The Horrible Child Murder in Illinois ---Why Mera was Hanged.

CHICAGO, July 6.—A special despatch from Watseka, Iroquois county, Illinois, says a crowd of citizens from that town and the surrounding country, to the number of nearly a thousand, including men, women and children, proceeded to the jail in that place last night, and took therefrom Martin Mera, who brutally murdered his son of ten years, proceeded with him to a convenient place, where, after giving him twenty minutes to pray, a rope was placed around his neck and thrown over the limb of a tree and hundreds of ready hands hauled him up, and there held him until he was dead.

The leader of the party was Dr. Daniels, of Gilman, and he and his abettors claim that Mera could only have been convicted of manslaughter, and for that reason they were justified in putting the arch fiend beyond the reach of mercy. Mera, previous to his death, renounced Masonry and readopted Catholicism.

The following is an account of the horrible crime which led to his summary execution:

Martain Mera, about three weeks ago beat his son, aged ten years, in a terrible manner, so badly that it was impossible for the little fellow to get out of bed when called by his father next morning. This seemed to exasperate the brutal fellow, and taking a red-hot poker, he thrust it into the boy's side, and mob-satisfied with this, took the boy up from bed, and putting him on the red-hot stove, held him there until the little fellow was burned horribly. He then took him into a room where the mother lay, having just been confined, and beat him over the head with the butt end of a whip until death came to the relief of the little sufferer. The brutal wretch threw the lifeless body under the bed on which his wife was lying, and told her if she breathed a word of the affair he would kill her.—That night he wrapped the body of the boy in a sheet and buried it near a hedge in his garden. The next morning he went to Gilman and advertised the boy as a runaway, offering a reward for information of his whereabouts. On Saturday last, suspicion having been aroused by some words let fall by the boy's sister, the mother and two daughters were taken in charge, and the man arrested. After the mother found her brute of a husband was under arrest, she told the whole dreadful story of the murder. The body of the boy was found, and the terrible reality and atrocity of the murder was fully demonstrated. Of course the excitement was intense, and it required all the nerve and skill of the officers in charge of the prisoner to prevent his being lynched. The man lives on a small farm between Gilman and Onarga, and has always had the reputation of being a brutal fellow.

At the examination before a Magistrate, the mother of the murdered boy testified as follows:

My husband, Martin Mera, whipped my son Martin, aged ten years, two weeks ago Tuesday night; my babe was born that day, and I did not see the whipping; it was done in another room; I heard blows, and heard the child beg for mercy; the child then went to bed; about ten o'clock the next morning the child came to my bedroom, followed by his father, who was whipping him; he whipped him very hard with a thick switch; the child dodged around the room to avoid the blows and begged for mercy; the child was completely naked, his father having compelled him to strip himself; his face was swollen from the whipping he had received the night before; his father whipped him very hard for ten or fifteen minutes; at last he stopped and told the child to put on his shirt; he made an effort to do so, and failed; his father ordered the order, when the boy said, "I can't see it! I can't see it!" "You can't see it?" responded his father; "No, father, I can't see you; father, I can't see you!" and fell dead in a swoon. The dead boy was suffering by with spirits, and forced some down his throat; the child raised his hands and moved his lips and expired. Mera then took the body and put it under the bed where the sick mother was lying and it remained there until evening, when he buried it as previously related.

Sarah Mera, daughter of the murderer, aged fifteen years, testified that her father often whipped her brother severely with a horsewhip; Tuesday, two weeks ago, he brought my brother in, said he had not worked, and whipped and kicked him down twice; after continued blows by his father, she said he would whip him until he could not stand up; he would whip the life out of him; two or three times he would say this, and brother would plead with father, "Father, don't whip me any more; Oh, don't whip me any more;" brother went to bed about ten o'clock; he said he did not know why father whipped him so; he never told women, only when father made him; father would say if he did not own up he had done so and so he would whip him, and to avoid it brother would own to things he never did; on Wednesday I got up and got breakfast ready; father rose when breakfast was ready, and brother got up, but felt so badly that he went back to bed; father made him get up and go out and sit on the stack, and when he came back father whipped him and sent him to the field; he went for him and brought him in, and made him take off his clothes, and then whipped him, and then picked him up and laid him on the stove; the stove was hot enough to heat irons; I was baking biscuit; father put him on the stove twice; brother pleading all the while, "Father, don't burn me, don't burn me." He screamed very loud, and his skin stuck to the stove; his skin came off from his back and his feet, and it stuck to the stove; it smelled so I opened the door, and father immediately shut it; while brother was pleading, father said he would burn him until he worked; I have seen father strike my mother with his fists many times; he knocked brother down several times with the butt end of a horsewhip; I never saw my brother after he went into mother's room.

A West Virginia Tragedy.

[From the Wheeling (W. Va.) Register, July 1.]

On last Friday afternoon there was enacted, near Central Station, Doddridge county, the last scene of a terrible tragedy. Noah James, Esq., minister of the West Virginia Legislature in 1868, and a man of wealth and influence in his neighborhood, having committed suicide to escape the the penalty of the law. The particulars of the crime are as follows:

Last March a man named Rogers, formerly living on the edge of Tyler county, was found lying dead in the woods near his own house. He had received a bullet wound in his abdomen, and another in the neck, neither of which would have proved fatal. By various circumstances suspicion was directed against Isaac Owens, a desperado in the neighborhood, who was then under indictment in Tyler county on the charge of having burned property of the murdered Rogers. Owens was arrested on the charge of murder. The evidence was so totally circumstantial, but was sufficiently conclusive as to his guilt. He was convicted on the 29th of April last, and a few days later sentenced to imprisonment in the Penitentiary for life. Soon after Owens' arrest some suspicion of complicity in the murder of Rogers was directed against Noah James. There was a long standing and bitter feud between the men; they had had several lawsuits, and James had been heard to say that Rogers ought to be shot. Up to the time of his arrival at the Penitentiary, Owens had preserved a stubborn silence with regard to the murder. A few days after his incarceration, however, he made a full and circumstantial confession of the crime.

He stated that on several occasions Noah James had said that Rogers ought to be shot; that on Friday, March 10, he was engaged, in company with his son, in grubbing a field for Mr. James, when the latter came to him in the field, took him a short distance apart from his work, had a long talk with him about Rogers, and offered to give him $25 if he would keep Rogers from appearing against him (James) in a case then pending in the Doddridge County Court; that he objected to the proposition at first, but James then offered to give him $25 and lend him $50 more if he would kill Rogers. Furthermore, James agreed to get him some powder, lead and caps, and promised that if he succeeded he and James would take care of his family, go his bail, get him lawyers, pay his witnesses and swear him out of the scrape, and finally agreed that he would himself assist in the contemplated murder. Owens consented.

On Wednesday, March 15, Owens was returning from the mill when he discovered Rogers coming along the road on his way home. Hastening home as rapidly as possible, Owens went over to Noah James and told him that Rogers was coming along the path toward his house, when they immediately hastened to the woods and placed themselves in ambush to await the arrival of Rogers. Noah James fired the first shot from his rifle, the ball taking effect in Rogers's body, who then turned screaming from the path and started to run. Owens then fired his pistol, the ball taking effect under Roger's right jaw, when he immediately fell, and in a few moments died. After Owens's arrest, and a man in tights of James's complicity in the crime began to be circulated, the latter refused to have anything to do with Owens, to furnish him any money or give him any assistance whatever; on the contrary, furnished some evidence against him at the trial. But he failed to put to rest the suspicions that had been circulated concerning him in the neighborhood. Public opinion had been aroused, one circumstance after another came to light, all tending to weave a web of guilt about the unhappy man. At length it was thought that sufficient evidence had been found to authorize his arrest as an accessory to the murder of Rogers, and on last Saturday the warrant was to be served. On last Friday, Noah James, who lived about two miles from Central Station, started for a day's hunt, and complained of feeling unwell. Soon after dinner he took his gun and proceeded up a little run that flows through a ravine near his house. He had only been absent a few minutes when his wife heard the report of the gun, and sent one of the children to see what had been shot. The child returned in terror, with the dreadful news that its father was dead. It was found that Mr. James had taken off his boot and sock from one foot, and placing the muzzle of the rifle to his eye, pulled the trigger with his toe, and sent the bullet to his brain.

First Wheat in Market.

A load of new wheat appeared in our market on Saturday last, the 1st day of July, and was sold for $1 30 per bushel. It was a prime article, weighing over 64 pounds to the bushel, but what is remarkable is that it is the first new wheat that was probably ever brought to this market so early as the first day of July, a day when farmers heretofore were about commencing to harvest.—*Hagerstown (Md.) Herald.*

FROM EUROPE.

The Fourth in England---American Knights and English Earls---Horrible Accident---The Roof of the Mont Cenis Tunnel Caved In.

LONDON, July 4.—To-day was witnessed a sight unexampled heretofore in England. The American Knights Templar from Pittsburgh, who are now making a grand excursion through Europe to the Holy Land, were welcomed to-day, at Alton Towers, one of the noblest and most beautiful of the Baronial homes of England, by its owner, the Premier Earl of England, Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, and by his wife.

As the pilgrims approached the stately mansion they were delighted by the spectacle of the American flag floating proudly side by side with the banner of the ancient house of Talbot over the towers of Alton. They were first marshalled through the noble vestibule, filled with portraits and trophies of the Talbots through five centuries of English history into the family chapel. In this spacious and beautiful chapel, designed for Catholic worship by the last Catholic Earl, but now arranged in harmony with the requirements of the Protestant worship, the pilgrims heard Divine service performed by the Earl's Chaplain, who united the names of the Queen of Great Britain and of the President of the United States in his prayer for the first time probably on English soil.

After Divine Service was over the pilgrims were shown through the famous and spacious gardens of Alton Towers, the finest of their kind in England. They were particularly enchanted with the incomparable show there made of American plants, with the profusion of azaleas and rhododendrons in the finest possible condition.

The magnificent hedges of box and the quaint Dutch gardens excited also their admiration. After viewing the Home Park, they were received by the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury in the grand family dining hall, hung with portraits, arms, flags and pennons.

The Earl of Shrewsbury, in a most cordial speech, bade them welcome to England and to Alton Towers. Sir Knight W. F. Tudor, of New Orleans, made an appropriate response for the Pilgrims to the Earl's address. They were then escorted by the chaplain through the picture gallery, the noble library, and the State apartments of the castle, after which they joined the Countess of Shrewsbury and witnessed the ceremony of the awarding of prizes by her ladyship at a grand flower-show of the county.

LONDON, July 5.—Despatches received here state that the Mont Cenis Tunnel, probably the greatest engineering work of the age, has been proved a partial failure. A large portion of the roof has fallen in, and many of the workmen are buried in the mass of rock and earth which now obstructs the progress of the work, which was rapidly approaching completion.

Seven corpses have been recovered, but it is known that a number yet remain among the debris. A large force of men are employed to remove the obstructions caused by the accident.

Engineers are apprehensive that similar breaks in the roof may occur in other points, and suppose it immense strength and dimensions are being prepared to guard against any contingency.

The French Elections.

PARIS, July 6.—Details of the army vote are coming in. The garrison of Lille gave 700 votes for the Republican candidates and only 10 for those of the Legitimists.

The City of Cahals gave 3,115 Republican against 380 Monarchical votes.

In various other places which have been heard from, the Republicans are in the ascendant.

Col. Bisson, commandant of the troops at Bordeaux, suggested to the soldiers before the election, that as the Republic only could save the country, they had better vote for the Republican candidates.

The people of Bordeaux have sent a petition to the Assembly, asking him to disavow the course taken by Bisson.

The latest returns from the Department of Seine, elect Muran to the Assembly, in place of Van Vinden, which increases the number of Republicans in our legislature by one, and in these days of incompetents. No. 21, approved April 28, occupies parts of two pages of the pamphlet in correcting an error of date in a previous law, approved April 5, 1870, and continues the Act approved June 2, which repeals the act of April 5, 1870, out and out; and then finally we have No. 61, approved March 25, which repeals the *first* section of the act of April 5, 1870 thus leaving the whole series of Legislative enactments on the subject in a profound condition of "muddle." This is not the only curious instance of cross firing and duplicating in the matter of legislation with us. No. 6, approved February 18, occupies a good deal of space in granting authority to Courts of Common Pleas to charter associations for parks and the propagation of game and fish, and we were only the 30th of March, as if to make assurance doubly sure, comes along act No. 12, which in precisely the same words, with two unimportant exceptions, authorizes precisely the same thing. How closely the Legislature and the officers thereof, and the Governor and all concerned, must watch these queer proceedings, and what an admirable system of legislation we should have, if our legislators we have to do these things for us!—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

The Connecticut Borgia---The Case of Mrs. Lydia Sherman.

The examination into the case of Mrs. Lydia Sherman, Birmingham, Conn., charged with poisoning her husband, aged with murdering three husbands and eight children at Derby, Conn., is attracting a good deal of attention on the part of the press and the public. The details thus far developed appear to be that the alleged murderess was born in Trenton, New Jersey; name, Lydia Danbury; present age, 47 years. She lost her parents in infancy, was brought up by an aunt, married at the age of twenty-four married her first husband, Mr. Struck, in New Brunswick, N. J., with whom she lived eighteen years and had seven children. Struck died, and then six of the children; the other, a young man is married and resides in Boston.

Next she married an old man named Dennis Hurlburt, 74 years of age, who appears to have doted on her. It is in evidence by accused's sister that she had heard him say to Lydia that he left her all his property. Hurlburt died suddenly, but the circumstance awakened no suspicion at the time. He left her about $10,000.

Soon afterwards the widow Struck-Hurlburt married a widower named H. N. Sherman, living at Birmingham, Conn., who had three children—Frank, an infant Ada, a young girl; an older boy, Nathaniel and one other. Sherman was a dissipated man. The marriage took place on September 15th, 1870; on November 16th the infant died; on December 2d the boy Ada followed; on May 9th last Sherman himself died.

Suspicion was awakened, and the bodies of Sherman, his two children, and old Mr. Hurlburt were exhumed and the stomachs submitted to analysis. All four were found to contain arsenic. Upon this a warrant was issued, and Mrs. Sherman was arrested, as heretofore stated, taken to Derby, and taken to Birmingham for preliminary examination. This was conducted on Friday and Saturday last. The circumstances of the death of Hurlburt and the three Shermans were developed, and they were sufficiently shown to have been caused by arsenical poisoning. The only question in the case is whether or not the poison was administered by the prisoner.

On this point the evidence is wholly circumstantial. It is in proof that her relations with Hurlburt, Sherman and the children were fairly pleasant. To the first and to the girl Ada, she appeared to be quite devoted. Her conduct towards Sherman, in view of his drunkenness, is also in her favor She tended all in their sicknesses. The baby and Sherman, immediately prior to their deaths, were in good health Mrs. Sherman says there was arsenic in the house, which was to poison rats with. There is no suggestion whatever as to any other perpetrator of the proved murders. When arrested, Mrs. Sherman was cool and collected, and has so continued since. A correspondent who was present at the examination, sums up the case thus:

"It is difficult to say that the termination of the case will be. Mrs. Sherman will unquestionably be held to await the action of the grand jury, but whether she can be convicted on a regular trial is another question. It is the opinion of lawyers here that she cannot be. It is true it has been proved beyond question that the four victims whose stomachs were examined died of poison, but there is not the slightest proof that Mrs. Sherman administered it. There is no doubt in the minds of the people that she did, but there is no legal proof of it. In the case of Hurlburt the evidence is stronger against her than in any of the others, for the reason that she lived alone with him and was the sole attendant. Then, too, in his case there was a strong motive in the desire to get possession of his money, which did not exist in the other cases. It is therefore more than likely that the State will rely upon this case particularly to secure a conviction, but the lawyers say even then it will be an even chance if a jury will convict on mere circumstantial evidence, and not much of that indeed. Altogether the case is a mysterious one."

A Platform for the Republican Party.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* gives the following sensible advice in reference to the next platform of the Republican party:

"The main thing is to affirm approbation of the last and the next war; to praise the President for paying off the national debt out of his own pocket; to approve of Long Branch as a temporary seat of government; denounce the Ku-Klux, Jeff. Davis and Bob Toombs; sympathize with the beloved Baez, of San Domingo, and also with the much-esteemed Babcock; condole with Billy McGarrahan, and insist upon keeping his claim alive, as it represents a large bonded indebtedness; and congratulate the Covington postmaster upon the ability with which he has administered the affairs of the general government in that portion of his department known as Ohio. This will be sufficient, without any bothersome about tariff laws, amnesty for rebels, or other immaterial matters. Perhaps a few words about the enlightened policy pursued toward the noble red man, and an expression of content with the humiliation of the British lion, would not be absolutely wasted; but further than that it would be imprudent to go."

Mr. Eugene M. Wilson, who represented the Second Minnesota District in the Forty-first Congress, is named as the probable Democratic candidate for Governor of Minnesota.

Recent Legislation.

The additions and alterations to the "general laws" of the State of Pennsylvania, by the Legislature, during the session of 1871, have come to hand in a pamphlet of 104 pages, sent out by Francis Jordan, Esq., Secretary of the Commonwealth. Seventy-four so-called public acts were added to the volume of our statute law during the session, but the major part of these are either unimportant like act No. 48, authorizing the purchase of a "fire-proof safe," for the Prothonotary of the middle district, or virtually local, like act No. 11, relating to the "creeks and rivulets" of the West Branch of the Susquehanna. The session did not pass, however, without changes in some of the more important laws relating to proceedings in our courts. As parties in pending suits are sometimes surprised by the sudden production of these recent and partially unknown acts, whilst their cases are on trial, we follow our usual course in pointing some of them out. There are at least seven such acts worthy of the attention of suitors, executors, guardians, trustees, etc., and their counsel. All of them may be proper enough but as there have been many instances in which "general" acts have been passed for the sole purpose of affecting some particular case, these had better be looked into carefully. Act No. 40, approved May 18, 1871, relates to residency of trustees, guardians executors and administrators, and makes it lawful hereafter for them to execute their trusts, whether they be residents of the county where the trust is created, or where the decedent had his domicil or *not*. With the consent of the proper court they may be residents of other States. No. 41, approved May 17, authorizes executors, administrators, trustees, etc., to deliver personal property bequeathed under conditions or limitations to the conditional legatee upon the latter giving security, etc.—This is of importance to all persons having interest in "remainders." No. 46, approved May 23, relates to sales of real estate in proceedings in "partition," and valuation in orphans' courts. No. 49, approved May 25, empowers orphans' courts to authorize executors, administrators and guardians in this State to pay over to the guardians of minors residing in other States legacies, devises or distributive shares, etc. No. 63, approved June 16, authorizes trust funds to be invested in the debt of the city of Williamsport.

Of the other acts regulating legal proceedings we note particularly the following: No. 53, approved May 10, which enacts that parties to judicial proceedings in all actions *now pending*, or hereafter to be brought, to permit in "any stage of the proceedings" an "amendment or change in the form of action," if the same shall be necessary for a proper decision of the cause on its merits, the cause to be continued to the next court if desired by the adverse party; No. 2, approved January 30, which extends the "Street Railway Act," approved No. 39, which affects the law of "replevin" in all cases "now pending," etc., to recover timber, lumber, coal or other property severed from the realty.

No less than seven of the general laws are acts enlarging or otherwise affecting the powers and privileges of railroad and canal companies, and among them there is one which may clear up a mooted point as to the power of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company under its charter and the law to lease the works of companies in *other States*. Act No. 25, approved May 3, 1871, extends the powers of railroads to lease or purchase works and to make contracts with other railroad companies, corporations and parties, as conferred by the act of 17th of February, 1870, and the two acts taken together appear to give railroad companies of this Commonwealth to lease or become lessees of the railroads, canals and works of other companies, whether situated in this or any other State.

Oysters, clams, fish and game are the subjects of seven of the laws of the last session. July and August are now the prohibited months for the selling of oysters and clams, and the same act provides a stringent license system for non-resident dealers in these commodities. Three of the "game law" acts of the last session afford admirable commentaries upon the idea of Yankee ingenuity. Our legislature carried on in these days of incompetents. No. 21, approved April 28, occupies parts of two pages of the pamphlet in correcting an error of date in a previous law, approved April 5, 1870, and continues the Act approved June 2, which repeals the act of April 5, 1870, out and out; and then finally we have No. 61, approved March 25, which repeals the *first* section of the act of April 5, 1870 thus leaving the whole series of Legislative enactments on the subject in a profound condition of "muddle." This is not the only curious instance of cross firing and duplicating in matter of legislation with us. No. 6, approved February 18, occupies a good deal of space in granting authority to Courts of Common Pleas to charter associations for parks and the propagation of game and fish, and we were only the 30th of March, as if to make assurance doubly sure, comes along act No. 12, which in precisely the same words, with two unimportant exceptions, authorizes precisely the same thing. How closely the Legislature and the officers thereof, and the Governor and all concerned, must watch these queer proceedings, and what an admirable system of legislation we should have, if our legislators we have to do these things for us!—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

"Quantrell."

Quantrell was seen in 1868 at the White Pine Silver Mines, in Nevada. A prominent citizen of this city, about two months since, conversed with a resident of Fort Lyon, New Mexico, who stated that in 1868 he met Quantrell at the White Pine Silver Mines. He was introduced to him as Quantrell, and talked to him of his adventures during the war, and about the raid. Our informant vouches for the reliability of the gentleman residing at Fort Lyon, from whom he received the statement given above. The truth is confirmed by another party, who was in this city about six weeks ago, and who also stated that he met Quantrell at the same place some time during the same year. These reports coming from different quarters confirm each other. This information comes from perfectly trustworthy sources and would seem to indicate that this noted raider had survived the war, and is even now somewhere in our Western territories. We simply give the facts as stated to us, vouching for nothing but the reliability of our informants, one of whom conversed, not long since, with a resident of Fort Lyon, as we have stated. For the present we withhold names, although they can be given if desired.—*Lawrence (Kan.) Standard.*

Assignment of the West Point Graduates.

The following are the assignments of the cadets who have just graduated to different regiments:

Infantry—1st Regiment, Frank H. Edmunds; 3d Regiment, James H. Ayres; 4th, Henry E. Robinson; 5th, Thomas M. Woodruff; 6th, Thomas G. Townsend; 7th, Charles A. Woodruff; 8th, Wallace Mott; 9th, George F. Chase; 11th, Francis W. Mansfield; 14th, James Pernance; 15th, Lawrence H. Walker; 16th, George E. Baker; 17th, Daniel H. Brush; 18th, William B. Wheeler; 19th, Alexander Mecuard; 20th, Charles H. Ribbel; 21st William R. Hoag; 22d, John McA. Webster; 23d, Robert H. Tolilon; 24th, Fayette W. Roe; 25th, Julius A. Parder.

Cavalry—1st Regiment, Thos. T. Knox, 3d, Edgar C. Stever, Andrew H. Russell; Walters Wyatt and Frederick Schwaka; 8th, James R. Wasson, John A. McKinney, U. Grant White and Fred. D. Grant; 5th, Richard S. Stewart, Geo. B. Davis; 6th, Geo. S. Anderson, Vinton O. Goddard, Chas. Morgan and Henry D. Kingsbury; 7th, Andrew H. Nave; 8th, James P. Hickey; 9th, Thos. S. Mumford; 10th, Chas. K. Ward.

THE MACE-COBURN STAKES.

Dick Hollywood, the Referee, Gives his Reasons for Deciding Mace the Winner.

In response to a letter written by Harry Hill, as stake-holder in the Mace-Coburn affair, to Dick Hollywood, the referee, the latter gives the following reasons for the decision he rendered:—

First, he says, he did not think it possible to have a second meeting in Canada without interruption by the authorities, and therefore selected Kansas City, as it is peopled by a sporting community and prize-fights have come off there before without interruption. Another reason for selecting Kansas City was to get rid of the rough element, for whose acts the principals are held accountable. New Orleans or other places might have been selected, but only at the hazard of doubling expenses. Mr. Mace, says the referee, saw the wisdom of the decision, knew it to be final and determined to abide by it. Mr. Coburn did not, and Mr. Hollywood therefore sees no reason why Mr. Hill should not pay over the stakes to Mr. Mace, since there is no appeal from a referee's decision.

Mr. Hollywood says, in concluding his letter:—

I hereby order you to pay over to Mr. James Mace, the amount of the stakes deposited for betting, as he is the man justly entitled to the same. Furthermore, I well know what the duties and responsibilities of a referee are, and I will leave it to nobody to dictate to me what they are.

In addition I would say I am well satisfied to leave it to the candid, thinking and honest minds, who will uphold me in my decision, and if I have erred it is because of the head and not of the heart.

Hoping you will do as ordered above and be governed accordingly, I remain, yours, respectfully, RICHARD HOLLYWOOD,
77 South Illinois street, Indianapolis, Ind.

The following appears in the articles of agreement:—

The referee to be chosen on the ground. In case of magisterial interference the referee, if appointed, or the stake-holder if not, shall name the next time and place of meeting, if possible on the same day or in the same week, and either party failing to appear at the time and place specified by that official, to lose the battle money. The stakes not to be given up unless by mutual consent or until fairly won or lost by a fight, and due notice shall be given to both parties of the time and place for giving the money up.

A Modern Southern Senator.

A curious case came up in New York on Friday last, before Judge Cardozo, to recover $5,000 on a draft given by the colored Senator, Andrew Jackson Jones, of North Carolina, to one Isaac Reed. The Senator, it would appear, when recently in that city, went to a gaming house in Fulton street, and after losing all the money he had with him, gave a check for $5,000 and received the equivalent therefor which he also lost. He left town soon after, and on coming back changed the check for a draft on the defendants. They, however, refused to pay it, on the ground that it was a gaming debt and not recoverable, hence the suit.

Local Intelligence.

MEETING OF THE RADICAL COUNTY COMMITTEE—AN EXCITING DEBATE—REJECTION OF THE LAW REQUIRING ELECTION OFFICERS TO BE SWORN.—The Radical County Committee met in the Court House on Monday, John M. Stehman in the Chair. A tall, gaunt gentleman, seemingly a cross between a stubborn Scotchman and a belligerent Irishman, one Billy Boyd, from the Third Ward of Columbia, rose and said:

Mr. Chairman, I see in the midst of this honorable body of (hic) which I am proud (hic, sir,) to be a member, a Copperhead, representing a Copperhead newspaper.—Now, sir, I (yes, sir, I (hic, sir,) used to be a Copperhead myself, and I (hic) move, sir, that the Copperhead editor (hic) aforesaid be (hic) expecluded from (hic) this room, sir.

The motion was put and Billy voted aye; all the rest of the Committee no.

Captain Denues offered a resolution a lopting the law regulating Primary Elections which was passed at the last session of the Legislature, requiring election officers and voters who may be challenged, to be duly sworn according to law.

Mr. J. K. Barr moved to lay the resolutions on the table, declaring the law to be an insult to the Republicans of Lancaster county.

Capt. Denues spoke in favor of his motion, claiming that the law was no more an insult to the Republicans of Lancaster county than the general election law was an insult to the whole people of the State. W. T. McPhail, of Strasburg, pointed out various things which he regarded as serious defects in the law, and opposed its adoption.

J. B. Amwake, Esq., took the floor, but before he could get started, Billy Boyd got the floor again and proceeded to make another noisy demand for the expulsion of the reporter of the INTELLIGENCER. Finally half-a-dozen of his friends dragged him down by tugging persistently at his coat-tail.

Mr. Amwake proceeded to speak in favor of the adoption of the law, insisting that such action was necessary to remove the suspicions of foul play, and to silence the charges of chicanery which had been so freely handled about.

J. K. Barr grew indignant over the remarks of Mr. Amwake and said the law was evident on its face, in consideration that the officers who had heretofore conducted the Primary Elections of the Republican party of Lancaster county were all d——d rascals. He wanted to know why the Return Judges and their Clerks were not to be sworn. He feared the whole thing was a dodge to favor certain little private arrangements, and he regarded the man who had this law passed for Lancaster county as a d——d rascal and fraud.

Dr. Gray, of East Hempfield, thought the law ought to be adopted as hundreds of Republicans are yearly being disgusted and drawn from the party by the frauds which are perpetrated at Primary Elections.

Mr. D. E. Gingrich, of Lower Mount Joy, a gentleman who has a superfluity of hair on his face almost like a German, stood up and spoke in favor of the law. He wanted nothing to do with any law which was passed by a Copperhead Senate.

Dr. J. C. Gatchel thought the Republican party would find that it had need of all its strength to beat the Democrats in the coming State election. He wanted harmony for the sake of success. "All the lower districts," said he, "are honest, and we can win in, and if there are townships where cheating has heretofore been done, it will be done again, though you should pile up oaths as high as the Court House."

The carriage is a very pretty one, was built for the Spring Garden company in 1858 by Edw. Young, and rebuilt by the same gentlemen for presentation to the Shiller. The running gear is painted a white ground with gold, the body which rests on polished steel springs is painted green, and ornamented with gold; over the front locker is a handsome oil glass lamp, and two bell-shaped vases on the back ends are metallic torches and two lanterns.

In addition to this handsome present, the Spring Garden boys presented their hosts with a pretty little model of their hook and ladder truck; and two of their number, Messrs. Down and Hewitt, presented Assistant Engineer Goodman with a very handsome fire hat and belt, bearing his name and official rank.

THE "FOURTH" IN THE CITY.—Although there was no organized programme adopted by our citizens for celebrating Independence Day in this city, the day was by no means allowed to pass off quietly and fire-bells were rung at 4 o'clock A. M. and at intervals during the day; places of business were nearly all closed; flags floated from many buildings, and guns, pistols and fire-crackers were exploded in all parts of the city, from early morn until late at night. As darkness approached, bon-fires were built at almost every corner, skyrockets and roman candles were sent heavenward, and fire-wheels were revolving and emitting sparks of many a brilliant hue in front of almost every residence. It was a rare day's sport for the rising generation, though the immoderate roar and racket was voted a nuisance by that large and respectable portion of our population who were never children themselves. These philosophers resorted to various expedients to escape the bedlam. Some locked themselves in inner roo ms, and did not stir out until the next morning; some sought secluded nooks in the country; and some went fishing in the calm Conestoga without the hope or wish of getting even a nibble. They might as well have stayed in town, as we understand the racket there was not an accident happened during the day worth mentioning.

THE FOURTH IN LITIZ.—Those who were present say the celebration in Litiz, on Tuesday, was quite a grand affair. An oration was delivered by Rev. Mr. Fretz, followed by a dinner, and in the evening the grounds adjacent to the springs were lit up with innumerable lights. The Citizen's Band, of York, was present and discoursed excellent music. The display of fireworks was very brilliant, and two or three fire-balloons were successfully sent off. The number of persons in attendance was large and the affair passed off without any accident.

FOUND DEAD.—On Thursday morning, at half-past four, as the Emigrant train was nearing Columbia, the attention of the conductor was attracted to the unusual appearance of one of the passengers, and on endeavoring to arouse him, it was found that he was dead. Deputy-Coroner Fraley was summoned, empanneled a jury, and after an examination by Dr. W. G. Taylor, returned a verdict that death resulted from apoplexy. Deceased was a young man, of about seventeen, named Herbert Carter, son of Mr. Carter, of West Canton, St. Gallen, Switzerland. His brother was riding in the seat with him, but was unaware of his death until notified by the conductor. A report has gained ground in Columbia that death was the result of small-pox, but this is not true. The young man had been exposed to that disease on ship-board, and had been slightly unwell, but had afterwards passed through a thorough examination by the New York Medical Authorities, and was pronounced free from contagion. This statement is made on the authority of Dr. W. G. Taylor, and may serve to quiet the apprehensions of nervous Columbians, who are quite uneasy upon the subject.

A HORSE THIEF.—On Monday last a man named Edwin Smuck, *alias* Gilman hired a horse and buggy from W. C. Hunsecker, of this city, for the purpose of bringing a sick woman to this city. Not returning according to contract, Mr. Hunsecker suspected that he had been victimized and started on Wednesday in search of his property. The result was that he found Smuck and the buggy in Mariettta on a man named Schills, for $40. Returning to Columbia Smuck crossed the river at Wrightsville, with Hunsecker's horse.—There he was arrested with the property in his possession, but became so intoxicated he was discharged on the assurance by his brother, who lives there, that it was all right. He then borrowed a wagon and went to York, and thence to Dallastown, some 7 miles below. Somewhere in the lower end of York county, he met a brother who resides at Safe Harbor. The team was taken by the latter back to Wrightsville, where it was recovered. The man Smuck is in trouble, it is thought, crossed the river at Safe Harbor, and took the stage for Lancaster, on Thursday morning, and took the cars for Philadelphia. Mr. Hunsecker, in the meantime, was closely on his track, reaching this city a few minutes after Smuck had taken the cars. The Philadelphia detectives were telegraphed to, but up to the present writing, the thief has escaped arrest.

THE STORM.—On Thursday evening a very heavy rain storm to the north and east of this city caused the Conestoga and adjacent streams to rise rapidly. Only standing crops were much injured. The lightning struck a barn on the farm of Isaac Sweigert, in East Earl township, and it was burned down, destroying about 24 tons of hay, 600 bushels of grain, a broad-wheeled wagon, grain-fan and a number of other agricultural implements. The farm was worked on the shares by Wm. Good, whose loss is only partially covered by insurance.

Three cattle on the farm of Jacob Musser, in Upper Leacock township, were struck by lightning and killed.

LARGE SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—Frank Musselman of Pequea township, sold his large Grist and Merchant Mill, and farm of seventy acres, on the Conestoga creek, one and a half miles from Lancaster, to Geo. F. Emerson, Western Land dealer of this city, for $30,000.

Geo. F. Emerson, Western Land dealer of this city, sold to Frank Musselman of Pequea township, 1160 acres of western and for $6,000. The above sales were made through the agency of Theo. W. Herr Real Estate agent, of this city.

CAMP MEETING AT BROWNSTOWN.—As will be seen by an advertisement published elsewhere, a camp-meeting will be held at Brownstown Religious Park, commencing July 31. The ground is a very beautiful one and every arrangement will be made to accommodate all who desire to attend. A large gathering is expected.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.—The residence of John Stoner, near Roseville, 3 miles north of this city, was struck by lightning on Thursday evening about 5 o'clock, and the roof of the building considerably injured. Mrs. Stoner and a hired woman were considerably stunned, but soon recovered.

DEATH OF JAMES BUCHANAN.—A writer in the Philadelphia *Age* pays the following tribute to James Buchanan, son of Rev. Edward Y. Buchanan, and nephew of the late ex-President, who recently died at his farm in Virginia:

We cannot permit this sad dispensation to pass by without some tribute to the memory of a high-toned and accomplished gentleman, a useful citizen, and a faithful public officer, during the brief period in which he consented to leave the walks of strictly private life. Mr. Buchanan was by birth a Pennsylvanian, and, at the date of his decease, was only in the thirty-eighth year of his age. Much of his early life was spent under the influence and in the company of his distinguished relative, President Buchanan. He graduated with honor at Trinity College, Hartford, at the age of 20, having acquired, in addition to a thorough classical and mathematical education, such a masterly knowledge of the beautiful language of Schiller and Goethe, that, whilst only a student, he was enabled to render good service to the Democratic party by making frequent and effective speeches in German to the voters of that region during the local campaigns at Hartford. Mr. Buchanan being destined to the legal profession, afterwards pursued and completed his studies in the office of Joseph Hopewell Hepburn of Pittsburgh, and so good a reputation did he establish for diligence and legal attainments, that when in 1857, Edwin M. Stanton afterwards Mr. Lincoln's Secretary of War, went out to California, on behalf of the United States Government, to assert its right to certain lands of great value, claimed, however, by various individuals under fraudulent Mexican titles or alleged grants, he selected Mr. Buchanan to accompany him as junior counsel in his arduous and perilous undertaking. Mr. Stanton did not hesitate afterward to accord to the abilities of Mr. Buchanan a large share of the praise for the complete success of this expedition. On his return from California he began to practice his profession in this city, but was shortly after, sometime in 1859, summoned to Washington by President Buchanan to fill the post of Private Secretary, then vacant by the resignation of Mr. Henry. In this responsible position, and in the other public and private duties and temptations to promote selfish ends at the expense of honor and right, the subject of this sketch acquitted himself in such a way as to leave his fair name untarnished by even a breath of suspicion. Courteous, amiable, and modest he was respected and liked by all. A few months before, the close of the Administration, he resigned his position, and, taking up his resume his chosen profession, whose labors and honors were more congenial to his quiet modest character. For the next year or two he devoted himself exclusively to his profession, and his arguments on several occasions elicited the most flattering commendations from such distinguished jurists as Sharswood and Cadwalader, and won for him the enduring friendship. On the eve of the success which he most coveted, the war, with its heated passions and social and business estrangements, fell like a blight upon his fair prospects in life. Disdaining in a moment of disencouragement he retired from this city and located in Western Pennsylvania, where he had succeeded in establishing a good practice, when—he was called on to fill the vacancy occasioned by the case so common with professional men in this country—and found it so well incapacitated for the excitement and labors of active professional duty. In the vain hope of a remedy for the sad physical change, he purchased a farm in Virginia, to which he retired eighteen months ago, and where he resided at the date of his untimely death. Among Mr. Buchanan's many accomplishments, he was well skilled in the art of composing music with rapidity and ease; and many of his productions were published—anonymously of course—and it may be mentioned in this connection that one of the most popular songs was Stephen C. Foster, the composer of so many and such popular melodies, "Peace to his ashes! His memory will be cherished by all who had the happiness of knowing him in the bright days gone by.

Who is it? The Springfield *Republican* of last Thursday contains a detailed report of the hearing of Charles Scott or Thomas Riley, whose capture in Philadelphia by Lieutenant Flaherty, and whose identification from information furnished by a lady living in this city, created some excitement. It will be remembered that the prisoner was taken before Judge Ludlow, where officers from Springfield identified him as Charles Scott, who was wanted for the murder of Mr. Hertzler on the 10th of October, 1867. When before Judge Ludlow he declared, "If I was as sure of going to Heaven as I am of getting out of this scrape I would be happy." Intimating that he was in prison at the time of the murder. His assertion appears to be borne out by the subsequent events. On Thursday last the Warden of the Illinois Penitentiary received a telegram from Springfield with a requisition for the prisoner, as Thomas Riley, who was an escaped convict from the Illinois Penitentiary, on the 24th of October, 1867,