

The Dispatch.

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PITTSBURG, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4, 1861.

DELAYING THE PIPE BILL.

Apparently the new pipe line bill is to be worried by postponements much as the old one was four years ago. The bill of four years ago was in the hands of the General Judiciary Committee while the present bill, for some reason, has been referred to the Committee on Corporations. The effect of the delay will be to compel a straight fight on the bill as it stands, without the privilege of amendment. The committee has set another hearing for next week, the bill cannot be reported before the 13th. Then if it comes out of committee with amendments, the producers will have little chance to get it in different shape and still have time to put it through. Every amendment means delay for a week.

The opposition, if there is any opposition, does not appear to have put in an appearance before the committee. Ex-Senator Lee, of Franklin, attorney for the Producers' Protective Association, was before the committee and gave it positive assurance that the bill was satisfactory to all the members of that organization and independent producers, generally. In the absence of any protest this should have been enough. The provisions of the bill are familiar to every man in any way connected with the production, transportation or manufacture of oil in this State and all have ample time to be on hand to present their arguments. This would seem to be ample ground for reporting the bill favorably, as having no opposition.

It may be presumed, however, that the committee was appealed to for a stay of proceedings by some one, probably by a telegram from New York, possibly by some of the silent, but ever present, corporate agents at the capital. Certain it is that delay has been granted in the interest of the opposition. This is trifling with the popular will. And it will surely be learned, in time, who is responsible for it. Though every member may eventually go on record as having voted for the bill, if it fails of passage because it lacks time, the committee will be held to answer for its death. This should be a significant fact to the statesmen at Harrisburg when viewed in the light of last November's elections. The defeat of this same bill, four years ago, played an important part in that Waterloo.

ALLEGHENY TEACHERS' SALARIES.

Our sister city, Allegheny, has put herself in the line of advancement by increasing the salaries of her public school teachers. It is only a short time since attention was called to the fact that Allegheny teachers were woefully underpaid, and THE DISPATCH pointed the necessity for a readjustment. It is with pleasure THE DISPATCH learns the Board of Controllers has ordered an increase in salaries to a point that makes favorable comparison with the salaries paid in this city. Its pleasure is only marred by the reflection that there was opposition to the move and that the vote for this tardy recognition of devoted talent was not unanimous.

AN IRRELEVANT PLEA.

The railroad freight agents who object to the both of the Pittsburg and valley shipments? They know very well that the iron interests of those two sections furnish them with more freight than any other interests in the country. They ought to know that this traffic now bears a larger rate per ton per mile than any other traffic of like class and equal volume. The backbone of the property of the railways serving this section is furnished by the iron industry; and if that is weakened the profits of the railways will sooner or later be discovered to rest on an insecure foundation.

The railways have enjoyed a long period of extremely remunerative business furnished by Pittsburg and the valley mills and furnaces. The mere principle of enlightened self-interest should teach them that any concessions necessary to keep the iron trade on a steady basis is for their own interest.

RESTRAINING EACH OTHER.

It is generally regarded by clear-headed and independent thinkers as a fortunate thing when each of the two parties control one of the two branches of Congress. If there is a Democratic House and a Republican Senate, as will be the case in the next Congress, the two branches will keep watch upon each other. Partisan legislation in favor of one party will certainly be quelled by the other, and the result is that only measures of a class to commend themselves to the non-partisan sense of both parties can pass both branches.

The recent abandonment of all business, except the appropriation bills, in both branches of the present Congress, reveals the working of a similar principle in an unexpected way. Both branches were Republican, and the result of that has not been wholly creditable to the foresight or good sense of Republican control. But especially in this session a divergence has been noted between the two branches. The Senate was the birthplace of free coinage measures; and the House was the hotbed of election bills and clause legislation. The two characteristics have neutralized each other. The Senate after a long struggle abandoned the House

policy to a natural death; the House more promptly, but with equal effectiveness, shelved free coinage. The two ends of the Capitol have politically vied each other; and the nation can express a modified gratitude for this accidental and negative virtue.

The next Congress will present the fortunate restraint upon the parties of each of them controlling one branch of Congress. When it shall again be the case that all branches of the Government are controlled by a single party the country will be fortunate if such unforeseen check as that just developed is found to restrain hasty and unwise legislation.

MINING PRECAUTIONS.

The discussion naturally following upon the recent mining fatality bids fair to have some value in bringing out facts of general importance. Without attempting to settle the grave question of individual responsibility, before the investigation now going on is completed, it is already possible to point out certain particulars in which a greater degree of care could be exercised. The deficiencies are those of the entire system of mining, not of any one mine. Their relation to the Mammoth mine is only as an illustration of the need of a general reform.

The most important is with regard to the amount of work to be done by the "fire boss" in inspecting the mine for gas before the men go to work. This point was touched upon the other day when it was shown that hours are required to thoroughly inspect forty contiguous workings, while the fire bosses in our mines often have to inspect many more than that, up to between one and two hundred, as in the Mammoth mine. Under such circumstances the inspection must often be hurried and perfunctory. The fault of the American system is shown by a comparison with English regulations. There the deputy overman—who is in some of his duties corresponds to our fire boss—generally inspects about a dozen rooms, while twenty or thirty is an almost unheard of number. As an additional precaution no man is allowed to enter the workings, until he has personally passed by the deputy overman at the entrance; and if he is detained in his examination they must wait till he comes. Penalties are placed by law on any master who goes into his room without a proper, live long and be happy, and never strike a "duster."

THE old saying that the ruling passion is strong in death applies particularly to a political party on its last legs.

VILLAS, Vests, Vando Voorhees and Veto.

THE V's are undoubtedly in it.

WHY ARE SHIPPERS LIKE LEARNERS? Because they have to pay for hauls.

ONE OF THE CROW CHIEFS IS NAMED HIS BREATH. Agency whisky is doubtless responsible for this cognomen.

INCOMPETENT MEN WHO UNDERTAKE TO DO WORK WHICH THEY CANNOT PERFORM ARE CRIMINALS; BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, THE LAW CANNOT REACH THEM.

LOVE OF DRESS HAS MADE MARRIAGE A LUXURY EVEN IN DARKER AFRICA AND THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

THE WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS WANT MEDICINE TO GO UP, BUT IT IS BOUND TO GO DOWN.

IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR THE SENSIBLE CONGRESSMAN TO SHOUT, "WHAT ARE WE HERE FOR?"

PIANOS ARE BOTH SQUARE AND UPRIGHT, BUT WHEN ABUSED THEY UTTER FALSE NOTES.

WHEN IS A POKER PLAYER LIKE A WAITER? When he holds a pair of trysts.

WEALTH BREEDS LUXURY, LUXURY BREEDS LAZINESS, LAZINESS BREEDS LOAFERS, AND LOAFERS ARE TOO TIRED TO BREED ANYTHING.

THE DRAMAS OF THE PRESENT DAY DEVELOP THE MUSCLES AND NOT THE MINDS OF THE PLAYERS.

BRUCE WILL BE FORCED TO HAVE HIS WASHING DONE IN OHIO IN ORDER TO RETAIN HIS SEAT IN THE SENATE.

THE MAN WHO IS CORRECT IN HIS DRESS MAY NOT BE CORRECT IN HIS HABITS.

A GOOD WATCH IS KNOWN BY ITS WORKS.

SULLIVAN WOULD STILL BE AN EEL IF HE HAD NOT STOPPED ON SWALLOWING THE HORNS.

CHILE BITES BUT THE PERUVIANS FURNISH THE BARK.

ONE SWALLOW DOES NOT MAKE A SUMMER, BUT IT PRECISELY INDICATES A FALL.

IN FRANCE CRIMINALS GENERALLY LOSE THEIR HEADS BEFORE THEY LOSE THEIR HEADS.

PATTI HAS HAD A TIGHT GRIP ON THE PUBLIC FOR A LONG WHILE, BUT THE GRIP HAS NOW RELAXED.

THOSE WHO HAVE A SKELETON IN THEIR CLOSETS DO NOT HAVE TO BE TOLD TO SHUT THE DOOR.

THE PRESENT CONGRESS IS DETERMINED TO DIE IN DISGRACE.

A BONNET IS SOMETIMES CALLED A DUCK, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THE BILL.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC AUDIENCE.

GREET THE ROYAL EDINBURGH CONCERT COMPANY'S ENTERTAINMENT.

ESTHOMAS, THE SCOTTISH CARPENTER, HAD LAST EVENING THE SCOTTISH PARADE OF THE TWO CHIEFS.

THE TROPICAL DANCER IS FOR THE MOST PART TOO HIGH.

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MISS ELIZABETH BROWN IS ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL OF THE YOUNG ARTISTS IN BOSTON.

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