

Phipps' Plight.

Its Effects upon the Political Campaign in This State.

PHILADELPHIA, September 6.—The evening Telegraph says: It is generally conceded among politicians that the sudden flight of the ex-superintendent of the almshouse and the startling disclosures which follow it have an important bearing on the fortunes of the candidates of the three great political parties in the coming state campaign. When approached on the subject to-day, Chairman Hensel, of the democratic state committee, said: "The democratic party doesn't propose to make partisan capital out of the efforts of honest men of all parties to secure administrative reform. Whatever Mr. Pattison's office has contributed to the almshouse exposure, has been strictly in the line of his uninterrupted efforts to secure honest government in every department of the city. From the outset of his career—and it has been watched by the people of the whole state, he has been aggressively earnest in his purpose that Philadelphia should get value received for every dollar expended. He has determined that the tax-payers shall not rob the tax-payers, and I believe everybody acknowledges that to his administration the success of the reform movement is largely due. The exposure of Phipps' villainy will direct attention to the fact that the same system of plundering has been going on for years at Harrisburg. I have investigated this subject from time to time, and I am well satisfied that by collusion between the officials on State Capital hill and the contractors for supplies there has been extensive plunder of the state treasury. I know a contractor who was caught some years ago delivering 1,200 pounds of coal to the ton to one of the departments. In stationary supplies there have been gross frauds. The Legislative Record publication has been accompanied with jobbery and irregularity. The list of supplies furnished to the departments is prima facie evidence that there are immense perquisites for hangers-on around the hill. The prices paid for some of them are enormous, and the character of them indicates that private houses are furnished and store-rooms and cellars filled out of the state's purchases. The people are asking why the state should buy bay rum and shaving mugs for senators, and new cuspadores, chairs, sofas, curtains and carpets every year. The large contingent funds cover a multitude of sins. Brooms, buckets, etc., are furnished in quantities sufficient to clean all the legislative halls in the country. Pastors and folders are employed in numbers three times as great as necessary, and paid six dollars a day for the work that they can employ a sub to do for six dollars a week. Four tons of soap, 600 brooms, and as many more scrub brushes, 360 pails and 360 dust brushes, besides 180 feather dusters—for 10 dozen of which \$39.50 a dozen are paid—not to speak of window brushes, long and short, sweeping brushes and chamois skins, ought to keep things from ever falling into dirt and decay around the departments and legislative halls. But why should the state buy blacking and shoe brushes, clothes brushes and hair brushes—at \$31.60 per dozen—nail brushes and hair tonics, shaving mugs—\$45.45 per dozen—for state officials? What have become of the old spittoons, that eighteen dozen of new ones are contracted for, some to cost \$30 per dozen? The people want to know. They are going to find out. I can go on with a column catalogue of this sort of pilfering at Harrisburg. It is stealing, and the people know it, and they see that the very rascals who have been in it and are living off it are Beaver's most ardent supporters. There is a feeling that Pattison is the man to stop this thing. Newspaper artillery and the declamation of reformers have prayed unavailing. Even well-disposed legislators do not seem to be proof against the temptations which are offered them when the ring provides all these creature comforts for them. What is needed is an executive of iron will, honesty of purpose, and inflexible courage, to clean house at Harrisburg. The almshouse exposures will have a great effect over the state in directing attention to Pattison as the fittest man to prosecute similar investigations at the state capital."

Small-Pox in Birds.

In the British Medical Journal, Dr. Wm. Gayton, Medical Superintendent of the small-pox hospital at Homerton, says: "Apropos of small pox in birds," I may, perhaps mention the fact that some years ago a former steward of this hospital was in the habit of breeding a large number of canaries. As these arrived at maturity it was a common occurrence to find many of them dead and presenting evidence of having suffered from some eruptive disease. It was further observed that when the hospital contained a somewhat large number of patients the mortality among the birds increased, and vice versa.

NOTHING is rarer in literary history than a scholar who confesses that he has been refuted in anything.

The Assassin's Skeleton.

Philadelphia Times.

WASHINGTON, August 14.—The work of preparing the skeleton of the assassin Guiteau will probably be completed and the object placed on exhibition in the Army Medical Museum by the 1st of next month. This delay has been caused by the fact that but one person could be trusted to perform the duty, as the demand for ghastly souvenirs of the assassin tempted the other workmen to make way with every portion that they could lay their hands on. One of the ears and numerous muscles of the body were placed in oil and taken off during the first two or three days, that the cadaver was exposed in the museum and the coffin in which the body was brought up from the jail has been completely demolished and carried off. It turns out that Dr. Hicks, the assassin's spiritual adviser, was present when the grave in the jail was opened the night of the 3d of July and that he assisted to a certain extent in the work. The box in which the coffin was encased was replaced in the grave and the earth piled and pounded down upon it to ward off suspicions that its contents had been tampered with.

The anatomist of the Medical Museum, Dr. E. F. Schofihirt, superintendent the removal by two trusty white laborers, while Warden Crocker and his deputy, Captain Tuss, stood by with lanterns to expedite the job. The stories about the remains having been exposed upon the roof of the Museum are denied by the officials in charge, and The Times correspondent was to-day shown the receptacle for what remains of Charles J. Guiteau. On a small platform erected outside of the second-story back windows of the Museum the bones lie in a promiscuous pile bleaching in the sun, and here it was stated they have been for the past five weeks. They are as white as ivory and not a joint missing, so that when the process of articulation is finished the skeleton will be one of the most perfect in the collection. Great care will be taken, however, to prevent curiosity hunters from stealing away the smaller bones, and it is probable that a strong glass case will intervene between the public and the skeleton.

Collecting Flowers.

Specimens should be gathered, when possible, in fine weather. If taken in wet weather, or if water plants, the moisture should be shaken from them, and they should be dried as much as possible before putting to press, when the weather is very warm, the vasculum (a tin box for collecting) may be lined with large leaves and its contents occasionally sprinkled with fresh water. This will generally keep the specimens in good condition. As a rule, specimens should not exceed sixteen inches in length, and the entire plant with its roots, should be preserved. If you examine a plant you will find that often the lower leaves differ very much from the upper leaves, and many times only by means of the lower leaf, or the two above it, it is possible to tell the kind of a plant. Therefore, when the plant is so large that it is impossible or inconvenient to save it entire, you must preserve the top or some of the branch leaves and the lower part of the stem having the first or seed leaves. If it is not practicable to retain all of the root, enough should be kept to show the nature of the plant. Specimens should always be in flower or fruit. In the herbs, both will often be found existing at the same time on a plant. At least two leaves of a fern should be preserved, otherwise the specimen is incomplete. Do not hold specimens in the hand any longer than necessary, as the warmth hastens wilting. Make a note of locality where collected on a slip of paper and attach it to the specimen before putting into the vasculum. Plants should be with their roots together, at one end of the box. Algae (seaweeds, etc.), should be placed in wide-mouthed bottles, contain, if seaweeds, salt water; otherwise, fresh water. The bottles may be carried in a small basket. A small scoop net attached to a telescopic handle will often prove of service in taking specimens from the water or from pools between rocks otherwise inaccessible. The best time for collecting algae is after a storm, but plenty will always be found on the seashore early in the morning. Drags and fishermen's nets often contain choice and rare specimens.—Monton's Field Botany.

Something Worth Playing For.

The Malays have at all times been addicted to gambling. In those days, in Ceylon, they would "play away the ends of their fingers" over the draught board. They would sit down with a fire burning, whereon was set a pot of walnut or sesame oil, while beside it lay a small hatchet with an exceedingly sharp edge. The loser placed his hand upon a stone, and the winner chopped off a joint, when the mutilated finger was plunged into the boiling oil and thereby cauterized. Some men, fond of the game, but unskillful or unlucky, had every finger shorn of its tip.

A VIRGINIA man and his wife walked twenty-seven miles, carrying their baby, to see a circus. They know now how sublime it is to suffer for a great cause.

A MAN who gives his children habits of industry, provides for them better than by giving them a fortune.

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR SUPREME JUDGE.



SILAS M. CLARK, of Indiana.

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Democratic Candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court.

Hon. Silas M. Clark is a resident of the beautiful little town of Indiana, in Indiana county, where he has dwelt for many years. He is widely known throughout his own and surrounding counties, and has the respect, the confidence and friendship of all classes of citizens. Eminent as a lawyer, he adorns every relation of life and meets and discharges all the duties of advanced citizenship in a great commonwealth. He is not a "politician" in the perverted popular sense of that word, and in every case in which office or distinction came to him it was not of his own seeking. His nomination to the high and responsible office of Judge of the Supreme Court, in the great State of Pennsylvania, is a deserved tribute alike to his professional ability, and to his personal worth.

MR. CLARK'S POLITICAL RECORD.

But Silas M. Clark is not one of those men who avoid politics as a filthy pool in which honest men should not dabble. He holds it the right and duty of every citizen to vote; he recognizes that good men should not shirk their share in party management, and while he never stooped to the detested tricks of political schemers, he never ran away from public duties. He has frequently represented his county in Democratic State Conventions and was ever ready to lend his wise counsel to party leaders. He has also been a candidate for office. Profound in his knowledge of the law, and just in his dealings with men, he has long been regarded a fit man to grace the judicial bench. In 1869 while yet in his 36th year, Mr. Clark's name was presented, without his knowledge or consent, before the Democratic State Convention for Supreme Judge. He received between 40 and 50 votes. Hon. Cyrus L. Pershing was nominated.

The following year he was tendered the unanimous Democratic nomination for President Judge of the Tenth Judicial district, then composed of Armstrong, Indiana and Westmoreland counties. The district was Republican and his opponent was an honorable member of that party—Hon. James A. Logan, of Westmoreland. The contest was the most exciting ever had in that district for any office. Both candidates were able lawyers and popular gentlemen. Warm friends sprang to the support of each. Mr. Logan was solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., and the western officers of that corporation were his warm personal friends. They did all within their power for Mr. Logan. Trains were sent out along the railroad and voters were hauled free of cost to the polling places. Mr. Logan was popular also among railroad employes, and every man voted for him. That won him the contest. Mr. Clark was defeated by 400 votes in a district that in the election of the succeeding year gave other Republican candidates 2900 majority. Judge Logan assumed the ermine, Mr. Clark practised under him for years, and the other day paid him this well merited compliment: "Judge Logan was a good, able and just judge."

Judge Logan resigned some time ago to accept the position of assistant general counsel of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., and is now serving in that capacity at Philadelphia.

IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

In 1872 Mr. Clark was a candidate for delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and having been elected he assumed the duties of that office. He proved one of the ablest members of the Convention. He served on the committee on Declaration of Rights, on private Corporations and on Revision, bodies entrusted with perhaps the most important work accomplished by that great body of representative men. Mr. Clark was added to the latter committee at the special request of its chairman, Hon. Henry W. Palmer, Attorney General of Pennsylvania.

In 1874 Mr. Clark's friends again offered his name before the Democratic State Convention, and he received forty-one votes for Supreme Judge. Justice W. J. Woodward was nominated and elected. When Mr. Clark was named before the recent State Convention at Harrisburg, delegates from every section looked to his support. He was unanimously nominated by acclamation on the second ballot. The nomination came to him unlooked and unsuspected. Several days afterward he wrote a private note to a personal friend, in which he says: "I had no hope of receiving the nomination, was not thinking of it; expected only complimentary mention."

He resorted to no tricks to secure it; there were no bosses to promise it to him; it was given to him by a conven-

tion whose enemies freely admit that it "committed no blunders."

Such is Silas M. Clark's political record. Mr. Clark is no disappointed office-seeker, no broken down political hack; he is a man who always scorned the tricks of demagogue, an honest Democrat, but no political bigot—a man to challenge the admiration of every voter who believes politics should not be brought into the canvass for Supreme Judge.

THE FRIEND OF POPULAR EDUCATION.

Mr. Clark has the merit of being a self-made and a self-cultured man; he has achieved his present success in life through no family influence, wealth or other adventitious circumstances; he comes up from the ranks of the people, from a parentage and family which is highly respectable but of humble pretensions. He acquired the elementary part of his knowledge in the Common Schools, but at the age of fourteen years he entered the Indiana Academy, where he began the course of study which developed his capacity for success. Whilst he attended the Academy, he labored at times upon the farm, and for one year carried the mail between Indiana and Blairsville; reciting at the Academy one day and serving as mail carrier the next, alternately.

It was a matter of some curiosity and surprise to some of the students of the Blairsville Academy on one occasion when they found that the mail carrier from Indiana carried a copy of Horace's odes in his pocket to while away the time of his delay in Blairsville. In rather a rude language they twitted the friendless lad about his Latin, and in defiant manner challenged him to measure his knowledge with theirs; full of pluck, the little post boy accepted, and he proved more than a match for the most proficient Latin scholar among them. And, perhaps, the worthy preceptor of the Blairsville Academy was not less surprised when the same mail boy, in 1851, came to old Jefferson College at Connersburg, Pa., and upon examination of the faculty was passed into the Junior class as a classmate. Mr. Clark graduated from this excellent and then most prosperous institution in the class of 1852. He had enjoyed very meagre advantages compared with the rich men's sons who were his classmates, but he graduated fifth in a class of sixty members. He was a clear thinker, a strong reasoner and a good speaker, whose efforts generally excelled in the college literary organization. For this reason he was elected by the Philo Society to deliver the valedictory at the semi-centennial anniversary of the organization of the college.

For two years young Clark served as instructor in the same academy in which he himself attended prior to entering college. He taught forty-five young men, most of whom were older than himself. He was a kind and successful instructor, and from that time he proved himself to be a zealous and faithful friend of popular education; for twelve successive years he was a director in the public schools. His own trials and disadvantages had taught him the value of good schools, and he threw his whole energy into the work, and was the kind of man, above all others, to guard the school interests. To his judgment and energy are the public schools of the pretty little borough largely indebted for their present prosperity. In 1851 the first Teacher's Institute of Indiana county was organized. Silas M. Clark was present to lend encouragement and give counsel. In 1872 the State Normal School at Indiana was organized. Mr. Clark was a subscriber to the project, and one of the most active and most successful canvassers for other subscriptions. He was elected a member of the first Board of Trustees, and after the death of Mr. John Sutton was chosen President of that Board, which position he still occupies. In the sad trials of the institution Mr. Clark was its staunchest supporter, and to his work more than that of any other man is due the present success of the Indiana State Normal School. His friendly aid and warm encouragement to officer, teacher and pupils was like "bread cast upon the waters," that will return to him at the November elections; for no man ever connected with the institution, and not a person in Indiana county interested in popular education, but is numbered among his warmest friends.

EVERY European government that has attempted to educate its people, has laid the foundations of its system in thorough training schools for its teachers. In the United States we have too often assumed that an American citizen is a being of such wondrous versatility of genius that he can step into any position, from the sovereignty of an infant school to the presidency of the republic, at a moment's warning. There is little doubt but that our people are more versatile, and better qualified to assume untried duties than those of other lands. Our republican institutions constitute the most admirable training-schools for general intellectual activity and practical efficiency ever yet invented, and the country has consequently not suffered from this lack of special training, to the extent that foreign observers suspect. It is also true that many admirable teachers have been produced by the efforts of genius making its own way through obstacles to eminent success. But no methods of instruction anywhere contemplate the few extraordinary cases of genius. Genius is simply an excess of vital, spiritual power, whereby its possessor sees the great laws of human life, and loses no time in getting upon the highway to success. With or without schools or teachers, such minds would vindicate their high originality.

COPPER-COLORED table cloths are now the fashion, but boarding houses won't use them for fear that boarders might find out what color coffee actually is. MEN who think themselves equal to the rule are often found unequal to obedience.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

"The common school is a production of modern thought. Ancient and Middle ages gave a certain kind and amount of education but it was left to modern times to conceive the thought of popular education, and provide for its instruction to the masses."

Communications and discussions collected. Address Educational Editor, Democracy, Bellefonte, Pa.

THE next session of our County Institute will convene Monday, Dec. 25, 1882. Will we have a full attendance?

THE person whose stock of educational knowledge is but just sufficient to carry him through an Institute of five days, is not a fit person to be entrusted with the training of teachers for even five days.

METHODS of teaching must of course be adapted to the requirements of individual cases. In primary schools, only the oral method can be employed. To the higher classes of ungraded schools a book may be given.

If there is one question upon which the people of the United States are practically unanimous, it is in the support of the common schools. Well may an intelligent foreigner say: "Those who have known America longest and best, will agree that whether the attachment of Americans for free schools is founded on good, solid reasons or otherwise, there cannot be the slightest doubt that it exists, and that it forms one of the most striking features in the national character."

It is but to utter a common place to say that every teacher should be acquainted with all the branches he is called upon to teach, and with the theory and practice of the best methods of teaching; that he should know human nature, and should have a peculiar combination of moral and executive power; that he should be able to enter into his vocation with that healthy vitality of body, mind and heart which radiates power like sunlight throughout his whole realm of activity.

IN no one of the different stages of life is the possibility of developing this heart-germ of courteousness equal to that in our Primary grade of schools. Here, where more than half the waking hours of the little ones are spent under the eyes of the teacher, the seeds of gentleness, kindness and courtesy may best be sown in the fertile heart-soil of the child. There may doubtless be circumstances most adverse with which to contend while planting these seeds, such as a rude, poisonous atmosphere at home, or intellects naturally sluggish; but by constant and varied efforts to counteract the miasma of the home training, and to dig into, quicken, and fertilize the intellect, there cannot fail to eventuate astonishing results. But such efforts must not be merely mechanical. The heart of the teacher must be pure and good.

IN order that every teacher should be an educator, he himself should have culture—be educated. The presence in the school-room or classroom of a teacher of this character will educate pupils irresistibly and involuntarily, to a certain degree. No methods learned by rote will convert an ignorant into an educator. A grizzled decorated with ribbons is still a grizzled. The teacher need not be an encyclopedia or a dictionary, but he should have been over a broad range of studies, and be thoroughly acquainted with all the powers and faculties of the human being. Often, generally, the profoundest knowledge of psychology and the most completely educated mind are needed to conduct the smallest child in the infant class towards true culture. The educator should be college-educated or self-educated, the same in the end, because colleges are only so many opportunities for the earnest-minded to grow, and many grow outside all walls by their inherent love of learning; but educated he must be, always, who educates others; educated before he studies methods. He must have something to impart before he learns how to impart it.

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It Was a Cigarette Smoker.

It was unmistakably a male biped, but such a rig! Over six feet tall, suit of white flannel, baggy breeches, coat cut off at hips, shoestring front shirt, No. 11 russet leather shoes with rubber soles, white skull cap with knot of white lace falling to the shoulder, button hole bouquet, beardless face and a lawn tennis stick that would make a nice plaything for a three-year-old boy. He entered the cigar store.

"Bet a dollar he buys a cigarette." "Take the bet?" And the second speaker won. Here is what took place in the store: "Have you any cigarettes?" "Lots 'em. What kind do you want?" "The best you have." "Here are—As good as any in the market." "Give me two of them" (laying a penny upon the show case.) "We don't break bunches." "Don't you sell two for a penny?" "No, sir." "Ah! In that case I shall not patronize you!" and it stalked out.

A STATEMENT of the disposal of the public lands during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1882, has been prepared at the General Land Office and shows that the total number of acres disposed of was 15,699,848, an increase over last year of about 5,000,000 acres. The cash received for this land amounts in the aggregate to about \$8,361,091, as against about \$5,000,000 during the last fiscal year. The number of acres entered for agricultural purposes as "cash sales" during the year amounted to 3,699,899 acres; for mineral purposes, 37,068,010 acres; for desert lands, 166,055 acres; for coal lands, 7,194 acres; 6,347,729 acres were entered under the homestead laws, while 1,216,244 acres were "proved up" under the same laws. Under the timber culture acts 2,699,797 acres were entered and "proved up;" under the various land warrant, railroad grant, school and States selection acts, including various kind of scrip, 615,866 acres were disposed of. The great increase in the disposition of public lands during the past fiscal year is said to be owing to the immense tide of immigration in the Northwest. In Dakota the increase is more noticeable than in any other State or Territory. A very large increase is also noticeable in Louisiana and Florida. The area of State and railroad selections is more complete than ever before, and this adds greatly to the aggregate disposed of during the past year. The acres of cash sale in Dakota alone were 698,094 acres, and the homestead entries in the same Territory were more than two million acres.

ROME, September 31.—A letter from the Pope to the Irish Bishops, dated August 1, is published here. His Holiness, expressing his profound regret that tranquility has not been restored in Ireland and that murders continue to be committed, says: "The Irish people, by following the advice of their prelates, may hope for the alleviation of the ills from which they suffer. A just cause must be upheld by just means. Secret societies must be shunned. In the words of Saint Augustine, the first characteristic trait of liberty is the non-commission of crime. The priests ought to be active supporters of public order during the present troubles." The letter concludes by expressing the hope that the English Government will do justice to the equitable claims of the Irish people, remembering that the pacification of Ireland constitutes an element of tranquility in the whole Empire.

How to Spoil a Husband.

- Sneer at him. Henpeck him. Find fault with him. Keep an untidy house. Humor him half to death. Boss him out of his boots. Always have the last word. Be extra cross on wash-day. Quarrel with him for trifles. Never have meals ready in time. Run bills without his knowledge. Vow vengeance on all his relations. Let him sew the buttons on his shirt. Pay no attention to household expenses. Give as much as he can earn in a month for a new bonnet.

A SCIENTIFIC article asks, "Will the coming man use both arms?" That depends whether the coming man's "mash" is a slim girl or one of the stout variety.

A PROMINENT lumberman has had his coat of arms painted on the panels of his carriage with the Latin motto "Vidi," which by interpretation is "I saw."

A LETTER addressed "g in o shed, mastuit," mailed in Champlain, N. Y., was forwarded by a sharp-witted clerk to Indian Orchard, Mass., and found its owner.

LAMP-POSTS are now called aesthetic supporters, it having been noticed that the individuals who have the most affection for them late at night are limp, and they cling.

A CHICAGO woman recently told her husband that she had put her foot right down on his going to the club. He glanced at the foot, sighed, and sent in his resignation!

AN old lady in Cheyenne says that there can be nothing more attractive than the spring style of wrap for young ladies. She says its the knee plus ulter of good taste.