thirty-four thousand, nine hundred and sixty-eight dollars*. In addition to this the cost of pasting and folding documents in the two houses, amounted to some *fifty thousand dollars*, and for postage about *thirty-five thousand more* were required.

That most of this money is literally wasted under the present system, nineteen out of every twenty tax payers will admit, for we are sure that not one in twenty ever receives or sees a single page of this costly printed matter. As a means of information for the masses, it can only be regarded as a specious and expensive humbug, an abuse which has grown, with the increase of extravagance in our Legislature, into gigantic proportions.

The *State Guard* suggests that the money thus wasted be applied to the publication in the newspapers of the State of carefully prepared abstracts of the reports of the different departments, and such other matter as is of general interest to the public. The press and the people ought at once to unite in demanding the passage of a law to that effect. The people are interested in obtaining such information in an authoritative and useful shape, and as taxpayers they have a right to demand that the present cumbersome, unwieldy, costly and useless system of printing and circulating documents be exchanged for something better and more economical.

The publication of the general laws of the State in a proper number of newspapers, and of the local laws relating to different counties in county newspapers, is another thing in which the public are interested. It is done in other States, and it is time the masses of Pennsylvania were afforded an opportunity to read the laws, both local and general, which they are expected to obey.

A meeting of the newspaper publishers of the State has been called to assemble at Harrisburg on the first Tuesday of February. Should there be a full turn-out on that occasion, we have no doubt some very desirable reforms can be inaugurated, which will benefit both the press and the public.

Big Thieves and Little Thieves.

There is an old saying that "laws are like cobwebs, which catch gnats and flies, while hornets and wasps break through. So it certainly is with reference to our revenue system. If a poor segarmaker attempts to cheat the Government out of a few dollars of tax, he is pounced upon by some detective and made to suffer severely; but the kings of the whiskey ring are defended by skillful attorneys, enlist the active cooperation of Congressmen, and go scot free, with half the stolen money in their capacious pockets. Detectives become blind to the gigantic schemes of plunder which are carried on under their very noses, and government officials of all grades and classes seem to be in league with the thieves. The Radical Commissioner of Internal Revenue is ready to certify the release of such offenders as Hackman, and a big pile of money, out of which the Government has unquestionably been swindled, is pocketed by somebody. The old proverb is abundantly verified, and the little thieves are caught in the meshes of our revenue laws, while the big ones, the wasps and hornets, break through and escape.

The Last Radical Outrage.

There seems to be no enormity too great for the Radicals to perpetrate. The boldness with which they override all law and evidence, when they desire to displace a Democrat who has been legally elected to office, is astounding. The last outrage of this kind in Congress is the case of Mr. Switzler, from the Ninth Missouri District, who contested the seat of a Radical named Anderson. The committee on contested elections unanimously reported against the sitting member, and in favor of his Democratic contestant. When this was done by a committee largely composed of Radicals, after a full consideration of all the evidence, we may be sure that the Democratic contestant made out the clearest kind of a case. As a general thing the report of such a committee is adopted without hesitation. Not so in this case. After a couple of intemperate speeches on the part of a couple of carpet baggers, the House deliberately voted to exclude the man who had proven himself to be legally elected, and to permit his defeated Radical opponent to retain his seat. This was done in spite of the earnest protest of leading Radical members of the committee, who, when the question of loyalty was raised, certified that they had made a full investigation on that point, and were perfectly satisfied of the loyalty of Mr. Switzler. A greater outrage was never perpetrated.

Why There Will Be No Inauguration Ball.

The true reason why the project for a grand inauguration ball was killed has leaked out. It seems that the negroes who vote and hold office in Washington were determined to be represented on this festive occasion. Having a gallery set apart for their use in the Senate and the House, being repeatedly received by public officials, having had their representatives in the Chicago Convention, being lately addressed by General Grant himself, the dandies of the Washington barber shops, and the distinguished head waiters at the hotels, were determined to figure in the mazy dance, which it was proposed to hold in the National Capitol. They could afford to pay ten dollars for a ticket admitting *a gentleman and two ladies*, and regarding themselves as the equals of the "white trash," they had already begun to engage suits of fashionable tailors and *modistes* for the occasion. The managers of the concern found out that they could not exclude the fashionable negroes, some of whom are high in office, and so they got General Grant to put his foot down on the thing. He did it, and there was an end of the Inauguration Ball.

A Big Senator.

Hon. Daniel S. Pratt, Senator elect from Indiana, stands six feet five inches in his stocking feet, and weighs 408 pounds. He was elected to the next House of Representatives at the election held last October from the Eighth Congressional District of Indiana, by a majority of 2,287. He is the largest man elected to the United States Senate since the days of Dixon H. Lewis, of Ala., who used to say that "a turkey was a very inconvenient bird, being a little too much for one man to eat at a meal, and not quite enough to satisfy two."

The Hackman Whiskey Frauds.

The whiskey ring is ubiquitous. It is not confined to any locality, and seems to embrace among its members officials of all ranks. In vain has the press assailed the monster, and in vain has President Johnson attempted to make war upon it. That the government has been swindled out of more than half the revenue which ought to have been derived from this source no one pretends to doubt. The rogues in the business have had the advantage of all honest men, and have laughed the authorities to scorn. They have rarely been detected in their villainies, or if caught, have found it an easy matter to escape punishment. That many officials shared with the rascals in their ill-gotten gains is too well-known to be disputed. Now and then a hue and cry has been raised, but the thieves seem always to have found ready means for turning aside their pursuers. A case which occurred in this county affords an instance of the manner in which thousands of such cases have no doubt been managed. We cannot give all the particulars, but enough has already transpired to enable us to unfold a story of rascality, such as ought to be sufficient to rouse public indignation. The facts, so far as we have been able to ascertain them, are as follows:

In the latter part of 1864 and the first of 1865, Abraham S. Hackman was running a large distillery at Mount Joy. Two of his employees gave information to the officers of this district, Alexander H. Hood, Collector, and James K. Alexander, Assessor, that more whiskey was being made than was reported for the payment of tax. An investigation was, thereupon, set on foot and diligently pushed. Mr. Hackman and his employees were examined under oath, the books of the concern were scanned, and inquiries were made at the depots of the railroads as to the amount of whiskey shipped from January 1st, to May 1st, 1865. The result was a discovery that about 23,000 gallons had been shipped, over and above the amount on which Mr. Hackman had paid tax. But, to be clearly within bounds, Messrs. Hood and Alexander eventually fixed the amount at 20,610 gallons, on which the unpaid tax, at two dollars a gallon, was $41,220, and they so reported to Mr. Rollins, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue at Washington. A full report of the testimony taken in the case was forwarded to the Department at that time.

Mr. Hackman, we understand immediately employed Thaddeus Stevens to manage his case, and it seems that Mr. Stevens did not think it incompatible with his duties as Congressman to engage in such business. The result was that proceedings were stayed for a while. In the meantime, and shortly after the report was made, Mr. Hackman died, leaving Henry Musselman, of Marietta, to act as his executor. One of the first acts of Mr. Musselman was to get the real estate of the deceased released from the claim of the government. This was allowed to be done on condition of a bond being given for the payment of the tax, and Messrs. Musselman and Hiestand, of Marietta, entered into security to that effect, in the sum of eighty thousand dollars. After this the real estate of Hackman was sold. Then an effort was initiated to secure a discharge of the claim of the government.

Messrs. Hood and Alexander went out of office before the matter was adjusted, and during the term of Messrs. Brown and Strickler, it lay perfectly quiet, and it was freely rumored that Thaddeus Stevens used his influence to prevent the case from being investigated until a change in officials should occur, he knowing that neither Brown nor Strickler would be confirmed by the Senate. In fact Mr. Stevens is reported to have declared that the case should never be brought up while Mr. Brown was in office. It was also rumored when a change was about being made, that Mr. Stevens was ready to consent to the appointment even of a Democrat to the Collectorship, provided he was allowed to name the Assessor, who, under the law, is recognized as the local authority to be consulted in the decision of such cases.

Immediately after Messrs. Wiley and Warfel came into office the Hackman case was again brought up, the authorities at Washington seeming to have waited patiently until prompted to push it. When attention was called to the case, it was found that the papers in relation to it, which had been on file in Mr. Rollins' office, were missing. They are reported to have disappeared simultaneously with the appearance of a certain attorney from this city, who called one day and requested the privilege of looking at them. When the officers here came to look for the duplicate of the testimony against Hackman, which had been taken by their predecessors, that too was found to be among the things that were but are not. Here was a perplexing state of affairs. A detective named Brown was sent here to look up the case, but he reported to the Department that the witnesses who had testified against Hackman before were either not to be found, or were as dumb about the matter as so many oysters. It looked much as if they had been either got out of the way or tampered with. After this report was made to Mr. Rollins he immediately began to push more vigorously for an immediate settlement of the case, and his energy at this time was in marked contrast with his former delays. He even telegraphed peremptorily about the matter to Messrs. Wiley and Warfel, a very unusual thing.—Those officers reported the loss of testimony, and the difficulties which seemed to be thrown in the way of making up a new case, on account of the removal of some and the obstinacy of other witnesses; but they affirmed their belief in the correctness of the estimate made by their predecessors of the amount of unpaid tax. Mr. Hood, the former Collector, was examined in regard to the matter, and he testified clearly to the facts as set out in the written statements which had so mysteriously disappeared, both from the department at Washington and the office in this city. He stated that the estimate of the amount of unpaid tax had been made largely from Hackman's own admissions; and from the memorandum book of the leading employee, in which an exact account of the amount of grain mashed from day to day was kept; and from the books of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, in which entries of the whiskey shipped were made. He also stated that his own estimate of the amount upon which tax had not been paid was about 23,000 gallons, but that to be clearly within bounds he and Mr. Alexander had agreed to fix the amount at 20,610 gallons. This testimony of Mr. Hood was sent on to the Department at Washington, but did not seem to be satisfactory, as Mr. Rollins continued to insist upon further investigation.

This was the condition, of matters when O. J. Dickey was elected to Congress. Mr. Dickey had been employed as counsel in the case some time previous, or perhaps from the beginning. Shortly after he took his seat in Congress an order came from Mr. Rollins releasing the estate of Hackman from the entire claim of the Government. How came this to be done? What evidence was produced before Mr. Rollins, to rebut the strong and positive testimony of fraud? What influence was brought to bear upon him? Did the officers here certify that justice required the release of Hackman's estate? We understand that such a certificate is required to be made in all such cases? Did Messrs. Wiley and Warfel sign such a paper in the face of all the evidence before them?

The people have a right to know all the facts connected with this barefaced fraud, and it is the duty of the Department at Washington to examine into it. As it now stands it looks as if Mr. Rollins deliberately agreed to allow the Government to be swindled out of $41,220 at the solicitation of Hackman's attorneys. Messrs. Stevens and Dickey may only have used such means as sharp attorneys are in the habit of employing, but it seems to us that Congressmen ought not to be engaged in such transactions. They ought not to bring their political influence to bear upon officials in this way. They hold such a relation to the Government and the people as ought to make them the guardians of the public interests. For Congressmen to engage deliberately in aiding thieves to plunder the public treasury, whether they do it merely as attorneys, or through their official influence, is an outrage of the grossest character.

This case illustrates the manner in which the government has been defrauded of immense sums of money. That Mr. Rollins is completely corrupt, the very head centre of the whiskey ring, we have no doubt. Let the honest taxpayers look at the case, the interior iniquities of which we may never know, but which presents such abundant evidence of rottenness and rascality on its surface. Let them remember that similar frauds were practiced all over the country. And let them not forget that every dollar of money out of which the government is cheated, has to be made up by the hard fisted farmers and mechanics, the producing classes of the country.

We hope the officials of this county may be able to clear their skirts of all connection with this most outrageous and infamous fraud. Until they do so they ought not to show their faces among honest men.

Cameron and Cummings.

Simon Cameron has been laboring most assiduously to secure the confirmation of Alexander Cummings, of straw hat and scotch herring notoriety, as Commissioner of Internal Revenue. He has bent all his energies to the accomplishment of this single result, and that for a special purpose. Should he succeed in securing this confirmation before Grant is inaugurated, the Winnebago Chief will at once proceed to fill all the revenue offices of this State with his personal friends. Being once snugly in place, these officials will stick like leeches, and it will be very difficult to oust them. They will speedily surround themselves with a body of adherents, and will be able in most instances to bid defiance to opposition, if they can not silence it entirely. The combination which Cameron has been able to make is said to be almost strong enough to give him a majority of votes for the confirmation of Cummings, and we expect to see him succeed. When this is accomplished he will own the Republican party of this State most completely, and his word will be the rule of the organization in all things. With Cummings as Revenue Commissioner he can control the patronage of other States to a great extent, and with such an extension of power there is no telling what he may not aspire to. He might even pack the next Radical National Convention with his adherents, and buy up the nomination for President as he bought his seat in the Senate. The Radical party furnished a good field for such speculations, being largely led by the corrupt and mercenary men who are always ready to go with the man or the party which gives them the best chances to fatten on public plunder.

The End of the Peltz Bill.

The Democratic members of the State Senate again absented themselves on Saturday, as they had done on Friday afternoon, to prevent the passage of the bill legislating Peltz, the Radical candidate for Tax Collector of Philadelphia, into an office to which a Democrat was duly and legally elected. The Radicals had telegraphed to their three absent members, and two of them returned in time for the proposed dirty work of Saturday morning. Mr. Stutzman, of Somerset, being convinced that such a bill ought not to pass, voluntarily absented himself, as the Democratic Senators had done. This left the Senate without a quorum again, and the infamous bill thus failed to become a law. The time set having arrived Mr. Melloy was duly sworn into office, and entered upon the duties of his office Monday. It has transpired that the accounts of Peltz are in disorder, and this is said to be the principal reason why so strenuous an effort was made to continue him in office. The Radicals dreaded the effect of exposure. By this action the Radical members of the Legislature, who tried to force this bill through, have earned the contempt of all honest men.

Practice vs. Precept.

Every now and then we have a proposal from some Radical source for the insertion of a clause in the Constitution of the United States distinctly recognizing God and the Christian religion. Radical newspapers and stump orators have been in the habit of boasting that their organization is a party of great moral ideas. Yet the facts show that the outspoken infidels of the country are recognized leaders of the Republican party. Theodore Parker and his whole set were always to be found in its van guard. Thaddeus Stevens, who was an open scoffer at sacred things, was its idol. And now all the Republican journals in the country, and all the super-serviceable loyal preachers are rejoicing over the election to the United States Senate of Carl Shurz, the Red Republican infidel, who denies the very existence of a God, ridicules the observance of the Sabbath, and scoffs at the Christian religion as a cunningly devised fable. Is it strange that vice and immorality are sweeping over the land with a flood tide when a great party is constantly exalting such men to power, and when they are held up as models by a mercenary pulpit, which has prostituted itself to the worship of temporary political power? Who ever heard a Radical preacher open his voice against such things? We pause for a reply.

The Franking Abuse.

The Lower House of Congress has made a deceptive show of doing something to curtail the great abuse of the franking privilege, by passing a resolution to prevent the use of *fac simile* stamps. The only effect of this will be to do away with the use of machines. The franking will go on as ever, the names of Congressmen being written by clerks paid by the government, instead of being stamped by them. It is only increasing the labor slightly. Such pretensions is usual whenever an attempt at reform is made by the Radicals in any department.

Another Large Increase of the Public Debt.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, unquestionable authority, announces that the debt statement for the present month of January will show an increase of some sixteen millions of dollars. When will the debt be paid, think you, at that rate? Let those who voted to continue the extravagant Radicals in power devote their winter evenings to cyphering out the problem.

SENATOR LOWRY, of Erie, had a stroke of paralysis yesterday while sitting at the dinner table. He is a bold and fearless Radical, and his party will feel his loss should his affliction prove serious. He is reported to be in an improving condition.

Another Attempt to Gerrymander Lancaster City.

Last Tuesday morning Senator Fisher offered a bill in the State Senate relating to elections in the city of Lancaster, which is certainly the most wonderful legislative monstrosity that ever was seen. Its title reads as follows:

"A supplement to the Charter of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Lancaster, changing the time of certain elections in said Corporation, and for other purposes."

Section 1st provides that so much of the charter of Lancaster city, dividing it into nine wards, as provides for the election of Mayor, City Councilmen, and other officers, on the first Friday in May of each year, and so much of the present law as fixes the time for electing School Directors on the last Friday of March shall be repealed; and that all officers provided for therein shall be elected on the second Tuesday of October.

The object of this portion of the bill is evidently to enable the Radicals to save money. By having all elections held upon one day, they will not be compelled to pay their repeaters and to buy votes more than once in each year.

Section 2d provides that all officers whose terms expire in 1869 or 1870, shall go out on the 2d Wednesday after the 2d Tuesday of October, 1869, and that the terms of the Select Councilmen for the 5th, 7th and 9th Wards, shall expire on the 2d Tuesday of October, 1870; provided that the commissions of Aldermen, expiring before the time therein provided, shall not expire until thirty days after said election.

Section 3d provides that the qualified electors of Lancaster city, shall on the second Tuesday of October, 1869, elect one person to serve as Mayor; that the citizens of the 2d, 6th and 8th Wards shall then elect one Select Councilman for each of said Wards, to serve for three years; that the electors of the 1st Ward shall elect at the same time *two* Select Councilmen, one to serve two years and the other to serve three years; that the electors of the 3d and 4th Wards shall then elect each one Select Councilman to serve for two years; and that the 5th, 7th and 9th Wards shall, on the 2d Tuesday of October, 1870, elect one Select Councilman each to serve three years.

The object of the above section is simply so to gerrymander the City of Lancaster as to insure the Radicals a majority in the Select Council. As that body now stands the members from the 1st, 3d, 4th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Wards are Democrats, the term of office of those representing the 3d and 4th Ward not expiring until the 1st of June, 1870. By removals and other changes the Radicals now have a majority in the 4th Ward, while the 3d is so close as to give them hopes of carrying it. The 5th Ward, which was Republican, in the meantime has become Democratic, but the Republican who now represents it is not to be disturbed until October, 1870, though by the existing law he is not entitled to hold the position, he having been elected District Attorney, and the two offices being by law made incompatible. To make assurance doubly sure this section of the proposed act provides that the 1st Ward shall elect two Select Councilmen, and the author of the bill injects false statements into its body, for the purpose of bolstering up its injustice and rascality. He states that the 1st Ward is entitled to two members of Select Council, on account of its large voting population, when the truth is that at the Presidential election it cast but seventeen more votes than the Democratic 8th Ward, and only about fifty more than several of the other Wards, and that notwithstanding the fact that there are twice as many taverns and boarding houses in it as in any other Ward of the City, and consequently a much larger floating vote.

Section 4th provides for rendering eligible to Select Council certain persons who hold other offices, and mentions by name the District Attorney, who will be forced to retire, if not thus saved by special legislation, and his Ward, the 5th, being now reliably Democratic, a Democrat would take his place.

Section 6th provides for the election of twelve School Directors, on the 2d Tuesday of October 1869, to serve three years.

Section 7th provides that no officer receiving any salary from the city shall receive any fees for the arrest or commitment of any vagrant, or any one guilty of drunken or disorderly conduct, or for any cases dismissed on account of no cause of action.

This is a most rascally clause. It not only deprives the Mayor of the legitimate powers of his office, or else compels him to discharge some of its most disagreeable and onerous duties without pay, but it gives the city up to disorder by taking away from all the police and ward constables, except one, all incentive to action. There happens to be one Ward Constable who refused to take his turn of service as a night policeman, and he receives no pay from the city. This section of the proposed act is framed with the especial design of giving him a chance to make money by picking up all vagrants. We ask any Radical member of the Legislature who may be disposed to vote for this bill to think what base uses it is proposed to put him to. We venture to say that this is the first instance on record of a State Legislature being asked to pass a solemn stationary enactment for the purpose of giving to a pet political constable a chance to put odd pennies into his pocket, by making him the only officer in a large city capable of "comprehending vagroms."

There are three other sections of this model law—one declaring vacant the seat of any member of the City Councils who is absent or late at three successive meetings without such excuse as may be satisfactory to his fellow members; another providing for the election of a City Treasurer, after the gerrymander is put through; and a concluding section repealing all acts or parts of acts, inconsistent with this inconceivably monstrous and ridiculous bill.

Some half dozen attempts have been made within the past four years, to patch up the Charter of Lancaster City, so as to insure the Radicals control of all the petty offices connected with it; and up to this time they have all proved to be complete failures. We do not think the present Legislature will be so utterly silly as to look with any favor upon this bill, which has been hatched in the brain of a briefless attorney who came to this city from York a couple of years ago. It is tenfold more disreputable and rascally, in its small way, than the Philadelphia enormities, which have provoked such indignant comment from the more reputable Radical newspapers of that city. We are sure very few respectable Republicans in Lancaster will countenance the proposed bill, and we can not think it possible that any newspaper in this city will disgrace itself by urging its passage.

We venture to say that Senator Fisher blushed when he presented it, and we do not believe he will have the face to ask its passage. It deserves to be buried in the Committee to which it has been referred, and consigned without ceremony to the sleep that knows no waking.

Delegates to the State Convention.

The Democracy of Dauphin county held a Convention on Tuesday and appointed H. S. Wilson and Dr. Lewis Heck delegates to the next Democratic State Convention, with instructions to support Gen. Geo. W. Cass for Governor, and Hamilton Aldricks, Esq., for Judge of the Supreme Court.

George A. Smith, Esq., has been appointed a delegate from Fulton county, with instructions to support Gen. Geo. W. Cass for Governor.

Cumberland county has appointed John Criswell, Esq., with instructions to vote for Gen. Cass for Governor.

The New York Senator.

Since the election of Fenton to the United States Senate his character has been thoroughly ventilated. The Commercial *Advertiser*, a prominent Radical journal, speaks of him as follows:

It is because we are familiar with the rottenness of things at Albany that we know all about Fenton and the foul birds who have nested in and about the Executive roost for the last four years. It is for this reason that Governor Fenton fears to bring a libel suit. He and his back-door go-betweens understand too well that *we* know too much, and for this reason decline to accept the challenge to come into court. We have said some sharp things against Governor Fenton—sharper than has ever been said against any public man in the country. No man can hope to associate with honorable men who ignores the charges we have made against Fenton's administration. No honest, upright citizen, much less a Governor and a United States Senator, can submit to the brand we have put upon him. We know how difficult it is to prove the paying of money to a public officer who has an itching palm. *We know how the thing is done.* We know men who for the last four years have been acting as brokers at the Executive Chamber—one who levied blackmail on the Dry Dock Railroad Company for $20,000 to obtain the signature of his Excellency—another who made the insurance companies of this city pay toll to the amount of $10,000—another who received $20,000 for Fenton's approval of the Erie Railroad bill; we say nothing about railroad and other jobs which "smell rank to heaven." These are specific charges. The men to whom the above-mentioned sums were paid were the most active and unscrupulous advocates of Fenton for United States Senator. Mr. Fenton cannot plead that these things were unknown to him. They have been notorious about the Capitol. Did Governor Fenton, like an honest man who abhors fraud and venality, discard executive brokers? Not at all; they were his tried and trusted agents in the Senatorial auction—his negotiators in fraud and partners in crime.

Thurlow Weed is the responsible editor who makes the above grave charges of corruption, and who defies Senator Fenton to prove their falsity in a Court of Justice. This is only another instance of the prevailing rottenness of the Republican party. It seems to be the same everywhere. Bribery, fraud and the most unblushing rascality abounds wherever it holds sway. How much longer will honest men continue to support it? Is it not high time that there should be a change? Are we to go on in this way, from bad to worse, until the very foundations of public virtue are overturned and all sense of honor completely destroyed? It is for the people to say.

A Cheap Way of Learning French.

Elihu B. Washburn, Grant's most intimate friend, has his eye on the Mission to France. It is said he would prefer to go to the gay and godless City of Paris, rather than into the Cabinet. Being the original Grant man, he expects to have just what he may want, and, having decided to go to Paris, he feels the need of being able to ask for bread and wine in French. So he has employed a young lady to teach him, but, not being able to be under her tuition while the House is in session, he concluded he might as well let her earn good wages by clerking in one of the Departments. The powerful influence of Grant's guardian was of course sufficient to break down all such trifling impediments as the want of a vacancy, and the young lady was assigned a desk. Next came a request from the same great authority that the new appointee should be allowed special privileges in regard to labor—that is to say, that in her particular case the rules of the Department should be waived, and that she should be allowed to come and go as she pleased. This was to enable her to teach Madame Washburn, and the little Washburns, something of the polite language of Europe. There was some difficulty about the granting of the latter request, the Secretary of the Treasury not being able to reconcile the payment of a French teacher for the Washburns by the government with his ideas of public duty. Reports say that Elihu B. got into a rage and cut up ugly about the matter. When Grant comes into power he will no doubt be able to have the tutors of himself and children and all his servants paid out of the public treasury.

A Radical Guerilla.

Elisha W. Davis took occasion the other day in the House to denounce the *Morning Post*, the *Telegraph* and the *Evening Bulletin* of Philadelphia as "guerilla sheets." Whereupon the *Telegraph* goeth for him thus:

"For our part, we accept the term which Mr. Davis has applied to us, and ask what he has done, either for the Republican party or for the people of the city, that he is not our legitimate prey? As far as we have been able to learn from the reports of the doings at Harrisburg which have reached us, *Mr. Davis has thus far during the present session lent his voice and his vote to every villainous scheme of plunder, favoritism and servility which has been brought before the body of which he is a member.* Unhappily for the interests of the people and the future success of the Republican party in this city and State, Mr. Davis is not the only man of his class in the Legislature. For the most part it is made up, as it has been made up in the past, of a set of men to whom we can apply no milder term than that of leeches—men who, as a general thing, are without visible means of support; who go to Harrisburg year after year, and there plunder the public purse and pervert the will of the people, with an amount of brazen assurance that fairly take away our breath as we contemplate it."

The *Telegraph* is as bitter a Radical sheet as is published in the country, but that does not prevent it from forming a proper estimate of the leader of the Radical majority in the House. We are glad that it has been provoked into telling the truth about Davis. Let the *Telegraph* turn its attention to other adherents of its party, and it can gain a reputation for honesty by exposing their rascalities such as it has not heretofore enjoyed.

A Deserved Compliment.

The N. Y. *World* pays the following handsome and well merited compliment to Hon. Wm. A. Wallace:

The nomination of Wm. A. Wallace for United States Senator by the Democratic caucus of the Pennsylvania Legislature was a deserved tribute, and all that it was in the power of our friends in that State to pay, to one of the most efficient working Democrats in all Pennsylvania, and a gentleman every way worthy to succeed to the chair, which Mr. Buckalew vacates next March with the sincere regret of every Democrat in Pennsylvania or out.

THE *Patriot* suggests, as the reason why the Radicals appointed so many pasters and folders, that many of the present members expect to return to Harrisburg in that capacity next year. Is that the reason why Dr. Gatchell declared that he did not desire the adoption of the proposition of Messrs. Rauch & Cochran? Do all four of our present members of the House expect to serve in the basement next winter? We pause for a reply.

THE New York *Tribune* mentions the case of a Radical U. S. Senator who has already received over six hundred applications for office. If the rest are besieged in the same way, and we have no doubt they all are, what an army of hungry fellows will swarm to Washington on the 4th of March.—There are only some sixty thousand offices to be filled, and there must be at least six hundred thousand applicants.

Acquittal of Mrs. Twitchell.

Mrs. Twitchell has been acquitted of participation in the murder of her mother, Mrs. Hill, the Prosecuting Attorney abandoning the case immediately after the conclusion of the testimony on the part of the Commonwealth. The evidence was not considered strong enough to justify further procedure against her.

Election of Senators.

United States Senators were elected by the State Legislatures on the 4th, as follows; Pennsylvania, John Scott; New York, Reuben E. Fenton; Missouri, Carl Schurz; Maine, Hannibal Hamlin; Delaware, James A. Bayard until March 4th next, and Thos. F. Bayard for the six years' term; Michigan, Zachariah Chandler; Minnesota, Alexander Ramsey; Massachusetts, Chas. Sumner.

AFFAIRS AT HARRISBURG.

Little Business Done Yet.

Rascally Jobs.

Wholesale Corruption and Petty Stealing.

Great Increase of Employees in the House.

Disgraceful Partisan Legislation for Philadelphia.

Contested Election Cases.

Election of United States Senator.

&c., &c., &c.

The casual looker on at our State Capitol would not see much of interest. The proceedings in both Houses have been comparatively dull so far. Considerable excitement was caused by the persistent efforts of the Radicals in the House to make places for the gang of worthless hangers-on that accompanied them, and by the rascally schemes which have been devised to legislate defeated candidates into office in Philadelphia.

THE LOBBY.

The lobby is not on hand in full force yet. Here and there you may see the well-known face of some member of the "third house," as the crowd of lobbymen is styled. Most of these "borers" are ex-members of the House or the Senate. As a general thing they were members of the legislative ring, corrupt, mercenary, on the make, always looking out for a chance to "get in their book," and never refusing their share of "a divy." They prowl round the hotels now, and are always ready to apply the knowledge gained by repeated sales of their own votes, to engineering through any scheme which may be presented, no matter how rascally it may be. They know the members of the present ring, know where to find them at any hour of the day or night, know how to approach them, know their value, know their price, and contract for their sale. Of course they make a fair per centage, and a shrewd professional lobbyist can make plenty of money at Harrisburg. A certain man who spends his winters here has bought one fine farm after another, on his return home in the spring, with the proceeds of a winter's work. These fellows will soon be on hand in full force. Then *business* will commence in earnest; the "snakes" will crawl out of their holes, and "roosters" will strut, and "pinchers" creep around. Up to this time the chances for stealing have not been very great, and many members are wearing rather seedy clothes and "keeping house economically." An old member received a delegation of friends the other night at his room, and, on their remarking that whiskey did not seem to be as plenty as it was last winter, he told them to "wait until *business* got brisker," remarking, with an oath, that he "never saw a session open so poorly." The Senatorship did not furnish a chance to make much of a raise, the Radical members being already owned by the Pennsylvania Central and Simon Cameron; the sum paid by certain banks for the election of Bob. Mackey as State Treasurer was mostly gobbled up by a few; and up to this date the thieves have not made much, but they are all living in hopes of a chance to steal something soon.

A SPECIMEN PINCHER.

The limited opportunities for stealing which this session has so far offered led to the introduction into the House of a most undisguised "pincher" the other day. Charles Kleckner, a Radical member from Philadelphia, offered a resolution, appointing a committee, of which he expected to be made chairman, inquiring about an excursion trip which was made by some of the officers of the North Pennsylvania Railroad last summer. The trick was so perfectly transparent as to be seen at once. This fellow Kleckner wanted to squeeze a little money out of the Company, to be paid a few hundred dollars for ceasing to harass the officers. He is a fair specimen of the kind of fellows who frequently represent the Radicals of Philadelphia. Physically he is a bull-headed, beetle-browed brute, with coarse sorrel hair, and as hirsute as Esau; his countenance indicates a combination of sordid meanness and sodden sensuality; he is densely ignorant, but brazenly impudent. He keeps a hotel on Third street, which has an unenviable reputation, being reputed to be used as an assignation house. This is his second winter at Harrisburg, and he has been elected both times by fraud. Just before each election he emptied the Alms House of its paupers and stowed them away in his hotel. He only had fifty or sixty majority last fall. He is a sample specimen of the genus "pincher."

THE PASTER AND FOLDER SWINDLE.

The outrageous swindle in the pasting and folding business has been pretty well ventilated. The people have been made aware of the fact that Messrs. Rauch and Cochran offered to do the whole of this business for one-tenth of what it will now cost. They know how this proposition to save some forty thousand dollars was unceremoniously rejected. They know too that the House persisted in repealing the resolution of last winter, limiting the number of employees to thirty-four, and that they have added twenty-seven extra employees, when the number already chosen was more than sufficient to do all the work. The refusal of the Senate to concur in this outrage did not baulk the thieves of the House. On Monday night they called Elisha W. Davis, the late Speaker, to the Chair, and proceeded to put the abomination through. Mr. Strang, the man who is recognized as the Republican leader, made a long speech in favor of the infamous proposition. Dr. Gatchell, of this county, also spoke, admitting the perfidy displayed by him in helping to kill the proposition of Messrs. Cochran and Rauch. The Democrats raised the point of order that the House could not thus summarily override the joint resolution of last winter, limiting the number of employees, and that the refusal of the Senate to concur in the proposed increase had killed it; but Mr. Davis took high ground, and decided that the Constitution of the State gave to each body of the Legislature full power in this matter, quoting the clause which says, "Each House shall chose its Speaker and other officers." This decision was received with applause, and *twenty-seven* useless officials, who will cost the State about that many thousand dollars, were summarily voted into office. This is the first time the Radicals have been known to show any reverence for the Constitution for years. What a profound decision it was, to be sure. It makes every employee about the House an officer, and determines that no law can bind future Legislatures, or prevent either House from employing a thousand useless officials, if mercenary members should decide to filch money from the State in such a way. It protects such cases as that of Illyus, and would allow any number of idle fellows to draw large salaries without ever being present at the Capitol for an hour. The *Patriot* runs its commentary in a humorous view and says truly:

"Davis thus decides that the *twenty seven* extra pasters and folders are "officers" under the Constitution, and no law of the Commonwealth can interfere with the right of the House to employ as many as it may please. Lott, who was only a member last winter—a high private merely—is now "an officer," being paster. No mere law of the Commonwealth can oust him of possession. The Constitution protects him, and Davis is its wise interpreter. The good women who sweep out waste paper, tobacco quids, and "old sojers," are not they "officers" according to this profound decision? The pages who run with such alacrity bearing water to the stentorian Strang when he harangues the House in favor of his resolution, are "officers" just as well. The useful individuals who officiate in the temple of Cloacina in the basement, and cut tissue paper, are by the same ingenious interpretation "officers"—and so is ex-Speaker Davis an officer when he temporarily occupies the chair.

RECREANT DEMOCRATS.

Several Democrats aided the Radicals in perpetrating this outrageous swindle. We are glad to know there were but five of them. Their names are Josephs, Beans, Kase, Kerr and McMiller. Josephs is more than suspected of being in constant league with the ring. Such men are a disgrace to the Democratic party, and they deserve to be indignantly repudiated. On the final passage of the paster swindle only Josephs and McMiller had the hardihood to vote with the Radical thieves. Beans and Kerr voted nay, and Kase did not vote. Let the Democracy of the State mark every man who is not perfectly honest, and let none such be allowed a chance to soil the fair fame of the party in future.

A GLANCE INTO THE CELLAR.

A glance into the basement where the pasting and folding is done, will convince any one that there was no need for the extra force employed. We saw some four fellows smoking cigars and lounging in comfortable attitudes, but only one at work. He was a big pot-bellied chap, weighing about two hundred, with huge paws, and his awkward attempts to fold and paste a small pile of documents were truly laughable. As a rule, one-half of them are always absent from Harrisburg, at home, or elsewhere, and not one half the rest are employed at any time. During the first days of the session a great fuss was made about the amount of work, and it was hard for a Democrat to get a document folded, but this was all a mere sham for the purpose of inducing a belief that more force was needed. The pasters and folders and other useless officials, when they are at Harrisburg, spend much of their time lounging before the grates in the House, or lolling on the desks of absent members, franking documents to their friends. The awkward superscription of any underling, that of "A. S. Wiper, H. R.," for instance, will carry a document just as well as the frank of the Speaker of either House. The postage bill of the Senate last year was $13,125.73, that of the House $19,350.04. This matter of free postage needs to be investigated. The other day a member of the House was noticed sending out packages on each of which the postage was five dollars, or over. Whether they contained groceries for his family, or were his shirts being sent home to be washed is not known. A gentleman who ought to know states that the number of employees now about the House is *one hundred and sixteen*, and that there is an average in the Senate of one and a half to each member of that body. Last year and year before some Radical members of the House were reported to have sons at college for whom they drew pay as employees. A cheap way of educating their boys. There is so much of this petty rascality that it would make a very long chapter to enumerate it.

ELECTION OF A UNITED STATES SENATOR.

The election of John Scott to the United States Senate attracted very little attention. Most of the strangers present came from the sleepy, little, old town of Huntingdon. The Pennsylvania Railroad sent up a splendid new silver palace car to convey its representative in the U. S. Senate to the scene of his triumph. Court being in session, was adjourned, and the whole bar of Huntingdon came down in the special train, with any number of hangers-on. The Democrats decided in caucus to support Hon. Wm. A. Wallace. This was a deserved compliment to an honest man, a vigorous thinker, an eloquent speaker, and a live young statesman. The voting in each House was very quietly done, no great crowd being present in the galleries. On Wednesday, when the election of Mr. Scott was ratified in joint convention, there were still fewer present. With the close of the caucus, in which the Pennsylvania Railroad and Simon Cameron carried matters with so high a hand, all excitement in regard to the Senatorial contest in this State ended.

RASCALLY LEGISLATION.

The Radicals have ceased to pay any regard either to law or decency. Whenever a contest occurs, in which the spoils of office are at stake, they are ready to ride rough shod over acts of Assembly and all custom or precedent. This spirit has been plainly exhibited in regard to the election cases in Philadelphia. Not only are they preparing to oust Judge Greenbank, who was unquestionably fairly elected; but they have passed an act giving the office of Collector of Taxes temporarily to the Radical candidate, and that after a majority of Republican election officers had given the certificate of election to Mr. Melloy, the Democratic candidate. The bill to take from Mayor Fox control of the police of the city will also no doubt pass. These outrages have been committed in spite of the earnest protests of such Radical journals as the *Post*, the *Telegraph* and the *Bulletin*, and the earnest utterances of the *Ledger*. A few Republicans have had the honesty to refuse to endorse such outrageous proceedings for the purpose of securing a temporary partisan advantage. When the bill preventing Mr. Melloy from entering upon his office was passed, Mr. Nicholson, of Beaver, voted against it, giving his reasons for doing so in plain words, and denouncing it as a "political blunder worse than a crime."

THE VOTE OF THE STATE.

The two Houses met in joint convention last Tuesday morning, for the purpose of receiving the returns of the State election. The vote for the different candidates stood as follows:

For Auditor General, John F. Hartranft had 331,410 votes.

Charles E. Boyle had 321,911 votes.

For Surveyor General, Jacob M. Campbell, had 331,126 votes.

Wellington H. Ent had 321,937 votes.

John F. Hartranft was thereupon declared duly elected as Auditor General for the next ensuing three years from the first Tuesday in May next.

Jacob M. Campbell was also declared as duly elected for the next three years, from the above date.

THE PROSPECT.

The present legislature has already shown a disposition to be recklessly extravagant, and has exhibited such a disregard for law and decency, that it may be safely predicted that it will pass out of existence with a worse reputation than any which has ever preceded it. When we say that, we fix the standard of infamy, corruption and rottenness.

Hon. Asa Packer and the Governorship.

We find the following correspondence between a number of prominent Democrats of Franklin county and the Hon. Asa Packer, in regard to the gubernatorial nomination, in the last issue of the *Valley Spirit*:

CHAMBERSBURG, Jan. 12, 1869.

DEAR SIR:—As the time is fast approaching when the people of Pennsylvania will again be called upon to elect a Governor, attention is naturally directed to the selection of a proper candidate. Believing, in common with many of our democratic and conservative friends, that you possess, in a high degree, the qualifications essential for the position, and that your election would redound to the future advancement of our good old Commonwealth in all that constitutes true greatness, we would request you to inform us whether you will permit the use of your name in connection with the nomination in the next State Convention. Yours respectfully.

Wm. Mc'Cellan, J. M'D. Sharpe, Geo. W. Brewer, A. H. Senseny, B. Y. Hamsher, W. S. Stenger, H. M. White, T. B. Kennedy, John Armstrong, Alex Martin, D. K. Wunderlich, Benj. F. Nead, Jacob Heyser, Geo. W. Welsh, Simon Bitner, James L. Reily, John S. Nimmon.

MAUCH CHUNK, Jan. 16, 1869.

Gentlemen:—Your favor of the 12th inst., desiring to know whether I will consent to the use of my name in connection with the nomination for Governor in the next Democratic and Conservative State Convention, has been received.

The same inquiry has been made by numerous other friends from different sections of the State, to which I have uniformly replied that I did not desire the nomination, and in view of all the cares and responsibilities to be assumed by the nominee of the convention in the event of a successful canvass, my reply to you would, if my own views and feelings were consulted, be of the same tenor. But there are due from every man, public as well as private duties, and if the Convention, after considering the subject in all its bearings, should in its wisdom decide to confer the nomination on me, I will not consider myself at liberty to decline.

With thanks for the very complimentary manner in which your partiality has induced you to bring this subject to my attention,

I am, gentleman,

Your friend and ob't serv't,

ASA PACKER.

Suicide on the Street.

Shortly after 11 o'clock last night, while Policeman Edwards was engaged in trying the doors on his post, when in Astor-place, in the vicinity of Lafayette-place, he heard the report of a pistol but a short distance away, and, turning around, saw a man lying on the pavement on the opposite side of the street. He examined the man, and found that he was dying, the ball having entered the forehead and passed upward into the brain. Death ensued in a few moments. The body was taken to the Mercer street, Police Station, where it was discovered to be that of John Fritz, a German, aged 30 years, lately arrived in this country, who has been boarding near the place where he was found. In his possession was found a note, addressed to his brother George, in care of Messrs. Strasburger & Nuhn, at No. 394 Broadway, announcing that he had packed his clothing, and settled his board bill to the 19th inst., and being tired of living, had concluded to end his trouble by taking his life. The body was removed to the Morgue. Coroner Rollins was informed of the affair, and will hold an inquest to-day.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

American International Exposition.

It will be remembered that in the report submitted to Gov. Bullock by J. M. Usher, principal agent for Massachusetts to the Paris exhibition, it was suggested that a like exhibition should be held in this country in 1876, and when the medals and diplomas were presented to the successful exhibitors, Dr. C. T. Jackson offered a resolution to memorialize Congress "to consider the propriety of inviting all nations to join with us in a grand international exposition of industrial arts, to be held at Washington, commencing on the 4th of July, 1876, and continuing that, our jubilee year," the same being a year that marks a century since the Declaration of Independence. On Wednesday, a meeting in reference to this matter was held at Boston, where speeches were made by several gentlemen, and a committee of nine was appointed to consider the subject of an international exposition in 1876, and report at another meeting what action is deemed expedient.

A TRIP TO THE SOUTH.

EDITORIAL NOTES, XII.

The Cemetery at Augusta, lying within the boundaries of the city, is large and very beautiful; its beauty is not caused by numbers of finely cut monumental marbles erected over its dead nor by any natural features of the flat ground enclosed within the walls; it comes from the luxuriant greenness of the trees and hedges, enframing the many colored flowers and brilliant white camelias that adorn the cemetery and most especially from the superlative amount of care which is bestowed upon keeping it neat and in good order. It did not surprise us to find the public walks and drives without a leaf or twig upon them, or apparently a grain of sand out of place, for this degree of care we are not unaccustomed to find in well-kept cemeteries; but we were astonished to observe the neatness prevailing in every family lot. These were very rarely fenced around with iron, but generally with an evergreen hedge, the prevalent, as well as the prettiest species used, being the euonimus. These hedges were invariably kept evenly cut, being usually trimmed with a square or slightly rounded top, at a height of about three feet. Within them the lots were in perfect order, not a weed trespassing upon the paths, nor a flowering plant showing sign of inattention, while bouquets of freshly cut flowers rested upon many of the mounds. We were told that it was the habit of one of the female members of each family in the city, to devote one morning in every week to the family burying ground; and as we walked through the cemetery we noticed, at a number of places, ladies attended by a servant and, trowel in hand, busily engaged in the work of renovation. We saw but two or three lots in the whole cemetery which were untrimmed and uncared for. Among this people love for the dead is not buried with the body.—A part of the cemetery was set apart for the burial of Confederate soldiers, who lie side by side, their names marked upon neat white head boards. Opposite where they laid the cemetery wall was loop-holed for riflemen, in anticipation of a cavalry raid upon the city. Numerous earthworks are thrown up around the town and a large military force was held here idle during Sherman's march, in the expectation that he would take this route to the sea; which he did not do.

With extensive railway and water connections, the trade of Augusta is drawn from a wide scope of country. But few boats, however, we were surprised to find, run on the river between it and Savannah. Notwithstanding the greater cost of transportation, cotton is carried to the seaport almost entirely by rail, because of its more speedy delivery. Georgia is probably the most prosperous of the Southern States, and is very rapidly recovering from the effects of the war.

We were very anxious to meet Father Ryan, the distinguished author of "The Conquered Banner," and other Southern poems of great merit, one of which, written upon the death of his brother in battle, was read to us with great feeling by a lady in Charlotte; but the Reverend gentleman was engaged in the confessional, and we were not able to see him.

We passed a very pleasant evening at the residence of Mr. Cohen, a banker of the city, whose acquaintance we had formed on the way from Columbia, through some of our party having unfortunately consumed the abundant lunch which he had provided for his own and his friends refreshment on the way. They were very good-naturedly forgiven, and he afterwards placed us under still further obligations by his hospitality. Early on Sunday morning we took the cars on the Augusta and Charleston railroad on our return to Columbia, and gradually passing into the swamps, we traveled Southeast to Branchville, about half way to Charleston, where our train was shifted to the road going North, along the Edisto and Saluda, thr[illegible] tuous swamps covered with [illegible] pine; a great deal of it valu[illegible]ber, but nearly useless because of the difficulty of getting it out of the morass. The cypress grows only in water, whose habitual depth is shown by the base of the tree, which is several times larger in diameter than the part of the trunk remaining out of water, to which it tapers as does the blunt head of an arrow to the shaft. Many of the trees were completely covered with a grey colored moss, hanging in graceful festoons from their branches. These swamps cover the entire country between here and the coast, near which along the rivers and estuaries are the famous rice plantations which used to be worth several hundred dollars per acre; now they can be bought for very little money, since it is nearly impossible to work them without forced labor. Rice is grown under water during a good portion of the season, the land being so arranged as to be flooded at pleasure. The water is let in upon it three times during its growth, the last time, which is called "the long flow," remaining for six weeks; after each flooding it must be worked, of course in deep mud, and a great deal of labor of like character is incurred in keeping up the embankments, ditches and drains. Rice planting is therefore very hard and disagreeable work, and is also very unhealthy; so that free negroes cannot be induced to work at it, and to white men it would be certain death. In slavery times, the planters could only save their slaves by the strictest regulations; they were not allowed to leave their huts until the sun, high up, had dispersed the morning mist, and they were drawn off from their work before the shades of evening began to fall. Their cabins were generally placed along the edge of the swamp, it being found, singular as it may seem, that this was a safer location than on adjacent higher ground; indicating that the miasma rises up above the swamp some distance before passing off. We believe the same fact is observed along our northern streams.

Fever and ague reigns a Sovereign Prince over all the coast country of the Carolinas, and the inhabitants do not seem at all restive under its rule. They say that it seldom kills, and as long as you have it you are pretty safe against other diseases. One man told us that all his little children had a heavy "shake" in the morning, every day or two, but it never interfered with their appetite for dinner; he had been likewise blessed all his life, until some years ago he had the bad taste to desert his old love for typhoid fever, and the ague had declined thereafter to have anything more to do with him. It is a jealous mistress, and will accept no divided allegiance. People can get used to anything, and here they have got so used to shaking that it constitutes the chief amusement of their lives, and they would be at a loss to know what to do without it.

After crossing the Saluda River just above its junction with the Catawba to form the Santee, we were joined by the Wilmington and Manchester R. R. running down from Wilmington. In the afternoon we reached Columbia, and took the cars again early next morning, having accepted the kind invitation of Col. Hammett, President of the Greenville and Columbia R. R. leading into the Northwestern corner of South Carolina, to take an excursion over the line of that road, a hundred and forty or fifty miles in length.

The road passes through the best cotton region of the State. We went up the valley of the Broad River, crossing it at Alston, where a branch railroad goes off through a fine country to Spartansburg in the northern part of the State; turning westward we passed through Newberry, the flourishing county seat of a famous cotton county of the same name, from which a branch road starts northward to Laurens; then crossing the Saluda and turning northward, we came to "Ninety-six," a place of Revolutionary fame, where we all got off the cars while the train stopped; not, we fear, because of any intense desire to tread upon ground hallowed by Revolutionary memories, but because we descried upon the platform of the station, a pretty face. Now this was rather an unusual experience for us; not that there are not plenty of pretty girls in the South, but that we did not often have the pleasure of meeting them on the streets or the high roads; they do not seem to be much given to walking about and we were compelled to seek them in the parental residence. Well, this lady at "Ninety-six," who we were first told was the daughter of the Congressman who damaged Charles Sumner's soft skull, but who we were afterwards more reliably informed was a daughter of Maj. A——, a neighboring planter, was dressed in a riding habit, which she held gathered in her whip hand as she gracefully leaned upon a bale of cotton and talked with her cavalier, while she eyed this great invasion of Northern barbarians. She created a great sensation among us, and we resolved that if we ever adopted a coat of arms, it should be a lady in a riding habit, leaning upon a cotton bale and, perchance, holding her steed by the bridle. The remorseless cars would move on and tear us away, but our susceptible hearts never ceased palpitating until we got off for the day at Hodge's Depot, to visit Cokesbury and Abbeville.

This depot had achieved a reputation a month before our visit, from its having been the scene of the murder of a negro member of the South Carolina Legislature, named Randolph, we believe. He was standing on the platform of a first-class passenger car when he was approached by three white men, supposed to be strangers in the neighborhood, as they were never afterwards recognized, each one of whom fired a ball into him. The negroes in the State generally have got the idea in their heads that this was done because Randolph insisted on riding in a first-class car, and consequently ever since they have religiously refrained from offending in like manner; but this was not the reason we heard assigned for the murder, which was that the victim had made a speech in which he declared, that a word from him would cause the destruction of the houses and property of all the white men in the State; incendiary language enough, but it should have been punished in some other way. The State has got a force of constabulary, a detachment of whom had come up, fired off a volley of musketry before the residence of a farmer for no ostensible reason but to alarm his sick wife, and had arrested two or three other citizens who had not the remotest connection with the murder by way of exhibiting their efficiency. They seemed to be afraid to move about, except in large parties, but without reason so far as we could see, since all the citizens we met were as peaceable and quiet as they well could be. Most persons, blacks as well as white, carry pistols in this country, but we walked about unarmed on the roads, and late in the evening, without meeting the slightest cause for apprehension. We walked over to Cokesbury, about two miles from the railroad, a pleasant little village, where we met Dr. Geary and several other as hospitable and clever gentlemen as it would be possible to encounter. We were introduced by them to the shoemaker of the village, a respectable looking mulatto, who was a member of the Legislature of the State, and who, wonderful to say, was and had been all his life a Democrat; he had however just resigned his position because, as he explained to us, of the disagreeable nature of his situation in the Legislature as the only colored Democratic member. The land about here is sandy, but is good cotton soil; with careful cultivation and manures a bale of 400 pounds of ginned cotton to the acre is realized; with ordinary cultivation, without much manure, perhaps not more than half a bale. The manures used are guano and plaster; lime is not used, we suppose because it cannot be had at a reasonable cost. Yet it might be furnished to this section, as we understood there was an out-croping of limestone near Laurens, not far away, and the stone is also found at the head of this railroad, near the base of the Blue Ridge; but it is not as yet burned to any extent, and the lime used for building and plastering purposes is brought from the seaports at an expense of some two dollars or more per barrel. All the ordinary houses in this country are ceiled with wood, because of its greater cheapness.

EDITORIAL NOTES, XIII.

Most of our party accepted the invitation of our friends at Cokesbury to stay with them over night, but two of us concluded to take the evening train over the branch railway, about ten miles long, running to Abbeville, the county seat, and so we walked back to the depot. While waiting for the train, we went out to see a place of 900 acres which Mr. Radcliffe, a gentlemanly storekeeper at "Hodges," told us was for sale; it was a mile away, and on the road we endeavored to overhaul a horseman to ascertain its exact locality; as he declined stopping for us we had to run fast to catch up to him, and when we did so, we found him with his hand on the pistol in his belt and realized that we had narrowly escaped being shot as highwaymen; but he was excusable on that lonely road, and night approaching, in looking with suspicion upon two men pursuing him at the top of their speed.

The farm was a fair one with ordinary buildings. Part of the land was sandy and only suitable for cotton, and the other part was a red clay, well adapted for corn, and not for cotton. We often found these two soils close together in the Carolinas, frequently as here dividing farms; in railroad cuts we would see the meeting of the two colors marked by a straight line. On this place there was a brick-kiln, although the bricks did not seem to be good, the clay having in it too much sand. A good deal of the land was "worn out," as is the case on every Southern farm. The planters have hitherto always worked their land, without attempting to keep it up, until it ceased to produce, and then they would cut down the forest and plant this new land, letting the old grow up in pines; in the course of years this worn out land would get in heart again, and the pines being cut down, it would be once more cultivated.—They thought they could afford to do this, because of the cheapness of lands and the large amounts they held. A different theory of cultivation prevails now. The planters seem now to be unanimously of the opinion that it is more profitable to manure heavily and work thoroughly a small portion of land than to manure and work lightly a much larger surface; so they are doing this and reducing the size of their farms. A gentleman in Columbia told us that by careful cultivation with less than ten dollars worth of manure he had raised off of his lot in the town, containing seven-eighths of an acre, three bales of cotton, worth to-day $330, which illustrates the truth of the new theory. Good lands with improvements can be bought throughout this county for from four to ten dollars per acre.

The day was the first Monday in the month, which is the public sale day at all the county towns; Abbeville was therefore crowded, and the mean whites, full of mountain dew, handled their pistols as though their discharge could do no harm. Drunken men flourishing shooting irons are not very pleasant companions; but on this occasion no body was hurt, possibly because they take their whiskey here without fusil oil, the fashionable ingredient at the New York saloons. A number of properties were sold during the day by executors and trustees at low prices; but these sales do not always give the real market value of property, for many of the estates are bought in for the widow or children, and it is not customary, nor would it perhaps be altogether safe for a stranger to interfere with the family arrangements, by bidding the property up to its value.

Abbeville is a pretty little village with a population of some five or six hundred, and a hotel big enough for a town of ten times its size. It lies nicely along the top of a ridge, and has in it some fine dwellings with very handsome grounds attached, the residences of planters whose plantations are in the surrounding country, but who, on account of its greater convenience, sociability and healthfulness, prefer to live in the village. This a common custom in the South.

Most of our party being ancient married men, who had exhausted the leaves of absence which their wives had vouchsafed unto them, here determined to face homeward, aided in their decision to go no nearer the mountains by the increasing cold; they therefore left us at Hodges, being conveyed southward by our kind guide, Major Gibbs, the present Superintendant of the road, and Mr. Clarke, of Maryland, and myself took the train northward to Pendleton.—The railway forks at Belton, one branch running up twenty-five miles to Greenville, its terminus, and the other, ten miles to Anderson, where it joins the Blue Ridge railroad, which is in course of construction to Knoxville, Tennessee, being the only link remaining to be finished to form a through railway connection between Cincinnati and the Southern Atlantic seacoast. East of the Blue Ridge, the road is finished some twenty-five miles to Walhalla, a flourishing German town, some ten or fifteen miles from the mountains, through which a tunnel is now being made. Another railroad is projected running from Atlanta, Georgia through this corner of South Carolina to Charlotte, North Carolina, which if made, will become part of the main line between the Northeast and Southwest, east of the mountains. It was surprising to us to observe the great activity prevailing in the South in railway matters; it entirely transcends anything we appear to be capable of in the North. Their main lines are not paying and the stock of their side lines sells for little or nothing; yet they are not discouraged from