News Items.

Sailed for Europe, on Saturday, the steamship Europe.

The population of New York is estimated at 1,118,767 souls.

The Welland Canal will be opened for navigation on the 21st inst.

The United States steamer Contoocook is lying off the mouth of the Mississippi river.

The salvage on the Princess of Wales and her cargo, at Key West, amounts to $3,000.

Confederate General Ripley is in bankruptcy in London. His debts are $185,000, and his assets are nil.

The election of Schurz to the Senate will not bereave the St. Louis *Westliche Post* of his quill.

Miss Polk, niece of the late Bishop-General, has won the brush of a fox by hard riding after the hounds in Georgia.

Horace Greeley promised the people of Hudson, Massachusetts, that he would soon stop his lyceum lecturing business.

King William has given Von Moltke a gorgeous sword in recognition of his services in the campaign against Austria.

Over $425,000 have been voted by towns on the Upper Mississippi river to the St. Paul and Chicago railroad.

A convention of anti-ritualists, opponents of the Episcopal Bishop of Chicago, will be held in that city next June.

A negro named Langston, is delivering an eulogy upon the late Thaddeus Stevens, in the small towns of Pennsylvania.

George Francis Train writes to the *Revolution*, advising Susan B. Anthony to take a Turkish bath.

Edward Pierrepont, the new United States District Attorney of New York assumes the office next Monday.

The business portion and many residences in the town of Madison, Georgia, was destroyed by fire on Thursday night. Loss heavy.

The New Albany and Chicago Railway was sold on Thursday, at Monticello, Ky. The bondholders of the road are the purchasers.

W. Weir, a Montreal broker, lately engaged in exporting silver, has made an assignment, owing to the failure of subscribers to fulfil their engagements.

J. G. Bonner and Alonzo C. Emmons have been held in $5,000 bail in Boston, on the charge of passing counterfeit fractional currency.

The funeral services of the late Sir Edward Cunard and George F. Nesbit in New York, on Saturday, were very impressive and largely attended.

A splendid propeller, called the Jay Gould, was launched at Buffalo on Thursday. She will run in the Erie Road line of propellers.

Charles Dickens is suffering from the "scriveners' palsy," a malady affecting the muscles of the arm and hand in consequence of long use of the pen, and is able to do but a small amount of work.

In Dayton, Ohio, on Monday, a young fellow named Patrick Hessian, in a drunken fit, beat his mother over the head with a chair, fracturing her skull in two places.—Her recovery is doubtful. The young Hessian was arrested and put to jail.

Negro militia are being organized by the Radical State authorities in South Carolina, and the Adjutant and Inspector General of the State, F. J. Moses, Jr., has gone to New Haven, Conn., for the purpose of purchasing two thousand Springfield rifles.

Brevet Brigadier-General B. Magnuder, formerly of the U. S. Army and latterly of the C. S. A., is lecturing in Washington upon "Mexico, Maximilian, Carlotta, Spain and Cuba." Large audiences, including many members of Congress, greet his efforts.

A steamer, with 120 men and war material for the Cuban insurgents, is reported to have sailed from New York a few days since. It is also understood that a strong expedition, under a well-known American leader, has gone to Cuba from a Southern port.

A salute of fifty guns was fired Friday evening at Federal Hill, Baltimore, by the German Catholics, in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the priesthood of Pope Pius IX. Festives were held Friday in all the Catholic churches in commemoration of the same occasion.

At Jarrettsville, Harford county, on the 10th inst., a young woman named Cairnes suddenly appeared on the porch of the hotel crowded twenty persons, and shot a man named Kelsey dead, firing three shots from a revolver. He died soon after. The cause alleged is seduction.

The New Reconstruction Bill.

The following is the full text of the act authorizing the submission of the constitutions of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas to a vote of the people, and authorizing the election of State officers, provided by said constitutions, and members of Congress, as approved and signed by the President on Saturday:

Be it enacted, &c., That the President of the United States, at such time as he may deem best for the public interest, may submit the constitution which was framed by the Convention which met in Richmond, Virginia, on Tuesday, the 3d day of December, 1867, to the registered voters of said State, registered on the date of said submission for ratification or rejection, and may also submit to a separate vote such provisions of said constitution as he may deem best. Such vote to be taken either upon the said provisions alone, or in connection with the other portions of said constitution as the President may direct.

Sec. 2. That at the same election the voters of said State may vote for and elect members of the General Assembly of said State and all the officers of said State provided for by the said constitution and members of Congress; and the officer commanding the district of Virginia shall cause the lists of registered voters of said State to be revised, enlarged and corrected prior to such election, according to law, and for that purpose may appoint such registers as he may deem necessary, and said elections shall be held and returns thereof made in the manner provided by the acts of Congress commonly called the "reconstruction acts."

Sec. 3. That the President of the United States may, in like manner, submit the constitution of Texas to the voters of said State at such time and in such manner as he may direct, either the entire constitution or separate provisions of the same, as provided in the first section of this act, to a separate vote, and at the same election the voters may vote for and elect the members of the Legislature, and all the State officers provided for in said constitution, and members of Congress. Provided also, that no election shall be held in said State of Texas for any purpose until the President so directs.

Sec. 4. That the President of the United States may, in like manner, as he may deem expedient, direct either the entire constitution, or separate provisions of the same, as provided in the first section of this act, to be submitted to a separate State election, and at the same election voters may vote for and elect the members of the Legislature and all the State officers provided for in said constitution, and members of Congress.

Sec. 5. That if either of said constitutions shall be ratified at such elections the Legislature of the State so ratifying, elected as provided in this act, shall assemble at the capitol of said State on the fourth Tuesday after the official promulgation of such ratification by the military officer commanding in said State.

Sec. 6. That before the States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas shall be admitted to a representation in Congress, their several Legislatures, which may be hereafter lawfully organized, shall ratify the 15th article which has been proposed by Congress to the several States as an amendment to the constitution of the United States.

Sec. 7. That the proceedings in any of the said States shall not be deemed final or operate as a complete restoration thereof until their action respectively shall be approved by Congress.

Murderous Attack on a Peaceable Man by a Band of Negro Ku-Klux.

(From the Nashville Banner, March 25.)

We learned yesterday of a piece of highhanded devilitry being perpetrated on Night before last, some thirteen miles from the city on the Lebanon pike. James Owen, an industrious negro, rented last year a piece of ground from Mr. Thomas Jenner, for cultivation, and by dint of hard labor managed to accumulate the snug little sum of $1,000. Some time since, Owen, who in the meanwhile was being looked upon by the less fortunate of his color in that neighborhood in an envious light, was unceremoniously ordered by a party of negroes recently arrived from Mississippi, and who were working one of the adjacent farms on shares, to leave the neighborhood immediately or forfeit his life as the result of disobedience. This peremptory order he refused to comply with, and on night before last the party, composed of Sam Patton, Tom Gurney, and his two sons, all colored, armed to the teeth, visited Owen's house, and with loud oaths demanded admittance, and that too in the dead hour of the night. But Owen refused to open the door, whereupon they attempted to break it down. He then fired two shots at the assailants, which caused them to leave the front of the house in hot haste. They then went to the back of the cabin and began knocking the chinking out so as to shoot him through the wall. At this juncture he ran out at the door and attempted to escape. The infuriated besiegers pursued him with demoniacal yells and fired several shots at him, one of which took effect in the back of his head, but he continued to run until he fortunately escaped. He came to Nashville and swore out a warrant against the perpetrators on yesterday. He also called on General Cooper, in company with his counsel, and asked that a detachment of militia be sent out to aid the civil officers in arresting the offenders. General Cooper consented, and the squad will leave the city this morning. Thus we see that Ku-Kluxism is not confined entirely to the so-called "disloyal."

From Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, April 12.—A meeting of American and Cuban ladies was held here on Saturday evening, to express sympathy for those struggling for Cuban independence. Leading members of similar Juntas in Philadelphia, New York and elsewhere were present. Hon. Charles E. Phelps and others addressed the meeting.

The steamer Cuba sails to-day on her regular trip.

Robert A. Douglas, colored, tried for arson, was acquitted.

Cuban refugees are rapidly increasing here, and they may be seen in all directions. They are mostly of the wealthy classes, and sympathize with the rebellion.

State Items.

Meadville, Crawford county says that her industrial school has proved a success!

Armstrong county is agitating the temperance question.

Great damage was done in Susquehanna county by the recent freshet.

Tioga county has but three licensed hotels. Potter county has not even one.

Bucks county thinks she is an oil basin, and parties have commenced operations.

Altoona, Blair county, is troubled with incendiaries.

The workmen at the Pennsylvania State Works, in Northampton county are on a strike.

A. J. Butler, Esq., Chief of Police in Pittsburg, having been elected an alderman has resigned the former position.

Christian Curren has taken the contract for building the new jail at Mauch Chunk, for $60,000.

Lewisburg, is to have an insurance company. Application has been made to the Legislature for an act of incorporation.

Bradford county dairymen are just now engaged in a hot controversy as to the relative merits of Tioga or Bradford cows—which gives the most milk, etc.

Allegheny City has taken a decided step in the right direction. She is determined to suppress the dog and disorderly-house nuisances.

A man named Hertzog was struck by a passenger train at Tipton, on the East Pennsylvania Railroad, on Thursday last and injured, it was supposed fatally.

On the 1st of April a man named Abraham Kelly, a resident of Allegheny township, Somerset county, committed suicide by hanging himself in his barn.

William Hill, a boy aged 16 years, son of Jacob Hill, of Oley township, Berks county, committed suicide last Sunday by hanging himself in his father's barn.

George Thomas, late a resident of Gettysburg, a tanner by trade, and having a family, recently disappeared, under circumstances giving rise to suspicions of foul play.

Thomas Ford and Austin Fadden, were, the former fatally and the latter seriously wounded on Friday last, by the premature discharge of a blast in mine No. 1 at Olyphant, near Scranton.

Mr. A. Shively, of Easton, was instantly killed, on last Thursday afternoon, on the track of the Belvidere Delaware road, opposite Easton, by being run over by a loco motive.

It. Clayton, Wm. Donahue and Thomas Johnson were committed to jail in Bellefonte, one day last week, for assaulting the conductor on the train from Tyrone to Bellefonte.

W. Kendrick, of Philadelphia, and J. Johnson of Akron, O., ran a foot race at Pittsburg, on Thursday last, for a wager of $300, which was won by the former. Distance, one hundred yards.

Recently a lad named Jesse Hendricks, late of Eddyville, N. Y., while playing on the Union Pacific Railroad, near the borough of Hendrickson, was run over by a train of cars, injuring him so severely that he died the next day.

On last Sunday afternoon a handsome Bible was presented to a little girl, Miss Macie Brunner, of Columbia, as a prize offered to the Sunday school scholar that would bring the greatest number of new scholars to the school during the year.

The grading, masonry and ballasting of forty-seven sections of the Pittsburg and Connellsville railroad, making ninety miles in all will be let on the first of May next. These forty-seven sections lie between Connellsville and Cumberland.

Some days ago, Sharon, Mercer county, was horrified by a report that a man after eating half a pound of sausage died. The man who first circulated the report neglected to say that the individual in question had not died, but dyed his whiskers.

The remains of a woman named Louisa Hengel, in an advanced state of decomposition, was found on Wednesday afternoon last by some boys in a shed back of dwelling No. 1021 North Front street, Philadelphia. Neglect was the cause of her death had been discovered.

One day last week the people of Allegheny City, standing at one of the wharves of that place, were horror-stricken to see a man deliberately jump from the end of a coal boat into the river. He was not drowned. He did it merely to create a sensation, and it is but just to say that he accomplished his object.

The laborers on the Baltimore Central railroad, who were receiving their pay at the rate of $1.50 per day, struck for higher wages week before last, demanding $2.00 per day. A large number of negroes were mustered in Philadelphia, says the *Jeffersonian*, and passed through Chester to take their place.

The Delaware and Lackawanna railroad company are busily engaged in constructing a second tunnel through the Manunkachunk mountains, below Delaware station, for the accommodation of their double track. The new tunnel is entirely separated from the first, by a partition of solid rock being left between the two. A large force of workmen are engaged and the tunnel will soon be ready for use.

Malinda Snyder, daughter of David Snyder, of Liberty Valley, Perry county, left home on Sunday, March 11, 1869, since which time she has not been heard of. She is a mute, about 20 years of age, short, light hair, blue eyes, full-faced, about five feet high and weighs about 150 pounds. Any information as to her whereabouts will be thankfully received by her father, whose Post Office address is Sandy Hill, Perry county, Pa.

The Hanover *Spectator* says, that Mr. Jacob Wolf, residing in the vicinity of Abbottstown, Adams county, died on the 19th ult., at the extreme age of *one hundred years*. He had twelve children—seven living and five dead; grandchildren, sixty-five living, fifteen dead; great grandchildren, 265 living, 26 dead; great great grandchildren, three living—making 240 living and 46 dead, or a total of 286.

A few nights since a robber entered the dwelling of a Mr. Hendricks, Montgomery county, and robbed it of an overcoat and some other articles of clothing, entering the sleeping apartment of Mr. H., and abstracting $140 from his pocketbook, which he took from and afterwards returned to his pantaloons hanging from the bed-post, and all without disturbing the repose of the owner.

On Friday, the 2d inst., a gentleman lost two one thousand dollar notes in the borough of West Chester. After searching and waiting for the finder, he went home, offering a reward of one hundred dollars if the money was left with his friend Col. Guss. On Monday evening, the fourth day after they were lost, the two missing notes were found by a negro boy, who said he found them on Friday evening, near the banking house where they were received by the loser. If anybody thinks there is anything in this incident calculated to establish the negro's character for honesty, they must be very verdant. Thousand dollar bills in the hands of a negro would look rather suspicious.

Particulars of a Horrible Murder.

CHICAGO, April 9.—A despatch to the *Times* from St. Paul gives the details of the horrible murder which occurred on Wednesday morning in Oakdale township, ten miles from that city. A farmer named James B. Grey, well known in that section, in a fit of insanity killed his wife and four children, the latter consisting of two boys aged eighteen and eight, and two girls aged five and three years. The murderer was about forty years old, a large and powerfully built man, and has many relatives in the neighborhood. He has lately been suffering from deafness, and grew insane over it. The deed was committed about daylight. The neighbors heard Mrs. Grey scream, and going to the house found the wife and four children cut to pieces with an axe, and the murderer endeavoring to hang himself. He was arrested and lodged in the St. Paul jail, where it required three or four men to hold him. In answer to inquiries he would only reply, "I killed them all with an axe—oh hang me." The wife was murdered first, being cut in the head and stabbed several times. The children were then murdered and placed in a row on the floor, their throats so badly cut as to nearly sever the heads from the body. The murderer had evidently chopped their heads with an axe, mutilating them so as to render recognition almost impossible. The prisoner at intervals of the paroxysms of maniacal fury made a statement detailing the particulars of the murder. He says his motive was that he feared he was coming to poverty, and the family would be left destitute, and so thought it would be better to send them to Heaven at once. The prisoner tried to beat his brains out several times, by jumping against the sides of his cell.

Pickpockets on the Floor of the House

Last Friday evening a gentleman from Philadelphia repaired to the Capitol to witness the proceedings of the House the last night of the session, and being admitted to the floor by courtesy, grew weary about midnight, and laid down on one of the lounges in the Hall. When he awoke, about 5 o'clock A. M., the House was still in session, but his watch had been stolen from his pocket—having been detached from his chain, and his hat, which he laid on the floor near by, was also gone. He immediately made inquiry, and instituted search for the missing articles, but they were not to be found. He could not believe that he had been robbed in the "House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled," but so it was and he left the Hall about daylight, with a handkerchief over his head, in quest of a hat store. It has been notorious for several years, that the Treasury has been plundered by the majority of those who annually assemble at the Capitol, but this is the first instance, I believe, where a gentleman's pocket has been picked in the Hall of Representatives. No wonder, poor Halpine, in his appeal to John Morrissey, said:

These politicians deal from a faro-box
false-bottomed w' springs o' patent "steal."

From San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 12.—Honolulu advices to March 20th report that the ship King Phillip was nearly destroyed by fire on the 13th ult., in the harbor of Honolulu. The fire was the work of an incendiary. One of the foremast men were arrested on suspicion. The King Phillip was owned by Glidden & Williams, of Boston, and was under charter to load with guana at McKeans Island of the United States.

The U. S. steamer Ossipee was in port.

Capt. Killett, one of the oldest foreign residents on the Island, died March 7th at Kauai.

Storm at Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 11.—A violent northeast storm, accompanied by snow and sleet prevails here to-day. A large number of vessels, among them two ocean steamers, are in the roads for the harbor.

F. G. Jewett, the missing banker of Skaneatles, N. Y., is reported to be in Canada, and his money is safe.

The steamer G. A. Thompson was sunk by a snag, near Pine Bluff, Arkansas, on Friday night, and seventeen lives were lost.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, April 7.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Cragin, from the special committee, made a report in regard to the Senate employees, recommending retrenchment. The report shows that the official expenses of Senators are about three times as much as those of the members of the House. A bill to aid in the construction of a branch of the Central Pacific Railroad to Portland, Oregon, was taken up and discussed by Messrs. Williams, Conkling and Corbett until the expiration of the morning hour, which brought up the joint resolution to protect the interests of the United States in the Union Pacific Railroad. Mr. Stewart continued his remarks. At 3:55 the Senate went into executive session and at 4:30 took a recess until 7:30 P. M. In the evening session the bill to extend the time for the construction of the Little Rock and Fort Smyth Railroad; a bill removing political disabilities, and a bill for the relief of Blanton Duncan, of Kentucky, passed. The Senate then resumed consideration of the joint resolution to protect the interests of the United States in the Union Pacific Railroad.

In the House the bill providing for taking the ninth census was explained by Mr. Garfield. It was afterwards considered by sections for amendment, and then passed. The Committee on Elections reported that John Moffet, the sitting member from the Third district of Pennsylvania is not entitled to the seat, and that Leonard Myers, the contestant, is also; that Mr. McCrane claiming a seat from the Fifth Congressional district of Louisiana, is not eligible to a seat in the House. The House, at 3:45, went into Committee of the Whole on the Senate amendments to the Indian appropriation bill. Mr. Dawes proceeded to give the history of the new Indian treaties, for which the Senate amendments provided appropriations. Without disposing of the bill the committee arose, and, at five o'clock, took a recess until half-past seven. In the evening session the consideration of the Indian appropriation bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole. After a lengthy debate a substitute for the Senate amendments was adopted. It appropriates two million dollars, to be placed at the disposal of the President, to maintain the peace with the various tribes not otherwise sufficiently provided for. The committee then rose and, at 10:15, the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 8.

In the United States Senate, yesterday, Mr. Trumbull called up the bill to amend the judicial system of the United States; several amendments were made and the bill now goes back to the House for concurrence. The bill to aid in the construction of a branch road of the Pacific railroad to Portland, Oregon, passed. The expiration of the morning hour brought up the joint resolution to protect the interests of the United States in the Union Pacific Railroad; but, on motion of Mr. Fessenden, it was postponed, and the deficiency appropriation bill was taken up. A number of amendments were acted upon, and the bill passed. A committee of conference was appointed on the Indian Appropriation bill. The Vice-President laid before the Senate a message from the President, urging Congress to reconstruct Virginia and Mississippi before adjourning. At four o'clock the Senate went into Executive session.

In the House, a bill was passed to repeal the first section of the act of March 26th, 1868, amendatory of the judicial act of 1789. The Senate bill to renew certain land grants made for railroad purposes in Alabama, passed with amendments; also, the Senate bill in relation to the Burlington and Missouri river branch of the Union Pacific Railroad. The House then proceeded to the consideration of the Indian appropriation bill, and the amendments of Congress, their Legislatures must ratify the fifteenth amendment. After a brief debate the amendment was agreed to. Several verbal amendments were made, the sixth section was stricken out, and an additional section adopted declaring that the proceedings of any of the said States shall not be deemed final until approved by Congress. Messrs. Davis, Stockton, Bayard and other Democratic members, and some of the Radicals, denounced the bill, as amended, in strong terms. The bill then passed—yeas 44, nays 9. The bill to declare and fix the status of Judge-Advocate of the Army passed. The bill to compensate steamboat owners of steamers taken for the use of the government, during the war, was discussed.

At 4:45 P. M. the Senate went into Executive session. In the evening session, the bill to protect the interests of the United States in the Pacific Railroad was discussed.

In the House the Senate amendments to the whiskey and tobacco tax bill were nonconcurred in, and a Committee of Conference requested. Under a suspension of the rules, the bill to provide for the publication of the opinions of the Attorney General, and for other purposes, was passed. Although the newly elected members from Connecticut had not received their certificates of election, a motion was agreed to allowing them to be sworn in. The Radical members from that State were accordingly sworn in. At half-past one the House resumed consideration of the Myers and Moffet contested election case. After two hours discussion, the House, by a strict party vote, gave the seat to Myers, who was accordingly sworn in. The contested report on the deficiency bill was agreed to. A resolution was adopted allowing Mr. Moffet $180 in full, for expenses in prosecuting his claim to his seat. A bill removing political disabilities was discussed. Pending a vote on its passage the House took a recess. In the evening session the bill to facilitate the payment of bounties was passed. The bill to remove political disabilities was taken up and passed—yeas 97, nays 47.

WASHINGTON, April 10.

The Senate remained in executive session Friday night until 4 A. M., when it resumed the regular session and passed the conference report on the amendatory tax bill, and then adjourned until ten o'clock. Upon reassembling the bill relating to the Attorney General of the United States was amended and passed. Mr. Morton moved to take up the resolution to pay the Senators from the reconstructed States from the commencement of the second session of the Fortieth Congress. The discussion was continued until twelve o'clock, when the President *pro tem* (Mr. Anthony) declared the Senate adjourned without day.

The House resumed its session at 10 A. M. on Saturday. Mr. Banks offered a resolution expressing sympathy with the Cuban republican movement, and notifying the President that he would have the support of the House whenever he might deem it advisable to recognize the sovereignty of the people of Cuba. This resolution was agreed to—yeas 98, nays 25. An effort was made to take up the contested election case from the Fourth District of South Carolina, but the Democrats prevented it by dilatory motions. The joint resolution relative to a site for a new building for the State Department passed. Several other unimportant resolutions were agreed to. The Speaker appointed a committee on the part of the House to wait on the President and inform him that, unless he had some further communication to make, the two houses were ready to adjourn. Several attempts were made to introduce various resolutions, but objections were made. Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, reported that the committee appointed to wait on the President had performed that duty, and that he informed them that he had no further communications to make. The hour of 12 having arrived, the Speaker declared the House adjourned without day.

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General Stoneman's Report on His Commands in Virginia.

General Stoneman, late commander of the first military district, alias Virginia, made a report to the Adjutant-General, at Washington, on the 31st ultimo, giving an official statement of his administration, especially in connection with the measures for replacing those civil officers who were disqualified, by persons who could take the test oath of office prescribed by act of Congress July 2, 1862. After reciting the means which had been used under his direction by the agency of the military commissioners throughout the State, and by a board of officers of high rank, which was organized on January 25, to pass upon all applications, with a view of filling the offices in the State of Virginia made vacant by joint resolution of Congress, passed February 8, 1869, he gives the following as the results, as shown by the records:

Number of offices in the State, 5,446; number filled by General Schofield, 532; number filled by General Stoneman, 1,972; number able to take the oath, 329; number of vacancies yet to be filled, 2,613.

Gen. Stoneman adds:

"How many of those recently appointed will not accept, cannot qualify or will be unable to furnish the requisite bonds remains to be seen, and this number should be added to the vacancies yet to be filled. In accounting for the very small number of persons in the State who can take the test-oath of office it must be taken into consideration that Virginia was one great battle field during the war; that there was small chance for escape from the rigors of the conscript laws; that nearly every man was directly under the eye and control of the Confederate Government, and that at some time or other nearly every one gave aid, countenance, counsel or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility to the government of the United States; and besides, once having engaged in the war, probably no portion of the Southern people, old and young, male and female, were more earnest in its prosecution.

"The conclusion will force itself upon every intelligent mind that if, with all the efforts that have been made and the latitude that has been allowed, the offices in the State have not been filled by competent persons, they certainly cannot be filled when the restrictions of any one party are to be observed and complied with, as will be the case upon the adoption of the proposed constitution, under which it is desired by some that the people of Virginia shall be forced to live, and to the requirements of which they are expected to conform. As to the character and qualifications of those appointed, though they are not in all cases what could be desired, yet they are in the main the best the material afforded. The results which would secure them recognition and an office. Discretion was necessary in making selections from that class. Very many who were known to have been Union men before, during and since the war, have not found it compatible with the dictates of their consciences to subscribe the oath required by law, and the services of such have been lost to the State

"My definition of loyalty to the government has been more comprehensive than the one adopted by some political lexicographers who have undertaken to define it. Some, and those only, who were willing to pledge themselves to vote for this or that candidate for some high office—the number of the loyal thereby being inversely proportionate to the number of candidates."

This is the report of one of the most intelligent, and efficient officers the government has had in its service during the war or since. The bill was intended to oust every Governor of Virginia, civil or military, since the war must have made him cognizant of—that the offices of that State cannot be filled by competent persons if the requirements of the test oath are adhered to.

General Stoneman reports the financial condition of the State as, all things considered, good as could be expected, but its material interests are not prospering. In regard to internal improvements, all schemes and propositions looking towards the sale of any of the State's interest in either of the railroads have been incontinent, and the principles of consolidation and co-operation established by the last Legislation of Virginia observed.

In the administration of civil affairs he says he has not lost sight of the fact that civil law still exists in the State, and that the courts of justice were open to all alike; nor of the other fact that the people of Virginia were still citizens of the United States, and as such were amenable to the laws, and entitled to their protection.

The following testimony to the good order which has prevailed and still prevails throughout Virginia, is of special value, and having been so lately submitted to the attention of the government, may not have been before the public for consideration. President Grant to Congress recommending a constitutional election in Virginia, with the separate vote on the most objectionable articles. With such facts as these, confirming as they do the testimony of West, Stoneman's predecessors, and the testimony founded on personal observation, of President Grant himself, the persecution of Virginia ought certainly to cease:

"The general quiet and good order that has existed throughout the State since my last report, and even now exists, is, under all the circumstances, worthy of special notice, and particular attention.

"The only two cases of disorder worthy of mention, and which warranted military interference, are the one in Lee county, in the southwest corner of the State, a point in dispute between the States of Virginia of Tennessee and Kentucky, and the other near Norfolk. The first was caused by the conduct of a set of fugitives from justice from Kentucky and Tennessee.—Orders were issued to secure the peace. They left the State, and quiet was restored.

"The other was caused by a misconception on the part of the negroes living on some farms abandoned during the war by the owners. The negroes were made acquainted with their duties, and no further trouble with them is anticipated."

A Congressman Hunted Down.

The following sketch from the pen of Don Piatt, the Washington correspondent of the *Cincinnati Commercial*, has been made the subject of a very spirited caricature in *Harper's Weekly:*

I was at work in my room yesterday, when a tall specimen of upright humanity stalked in.

"Are you D. P.?" it asked.

Since mustering upon my vocation of correspondent—I mean a truthful, independent correspondent—I regard that question with suspicion. I quietly reached out, and in a careless, graceful manner put my right hand on a paper weight, which happens to be made of "black-diamond-homogeneous cast-steel, bent cold," for the use of the learned Committee on Commerce, and regarded my visitor closely.

He was a man, about fifty-six, with a bald head, curious, sharp little eyes, an undecided nose, and chin that retreated into the Harrisburg turnpike, stopped last evening at John Sides' Hotel, at the Pennsylvania Railroad Depot, and asked for something to eat. After Sunnings had satisfied his appetite he proceeded to pocket two solid silver spoons which were in two mustard bottles, and concealing them in the lining of his coat, was proceeding to make a hasty exit from the premises. Before he left, however, the spoons were found to be missing, and a search of Sunnings being instituted, they were found in his possession. The prisoner was then locked up in a room and a policeman sent for to arrest him; but when the policeman arrived it was found that Sunnings had escaped out of a window and since then has not been seen or heard from. It is now most positively informed that the thief was Sunnings we would infer that Beast Butler, the prince of spoon thieves, had stopped in our city on his way to Yankedom from Washington, as Congress has recently adjourned.

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The middle chapters are Romans 13 and 14.

The middle verse is Acts 17, 17th verse.

The least verse is John 9, verse 35th.

The 21st verse, chapter 1, of Ezra, has all the letters of the alphabet.

The 19th chapter of the 2d Kings, and chapter 37 of Isaiah, are both alike.

SOME CHESTNUT TREE.—C. Waltz, a short time since, cut down a chestnut tree on the farm of C. S. Shuman, in Manor township, which takes down anything of the kind we have yet heard of. It was a little overseven feet across the stump, and made ten cords of wood, ninety very large posts and three wagon loads of chips. It is said that the tree was about one hundred and fifty years old. Mr. Shuman has two similar trees, one of them he thinks is a little larger than the one above described.—*Columbia Spy.*

Notwithstanding the occasional cool blasts, the buds are beginning to swell, and the trees will in a short time be covered with leaves; the genial weather of Spring cannot now be much longer deferred.

Local Intelligence.

IMPROVEMENT.—The present Spring has evinced that the disposition to build and improve has not by any means ceased to exist among some of the citizens of plodding old Lancaster. The noise of the hammer is now heard all day long in our principal streets, and the demand for houses and for handsome store fronts has given rise to a gratifying spirit of improvement on the part of real estate owners. Our Lancaster mechanics have in many instances acquired a fine reputation for the superiority of their work, and consequently are constantly in receipt of orders for new supplies of their manufactures. Lancaster, situated in the midst of one of the most fertile counties of the United States and convenient to all that can promote the growth of a city, would, if sufficient enterprise were manifested by her citizens, soon attain a prominent position among the enterprising, growing and wealthy manufacturing cities of our State and nation.

THE FIRE.—A fire broke out on Wednesday about 4 o'clock, in the roof of the double frame building in East Chestnut street, a short distance east of the Penn'a Depot, this city, belonging to Mr. John Best, of this place, and Mr. Benj. G. Getz, of Mountville, this county. The western portion of the building was occupied by Mr. Frank J. Steinhauser, and the eastern portion by a widow lady named Mrs. Albright. The part of the building where the fire originated was that in the occupancy of Mr. Steinhauser, who was so unwell that, when the fire occurred, he had to be assisted from the house. The firemen were promptly on hand with their engines and soon checked the further progress of the flames, which for a time threatened to destroy not only the dwelling house but also the large frame foundry located west of and separated from it by an alley. The damage done to the furniture of Mr. Steinhauser by water is estimated at about $300; the furniture of Mrs. Albright was not nearly so much injured. The loss of Messrs. Best and Getz is about $600, as they had recently gone to considerable expense in repairing and repainting the building—all of which work will be necessary to be done over again. Their loss is covered by an insurance of $1,000 in the Lycoming Fire Insurance Company. The origin of the fire is accounted for in different ways—some suppose it to have occurred from a defective flue, others that it was caused by a spark from the chimney or one from a locomotive on the Pennsylvania Railroad, which passes near the building. The building had a shingle roof.

THE HOUSE IN MIDDLE STREET.—We notice that Dr. Benjamin Mishler is pushing with commendable energy the construction of the house to be built in thirty hours, adjoining the Lion Brewery, in Middle street, this city. The contractors have a large force of hands at work and the building, 18 by 40 feet in size, was at noon to-day constructed up to the second story. The carpenters have the roof on the first and second stories and have erected a stairway. The plasterers are now at work in the first story, and the painters are also engaged in painting the outside of the building. Dr. Mishler seems good pluck, and we know as he knows no such word as fail. A large crowd of interested spectators were witnessing the progress of the work at the building to-day.

DEATH OF AN OLD AND ESTEEMED CITIZEN.—Mr. Peter Long died at his residence in this city, on Wednesday last, in the 82nd year of his age. The deceased was a well-known citizen, having carried on business near the same location in North Queen street, since the year 1804, and until within the past few months he might have been seen in this store almost daily, though not actively engaged in business. The deceased was never married. Few men live to such an advanced age, and still fewer continue steadfastly engaged in business for such a long period of time. He was an elder brother of Henry C. Long, and leaves behind him a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn his loss.

HYDROPHOBIA—*A Mad Dog at Large in Our City.*—The dreadful disease of hydrophobia still exists in the State, and that alarming extent in many portions of our country has at length made its appearance in Lancaster. The disease is not only propagated by the dog, but also by other animals that may be bitten, and in this way its ravages are widely spread and involve even man himself in madness and death. It appears that one of the many worthless curs that infest our city, exhibited on Sunday morning very decided symptoms of hydrophobia, and running through the streets succeeded in biting at least eighteen or twenty dogs. Competent judges state that the conduct of the dog unmistakably indicated that he was suffering from an attack of hydrophobia, and it therefore necessarily follows that each of the curs bitten by him are now more dangerous to the community than so many rattle-snakes. We hope that all the dogs suspected to have been bitten will be at once dispatched by their owners—the public cannot afford to run any risks in so serious a matter. The surest way to prevent a dog from going mad is to kill him. Can, then, Mr. B. F. Conrad, Mr. J. B. Strine, by promptly shooting their dogs, are entitled to the thanks of our citizens, and it is hoped that others whose dogs were bitten will immediately do likewise. The route pursued by the rabid animal was from Centre Square up East King street to Duke, down Duke to Church street, and out the latter street. All the owners of dogs along this route, unless they are sure of the contrary, do not know whether their dogs were bitten or not; the period that usually elapses between the reception of the injury and the outbreak of the disease varies exceedingly, in some cases the malady does not manifest itself until the 30th day after the bite is inflicted. All dogs along the said route should therefore at once be fastened or secured so as to prevent valuable lives from being imperilled or lost.

It will seen in another column that the Mayor has issued a proclamation directing that from and after to-day, the 13th, *and for thirty days thereafter* all owners of dogs within the city limits are enjoined to have them properly muzzled or confined in some secure place, and the police officers have been instructed to be vigilant in the enforcement of the laws on this subject; it is to be hoped that such will be the case and that every dog found running at large unmuzzled will be immediately shot. The policemen of the different wards should be active in enforcing this law, for by so doing they will earn the commendation of all the good citizens. If they fail to perform their duty in this matter they will be held responsible.

SPOON THIEF.—A fellow whose name is said to be Sunnings, and whose father is said to be a miller at Kauffman's mill, on the Harrisburg turnpike, stopped last evening at John Sides' Hotel, at the Pennsylvania Railroad Depot, and asked for something to eat. After Sunnings had satisfied his appetite he proceeded to pocket two solid silver spoons which were in two mustard bottles, and concealing them in the lining of his coat, was proceeding to make a hasty exit from the premises. Before he left, however, the spoons were found to be missing, and a search of Sunnings being instituted, they were found in his possession. The prisoner was then locked up in a room and a policeman sent for to arrest him; but when the policeman arrived it was found that Sunnings had escaped out of a window and since then has not been seen or heard from. It is now most positively informed that the thief was Sunnings we would infer that Beast Butler, the prince of spoon thieves, had stopped in our city on his way to Yankedom from Washington, as Congress has recently adjourned.

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