Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1870.

The New State Treasurer.

Yesterday R. W. Mackey, Esq., retired from the office of State Treasurer, and Gen. W. W. Irwin was installed in his stead. Mr. Mackey displayed considerable ability in the management of the financial affairs of the State, and would have made a perfectly unexceptionable officer under a proper system. He was fully as honest as Gen. Irwin was when in office before, and only followed the example which had been set by his predecessors in the manipulation of the funds of the State for the benefit of himself and a favorite set of bankers and speculators.

An act designed to reform some of the abuses which existed under former administrations of the office of State Treasurer was passed by the last Legislature, and under its provisions General Irwin goes into office. It was not such a bill as the true advocates of reform desired, but was the best that could be got through so corrupt a Legislature.

The first section provides that a bond shall be given by the State Treasurer in the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, instead of one in eighty thousand, as heretofore. That will afford fair security against defalcations.

Section 2d fixes the salary of the Treasurer at $5,000, instead of the meagre sum allowed before. That ought to be sufficient to compensate him for his services, and to do away with all excuse for speculating upon the public funds.

Section 3d directs that two separate books of account shall be kept by the State Treasurer, in one of which all moneys received from revenues belonging to the Sinking Fund shall be credited on the day they are received, and in the other similar entry made of all moneys received from other sources. A balance is to be struck in each of said ledgers on the last day of each month, and on the first business day thereafter a certificate to be delivered by the State Treasurer to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, showing the balance due to them on the Sinking Fund ledger for the preceding month.

Section 4th makes it the duty of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to apply the moneys at their command on the first days of the months of March, April, May, September, October and November respectively, to the purchase of interest-bearing bonds of the State, at current market rates, provided the same does not exceed three per cent. above par; and the bonds so purchased are to be immediately cancelled. The balances shown to be due on the first days of January, February, June, July, August and December are to be deposited by the Commissioners in the Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank of Philadelphia, to pay the semi-annual interest on the State debt; any balance greater than is necessary for that purpose to be used in the purchase of interest-bearing bonds, which are to be cancelled.

Section 5th requires the State Treasurer, in his annual report to the Legislature, to furnish two distinct statements, one showing in detail the monthly receipts from each source of Revenue belonging to the Sinking Fund, the other a similar report of all moneys received from other sources; and the Commissioners are required to annex to this an annual report showing in detail the amount of each month's receipts in the Sinking Fund, and the amount of debt redeemed and interest paid.

Section 6th makes it an impeachable offence for the State Treasurer or the Commissioners to neglect or violate any provision of this act.

Section 7th makes it the duty of the Commissioners to receive sealed proposals during the month of July, and in every month thereafter, when they shall have funds, for the redemption of any part of the State debt now becoming due, and to buy and cancel bonds when it can be done to the interest of the State.

Section 8th provides for the monthly publication in one paper in the cities of Harrisburg, Philadelphia and Pittsburg, of a statement of amount of loan redeemed, &c.

Section 9th directs the keeping of a record of the proceedings of the Commissioners, with all offers made for the redemption of loans.

Section 10th makes it the duty of the State Treasurer, to furnish a detailed statement to the Auditor General, on the first Monday of each month, of all sums which go to make up the total of receipts; giving the amount deposited with each bank, corporation, firm or individual, or remaining in the vault, with the name of such bank, individual or corporation; and when the funds are not on call, if such be in vault, bank or elsewhere, giving the amount, kind and value of securities held for such moneys not on call; said statement to be made on oath, to be recorded in a book, and to be open to the inspection of government officials and the citizens of the State.—This section also requires each bank, corporation, firm or individual, with whom the State Treasurer may have deposited any moneys, to render a monthly account of amounts on hand or deposited with them.

Another act was passed authorizing the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to apply of the moneys received by them a sufficiency to meet any balance required for the ordinary expenses of the government, in case the amounts received from sources not devoted to the Sinking Fund shall prove insufficient; and no separate account of moneys received from the half mill tax authorized by act of May 16, 1861 is to be hereafter kept.

Such is the law under which the new State Treasurer goes into office. It will be seen that the great evil complained of, the power of the State Treasurer to make deposits at will with banks, firms, corporations and individuals is not done away with. That abuse was too firmly intrenched to be successfully assailed in the last Legislature. The present law must, however, reform some of the abuses which have existed. The publicity which it gives to the acts of those who have the management of the finances of the State will enable the workings of the present system to be watched, and will give opportunity for that exposure of abuses which may lead eventually to a complete reformation thereof.

The Attempt to Assassinate Napoleon.

The all important question involved in the adoption of the *Plebiscitum* by the French people is the succession of the son of the Emperor Napoleon. The Senatus Consultum afforded a plausible pretext for an appeal to the people, and the emperor took advantage of it to foist in the question whether the nation would pronounce in favor of his son. Should the *Plebiscitum* be adopted the rights of his son to the throne will rest upon the same ostensible title as his own, the Empire having been established by a *Plebiscitum* adopted in 1852. The Emperor no doubt feels sure of a large majority in favor of his project or he would not have submitted it to a popular vote. To make the majority overwhelmingly large is to discourage attempts at revolution, and to do all that can possibly be done to insure the permanency of the dynasty he has founded. The plot to assassinate the Emperor no doubt sprang from a consciousness on the part of the Republicans that the adoption of the *Plebiscitum* would crush out their party and delay indefinitely all the plans which they cherish. That the discovery of the plot will increase the majority in favor of Napoleon seems to be certain, and the probability is that the vote in favor of the *Plebiscitum* will be overwhelming. Napoleon understands how to manipulate an election in France fully as well as any military satrap ever understood the management of negro votes in one of our southern States.

The Negro Jubilee.

We are not disposed to find fault with the negroes, because of their having desired to celebrate the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment. Their political elevation and enfranchisement is an event which they would be less than human, if they did not desire to celebrate and rejoice over. The negroes are perfectly right to be jubilant that they, an inferior race, are placed on a political equality with the superior white race, which has heretofore exclusively governed the country; and they have abundant reason to rejoice at their elevation all day long, from the rising to the setting of the sun, for all time to come. No one could possibly blame the mouse for associating on equal terms with the lion, if the latter would consent to it; although we would be entirely justified in entertaining a very contemptible opinion of the king of beasts who would condescend to associate as an equal with so inferior an animal. We would expect the little mouse, admitted to so distinguished a companionship, to joyfully gambol about and laugh and be merry in appreciation of the distinction conferred upon him; and the more happy he was the greater would be the evidence that he was, able to fully appreciate his elevation.

We have to find fault with the negro jubilee, on Tuesday, so far as the negro participants in it were concerned, only because of the smallness of the affair and the want of enthusiasm which prevailed. The few negroes in attendance seemed to go through with the performance just because somebody had given them the job to do, and not because they felt any special interest in it themselves. None of the negroes seemed to have anything they wanted to say on the occasion nor any feelings of joy and gladness to which they desired to give expression; for not one of them except the Chairman of their meeting, opened his lips to give expression to a single sentiment; even their pastor Cuff had nothing to say. The negroes on the Common did not even feel sufficient interest in the occasion to give their attention to the speakers; but they left their orators to talk to the white people present while they roamed over the ground, munching oranges and peanuts, and talking and laughing loudly with their acquaintances. This apathy indicated clearly that their feelings are not greatly aroused by their elevation to the suffrage, and that they care very little about it anyway; which is a strong indication of their mental darkness and intellectual feebleness.

As we have said, we do not blame the negroes for being jubilant on this occasion; but we have no language to express our deep feeling of loathing and contempt for the white men who took part in the affair, and who sympathized with the negroe, demonstration of satisfaction that they were raised to an equality with the white man. We envy not the taste and the sensibilities of those men who can rejoice that the degraded African is admitted to an equal share in their inheritance as American citizens and who can welcome him in his ignorance to a joint tenure with them of the ballot. Comparatively few white men of any note made their appearance in open connection with this negro jubilee, which is an encouraging sign that even the Republican politicians of the city are not wholly lost to shame. A few men appeared on the stand and glorified the negro in extravagant language, to their own deep abasement; and these few belonged entirely, we believe, to the "Thug" branch of the Republican organization. Col. Dickey, the leader of the other branch was advertised to speak, but happily his stomach was not strong enough for the occasion, and he staid away; his followers did the same and the field was left in the possession of George Brubaker and his crowd, who had also engineered the meeting in the morning when that shining light of their wing of the party, Wickersham made a speech in which he proclaimed himself the negro champion.

These men are thus early attempting to embroil the negroes in their political disputes, and some of the negroes are smart enough to see it. Brother Boston intimated yesterday that the colored folks could not be used in any such way; they had not yet learned to be politicians, says Boston, and hints very strongly that until they learn enough to protect themselves, they will keep hands off; and when they have properly learned their lesson they will try to paddle their own canoe. Our Radical friends therefore had better not rely too surely upon their grateful colored brethren being always ready to draw their chestnuts out of the fire; doing the work and getting none of the offices.

Governor Hoffman's Veto of Railroad Bills.

In the Legislature of New York, a combination was formed during the recent session similar to that by which the proposed Sinking Fund swindle was put through in this State. No less than seven newly projected railroads joined in a raid upon the State Treasury, and managed to secure the passage of separate acts appropriating an aggregate of $4,557,000. The same plea was made for taxing the people of the State of New York for the construction of these projected roads which was employed to give a show of respectability to the big steal in our Legislature. Governor Hoffman has vetoed the whole batch of bills, and has done so in a message which meets with the hearty concurrence of the people of every section of his State except the minority who are directly interested in the projected roads. The time has gone by in the more thickly settled States when public aid is needed to construct railroads or canals. Private enterprise and private capital will build railroads wherever there is a chance for making such works pay, and no portion of Pennsylvania will long want the means of development when it can be shown that there is a prospect of making railroads or canals pay for their construction. In vetoing the bills proposing to take four and a half million of dollars from the treasury of New York to aid in the construction of local railroads, Gov. Hoffman acted on sound principles of public policy.

Ventilation Needed.

And now comes the cry that the House of Representatives at Washington must be better ventilated or abandoned. It is said to be constantly full of foul air and bad odors. That distinguished grammarian, John Covode has been "investigatin" the matter, and he solemnly declared in a speech the other day, that "*Experiments which he had tried showed conclusively that the foulest air in the House was immediately around his seat.*" That statement settled the question, and a resolution was adopted authorizing extensive experiments to be made to improve the ventilation of the hall. It is rumored that the prospect of having a number of negro members in the next House has stirred up the Radicals to the absolute necessity of protecting themselves against the consequences. It is probable that the galleries, which have become a regular roosting place for the filthy and odorous negroes of Washington City, will be cut away. The projected alterations will cost a large sum of money, but the health of members is said to be suffering seriously from the existing state of affairs, and they cannot be expected to suffer when a liberal expenditure of public money in experiments of ventilation may afford relief. If nothing else will do we shall have the costly structure pulled down and a new one erected on correct principles. Nothing must be left undone to provide for the period when the negroes shall be fully represented in the Lower House of Congress.

Philadelphia boasts that she will use 350,000 tons of ice this season.

Senator Kerr.

The Philadelphia Sunday papers bring a very serious charge against State Senator Kerr. They allege that he sold his vote in the Watt-Diamond contested election case for $12,000 and that this amount had, he thought, been actually paid to him when he voted for Watt; but it turned out that the sealed package deposited in bank for him, contained brown paper instead of bank notes. The Sunday papers relate all the circumstances alleged to have accompanied the transaction with great particularity and tell the story with great apparent gusto and relish. We have waited some days before giving publicity to it, in the expectation that if not true, it would be promptly denied on the part of Senator Kerr, but so far no denial has been published, and we are constrained to believe that the story is true. It manifestly comes from Bunn, the man who bought Kerr and then cheated him; and who by his disgraceful conduct in the affair, first in corrupting his victim and then in robbing him, basearned for himself a measureless infamy and merited a felons cell; and yet this man is a prominent candidate for the Republican nomination for Register of Wills in Philadelphia; and more than this, he actually expects that his "smart" conduct in this matter and his success in securing Kerr's vote for Watt, has given him such a claim upon his party friends that they will not be able to refuse him this nomination!

The people have become so accustomed to hear of the corruption of their chosen Legislators, that the relation of the fact that one of their Senators has been bribed by the offer of $12,000 to vote to give a seat in the Senate to a man who was not elected to it, although it will deeply disgust them, will not startle them, nor will they find anything so intrinsically improbable in the reported fact, as to cause them to disbelieve it. The peculiarity of this affair is, that Senator Kerr, a Republican, is said to have been bought to vote to admit Watt, a member of his own party; a thing which party fealty would generally have been sufficient to cause a dishonest man to do, without being likewise paid to do it.

It is charged that Kerr had been offered money to vote for Diamond, the Democratic contestant of Watt, but no evidence is produced to sustain the charge; and as Diamond was in our opinion fairly elected, it is altogether likely that Kerr had determined to vote to give him his seat, because he was honestly of the same opinion, and that he was seduced from voting according to his convictions by the offer of the $12,000. His action, if it is correctly stated, has covered him with an infamy, which those who boastingly confess that they bribed him, will fully share; and by it the Democracy have lost a Senator whom they had fairly elected.

The Richmond Disaster.

THE terrible accident which occurred in Richmond, Va., in the Capitol building, Wednesday last, the particulars of which are given elsewhere, was of the most distressing character. The number of persons killed is put down at fifty-eight while about one hundred and forty were more or less injured.—Among those killed were many distinguished citizens of Virginia. The calamity has caused the greatest sorrow in Richmond, and cannot fail to awaken the deepest sympathy throughout the country.

The building in which the accident occured, the State Capitol, is the one occupied by the Confederate Congress during the war. It is an old stone structure, not of great size and not in very good repair, but still apparently strong and substantial; it is difficult to see why the floors should have given way after the building has stood so many years and doubtless held as great crowds as yesterday, during the exciting period of the war and during other eventful seasons in Richmond's history; and we can only account for the disaster by supposing that the floor beams had rotted through age. The State House is situated in the heart of Richmond, on the top of one of its seven hills and in the middle of an open square. The room in which the accident occurred is, if we mistake not, the one in which the Confederate Senate sat; and in the Hall, into which the victims fell, the Confederate Representatives formerly assembled.

The contest between Ellison and Cahoon for the Mayoralty of Richmond, has been a singularly bloody one. It commenced with the killing of a number of persons in street collisions, and as it was about to end through the decision of the Court, it is signalized by the slaughter of a number of the most noted public men of Virginia, of both political parties.

The Lancaster and Delaware River Railroad.

We see by the Engineers' Report on a portion of this road, that the people at the Eastern end of it, are seriously preparing for its construction, and we trust that their activity will soon awaken our citizens at the Western end to the importance to their interest of pushing this enterprise forward to completion.

The merchants of Lancaster are constantly complaining of the unjust discrimination that is made against our city in the rate of freights, by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; and they have now here an opportunity of doing away with this evil under which their interests are greatly suffering, by going energetically to work to build this competing line which will run through the richest section of our county and will furnish us with a near and direct route to New York.

Traversing the magnificent and populous country through which its route is located, it is imperatively demanded and would amply repay its cost, simply as a local road; but when in addition to this it will form the most direct route to the commercial metropolis of the country, and become a road, for connection with which, the projected air line from Washington City would aim—thus making Lancaster an important point on a great national highway running north and south, as it now is on the great road connecting the east with the west—it is difficult to believe that our citizens will hesitate long before they determine to put their shoulders to the wheel, to push forward the Lancaster and Delaware River Railroad to speedy completion.

Lancaster city has prospered slowly but surely on the trade of the magnificent county of which it is the county seat; but if we do not take heed and be both liberal and energetic in time, in securing railway concentration here, we may find before many years a number of railways traversing our county, avoiding the city and carrying away its trade. Just as by our supineness we failed to secure the running of the main and short-est line of the Reading and Columbia Railway to this city; just as we see the Baltimore Central railway tapping the Southern part of our county; just as the Reading and Wilmington road is doing the same kind office by its Eastern section; in just this way if we do not take care, we will find numerous other railroads, some of which are even now projected, traversing our borders and bearing away from the city the country trade on which it lives.

Will not then our citizens taught by facts and rendered wise by experience, be up and doing to secure the early completion of our road to the Delaware; or will they continue to lie supinely on their backsand trust to a kind Providence that the grass will not grow in our streets in the years to come.

GOVERNOR Geary has approved the bill submitting the location of the public buildings, of Philadelphia, to a vote of the people of that city. The bill prohibits the use of Independence Square, and the choice will lie between Penn and Washington Squares.

Simon Cameron and Jefferson Davis.

When the negro Revels was admitted to a seat in the United States Senate, Simon Cameron could not resist the temptation to make a splurge. With the dramatic air of one who prophecies after a thing has happened, he asserted that he had told Jefferson Davis, when he left the Senate Chamber to engage in secession, that he would live to see a negro occupy the seat vacated by him. It was not long until Jefferson Davis wrote the following letter to a friend who inquired in regard to the truth of Cameron's statement:

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 23, 1870.

MY DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 2d instant reached here during my absence, which will explain the delay in this reply. Senator Cameron made no such statement as that quoted by you. He made no remarks to me at the time of my withdrawal from the Senate other than the expression of his good wishes for me. His relation with me had been uniformly those of personal kindness, and I have expected him, as a duty to himself and to truth, to deny having made such remarks as have been imputed to the newspapers.

Men had not then reached the degree of stultification which caused the withdrawal of States from the Union to be called "rebellion;" and the only remark, as far as I know, made by any Senator, which had the least practical bearing, was the expression of Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, that he expected us all soon to come back. Very respectfully and truly yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Cameron was in trouble as soon as that note found its way into the newspapers, but he summoned his present henchman, Forney, to the rescue. With subservient alacrity the author of the celebrated Jamison letter answered the call of his master. A consultation was held, the scene of the story was shifted, and Forney writes up and publishes in his two papers, both daily, a highly colored account of a scene which is represented to have occurred at the breakfast table of Jefferson Davis, when Cameron was partaking of his hospitalties, a couple of weeks before Mr. Davis retired from the Senate. If Jefferson Davis should see fit to do so, we have no doubt he can demolish this second fabrication as easily as he did the one which was first sent forth. Should he see proper to deny it a majority of men of all parties will believe his assertion in preference to that of the Senator from Pennsylvania. Even the loyal men of this State will take the word of the great arch rebel in preference to that of the man who owes his seat in the United States Senate to the grossest bribery and the most shameless corruption.

The Thirty-Eighth State.

To increase their power in Congress, and to make sure of a majority in the Senate for years to come the Radicals have admitted one territory after another into the Union, setting up State Governments where the requisite number of inhabitants was not to be found. The Washington *Republican* thus announces the advent of another bogus State:

"There is no longer any doubt that before Congress adjourns an enabling act will be passed to authorize Nevada to form a State Government, elect two Senators and one Representative to Congress and to apply for admission into the Union next December. The proposition to create the thirty-eighth State at first met with some opposition, but this has disappeared under the assurance that New Mexico will be as Republican in politics as she will be Republican in form. The Committee on Territories are already prepared in the House to report a bill.

That is a plain confession of the fact that the admission of the territory of New Mexico into the Union of States is made dependent upon its political complexion. If it was not prepared to send two Radical Senators to Washington it would be kept out for an indefinite period. It is only because the admission of New Mexico will add two more to the Radical majority in the Senate, that its small population of a mongrel character is to be endowed with the attributes of State sovereignty.

The Death Penalty.

The Detroit *Post* in a recent issue has an elaborate article upon the results of the abolition of the death penalty in the State of Michigan. It gives statistics which show that murders have decreased since the abolition of capital punishment, while convictions have been rendered more certain than they ever were under the bloody code. In 1847 the change was made, and year by year, from that time to the present, the ratio of murders has decreased. During the first eleven years which followed abolition, the average per centage of murders in comparison with other crimes, was two and seven tenths; during the last eleven only one and seven-tenths. These statistics are calculated to substantiate the position taken by those who urge the abolition of the death penalty. It is solely a question of expediency, and favorable reports from such States as have changed their laws in relation to the punishment for murder, constitute the strongest argument which can be brought against the continuance of capital punishment. An experience of over twenty years has convinced the people of Michigan that the destruction of the gallows renders human life more safe, and the crime of murder less frequent. That is a fact which legislators would do well to ponder carefully.

Mr. Tom Scott's Latest.

Our readers will be astonished to learn that the Managers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company have ordered that on and after Monday, May 2d, two of their trains shall cease to make Lancaster a stopping place; one of these is the train east, passing through here about noon, and the other the train west, which goes through Lancaster about 2½ o'clock P. M. It will strike every one that this is treating in a very cool and high-handed way a city of the size of Lancaster, and a place which is so important a feeder to the business of the road.—We are glad to understand that our Councils, justly indignant at this outrageous treatment, purpose, at their meeting on Wednesday evening, taking effective measures to enforce the strict letter of the city ordinances, regulating the speed at which trains may pass through the city limits; and adopting such other measures as will fully satisfy the men who control the Pennsylvania Railroad, that there are some things which they cannot do, and that there is a limit to the amount of extortion and insolence which we will patiently endure at their hands. Their excuse for not stopping here is, that to compete with the Erie Railroad, they must run through from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh in seven hours; but our Councils will at least take care that their train shall run through Lancaster slow enough to enable all the passengers on it, who don't want their necks broken, to escape that fate by jumping off here while the train is in motion; we owe so much to humanity.

SOME of the negro orators who have been spouting politics since the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment have threatened that terrible things shall be done to any colored man who may vote the Democratic ticket. The places where they live are to be made too hot to hold them, and they are to be ostracised and exiled. It is surprising how completely these black fellows have become imbued with the proscriptive spirit of the Radical party. They echo the teachings of Wendel Phillips with parrot-like precision. Let them go on with the programme they have laid down. They may whip all the negroes of Pennsylvania into the Radical ranks, but they will drive out more than an equal number of white men, and the Democratic party will be largely the gainer in the end.

A CASE taken up to the Supreme Court by J. Edgar Thompson, Esq., of this State, to test the right of Kansas to tax the Pacific railroad has just been decided. Chief Justice Chase affirms the right of the State to levy the tax and to collect it by seizing property of the company.

Achapesnorricher.

Our thanks are due to Hon. John S. Stiles, M. C., for a variety of rare vegetable and fruit seeds. Our friend will place us under a still greater weight of obligation, if he will advise us how the Ionian Islanders—whence it is said to come — pronounce the name of that "green fleshed Musk Melon" of theirs; the label spells it "ACHAPESNORRICHER. Somebody has borrowed our Dictionary of the Ionian language, or we would not bother our friend for the information. We have a Dictionary of the Hawaiian language, and also Lexicons of various other remarkable tongues, but we cannot find the word in any of them. We have no doubt the melon is a very valuable variety, and is appropriately given a big name from the immense size of the fruit; acting under this impression, we intend to plant only one seed to the acre.

We judge, too, that it is a spicy melon, a near relative of the nutmeg variety, and that the name, being translated from Ionian into English, would probably be the "Pepper" melon, the fruit being heavily stocked with that article, and not requiring in its consumption, the accompaniment of pepper and salt. This being the case, its sneeze-sounding name is very happily given—A-ch-a!

Who Stole that Bill?

The bill authorizing the people of Lancaster county to elect a Keeper of the Prison, went to the House, and was there adopted with a single amendment. It was never returned to the Senate, but mysteriously disappeared in *transitu*. What become of it no one can tell. It is believed that the bill was stolen from the files of the House, and its passage thus defeated. Who was the thief? He ought to be hunted up and incarcerated. His services would entitle him to the most tender and considerate treatment at the hands of the man who will be largely benefitted by the larceny.—Mr. Sensenig could very well afford to furnish him with every luxury the market would supply for services rendered, to clothe him in luxurious raiment of the latest cut, and to supply him with wines, cigars, &c. Who is the thief that stole that bill? What detective can ferret out the scamp?

The Mayor of Richmond.

The admission of Mr. Ellison to his place as Mayor of the City of Richmond is a rare event in the subjugated South. It is a victory of law over carpet-bag impudence and arbitrary power. Cahoon was appointed Mayor during the military rule of General Canby and, like others of his class, he undertook to hold on to a profitable position after a successor had been legally elected by the people. The question who shall be Mayor of Richmond is not in itself very important, but the settling of a principle, and the subjection of military rule to the civil authorities in the South, is something to rejoice over.

THEY are quarreling in Maryland over a fund raised for the purpose of building an Asylum for Inebriates, and the probability is that the institution will not be built in consequence. This can scarcely be considered a public calamity. Inebriate asylums do not accomplish the cures that were expected of them. They cost fearfully in consideration of the few semi-reforms they effect. A drunkard who does not drink only because it is restrained by force as it were—who abstains simply because he is placed where he cannot get intoxicating liquors, is liable to fall as soon as he is put in the way of temptation. The man who has the will to lay off the habit while in his usual haunts, and without experiencing any but self-imposed moral restraint may consider himself safe. Such a man has no need of asylum treatment; while all others will find that treatment but of temporary and imperfect value.

The Pennsylvania State Sunday School Convention.

The annual convention for the year 1870 will be held at Harrisburg, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 14, 15 and 16. Geo. H. Stuart, Esq., is expected to preside. Each Sunday School in the State is invited to send two or more delegates. Pastors of churches, Superintendents of Sunday Schools, and prominent Sunday School workers from all parts of the State are invited to attend and participate.

THE Freedmen's Bureau investigation as it progresses shows up the specious hypocrite, General Howard, in an unenviable light. The evidence already taken shows that he has received lots of land in Washington city, has been interested in contracts, and has been engaged in sharp practice with the moneys entrusted to his charge. This saintly loyalist is likely to come out of the investigation with his reputation for piety and purity seriously damaged.

A QUESTION.—Since it is a well ascertained fact that the Vice President of the Pennsylvania Railroad thinks that he owns this State, are not our geographers wrong in making us residents of Pennsylvania; should they not at once get out new and revised editions calling our State Scotland?"

IT seems that Mrs. Lincoln has recently written to Gen. Grant, a begging letter, in which she complains of her poverty, and that a pension has not been granted her. Those who know the amount of money which she received as her portion of the estate of her husband, and from the subscriptions made for her benefit in different sections of the country, cannot account for her assertions that she is in great want of means.

State Items.

A mysterious disease is making sad havoc among the cattle in Somerset county.

Greensburg, Westmoreland county, has two excellent fire companies supplied with good engines.

Seventy-five horses, netting about $10,000, were sold during court week in Waynesburg, Greene county.

Rich iron ore has been discovered in Lycoming county.

By a recent act of assembly, a uniform series of school books is to be established in Somerset county.

J. N. Boyd, Esq., formerly of Washington county, has become associated in the editorship of the Chillicothe, Mo., *Journal*.

The Governor has appointed Sylvanus I. Frazer a Commissioner of Deeds at Hancock, N. Y., and E. H. Tharp a notary public at Philadelphia.

It is understood that thirty thousand tons of railroad iron will be forwarded this season from Johnstown via Erie to Duluth, to be used in the construction of the Northern Pacific railroad.

The emigrant trade on the Pennsylvania railroad is on the increase. Heavy trains pass through Harrisburg daily, bearing hundreds of foreigners to the far West.

A Pennsylvania farmer states that he cured his daughter of the Grecian bend by pouring water on her, and holding her out in the sun till she warped back again.

The law which authorized the Commissioners of Westmoreland county, to premiums on fox scalps has been repealed. The repeal dates March 18th, and no premium can be paid for those killed since.

Several families were taken suddenly and violently ill in Somerset, Somerset co., the other day after eating cheese, purchased at one of the grocery stores in that place.

Mr. Joseph Wilson of Canonsburg, Washington county, while in Pittsburgh on the 14th inst., was attacked by four men near the Grain Elevator and garroted and robbed of a valuable gold watch and $130 in greenbacks.

James Keys, son of John Keys of Smith township, Greene county, attempted to jump from a train at Skelley's Station on the Pan Handle Railroad on the 15th inst., and fell under the cars, and had both feet cut off.

On the 16th inst., a stranger while standing near a burning log-heap in the vicinity of New Florence, Westmoreland co., was seized with a fit, and fell into the fire and was severely burned before he could be pulled out.

SKETCHES OF TRAVEL NORTHWARD.

No. III.—West Point.

[CONTINUED.]

The cadets' encampment commences late in June, and terminates about the 29th of August, during which period little or no time is devoted to study, but all to military exercises. The encampment is located on the north east portion of the plain, directly in front of the Hotel, and consists of eight rows of tents, opening in four streets, running parallel to each other, and a broad avenue running through the centre. The officers and instructors occupy tents opposite their respective companies, and the tent of the commander is in a central position on the avenue. A short distance in front of the encampment are the guard tents, six or eight in number, and sentinels surround the camp day and night, the regular discipline of an army in the field being enforced. The summer uniform is white linen pantaloons and dark gray dress coat, trimmed with black braid and large bullet brass buttons. The military exercises commence as early as five o'clock in the morning, at which time reveille is beat; but the first exercise that is particularly interesting to the visitor, is morning dress parade, which takes place at 8 o'clock. It occupies about three-quarters of an hour, and is well worth seeing. Nine o'clock is the hour for artillery drill. There are three batteries: the siege battery, commanding the river on the north, the light foot battery and flying battery. The latter is drawn by horses and most of the commands are given by the trumpet. In this connection we may state that on the morning of our departure, a salute of thirteen guns was fired in honor of the arrival of General Humphreys, and we do not think we shall ever forget the grand echoes it awakened among the mountains.

At half-past ten o'clock the engineer class proceeds to the river bank on the north for drill. We saw them on two or three occasions, construct a pontoon bridge. The boats consisted of wooden frames, fitted together and covered with canvass, and it is astonishing to see how quickly the bridge is constructed.

The instructions in cavalry exercise, are given in riding hall in the winter months, and during the encampment the evolutions of a squadron are occasionally practiced on the plain.

Infantry drill takes place at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and the new cadets—or "Plebes," as they are almost always called—drill at intervals from 11 A. M. to 5 P. M.

At sunset every one proceeds to the parade ground, to witness evening dress parade. It is interesting and is generally considered the great event of the day. Just as the sun sinks to rest and a parting ray illuminates the crests of the mountains, a single drum is heard. In a few moments the full chorus of the band proclaims that the hour for evening dress parade has arrived. The music is echoed and re-echoed in tones softer, sweeter and fainter until the surrounding mountains all resound with the notes of exquisite melody. The music ceases. The various military movements are executed; the orders for the succeeding day are published; the band marches in front of the parade, and as the last sounds of the music die away the reverberations of the evening gun announce that the duties of the day are ended. Hops are given in the Academy building every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, and all the visitors are cordially invited to attend. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings, the camp is enlivened by the excellent music of the great band, which is universally conceded to be one of the finest, if not the finest, military bands in the country. At ten minutes before ten o'clock the tattoo is beat, which is the signal for every cadet to be in camp, and at precisely ten o'clock, the drum is tapped three times, when every light is extinguished and during the rest of the night a death-like silence prevails, which is only broken every hour by the sentinel's cry of "all's well."

"Flirtation Walk"—an elegantly shaded path, lined and overarched by trees—winds through Kosciuszko's garden and extends from the hotel to the Library.

The "drives" about "The Point," though limited in extent by the rugged character of the country, are in great variety and beauty. A fine road leads to Cozzens's Hotel, two miles South, or the visitor may cross the river by the ferry and see the beauties of the eastern shore, or he may drive up to old Fort Putnam, of which we shall speak presently.

Like most summer resorts, West Point is rather quiet on Sundays. At 8 o'clock in the morning there is an inspection of tents, arms, clothing, etc., by the officers in command of the post. This is the only military exercise of the day, except morning and evening dress parade.

The cemetery is located a little northwest of the plain and commands a fine river view. Here are the graves of a number of distinguished officers, and their beautiful monuments tell the sad story of many a battle-field. Conspicuous among the attractive monuments is the one erected to the memory of the cadets who have died while at the Academy. It is large and imposing, composed of separate blocks of marble, on which the names are inscribed and surmounted by a field-piece, flags and other appropriate emblems. A handsome block of white marble, bearing the following neat inscription, marks the grave of Gen. Scott:

WINFIELD SCOTT,
Born in Dinwiddie county, Virginia,
June 13, 1786,
Died at West Point, N. Y.,
May 29, 1866.

History records his eminent services as a warrior, a pacificator and general-in-chief of the armies of the United States.
Medals and an equestrian statue, ordered by Congress in the Capitol of his country, are his public monuments.
This stone is a mark of affection and veneration of his daughters.
Requiescat in Pace.

Upon the top of the mountain immediately West of the plain is old Fort Putnam, one of the most noted and memorable points of Revolutionary interest. It has never been used since the Revolution and having been subject to the storm for nearly a century is rapidly falling to pieces. In the immediate vacinity are the ruins of Forts Webb and Wyllis.

No language, however graphic, can describe the beauty of the landscape presented from this hallowed and memoralde spot. Six miles below we behold Anthony's Nose "looming to the skies," a little nearer is the Robinson House, made famous by the treason of Arnold; on the north rises Cro'nest; nine miles farther up is Newburg, while the Shawanyunk and Catskill mountains may be seen in the extreme distance.

Of course we have only spoken of some of the attractions of that Point. We have said nothing of its great importance during the Revolution or of its being the scene of Arnold's treachery. A visit to West Point must be ever pleasing and interesting to an American, as no spot on our continent recalls to his mind more vividly the memories of the glorious past. Here Washington, La Fayette and others, whose names shine brightly in our country's history have tread, and

"There's not a verdant blade, nor mountain
But treasures up the memories of freedom's story."

C. A. L.

The Public Debt Statement.

The following is a recapitulation of the public debt statement for the month ending April 30, 1870: Debt bearing interest in coin, bonds at five per cent., $221,589,300.00; bonds at six per cent., $1,886,355,900.00; amount outstanding, $2,107,945,200.00; interest, $62,824,778.86; debt bearing interest in lawful money, certificates at three per cent., $15,885, 000.00; navy pension fund at three per cent., $14,000,000.00; amount outstanding, $59,535,000.00; interest, $310,444.33; debt on which interest has ceased since maturing, amount outstanding, $3,790,567.55; interest, $490,553.30; debt bearing no interest, demanded and legal tender notes, $656,037,221; fractional currency, $39,336,224.68; certificates of gold deposited, $33,840, 490; total amount outstanding, $2,600, 570, 709.43; total interest, $52,622,795.29; total debt, principal and interest, to date, including interest due and unpaid, $2,654,193,484.72; amount in Treasury—coin, $115,525,213; currency, $6,954,094.06; sinking fund in the United States—coin, interest on bonds (purchased and accrued interest thereon), $77,885,980; debt less amount in Treasury on the 1st ult., $2,432,562,127.74; decrease of the debt during past month, $11,697,793.39; decrease of the debt since March 1, 1870, $17,464,142.82.

Health of Alexander H. Stephens.

It will be heard with regret that Mr. Alexander H. Stephens writes from Crawfordsville, Ga., under date of April 12, in such a strain as to leave no doubt that his health is as far from as good as was recently stated, and as had been hopefully believed by his numerous friends. He says he is a little better, but hardly able to sit up to scribble a letter. He can neither stand nor walk without assistance of some kind: writing has become so painful that anything of that kind is now done for him by others. His letter concludes thus: "The heavy work on which I have been engaged so long being now completely off my hands, the visits of congenial friends are the more welcome." This will be read with the hope that Mr. Stephens is mistaken with regard to the extent of his weakness, and that the genial spring and the society of his friends will assure him a promise of many years of active usefulness.

THE RICHMOND HORROR.

Heartrending Scenes and Affecting Incidents.

Statements of Those Who Were Rescued.

RICHMOND, April 28.—Business was almost entirely suspended in this city today. Bells were tolled and the day was observed as one of general mourning. The citizens nearly all attended the funerals of friends who were victims of the appalling disaster. So great was the demand for hacks and horses that it was almost impossible to obtain all that were needed. In several instances funerals took place from the same church, one following upon the other.

Among the incidents of the fatal accident of yesterday are many of an exceedingly remarkable character.

A Northern lady and gentleman, Miss Frothingham and her father, of Brooklyn, who were viewing the surrounding country from the cupola of the building at the time of the sad event, were entirely cut off for nearly two hours, and were kept in terror in their lofty prison, from which they could witness the movements of the excited crowd below, the display of dead and dying on the square, the endless scene of confusion, with the tolling of bells, wailing of women and children, without the remotest idea of the occasion at all, beyond the terrible shock. In this predicament they, together with a negro, remained, all escape by which they had ascended. A door behind had also been locked, so that they were prevented leaving until the negro broke through a skylight and lowered the gentleman and lady to the roof. The lath and plaster was then broken and they succeeded in reaching the library, through which, in a fainting condition and with fear and trembling, they reached the open air, where they beheld in all its horrors the disaster that so nearly included them among its victims.

Both of the Mayors fell through, one of them, Chahoon, being injured, as were two of the counsel on both sides. Mr. Thomas Joynes fell, together with Dr. J. Bock, and his mouth rested against the doctor's cheek. He asked Mr. Joynes who it was near him; the other told him his name, and he asked him in case he survived to carry many messages of affection to his family. "I am dying," he said. "Tell my poor wife how much I loved her and thought of her in my last moments." With other words of endearment and love for those he left behind, Dr. Brook then died. Mr. Rush Burgess fell on top of a gentleman whose name he could not learn. He asked, "my friend can you move a little?" Mr. Burgess replied, "No I cannot stir." "Well," said he, "I must die then; goodby," and soon after he was sleeping the sleep that knows no waking. During the time in which Mr. George Wm. Allian lay, of Alexandria, was covered in the ruins Mr. Chandler, who was between the window and Mr. Brent, was endeavoring to get away, when Mr. Brent caught him by the arm and begged him for God's sake to let him get some air; but in the latter position it was impossible for him to comply until assistance was rendered. In a short time, however, he was taken out and his life