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A LIVE PAPER—devoted to the interests of the whole people. Payments made within three months will be considered in advance.

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Table with 2 columns: SPACE OCCUPIED, and Price. Rows include One inch (for 12 lines this type), Two inches, Three inches, Quarter column (for 12 lines), Half column (for 12 lines), One column (for 12 lines).

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POLITICAL NOTICE.—Not more than 50 cents. BUSINESS NOTICES.—In the editorial columns, 15 cents per line, each insertion.

What Was Meant.

A correspondent, a Republican, who evidently intends to be sarcastic, asks the Spirit, what did the Democratic State Convention mean anyway when it insisted in its platform upon the reservation of the public lands for actual settlers and demanding that not another acre be given to corporations?

All sorts of frauds have been generated through the gobbling greed of railroad corporations in grasping for public lands. Indeed so widespread has become these rascalities that the General Land office has been forced to send out hundreds of special agents to ferret out the rascals and to restore to the public domain, if possible, the land they robbed it of.

The government has dealt most liberally with corporations in its grant of land. The public domain of the United States, including the Alaska possessions of 69,529,600 acres, reaches 1,823,180,387 acres. In this the State of Texas is not included, as by the treaty of annexation it retained the ownership of all public lands within its borders.

The railroad corporations have been given already about thirty-three millions of acres. Of the two hundred and fifty millions of acres that remain corporations are now claiming fully one-half, or one hundred and twenty-five millions. The Northern Pacific Railroad alone wants nearly fifty millions of acres.

Why do these corporations yet claim these immense amounts? Because corrupt Congresses gave them to them. They were given under certain restrictions. If the terms of the grants were not complied with the land was to be forfeited to the government.

These corporations will be confronted with a Democratic House of Representatives at Washington next December and they have already become alarmed over the prospective failure of their plans. It will be well for the House to stand firm, and emphatic expressions of popular sentiment like that of the Democratic platform of this State will aid it. In it our only hope lies. A Republican Senate cannot be trusted to

meet with fairness and firmness the encroachments of these great powers. Secretary Teller has already given evidence of his purpose to yield. The decisions of the present Attorney General all favor a new grant to the corporations.

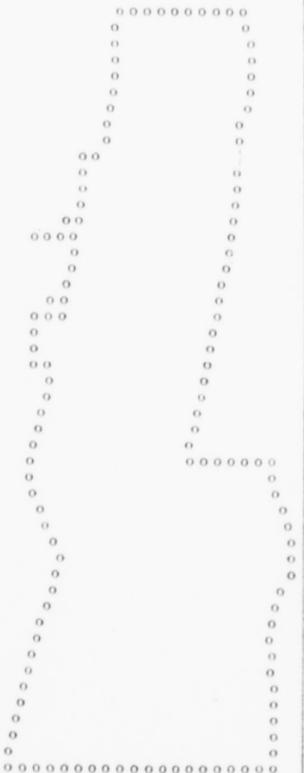
Having answered the question of our correspondent, we want to add that the people ought now to vote with the party whose representatives in Congress vote for the people. Any citizen of Franklin county may go to these lands so long as they are in the hands of the government and obtain good farms at a fair price amounting to about \$1.25 an acre. When once in the hands of these corporations and speculators the price is sure to be advanced to five, ten or twenty dollars an acre.

That the public lands should be reserved for actual settlers and not another acre go to greedy corporations is a timely demand; though Republicans sneer at it as our correspondent has done. The intending emigrant, or the honest farmer who wants to see honest labor encouraged, ought so array himself on the side of the party that proclaims itself in opposition to grabbing corporations, fat with riches and impudent with power.—Valley Spirit.

Congressional Apportionment.

Unable to adequately speak its disgust in words the Harrisburg Patriot has resorted to diagrammatic argument. After an artistic presentation of two of the proposed McCracken districts, it says:

"The prize for hideous, misshapen ugliness, however, is reserved for Senator John Stewart's district, which runs across the State from Mason and Dixon's line to a point within about sixty-five miles of the New York border, embracing the counties of Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Millin, Snyder and Union. The following diagram shows the appearance of this district on the map:



This is the McCracken district, a monster 130 miles long and 15 miles wide at its narrowest part. Why on earth such a district was ever thought of is the riddle to be guessed. It might as well be said that a district running diagonally across the state from Delaware to Erie is contiguous. The meaning of the word 'contiguous' in the act of Congress certainly is not that a county lying on one side of a state connected by a string of intervening counties to another on the other side of the State, possesses contiguity with the latter.

All About a Dog.

LANCASTER, August 23.—A lady passenger had in her possession a pet dog, which the conductor insisted in putting off the cars. The lady said if the dog was put off she would get off too. Off went the dog, and off went the lady, crying as if her heart would break. The conductor relented so far as to say that the dog might go into the baggage car. The lady consented to this arrangement, provided that she, too, could go into the baggage. The conductor positively refused to let her get into the baggage car and insisted on her getting into a passenger car. The bell rang; the dog was thrown into the baggage car; the lady still crying made a motion as if she would take a passenger car, but in a twinkling she mounted the steps of the baggage car, stepped into it unseen by the conductor, and when the train pulled out of the depot, she and her pet was snugly nestled down in a corner.

They Defy Constitution, Laws and People.

The great fault the Radical press accuse Gov. Pattison of is his anxiety to compel the Legislature to perform their duties as demanded by the Constitution and their oaths of office, which is to apportion the State into Congressional and Legislative districts. The Danville Intelligencer says the Democratic House has all along manifested a desire to act on this line, but the Senate resists. The Radical members of that body have never yet manifested a disposition to pass apportionments such as is demanded by the Constitution and what is due to the voters of the Commonwealth. Whatever bills they have framed have been so devoid of all fairness and in such disregard of the Constitutional requirements that the House could not out of self respect give them a patient hearing. And this has proceeded not from within but from without that body.

A set of Radical tricksters of which Don Cameron is the head, and Tom Cooper the tail, have agreed among themselves that the present iniquitous apportionments can be used to more advantage for their individual success and profit than could be secured by any new bills. Hence, they are determined that no others shall pass. It is in keeping with every action of this faction, who care neither for constitution, laws or public opinion so that their ignoble ends are answered.

A Prominent Man Dead.

HON. J. McDOWELL SHARPE EXPIRES AT HIS HOME AFTER A SHORT ILLNESS.

CHAMBERSBURG, August 23.—Hon. J. McDowell Sharpe, one of the present members of the legislature from Franklin county, and a prominent attorney of the state, died at his home in Chambersburg at two o'clock this morning of hemorrhage of the bowels. Mr. Sharpe was taken ill on Friday, and gradually grew worse until his death. Four physicians have been at his bedside since Sunday, and everything done to alleviate his sufferings, which have been intense. He was unconscious for some time before his death, but he passed away peacefully and with apparently little pain. His death is greatly lamented by the entire community, and Chambersburg is truly wrapped in mourning to-day. He leaves a wife who is seriously ill, and one son.

James McDowell Sharpe was born in Newton township, Cumberland county, on October 7, 1830. He graduated at Jefferson college, Cannonsburg, June 1848, with high honors. He studied law with the Honorable Frederick Watts, of Carlisle, and was admitted to practice in the Cumberland county court in 1850. In April, 1851, he came to Chambersburg, was admitted to the Franklin county bar and has practiced law here ever since. His practice was the largest of any in this county, and he was recognized as the leader of his profession. He was an exceedingly close student, and was one of the best read in the state. His ability was not only known at home, but throughout the commonwealth, and especially before the supreme court, where he has appeared in numerous important cases. He was elected to the legislature twice before his present term, in 1864 and 1865. He was also a member of the constitutional convention of 1872 and '73, and was the democratic candidate for congress in the old Sixteenth district in 1866, but was defeated by Hon. W. H. Koontz, of Somerset.—Patriot.

An Erie County Farmer Enticed from Home.

ERIE, August 23.—A dastardly crime was committed Tuesday night at Greenfield township, this county. Thomas Flushing, James and John Everts and William Flushing waylaid a farmer named George W. Dresser, and attacked him on his way to Erie. Being well mounted Dresser escaped. He was set again on his return and pursued for nine miles, the pursuers firing on him several times. He reached his home about midnight and about two hours afterward was decoyed from his bed by an alarm of fire and was seized by the four ruffians, each of whom plunged a knife into his body. Dresser fell bleeding to the ground and was picked up insensible. The dangerous character of the wounds made antemortem statement necessary. He recognized all four assassins, all of whom are Ohio men, and had sworn to be revenged upon him for interfering with their lawless operations.

Taggart and Powell at Home.

The Democrats in convention at Harrisburg last week presented candidates worthy of election. The bosses were absent, and the delegates fresh from the people formed the platform and nominated the ticket. The Ledger is pleased with the nomination of Captain Robert Taggart. It will be recollected that early in the season it brought out his name for the nomination for Auditor General. We did so because we considered him fit for the office as to education, ability and honesty. At the same time it was not greatly expected that the honor would fall upon him, as it seldom falls where most deserved. But in this case it did. Every position of local trust he has filled with satisfaction to those concerned. Living in a Republican county and district he has not been elected to our representative halls, but his friends have done the best they could—nominated him, and he has in every case been largely supported by Republicans because of his worth and ability. He is adapted to fill any office. His mind is broad and active. While he is not a politician in the strict sense of the word, he is a Democrat in principle, but takes a broader view of the situation than the mere politician does. He came to Tidouate about fifteen years ago, and has been engaged as superintendent for oil companies and as a producer all these years. Hence he understands the wants of the oil producers and the wants of the people generally. In this part of the state his vote should be almost unanimous; but as this can not be expected, it is almost safe to say that he will have a majority of the votes of Warren county, Venango and McKean, all three Republican counties. The independent Republicans will generally give him their support, not having an organization of their own this year, and not liking the placing of Senator Cooper at the head of the Republican state committee. In this part of the state Capt. Taggart will run far ahead of his party vote. There is no better man in the state for the office to which he has been nominated.

The Color Line.

RIGHT OF COLORED PEOPLE IN INNS AND RESTAURANTS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—A decision was rendered by Judge Mills, in the police court of this city yesterday, in the civil rights case of the Rev. George H. Smith (colored), of Norwich, Conn., against James W. Bell, proprietor of restaurant on Pennsylvania avenue. The ground of complaint was that Bell had denied the accommodation of his restaurant to the plaintiff on account of the latter's color, and suit was brought to enforce the criminal provision of the act of March 1, 1875, the court holds that under the common law an innkeeper is bound to take in and receive all travelers and wayfarers, and that by the act of March 1, 1875, it is made a misdemeanor to discriminate against a traveler on account of race and color, regardless of any previous condition of servitude. A restaurant keeper has the right to establish certain regulations as to hours for meals and to designate certain places or seats for customers; but such hours and seats must be the same for all, or if any discrimination be made it must be made upon some principal or for some reason that the law recognizes as just and reasonable, and not on account of color, race or previous condition of servitude. All guests of an inn or restaurant must be given equal privileges, and the places designated for them must be accessible to all respectable persons at a uniform rate of charge. From these principles it follows that the defendant, in discriminating against the complainant, Smith, on account of his race and color, was guilty of a misdemeanor, and incurred the penalty prescribed by the second section of the civil rights act of 1875. Judgment is entered accordingly. This case is in some respects a novel one, since it is the first attempt to enforce the penalty under the second section of the civil rights act, which makes violation of the law a misdemeanor, and it is the first effort made to enforce the criminal provisions of the law in a territory where the congress of the United States has exclusive and absolute legislative jurisdiction.

The Ravages of Rum.

Howard the well informed New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, has this to say in his letter of Sunday last concerning the habit of drinking, which he supplements with a significant moral. Who of us needs to be told that drinking is on the increase. Everybody drinks. Boys down-town offices swig their beer before they light their cigarettes. Laboring men along the wharves take their rot-grog as regularly as they take their pipe. Look in any or all of our great restaurants. The receipts of the bar exceed the expenses of the entire establishments. It doesn't follow that all men who drink are liable to become

drunkards, but it certainly is a fact that no man who doesn't drink ever became a drunkard. Old-fashioned parents in the country would be apt to open their eyes if they were to stand an hour in one of our palatial barrooms. Clergymen, doctors, lawyers, journalists, bankers, brokers, clerks of every name and employees of every degree drink as regularly as they eat and a great deal oftener. Who can deny it? Observation proves the assertion. Can a nation already enfeebled and effeminated by smoking long endure the strain of drink? What kind of children will the next generation be? A man with a swollen head, and inflamed stomach and unsteady nerves may know enough to turn off the gas when he goes to bed, but he will be exceptionally fortunate if his children have sense enough to do anything at all.

A Body Bursts From a Coffin.

HARRISBURG, Aug. 23.—Henry Strein, of this city, aged forty-five years, who was connected with a band of traveling gypsies who encamped across the river from Sunbury, was bitten by a Newfound dog in the leg and arm on Monday afternoon. He refused medical aid and drank a quantity of whisky. In the evening he commenced to bark and bite like a dog and refused water. He died shortly afterward in great agony. The body was at once put into a coffin and then into a pine box. Word from this city ordered its removal here and last night it came down on one of the trains, when a very distressing affair occurred. In taking the rough box from the car and placing it on a truck it slipped off the latter and went crashing to the Belgian pavement. The lid of the pine box flew off and the coffin with its occupant was spilled out. To add to the scene the top of the coffin burst and the remains were thrown face downward into the gutter. The body was greatly decomposed and swollen and a stench of an unbearable character followed. Matters were finally righted and the remains were taken to his home. Much excitement was caused by the accident.

The Evidence Accumulate.

The stalwart bosses recognizing the fact that the breach in the Republican party was not by any means healed followed Quay's advice and put an alleged independent on the state ticket this year in order to give the kickers no excuse for refusing to harmonize. Representative Niles, of Tioga county, who is supposed to have been the inventor of United States Senator Mitchell, was selected as the most enticing bait for the hook with which it is proposed to catch the independents.

But some how or other many of the independent leaders began to suspect Niles and looked around for evidence to support their suspicions, and they did not have great trouble in finding it. In the first place they discovered that a bargain had been made with Senator Stewart to the effect that if he would aid in defeating apportionment by the legislature Niles should be placed on the ticket. Quay made the bargain and took Niles for his share of the spoils. Magee agreed to take Livey and the result was that a bosses' ticket was nominated while apparently a bone was thrown to the independents.

Conclusive evidence that these bargains were made has been constantly accumulating until now no more is needed. Candidate Niles at the last session of the legislature most emphatically declared himself in favor of the general assembly carrying out its "constitutional obligations" by the passage of apportionment bills. At that time his sympathies were with the independents. This year the bosses took him in hand and agreed to make him the candidate for auditor general. What is the result? Nothing has been heard from Mr. Niles about the "constitutional obligations" of the legislature, although they are even more binding now than they were at the last session. No further proof is needed that Mr. Niles is now completely in the control of the bosses and that he is the bosses' candidate for auditor general.

The Lonely Book.

PROOF WHICH HAS APPEARED IN LATER DAYS TO SUSTAIN THE BIBLE.

Do we ever fairly consider the loneliness of that lonely people's Book? Think how it stands out alone. What fellow, what companion had it? What fellow we had that was coeval with those Hebrew Scriptures? What was there by which they could be confirmed? Go back to the beginning of the century and ask yourself what had then survived of its contemporary literature with which it could be compared. Egypt had left nothing, only a few lines of one historian rescued by the Christian historian Eusebius. Babylon and Nineveh had saved nothing, not a line, except similar fragments of one historian preserved by Josephus or Eusebius. Persia? Persia only began to be as the Jewish history was ending. Greece? Rome? There was no Greece nor Rome when the splendid Jewish prophets were proclaiming the one Jehovah.

Here, then, appears this one Book full of wondrous history, on whose marvelous revelation our own fuller Christian faith is built, and we were asked, "What evidence have you of its truth? What is there to confirm it?" We were told that its history was false, that it was a late product full of errors, that Xenophon and Arrian told different stories, which were truer than our Bible. What could we do? We could bring no confirmatory proof; for there was none. There was no evidence existing. It was all buried in the grave of the forgotten and irrecoverable past.

But behold a wonder! The earth opens its mouth. Our own generation has seen uncovered the monuments of Egypt, Assyria, and Palestine, which abundantly prove the truth of the Jewish history. No longer a lonely record, the Old Testament is supported by the exhausted records of the kings of Egypt and Babylon and Nineveh and Moab. We are now shown in the Boulaq Museum the very body of the Egyptian king who oppressed Israel. We know the name of the father and grandfather of Arioeh, King of Elasar, who fought in the confederacy against the King of Sodom. At a hundred points confirmatory evidence has been dug out of Assyrian ruins. In the day when the lonely Book was attacked by unbelief, there appeared out of the very ground hosts of defenders. God's providence supplies His Book.—New York Independent.

Home Items.

All who are afflicted with Rheumatism, Kidney trouble or any weakness will be almost new by using hop-bitters. My wife and daughter were made healthy by the use of hop-bitters and I recommend them to my people.—Methodist Clergyman. All who are afflicted with Malarial fever, Ague and Biliousness will leave every neighborhood as soon as hop-bitters arrive. My mother drove the paralysis and neuralgia all out of her system with hop-bitters.—Ed. Chicago Sun. Keep the kidneys healthy with hop-bitters and you need not fear sickness. The water is rendered innocuous and more refreshing and cooling with hop-bitters. The vigor of youth is regained when using hop-bitters.

Superior Excellence.

The reasons for Perina's superior excellence in all diseases, and its modus operandi, are fully explained in Dr. Hartman's lecture reported in his book on the "ills of Life, and How to Cure Them," from page 1 to page 16, though the whole book should be read and studied to get the full value of this peerless remedy. These books can be had at all the drug stores gratis. Perina is the best immediate expectorant (Cough Medicine) that has yet been compounded by physician or druggist. There is nothing in medical print that can at all compare with it. And no less so is it the very best Tonic, Stimulant, Nervin, Diuretic, Alterative, Anti-Dyspeptic, Appetizer, Hematic, (Blood Medicine) &c., &c., that has ever been compounded by doctor or layman. It should, therefore, always be kept on hand for immediate use.

New Advertisement.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. This powder never varies. A marvel of purity and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low cost, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER, 100 Wall-st., N. Y.

KIDNEY-WORT HAS BEEN PROVED THE SUREST CURE FOR KIDNEY DISEASES. Does a lame back or disordered urine indicate that you are a victim? THEN DO NOT HESITATE, use Kidney-Wort at once, druggists recommend it and it will speedily overcome the disease and restore healthy action. For complaints peculiar to your sex, such as pain, and weakness, Kidney-Wort is unsurpassed. It will act promptly and safely. Suffer from Incontinence, retention of urine, brick dust or sandy deposits, and all dragging pains, all speedily yield to its curative power. It is SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS. Price \$1.