Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5, 1870.

A Happy New Year.

We extend the compliments of the season to all our patrons, and wish every reader of the INTELLIGENCER a happy New Year. May they be successful in all legitimate undertakings, and find the coming year one of more than ordinary prosperity.

The Old Year and the New.

The year which has just passed away has been one of more than ordinary fruitfulness. The earth has brought forth of its abundance in teeming profusion. The barns of the husbandman have been filled to overflowing, and the carefully constructed shocks, which stand about the farm yards, show how bountifully nature has rewarded the toil of the farmer. Not in grain alone, but in fruits and vegetables of every description has the past season been one of the most exuberant plenty. There ought to be nothing but rejoicing heard among those engaged in agricultural pursuits. But, is it so? Are the farmers contented? Not they. A false financial system has reduced the price of grain to the minimum standard, while nearly every article that the agriculturist must buy can only be purchased at an exorbitant figure. Thus the reduction in the cost of breadstuffs is pinching the producer without bringing relief to the laboring classes. The poor are ground down by a system which is designed to enrich a set of greedy monopolists, while the man of moderate means finds it almost impossible for him to meet the demands made upon him.

Trade of every description has languished throughout the past year. The commercial marine of the country has been almost entirely destroyed by injudicious legislation, and our ships, which once whitened every sea, have been swept from the ocean. The merchant has been paralyzed by the fluctuations of a depreciated paper currency, and the list of bankrupts for the year, long as it is, promises to be greatly lengthened. We present to the world at the beginning of 1870 the singular spectacle of a people to whom the most bountiful harvest ever gathered has not brought the blessings which should have attended it. Men of sound judgment know that the injudicious enactments of a Radical Congress are the cause of the evils which prevail.—Classes and rings have dictated laws, and the interests of the farmer, the merchant and the laboring men have been sacrificed by selfish politicians, at the dictation of the few who have been interested in securing special legislation. The welfare of the masses has not been considered when monopolists have urged their selfish claims.

The past year has shown a want of broad and comprehensive statesmanship in those in power. The Southern States have been kept in a state of vassalage to the detriment not only of their own citizens but of the country at large. For the sake of enforcing the doctrine of negro equality, as embodied in the Fifteenth Amendment, the State of Georgia has been rudely thrust out of a Union which she never had the power to leave, and to which she was declared to be duly admitted more than a twelve-month since. Treason has selfish partisanship held control, while all the best interests of the nation have been imperilled in order that a set of greedy adventurers might be enabled to fatten on the spoils of office.—In regard to foreign affairs the administration of Grant has been imbecile and uncertain. The Alabama claims are no nearer an adjustment than they were when the war ended, and the policy pursued in regard to Cuba has crushed the hopes of the struggling patriots, while it has filled Spain with distrust and provoked the sneers of every government in Europe. General Grant's promise of peace reads strangely when placed along side of the recent order directing General Terry to assume military control and government of the state of Georgia. This, the fifth year after the close of the war begins with four states still subject to military control, kept so for the sole purpose of enabling the Radicals to maintain their hold on power.

What the coming year may have in store for the people of the United States remains to be seen. The indications are that little effort will be made by the present Congress to correct the injudicious legislation of the past. The country will be suffered to drift on under the present system of financial mismanagement until a crash occurs, or the people manage to stagger on under their burthens to a period of renewed enterprise and established security.—Certain it is that no help can be expected from the incompetent officials who now control our public affairs. This country enters upon the New Year without any confidence in the wisdom or the ability of its rulers, and with a distrust of the future pervading all the classes of the community.

THE Radical newspaper press seem to be unable to cease lauding Stanton for his honesty, a single virtue which he seems to have possessed. It is said that with every chance to steal millions he stole nothing, with every chance to grow rich in the same way that thousands have accumulated immense fortunes, he died poor. At this his political friends are all literally astounded. There has been nothing in their political experience to prepare them for the development of such an eccentricity on the part of Mr. Stanton. Forgetting what a commentary it is upon the leaders of their party the Republican newspapers cheerfully accept the fact that he was not a thief as the best eulogy of the deceased Secretary. What a significant commentary does that single fact furnish!

CONGRESS annually throws away many thousands of dollars on documents that are utterly valueless. One job costing $25,000 is now lying piled up in volumes which are only worth what they will bring at the prices paid for waste paper. The Superintendant of Government Printing thinks the binding material might be used again. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are thus annually wasted. The Radicals of Congress seem to have no regard for the tax-ridden masses. They have lifted high the flood gates of extravagance, and the public money is most recklessly squandered in a thousand ways. It is time that a check was made to economizing.

IN response to an inquiry by the Radical member of Congress who introduced a proposition into the House to present every Southern negro with forty acres of the public lands and a mule, the Department of the Interior has furnished a statement of the number of unsold acres of public lands in the South. The total amount is 47,479,619 acres, which, divided among four millions of negroes, gives each the requisite forty acres and enough over to buy the mule. Over half of the land is situated in the swamps of Florida and the underbrush of Arkansas; fine countries for negro settlements.

THE Mississippi Election was carried by Gen. Ames, who wants to be U. S. Senator, and the Texas election by Gen. Reynolds, who also wants to be U. S. Senator from Texas. The Conservatives have sent to the President a document giving details of the manner in which Reynolds is trying to count Hamilton out of the Governorship and Davis in. The newly elected Conservative Legislature will be overthrown by Congress.

The Contested Seats in the State Senate.

There are two contested seats in our State Senate. In both cases we believe the Democratic claimants were fairly elected, and the facts will bear us out in that conviction. In the one case Hiram Findlay, the Democratic candidate in the District composed of Bedford, Fulton and Somerset counties will present a certificate signed by a return Judge from each of the three counties, while his opponent Edward Scull will offer a paper signed by but a single Judge. The only question to be decided in this case is whether the voters of a township which gave Mr. Findlay a majority shall be disfranchised because the election officer who had the returns in charge failed to arrive at the place of meeting of the board of return Judges until half an hour after the time fixed by the board for his arrival. There is no allegation of fraud at the poll which was excluded from the count in the paper held by Mr. Scull. If the votes legally cast are honestly counted Mr. Findlay can not be deprived of his seat. This case is so plain that the Radical majority will have to commit the grossest and most glaring outrage before they can unseat the Democratic member and admit his Radical opponent.

The other contested case comes from the First (Philadelphia) District. Here a most glaring and palpable fraud was perpetrated by the return judges. The returns were deliberately altered so as to give the Radical candidate, Wm. W. Watt, a pretended majority over Alexander J. Diamond, who was undoubtedly legally elected. The more conscientious Radical newspapers of Philadelphia boldly denounced the outrage committed by the Radical return judges at the time it was perpetrated. The Morning Post in its issue of October 18th said:

> The Legislature alone can decide whether Mr. Watt or Mr. Diamond was elected in the First Senatorial District. Contested election cases are submitted to special committees, not selected, we believe, but chosen by chance. The evidence is taken and the arguments made before the committee, and its decision is generally final.
>
> We pointed out on Saturday the facts which make this case a very grave one. We showed that while the returns gave Mr. William W. Watt, the Republican candidate, a majority of 176 in the First District, the seven wards which compose that district gave Democratic majorities for all other officers voted for. Seller's majority over Ashton is 281; Packer's majority over Geary is 521. These figures do not lie, but they suggest lying. It is impossible for us to see any cause for this amazing difference in the vote of these wards. We thought we understood the canvass in the city tolerably well, and knew the popular candidates. But we discovered no enthusiasm for Mr. Watt, no objection to Mr. Diamond, sufficient to explain why the former should get a Republican majority of 176 in a democratic district, which went against such a popular candidate as Mr. Ashton by 281 votes. If any one can believe we can even a plausible explanation of this political miracle our obligations will be great.
>
> But till good cause be shown for Mr. Watt's astonishing and unexpected majority is shown, intelligent citizens of both parties will believe that the returns are fraudulent. The Legislature may decide against Mr. Diamond, but public opinion will declare that a downright cheating has been committed to send a Republican to the Senate. This is our opinion now; we would be happy to have it changed, but have no hopes of that. As the evidence now stands, and as the character of the contest is now understood, the return of Mr. Watt appears to be as palpable a fraud as ever was attempted in this city.
>
> For the sake of the Republican party we are sorry that any Republican paper should attempt to deny the apparent evidence of cheating, and sneer at the just complaints of the Democracy as mere party clamor. This has been, with its habitual contempt of facts, did on Saturday. "We must make allowance," it said, "for exhibitions of that spleen which is attributable to defeat. As to the fraudulent counting of returns there was nothing to substantiate the charge except Democratic suspicions. These were of course strong just in proportion to the extent Democratic election officers are in the habit of indulging in that business." Nothing? A difference of 457 votes is nothing. Colonel Forney ought by this time to know that the Republican party can better stand cheating in the ranks of its opponents, than frauds in its own. If Mr. Watt becomes a State Senator on the strength of this unexplained majority, the disgrace to our party will be infinitely more damaging than his vote be beneficial. Nothing could have been more fortunate for us than the prompt exposure of the fraud in the Thirteenth Legislative district, by which it was intended to defeat Mr. Forsyth, Democratic, and elect Mr. Geitz.

Such an expression of opinion in so strong a Republican journal as the Post ought to be sufficient to insure justice being done. But the case does not rest on newspaper opinion alone. When it was brought before Judge Allison, who is a staunch Republican, and a strong party man, he expressed his regret that he had not the power summarily to right the wrong which had been committed. In commenting upon the action of the return judges he said:

> The act of Assembly provides a remedy for a wrong like this by giving a right to a contest. We cannot usurp the rights of the Legislature. I would go far to correct this wrong, which I am convinced it is, had I the power, but there are limits beyond which I cannot go, and I cannot give the remedy you ask. This is nothing else than a false return, for which the law has adopted a separate and distinct remedy.

The contest to which Judge Allison refers is now to be made before the Senate, and we shall anxiously wait to see whether the Radical majority of that body will endorse the "false return" of the corrupt Judges who deliberately conspired to cheat Mr. Diamond out of his seat. There are some Radical Senators who profess to be honest. The two members from this district have heretofore been regarded as men of conscientious integrity. Their principles will be speedily tested by the contested election cases to which we have referred. The facts are precisely as we have stated them to be, and no member of the Senate can vote to displace either Hiram Findlay or Alexander J. Diamond without deliberately violating his solemn oath of office.

The Ring Triumphant.

As we predicted the ring has had an easy triumph at Harrisburg. On Saturday an informal caucus of the Republican members present was held, and Butler B. Strang, of Tioga, was nominated for Speaker of the House. Our doughty little Major Reinoehl was put in nomination, but his name was immediately withdrawn, and he was afterwards appointed one of Strang's committee of seven to arrange the "Slate" for the other officers of the House. Nineteen Republican members were absent from this informal caucus, but there is no doubt that the action taken will be sustained. The "roosters" and "pinch ers" have a good working majority, and they show that they "mean business" by selecting the man who was their leader and champion last winter to preside over the House during the present session.

Mr. Butler B. Strang was the recognized leader of the ring last year. His first move was in support of the paster and folder swindle. While other members contented themselves with voting for this obnoxious piece of barefaced stealing, Mr. Strang advocated it in a speech of marked insolence and hardihood. He was Chairman of the Committee in the Bunn-Witham contested election case, and bolstered up bold, bald perjuries of Slavin, Lamb and Rowan. He championed the Boiler Job; the Pipe and Tank Monopoly; the infamous Herdic Act which was promptly declared to be unconstitutional by the Supreme Court; the outrageous Cattle Bill, which Senator Lowry denounced as "an act to tax every rich man's mutton chop and every poor man's tripe in Philadelphia for the benefit of a monopoly; and was the advocate and defender of other acts in which the legislative thieves had a direct pecuniary interest. The Harrisburg Patriot truthfully says of him:

> Not in one single instance did he swerve in fidelity to his pals. He was always ready with a specious argument for a legislative fraud; and this accounts for the zeal and unanimity which are now manifested in his behalf. There are other members who have earned an unenviable reputation in the legislature; but on investigation it will be found that each one of them has, at one time or another, shown some compunction, or respect for the popular wishes.—But Strang's career in the House is marred by no such inconsistency. He has never cast a vote in opposition to the banditti.

When the present session of the Legislature commences under such auspices it is not hard to predict the results. Roguery and rascality will be the order of the day, and stealing the principal business of the members of the triumphant and unblushing ring of thieves. With Strang as speaker of the House and Geary in the Gubernatorial Chair there will be no check upon corruption. A carnival of fraud, bribery and extravagance will prevail from the first day of the session to its close. Such is the natural result of a triumph of "the party of great moral ideas."

Mrs. Stowe's New Book.

The introductory chapter of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's forthcoming book on the Byron scandal has been published. In it she makes some singular statements and certain remarkable appeals. She announces that she has never read a single one of the articles which her former statement drew from the press of the world; but, womanlike, she admits that she has gathered all the important substance of what has been said from others. She is, therefore, not ignorant of the manner in which her conduct has been received by the public. She must know that the article, which she took so much pains to have simultaneously published in this country and England has been everywhere received with indignant protests and universal condemnation. If she had any regard for the expressed opinion of that public to which she now appeals, any respect for the opinions of those "brothers and sisters of the press," whom she addresses with such show of affection, she would have kept silent in this matter forever. By sending out the book which she has been so busily preparing, she only gives greater credence to the charge that she has been actuated throughout by selfish motives. We care not whether it was vanity, or a sordid desire for money, which led her to publish the first article. Either motive is base, and inexcusable under the circumstances. And she can not now convince the world that she was actuated by any higher or worthier impulse. Nor all her protestations of disinterestedness can clear her reputation of the stain which has been cast upon it.

The world has made up its opinion on the question, and that on testimony more extensive and trustworthy than anything which Mrs. Stowe can furnish. No one believes the foul slander which she promulgated. In the opinion of the reading public Augusta Byron stands forth pure and unsullied, while the foul story told at this late day by a Yankee adventuress is regarded as the invention of the decaying intellect of a jealous wife. It is not strange that Lady Byron should have conjured up queer fancies in regard to her moody and misanthropical husband during the long years of her separation; and there is no good reason to doubt that the story which she poured into the ear of her American visitor was all the creation of a diseased intellect.

In declaring that she has not read what was said by the press, Mrs. Stowe cuts herself off from the sympathy to which she so strongly appeals in her introductory chapter. Had she read carefully all that has been written on the subject, we can scarcely believe she would have ventured to go over the ground of her magazine article in a book. She would have suffered the matter to drop quietly out of public notice. We can not help believing that she has been actuated from the begining by that desire for notoriety, and that love of being well paid for literary effort which distinguishes her brother. The right thing to do would be for the public to refuse to buy Mrs. Stowe's forthcoming volume. It would be well if it could be allowed to remain unsold upon the shelves of the publishers. It deserves to be received with the coldness of complete neglect.

THE Radical newspapers of this county are just now engaged in vilifying each other, and, if we believe what they say, there is not a Republican editor in Lancaster who is not an unmitigated scoundrel. We are sorry it is so. Some of them are clever fellows personally. It is a pity they are such rascals. We suppose it is impossible for any man to run a Radical newspaper without becoming thoroughly corrupt, and we thank God we never had any connection with that party.

IT is evident that the Radicals in Congress will not attempt to make any vigorous effort to relieve the country from its financial embarrassments.—They do not care to grapple the subject before the election of next fall. The party is so divided in sentiment on questions of finance that there is danger of its splitting to pieces upon it. To prevent that is now an object, and so the country must expect to drift on without any established financial policy for another year at least.

HON. HORATIO SEYMOUR met with a serious accident near Utica on Wednesday. He was thrown from his carriage, and his shoulder was dislocated. The last despatches pronounced him better, after a night of much pain.

The Dead of the Year.

In the necrological list of the year 1869 it seems as if the losses of our country have been unusually heavy. Two at least of the present active generation of American Statesmen—Rewlin and Stanton—died while remembrance for their past services was still fresh. Fessenden has passed away, leaving a vacancy in the Senate which will long be felt. Of political leaders less eminent in official position we have lost Henry J. Raymond; and among politicians of a past day, whose influence had measurably passed away, Time has been unusually busy. Ex-President Pierce, ex-Attorney General Bates, ex-Secretaries Bell, Guthrie, Walker and Toucey, ex-Governors Fitzpatrick of Alabama, Pratt of Maryland, and Pickens of South Carolina, and that curious relic of a bygone political era, Joseph Ritner, sometime Governor of Pennsylvania, also ex-Governor Grason of Maryland. These are among the best known of the host who have been gathered to their fathers during the past twelve months. The loss of European statesmen has been much smaller. In England Lord Derby and Lord Stanley of Alderley; in Spain, Gen. Dulce; in Russia, Prince Menschikoff; in France, Marshal Niel and Troplong; in Turkey, Fuad Pasha, are the most distinguished of the dead, and few of these exercised a vital influence upon the government under which they lived. From the rolls of the army and navy we shall miss henceforth at home the names of Old Ironsides and General Wool; abroad the British General Lord Gough, Admiral Sir James Gordon, who fought a British fleet up the Potomac in 1814, the French Marshals Niel and Regnault, St. Jean d'Angely, the famous Russian soldier Menschikoff, and the veteran Jomini. Art deplores the loss of Grisi, Berlioz and Overbeck; science mourns for Hengstenberg, Reidenbach, Jukes, and many lesser lights; and the charities of two hemispheres will feel the taking away of George Peabody. In literature, although the list is long, very few names of real eminence are found in it. When we have mentioned William Carleton, Professor Conington, Frederick S. Cozzens, Peter Cunningham, Alexander Dyce, Lamartine, and Sie Beuve, we have called over all the most illustrious.—New York Tribune.

Statistics of the Trade for the Past Year

The following is a statement of the live stock received and sold at the Philadelphia markets during the year 1869; also, comparison with previous years:

	Beeves.	Cows.	Hogs.	Sheep.
January...	6,750	590	11,700	25,000
February..	7 000	670	11,100	21,000
March.....	7,300	750	15,500	45,000
April.....	5,978	550	16,000	33,000
May.....	8,070	735	17,700	69,000
June.....	6,040	635	13,700	53,000
July.....	7,400	610	14,400	45,000
August.....	8,550	750	11,300	43,500
September	9,280	650	12,200	48,000
October.....	10,400	595	15,400	44,000
November..	14,350	950	19,900	65 000
December.	8,318	600	14 700	45.000
Total, 1869.	99,436	8 085	176,200	536,500
" 1868.	9,000	9,314	191,900	417,800
" 1867.	90,150	11,464	175,000	368,200
" 1866.	100 500	10,830	122 500	512,000
" 1865.	96,450	6,540	136 300	306,000
" 1864.	99,850	7,920	140 400	295,000
" 1863.	103,150	6,905	174 370	275,100
" 1862.	87,520	4,650	206,000	229,300
" 1861.	82,365	4,214	199,179	269,020
" 1860.	99,845	10 673	127,964	324,560

THE LEGISLATURE.

How Promises of Reform are Kept.

Organization of the Senate and House.

The Ring Triumphant.

HARRISBURG, January 3d, 1870.

Saturday, Sunday, and to-day (Monday) have been busy days in Harrisburg. The Radicals have been shaping things to suit themselves, while the Democratic minority have been anxiously looking on. All the professions of honesty on the part of the party in power have been proven to be the merest bosh and the most empty nothingness.—The preliminary caucus on Saturday settled the organization of the lower House. Butler B. Strang, of Tioga, the very chief of corruptionists, was then made the choice of the Republican majority for Speaker, and the regular caucus held to-night only registered the predetermined decree of the ring. The Lancaster delegation were "roped in" without the slightest difficulty. Reinoehl was elated with the idea of being made one of a committee of seven to fix up Strang's slate for the minor offices. So far as we can see the present delegation is no improvement on the last. Two of the roosters who were here last year came up pretending that they could sell the "votes" of the present delegation, but were astonished to find that they were already disposed of for a ridiculously small equivalent. The long beard of the pious gentleman from the Lower End dropped an inch or two as he heard the result, and the ugly mug of the ex-member from Manor looked more ghastly as the state of affairs slowly crept through his thick cranium. We can imagine the disgust with which the stupid voters who supposed they were doing "the God and morality party" good service, will read and ponder over the result of all their efforts. That will be a rude awakening which shall bring to their dull minds an appreciation of the truth which now stands revealed, confessed and known to all men, that Reinoehl is as complete a tool of the ring as Gatchel ever was, and that Wiley and the rest are no better or more honest than the roosters who preceded them. After all the indignant protests of the Express, and the hortatory ebullitions of Father Abraham, the Lancaster delegation to the Lower House of the Legislature succumbed at the very first onslaught, and were "gobbled up" bodily by the managers of the ring. They all became at once the subservient tools of Strang, the champion of the pasters and folders, and now occupy a position infinitely more discreditable and disgraceful than that of their repudiated predecessors. We condole with the honest Republicans of Lancaster county on the selection they made in chosing Reinoehl, Godshalk, Herr and Wiley to represent them. They fondly dreamed in their Boeotian stupidity that they were sending a set of model fellows to take the place of a quartette of rogues. How they will relish the substantial support given by the present delegation to the champion of the paster and folder swindle, the cattle bill, the Herdic act, the boiler job, the pipe and tank monopoly, the calamity infamy, and every fraudulent scheme that was set afoot while Butler B. Strang held a seat in the last Legislature, remains to be seen.

The organization of the House was merely a preliminary to the nomination of the State Treasurer. That one grand scheme of plunder absorbed all minor considerations, and control ed the action of the Radical majority throughout. From the beginning the Mackey faction had it all their own way, and everything was bent to the ultimate result that from the nomination of Butler B. Strang to the appointment of the useful officials who preside over the temple of Cloacina in the basement of the State Capitol. And to the movements of this corrupt ring the Lancaster delegation gave its assistance, either as its conscious confederates or its egregious dupes. Those who know the calibre of the men who represent the Old Guard in the Lower House, will know in which category to place them. Strang's nomination in regular caucus was preceded by the placing in the chair of his special tool Webb, of Bradford. Strang's success is universally regarded as a victory for Mackey. The Lancaster delegation did much to secure this double triumph. How are you, pasters and folders? How is it with the yeomenry of Lancaster and the unexpended balance? Where is Billingfeit's bill to curb the speculations of the Treasurer? What has been the effect of the resolution offered in the Radical County Committee at the beginning of the last campaign? Let Andy Armstrong answer, if he can. The House slate reads as follows:

Chief Clerk—Jas. L. Selfridge.
Resident Clerk—John A. Small.
Assistant Clerk—Ed. G. Lee.
Transcribing Clerks—Geo. A. Bakeorea, Isaac Moorhead, Jas. Allen, Jno. M. Kilbourne, J. F. Humes, Jno. L. Morrison.
Sergeant at Arms—Thos. Wilson.
Assistant Sergeant at-Arms—G. H. Halpeg, Jno. F. M'Fadden, Warren M'Creary, H. M. Strasbaugh.
Doorkeeper—J. H. Hall.
Assistant Doorkeepers—Jno. Rote, Jas. Scott, S. J. Hart.
Messenger—W. W. Gibson.
Assistant Messengers—Anthony M'Manu, W. W. Wright, Geo. C. Anderson.
Postmaster—Augustus Beckert.
Assistant Postmaster—Wm. Shields.
Doorkeeper of Rotunda—A. B. Wrey.
Superintendent Folding Department:—James Reems.

The Solons of the Senate encountered difficulties scarcely less formidable than the rabble of the House. Lowry, with the buff waistcoat of Lafayette, the blue swallow-tailed coat of Israel Putnam, the ruffled shirt of Louis the XV., and the horns of a Butler county bull sawed short off, proved a retrogingent and refused to go into caucus. This distinguished gentleman is intensely fond of notoriety, and seems to care but little how he excites a sensation provided he can manage to attract public observation. He has been known to preside over a meeting called to present a cane to an Andy Johnson Democrat, and to address an assembly of prospective negro voters on the same evening. He is ready to be interviewed by a Democratic editor, and prepared to repudiate his report of the conversation had over choice champagne which stood on the manuscript pages of a four column temperance letter, with the ink still wet upon it. He makes professions of political honesty periodically, but takes good care never to fulfil a single one of them. He hath on hand just now a pet scheme of his own. The little axe he wisheth to grind is the enlargement of the Erie Canal from Girard to Beaver creek, which emptieth into the Ohio. He will be profoundly happy when it shall be sufficiently widened and deepened to drag through vessels of three hundred tons burthen, with the superadded weight of Morrow B. Lowry. After making a display of pretended virtue sufficiently vigorous to attract some slight attention, Lowry finally went into the caucus and took good care to secure a full share of the plunder to be dispensed in the way of appointments. Verily virtue hath its own reward even in Pennsylvania politics.

The recalcitration of Lowry caused honest Esaias Billingfelt to pluck up all his Dutch courage. He has not represented the great county of Lancaster in the State Senate for nothing. He knows his rights, "and knowing dare maintain." The street rumor, as it ran, declared that nothing would satisfy him except the appointment of Pit Schweffelbrenner as Clerk to the Senate. Careful sifting of the truth from many false representations, assured us that common report, a lying jade, was doing injustice to the Adamstown statesman. He stood upon his dignity and seemed to demand nothing. He would or would not go into caucus, just as might suit him. The dignified hesitancy of our popular and distinguished representative in the upper branch of the Legislature had its reward. He was offered the position of door-keeper, but refused to accept the office which Johnny Martin filled so long and with such marked satisfaction to the gay and festive Senators of his day. A proposition was made to supplement this tender by throwing under his control an additional transcribing clerk; but having opposed any increase of officials at the last session the Senator could not see his way clear to such an arrangement.—The final result was the making up of the Senatorial slate as follows:

For Speaker—Charles H. Stinson.
For Chief Clerk—G. W. Hamersly.
For Assistant Clerks—L. Rogers, E. Williams.
For Transcribing Clerks—W. G. Bosler, E. Cowan, J. Bodine, Theo. Hiestand.
For Sergeant-at-Arms—A. M. Rambo.

Pit Schweffelbrenner will continue to indict BREFFE FUM SCHWEFFLETOWN, and the ex-editor of the Columbia Spy will endeavor to repair his shattered fortunes by levying and collecting large fees in the two contested election cases now before the Senate.

The Governor's Message is said to be of interminable length, and he declines to furnish the Press with advance copies. Its verbosity will prevent minor Radical county journals from laying it before their readers in less than three issues.

Thus has been accomplished the organization of the two houses for the present session of the Legislature. The good people who indulged in a hope of substantial legislative reform may as well give them all up at once. The triumph of Strang, Stinson and Mackey effectually closes the gates, and there is neither chance nor prospect of improvement.

The present session of the Legislature promises to be uneventful except in private bills, and that kind of legislation which pays the ring. The roosters are here in full feather, and they hope to reap a rich harvest. The ring has had everything its own way so far, and so it will be until the people effect a complete change of men and parties.

Of the temper and action of the Democratic minority we will speak to-morrow.

TUESDAY, Jan. 4, 1870.

The Democratic minority have proved themselves to be incorruptibly honest and steadfast in their integrity. Sam Josephs came to Harrisburg bragging that he could receive a complimentary nomination for Speaker. His bark, laden with promises of good places on important committees, suffered speedy shipwreck. The uncorrupted and incorruptible members from the rural districts made short work of this tool of the ring. His little coat of many colors proved to be of less value than the veriest piece of shoddy work in a Bowery slop shop. The Republicans did all that lay in their power to secure the caucus nomination for Josephs, knowing that such an event would silence the batteries of the Democratic press of the State, and remove the stigma which justly attaches to the election of that prince of roosters, Butler B. Strang. Ex-Speaker Clarke and other prominent Republicans circulated about the Bolton Hotel, and used the most specious arguments to induce the new Democratic members to vote for Josephs. They were told that positions on important committees were entrusted to the control of this corrupt rooster, and assured that the men who voted for Josephs could command such appointments as they might desire. We are glad to say that the staunch Democracy of the rural members, that honesty which is part and parcel of the party creed, prevented them from being seduced by any such specious promises on the part of the party in power. The proceedings of the Democratic caucus showed how true and unimpeachably honest the minority in the House is. That assembly met at 10 o'clock, and organized by the selection of the following officers:

President, George Scott, of Columbia county.

Secretaries, Henry Brobst, of Berks, and Samuel Daily, of Philadelphia.

The first ballot resulted as follows:

R. B. Brown, of Clarion, 17; Samuel Josephs, of Philadelphia, 8; J. B. F. Porter, of York, 7; Joshua Beans of Bucks, 2.

Mr. Josephs finding that he was repudiated the Democratic members resigned in favor of Dr. Porter, and the caucus proceeded to a second ballot, which resulted as follows:

Brown, 25; Porter, 8; Burns, 1.

The original supporters of Dr. Porter deserted him almost to a man as soon as it was made apparent that he was the favorite of Josephs, and he was ignominiously defeated. Thus ended the persistent attempt which was made to reduce the Democratic minority to a level with the infamy of the Radical majority.

State Items.

Reading now has three malls a day from Philadelphia.

Meadville will dedicate a new court house soon.

Newspaper thieves are quite plenty in Reading.

There are eight hundred places in Philadelphia where liquor is sold.

Recently the poor-house stables at Allegheny City were burned. Loss $5,000.

Phoenixville thinks about forming a vigilance committee. Robberies are frequent there.

In Muhlenberg twp, Berks county, a farmer plowed up potatoes on the 28th inst., something never before heard of by many old farmers.

The Belvidere Delaware Railroad Company will discharge about fifty men—brakesmen, laborers, &c.,—this week.

Philadelphia has horses so poor that owners are obliged to tie knots in their tails to keep the body from slipping through the collar.

The Ebenezer M. E. Church of Reading has been provided with a new organ of considerable dimensions, manufactured at Philadelphia.

The libel case of A. P. Tutton against Messrs. Elliott & Shultz, of the Reading Dispatch, will be brought up at the January Term of Court.

Edward Burke, convicted of murder in the second degree for the killing of Jacob Settlemoyer, in Johnstown, Cambria county, has been sent to the penitentiary for five years.

An express train on the Connelsville Railroad ran into a flock of sheep near Uniontown, Fayette county, the other day, killing forty of them. The train was thrown from the track.

The Bethlehem Times says that Hon. G. H. Goundie, late State Senator of that district, intends to go to Europe for the seventeenth time early in January. He expects to remain about two years.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has recently had constructed an immense grain elevator at Philadelphia. The first car load of grain was deposited therein on the 28th ult.

Miss Sidell, telegraph operator at Phoenixville, having received her month's wages, started home, but in crossing Phoenix bridge, was attacked by two men, who gagged and robbed her.

The wife of a respectable citizen of Allegheny City was attacked on a street of that place, one night recently, by a ruffian, who attempted an outrageous assault, but was frightened off by the approach of other parties.

Wm. Parsons was knocked down near Newport, Perry county, lately, by three men, who attempted to stab him. The knife struck a package of crackers in his pocket, and glanced off. The fellows then discovered that he was not the man they wanted.

Huguenot Lodge of Masons, No. 377, of Kutztown, Berks county, celebrated St. John's Day by a splendid supper gotten up by Mr. Daniel Zimmerman, proprietor of the Black Horse Hotel at that place. The supper was a splendid affair, and was attended by all the brethren of the fraternity in the vicinity.

A new steamboat to be used for pleasure parties on the Schuylkill is being built at the boat yard of Mr. William Hiester, in Reading. It will be 55 feet in length and 10 feet wide, and capable of seating one hundred passengers. It is designed to have it on the water by the 1st of April. Its probable cost will be $2,000 when finished.

A very sad case of hydrophobia lately occurred in Lower Makefield township, Bucks county. The sufferer was Alexander M'Donald, a resident of Yardleyville, a harnessmaker. He was bitten by a small dog a month or so ago. Not long since he was seized with spasms; on the 24th ult. he became ferocious, and at 2 o'clock the next morning he died in horrible convulsions.

The physicians of the lower end of Berks and upper end of Montgomery counties held a meeting in Boyerstown a few days ago, and adopted a uniform fee bill. By the new scale 75 cents is charged for a visit in the borough, or within three-fourths of a mile from the physician's residence; over that distance, $1 is charged; for a night visit, from $1 to $1 50: for reducing a fracture or dislocation, from $2 50 to $5; obstetric cases, $3 to $5, and $3 for consultations, with allowances in case of poor families.

On Christmas night, a man named Jerry Hogan engaged in a brawl in Cincinnati with some drunken companions, and one of these stabbed him in the left temple, driving the three-inch blade of a pocket knife nearly up to the handle into the head of Hogan. He was taken to the Hospital in an insensible condition, but reviving upon being placed upon a bed, was asked how he felt. He said he supposed he was mortally hurt, but was "too great a sinner to die." The five surgeons present then united their energies and wisdom to extract the knife blade, which came out with a jerk, and it was found that the optic nerve was uninjured. The surgeons believe that Hogan will recover.

Items of Interest.

The public debt of the United States on January 1st, amounted to $2,448,746,953.

Wm. J. McNash, shot at Wheeling on Thursday, by Miss Bethem, died on Sunday. Miss Bethem is in jail.

An incendiary fire in Mobile on Sunday night, destroyed several stores, and caused a loss of over $50,000.

Navigation has been re-opened on the Hudson River, boats having gone up for Albany and Troy.

The subscriptions for the widow of Secretary Stanton, in New York, have reached $20,000.

The Spanish gunboats remaining in New York bay are expected to go to sea in a day or two.

Senator Pratt's resignation is written out, but he will withhold it until after the next election in Indiana, his State.

The losses by fire in St. Louis from January 1 to November 27, amounted to $641,770.

Five boys were arrested on a canal boat at Jersey City yesterday morning, for stealing carpeting from a church.

The Dominion Cabinet has formally decided to recall McDougal, whom the Winnepeg settlers refused to receive as Governor.

A Pittsburg drover was attacked by five highwaymen in Jersey City on Wednesday night, and robbed of his watch.

The New York Board of Health reports that there are 20,000 tenement houses in that city, and that 700,000 of its inhabitants live in them.

Additional earthquakes, some of them severe, occurred at Virginia City, Nevada, on Wednesday night and yesterday morning.

John Lawrence shot and fatally injured Mrs. Atwood, in Bangor, Me., yesterday. Jealousy is assigned as the cause.

It is stated that General Alcorn, Governor elect of Mississippi, refuses to act as Provisional Governor under the order of General Ames.

General Terry yesterday issued an order assuming the command of Georgia as a Military District and the Reconstruction act.

The word "State" spelled backward is Etats in French. It is not safe, however, to undertake to learn French simply by going back on your English.

The amount of United States bonds held abroad cannot be definitely ascertained, but are estimated at all points between $700,000,000 and $1,000,000,000—supposed to be about $800,000,000.

Horace Greeley, the painter of horrible battle scenes, was so averse to seeing any real blood that he almost fainted whenever anybody was accidentally wounded in his presence.

The new Philadelphia City Councils met and organized yesterday. Samuel W. Cattell was elected President of Select, and Gen. Louis Wagner President of Common Council.

A game of base ball at New Orleans, on New Year's Day, between the Mutuals, New York, and Southerners, of New Orleans, was won by the Mutuals, the score being 16 to 21.

It is understood that the iron-clad Miantonomah, now at New York, will escort the British ship Monarch, with Mr. Peabody's remains, into Portland harbor.

In the United States Circuit Court, at Boston, yesterday, the Messrs. Starr, of Camden, N. J., began suit against the city of Boston for $42,900 due on a contract to furnish water pipe.

During the present season 210,402 barrels of apples have been shipped from Niagara county, N. Y. At $2 90 per barrel, these shipments would amount to $610,165 80. The apples were mostly sent to Eastern markets.

At Albany and Troy, N. Y., yesterday, an unsuccessful attempt was made to swindle the banks by the deposit of forged checks on the Third National Bank of New York City. The checks purported to be signed by S. B. Chittenden & Co.

The Postmaster General has ratified the contract for carrying the mails with the steamship lines announced in yesterday's *Ledger*. The first to sail will be the 15th inst., to-morrow, which will carry the mails, and has engaged for $80 000 in specie.

The January dividends of the Massachusetts manufacturing companies show a decrease, but not, it is stated, to the extent that might be expected from the dulness of trade. Out of twenty-nine companies that pay in Boston, six pass their dividends.

The British Postoffice Department made $23 000,000 net profit last year, while ours ran behind $5,000,000. No franking in England. The Queen, even who may write a letter by another hand, must put her own head on it to send it by mail.

The surveys for the branch from the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad to Bel Air, in Harford county, Md., will soon be commenced. Favorable progress is making in securing subscriptions to the stock of the new road.

The Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Paris, has instituted a series of diplomatic dinners for the purpose of bringing foreign representatives into more frequent contact, and also for the discussion of diplomatic questions unfettered by official authority.

Judge Busteed of the U. S. Court at Montgomery, has granted an injunction to restrain the collection of the tax imposed upon the Southern Express Company within the Alabama. The State Auditor has directed the collection of the tax notwithstanding the injunction. The courts will have to decide the matter.

John G. Walker, who had charge of of the Chinese emigrants that passed through St. Louis, writes to the *Republican* of that city that there is little prospect at present of Chinamen supplanting negroes. He says the Chinese are susceptible in disposition, and cannot be retained except at the same wages as are paid to other laborers.

"Twenty years ago a Connecticut man left a watch with a jeweler, to be cleaned and repaired, saying that he would be in town in a day or two and call for it. Last week the man called in at the jeweler's and asked, 'Do you remember my leaving a watch with you a number of years since to be cleaned?' "Yes," replied the jeweler, "And here it is."

In Richmond, Va., New Year receptions were given by General Canby, Governor Walker, and the Mayor of the city. The Colored Society celebrated the anniversary of Emancipation,