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THE OFFICIAL BALLOT AGAIN.

The bill filed in the Supreme Court yesterday, on behalf of a number of leading citizens, introduces a novel issue in the administration of the law. The bill does not, as we understand it, antagonize the law itself, but it challenges that portion of its administration which puts the national, State and county tickets on a single ballot.

The point is an interesting one, and its decision will be awaited with some impatience. While it seems probable that the mode of preparing the ballots suggested in the bill will, as is claimed, be both more economical and convenient, it is remembered that the court cannot order a ballot to take one form or the other on account of these considerations.

The bill provides that the same ballot shall be used for the election of all the officers of various character to be printed on the same ballot. They hold, it may be presumed, that on election day there will be one election for Presidential electors requiring an official ballot, another for the Judiciary requiring a separate ballot, and a third for county officers requiring a third ballot.

Need for a Processional Avenue. So far as mere politics go, it is no great loss that facilities for night parading are being lessened in Pittsburgh. The torchlight, the drum and the transparency are fantastic relics of the politics of ten, twenty or thirty years ago, but have no special usefulness or significance in the days we are fast passing, when the "civic" campaigns to convince the mind by speech and writing are all the fashion.

The Loss of Strikes. A compilation of a group of strikes in this end of the State shows the loss of wages to the employees to have been \$2,964,235, and the loss to employers \$2,112,077. It does not include the loss of wages to the employees which would swell the total by per centage. The Philadelphia Record, in citing the figures, very justly presents them as putting the question, "Does it pay?"

A Very Versatile Organ. The fertility of the New York World in the production of free trade arguments is beyond comparison. It is unique and original, and in the world of like it is before seen in the working of its inventiveness and most shining effort is the discovery that there has been a great loss to the farmers from the McKinley act.

The Meaning of Fusion. In pursuance of its boom for the fusion of the Democrats and People's party in the Northwest, the New York World says: "It is simply designed to make the election of Mr. Cleveland doubly sure."

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boom of September, 1891. When the World ponders this fact—also without any reference to the share which a foreign demand has in raising prices—nothing is so common as to see for Major McKinley some advocate. Yet it is more than a month since that journal drew from the statistics a fiery indictment of the McKinley act because it had done just the opposite of what it is now accused of doing, and raised the prices of farm products?

When an allegedly great journal condemns a measure because it has raised the prices of farm products and then turns around and proposes to wipe the same act off the face of the earth because it has lowered them, its economic versatility remove it beyond the pale of serious argument.

NOT VITAL TO THE CELEBRATION. Judge Turgott's indictment of Christopher Columbus as a liar, freebooter, slaveholder and gold-seeker, is reinforced by the Rev. J. L. Mitchell, of New Haven, who gives his adhesion to the doctrine that Columbus was a man wholly unworthy the honors paid to his memory.

It is not necessary to enter into a detailed discussion of the historical evidence in order to settle the question whether Columbus was a liar, freebooter, slaveholder and gold-seeker, as Washington Irving, and the general opinion consider him. The probability is that he was a man of his time, which means that he would be a sailor and adventurer to a great many things considered entirely legitimate and which would now be considered akin to piracy.

There is no very apparent political significance in the partial eclipse of the sun today. It is a natural phenomenon, and its occurrence has nothing to do with the public welfare. It is a natural phenomenon, and its occurrence has nothing to do with the public welfare.

When they get back from Chicago, some of the Kentucky orators might find it interesting to see how the family feud, if any, is now being carried on. It is a natural phenomenon, and its occurrence has nothing to do with the public welfare.

That ordinance to mitigate the smoke nuisance in the business quarters of the city, which is to be introduced to Councils on Monday, should meet with hearty support and no opposition. It should be passed and entered as soon as it can be made law.

Stoning Governor McKinley's train in West Virginia is the sort of argument that is advanced against protection by adherents of the free trade party.

There is a most regrettable amount of juvenile criminality making its appearance in and around Pittsburgh. Just now, but all the cases are so clearly the result of immature, ill-considered carelessness that it is ridiculous to attribute the coincidences to the tendency of the youth of more cities to murder the other day, notwithstanding the incontrovertible evidence of his technical guilt.

ODES and such like addressed to Christopher Columbus should naturally find their way to the dead letter office.

Since all the Democratic leaders differ more or less from one another and their party platform, and seeing that none of them have thought it worth while to propose any definite substitute for existing protective legislation, the Association in search for official spoils is the beginning and end of their efforts appears well warranted.

WHAT with omissions in the invitations sent out, rivalry between various officials and the fact that the city is so full of plebeians, it is not surprising that Columbus celebrations may be made a source of discord and dissension by contentions and jealous parties just as easily as any common every-day matter.

THE LOSS OF STRIKES. A compilation of a group of strikes in this end of the State shows the loss of wages to the employees to have been \$2,964,235, and the loss to employers \$2,112,077. It does not include the loss of wages to the employees which would swell the total by per centage.

the so-called "fusion," and it is for that reason that the Democrats are urged by their organs to support it, even at the cost of falling under false colors for the campaign.

All the ex-Republican members of the People's party will take notice of the avowed purpose of the fusion movement, its actual effect will be to restore the old party lines.

The professional spy Le Caron is out in a series of remonstrances on the very much like a fairy tale as ex-President Johnson and the Fenians, Parnell's advocacy of physical force and so forth. Le Caron says Johnson purposely gave the Fenians advance time for their raid on Canada by leasing the proclamation against them.

It is a pity that there is not a larger seating capacity in the London courts. It seems that murder trials and social exposures are to Londoners what the circus and its gladiatorial combats were to the ancient Romans.

TAMMANY'S supreme control of its minions was clearly indicated by the "excess laughter" which greeted the query if there were any other names to be offered as competitors to Thomas F. Gilroy's nomination.

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WEST VIRGINIA is not the only border State which the Republicans are hopeful of carrying in the approaching campaign.

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difficult to forecast the decision of election day. Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, spoke in the most confident way of the Democratic outlook in New York.

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Gifts That Will Thankfully Be Received at the Pittsburgh Hospital—Epworth League Convention Opens To-Day—Yesterday's Day of Weddings.

The Board of Managers of the Pittsburgh Hospital for Children yesterday prepared a printed list of the articles required for the use of the hospital in the way of bed and house linen and clothing. There are many ladies in Pittsburgh who are desirous to send dry-goods to the hospital, but do not know what is needed for use.

A FASHIONABLE wedding took place in Cylcorama Hall, Allegheny City, last evening. Miss Henrietta Keizerstein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keizerstein, became the bride of Mr. Charles Keizerstein, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Keizerstein, of Philadelphia.

MISS ANNA ESTERLINE and Mr. Harry Rose, of Allegheny, were married in the presence of their intimate friends yesterday. It was a home wedding.

MISS EDNA SELMA RUPPERT, of Washington, D. C., was married last evening to Mr. Henry C. Ebert, of this city. After a wedding tour through the East the couple will take up their permanent residence in Pittsburgh.

MISS ELIZABETH H. AULL last evening became the bride of Mr. J. E. Holland, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Aull, East End. Rev. Charles H. Mitchell, of Findlay, N. J., performed the ceremony.

A MEETING of the ladies who will assist on Allegheny day in the fair for the benefit of the Southside Hospital has been called for to-morrow in the North Avenue M. E. Church.

THE BRIGGS CASE AGAIN. Let us not be too hard on the campaign. The Briggs heresy case will likely be its successor.—Washington Post.

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—New York has 15 national banks. —Socks are darned free at some Indianapolis stores. —Two hundred Swedes were naturalized at Rockford, Ill., on Friday.

—The first American flag was unfurled at the camp of the Colonial troops, in Cambridge, Mass., on January 1, 1776. —In the reign of Henry VIII it was enacted that no person should keep above 3,000 sheep or hold more than two farms.

—It is one of the peculiar customs of the people of Mashonaland that when twin babies are born they are immediately drowned. —A rhinoceros has been in the London Zoo for 28 years. This is stated to be the longest time an animal of this kind has lived in captivity in London.

—The Norman-English ladies dressed their hair in two long plaits, and when taken by the wind they were fastened with braids of wool, tow or horse hair. —In 1840 Europe produced four times as much grain as this country; in 1887, a normal year, the United States produced nearly twice as much as Europe.

—News has been received at Liverpool of the arrival at Sierra Leone, West Africa, of a remarkable specimen of the ostrich tribe, ten feet high and came from Central Africa. —One of the most interesting exhibitions in connection with the recent Oriental Congress in London is a collection of tools used by the ancients in building the pyramids of Egypt.

—It is pointed out by a scientist that the world's most precious gems are composed of the commonest substances, the diamond, for instance, being pure carbon. —The first ice cream vendors in England were Neapolitan pastry-makers of the poorest sort, but the vendors now come from all parts of Italy, many being natives of the most remote county districts.

—A steamer which lately arrived at New York had a curious passenger on board, in that he was a man who had been lighted on one of the vessel's yards about 100 miles southeast of Nantuxcoo, Sicily. —Among the smallest products of man's constructive talent must now be numbered a teakettle which has been hammered by an ingenious workman in England out of a single copper coin a little larger than a copper cent.

—Gutta serena was first introduced into Europe from Malaga in 1842. The annual consumption of the drug is valued at 4,000,000 pounds, and the East Indian trees which supply the demand are diminishing at an alarming rate by the ravages of the Dutch. —The leading theologians of the world, who have been figuring from scriptural and other data for some time, have come to the conclusion that the world was created at 9 o'clock on the morning of Friday, April 10, A. D. 33.

—Two thousand daily and weekly journals are printed in Paris. This is only a little less than the number of newspapers printed in the provinces. They are represented by 3,180, Algeria by 123, and the other French possessions. —About 1430 enormous head dresses came into fashion in England, France and Italy. They had horns standing out from the head sometimes more than a foot, and from these a veil depended which floated down the back of the wearer.

—The report of the Flower Girls' Mission states that the trade in cut flowers in London amounts to 45,000 a day. Although it includes the profits of the florists, a large amount of this sum still remains to be accounted for by the earnings of the flower girls. —The increase of silk manufacture since 1880 has been 127.5 per cent in the value of its products, and 100 per cent in the value of its manufactures. The entire textile industry in 1891 was valued at \$2,500,000,000. —An electric recorder for registering the output of ore has been installed on the pithead of a Belgian lead mine. Each load of ore delivered is weighed, and the amount is recorded on a sheet of paper moved by the rotation of a wheel.

—The smallest screws in the world are used in the production of watches. The fourth largest screw has 20 threads to the inch, these threads being 4,000 of an inch in diameter. The screws are too small to count, but they are very skillfully finished, up to 100,000 and sending them back again.

LIFE'S LITTLE LAUGHS. She—Must you go so soon, darling? It is only 10 o'clock, and father won't object if you stay until 11. He—Yes, my own. But that only gives me two hours in which to say good night.

The Rev. Mr. Drowsie—By the way, I observed on Sunday last that you got up suddenly and left the church before my sermon was over. I was deeply pained, and I hope you can offer some explanation. Theological Student—Oh, yes; ever since I was a boy I have been a snore-slumberer.

"The good are not always happy," There can be no doubt of this. Because, you know, they must give their eyes to the world, and the world is full of miseries.

"No, I didn't catch anything all day," said the fisherman; "didn't even get a bite. But at this moment a chariot of fire descended from out of the heavens, and he was borne away to dwell forever with God in heaven."

Mr. X—"I'll have to get a new silk hat; this one has served its time. Mr. Y—"How come you can get one cheap old Stimes wants to take a hat on the election. Mr. X—"Why does he want to get a hat? Mr. Y—"He wants to get a hat because he is a man of the world."

Amateur Actress (who intends to adopt the stage as a profession)—No, Mr. Kermit, I cannot marry you, nor any man; it would interfere with my career. Mr. Y—"But that's a divorce would boom you!"

"This strange, 'is very strange!'" so X complains. "That I so seldom meet a man of brains." "Poor X—"Is melancholy, yet 'tis true. That man of brains avoid a chat with you."

Budweiser—Have you seen the new pictorial sub-sequens camera? "Barbed-wire? What's that?" "Budweiser—To photograph the Red Sox that get away."

She—And are you sure you will like married life as you do your cat? He—Yes. She—Are you a really fond of your cat? He—Not very.