

The Centre Democrat.



SHUGERT & FORSTER, Editors.

"EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL MEN, OF WHATEVER STATE OR PERSUASION, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL."—Jefferson.

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S. T. SHUGERT and R. H. FORSTER, Editors.

Thursday Morning, July 14, 1881.

THE late Secretary of the Navy, R. W. Thompson, has been elected President of a company organized to build a railway from Baltimore to Cincinnati.

THE bids for publishing the Pennsylvania State Reports were opened by the Secretary of the Commonwealth on Friday last. The bids ranged from \$1.17 to \$2.90 per volume of at least seven hundred pages. Banks & Brother of New York, were the successful bidders. These reports under the law are to be sold to the citizens of the State at the contract price.

GEN. GRANT'S photograph at the sale of the effects of the late Vice President Wilson at Natick, Mass., brought just fifteen cents. Some months ago when lunacy run in the direction of sycophancy instead of pistols and quack nostrums as now, the picture of the "man on horseback" would have brought a better price.

THE Republican bosses of Philadelphia have been repairing the machine for active campaign work. Some of the old engineers, such for instance as Rowen, have thought it prudent to retire from the front and take active duty in the greasing department. They have taken good care, however, to be succeeded by trusty lieutenants who will keep the machine in the usual rut.

IT is proper to keep in mind where the responsibility for there being no President *pro tempore* of the Senate belongs. The choice of a President *pro tempore* at the last session was deliberately prevented by Vice President Arthur and Mr. Conkling, who satisfied themselves that in the event of an election Mr. Bayard would have been elected, and who preferred all the dangerous chances of a vacancy to that result.

ALL kinds of absurd propositions are made to take advantage and profit by the universal sympathy accorded our wounded President. The last we have seen is the proposal of one to collect as a thank offering for the recovery of the President the sum of \$5,000,000 to establish an institution to be known as the "Garfield university." If the President recovers we have no doubt he will be fully satisfied with the general sympathy accorded him by all classes of the people, without regard to race or parties, and will not need the endorsement of a \$5,000,000 institution to remind him of their sincerity.

A COMMUNICATION has been addressed to Gov. Hoyt by the Mayors of the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny and the Hon. J. K. Moorehead and others asking him to open a correspondence with the Governors of the several States on the subject of issuing concurrent thanksgiving proclamations for the recovery of the President. Doubtful proclamations will be issued on as the President's recovery is feared. At present hope is buoyant, and no one can dispel the fear that it may be delusive. If the sincere and heartfelt prayers of the whole American people do not conflict with the inscrutable designs of Providence, we may expect to see a united thanksgiving that will also mark a period in our history when narrow-headed political bigots could not charge the base crime it also commemorates, to "rebels" and "copperheads" incited to murder by "Democratic teaching." Governor Charles Foster, of Ohio, also addressed a communication to Governor Plaisted, of Maine, making a similar proposition. In the happy event of the President's recovery this will be a very reverential manner in which to mark the gratitude of our people.

A VIRGINIA repudiation committee has lately visited Washington to solicit aid from Secretary Blaine in the effort to secure the merger of the Republican party of that State in the piebald party of Boss Mahone. The Secretary being much engaged in waiting upon the stricken President, and the performance of his official duties, was not in a mood to discuss the propriety of the Virginia Republicans surrendering their identity to become mere hod-carriers in the work of building up a party for Mahone and Riddleberger. They, therefore, came over to Pennsylvania to meet Don Cameron. Well, Don may help them. He has the *dimes*, but whether he will invest in stock that will not make direct returns, is doubtful. But still Don is an eloquent rooster—put him on the stump. He might do much to prove to the Republicans of Virginia that political honesty is but a sham—that success only is honor, however obtained. Such sentiments he can advance with great power. They are in-born and part of himself. They are the teachings of his venerable sire, and are all that is necessary or applicable to the repudiation side in the Virginia contest.

THE young gentleman, who is at present editing the Philadelphia Press, formerly conducted a Conkling organ at Albany. The stockholders of the Press, however, have recently forced him into the Blaine groove. But his natural sentiments cropped out on last Saturday when he discussed, editorially, the caucus nominations of the "half-breeds," Miller and Lapham. Of Miller, this adolescent youth remarks, "He represents the best type of active politics." Politics have been very "active" in Albany lately, but there are people who do not like that kind of "activity." He likewise feels called upon to say that Mr. Miller is one of "the most promising men in the State." What does he promise? As far as most people can see just now he "promises" to be a very ready and "active" advocate of such legislation in the Senate as will best conduce to the interests of the "wood pulp people." These monopolists have a few representatives in the House, but Mr. Miller, if he ever reaches the Senate, will be the single advocate of his own business in that honorable body. His "remarkable business career," as young Smith of the Press puts it, has consisted in simple robbing. Of course he is not amenable to the laws, but nevertheless the "wood pulp men" are little less than burglars.

THE Albany half-breed Republicans have held a caucus, and selected new candidates for Senators. Warren Miller and Elbridge G. Lapham, the latter a kind of half-breed stalwart, and the former a full fledged Administration half-breed, were chosen. And still the dead-lock appears unbroken, the friends of Conkling adhering to him and the Democracy standing firm to their own candidates. An adjournment without affecting an election seems to be inevitable. If this occurs, and occur it must, unless crowd diet is made popular by hot weather, the contest for Senators will go to the people, to be decided by the election of new representatives in a three-cornered fight between the stalwart friends of Conkling, the half-breed friends of the Administration, and the Democratic party. In such a race, it is perhaps safe to predict that the Democracy will have a fair chance to ride the winning horse.

JEFF. DAVIS, writing to a friend in Louisville, Ky., expressing strong sympathy with the President, adds that he will not say as some have said, that he is "thankful the assassin was not a Southern man," but he will say, "I regret that he is an American."

THE dead-lock in the New York Legislature on the election of Senator, still continues without any immediate prospect of agreement.

The Logic of the Assassination.

In the first great excitement which followed the shooting of the President of the United States, men excitedly charged the dastardly act upon individuals. It was the Star route thieves. It was a conspiracy in which ex-Senator Conkling and the Vice President were concerned. This was but the natural ebullition of the intensity of feeling which marked the different bent of men's minds when they heard the dread intelligence. Now upon sober reflection the excited individuals who rushed to such mad conclusions, are revising their hastily expressed opinions. Senator Conkling is no assassin, neither is he the abettor of murderers. He never strikes with the deadly intent of the Italian bravo. His warfare is waged in the forum, and is fought to the bitter death, beneath the clear sunlight of Heaven. Vice President Arthur is knowingly unfit for his position. He should never have been chosen to it, and his presence in the Senate Chamber as presiding officer under the law, was a parody upon our system of popular government. Yet Mr. Arthur is no assassin, neither does he abet assassination. There was some method in the thought that the desperate villains of Star route infamy might, in their convulsive struggles to evade retributive justice, resort to the pistol of the assassin, but Brady, Dorsey and Gorham—honored names—are certainly not concerned in this, one of the foulest crimes that stains the pages of history. On the contrary there are deeper and more pregnant reasons than any that can be charged to any individual or any conspiracy embracing a few disolute thieves. Conkling and Arthur are not responsible directly for this attempt upon the life of the head of a great nation, but the teachings of Conkling and Arthur and the men who have been their devoted followers in the Republican party have directly brought about this consuming disgrace to the American Republic, and this eminent peril to its official head. The spoils system, the pestilential greed of faction inflamed the morbid tendency of Guiteau's mind and made it possible, aye, more than possible, imperative upon him to avenge what he considered the treason of the President to his particular section of the Republican party. Guiteau is not insane only in that he selected an illustrious victim for his murderous designs. The act was committed in the white heat of inflamed factional passion, and the enduring disgrace which will forever cling to us as a people is directly attributable to the spoils system. The demand is made in thunder tones that the disreputable warfare of faction be forever eliminated from our National politics, that disappointed ambition shall not so work upon the minds of men as to cause them to revenge failure with the weapon of the bravo. This is a government of law and order. We are not accustomed to the manner in which foreign peoples redress their grievances. But so long as the Republican party points the way to assassination by their methods of party management, so long will it be possible to enact such bloody dramas as that which has just startled the civilized world in the shooting of the Nation's Chief Magistrate. Desperate party leaders should understand that their animosities make Guiteau possible. It is time to call a halt, and the responsible heads of the party in power should see to it that the unseemly wrangling of the past five years cease.

THE New York Chamber of Commerce have taken steps to raise a fund of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars to be presented to Mrs. Garfield as an evidence of their esteem, and to relieve the mind of the President of any anxiety for the future of his family. The sum is being subscribed in sums from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

OUR Republican friends, at least

some of them, are somewhat concerned about Chester A. Arthur. There is a possibility that Arthur may become President of the United States, and that contingency is not a pleasant matter to contemplate. Arthur, however, must have a character and the Philadelphia North American, is one of the organs that comes to his defence. In a late issue of that journal an attempt is made to give Arthur a character by a misrepresentation of the causes which led to his being bounced by Hayes and Sherman from the important position of collector of customs at the port of New York. The North American has the effrontery to speak of his removal as follows: "Upon his personal character or his official integrity there has never been placed a suspicion of stain, and it will be remembered that in substituting another in his place as Collector of the Port of New York, President Hayes did so with the most positive expression of approval of the fidelity with which the public service had been administered." Let us see. Mr. Hayes once wrote a letter to the Senate of the United States in which he gave his reasons for the removal of Arthur. That letter was dated "Executive Mansion, January 31, 1879," and the "positive expressions of approval of the fidelity with which the public service had been administered" by this man, must be found in the extract from that letter which reads as follows: "With my information of the facts in the case, and with a deep sense of the responsible obligations imposed upon me by the Constitution 'to take care that the laws be faithfully executed,' I regard it as my plain duty to suspend the officers in question, (Arthur and Cornell,) and to make the nominations now before the Senate, in order that this important office, (the New York Custom House) may be honestly administered."

This is an endorsement of Arthur's "personal character" and "official integrity" with a vengeance, and well may the North American and kindred sheets claim that upon him "there has never been placed a suspicion of stain;" but the hypocrisy and untruthfulness of the claim will, nevertheless, be understood by intelligent citizens. The public records tell the whole story and cannot successfully be made to lie.

POLYGAMY is being reinforced at a fearful rate. It is said that several thousand Mormon converts arrived at New York the other day, and that thousands are collected in Europe and will be on their way to Utah in a short time. These will add to the complication of the Mormon question which has already assumed formidable proportions, and will tax the ability of the most discreet statesmanship to manage. Our laws declare polygamy a felony. These laws cannot much longer remain inert and their violation allowed. The conflict will come and must be met. If the Mormon church is preparing for this contingency by proselyting and dragging to this country its ignorant and deluded adherents from the old world charity, if not self-protection, should induce our public authorities to arrest the importation.

GENERAL SHERMAN promptly telegraphed the news of President Garfield's shooting to General Hancock. The grand old soldier, whom everyone, both respects and loves, the man who was defeated by the stricken President and who had good reason to feel that his reverse was accomplished in an unworthy manner, proved himself to be what his hundreds of thousands of devoted adherents love to call him the "Superb." The following are his dispatches:

GOVERNOR'S ISLAND, N. Y., July 3. TO GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN, U. S. A. "I trust the recent assault upon the life of the President to-day may not have fatal consequences, and that in the interest of the country the act may be shown to be that of a madman."
W. S. HANCOCK.
GOVERNOR'S ISLAND, N. Y., July 3. TO GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN, U. S. A.

President Garfield Improving.

The Opinions of His Attending Physicians Indicate Their Growing Confidence in His Entire Recovery—The Consulting Surgeons Also Share Their Views.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, July 12.—10:15 P. M.—Dr. Woodward, one of the surgeons who are in constant attendance upon the President, upon being asked to-night what he thought of the latter's condition, replied: "This has been on the whole the best day the President has had since his injury. There was less disturbance during the febrile rise this afternoon than on previous afternoons and his actual maximum temperature was less to-day than yesterday. It still represents however considerable afternoon fever and it would not be safe as yet to declare the President out of danger but his general symptoms are very encouraging and with every day we feel increased hope." Surgeon General Barnes upon being asked this evening his opinion of the President's case said: "His maximum temperature has been less to-day than yesterday, and his general condition is much improved. He takes nourishment in constantly increasing quantities and his stomach performs its functions well. He is not only better to-night than last night but his condition as a whole is better than at any other time since the shooting." Dr. Reyburn upon being asked a similar question at 9 P. M., said: "The President's symptoms last evening gave us some little uneasiness, partly on account of the rise in his temperature, and partly on account of other unfavorable indications, such as restlessness and a dry hot skin. We believed, however, that these symptoms represented only a temporary fluctuation of the fever, and our judgment has been confirmed by the result. The President's pulse and temperature fell gradually during the night, and have been as low to-day as on three days last preceding. His general condition in the meantime has greatly improved. He is quiet and comfortable and says himself that he feels better and stronger. His skin is moist, he has taken more nourishment than on any previous day and his symptoms are all encouraging."

The views of Dr. Bliss with regard to the progress of the case up to 4:20 P. M., have already been given in these dispatches. This evening he made a further statement that the President's afternoon fever began later to-day than on previous days. Up to 4 o'clock his pulse did not go above a hundred and has begun to fall again since the date of the last official bulletin. "The President's condition," Dr. Bliss said, in conclusion, "is in every way satisfactory."

Official Bulletin—10:30, P. M.—Since the 7 o'clock bulletin the President's pulse has dropped to 102 and the temperature to 102.2. At this hour (10:30) he is sleeping quietly, and all his symptoms show an improving condition.

Official Bulletin—WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13, 8:30, A. M.—The President is doing well this morning. Pulse 90; temperature, 98.5; respiration, 20. His gradual progress towards recovery is manifest and thus far without serious complication.

Guiteau in Jail.

Guiteau has now become perfectly reconciled to his lot. For the past days he has manifested little concern as to his fate. In fact, General Crocker, the jail warden, says he is much less concerned regarding himself than some of the prisoners who have been confined for petty larceny. He eats with a good appetite the food given him, which is the same as that furnished other prisoners—coffee, potatoes, white bread and fish for breakfast; boiled beef and cabbage and corn bread for dinner. He expresses no more desires for hot dinners. He spends most of his time during the day reading some periodicals which have been lying round the warden's office. Newspapers are allowed him, although he repeatedly asks to see them. He retires early, sleeps quite soundly and rises about 6 o'clock, looking tolerably bright; makes his toilet carefully, and reads until his breakfast is served. Nothing has been said to him regarding the President's condition. He frequently makes inquiry, however, how he is getting along, still entertaining a hope that he will die. He is anxious to see the photographs taken of him, but as yet none have been shown him. No one has called on him except the district attorney and Chief Brooks, of the detective service, accompanied occasionally by a friend, nor has he expressed a desire to see any one except the district attorney. A watchman has been stationed at the prisoner's cell to prevent any of the prisoners who are allowed to pace the corridors to converse with him.

Mr. John A. Pretz, of Harrisburg, who some four years ago met with an accident at the printing establishment of Major Hart, which necessitated the amputation of his right hand and wrist, has been absent in New York for the last ten days for the purpose of securing an artificial hand. He has returned, having been successful in his errand. From Mr. T. Frees, on Broadway, New York, he purchased a combined hand and wrist and is elated with his new acquisition. With the artificial member he is able to pick up his hat and place it upon his head and to shake hands with a friend, giving quite a grip with the thumb and fingers. He expects in time, with practice, to hold a pen or pencil and to write with it.

STATE NEWS.

Thermometers registered 97 degrees in the shade at Oil City on Sunday.

The Pennsylvania State Teachers' Association will hold its next meeting at Washington, Pa., July 29-28.

Judge James L. Gillis, a valued citizen of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, formerly a member of Congress from Pennsylvania, is dead.

An order was issued on last Monday from the Adjutant General's Office, muttering out and honorably discharging all of the commissaries and paymasters at present connected with the National Guard.

John Barrett Kerfoot, Bishop of the Pittsburgh Diocese of the Episcopal Church, died at Meyersdale, Somerset County, July 10, after a prolonged illness. Bishop Kerfoot was born at Dublin, March 11, 1816, and was a most exemplary and distinguished churchman.

Frederick Wright, of Wilkesbarre, attempted to murder his brother-in-law, Thomas A. Murphy, on last Thursday, because the latter had discharged him from his employ for getting drunk. He fired several shots at him without hitting him, when he was arrested and placed in jail.

The Ebersburg Presbyterian congregation, having to vacate their old church building, service was held in it for the last time on last Sabbath. Arrangements have been made with Rev. A. McElwain, the minister who preached the first sermon in it 34 years ago, to be present and the last one.

Patrick Mullen was terribly burned by an explosion of gas at the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company's colliery at Ashland on last Friday morning. Lewis Bubble, the fire boss, was slightly burned. The explosion was caused by fring a blast in the breast in which Mullen was working.

The Clearfield Journal tells us how William Hunter, a Newburg merchant, went to the cellar to draw a gallon of molasses, leaving on the counter his pocketbook, containing \$400. When he returned the book and its contents were gone, and, although several visitors were searched, Mr. Hunter still mourns the loss of his money.

An old relic of war times was found a few days ago at Harrisburg. It was the key and relay of an old telegraph instrument which was in use in Governor Curtin's department during the whole period of the war, by which so many important messages were sent and received. It was presented to one of the operators who had used it in its best days, who prizes it highly as a relic.

A 48-barrel well of petroleum was struck near Greensburg, Westmoreland county, Pa., July 8, at a depth of 500 feet. The excitement of property owners in the neighborhood of the strike is very great. Nothing short of finding a gold mine or breaking into a bank can create the fury of greed that possesses a community whose land is suddenly found to be underlain with oil.

The Governor has appointed Charles Thompson Jones, Henry C. Howell, Mahlon H. Dickinson, of Philadelphia; James K. Moorhead, John Paul, of Pittsburgh; Henry Rawle, of Erie; William Nolan of Reading, a board of commissioners to superintend the construction of a State Industrial Reformatory at Huntingdon. This board is appointed under the provisions of an act passed by the Legislature.

On Wednesday of last week, a locust tree in the yard of Mr. Wilson, near Homestead, Allegheny county, was struck by lightning. There were under the tree at the time Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, and daughter, Mrs. Carrick and little son, and a boy named Porter. All were severely stunned. The shirt was burned from the Porter boy's back, and it is not thought he can recover. Tall trees are dangerous to go under during a storm.

The returns of the assessors of Pottsville show that 476 dogs have a habitation in that peaceful borough. This is the number returned, and it is safe to presume that as many more escaped the observation of the officer. One citizen has returned nine, and by a peculiar system of progression in the tax rate when more than one canine is owned by the same person, his tax on that class of property alone amounts to \$45.

The case of H. Donaldson, of Emlenton, Venango county, who was suspended from the Presbyterian Church for dancing last spring, has been before the Clarion Presbytery on appeal. The defendant defended himself in an argument of two hours. The trial consumed the entire day and resulted in twenty-two not to sustain the appeal and one to sustain. The trial was an animated one. The defendant took an appeal to Synod, which meets in Erie. The decision was a surprise to the community, as it is stated that the defendant could not dance, but only tried.

It is reported that out of thirteen Hungarians, who were poisoned at Hazleton, Luzerne co., by eating bologna sausage a week ago last Sunday four have died. Their bodies were discovered in the woods, whither they had wandered. The others all experienced a great deal of suffering and some are still sick from the effects of the poison. The doctor who took a quantity of the sausage to analyze reports that he found poisonous matter in it, but cannot name it exactly. It is known that a low class of Poles in the county speculate in cheap meats and that they supply the poor Hungarians with a good deal of this kind of nutriment. It is thought that the sausage partaken of by the Hungarians was made up partially of the flesh of some poisoned animals, possibly dogs.