News Items.

Pittsburg has a man with a beard eight feet long.

Imprisonment for debt has been abolished in Belgium.

Kansas has ten daily and fifty weekly newspapers.

There are said to be 12,000 gregarious in the United States.

There are 38,000 Mormons and 8,000 Gentiles at Salt Lake.

In England, a society has been organized for the protection of sea-birds.

Cattle are dying in Hardin county, Iowa, of an unknown disease.

In this country more than $2,000,000 are invested in menageries and circuses.

Alaska is to have a newspaper called the *Times*, which is to be independent in politics.

The cultivation of tobacco is said not to pay at present in Virginia and North Carolina.

A $5,000 stock company has been organized in Byron, Michigan, to suppress the sale of intoxicating liquors.

The velocipede people down East are getting aristocratic. They now call a velocipede school an "Academy."

Victor Emmanuel is said to be the best shot of all the European monarchs, and Napoleon the best horseman.

Marshall O. Roberts has presented to the Central Park, New York, a colossal statue of Columbus.

The daughter of a Stuttgurt pastry-cook, who recently married Bismark's nephew, brought him a dower of $100,000.

A cruel New Yorker wants Mr. Cresswell to order postmasters and clerks into the Confederate uniform now worn by letter-carriers.

Lord Brougham's executor has refused to pay for that nobleman's teeth, and the dentist has gone to law to get the price of them.

Horace Greely says that the darkest day in any man's career is that wherein he finds ones there is some easier way of gaining a dollar than by squarely earning it.

A Buffalo policeman smelt smoke, sounded an alarm, got out the engines, and then discovered the cause to be a smoldering cigar burning a hole through his coat tail pocket.

Dr. R. C. Primty, of Warren County, Kentucky, offers, for $10,000, to reveal what he claims no other living person knows—the precise existence of a rich silver mine in that county.

Alderman Gottschalk, of St. Louis, monopolizes the honor of being a public functionary who refuses to sit for his portrait on the ground that there are "older and worthier heads" to be "honored in that manner."

Col. John S. Mosby denies the statement of some of the Virginia papers that he has bought a farm in Bedford county, Va., to retire to. He still practices as a peaceful lawyer at Warrenton.

Prof. Halfourd, of Australia, has made the important discovery that any person suffering from the poisonous bite of a snake or other reptile may be cured by injecting ammonia into the veins.

Statistics of the recent English election show that the Marquis of Hartington paid about $7 a piece for each vote he received. John Bright got in cheaply, paying only about 25 cents for each of his votes.

Grant is an advocate of "Woman's Rights," evidently. He has already appointed four women to important post-offices—at Richmond, Virginia; Ravenna, Ohio; Sterling, Illinois, and West Tisbury, Massachusetts.

Mishawaka, Indiana, has a sensation. A bottle was seen floating in the mill-race there, the other day, and when fished out and opened was found to contain two human fingers in good preservation. The question which now agitates Mishawaka is "where's the rest of the body?"

State Items.

The Warren *Ledger* estimates the production of sawed lumber in Minnesota this season at seventeen millions of feet.

The Radicals of Franklin elected their candidate for mayor on the 19th inst., by a majority of 31. Grant's majority was 80.

A Chester, Delaware county, fell from the roof of a house a few days ago a distance of twenty feet to the ground, and was killed.

The Supreme Court has refused a new trial in the case of the Commonwealth vs. William Brooks and Charles Orme for the murder of Theodore Broadhurd.

The post-office at Tamanend was entered on the night of the 27th inst., and robbed of $25 or $30 in cash, and a large number of letters were rifled and destroyed.

At the borough election on the 19th inst., the Radicals of Marsh Chunk elected their ticket by a majority ranging from 50 to 80. Grant's majority was 157.

The Democrats of Connellsville, Fayette county, doubled their majority at the late spring election as compared with the late Presidential election.

Miss Lizzie Hostetter, a pupil of one of the schools of Perry County, spelled correctly and consecutively 1,000 words during the past winter.

Gen. Davis, editor of the Doylestown *Democrat*, formerly Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, is about to publish a history of the conquest of New Mexico.

Kauffman, the barber who shot and killed the little boy on the 6th of February last, in Pittsburg, is under trial in the quarter sessions of Allegheny county.

Two grand juries having concurred in the recommendation, the Commissioners of Clearfield county are about to take preparatory steps for the erection of a new jail.

Harry Bernard and other boys of his neighbors killed a bear on Holland Run, Cameron county, on Monday last, which, although very thin in flesh, weighed 356 pounds.

A man named John Kearney, partially demented, was run over and killed, on last Friday evening, by a locomotive at the outer depot of the Pennsylvania railroad, Pittsburg.

Wm. Master was instantly killed on Thursday last by falling from the tongue of the wagon and between the horses, while going from Lionville to the Eagle, Chester county.

The Democrats elected their candidates in York on the 19th inst., by majorities ranging from 180 to 205. The aggregate vote was nearly 600 less than in November last.

The barn of Jacob Whitman, near Hogguestown, Cumberland county, together with two cats, a number of sheep, and about $600 worth of grain, were destroyed by fire a few nights ago.

On Monday of last week a son of T. M. Landon, of Monroe township, Wyoming county, fell across a circular saw in his father's saw-mill, and it is feared was fatally injured.

Addison Azor, Charles Weber and Wm. Smith, three prisoners confined in the Allentown jail made their escape on the morning of the 23d inst. Smith was subsequently arrested.

H. C. Benham, of the firm of Christy & Benham, Pittsburg, committed suicide by hanging—his dead body having been found suspended by the neck in their warehouse on the morning of the 24th.

The Radicals of Bedford county have nominated the following ticket: Senate, G. W. Lyons; Assembly, J. L. Longenecker; Sheriff, Wm. Dibert; Prothonotary, J. W. Lingefelter; Treasurer, W. Philips; Commissioner, James Fink.

George R. Teneyke and Arthur Willoughby were arrested at Titusville on the 25 inst., charged with the forgery of an endorsement on a certificate of deposit for $200, on which the money was drawn out of the bank by the former.

On the 21st inst., Mr. E. Holley was bitten through the hand by his dog, which appeared over every indication of hydrophobia. After dispatching the dog, the tainted flesh was cut from the wound while the patient was under the influence of chloroform.

The Radicals and their negro suffrage amendment met with a severe rebuke at the recent borough election in Carlisle, the Democrats electing the Burgess by a majority of 149—a gain of 24 since the November election.

Mary Boyd, belonging to Latrobe, O., became a mother in the poor house at Rochester, the other day, whither she had been sent while on her way to Perryville, Alleghany county, where she expected to find her seducer.

Mrs. Russell, wife of Robert Russell, residing in Kellyville, whose mind is at times impaired, conceived the idea that by seasoning the soup with a little arsenic she would be economizing the family expenses, but which came very near causing two or three funerals.

The jury in the case of Kauffman, the barber, on trial in Pittsburg, for the murder of the little boy, Edward Miller, on the 6th of February, after deliberating over seventeen hours, returned a verdict of murder in the second degree on Wednesday last.

The Democrats of the borough of Bedford administered a stunning rebuke to Radicalism and its negro equality amendment on the 19th inst., by electing their entire ticket by 63 majority, after a warmly contested canvass. Seymour's majority in November was 20.

Malinda Snyder, a mute, left her father's residence in Perry county, about the 14th of March, and has not been heard of since. She is about 20 years of age, 5 feet high, and weighs about 150 pounds. Any information of her communicated to her father, David Snyder, Sandy Hill post-office, will be an act of great kindness.

Says the Beaver *Local*: In 1866, Chippewa township gave 28 Radical majority; in 1867, it cast 22 Radical majority; at the last November election, its Radical majority was 4. Last Friday, there was a fair stand-up political fight in the township, and every man on the Democratic ticket was elected by from six to eleven majority.

Hon. John Cessna has already paid his respects to his constituents of Bedford county, in the decapitation of postmasters, in this wise: Saxton, Eli Eichelberger vice J. D. Little, removed; Spring Meadow, G. D. Trout vice Israel Davis, resigned; Alum Bank, B. H. Walker vice E. F. Horne, removed; New Paris, Mrs. E. Richards vice C. S. Chrisman, removed.

An engineer named Alexander Coxton, employed at an oil well near Titusville, died on Thursday last from the inhalation of gas while leaning over a tank filled with oil. His wife was the first one to discover him, when she mounted the ladder and undertook to carry him down, when they both fell to the floor, a distance of ten or twelve feet.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, March 24.

In the absence of the Vice-President, Senator Anthony was unanimously chosen President *pro tem.* of the Senate. A bill was passed to amend the national currency act by affixing certain penalties to its violation. A bill was passed authorizing the prepayment of the interest on the public debt. The bill to repeal the tenure-of-office act was recommitted to the Judiciary Committee. At the expiration of the morning hour the bill to recognize the judicial system of the United States was taken up, and Mr. Drake resumed his argument against it. Mr. Trumbull briefly defended the bill. Mr. Williams favored its postponement, and Mr. Sawyer replied to his argument. Mr. Stewart urged its prompt passage. The motion to postpone was lost, and the bill passed. It provides that the Supreme Court shall consist of the Chief Justice and eight associate justices, and that for each of the nine judicial circuits there shall be appointed a circuit judge. At 4:40 P. M., the Senate went into Executive session, and soon after adjourned.

In the House, after the introduction and reference of a number of bills, the Speaker proceeded to call the committees for reports. The Committee on the Revision of the Laws reported a bill extending for three years the time for revising and modifying the United States statutes. Mr. Butler opposed the extension, as there was nothing being done by the Commission. The bill was amended and passed. The House then proceeded to the business on the Speaker's table. The Senate amendments to the bill to supply omissions in certain appropriation bills were concurred in. The Senate joint resolution in relation to the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad branch of the Union Pacific Railroad excited some discussion, and was finally referred to the Committee on the Pacific Railroad. The Committee on Reconstruction reported back the Senate joint resolution for a joint special committee on the removal of political disabilities, with a recommendation that it be non-concurred in. Mr. Brooks hoped that a general bill for the removal of political disabilities would be passed. Mr. Butler announced that some such bill would be introduced. The resolution was non-concurred in. After receiving various other bills on the Speaker's table the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, March 25.

In the U. S. Senate, yesterday, the substitute for the Tenure-of-Office bill was discussed and passed, as printed elsewhere. Senate then went into Executive session and soon after adjourned.

In the House, the Committee on the Civil Service was ordered to be continued. Various bills were introduced and referred. The Senate bill to incorporate the National Junction Railroad Company was discussed at some length and finally passed.—Mr. Butler, from the Committee on Reconstruction, reported a bill for the organization of a provisional government in Mississippi. The bill authorizes the re-assembling of the mongrel convention, elected under the act of March 21, 1867, which convention shall appoint a provisional governor, and frame a new constitution to be submitted to the people. Mr. Beck moved to amend by authorizing the President to appoint the provisional governor, and spoke at length in support of his amendment. Mr. Lawrence replied. At 2.45, the House, without action on the bill, adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 26.

In the U. S. Senate yesterday an effort was made to take up the bill to enforce the fourteenth constitutional amendment in Georgia, but Mr. Sherman succeeded in having the bill supplementary to the national currency act considered. The pending amendment was that offered by Mr. Wilson, authorizing an increase of $50,000,000 in the issue of circulating notes. Mr. Sherman explained in detail the provisions of the bill. The propriety of withdrawing the surplus banking circulation from the Eastern States for the benefit of the South and West, was debated at some length. Without acting on the bill, the Senate, at 4.40 P. M. went into Executive session, and soon after adjourned.

In the House, the Committee on the Revision of Laws reported a joint resolution relative to steamboats and other vessels owned in the loyal States; providing that the act prohibiting the Court of Claims from taking jurisdiction of claims arising in the rebellious States, shall not apply to vessels impressed into the service of the United States, where the claimants can prove their loyalty at the time the claim originated. The joint resolution gave rise to considerable discussion but was finally passed—yeas 87, nays 80. Mr. Butler introduced a bill to reconstruct Georgia. Referred. At half-past two the House took up the bill to provide for, the organization of a provisional government in Mississippi, and was addressed by Mr. Wood in opposition to the bill. He made a plain forcible argument against the measure. At the conclusion of his speech the bill was laid aside and the House proceeded to the business on the Speaker's table. The Senate amendments to the House bill repealing the Tenure-of-Office act were taken up. Mr. Butler moved to refer to the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Logan offered an amendment that all civil offices filled by appointment of the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, prior to March 4, 1869, shall become vacant on June 30, 1869. Mr. Washburne opposed the Senate amendments. Mr. Pomeroy favored concurrence. Mr. Butler declared the Senate substitute worse than the original Tenure-of-Office act, and argued against concurrence. The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 27.

In the U. S. Senate yesterday a bill to continue in force the act extending the charter of Washington, was reported from the Committee on the District of Columbia, and passed; also, a bill to provide for paving Pennsylvania avenue. The joint resolution for the relief of actual settlers upon certain lands in Kansas passed. Mr. Sumner called up the bill to carry into effect the terms of the convention of July 4, 1868, with Mexico, and it was passed. The supplementary currency bill came up as unfinished business, and was discussed by Messrs. Wilson, Sherman, Conkling, Williams, Sprague, Morton and Fessenden. After some further discussion, the Senate went into Executive session and soon after adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Banks, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a joint resolution declaring the sympathy of the people of the United States with the people of Cuba, and expressing the hope that a constitutional support to the President of the United States whenever he may deem it expedient to recognize the independence of the island; recommitted. A joint resolution passed for the transfer of $75,000 from the Treasury to the government printing office. After the morning hour, Mr. Cessna, from the Committee on Elections, reported in the contested election case from the Twenty-first District of Pennsylvania, that John Covode has the *primâ facie* right to the seat pending the contest. Mr. Paine, in behalf of four members, made a minority report that the papers submitted do not show a *primâ facie* right in either claimant. Mr. Burr, in behalf of himself and Mr. Randall, made a report concurring generally in the views of the minority, but submitting some special views. Mr. Butler called up the motion to reconsider the vote by which the Tenure-of-Office repeal bill was referred, and a lively debate followed between Messrs Butler, Wood, Eldridge, Farnsworth, Garfield, Logan, Bingham, Niblack, Woodward and others. Finally, the vote of reference was reconsidered, and the House refused to concur in the Senate amendments by a vote of 99 to 70. At half-past five the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, March 30.

The Senate, yesterday, took up and passed the joint resolution continuing the pay of enlisted men at, the present rate until June 30, 1870. Also, a joint resolution dropping from the army rolls officers absent without leave. A message was received from the House announcing its non-concurrence in the Senate amendments to the bill repealing the Tenure-of-Office act. Mr. Trumbull moved that the Senate insist on its amendments, and Mr. Grimes moved that it recede. Mr. Davis read a constitutional argument in support of the latter motion. Mr. Trumbull spoke at length in support of his motion to insist. Mr. Morton said he would vote to recede. Mr. Sprague said the Tenure-of-Office act was wrong, and ought to be repealed. Mr. Howard declared himself opposed to the repeal.—Mr. Howe made a long argument in favor of the act. The motion to recede was lost by a vote of 37 to 20. The motion to insist and ask a conference committee was then agreed to. At 6:30 the Senate went into Executive session, and soon after adjourned.

In the House, under the call of the States, various bills were introduced and referred. A resolution was adopted reciting that, on the 3d of March, bonds were issued to the Central Pacific Railroad on account of the construction of certain sections of the road, and that these sections were not properly constructed, and instructing the Committee of Pacific Railroads to investigate the matter and recommend such action as it may deem important. Mr. Morgan offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Ways and Means to report a bill to exempt salt, tea, coffee, sugar, molasses, matches and tobacco from taxation and imposing a tax of two and a half per cent. in gold on all government bonds. Laid on the table by a party vote. The House then proceeded to the consideration of the business on the Speaker's table. The Senate bill to amend the judicial system was debated at some length. A substitute, reported from the Judiciary Committee, was finally adopted. The substitute provides that the Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and eight Associate Justices. At 4:35 the House adjourned.

The Civil Tenure Act.

A special telegram to Forney's *Press* gives the following account of the present status of the Civil Tenure Act:

WASHINGTON, March 30.

The Senate to-day agreed, after some debate, to the appointment of a conference committee on the disagreement of the two houses regarding the civil tenure act. Messrs. Trumbull, Williams, and Grimes were appointed on the part of the Senate. The House committee has not yet been appointed, but it is fair to presume that General Butler, Judge Bingham, and some prominent Democrat, perhaps Judge Woodward of Pennsylvania, will be selected, as it has been an invariable rule in that body to have both parties represented on such committees, as well as the bodies of the disagreeing factions. It is, therefore, probable that the result of the committee's consultation will be a dead-lock, as Messrs. Grimes of the Senate, and Butler, and the Democrat of the House, will never agree to anything but a repeal, while Messrs. Trumbull, Williams and Bingham will be equally uncompromising in their support of the Senate bill. The prospect of a speedy settlement of the muddle is consequently not very encouraging.

Another Horrible Murder in Philadelphia.

Joseph W. Smith, Janitor of the Hall at Sixth and Girard avenue, was found dead last Friday, at the hall, under circumstances which make it doubtful whether it was a suicide or a murder. When discovered he was lying upon a large chest, with a quilt wrapped around him and a four-barrelled Sharp's pistol close to the right hand. Only one of the barrels had been discharged, and the ball had entered at the right temple, penetrating deep into the brain. Around the neck of the deceased was a red sash, wrapped tightly three or four times about it, and over that a white handkerchief tied tightly behind the neck, partly covering the mouth. The feet were fastened with a piece of bedcord, not both together, but the cord was tied around each leg, and extended from one to the other.

The hands were tied together, much in the same manner, except that there was a play of about nine inches, which first led to the impression that they had been so tied to admit of the man shooting himself. Very soon after the body had been found, the detective officers were telegraphed for, and they, with the Chief of Police and Lieutenant Jacoby, made a very thorough examination of the place. Close to the chest, upon which deceased was lying, a bench had been overturned, and his watch, and several dollars in small change were found. There was no appearance of a struggle having taken place.

The cord tied around the wrists and legs was part of a long line used at the hall, and the balance of it was on a shelf over the door in the Janitor's office and bed-room. A small tin box, used as a contribution box by a religious society which meets in the hall, had apparently been forced open, but that may have been done previously. In the meeting room was a Liberty cap in an unfinished state, and the deceased had evidently been sewing it during the afternoon, as he made a remark to a friend that he had to get one ready for a ball in the evening.

Late last night Dr. Shapleigh made a careful examination of the head and the pistol shot wound; also of the cord tied around the wrists and the legs, together with the sash and handkerchief around the neck, but he said that it was not thorough enough to enable him to determine to his own satisfaction whether it was a murder or a suicide.

The manner in which the cords were tied seems to rebut the presumption of murder, for the reason that a murderer would not have risked discovery by taking so much time to do what could have been done as effectually much sooner. The fact of a pistol having been used to take life is also against the belief of murder. The janitor occupied the second floor, and the discharge of the weapon was heard on the street. It is unaccountable that any one intending to destroy life should have taken so much pains to tie him before shooting him, and no murderer would have tied him afterwards. The report of the pistol was heard at four o'clock in the afternoon, or a few minutes before, and the dead body was not found until between seven and eight. Deceased was 28 years old, and was unmarried. He had been janitor of the hall, with the exception of a short time he was in the army, for nine years.

He was a temperate man, of good disposition, and never had any difficulties with. He was subject to epileptic fits, but had not had one for several months. It is not known that he had any enemies, nor that he had any trouble which might have led him to commit suicide.

The deceased kept a stock of fancy dresses to hire for balls and parties, and in the morning it appears a young man called and hired a dress, and was to call in the afternoon to get it.

During the afternoon, Mr. Smith left the hall and went to the pawnbroker's establishment of Wolf and Bros. near by, where he got a $5 note changed, and said some one was waiting for him. Nothing was then heard of him until the hall was entered in the evening, when he was found lying as discovered. Smith slept in the ante-room of the hall, in which the contents of a large trunk were found scattered about the floor. The latter plan she now collects more revenue, more cheaply, and with incomparably less pressure on the people, than she ever could by the former.—*Free Trade League.*

Patrick Dunn's bedroom, in Williamsport, the other night, was entered and his pockets rifled of a gold watch and $200 in cash.

Latest by Telegraph!

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, March 30.

SENATE.—Mr. Howard presented a memorial of the Baltimore Universal Peace Association, recommending kind and just treatment of the Indians.

Several petitions for the removal of political disabilities were presented and referred.

Mr. Wilson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a joint resolution for the protection of soldiers and their heirs, by providing for the payment of pensions in person, and not through attorneys or intermediaries. Laid over.

Mr. Wilson from the same committee reported a bill continuing the Freedmen's Bureau Hospitals at, Richmond, Vicksburg and Nashville, and they were recommitted for a future examination before the Committee who will show that Smith had reason to fear an attack, and that he had the pistol in his pocket on the afternoon of the murder. The last theory in respect to the finding of a pistol is, that after Smith had been tied, he succeeded in freeing his hands sufficiently to get the pistol from his pocket, and that then it was snatched from him and discharged at his head.

Public Grants.

It is rumored that impecunious members of the eight or ten different Grant clans in Scotland are coming by the ship-load to this country to fill the subordinate positions in the custom-houses, post-offices, departments, and bureaus of the United States. The glad news has gone at road that all the Dents, all the Caseys, all the Simpsons, all the Sharpes; all the relatives, near and remote, of the Grants, Dents, Caseys, Simpsons, and Sharpes; and all the "old friends" of all these families, have been provided for. Consequently, it is understood that the General intends to fall back upon the original Grants for fresh supplies, and so the Scotch Grants are scratching around, for means to pay their passage to America. We advise them that it is no haste about it. Covington, Kentucky, has been surprised by the advent of one B. F. Winans, who arrived from Clermont county, expressly to take charge of the Covington Post-office. Wonder arose when it was discovered that Winans had married a niece of General Grant. So, in addition to the Caseys, Cramers, Simpsons, Dents, Sharpes, their relatives and friends, here we all the Winans type to be provided for, and thereafter the near and remote connections of the Winans, and then the old friends of Winans. Really, it looks as if there was no end to it. It simplifies office-seeking and office-getting very much. The old old signature and red-tape business merges into the mere question of family ties.—*N. Y. World.*

Death of James Harper.

James Harper, the senior partner of the well-known New York book publishing firm, whose death on March 27th, 1869, in consequence of injuries receive by being thrown out of a carriage, is announced was born at Newtown, Long Island, N. Y., in 1795. His father was a respectable farmer with whom he remained until the age of 16, receiving the ordinary common school education of the period. In 1811, James Harper and his brother John went to the city of New York, and apprenticed to the business of printing. In a short time both the young men became excellent compositors, and on the expiration of their apprenticeship, by a steady course of sobriety, economy and hard work, had acquired a small capital. With these scanty means, in 1816, the two brothers started a printing establishment in New York city, under the name of J. & J. Harper. The business of the Harpers was confined solely to printing pamphlets and books ordered by booksellers, and the type-setting and presswork was principally performed by the two young men. Wesley and Fletcher Harper were then apprenticed to the firm, which rapidly came into public notice, and soon built up a large and prosperous business.

In 1822, Wesley Harper was admitted to the partnership, which adopted the name of Harper Brothers. Fletcher Harper subsequently became a member of this eminent publishing house whose reputation has extended over every country where the English language is spoken. James Harper at one time took a decidedly active part in politics, and in 1844 was elected Mayor of New York. In 1845, he retired from public life, and after that time devoted his undivided care and attention to the supervision of the publishing house of Harper Brothers. Although seventy-four years of age, James Harper remained in active business life until the day of the accident which has terminated his existence. He enjoyed robust health, and exhibited the mental activity of a much younger man. Personally he was a high-toned gentleman, generous and charitable, a firm friend and warm-hearted sociable companion. The announcement of his death will be received with deep regret by a wide circle of friends.

A Radical Thief.

The Treasury Department is in receipt of information that the United States Marshal for Georgia has absconded with one hundred thousand dollars of public money. It appears that he had collected the money as fees of his office, and instead of depositing it to the credit of the Government, put it in his own pocket. He has fled the country, and the general impression is that he has gone to Cuba with his plunder. Efforts will be made by the proper authorities to ferret him out, with a view, if possible, to recover some of the money.

Twitchell.

Father Abraham concludes an article on Twitchell, thus:

In regard to this particular case of Twitchell, we cannot and do not say that he is innocent, but, we do say, that we cannot feel satisfied as to his guilt. We have, what we consider, a reasonable doubt, and until this doubt is removed we cannot feel that the right man is going to be hung in Philadelphia on the 8th of April next.

Another Radical Outrage.

The Joint Legislative Committee in the Thayer-Greenbank contest terminated their meetings yesterday with a decision so utterly absurd, that partisan malice will fairly overleap itself in this *injudicial* proceeding. Judge Greenbank had been elected an Associate Law Judge of the District Court of Philadelphia by one hundred and twenty-five majority; the testimony before the Committee in regard to "the legal votes cast" increased his majority to two hundred and nineteen; the Radicals on the Committee admit that Greenbank's majority was an increased one. For political purposes, the majority have deliberately thrown out from the count five large divisions of the city giving a Democratic majority of 1900 votes, and have thereby disfranchised three thousand honest voters of both parties, representing a population of about twenty thousand people. Heretofore no court has been willing to disfranchise a district of voters; the fair plan was to show alleged irregularities at a poll, and then require the contestant to call his voters. In the present case about sixty illegal votes were shown to have been cast for *somebody*, and although no attempt was made to prove that they were cast for Greenbank, the committee guess that they were so cast and wickedly use that guess as a pretext for excluding these divisions from the court. There was no proof that the election officers knew of any illegal voting. The election officers before the committee that they had required every unassessed voter to duly prove his qualifications before voting. The contestant did not attempt to show the contrary thereof; he produced no window lists used at the election, although these were open for examination, and could have been presented to the committee in the first week of the investigation. Under these circumstances no court would inquire further in regard to the vote. No attempt was made to show that Greenbank received more than *four* illegal votes; the incumbent showed by positive and unquestioned witnesses that one hundred and fifty votes had been polled in *other* divisions for Thayer. A report based on these facts would not have suited the men who take this and other opportunities to rob the people of their rights, and put upon this committee, who before stood high in public confidence, have prostituted justice in her own courts, by throwing out whole divisions, for the purpose of figuring up a majority large enough to overcome that by which the present mayor and other officers were elected in Philadelphia last fall. The shot will fall short of the mark. The municipal contests are before judges there, who know and will honestly interpret the law. No remedy exists for Judge Greenbank in an appeal to the courts, we hope that these inquitous proceedings may be reviewed and the unjust report declared to be mere waste paper. The Radical majority in the Legislature laugh at the cries of the people. There was one honest Republican upon this committee; the majority of it declare their contempt for popular elections, and set up their own will against the expressed will of a majority of the people of Philadelphia.—*Harrisburg Patriot.*

British Taxation.

Nearly the whole revenue of the British empire from customs is derived from seven articles, and ninety-six and a half per cent. of the revenue from excise comes from spirits, malt and licenses. The figures for customs for the last two years are these:

	1867.	1868.
Sugar and Molasses.	£5,647,787	£ 5,582,473
Tea	2,658,716	2,827,317
Coffee	397,190	390,161
Corn, Meal and Flour	797,639	889,323
Spirits	4,173,993	4,236,993
Wine	1,391,192	1,468,993
Tobacco and Snuff	6,455,011	6,542,250
Other Imports	577,696	581,481
Sundries	200,838	104,580
Total Custom	£22,299,066	£22,664,061

The British income tax is a little more than two per cent., but yields, in gold, just as much as ours; and the whole revenue of the kingdom is considerably less. In excess of the United States, although we tax some hundreds of articles where Great Britain taxes one. Yet the resources of the two countries are not practically very different in amount.

England has tried both plans; first, that which we follow, of adjusting universal taxes so as to protect and help everything; and secondly, that of selecting a few articles to tax, so as to be considerably relieved. By the latter plan she now collects more revenue, more cheaply, and with incomparably less pressure on the people, than she ever could by the former.—*Free Trade League.*

Burning of Steamboats.

ST. LOUIS, March 30.—In addition to the Steamboats Ben Johnson, Henry Adkins, Carrie F. Kountz and G. B. Allen, reported as having been burned last evening, the destruction of steamboat property proved to be still more serious. The Fannie Scott after floating down the stream was taken across the river by the steamboat Jennie Lewis, where both grounded. While in this situation the steamboat American, which had taken fire from a mass of burning upper works that had floated from one of the steamers first burned, drifted against the grounded boats and all three were burned to the water's edge. The total loss cannot be less than $250,000. The G. B. Allen was owned by A. P. & C. W. Keiser, and valued at $30,000. The Benjamin Johnson was owned by Captain Benjamin Johnson and valued at $25,000,—insured for $12,000. The C. F. Kountz was entirely new, owned by Capt. W. J. Kountz and valued at $20,000.

From Gettysburg.

GETTYSBURG, Mar. 30.—This unusually quiet little town was startled to-day by rumors of a conflict of authority at the Katalysine Springs, which appears to be founded on the following facts: The proprietor re-entered and forcibly expelled from the premises the agents of the New York Gettysburg Springs Company, to whom he had leased the Springs, sticking up posters announcing his re-possession and the forfeiture of the lease for breach of contract. In addition he placed men in the bottling establishment to hold it, and has on duty an armed guard to perambulate the grounds at night. The agents of the Spring Company are said to be rallying their forces to regain possession, and serious consequences are apprehended.

From New York.

NEW YORK, March 30.—Judge Barnard, of the Supreme Court, to-day issued an order directing the Sheriff to break open the safe of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, in order to get at the books and papers.

Local Intelligence.

TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS.—The following returns have been received by the Prothonotary since our last:

RAPHO TWP.—(*52nd Election District.*)

Inspectors—Benjamin B. Brant, 36; John Kready, 16; George Baker, 14.

Judge—Jacob Good, 32; Emanuel Eby, 33.

Assessor—John B. Breneman, 64.

Justice of the Peace—John Kover, 1; Samuel Shelly, 2.

Constable—Isaac Kover, 47; John Hummer, 10.

Supervisors—Samuel K. Kover, 64; Martin Metzler, 64; Benjamin McCutchen, 2.

School Directors—George Eby, 66; Henry Metzler, 56; Benjamin McCutchen, 8.

Auditor—Levi Shank, 64; J. Metzler, 2.

Clerk—John K. Martin, 64; George Buch, 2.

PENN.

Inspectors—B. E. Gibble, 74; S. J. Beard, 69.

Judge—John Greybill, 139.

Assessor—C. G. Boyd, 123.

Justice of the Peace—J. G. Erb, 134.

Constable—Jacob Blocher, 87; Daniel Felker, 51.

Supervisors—C. S. Reist, 136; P. M. Will, 130.

School Directors—H. S. Snavely, 138; James Boyd, 140.

Auditor—J. L. Dommy, 111; C. Bomberger, 22.

Clerk—J. Busser, 142.

BARN BURNED.—The barn, belonging to Capt. A. D. Rockafellow, situated on the Millersville turnpike, in the Eighth Ward, near the city limits was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday afternoon between 3 and 4 o'clock. The barn has just been built and contained a quantity of hay and straw which was destroyed. The horse, wagon, harness, and some other articles of value, which were in the barn, when the fire occurred, were saved. There was no insurance upon the building or its contents and the loss falls heavily upon the owner. The Fire Companies were promptly at the scene of the fire with their apparatus, but owing to the distance of the building from a water plug, they could do nothing towards extinguishing the flames.

The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. A negro boy who lives with Capt. Rockafellow, states that just previous to the breaking out of the fire he saw a boy named Edmund Rice, run away from the barn. This suspicious conduct on the part of Rice led to his arrest, and he was on Monday, in default of $500 bail, committed by Mayor for a further hearing, which will took place next Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, and resulted in his being discharged he having proved an alibi.

SHERIFF SALES.—Sheriff Frey sold on Saturday afternoon the following real estate:

The property of Christian Leib, in Mt. Joy Borough, consisting of a house and lot of ground was sold to Joseph Detweiler for $500.

The property of Henry K. Sherbahn consisting of 2 acres of ground with a brick yard thereon (situated in Mt. Joy twp.,) was sold to Emanuel S. Shirk for $100.

The property of John A. Eurwright, in Lancaster twp., consisting of 5 acres of land with two houses and a brewery thereon was sold to Jacob K. Shenk for $3,000.

The property of John Clepper, in East Donegal twp., consisting of house and lot of ground was sold to Henry Fletcher for $430.

The property of J. H. M. Rindlaub and George Welland, jr., consisting of a lot of ground and house, in the borough of Elizabethtown, was sold to George Byrod for $850.

The property of Mary McCombs, in Martic township, consisting of a one-story house with six acres of land, was sold to John B. Good, Esq., for $110.

The property of Martin Thatcher, in Drytown, Raphotownship, consisting of a house and lot of ground, was sold to Jacob C. Gerber for $560.

The property of Egnatz Keiffer, in Manor street, this city, consisting of a house and lot of ground was sold to Henrietta Kiefler for $810.

The property of Victor E. Kasser, on East King street, this city, consisting of a three story house and lot of ground, was sold to Henry Strobel and Felix Senn, for $1900; subject to a mortgage for $2,000.

PERSONAL.—We copy the following from the Reading *Daily Times*:

Capt. Alfred Sanderson has severed his connection with the *Eagle*, *Gazette* and *Adler*, newspapers of this city. We understand Mr. Sanderson will leave Reading, a matter we are sorry to hear, for we look upon him to be honorable, a matter of consideration in the editorial world of this city, a good journalist, a whole-souled gentleman.—Wherever Mr. Sanderson may locate, the fraternity of quill drivers will find a hearty "a hale fellow well met."

Mr. Sanderson is well and favorably known in this city and county, and was formerly one of the editors of the *Intelligencer*. He has ability and experience as a journalist and has our best wishes for his success wherever he may locate.

CANE PRESENTATION.—The Reading *Times* states that on Saturday evening last, the numerous friends of Mr. Alfred Sanderson, late editor of the Reading *Gazette and Democrat*, met at Mennerchor Hall, that city, and expressed their appreciation of his services by presenting him with a beautiful cane. The attendance was quite large, and the hall was beautifully fitted up with flags and other emblems, giving the affair quite an imposing appearance. Eloquent and appropriate remarks upon the regretted departure of Mr. Sanderson for his new sphere of labor at Pottsville were made by Hon. J. Lawrence Getz, Hon. Hiester Clymer, Daniel Rhoads, Esq., Louis Richards, Esq., Hon. J. G. Davis, Charles W. Keim, E. H. Shearer and others.

The cane is a most beautiful one, of ebony tipped with silver, with a very handsomely carved head ornamented gold band, upon which is the following inscription: "Presented to Alfred Sanderson by his friends and admirers, Reading, March 27th, 1869."

THE HEBREW PASSOVER.—The Passover of the Hebrews was begun on last Friday evening, and was celebrated by the people of that faith in commemoration of the escape of the Israelites in Egypt, when the angel of the Lord passed over the land and smote the first born in every house, the lintels and door-posts of which were not sprinkled with the blood of the Paschal Lamb. The observance of the Passover commences at about the time of the escape from bondage of the Jewish people, and it has from that time been faithfully observed by them. During the Passover only unleavened bread is made use of by the Jews, and numerous ceremonies of a character suitable to the occasion, which in one of rejoicing, take place in their Synagogues. The Passover continues for the term of eight days, and the use of the unleavened bread by the Israelites is symbolical of the fact that in their hurried exodus from Egypt they did not have time to prepare kneaded bread, but were obliged to subsist on that which was unleavened.

EASTER SUNDAY is a movable feast, being the first Sunday after the full moon, which happens upon or next after the twenty-first day of March, the vernal equinox; the period during which Easter occurs extends therefore from March 22d to April 25th—thirty-five days. From this feast—the Christian Passover—are calculated all the other movable feasts, as well as the fasts, observed by Christians. In ancient times it was customary at Easter to give the children red-colored Easter eggs; the eggs being a symbol of resurrection, and the color indicating the blood of Christ as the ground of our redemption. The Easter egg is a relic from this that the custom of having eggs on Easter, at the present time, is derived.

IMPORTANT TO GROCERS.—To prevent grocers throughout the country from getting into trouble through inattention or ignorance of their obligations under the revenue laws, with respect to articles which require to be stamped, we would remind them that the law requires that articles subject to stamp duty, whether imported or of home manufacture: Sardines, anchovies, prepared mustard, syrups in bottles, jams, jellies, meat and fish sauces of different kinds, catsup and other pickles, olives, anchovies, sauces, syrups, prepared mustard, jams and jellies are subject to stamp according to the weight of each package; a one cent stamp if package does not exceed two pounds in weight, and a stamp of an additional cent for every pound or fraction of a pound in excess of two pounds in weight. The penalty for each offense is fifty dollars. Dealers should bear this in mind, and if they find any doubt, should send and get a copy of the internal revenue regulations, thus saving them much trouble and expense.

NEW PATENT.—Julius Bodon, of Columbia, Pa., has received letters patent for a new and useful improved Automatic Boiler Feeder, dated March 23d, 1869. The nature of this invention consists in making the expansive property of metals available in opening a valve to admit water to a boiler, when it sinks to a certain level, and shut off again after sufficient water has been admitted, operating with certainty and efficiency, governed by the amount of water within the boiler, without the attention of the engineer. Obtained through the agency of J. Stauffer, of this city.

REVIVAL AT LANDISVILLE.—A correspondent of the *Church Advocate* states that "the recent protracted meeting at that place has resulted in 30 conversions, the same number of accessions, and 25 baptisms. A large Sunday School has also been organized. The protracted meeting continued about five weeks,