

THE CENTRE DEMOCRAT is published every Thursday morning at Bellefonte, Centre county, Pa.

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Advertisements for a less term than three months 20 cents per line for the first three insertions, and 5 cents a line for each additional insertion.

A LIVE PAPER—devoted to the interests of the whole people.

No paper will be discontinued until arrears are paid, except at option of publishers.

Papers going out of the county must be paid for in advance.

Any person procuring no ten cash subscribers will be sent a copy free of charge.

Our extensive circulation makes this paper an unusually reliable and profitable medium for advertising.

We have the most complete facilities for JOB WORK and are prepared to print all kinds of Books, Tracts, Programmes, Posters, Commercial printing, &c., in the finest style and at the lowest possible rates.

All advertisements for a less term than three months 20 cents per line for the first three insertions, and 5 cents a line for each additional insertion.

Foreign advertisements must be paid for in advance, except on yearly contracts, when half-yearly payments in advance will be required.

POLITICAL NOTICES, 15 cents per line each insertion. Nothing inserted for less than 50 cents.

BUSINESS NOTICES, in the editorial columns, 15 cents per line, each insertion.

LOCAL NOTICES, in local columns, 10 cents per line.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 7, 1881.

There is a decidedly improved prospect that the necessary business of this session will be completed before the day of adjournment, and of course that no extra session will be necessary.

The Senate is to be thanked in great measure for this, and that fact is especially suggestive at a time when the House seems determined to make itself still more unwieldy than it now is by increasing its membership.

There ought, I believe, to be an expression of opinion all over the country against such increase.

The House is now so large that it cannot do business at once intelligently and speedily.

So there is this that year by year more of the proper legislative work is done by the House committees, and accepted by the House as reported, and still more is finally "licked into shape," as Senator Hamilton expresses it, by conference committees at the end of each session.

Not once in ten times does a member of the House vote his own intelligent opinion of measures of importance.

The House is already too large.

The gratifying things which the Senate did last week were to agree to two sets of resolutions concerning the electoral court.

The first—also adopted by the House—simply provides a mode and a time for the present count.

It was suggested by the clear-headed Representative, Mr. Carlisle, of Kentucky.

The counting is to be done by four tellers, two to be selected by each House.

The second set, passed yesterday, is simply a declaration that the Vice President is not authorized to count the electoral vote, and that it is the duty of Congress to institute without delay measures for the due and orderly performance of that duty hereafter.

With one exception all the Senators present voted for the resolution.

Temperate action on this subject is having a happy effect on the progress of other legislative business.

The House funding bill will be reported to the Senate this week, with amendments to the effect that the bonds (\$400,000,000) shall be redeemable in five years and payable in twenty years; that the rate of interest upon them shall be 3 per cent. per annum; that the one-cent certificates authorized by the bill shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding three and one-half per cent. per annum; and that the interest in each case shall be payable semi-annually.

The committee strike out the fifth section, which compelled National Banks to receive the new bonds as security for circulation, etc.

The discretion thus proposed to give the Secretary of the Treasury as to the rate of interest on Treasury certificates will probably be disagreed to by the House.

A Cabinet rumor of interest is published this morning to the effect that New York will after all have the Secretaryship of the Treasury, and that the appointee will be a man acceptable to Senator Conkling.

I have never been able to believe that President Garfield, if he made Senator Blaine Secretary of State, would give the position of next honor and importance to any one to whom the senior New York Senator objected.

Mr. Sherman being satisfied with his place in the Senate, the arrangement suggested above conciliates all who were prominent at Chicago either as candidates or as leading advocates of others as candidates.

The fact that the select committee of the House on the interoceanic ship canal has, by a majority of one, agreed to report a bill to guarantee \$50,000,000 of bonds for the Eads company is of no

earthly significance, as the scheme cannot get fifty votes in the House. In the meeting of the committee yesterday there was rather an exciting scene just before the vote was taken. The peppery Mr. Conger, whose son is said to be the private secretary of Mr. Eads, favored the scheme. Mr. Hutchins suggested that Mr. Conger's action might be influenced by personal considerations. Mr. Conger boiled all over and called Mr. Hutchins a liar, when the latter returned the compliment by calling him a scoundrel. After this exchange of courtesies business was proceeded with. Neither of the gentlemen are from the South. Mr. Conger is from Michigan and Mr. Hutchins from New York.

A Double Execution at Williamsport.

CATHARINE MILLER AND GEORGE SMITH PAY THE EXTREME PENALTY OF THE LAW FOR THE MURDER OF ANDREW MILLER.

The execution of George W. Smith and Catharine C. Miller, for the murder of Andrew Miller, husband of the latter, took place in the jail yard at Williamsport, on last Thursday, 11.20 A. M., in the presence of one hundred and fifty people. Long before the hour of execution the streets in the immediate vicinity of the jail were thronged with an excited crowd, who, though they could neither see nor hear, stood for long hours in the bitter cold under the impression that they might be able to gratify their curiosity by getting a look at the dead.

About one o'clock on the morning of the execution, the Rev. J. A. Bright, spiritual adviser of Smith, and a newspaper reporter visited Smith in his cell. They found the prisoner asleep, but as it was at his request that they came he was awakened. He was in cheerful spirits. The minister administered the sacrament to him, which he received in deep seriousness. A copy of his last confession was then read to him, which he pronounced correct. At 4 o'clock he called for his breakfast, which he ate heartily and apparently with great relish. A barber visited him, shaved his face and cut his hair, Smith freely conversing with him and disclaiming nervousness.

MRS. MILLER BROKEN DOWN. Mrs. Miller arose at an early hour and took her breakfast, but, as she had passed a restless night, appeared to be much broken down. At 10 o'clock the prisoners were in consultation with their spiritual advisers, the Rev. J. A. Bright being with Smith and the Rev. T. F. Reeser with Mrs. Miller. Both stated that they were provided with "power to meet their doom."

At 11 o'clock they were brought from their cells to the lower corridor of the jail, where the death warrants were read to them by Sheriff Wilson, after which the procession to the gallows was formed. Deputy Sheriff Yeager walked with Smith and a policeman and a turkey with Mrs. Miller, who walked with great effort, leaning heavily on her assistants and groaning frequently.

On Tuesday Mrs. Miller made a second confession, in which she acknowledged her guilt. Smith's last confession was made on the previous Saturday. In this he acknowledged his guilt and fully exculpated the negro Brown, who was arrested soon after the murder upon the statements of both prisoners in their first confessions and who was declared in subsequent confessions of both prisoners to be not guilty.

THE FATAL MOMENT. After the statements had been read prayer was offered up by the Rev. Mr. Reeser, both prisoners sitting on the trap with uncovered heads and shivering violently with the cold. When the black caps were adjusted Mrs. Miller began uttering heartrending and distressing cries.

While the minister was reading a passage of Scripture, Sheriff Wilson sprang the trap, the bodies falling five feet and hanging motionless, not even a tremor being perceptible. The Sheriff decided to let the bodies hang thirty minutes, during which time the attending physicians made frequent examinations of the pulses until the expiration of seven minutes. Then Mrs. Miller was pronounced dead, while Smith's pulse continued to beat feebly a few minutes later. At 11.53 the bodies were lowered into the coffins, where, upon examination by the physicians, it was found that both necks had been dislocated. The noise around the neck of Smith had slipped to the back of his neck. After the bodies had been placed in the coffins they were taken charge of by friends, who removed them to Jersey Shore for interment.

THE BLOODY DEED. The murder for which George Smith and Catharine Miller were executed was one of peculiar atrociousness and cool deliberation. It occurred on the night of March 18, 1880, about half a mile from the village of Jersey Shore and sixteen miles from Williamsport. According to the confessions of the prisoners the motive of the crime was merely a desire to get the husband of Mrs. Miller out of the way, so that they could live together. Various plans were devised for accomplishing the purpose. The plan selected and which was carried into effect on the night named was as follows: Smith came in the night and made a noise at the barn, which aroused Andrew Miller, the victim, who was sent out by his wife to see what the noise was. He was met by Smith, who told him several blows, clubbed him into the barn. Being joined by Catharine Miller they placed a rope around his neck and hung him to a beam, to give his death the appearance of suicide. Owing to the marks of violence on the body after it was discovered and the known intimacy between Smith and Mrs. Miller they were arrested on suspicion of committing the crime and placed in jail. The testimony of the little daughter of Mrs. Miller, which was read to her in her cell, caused her to make a full confession, which was followed by one from Smith. These confessions, along with the testimony of the little girl, caused their conviction, and on June 11, 1880, they were sentenced to death, the execution of which was carried into effect to-day. Thus ends the record of one of the foulest crimes ever committed in this Commonwealth.

A Remarkable Case.

A MAN HAS HIS NECK BROKEN, BUT IS LIKELY TO RECOVER.

We had always supposed that by Providence it was intended a broken neck should not be mended, but the following remarkable narrative from the Osceola Reveille changes the established order of events:

An accident on Monday of last week at Ramey, Clearfield county, afterward proved to be the most extraordinary case ever recorded in the history of surgery or medical jurisprudence. James Grouppel, a French Canadian, employed at Ramey's mill, fell from a trestle, about twelve feet to the ground and broke his neck. In all other cases of this kind that we have ever heard of death invariably resulted instantaneously, but in this instance the Frenchman still lives and in all probability will recover and return to his friends in Canada some day as one risen from the dead. After recovering from the shock resulting from the fall he was unable to move his head, and Dr. Edwards, attending physician, discovered that the neck was dislocated and some of the bones broken; but it was evident that the spinal column had not been severed and perhaps not injured; otherwise, death would have resulted immediately. Any injury to the spinal column, even though comparatively slight, would have caused total paralysis of the entire body below the injured part. The doctor reset and put the fractured neck in position, and in set about devising means to keep it in place, until the broken bones and contused ligaments attain their normal condition. To this end a muslin bandage, three inches wide, was wrapped tightly around the neck, and it was attached two lugs one on either side. To these a rope was fastened and run over a pulley fixed to the ceiling of the room. A bucket was suspended on the other end of the rope, and in it were placed various weights. He remains in a sitting position, and should any slight change of position occur the tension of the rope will still support his head. With these appliances for his support the unfortunate man will have to remain practically in the same position until the injured parts become united or death steps in to cheat the victim of his life and end a mysterious case. Edwards says this is decidedly the most singular case he ever heard of in his experience. The unfortunate sufferer asked him, with tears in his eyes, if it was possible for him to live, and when the doctor told him he had the most flattering hopes of his recovery Grouppel said he would not care so much except that he has three motherless children at home who are entirely dependent on him for support. We regard this case as one of unusual occurrence, if indeed its parallel was ever known, and a more wonderful escape from a fatal accident would be impossible to conceive.

Cause and Effect.

The main cause of nervousness is indigestion, and that is caused by weakness of the stomach. No one can have sound nerves and good health without using Hop Bitters to strengthen the stomach, purify the blood, and keep the liver and kidneys active, to carry off all the poisonous and waste matter of the system. See other column.—Advance.

The Rev. Dr. James L. M. Curry, the newly-elected agent of the Peabody Educational Fund, served as a Texan ranger in the Mexican war. He was a member of Congress from 1857 to 1861, when he entered the Confederate Congress. Later in the rebellion he went into the field and at the close of the war was in command of a regiment of cavalry. He was ordained to the Baptist ministry in 1867.

While two little girls were coasting at Bridgeport, Montgomery county, last week, as their sled approached the railroad they saw a train approaching and were unable to check their sleds. Both threw themselves off and escaped unhurt while the sled ran on the track and was struck and crushed by the engine.

Mrs. Hayes hunted up an old sleigh in the loft of the White House stables, the other day, and took a sleigh ride in the shabby old vehicle on the back streets of Washington. She loaded up with small boys before she got home, letting them ride on the runners, and taking some of them into the sleigh with herself.

New Advertisements.

Specific Performance of Contract.

IN the matter of the petition of Dan'l M. Myers for decree of specific performance of contract with Rob't Robinson, dec'd. The undersigned, a Commissioner appointed by the Orphans' Court of Centre county to take testimony in the above case, will attend to the duties of his appointment at his office in the Borough of Lewisburg, on THURSDAY, the 1st day of MARCH, A. D. 1881, at 10 o'clock A. M., when and where all parties interested may attend.

H. A. McKEE, Commissioner.

AUDITORS' REPORT OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF CENTRE COUNTY FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 1, 1881.

Table with columns for Receipts and Expenditures. Receipts include balance from settlement, taxes, and other sources. Expenditures include salaries, court costs, and other expenses. Total amount paid is \$40,000.74.

EXPENDITURES.

Table listing various expenditures such as salaries, court costs, and other expenses, totaling \$40,000.74.

Jury Commissioners' Pay.

Table showing the pay for jury commissioners, including names and amounts.

Auditors' Pay.

Table showing the pay for auditors, including names and amounts.

Improvement and Repairs.

Table listing various improvement and repair expenses, including names and amounts.

A Curious Case.

A COFFIN FOUND TO BE FILLED WITH SAND. MARYVILLE, Mo., February 4.—The village of Filmore, in Andrew county, about twenty-five miles distant from this city, was thrown into a great excitement to-day upon the exhuming of what was supposed to be the remains of James Riggins, which had been interred there a few days before. In consequence of the supposed decayed condition of the remains the coffin was not opened at the time of burial. Riggins, who was engaged to be married to a young lady of Andrew county, left suddenly one day for the far West, but before leaving insured his life in favor of his aged mother. He purchased a ticket for the Pacific coast and arrived as far on his journey as North Platte, on the Union Pacific Railroad, where, it is alleged, he stepped from the train, entered the closet, drew a revolver and put an end to his life. His brother-in-law arrived on the scene and, it is claimed, took charge of the body, gathered together the effects of James Riggins, enclosed the body in a coffin and shipped the effects and the remains by way of St. Joseph to his mother at Filmore,

County Printing.

Table listing various county printing services and their costs, including bridge repairs, road work, and other expenses.

Ordinary Expenses.

Table listing ordinary expenses such as salaries, court costs, and other administrative expenses.

Financial exhibit of Centre county, January 1, 1881.

Table showing the financial status of Centre county as of January 1, 1881, including assets and liabilities.

Patents.

PAINE, GRAFTON & LADD, Attorneys at Law and Solicitors of American and Foreign Patents, 412 FIFTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Bottling Establishment.

BOTTLED PORTER, ALE and BEER. THE undersigned respectfully informs the citizens of Centre county that he has opened a Bottling Establishment, on Bishop street, in the Borough of Bellefonte, and will be at all times prepared to furnish PORTER, ALE and BEER by the dozen or case. In supplying these beverages, whether to hotels, restaurants or private residences, they will be of the purest and best quality, bottled in such a manner that their life and spirits are preserved as fresh as though drawn from the cask or barrel. THE CELEBRATED ROCHESTER STOCK IS A SPECIALTY.

Philadelphia Markets.

Table showing market prices for various commodities in Philadelphia, including flour, wheat, and other goods.

Bellefonte Markets.

Table showing market prices for various commodities in Bellefonte, including flour, wheat, and other goods.

Provision Market.

Table showing market prices for various provisions, including apples, butter, and other food items.