Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1870

The Case of Tennessee Butler.

The indictment of Roderick Random Butler and his trial will show up the rascality of one of the brood of reprobates who have managed to crawl into Congress under the sheltering folds of reconstruction. There are two indictments now pending against Butler, each of which contains six counts. The first count of the first indictment charges him with having forged the name of Bethany Farmer, the widow of J. Calvin Farmer, of Ashe county, North Carolina, upon a check drawn by the President of Raleigh National Bank upon the National Republican Bank of New York city, in favor of said Bethany Farmer, for the sum of $473.12, with intent to defraud said Bethany Farmer. The other five counts are framed to cover other parts of the same transaction. The second indictment is similar to the first, the party in this instance defrauded being Rebecca J. Madron, of same locality. Both the women are the widows of members of the 13th Union Tennessee Cavalry who died in the service. Pensions were granted and the checks duly made out and sent to Butler, who was acting, or professing to act as the Attorney of these widows. They never received a dollar of the money, or saw the checks until they were shown to them in the office of the United States District Attorney at Washington. The endorsements were forged by Butler and the money drawn and pocketed by him.

When Butler was first confronted with the charges he made light of them.—Subsequently he asserted that he had a power of attorney from Mrs. Farmer authorizing him to sign her name and draw the money, but an examination of the document he presented showed that it had also been forged. The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, who on August 1st published certain particulars of the case, said at the time, referring to this power of attorney:

"Sometime afterward the charge was made Butler appeared with two-half sheets of paper, on one of which was what purported to be a power of attorney from Mrs. Farmer, bearing date in October, 1869, and previous to Butler's endorsing her name. The other sheet contained a sworn statement from Mrs. Farmer, dated in April, 1870, setting forth that the affidavit she had forwarded a short time before was written under a misapprehension of the facts, and was erroneous.

"Both these papers were sworn to before a notary, and attested by the clerk of the Court in Tennessee, who, in this case, was Mr. Butler's son.

"When they came to be closely examined at the Pension office, it appeared that the paper was not only the same, but that both documents had formed part of a single sheet, as was shown by the fact that along the torn edges the ragged projections on one side exactly fitted the indentations upon the other."

It will be remembered that Butler was arrested last summer, during the campaign when he was a candidate for re-election. He had a writ of *habeas corpus* served on his captors, and being taken before a United States Judge in his section, was released. The action of the Judge was open to grave suspicion. The adherents of Butler threatened to mob the pension agents who had arrested him, and they had to leave the country. Subsequently the Pension Bureau turned the case over to the Department of Justice, and the result is the indictment of the accused. Notwithstanding the charges hanging over him, Butler daily occupies his seat on the Radical side of the House, and he made a speech in the Republican caucus the other night against amnesty. He declared, when he arrived in Washington, that he intended to rise in his seat and make an explanation of the matter, but has never attempted to do so. He will now have an opportunity to make his promised explanations before a Court of Justice.

Would it not be better to have the First District of Tennessee represented by an ex-rebel than by such a reprobate? Would it not be better to allow the people of the South to send their representative men to Congress, than for the country to be disgraced by a set of wretches such as have come into power under the reconstruction acts? These are questions which it seems to us any decent Republican would find it easy to answer.

Boutwell and Grant.

The report which was current in Washington a day or two ago, to the effect that Secretary Boutwell was about to resign is now denied; but there is no doubt that he is dissatisfied. The causes of grievance on the part of the Secretary are said to be, first, the evident disposition of Congress to do away with all internal revenue taxes except those upon wines, spirits, malt liquors and tobacco, as evidenced by the almost unanimous passage of such a resolution by the House the other day; and, secondly, the impression prevailing that the President has been converted to the theory that our taxation is much too heavy. Secretary Boutwell holds that to cease paying off the national debt would be an abandonment of that policy upon which the administration has prided itself so much, and he is not disposed to yield to the sudden change of programme which is now proposed. If the President insists upon making a complete departure from the course which has been pursued, the probabilities are that Mr. Boutwell will feel compelled to retire from the cabinet. He is pledged to the rapid payment of the National Debt, and that can not be effected without a continuance of the present heavy rate of taxation. The shrewder politicians of the Republican party have sense enough to see that such a course is unpopular, and they want to balance the boat and trim sail for the Presidential contest in 1872. If Grant takes sides with the politicians, Boutwell will have to go overboard—if he sticks to his Secretary, they are sure to founder together. The dilemma is not a pleasant one for either party.

The Devil's Political Career in North Carolina.

A resolution was offered in the North Carolina House of Representatives, requesting the delegation in Congress to use their influence in favor of a general amnesty and a repeal of the test-oath, and received 90 affirmative to 13 negative votes. Of the 13 nays 10 were negroes. Many Radicals, however, voted for the resolution. One of this party said in debate that he was willing to "endorse the individual application of Zeb. Vance, Joe. Turner or the devil," to which Mr. Jones, a Conservative, replied that the "devil had certainly been under no disabilities in North Carolina for the last two years. He was in nearly every office, and his cloven foot could be seen in almost every act done by the party so lately in power."

CORRUPTION and bribery seem to have become the order of the day in this country. A recent investigation shows that a publishing house in Philadelphia (Eldridge & Brothers) has been doing the school teachers of that city to secure patronage. The report of the committee establishes the fact, but we are glad to see that only a small number of the teachers have been implicated in this serious and disgraceful charge. Bribery in Congress and in our State legislatures is bad enough, but has become so common as no longer to excite wonder. Bribery in the Common Schools of the State is the very latest exhibition of the degeneracy of our times.

Archbishop Spalding's Lecture.

We publish elsewhere a complete abstract of the lecture of Archbishop Spalding upon the temporal power of the Pope. As this is a subject which is exciting no little attention throughout our country at the present time, the lecture of Archbishop Spalding will be read with interest by all classes.

The Art of Gerrymandering.

It is natural for any political party to seek to perpetuate its rule, and experience has shown that politicians are not scrupulous about the means they employ to accomplish such a result. One of the devices which has been much resorted to of late years is the dividing up of States, districts, and even cities, in such a manner as to defeat the will of the majority. The speech of Senator Wallace, which we publish elsewhere, shows how effectually this thing has been done in the State of Pennsylvania. There is no honest or right-minded citizen who can read Mr. Wallace's speech without being convinced that great injustice has been done by the gerrymandering of Congressional and Legislative districts. Ours is professedly a representative government, and whatever prevents a fair representation of the people of any district or of any party is in contravention to the spirit of our institutions.

There is no decent Republican in the State of Pennsylvania who will undertake to defend an apportionment, which requires Democratic candidates for Congress to receive nearly twice as many votes as are necessary to elect Republicans. There is no honest man who will dare to utter a word in favor of a gerrymander, which allows 3,700 Republicans to elect a member of the Legislature in Philadelphia, while it requires 9,000 Democrats to elect one; which gives three members of Assembly to the Republican County of Chester, with a population of 77,824, and only two to Democratic Montgomery, with a population of 81,612; which allows only one to Democratic Cumberland, with a population of 43,885, and two to the combined Republican counties of Tioga and Potter with a population of only 46,256; which allots two members to the Republican counties of Bradford and Sullivan, with a population of only 59,290, while it gives but two to the Democratic counties of Columbia, Montour and Northumberland, which have a population of 85,539; which permits the Republican counties of Susquehanna and Wyoming to elect two members, with a population of 42,115, while the Democratic counties of Wayne, Pike, Carbon and Monroe, with a population of 85,521, only elect the same number; which gives Lancaster county, with a population of 121,426, four members, and two Senators, and Luzerne, with a population of 160,951, only one Senator and three members.

The above figures are taken from the returns of the census just made public, and the apportionment was made when the relative population of the counties was about the same as it is at present. For further evidence that the apportionment was made on a fraudulent basis we have only to refer back to the census of 1860, which shows the following great disproportions. Then Chester had a population of 74,578, and Montgomery a population of 70,500; then the Democratic counties of Columbia, Montour and Northumberland had a population of 67,040, and the Republican counties of Bradford and Sullivan only 33,466; then the Democratic counties of Wayne, Pike, Monroe and Carbon had a population of 67,185, and the Republican counties of Susquehanna and Wyoming but 48,807. These figures are sufficient to show how the last apportionment of the State was made. That it was villainously dishonest, no one can deny.

It is by such means that the Republican party has managed to keep up its large majority in the Lower House of our Legislature and to control the Senate for seven years together. Just now the Senate is more nearly balanced than it has been at any time since the present outrageous apportionment was made. It is only so because one of the double districts and one or two of the single ones have disappointed the expectations of Republican politicians. The death of Mr. Watt leaves the Senate a tie, and its political complexion will depend upon the result of the coming election in the First District. That district is Democratic, and a full and fair vote will elect the Democratic candidate. The Republicans have complete control of the Lower House and have the Governor. If the Democrats obtain control of the Senate a fair apportionment bill will be adopted, one which will give to all sections of the State and to both political parties a fair representation in the State Legislature. The Democracy of Pennsylvania ask nothing more. When they were in power they never gerrymandered the State as the Radicals have done; nor would they do so now if they had the opportunity. They recognize the fact that ours is a representative government and would not attempt to do violence to that great principle which lies at the basis of our republican institutions.—Not so the Radicals. Should they succeed in electing their candidate for Senator in the First District, the State will be again gerrymandered as it now is.—The appeals which we daily see in Radical newspapers show that such is the fixed purpose of the party leaders. We hope and believe they will be defeated in their evil designs by the triumphant election of Mr. Dechert, the Democratic candidate for Senator in the First District.

The people of Pennsylvania will not rest satisfied until an amended State Constitution shall cut up the system of gerrymandering, and other Legislative evils by the roots, giving a free ballot and fair representation to all parties, and rendering our Legislature pure and respectable.

The Mayflower a Slave Ship.

Fred. Douglass made a speech at the New England dinner, given in the Congregational Church of Washington City the other evening, in which he asserted as a historical fact that the Mayflower, which brought over the Puritans, was subsequently fitted out by them as a slaver, and a cargo of slaves brought from Africa in her. He claimed that, as a descendant of that slave cargo, he had a peculiar and an indisputable right to speak at a meeting called to celebrate the landing of the Pilgrims who came over the Atlantic in the Mayflower.—And, why not? According to Fred. his ancestors were Pilgrims as well as the Puritans.

The white Pilgrims crossed the Atlantic in the Mayflower voluntarily, the black Pilgrims were brought across it in irons. The white Pilgrims soon forgot that they had been driven out of England by persecution and began to hang Quakers and others who differed with them in religious belief; they professed to be "the Lord's anointed people;" but they thought it all right and proper for them to tear negroes from their homes in Africa and to reduce them to slavery. It was not until long after the immediate descendants of the Puritans had sold the ancestors of Fred. Douglass to the Catholics of Maryland, the Cavaliers of Virginia and the Huegenots of the Carolinas, that the New England conscience became alive to the iniquity of the slave trade. It was by the votes of the New England men that the clause containing the slave trade was inserted in the Constitution of the United States. Fred. Douglass has a splendid text in the fact that the Mayflower was converted into a slaver, and he might get up a grand sensational lecture upon the subject.—Its delivery would no doubt create a decided impression in Boston.

Hydrophobia.

We publish elsewhere an able communication on the subject of hydrophobia, written by Dr. N. R. Smith for the Baltimore *Sun*. Dr. Smith is one of the most eminent physicians in the country, and his plain statements of the manner in which the dreadful effects of a bite from a rabid dog may be avoided ought to be made familiar to every one. The article is of great value and should be preserved for reference.

Defending the Fraudulent Apportionment.

The *Express* is the only newspaper in Pennsylvania which has the hardihood necessary to defend the infamous Legislative and Congressional gerrymander of the State, which was made by the Republican party. Other Radical newspapers have indulged in ill-natured flings at Senator Wallace, but the *Express* is the only one which has attempted to refute the facts contained in his recent speech, or which has dared to excuse the injustice which he so clearly pointed out. The *Express* asserts that its party only followed the example set by the Democratic party, in concocting the infamous gerrymander by which the Democracy have been cheated out of a fair representation in Congress and the State Legislature. How false that charge is may readily be shown by a reference to the past political history of the Commonwealth, without entering into details.

Up to the time when the present apportionment bills were passed, the party which carried the State on the popular vote was almost certain to obtain control of the Legislature, and to secure a majority of Congressmen. The Democrats paid due regard to the principles which underlie our form of government, and did not violate the great doctrine which recognizes the rights of all parties to be represented according to their numbers. The consequence was that when public sentiment in the State changed, the sentiment which proved strongest was fairly represented both in Congress and in the State Legislature. It was reserved for the Radicals to violate the principles on which the government rests, to give to Republican counties and districts a representation greater than was accorded to Democratic counties and districts with a larger population, and to join together counties which had no natural relation to each other, for the express purpose of swamping Democratic majorities and securing an undue preponderance of power in the National and State Legislatures. Had the Democrats been as reckless and as unprincipled as their opponents have proven themselves to be, they might have prevented the Republican party from securing fair representation, and might have held the State Legislature and a majority of the Congressional districts in spite of all the mutations in public sentiment which have taken place. They did not do so when they had the power, because they were restrained by a higher sense of honor and a more conscientious regard for principle than has been exhibited by the leaders of the Republican party.

The *Express* does not refute a single one of the long array of damaging facts which are so clearly set forth in the speech of Senator Wallace. It says: "We could easily point out districts where, under the present apportionment the Democrats get more than they are entitled to." If so easily done, why not do it? Why make a bold assertion without backing it up by facts and figures? The truth is the *Express* can do nothing of the sort. All the advantages of the existing fraudulent apportionment are on the side of the Radicals. The gerrymander is so palpably fraudulent and so grossly outrageous that no newspaper in the State, except the *Express*, has attempted to defend it. It stands alone as the apologist of the most infamous political swindle ever perpetrated—and it does this while professing to be an independent journal, and while pretending to be an advocate of legislative reform.

We do not pretend that there is no danger that the Democratic party might be induced to follow the bad example set by the Radicals, though the fairness of apportionments made under its rule would justify such an assumption. We want to take away from any party both the power and the temptation to indulge in such political swindles for all time to come. We are, therefore, an earnest advocate of such changes in our State Constitution as will ensure a fair representation of minorities as well as majorities. The course pursued by the *Express*, which also professes to be a friend of such reform, and the action of prominent Radicals in other parts of the State, are calculated to shake the faith of the people in the professions they make. If a Constitutional Convention is called, it must be entirely divested of a partisan character.

THE day after it had published a full report of Surratt's lecture, Forney's *Press* spoke editorially as follows:

Yesterday morning the *Press* alone of all the papers in Philadelphia or New York, contained a full report of the revelation of John H. Surratt, as made in his lecture, delivered at the impressible little town of Rockville, Maryland. While the fashionable class sheets contented themselves with the meagre abstract of the Associated Press, one or two of the ranking journals of New York published considerable portions with, of course, but the ordinary ability to lay the whole, without note, comment, or synopsis, before their readers.

We commend the above to the editor of the *Express*. It may have a tendency to remove the redundancy of bile from his troubled stomach.

THE Grand Army of the Republic protested against General Pleasanton as Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and nearly all the politicians were opposed to him, but Grant sent his name in, thus showing that he is as obstinate and untractible in such matters as ever. He evidently regards offices as something provided for the express purpose of enabling him to reward his personal friends, and can not be induced to consider them in any other light.

ADMIRAL GLISSON, a relative of ex-Senator Drake, was sent only a few months ago to relieve Admiral Radford from the command of the European squadron. And now he is coming home to be retired on his new rank, and of course to be provided like others, with easy and profitable shore duty. Under this extraordinary system, there will be more admirals than captains in a few years, and the cost to taxpayers of idle officers will be immensely increased.

THE Postal Bill has passed the House with a clause abolishing the franking privilege. The free exchange of newspapers and magazines is retained, as it should be. Now let the Senate concur in the action of the House, and do away with the abuse which costs the people an immense sum of money, without conferring any compensatory benefit upon them.

DR. SAMUEL BARD, editor of the *True Georgian*, who was nominated by the President as Governor of Idaho, but after confirmation declined, has joined the Democracy. In a letter to the President he gives his reasons for the change, opposing the Republican policy in regard to the South, but declares that his high personal regard for the President is unchanged.

THE New York *Express* thinks Fred. Douglass might buy the Washington *Chronicle* from Forney, and combine it with the paper he now publishes. Fred. would be just the man to run the Radical organ at the seat of government. He is in favor of universal amnesty, and in some other respects more liberal and decent than Forney has proven himself to be.

AMONG others who are spoken of as likely to be the candidate of the Democrats for Speaker of the next House of Representatives is P. Gray Meek, Esq., of the Bellefonte *Watchman*. Meek has won for himself a high reputation as a man of ability, and he would be an unexceptionable candidate. He has already served two terms in the Legislature.

NATURE has finally accomplished what Ben. Butler failed to achieve. A great flood in the James River washed out the Dutch Gap Canal so as to allow the passage of steamboats through it. This shortens the route to Richmond considerably.

Grant's New Dodge on the San Domingo Job.

After all Grant said in his message in regard to San Domingo one would suppose he would scout the idea of sending a commission to the island, to inquire into its value and its condition. In his message he gave to the country a description of the coveted territory, more particular and circumstantial than the advertisement of any property in the catalogue of an auctioneer, whose profits depend upon the price he gets. The immediate and unconditional purchase of San Domingo was first urged upon the Senate all last winter; failing to secure the necessary two-thirds in that body, the proposition to make the acquisition by a majority vote of the two Houses of Congress was made the prominent feature of the late annual message. If the Republican members believe and trust Grant they ought not to demand any further information on the subject. The message ought to be enough to satisfy them. But they evidently do not believe the President. Out of their distrust of his word springs the proposition to send out a set of Commissioners to begin the whole business anew. If Grant knows the scheme to be proper, honest and clear of fraud, he ought to be able to prove it to his party friends in Congress. He is the man who seems to be chiefly interested in the proposed purchase. A few men, like Morton, of Indiana, champion the job out of favor to the President, but the majority of the leading men of the Republican party are opposed to it *in toto*. The people of this country do not want this new domain, with its turbulent population of barbarian negroes, hitched on to the United States, and the belief universally prevails that Grant is only eager in the matter because he expects to make money out of it.

The Cost of Contested Elections.

Under the encouragement given to this business by the Radicals, contests for seats in Congress have yearly become more numerous. There have been before the Election Committee of the present House thirty cases. In salaries alone $50,000 have been paid to those who have failed to establish claims to seats, and the expenses of these contests has amounted to fully as much more as the salaries paid, the printing in a single case costing $7,000. Last winter a bill was presented providing that no payment shall be made to any contestant unless he establishes his right to a seat. Such a law would be just and right in every sense of the word.

The probabilities are that there will be nearly as many contested seats in the next House as there were in the present one, and there is no good reason why the thing should be encouraged by offering a premium in the shape of a handsome salary, and the payment of all expenses in the case of failure to make out a good claim. During the past fourteen years, under Radical rule in the House, a quarter of a million of dollars have been wasted by this iniquitous system. If a candidate for Congress believes that he has been cheated out of an election, let him make good his case at his own expense, and let him be given the full salary for the whole term if he succeeds in unseating his opponent. With a committee which would decide contested cases on their merits such a plan would insure substantial justice, and no man would claim a seat who was not honestly and fairly elected. If such a law were passed, and in connection therewith an act remodeling the method of deciding contested seats, the people would be saved expense and there would be greater fairness in the conduct of Congressional Elections. A partizan committee, such as that of the present Congress, is an unfit tribunal to decide upon a contested election case. Some of the decisions of the present committee have been simply outrageous. All Democrats ask is that the evidence in such cases shall decide them, and not the mere partizan bias of the men who are constituted judges. Let there be a thorough reform in this matter. Honesty and decency imperatively demand it.

SENATOR SUMNER, has introduced a bill which proposes to prohibit the further printing of greenbacks and fractional currency, and then to retire gradually the fractional currency, so as to get rid of the whole of it within a year, and to begin at once, retaining in the Treasury the gold interest payable to the banks on bonds deposited as security for their circulation. If this bill passes it will be the first practical step taken by the government in the direction of a return to specie payments, and Mr. Sumner will deserve the thanks of all the friends of a sound currency if he gets his bill through.

IT is said that Grant intends to name Fred. Douglass as one of the Commissioners to report upon the propriety of purchasing San Domingo, should Congress authorize the sending out of such a Commission. As the inhabitants of the island are nine-tenths negroes, Grant might as well make the Commission up entirely of "American citizens of African descent." He will, in any event, take good care to appoint no one who is not committed to the job, on which he has set his avaricious heart, and by which he expects to profit so largely.

Morals of Radical Congressmen.

The New York *Tribune* says:

The XLIst Congress is not likely to go down to history with a commendable reputation for good morals. Two of its members have been expelled for selling cadetships, one resigned to escape expulsion, three or four others got off only by the hard swearing of their accomplices, one has convicted himself of attempting to procure counterfeit money to pass among the poor negroes, one is charged with cheating soldiers' widows out of their pensions, and one is under indictment of another for bigamy is reported.

The fellows who are thus held up to scorn are members of "the party of great moral ideas."

IT is stated in North Carolina papers that Senator Abbott will exert himself to prevent the removal of Gov. Vance's disabilities, and then assert his claim to the seat to which Vance has been chosen, on the ground that he (Senator Abbott) received the next highest number of votes in the Senatorial election, and is therefore entitled to the seat should Governor Vance continue under the congressional ban. That is just such a trick as we might expect the Radicals to indulge in.

A BILL has been reported by the Judiciary Committee of the House for the relief of parties whose lands were sold for taxes in the South. It provides for repurchase by the owners or their heirs on payment of taxes due, expenses and costs. This will relieve some who would otherwise suffer grievously.

THE appointment of the Rev. Mr. Cramer, brother-in-law of Gen. Grant, as missionary to the Danes, has been rapidly followed by that of Mr. B. F. Peixotte as Missionary to the Roumanians. Is there no end to the list of the President's relations?

THE bill abolishing the grade of Admiral in the Navy, which passed the House, will meet with more opposition in the Senate. Grant is doing all he can to defeat it and to secure the confirmation in the office of his friend Porter.

THE amount of internal revenue collected from the 1st of July to the 12th of December, 1869, was $80,493,238.60. For the corresponding period of this year the returns show a decrease of 1,972,918.71.

C. C. BOWEN, Radical Congressman from South Carolina, has been indicted in Washington on a charge of bigamy. Of such is "the party of great moral ideas."

Counterfeit Dealers in Counterfeit Money.

One of the most remarkable devices ever invented for extracting money from the pockets of the simple, is that which has been largely practiced by certain rascals in New York city, who profess to be dealers in counterfeit United States currency. Circular letters are sent out by these scamps all over the country, and the parties receiving them are assured that they have been recommended and carefully chosen as proper persons to be entrusted with an important secret. The circulars then go on to state that counterfeit United States currency of different denominations will be forwarded at rates ranging from fifteen dollars of good money for a hundred of the bogus, down to five dollars, or less, for the same amount, according to size of bills and quantity ordered. These rogues do not trust to the mails but have the money forwarded to them by Express. They avoid the mails in order to avoid the eyes of the police. They pretend to have an unlimited supply of counterfeit currency, which, in the language of one of the circulars, the agent will "take a solemn oath will never be detected." That oath might be safely taken, for the dupes who would be knaves never receive anything in the simple of money. Either they never hear from these fellows who addressed them as "Dear Friend," or they receive by Express a package of brown paper or shavings.

The extent to which this infamous trade has been carried has been made manifest by the arrest of a couple of the sharpers engaged in it in New York. On examination of their memorandum book it was ascertained that they had received in forty-seven days thirty thousand dollars from their dupes. Among the letters found in their possession were two from a Radical candidate for Congress in the State of Georgia, which we publish elsewhere. Mr. Winby no doubt intended to use the "bogus" to buy up negro votes, and the near approach of the election will account for his extreme anxiety to receive it. We can scarcely find it in our hearts to pity the fools who are duped by this dodge. Every one who has forwarded a dollar to them has not only lost his money, but has superadded thereto the consciousness that he was ready and willing to engage in the worst kind of knavery. The actual dealers in counterfeit money resort to no such devices. When they have perfected what they regard as a successful imitation of a bank bill they quietly distribute it by careful hands among those who are known to them, and known to be worthy of the evil confidence thus placed in them. Then, simultaneously in different parts of the country, "the queer is shoved," as they say in their thieves' jargon, as rapidly as possible. In plain English an effort is made to get rid of the greatest possible amount before the counterfeit is detected by experts and the public warned through the press. All who have sent money to these counterfeit dealers in counterfeit money have been served right. They deserved to be swindled and have been most effectually tricked out of money which they risked for the purpose of being enabled to cheat others.

A Strange Report About Forney.

The New York *Journal of Commerce*, a paper which is not given to sensational reports, has the following among its Washington despatches:

"J. W. Forney, it is said, has abandoned President Grant after an interview with the President on Thursday, when the latter insisted upon his advocating the purchase of San Domingo. This he refused, on the ground that he is opposed to it, and that he would not write against his convictions for a person who had never substantially recognized his labors in the party."

If Forney is indeed about to desert Grant, it must be on the same principle that rats desert a sinking ship. He never supports any party or adheres to any man any longer than he finds it pecuniarily profitable to do so. We should not be surprised to see him join the Revenue and Civil Service Reform Party. That would only be a slight return toward the principles which he so zealously advocated when he was a Democrat, and edited the *Intelligencer* and the *Pennsylvanian*. It may be he only intends to advocate the claims of some other candidate for the Radical nomination in 1872. He will look well before he leaps, and will try to light as near as possible to some pile of public plunder.

The tone of Forney's *Press* leads us to conclude that the paragraph which we quote from the *Journal of Commerce* is correct. In a special telegram from Washington he berates Grant severely for his appointment of Gen. Pleasanton to the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue. He accuses him of falsehood and duplicity in the matter, asserting positively that the place was promised to Mr. Douglass, of Erie. We may look for open war soon, unless Forney should be appeased in some way. Grant can stop the mouth of this Cerberus by a lucrative appointment, and in no other way.

SIMON CAMERON and John W. Forney have "lost faith in human nature" since Grant declined to make their man Douglass, Commissioner of Internal Revenue. If Grant does not soon do something to appease Cameron, he will not be asked to go on a fishing spree next spring, and will no more taste the delicious champagne which Simon imports direct for the use of guests at the hospitable mansion of Lochiel.

IF Boutwell is to be removed, we would suggest that Wimpy, of Georgia, should be made Secretary of the Treasury. He has shown great financial ability in his efforts to secure a large supply of greenbacks for his negro constituency. If he should be defeated for Congress he ought to be rewarded with a fat office, that being the order of the day under Grant.

THE secret of Grant's renewed friendship for Porter has been discovered. Porter is a partner with him in the San Domingo Job, and one of its most earnest supporters. Our worthy President swallows all the insults which the Rear Admiral put upon him, in hope that he may be put to good account in this dark transaction. If Porter is not confirmed by the Senate, Grant will be greatly disappointed.

LAST year Holden and his supporters wanted to get rid of some Conservative judges in North Carolina, and they passed a law providing that any State officer who might be impeached, should be suspended from office during the trial. Now Holden has been impeached, and he will be suspended by the operation of the law he had passed. This is an apt illustration of the old proverb that, "curses, like chickens, will come home to roost."

THE price of votes in the late Senatorial election in South Carolina was $500 for the average, and for influential members as high as $2,000. The Radical members are said to be rejoicing in their honest gains, and waiting with anxious concern for another election.

THE House Military Committee have rejected the Senate Bill, extending the time for reduction of the army to July 1st, and in so doing they have acted rightly. The people of this country do not want to be taxed for such a purpose.

JOHN W. GEARY has been re-elected President of the National Union League. He is sufficiently bigoted, narrow-minded and self-important to make a good figure head for a proscriptive, secret political society.

BRICK POMEROY and Mr. H. B. Chandler, late financial manager of the Chicago *Times*, have purchased the Milwaukee *News*, and took possession on the 1st.

A Hard Hit at Cameron.

General Morgan, of Ohio, made a telling point in a short but vigorous speech against Butler's bogus Amnesty Bill. Commenting upon the clause which excepts from amnesty "whoever, having been educated at the Military Academy at West Point, or the Naval School at Annapolis, shall have engaged in the rebellion and insurrection against the United States, or given aid and comfort to the enemies thereof," he called attention to the fact that, according to the official Army Register, one hundred and eighty officers of the regular army were allowed to resign after Fort Sumpter had been captured by the Confederates. Simon Cameron was then Secretary of War, and he received the resignation of Robert E. Lee, April 25, 1861; Joseph E. Johnston, April 22; James Longstreet, May 3d, and others less distinguished within these dates. Referring to this matter, the Washington *Patriot* says:

If they committed treason, what is to be thought of the Secretary of War who colluded with them, and by whose official act alone their services and skill were furnished to the enemies of the country? They did not issue those resignations from concealment, but in the light of day, and in the face of the startling events which had then taken place, delivered them here in Washington to the head of the War Department, whose special duty it was to protect that arm of the service against defection. If Lee and Johnston and the others who laid down their swords are guilty, then Mr. Cameron, who accepted them, is a double-dyed traitor, for he conspired with them, and thus officially gave aid and comfort to the enemy.

He knew of their purposes, for they were avowed, and with that knowledge he sent them forth to make war. Had Mr. Cameron then and there arrested these chiefs, as he was solemnly bound to do, if there be any truth or sincerity in his present professions, the Confederate armies never could have been organized as they were, and the calamities which befell the country might have been averted. The fact that he failed to perform that duty, authorizes the suspicion that he was either conspiring with "treason," or that he desired to provoke the war for ulterior designs. In any event, he stands guilty of criminal complicity with whatever offence these officers may have committed. If they are traitors, he is worse than a traitor, for it was by his agency and his treachery that they were enabled to perfect their treason. He is the man to be punished if there be justice in human tribunals, and to be branded with ignominy for all time, if history be fair and truthful.

THE official vote of Alabama by counties is given as follows: For Governor, Lindsay, Democratic, 77,721; Smith, Radical, 76,292; Lindsay's majority, 1,429. The majority for Moren, Democrat, for Lieutenant Governor is 4,377. The Radical vote is about the same as that cast for Grant, and the change arises from a handsome increase in the Democratic vote, which has risen from 71,412 to 77,721.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* tenders this Presidential advice:

It is to be hoped that, during the present session of Congress, Grant will never at any time cease to remember those words of his inaugural, in which he protestantedly proclaimed that, during his administration, he would have "no policy in opposition to the will of the people." We did not consider the saying tremendously wise when it was uttered, and yet to-day it will be a good enough idea for Grant to keep in his head during the winter."

State Items.

Turkeys and chickens are a drug in Lebanon.

A beautiful white swan was captured near Punxsutawney, Jefferson county, on Wednesday.

A brakeman on the Penna. R. Road was killed at Brinton, Allegheny county, on Wednesday.

A car load of wine and brandy direct from California by the Pacific Railroad, has just arrived at Meadville.

A Normal School will be built in Clinton county next summer. The building will cost $85,000.

O. E. Shannon, Esq., of Bedford, has struck a seventy barrel oil well at Stump Island, in the Allegheny river.

The first locomotive that ever did service in the United States is now lying outside of a foundry at Carbondale, Luzerne county.

The Reading Relief Society has commenced the regular distribution of soup to the poor. This is done three times a week.

There are 632 prisoners in the Eastern Penitentiary, 10 of whom are women.—More than 50 of the inmates are sentenced for life.

A son of Simon Baird, of Sinking Valley, Huntingdon county, had his hand torn off by a threshing machine last Wednesday.

Lloyd Britton, the negro who stabbed and killed Jacob Bay, a white man, at Williamsport, on the 16th of November, was tried last week and found guilty of murder in the first degree.

Erie advertises an English hound, nearly six months old, with the front feet attached to the lower jaw, and having no nostrils or teeth, or hair on its body.

The editor of the Lebanon *Advertiser*, butchered on Monday, and complains that his two hogs were not as fine as usual—only weighing 880 pounds—450 and 430 respectively.

The Union League of Philadelphia has a library of 2,906 volumes. During the year the receipts of this league were $106,059.86 and the expenditures $98,854.35. The membership is 1,746.

While the School Directors of Somerfield, Somerset County, were discussing the propriety of getting a bell for the Public School House, the young school misses raised money by subscription and had the bell put up.

Mr. Jacob Gotwalt, a citizen of York, and one of the oldest carpenters in this vicinity, recently fell from a building on the outskirts of that town, receiving such severe injuries that he died on Thursday, aged about 65 years.

Jacob Casebeer, of Somerset township, Somerset county, boiled this season, 1100 gallons of apple butter, made between 35,000 and 40,000 gallons of cider vinegar; sold about 600 bushels of apples; and raised 400 bushels of potatoes.

On Sunday evening Rev. R. H. Stinchfield was found lying on the pavement at Sixth and Spruce streets, Philadelphia. He was conveyed to the Pennsylvania Hospital, where he died in a short time.

North Beaver township, Lawrence County, boasts of having the youngest member of the Legislature in Congress, Captain William McClelland, and the tallest member of the next Legislature, Samuel D. Clark, who is six feet seven inches in height.

Mr. Wm. Noble, of Mifflintown, while engaged in putting a pump into a well at Duncannon, Perry county, on last Friday, slipped and fell into the well a distance of about thirty feet, and strange to say received no injuries more than a sprained foot.

The oldest couple of Pennsylvania, if not of the United States, are living about nine miles southwest of Tionesta, Forest County, Mr. and Mrs. Allio, aged respectively one hundred and six and one hundred and four years. Each is the other's first companion. They are natives of France.

On Wednesday last, Mr. Jacob Schaffer, of Mohrsville, Berks County, had the misfortune to pierce his left eye ball with a nail while carpentering. He was in the act of driving a nail with a hammer, when he missed it, and the nail glancing off struck him in the eye as stated. Fears are entertained that he will lose his eye.

Ebenezer Henderson, of Elizabeth township, Allegheny County, shot himself fatally last Friday. He was seventy years of age, and held the position of elder in the Presbyterian church. A fracture of the skull, received several years before his death, is supposed to have resulted in mental aberration and led to the commission of the suicide.

On Thursday evening last, the 8th inst., James Rubecht, aged about twelve years, son of Jacob Rubecht, residing in Perry township near Windsor Castle, Berks county, accidentally shot himself. He had just returned home from school, went into his father's shop and took down a gun. While examining the same to see whether it was loaded it was discharged, the contents lodging in his head, killing him almost instantly.

A. J. Hartzell, of Newport, Perry County, has been missing since the 22d of November. He is a heavy set man, aged about 35 years, 5 feet 4 inches in height, dark hair and whiskers. He took a boat load of coal to Baltimore, consigned to McCullough & Son, corner of Pratt and Fremont streets, who paid him his tolls in full, and took his receipt; this occurred about 11 o'clock, A. M., on the 22d ult. His friends are very much alarmed at his absence, and fears are entertained that he has been foully dealt with. Any information as to his whereabouts will be thankfully received by M. L. Hartzell, Newport, Pennsylvania.

OUR BUNDLE OF NOTHINGS.

No. 32.—Sunday Funerals.

"I would not die in Spring time."

And *we* would not die on such a day of the week as to make our funeral fall on Sunday. As a general thing the body should not be buried until three full days after the spirit has left it, therefore we would not die on any day whereby the three days should terminate on Sunday.—There may be circumstances under which the thing might be unavoidable, but ordinarily, if *we* could have *our* desire, we would request not to be buried on Sunday. We indulge in no morbid sentiment of sanctity for the day, but we cannot refrain from the feeling that Sunday funerals, generally speaking, are gotten up for more effect, especially if the deceased happens to be a military character, or belongs to one or more societies, which are in the habit of making an imposing funeral display. These societies, doubtless, may entertain a profound regard for the dead, but too often, mixed up with it, is a vain exhibition of worldly show, in which their own personal importance may be more concerned than any special esteem that may be entertained for the departed. Sunday funerals offer extra opportunities for such displays; for it is one of the weaknesses of our fallen humanity, that we lean towards ostentation, and feel flattered when our love of show is largely seen by others. We are far from regarding Sunday funerals as sinful, or even an evil, in themselves; but too often the martial strains of music, and the levities which accompany them, are strangely in contrast with the sanctity and quiet harmony that ought to give character to the day. Sometimes the equanimity of a whole village, or a whole neighborhood, is disturbed by the advent of a Sunday funeral; the usual devotional hours of the people are interrupted, and extra burdens are imposed upon the officiating minister. Even the family of the deceased may have its mournful musings invaded, and the profitable reflections which such a sad event ought to engender, surreptitiously broken in upon, on the one hand; or it may lightly regard the untoward event, and be carried away with some of that feeling of vanity which the world's notice too often elicits on such occasions, on the other hand—the admonition of the dead, contending with the admiration of the living.

Therefor, if, under the rule suggested above it is suitable, if it is unavoidable; or if it is *best*, that a funeral should take place on Sunday, then let it be held on that day; but do not prolong the time, (for the mere sake of a Sunday funeral,) when it ought to take place on Saturday, nor hasten it, when it ought to be held on Monday. It is of no consequence to the dead whether the funeral is a small one or a large one, and it is a mere mockery to the living, to manifest an excessive show of esteem for one for whom they exhibited no special regard, if they did not totally neglect, when such a regard would have been of use to him. We would not be remiss in, nor limit funeral displays, but we would have them in *reality* what they outwardly purport to be; and therefore, to our mind, a dozen sincere mourners would be far preferable to a thousand cold, formal followers to the grave. These are our personal reflections upon this subject, after the observations of many years, but they are not intended to debar any individual from the privilege of manifesting that personal respect for the memory of a neighbor, or a citizen, to which he deems his character, whilst living, has entitled him. In this respect we would leave all men, socially and morally, in perfect freedom.

Intimately associated with this subject, whether the funeral is held on Sunday or any other day, is the question of *punctuality*. The dead must be buried; the very *fact* of death has already sundered the chords between them and the living; and, therefore, if any relaxation of the rules of custom is allowable, it ought to lean to the side of the living, and nothing would be more grateful to them, or more conducive to their comfort in attending funerals, than punctuality in all their appointments.—Long, prosey services *inside* of the house—extended far beyond the appointed hour—whilst suffering from excessive cold or heat which reigns *outside*,