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TARIFF reform was not squashed by Harrison's election as many would desire.

THE constitutional amendment for the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors in Pennsylvania will likely be submitted to the people by the present legislature. Prohibition or no prohibition will be the issue and the vote may take place this coming summer.

A LOCK HAVEN exchange requests that all those desiring the office of Postmaster in that city under the new administration please hold up their hands.

Jerusalem! What a lot of 'em. He can't give it to all o'you. When they make their applications, Quay's hand will be "thumbs down."

Thomas A. Edison, and John Ericsson both inventors, the former 42 years of age and the latter just double that age, are great physical contrasts. Edison never takes any exercise. Ericsson has a gymnasium fitted up in his house and takes regular exercise every day. Edison is almost totally deaf, and is pale of face and stoops. Ericsson has all his organs in their early perfection, is ruddy of face and straight as an arrow.

The liquor men insist that if their business is outlawed the state must compensate them for their losses. As they only hold their licenses by sufferance from year to year, and as the supreme court of the United States has decided that the State may outlaw the liquor traffic without reference to the consequences to those engaged in it, the chances for compensation will alarm nobody. It is an attempted diversion which will not divert.

OVER 1000 delegates have signified their intention of attending the Tariff Reform Convention to be held in Chicago on February 19, 20, 21, 1889. The object of the convention is to bring about an organization of those who pay, against those who pocket, the proceeds of protective taxation. There will be an end of unfair discriminations the moment the voters of the country shall understand how few are benefited and how many are robbed. The interest taken in the Chicago movement shows that the result of the election has not in the least abated the popular feeling.

REPRESENTATIVE PUGH, of Somerset, intends introducing a bill at this session of the legislature to dignify the office of district attorney by removing the temptation of fees and allowing that official, in lieu of them, a good salary. Mr. Pugh thinks such an act would promote the interests of justice, while it would at the same time elevate the standard of the office. The same representative favors the passage of a bill reducing the charges of court stenographers, who, he says, are being paid too much under existing legislation.

TROUT of the Lewistown Free Press, Deputy Revenue Collector, at a salary of \$1,000 per annum; Leshner of the Selingsgrove Times, U. S. Mail clerk at \$1,000 per annum; Elcholtz of the Sunbury Democrat, Post Master at \$1,800 per annum; Lumbard, of the Selingsgrove Tribune, Assistant Transcribing Clerk at \$700 for this legislative session, and Schoch, of the Millinburg Telegraph, Assistant Sargeant-at-Arms at the last session of the legislature, is not such a bad showing for the newspaper fraternity in that neck of the woods. Felder is still out in the cold.

THE New York Voice, the leading prohibition organ in the country, adds a drop to the brimming cup of political campaigning rascality by showing that its stolen mailing lists were purchased and paid for by the Republican National Committee. The thieves not only got money for their stolen plunder, but the promise of further reward in the shape of office. If the receiver be as bad as the thief, it is not easy to see why Messrs. Clarkson, Quay and Dudley should escape their share in the shame of this exposure. We will have fallen upon evil times, indeed if such transactions, involving persons holding the most responsible relation to a great party, shall be allowed to pass unnoted and unfinished.

A NEW AND VITAL ISSUE.

PROHIBITION OR NO PROHIBITION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The Prohibition Amendments will Likely Pass the Present Legislature—What It Means—A Grave Issue.

Hitherto the question of absolute prohibition of the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating liquors as a beverage in Pennsylvania, has been generally regarded as one of the many side issues which rise and perish in the swift mutations of our free political system; but to-day the Prohibition question is practically face to face with the people and must soon command their sober consideration and decision. The Legislature of 1887 passed by an overwhelming majority in both branches, the following joint resolution proposing the submission to the people of a Prohibition amendment to the Constitution:

Joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of this Commonwealth:

SEC. 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, that the following amendment is proposed to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the Eighteenth Article thereof.

There shall be an additional article to said Constitution to be designated as Article XIX, as follows:

ARTICLE XIX.
The manufacture, sale or keeping for sale of intoxicating liquor to be used as a beverage is hereby prohibited, and any violation of this prohibition shall be a misdemeanor punished as shall be provided by law.

The manufacture, sale or keeping for sale of intoxicating liquor for other purposes than as a beverage may be allowed in such manner only as may be prescribed by law. The General Assembly shall, at the first session succeeding the adoption of this article of the Constitution, enact laws with adequate penalties for its enforcement.

It is no longer in any measure doubtful that the present Legislature will again pass the foregoing proposed Prohibition amendment by a large majority in both branches, and that it will be submitted to the people for their ratification or rejection at a special election to be held early in the summer. The Legislature is required to declare when the election shall be held, and there are two powerful considerations which are likely to decide in favor of an early day. First, the special supporters of Prohibition are united in demanding a special election to free the issue from all political complications; and second, the leaders of the majority party in the Legislature and in the State, whose party platforms unanimously declared for submitting such amendment in 1887 and 1888, regard it as good politics to have the question finally disposed of before the State Convention shall meet, and thus avoid the necessity of making a party deliverance on the question. These are potent reasons; they are quite likely to prevail in the Legislature, and it is safe to assume that the people of Pennsylvania will be called to accept or reject Prohibition about the 1st of June next.

The issue is a very grave one. It involves sentiment, society and interest, and it is one that should be most dispassionately considered by every voter. If it were a mere question of effacing the admitted evils which result from the liquor traffic, the issue would be a very plain and simple one; but it brings up for sober consideration the practical questions of the best methods of protecting society and of the protection due to property. As a sentimental issue it has but one side to it; as a moral issue looking to the sanctity and enforcement of law and as a practical issue looking to the rights of property, it is many-sided. It would be a one-sided sentimental issue to demand that all men and women shall be religious; but it would be subversive of both law and morals to make such a mandate from the sovereign power, because it would fail in enforcement and bring both law and religion into contempt.

The first question that the people of Pennsylvania should most carefully consider and decide is whether Prohibition will prohibit. Has it done so in other States? Has it lessened the evil of intemperance and strengthened the popular sanctity for law? If so, are the people of this State as well prepared for the enforcement of Prohibition as the people of other States in which it has been tried? It has revolutionized strong majority parties in Rhode Island, Kansas and Iowa; will it do so in Pennsylvania? If Prohibition shall be accepted, will it escape the maelstrom of politics? or will it rise supreme over parties and political effort? These are questions which must be considered in their practical rather than in their sentimental

aspect, and each voter should calmly inquire into them and be fully persuaded in his own mind before the heat of the bitter contest, that is now inevitable, shall inflame passion and prejudice.

Another question directly involved in the coming struggle relates to the rights of property. There are tens of millions of dollars now invested in property, under the laws, which from time immemorial have legalized the manufacture and sale of stimulating drinks, which would be rendered measurably valueless by the adoption of Prohibition. In many instances, it would amount not merely to greatly impaired value, but to confiscation. It will be answered from the sentimental side of the dispute that individual interests cannot hinder the public welfare, and the sentiment is abstractly true; but when the laws have uniformly legalized and protected such property what would be the measure of justice to those who may be stripped of property in a day, without any infraction of the enacted laws or declared public policy of the State? This is a feature of the issue that calls for sincere and intelligent judgment; and, like all other phases of the great issue, it should be well considered before partisan strife shall possess the field.—Times.

THE SWARMING IMMIGRANTS.

The talk about restricting immigration, as is remarked by the Times only served to stimulate the rush of foreigners to the United States last year. The steamship agents circulated the report that the ports might soon be closed to immigrants and that they should come at once if they did not want to find themselves shut out entirely. They did come, 383,000 landing at New York alone, an increase of 21,000 over the immigrants arrivals of 1887.

Germany furnished the largest quota in spite of official efforts to discourage immigration. The German additions to American population numbered 77,800. Ireland furnished 44,000, which, in consideration of the fact that the population of Ireland is only a little more than one-tenth that of Germany, shows that the impulse to seek a new home is still stronger in Ireland than elsewhere. Next to the Germans and Irish the Scandinavian contingent was the most important, 50,000 Swedes and Norwegians having landed and sought homes chiefly in the west.

The least desirable immigrants came from Russia, Austro-Hungary and Italy, and as these three countries furnished 97,000 of the new arrivals it is evident that the days of cheap contract labor are not over yet. How many of this 97,000 will become permanent residents of this country it would be hard to say. Probably a large percentage of them will remain long enough to accumulate a few hundred dollars each and return home to spend their money. The Hungarians, especially, are disposed to follow the example of the Chinese and not become permanent residents.

The experience of the past year indicates that if the restriction of immigration is to be talked about it should be put in operation as soon as possible, as mere talk only increases the evil complained of. The steamship companies use the agitation as a means of crowding their vessels at every trip, and will continue to do so until the talk ceases or some restrictive law is actually passed and enforced.

The appearance of a comet in the sky has from time immemorial been considered the certain forerunner of wars and disturbances, and the longer the tail the greater the disturbance or war. The Blaine comet has a very long tail, and the war presaged is likely to be correspondingly long and bitter, ending only with the destruction of the combatants. But as the combatants are all in the republican party, there need be no great grief over their annihilation. It is understood that Senator Hiscock was the bearer of Blaine's ultimatum to Harrison; it not only demanded that Blaine should sit at the head of the cabinet, as Secretary of State, but he should have the naming of at least two other members of the cabinet. Harrison has not yet given his answer, and the sudden appearance of the Blaine comet at Washington and the marshalling of the various planets into a brilliant constellation, is all for the purpose of impressing the Harrison sun with the immense power for good or for evil which is wielded by the comet. Whether the comet shall destroy the sun or the sun the comet, is a matter of indifference to the democratic observers gathered in the national observatory for the purpose of enjoying the free pyrotechnics. Fire the big guns, and let the show begin. The nation is assembled to witness the fun.

CORRUPT ELECTION.

There seems to be an honest desire among the honest men of all parties to do something to wipe out the shame of the late election, and to prevent the undue use of money to corrupt the decision of the people at the ballot box. Hon. Fremont Cole, who was chosen speaker of the New York Assembly by the votes of Republicans, electrified that body by declaring that "never before in the history of our politics, since our patriot fathers established the Union and consecrated it to freedom, has money played so important, unblushing and corrupt a part in the election or the Government officials. In many sections of the State the people are becoming educated to the naming only of affluent men as candidates for office.

"Instead of ability they seek for availability. In place of a captain with a strong brain they crown the leader with the long purse. In lieu of honesty they tolerate dishonesty. In a position that should be honored by some intelligent and clear-headed representative of American manhood they are too often allowed to put an unscrupulous delegate of political trickery and corporate greed.

"No Government, however stoutly established, however fondly cherished can long sustain the strain of conditions like these. It will not do for this Legislature to take any hesitating or reactionary steps. It must march in with the purest and noblest impulse of our rapidly moving civilization. Let us do our share towards making the Legislature of 1889 memorable and honorable advancement. There is no dearth of opportunity; there should be no lack of incentive."

These strong words are made stronger by the fact that they were uttered by a Republican. That party won its victory with money; and it is a most encouraging circumstance when the victors are ready to reform an iniquity by which they have profited.

CRIME AND ELECTRICITY.

The fact that "hanging is played out" in New York may account, to a certain extent, for the remarkable epidemic of homicide which marked the opening of the year. A hope that the new-fangled electro-dynamic executioners might, in the exercise of their experimental calling, shock themselves into a state of innocuous desuetude, may have had something to do with the murderous revelry of New York's morning. This is, however, doubtful. The New York murderer of the intelligent type has an abiding faith in the law's delay. The method of his taking off is the last thing which is likely to gain possession of his imagination.

We must wait, and observe the effect of the new engine of death upon the homicidal mind before philosophizing upon the moral influence upon crime in general. The statute errs in providing that no account of the details of execution by electricity shall be published in the newspapers. Newspapers obey the laws, but they get the news. One object, and the principal one, we imagine, of the advocates of the new methods of execution, was, through the instrumentality of a terrible agent, and the influence of its dramatic associations, to strike terror into the hearts of men and women whose passions are uncontrolled by moral sense. The highest authorities have testified that hanging is, if pleasurable can be associated with moral dissolution, rather a pleasant form of death. Nothing in this regard is to be gained by execution from electricity. What, then, remains? Its moral effect. That effect must be brought home to the imagination of the criminal classes by the newspapers. Sensation may in certain instances do harm. Facts are great moral teachers. The first execution under the new law will be watched with profound interest, and reported with scientific accuracy.

PENNSYLVANIA is the "Keystone State," but that does not make her a model, politically. Daniel Dougherty was in Pittsburg the other day and a newspaper man interviewed him on the subject of Pennsylvania politics, and the following interesting opinion was elicited: "The remarks that should be made on that subject are not for a drawing room. I am a native of Pennsylvania and proud of the State, with the exception of her politics. She is an empire of wealth and of industry, but politically she is an eyesore. In the Senate of the United States she is silent. I was in Somerset where a man lived who could have spoken ably and in thrilling wonder for Pennsylvania, and that man was Jere Black, but he could not be elected. In fact, although I love Pennsylvania, I despise her for being so ring-ridden."

SWEAR AND PAY FOR IT.

THAT IS WHAT LANCASTER PEOPLE MUST DO

Big Oaths Get a Man Into Jail and Cause the People to Muzzle Their Mouths. An Old Statute Sustained.

It costs a man 67 cents every time he says "Damn" in the saintly city of Lancaster or refers in disrespectful terms of his Majesty. A man has just been locked up in the Lancaster county jail for three days for refusing to pay a fine of 67 cents apiece for three big oaths which he swore not long ago, and the consequence is that the male residents of Lancaster with profane proclivities are keeping a death-lock on their tongues when they are in public. When a Lancasterite wants to swear now he goes down in the jail and lets loose at the dark, damp walls. He restrains his native impetuosity and swears under his breath.

THE LAW A CENTURY OLD.

Alderman A. K. Spurrier, of Lancaster, decided that the old act of Assembly of April, 1794, relative to profane law must and shall be sustained. This law says: "If any person of the age of 16 years or upwards shall profanely curse or swear by the name of God, Christ Jesus or the Holy Ghost, every person so offending, being there of convicted, shall forfeit and pay the sum of 67 cents for every such profane curse or oath; and in case he or she shall refuse or neglect to pay the said forfeiture, or goods and chattels cannot be found whereof to levy the same by distress, he or she shall be committed to the House of Correction of the proper county not exceeding twenty-four hours for every such offense."

This is one of many laws on the statutebooks which may be said to have become obsolete through disuse, and, in fact the existence of such a law is unknown to most persons.

THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE.

The present case therefore has excited considerable stir, not only in the city of Lancaster, but also throughout the county.

Jon. B. Reilly, was one of the few old residents who had not forgotten the existence of the law of 1794, so he went to Alderman Spurrier last week and swore out a warrant against Frederick Lippy, charging him with the utterance of three profane oaths. Lippy was arrested and taken before Alderman Spurrier, but positively refused to pay \$2.01, the total cost of three oaths at 67 cents per oath. So he was sent to the Lancaster county jail for three days, one for each oath. He spent one day in jail, and then, on Friday last, was taken out on a writ of habeas corpus before Judge Livingston, President Judge of the county. The Judge refused to interfere with the sentence, and Lippy was compelled to spend Friday and Saturday in jail.

PUBLIC OPINION DIVIDED.

The affair has created great excitement in Lancaster. The religious portion of the community regard the affair with delight, and say they wish the old law could be oftener brought into action, but most of the citizens denounce the revival of an obsolete law, and think it an outrage that a citizen should have been deprived of his liberty for three days on such a charge. Several old residents of Lancaster say that they have heard of the law being enforced in one or two widely scattered instances, but so many years back that the memory of the oldest inhabitant cannot recall them definitely.

STILL NO UNION.

Huge efforts have been made during the past four years to reconcile and unite the Northern and Southern Presbyterians. But the African is the wedge by which the union cannot be restored.

The Conference Committees of the Northern and Southern Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church that were attempting to effect organic union have found their task impossible on account of the refusal of the Southern Committee to admit the colored man upon full terms of equality in matters of Church membership and government. The Convention of colored Catholics which was recently held in Washington shows that the Roman Catholic Church has succeeded in solving the question, and the interest which is now being taken by the Presbyterian Church in the matter affords grounds for the hope that in time there may be a settlement of it in that body of religionists also.

The Northern brother who seems to be governed rather more by sentiment than principles where the negro is concerned

manifests great love for the black race and become indignant at his Southern brother for not embracing the African, where he is more numerous than the whites. It is a good thing sometimes to have a fellow change positions and take a look at the other side.

Why not send a member of these thousand Vermonters, where they do not see a negro once a year, down where they would meet two African to one Caucasian, and see how soon they would loose all their marble protest religion, and perhaps would be the man to engage in a rebellion before they would be and other wise equalize themselves with the other fellow.

A NEW SWINDLE.

We clip the following from a Lock Haven paper so that Centre county farmers may be ready for him when he comes around:

One day last week a man stopped at the residence of a farmer in Pine Creek township and represented himself as an agent selling a choice variety of wheat for next season's seeding. After he had shown the merits of his new seed the unsuspecting farmer was prevailed upon to invest in three bushels of wheat at 3.50 per bushel, agreeing to give a note in payment. Just as the farmer was in the act of signing the note a man came in the room and saw the father was signing a paper for the stranger, asked: "Father, what are you signing there?" "Why, I am ordering some seed for next year and am giving this gentleman my note for it." The son looked at the note and discovered that it was so arranged to raise the figure 6 to 60, and the price accordingly. He tore the note in pieces and opened the door, telling the stranger to take a walk on double quick time, or he would assist him with the toe of his boot. The man left in short order and has not been seen in that neighborhood since. It was learned that he had accomplices in the business and one of the gang was recognized as being a Lock Haven man.

It seems strange that after the experience many men have had with these traveling fakes in years past, that there should now be a field for them to work in. Persons should be very cautious how they deal with these fellows, particularly in regard to signing papers.—Express.

HEATING CARS BY STEAM.

The Pennsylvania railroad company has adopted the Martin system of steam heating on cars of the Northern Central railway, dispensing with car stoves, as the law of New York state requires.

An officer of the company said: "The system of heating cars by steam thus far invented are imperfect. While they may help to preserve the property of the railroads using them, inasmuch as they would not set fire to cars when an accident occurs, yet they do not adequately protect the passengers. In case of an accident the passengers would be in danger of being scalded to death by escaping steam. The Pennsylvania railroad is still experimenting with all systems of heating to devise something of its own which will unite the best qualities of all."

THE HARRISBURG PATRIOT.

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The Daily Patriot, containing full Associated Press news and attractive special matter, will be sent by mail to any address at the following rates: \$5.00 per year; \$2.50 for six months; \$1.25 for three months; or 45 cents per month, cash with the order.

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Address: Patriot Publishing Co., 339 Market Street, Harrisburg, Pa., or the publisher of this paper.

Adjutant General Hastings was in town several days this week and his appearance evidently was for some purpose, as a large number of Republicans from over the county were in town at the same time and nearly every one was an applicant for office. Among the motly crew were two fellows who had presented their claims for postoffices during the campaign and believe in the old adage "first come, first served." The General, no doubt, has an adage to suit himself in these matters.

The great American farce, the meeting of the electoral college took place Monday. Harrison, of course, was elected.