NEWS FROM ALL NATIONS.

—Gold closed yesterday at 113.

—The North Atlantic fleet is still manoeuvring in Florida Bay.

—Lettuce is appearing in the Harrisburg markets.

—The striking cap makers of New York have gone to work on employer's terms.

—General Spinner has returned from his trip to Florida.

—Ice men on the Hudson have ceased work, the thaw rendering further operations impossible.

—The lager beer retailers of Chicago have struck against the advance made in the wholesale price by the brewers.

—The law introducing general conscription in Russia is about to be promulgated.

—The *Press* of Vienna learns from Rome that the beatification of Louis XVI. is to take place before long.

—The Emperor of Austria has gone to St. Petersburg on a visit to the Czar.

—The Madrid *Imparcial* says that the Government has agreed to exchange prisoners with the Carlists.

—An unknown man threw himself under a railroad train near Belleville, Illinois, on Wednesday, and was instantly killed.

—A. A. Guthrie, one of the prominent original Anti-Slavery men of Ohio, died in Zanesville on Saturday.

—The wife of James M. Mason, Confederate minister abroad during the rebellion, died near Alexandria on Saturday.

—The Iowa Agricultural Society has a surplus of more than seven thousand dollars.

—Springfield consoles itself for the loss of the college regatta by the fact that John Biglin and George Brown, of Halifax, will pull a match there.

—The Railroad Commissioners say that since 1835 the annual average number of miles of railroad track opened for public use in Massachusetts has been about fifty.

—The warm weather has put a stop to ice cutting on the Hudson. At Troy the ice broke up on Saturday, endangering several persons.

—The Carnival began on Tuesday at New Orleans and Memphis. Business was generally suspended, and the usual fantastic processions marched through the streets.

—An English clergyman, the Rector of Twyfilam, was fined £5 the other day for using ornamental bearings without having paid the duty.

—In the House of the Ohio Legislature a bill has passed to prohibit the killing of wild deer between December 1 and October 1.

—The Commission appointed by Congress, to make arrangements for the celebration of the centennial of Wm. Penn, leave Washington early in April.

—Sir Garnett Wolseley and his white troops are announced to leave the Gold Coast for home on the 1st of March, the war with the Ashantees being over.

—An effort is making by the Father Mathew Catholic temperance societies of New York, to collect funds for the erection in Central Park of a statue of Father Mathew.

—Rev. Charles Kingsley, an author, and one of the chaplains in ordinary to her Majesty Queen Victoria, arrived in New York on Wednesday, on a visit to the United States.

—Owing to the presence of Wm. M. Tweed and Thomas C. Fields on the Commission to represent New York at the Centennial, Philadelphia, the New York Assembly will adjourn the whole Commission.

—The awards made Tuesday for the coming four years' postal service in the Pacific States and territories were generally at rates very greatly reduced from the present cost of carrying.

—Among the passengers of the German steamer Hermann, which sailed on Saturday, was Captain Robert Fish, who is to take command of the yacht Enchantress on his arrival at Cuba.

—A bill has been presented to the Prussian Diet giving the imperial a fund of three hundred thousand pounds, whether authorized or unauthorized, to transport Rome moved in the late.

—The first annual meeting of the Working Command Executive Committee was held in Philadelphia Monday. The total number of names enrolled from all sources is 3,728 in round numbers.

—It is proposed to erect an Episcopal church in the Cathedral at Oxford, in memory of the late Bishop Wilberforce, £500 having been already subscribed for the purpose.

—Mrs. Gilbert, soprano in Dr. Burdett's church, Brooklyn, fell down a flight of stairs, breaking a gas fixture by her head on the cement floor. Her life was saved by a thick mass of hair.

—The Wisconsin legislature refuses to pay money for a chaplain, and the preachers of Madison take turns in the service. Some of the newspapers advise the members to do their own praying.

—Mrs. Udderzook, wife of the murderer, is in West Chester, doing all in her power to assist her husband in his endeavors to secure a new trial through the Supreme Court.

—The total number of persons employed in manufacturing in Lewiston, Maine, is 7,501. The total value of the manufactures of the city for the past year is eleven and a half million dollars.

—Mr. Charles C. Shackleford, a state senator of Mississippi, has been presented for his resignation because he has spoken of his district in Congress. The Supreme Court exerts itself in many directions.

—Secretary Fish is emphatic in denouncing as false the statement of the Paris *Public* that sharply worded notes had recently been exchanged between the Government of the United States and that of France.

—The President has signed the act to grant a portion of the Flathead Indian Reservation to the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad in Montana, also the act in relation to money orders to be issued to the heirs of Chevalier de Tornay.

—Stern Bros., of London, holders of the bonds of the Mississippi levee bonds, have filed a bill in equity in the United States Circuit Court in the Eastern District of Louisiana, asking for an injunction against the Louisiana funding bill.

—Boston harbor was on Tuesday frozen over from South Boston as far as the eye could reach, with the exception of the main ship channel. Persons crossed on the ice last Sunday from the Point to Thompson's Island.

—John M. Nelson, who was assigned as senior counsel for Lorenzatto, will probably be expelled from the bar for indictment and neglect of duty. But at the bar of sample rooms he will probably be an honored member.

—Sir Andrew Clarke, British Governor of the Straits Settlements, has formed a Protectorate Government in Laroot. A Political Resident has been provisionally appointed. The natives are being disarmed, and the piratical prows have surrendered.

—The last excavations made in the neighborhood of the Temple of Venus, at Rome, have led to the discovery of the road which led in a straight line from that building to the Coliseum, and of some steps conducting to the vestibule of the former.

—A letter from Paris says the recent suspension of the greatest of French Catholic papers, *L'Univers*, at the instance of Prince Bismarck, furnished a striking proof of how completely the French Government is subservient to German orders.

—A meeting of Englishmen who have settled in Virginia since the war will be held at Richmond on the 2d of next May, with a view of putting their testimony as to the inducements held out by the state to emigrants.

—Twenty-seven thousand bushels of wheat were received at Duluth during the month of January. It is reported there are 200,000 bushels of wheat yet to come forward over the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

—The total length of finished line and branches owned by the trustees of the Boston, Hartford and Erie Railroad is two hundred and sixty-one miles, besides about seventy miles of road partly graded between Waterbury and the Hudson River.

—A bill has been introduced in the Illinois legislature to regulate commercial agencies. It requires the companies to give bonds in $20,000 to the state, and prescribes the manner of bringing action to recover for false, malicious or unwarrantable reports.

—The "lake front" question is still agitating the people of Chicago. The Illinois Central, and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy roads offer $800,000 for the property. They premise to pay at once and begin the erection of the new depot as soon as possible.

—The Bloomington (Ill.) "Pantagraph" exposes the injustice of "red tape" by reference to the case of a woman who lost two sons in the late war, and who has been denied a pension because she would not tell upon which of them she was dependent for support.

Bradford Reporter

Towanda, Thursday, Feb. 26, 1874

EDITORS:

K. O. GOODRICH. S. W. ALVORD

GEN. MADILL.

As the time approaches for the meeting of our State Convention, and under the new constitution several new officers are to be selected, we deem it our duty to present the name of a candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor, whose candidacy will awaken the enthusiasm and well wishes of Northern Pennsylvania for that position.

No one can deny, after year by year rolling up large Republican majorities, this portion of the State should be recognised, and we present a candidate we believe unexceptionable—Gen. HENRY J. MADILL.

At the breaking out of the war he entered the service and was soon commissioned Major in the 6th Penn'a Reserves; served a year in that capacity. In August, 1862, was commissioned Colonel of the 141st Regiment. In the latter part of the war he was Brevetted Brigadier-General, and while leading his Brigade was dangerously wounded. At the close of the war he was made Brevet Major-General. His record as a soldier is too well known in this county and in Northern Pennsylvania to need comment. We believe the announcement of his name will be sufficient to rally the whole of this part of the State in his support. Certain it is, in our county,—without casting disparagement on others,—our whole people were proud of his military record.

For the office of Lieutenant Governor, the duties of which are to be presiding officer of the Senate, and, in case of the death of the Governor to fill the vacancy, he has eminent ability to perform.

Let the whole of Northern Pennsylvania unite in urging this proper claim, and we doubt not he will be nominated and successfully elected.

THE Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the petition of E. G. GOULET and others, asking Congress for "an acknowledgment of Almighty God and the Christian religion" in the Constitution of the United States, having considered the matter referred to them, have reported that, upon examination even of the meagre debates by the fathers of the Republican in the convention which framed the Constitution, they find that the subject of this memorial was most fully and carefully considered, and then in that convention, decided, after grave deliberation, to which the subject was entitled, that as this country, the foundation of whose Government they were then laying, was to be the home of the oppressed of all nations of the earth, whether Christian or Pagan, and, in full realization of the dangers which the union between Church and State had imposed upon so many nations of the Old World, decide with unanimity, that it was inexpedient to put anything into the Constitution or frame of government which might be construed to be a reference to any religious creed or doctrine. And they further find that this decision was accepted by our Christian fathers with such unanimity that in the amendments which were afterwards proposed, in order to make the Constitution more acceptable to the nation, none has ever been proposed to the State by which this wise determination of the fathers has been attempted to be changed. Wherefore, your committee reported that it is inexpedient to legislate upon the subject of the above memorial, and ask that they be discharged from the further consideration thereof, and that this report, together with the petition, be laid upon the table.

A GRANGE was organized in Herrick on the 20th inst. A correspondent informs us that Rev. GEO. LANNON joined it, declaring it to be his intention to discuss politics as much as he pleased. The Reverend gentlemen shed crocodile tears over the corruptions of the Republican party, asserting that the organization was run in the interest of CAMERON and railroad corporations, and that it was keeping in power a State Treasurer who was amassing a princely fortune by loaning the money of the State to banks at four per cent. GEORGE undoubtedly knows just what percentage the banks pay for those deposits, as we believe while he was a Senator from this district he had the handling of a few thousands of the State money.

THE new British Ministry is constructed as follows: Mr. Disraeli, First Lord of the Treasury; Baron Cairns, Lord High Chancellor; the Duke of Richmond, Lord President of the Council; the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord Privy Seal; Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr. Richard Assheton Cross, Home Secretary; the Earl of Derby, Foreign Secretary; the Earl of Carnarvon, Colonial Secretary; the Marquis of Salisbury, Secretary for India; Mr. Gathorne Hardy, Secretary for War; Mr. George Ward Hunt, First Lord of the Admiralty; Lord John Manners, Post master General.

A BILL has been introduced in the House to regulate the "social evil" by licensing houses of ill-fame. We hope the legislature will not disgrace itself enough to pass it.

HON. E. R. MYER made an able speech in opposition to the repeal of the usury law, in the House the other day. We shall publish it next week.

ANOTHER SCANDAL.

The State Capital was thrown into a fever of excitement over the discovery that an attempt had been made to compromise the legislature by the the issuing of circulars to the various banks of the State requesting a certain amount of money, to be used in securing the passage of a bill repealing the usury laws of the State. WM. H. DIMMICK, democratic member of the House from Wayne County, and a real estate broker of Harrisburg, named KREIDER, proved to be the guilty parties, and were arrested by the P. O. authorities on a charge of using the mails for fraudulent purposes. These two gentlemen issued a circular in favor of the bill and attached the names of all the prominent bankers in Harrisburg. These circulars, together with an appeal for money were sent out to banks, and a large number of replies containing remittances were received. DIMMICK and KREIDER were held in $2500 bail each. It is intimated that proceedings will be instituted against the banks that responded to the demand for money, and we see no reason why it should not be done.

Mr. DIMMICK has resigned his seat in the House, but this action should not prevent that body from vindicating its good character, in passing a vote of censure.

FREE BANKING.

The advocates of free National Banks are growing in numbers, and there is a fair prospect that a bill will pass Congress providing for the organization of such banks. While the currency question was under discussion in the Senate last week, Senator CAMERON offered the following amendment to the bill equalizing the distribution of the currency:

Mr. Cameron moved to strike out all after the enactment clause of the bill, and insert as a substitute a provision that that part of the National Currency act of June 3, 1864, and parts of special acts amendatory thereof, and any other acts which limit or restrict the amount of notes for circulation, be repealed, and that all associations organized for banking shall be free to establish national banks with circulation subject to limitations now provided by law, except the limitation as to circulation, hereby repealed.

Mr. Cameron, in advocating the adoption of his substitute, said the country was deficient in banking facilities, necessary to transact the business of an energetic, industrious people. Being a practical man, he looked at these things from a practical standpoint. He had not heard a single business man say we had enough current. The national banking system had done much good, and should be extended. His substitute was designed to satisfy the demand for more money without causing a shock to capital already invested in government bonds.

The law now gave a fixed amount of currency, allowing no greater abundance of money at one time than at another, yet it was a well known fact that at some seasons of the year the people want more money than at others. This fixed amount of currency was a terror to honest men and a jubilee to speculators. The increase of national banks would enable the United States to resume specie payment sooner than by any other process.

After the debate had continued for some time the Senate adjourned without definite action.

THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

The following is the full text of the "declaration of principles" of the National Grange, adopted at their meeting in St. Louis the other day:

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this declaration of the purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry.

First. United by the strong and faithful tie of agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our country, our manhood.

Second. We heartily endorse the motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

Third. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects: To develop better and higher manhood and womanhood, among ourselves; to enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes and strengthen our attachments to our principles; to form mutual understanding and co-operation; to maintain inviolate our laws; to stimulate each to labor to hasten the good time coming; to reduce expenses, both individual and co-operative; to buy less and produce more in order to make our farms self-sustaining; to diversify our crops; to raise our crop no more than we can cultivate; to condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel and more on the hoof and in fleece; to systematize our work and calculate intelligently on probabilities; to discontenance the credit system, mortgage system, fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy. We propose to act together for our mutual protection and the advancements association may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will and vital brotherhood among our ourselves, and to make our order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, political and national prejudices all unhealthy rivalry and all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mutual, moral, social, and material advancement.

Fourth. We desire to bring producers and consumers and farmers and manufacturers into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence we must dispense with the surplus of middle men. We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producers and consumers, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact.

Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success; that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action, that individual happiness depends upon general prosperity. We shall, therefore, advocate for every State an increase, in every practicable way, of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and consumers, all products of our country. We are not enemies of railroads, navigable or irrigating canals, nor of any corporations that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes. In our whole order there is no communism and no agrarianism. We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent and by enlightened state manship worthy of the nineteenth century.

We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest and exorbitant percentage profits in trade, as they greatly increase our box and do not bear the proper proportion to the proper profits of producers. We desire only self-protection and protection of every true interest offered by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade and legitimate profits. We shall advance the cause of education ourselves, and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science and all arts which adorn home be taught in their course of study.

Fifth. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law that the grange—national, state, or subordinate—is not a political or party organization. No grange, if true to its obligation, can discuss political questions nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings. Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics and all true statesmanship, and if properly carried out will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country.

We seek the greatest good to the greatest number, but we must always bear in mind that no one becoming a grange member gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen to take a proper interest in the politics of his country. On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of every political party to which he belongs by nature of our organization, not be-cause they are professional men or artisans or laborers, but because they have not sufficient direct interest in tilling or pasturing the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial co-operation to assist us in our efforts toward reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

Sixth. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution we cannot admit all to our ranks; many are excluded.

Seventh. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, by admitting her to membership and position in our order. Imploring continued assistance of our Divine Maker to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united efforts to the wisdom, justice, fraternity and political parity of our fore-fathers.

ALL THE brakemen on the Erie road are on a strike, and nothing but mail trains are running. The cause of the strike was the reduction of the number of brakemen.

THE Judiciary Apportionment bill passed third reading in the Senate. Bradford is made a separate district with one Judge.

LETTER FROM PETER COOPER.

The venerable PETER COOPER has addressed the following letter on the Currency question to Senator CONKLIN.

NEW-YORK, Feb. 19. 1874.

Hon. Roscoe Conkling, Senator United States, Washington, D. C.:

MY DEAR SIR: Allow me to ask your kind attention to a few thoughts that, I believe, will show that Washington declared a truth in answer to a member of the Maryland Legislature, when he said that people always mistake as to the amount of money necessary for a circulating medium. Washington said it is not the amount of money in a country that makes it plenty, but the rapidity and the certainty with which it passes the round of circulation; in exact proportion as we alloy the precious metals, or pour paper money into the circulating medium, just in that proportion will everything in a country rise, and labor would be the last that would feel it. He concluded by saying it will not benefit the farmer or the mechanic, as it will only benefit the debtor by enabling him to pay his debts with a shadow instead of a substance.

It is a fact, as declared by Washington, that everything in a country will rise in price in exact proportion as we alloy the precious metals or pour paper money into the volume of circulating medium. This fact makes it equally as certain that, in exact proportion as the currency of the country is contracted by an act of the Government, just in that proportion it becomes in effect a governmental order on every man who is in debt to give more property or labor to pay his debts, and that notwithstanding his means of paying will be rendered more difficult in proportion as the contraction of the currency will depreciate the value of all the property and labor on which he has depended to pay his debts.

Our Government having been compelled, in order to save the nation's life, to resort to a forced loan, or the issue of paper money, with which they have controlled all forms of the people's property, the Government cannot now contract their paper money without violating the first duty enjoined by the Constitution

The Constitution requires the establishment of justice as the only means by which the general welfare can be promoted. The Government may, and should, determine that they will not alloy the precious metals, or increase the volume of paper money only as per capita with the increase of the inhabitants of the whole country. The Government is bound by the Constitution to make everything that it allows to pass as money to be a just means of weighing and measuring the values of all property and labor that are constantly being exchanged by its use. Nothing could be more unjust or unwise than for a Government to enforce a contraction of the currency as a means of securing specie payments after having been compelled to expand the use of paper money to save the nation's life until the whole property of the country has been measured by it, and debts contracted by its use to an amount equal to one-half the value of all the property in the country. For the Government to contract the paper circulation to a specie standard would be in effect an order for all persons now in debt to pay an amount in addition to their present debt equal to the depreciation on all the property of the country occasioned by the contraction of the currency. It never can be shown to be just for a Government to adopt a policy of contraction that must inevitably bring ruin to millions of the most enterprising part of the people before it will be possible to arrive at and maintain specie payment, by contracting the circulating medium of the country.

If I am not mistaken, a thousand millions in value has been lost to the country by the Government, in having failed to make all its paper money a legal tender in payment of all debts and duties due the Government and individuals, by simply adding an amount in currency equal to the average premium that gold has borne during the month preceeding the maturing of the contracts.

Such a course would make it the interest of all to arrive at specie payment as soon as it is possible to maintain it, by bringing the balance of trade in favor of our country. Yours, with great respect,

PETER COOPER.

PALMYRA, Mo., is enjoying a sensation rather out of the usual order of such things. Some years since AMBROSE COE killed his sweetheart there, was convicted of murder, and sentenced to be hung. He has, however become an object of such romantic interest that two parties have been formed in the town, one demanding the carrying out of the full penalty of the law, and the other his release. An enthusiastic young lady has offered to put her own neck into the halter rather than have the murderer suffer. It is supposed that the Governor may interfere and send AMBROSE to the penitentiary for life, but it is feared this would not satisfy his friends, who have actually threatened to rescue him if he goes to the scaffold. There are probably features in this case of which the public know nothing, but it seems as if the authorities of Palmyra must be singularly deficient in courage and power to permit such an excitement as apparently exists. If the man is guilty they should hang him, if not, he should be released. Any half-way measure is simply a confession that the mob is feared and that the government is unfit for its duties.

Good news don't affect all men alike. A Chicago man lately received a telegram from his wife who is in Germany, saying that she had given birth to a daughter. He was so pleased at the news that he gave orders to a baker to distribute 500 loaves of bread to the poor each day for ten days. A man in Scranton, when informed that his wife had given birth to a son and daughter, instead of giving orders to a baker to distribute 1000 loaves of bread—500 for each heir—merely remarked a profane remark, kicked his dog off the front stoop, and went out and got gloriously drunk to drown his joy. But then his wife was not in Germany!

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

The Weather—The Committees of Congress—The Re-organization of the Departments—Reduction of the Clerical Force—Increase of the Hours of Labor—The Festal Season and Amusements.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1874.

The delightful weather with which we have been favored through the greater part of the winter, and which we were hoping might continue, has taken its departure. It went off suddenly and without notice about the beginning of the month, since which time we have had nothing but rain, sleet snow, slush and mud, which, taken altogether, is rather a disagreeable change. The few hours' sleighing which during this time the occasional falls of snow afforded, may have been a source of enjoyment to those in possession of horses and sleighs; but the expenditure of twenty dollars per hour for the satisfaction of a drive up and down Pennsylvania Avenue, is a financial operation that is not at all healthy for a thin pocket-book. The sharp air and cold north winds which are prevailing will, however, have a tendency to check the premature growth of vegetation which many were fearing a continuation of the warm weather would produce.

The events and proceedings of Congress, up to the present time, have not been of any very great importance. Beyond the introduction and referring of bills to the proper committees, our legislative Solons, so far, have seemingly been unable to make any very great advancement. That such a condition of affairs should exist is not at all surprising when we reflect that, at the commencement of each session, almost every new member must signalize his entry into public life, and win the favor of his constituents by the introduction of some bill which, after being read and referred, is generally pigeon-holed, never to see the light of Heaven again; all of which, however, takes up the time and aids in retarding the progress of legislation.

The committee on Appropriations appear to keep busily engaged. Retrenchment is the watchword, and the indications are that, in their endeavors to bring about a reform and a reduction of public expenditures, they will go to an extreme that will be more injurious than beneficial to the public good. Economy, in the management of public affairs, is undoubtedly a virtue which deserves high commendation; but the ambition to earn a cheap reputation for economy by cutting down the working force of the Government departments and workshops to a point which must impair the efficiency of the public service, is a very different matter. Notwithstanding that business just now is in a bad condition, the country at large is very far from being poor; and when tens of thousands of men are losing their labor for weeks at a time for want of employment, when private business is paralyzed and prostrated, it seems that this should be the time when necessary public works of all kinds should be most vigorously pushed.

The consequent deduction from the public wealth would scarcely be felt; but if it was, the country can better afford to stand the expenditure of a few millions of dollars on public works of real utility than it can afford to let labor go to waste, and laborers starve. It is well recognized as an economic principle, that public works sucht to be vigorously prosecuted when private industry is in a languishing condition; and that, on the other hand, when labor is in great demand, governments, so far as they can conveniently do so, should postpone their enterprises, and refrain from taking away necessary labor from private employes.

It is more than suspected that the committee, or perhaps it should be said a certain portion of them, are cutting right and left into the estimates of expenses for the current year, regardless of consequences, in hopes of reclaiming lost reputations, or perhaps in revenge for the condemnation received with regard to certain of their legislative acts, which it is unnecessary to mention and which have proved not at all acceptable to the public.

The re-organization of the different Departments at Washington, and the reduction of the clerical force have been intrusted to a committee on reform in the civil service, of which Hon. J. D. STRAWBRIDGE is a member. During the past few weeks this committee has been actively engaged in visiting the Departments, and firing upon such changes and reductions as in their judgment they may think necessary; and, at a proper time they will make their report, and introduce a bill to carry it into effect. As the committee progresses with their work, it is understood that, in connexion with a general reduction of ten per cent. of the clerical force, which a majority of its members will insist upon making, an increase of the hours of labor will, at the same time, be as strongly recommended.

We are pleased to know that Dr. STRAWBRIDGE while he is earnestly laboring to bring about proper reforms and retrenchment in the management of public affairs, is in no way desirous of building up a reputation as a statesman by any such scrimping and shaving down policy of legislation as proposed by this committee. With a just appreciation of the reform contemplated by the formation of this committee, he does not propose to endorse this "penny wise and pound foolish" policy, nor to ignore the long and well-established fact that the present six hours system is quite as much as any constitution however strong, is well capable of bearing. We are glad to know that he has placed himself squarely in opposition to all such legislation, which, in the way of reform, amounts to nothing more than the mere raising of a cloud of dust, under cover of which it would seem certain parties are seeking to retreat from the public disfavor and bad repute into which they have fallen.

A more careful consideration of the large appropriations to the several Departments, to be used as a discretionary fund in the defraying of contingent expenses, the printing of an immense amount of worthless documents, together with many other matters that might be named, would perhaps look a little more consistent, and a little more like true economy, than the miserable policy of attempting to save the Treasury of a great nation a few hundred dollars by overword, and by taking the bread out of the mouths of a few men and women.

The financial question is still the great unsettled problem of the day. Inflation or contraction is the issue. The South and West are believed to be in favor of the former, while the East, backed by the bankers and money kings, favor the latter, or rather the let-alone policy. Until Congress shall have arrived at what may be deemed a proper solution of the question, there will doubtless be but little legislation effected.

The festal season is now over. It was short and brilliant. Despite the forebodings of the panic-struck, the number and magnificence of its entertainments were never greater; and, as a consequence, it may be supposed that the beauty, wealth, fashion and shoddy, that are now gathered at the Capital, have enjoyed themselves accordingly. But as all that is now over, the footlights extinguished and the curtain rung down, we suppose, as usual, during the Lenten season charity balls, charity fairs, charity concerts and charity lectures will be the next in order. Doubtless the sufferings and wants of the poor will be somewhat alleviated by the inauguration of such entertainments: but it seems if that was the real object, it might be attained in a more direct and less troublesome way, and with a little less expense. But "pleasure is a pleasant thing," and there are many we suppose that will not hesitate to give so long as some such enjoyment, if it may be called enjoyment, accompanies the giving. It is, we believe, the "open sesame" to the tightest drawn purse strings.

In the amusement line, the latest sensation is the arrival at the new National Theatre, of JANNEY and PALMER'S "Black Crook" company from New York, consisting of ballerinas, demons, fairies and sylphs mixed up in the most bewildering and delightful confusion, with plenty of legs as seasoning. So great has public curiosity been excited, over this great spectacular play, with its gorgeous scenic effects, red fire, pink tights and book muslin, that crowds of people have been turned away, unable to gain admission. The managers will certainly have no cause for complaint at the manner in which they are being patronized by the Washington public; and judging from the general rush and scramble after seats they will be enabled to bid defiance to panics, and close their engagement with pretty well-filled pockets.

M.

ED. REPORTER: If we have been correctly informed—please pardon your correspondent for using the word *we*—the *Journal* pitches at the pronoun I like a mad bull at a red shirt, and a poor fellow who has been gored by it once, naturally dreads being tossed the second time by its vigorous horns;—if we have been correctly informed there was recently quite an excitement in the *Journal* office. The editor had been reading the REPORTER, a practice he frequently indulges in when he wishes to see the latest news; suddenly he sprang from his chair and strode the sanctum with an air and a deportment which Forrest never excelled, exclaiming: "Boys, the *Journal* has been compared to the New York *Herald!* Think of that! Very soon it will be compared to the London *Times*, or the British *Thunderer!* Think of that!—Only think of that!" The carrier-boy, who had not been long in his service and did not know of his temperance principles, supposed he had been drinking. His jour, who knew him better, but was unused to such exhibitions of mental activity, thought he was getting crazy; and the devil feared he was about experiencing the new —— we never used the word in a spirit of levity and never will.

Resuming his seat he meditated. Meditation is a good thing, especially when the meditations are good. The patriarchs used to meditate, great men in all ages of the world have meditated, and the editor of the *Journal* is no exception to the rule. His meditations ran thus: "We can never endure this dead level of friendly toleration. We must have a passage-at-arm with somebody, and to a young journalist like me, who is sighing for fame and spoiling for a fight, it makes little difference whom he strikes, so that he is careful not to hit a Heenan or a Morrisey. Editors are supposed to know everything, and some of them do know a great deal, so it will not do for us to profess ignorance of Castelar's identity. We will charge him with being some other man, and if he denies it nobody will believe him, and if the other man denies being Castelar nobody will credit his denial; everybody will believe the *Journal*, for newspapers never lie. If neither of them should deny being somebody else, then, according to the old adage, 'Silence gives consent and judgment goes by default.'"

He siezed his pen and wrote: "Our friend Castelar is doing us more service than he wots of. A young beginner is apt to feel mortified when all his efforts meet with no appreciation, and all his best articles are ascribed to his father." Not liking the looks of the sentence as it stood, he dashed his editorial pen through the latter part of it, not from any lack of paternal respect, for he venerates his honored father, but because it did not seem quite the right thing for an editor-in-chief to have any father. A streak of momentary vanity made him desire to be considered a high editor, after the order of Milchisadek.

He then altered the sentence so it read thus: "A young beginner is apt to feel mortified when all his efforts meet with no appreciation, and he chooses to do a little wrong that good may come of it." This did not agree with his last Sundy school lesson, and was altered once more and printed as follows: "A young beginner is apt to feel mortified when all his efforts meet with no appreciation, and he chooses to incur a little blame, provided its object is to sink him below his real merit."

That he writes well, when not excited, we have ocular demonstration. Take for example the following sentence:

"Criticism, whether friendly or adverse, has its uses, and in our limited experience it makes little difference which."

This is probably a new style of writing *which* is just coming into fashion, and the grammarians are at work constructing the rules to parse it. A bold man would not care to say the sentence is not perfectly finished and equal in clearness and beauty to anything that can be found in the whole range of English literature. After you have thrashed a man to your heart's content, it is sometimes good policy to apply a little balm to his bruises and speak a few conciliatory words to cheer his despondent heart. None understand this better than the *Journal* man, and here is the prescription compounded by this skilful son of Esculapius to heal the wounds of Castelar: "For the gratification of Castelar we wish to say the 'nice little paper' will soon be enlarged, and when it shall have become great and mighty, and he shall have been 'born again' and again a candidate for office we shall be most happy, by our warm support and influence, to triumphantly elect him to the coveted place, provided there should be no democrat of great personal popularity, and also a liberal advertiser in the *Journal*, in the field against him." Fearing the proviso might destroy the value of the medicine, it was stricken out and the following substituted in its place: "and so avert a recurrence of that disaster, which the lukewarmness of his pet organ permitted." That little thrust must have been made at the REPORTER. People sometimes differ because they do not understand each other.

In the *Journal* article under review, we find this sound declaration—"that party ties relax the moment principles are forgotten." This leads us to suspect that there may not be so great a difference in our political views after all. This doctrine is what we have been contending for all along, and if the *Journal* will stand by its declaration, as doubtless it will, there is no occasion for controversy; and right here we are willing to "bury the hatchet" and smoke the pipe of peace. "*Party ties relax the moment principles are forgotten.*" *Journal*, give us your ☞.

CASTELAR.

LARGE FIRE IN AVON.

Loss About $40,000.

ROCHESTER, Feb. 22.—At 1 o'clock to-day the United States Hotel, at Avon, Livingston County, was burned together with the post office and nearly all the business portion of that village.

The losses are, Simmons Bros., on hotel and furniture, $18,000, insurance $10,000; E. H. Davis, postmaster, $500, no insurance; H. Farnsworth, brick store, $3,500, insurance unknown; Smith Bros., dry goods, $7,000, insurance $3,000; A. Dunkin, loss on five frame buildings, $4,000; insurance $2,800; occupants' lossess—Wm. T. Clark, clothing, $1,500, insured, $2,000; M. Naylor, boots and shoes, not known; A. Dunkin, groceries, $1,000, no insurance.

These losses, with smaller amounts, foot up $40,000, with about $20,000 insurance.

The origin of the fire is unknown.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY IN KANSAS.

TOPEKA, Kas., Feb 21.—A meeting of the Farmers' Cooperative Association was held last night with a view of forming a new political party. A committee was appointed for the purpose of fixing the time and place for holding a State Convention of antimonopolists. Farmers to the number of about one hundred were present.

The Grangers to-day passed a resolution by a large majority refusing to make any paper in the State their special organ.

THE amendment of Mr. MERRIMON to the finance bill, which was adopted by the Senate on Friday, 28 to 25, increases the national Bank circulation $46,000,000, making it $400,000,000 in all. The bill now pending in the House legalizes the issue of the $44,000,000 reserve, and fixes the legal tender issue at $400,000,000. If both these bills should pass—as they probably will the entire currency of the country, national bank, legal tender and fractional currency will be about $850,000,000.

THE DEATH DEALING BEVERAGE.

The Good Fight Continues—Prayer the watchword—Success the Determination.—The Ladies still Unwavering—The Crusade to be Opened at Capital Next Saturday.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—A preliminary meeting to the temperance crusade is promised on Saturday next. Notices similar to the following have been served on several restaurant keepers: "We earnestly entreat you for the sake of your own spiritual welfare, and for the preservation from ruin of our husbands and sons, that you abandon the immoral and wicked business of selling intoxicating liquors. We will be at your place of business to pray with you next Saturday. Come with us and we will do you good and may God have mercy on your soul."

IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—The leaders of the temperance movement will discourage praying and singing in, or in front of liquor saloons, which they fear would lead to riotous demonstrations, but instead, will quietly circulated a pledge against the use, sale, or manufacture of any intoxicating drink, taking this especially to saloon keepers and men who lease their buildings for the sale of liquor. No visits will be made to the fashionable club houses, but the officers will be met elsewhere and urged to banish liquor from their establishments.

AT JEFFERSONVILLE, IND.

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind., Feb. 24.—The Women's Temperance Union continue their efforts against the whisky traffic in this city. Fifty women were out this forenoon, visiting eight saloons, but only gained admission at two. The others closed their doors, and notwithstanding the cold, chilling air, the ladies held devotional exercises in the street in front of each saloon. The cause is undoubtedly gaining ground in public favor, but there have been as yet no concessions made by the saloon-keepers.

AT MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb. 24.—A number of saloon keepers to-day received postal cards, signed "Committee," asking them to quit selling "the death dealing beverage," in the event of their refusal they are threatened with being visited and prayed for.

IN COLUMBUS, OHIO.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 24.—A temperance mass meeting was held this morning at which speeches were made by a number of ladies, and letters of sympathy read. Among the latter one from Mrs. W. J. Reece, sister of General, and Senator Sherman. A telegram was received from Lancaster announcing that one thousand women were out on the war-path with "prayer" for their watch word, and a determination to fight it out on that line.

A State bureau for the purpose of furnishing speakers and organizers was formed, and a committee of ladies, with an advisory committee of gentlemen, was also organized. The name of the "Women's Temperance Association of Ohio" has been adopted.

Reports from elsewhere in the State continue encouraging.

WORCESTER, Mass., Feb, 24.—A number of local clergymen and temperance men are in convention here to-day for prayer and consultation about the new movement on liquor sellers.

A telegraph from Dio Lewis was read. He promises to reach Worecester in four days, and redeem it in thirty days, and Boston in three months.

THE RECOVERY OF A LETTER AND A DRAFT FROM THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE.—A valuable letter, which was mailed from New York for Liverpool twenty-two years ago was reclaimed at the dead letter bureau of the post office on Wednesday. Where it has been all this time is a mystery. It was posted on the 15th of May, 1852, by Antonio Yznagadelvalle, a Spanish merchant of No. 60 Beaver street, and was addressed "Alejo Yznaga, care of the United States Consul, Liverpool." A draft on Brown Brothers for £41 14s 1d., payable to the person addressed, was enclosed.

The letter was recently transmitted from Great Britain to Washington, where it was opned and subsequently remailed to this city, to be returned to the writer. Its long detention abroad was not explained. An employee of Mr. Yznagadelvalle called at the postoffice to receipt for it. He told Mr. Clarke, one of the dead letter-clerks, that Yznagadelvalle undoubtedly wrote the letter, but that he did not recollect it. He said that Mr. Yznaga, the gentleman to whom it was sent, had beed dead six years.

The contents of the letter, which was written in Spanish, showed that the draft was from a friend in Havanna, and that it was to pay a debt. The paper is yellow with age, and the ink faded and almost illegible. The wonder among the Postoffice authorities is how it was found. Mr. Clarke says that there are several instances of dead letters being recovered five or six years after they were posted, but he doesn't remember one that has been twenty-