

Bradford Reporter.

TOWANDA, Pa., Thursday, Jan. 30, 1879.

THE SENATORIAL ELECTION.

The following comments on the result of the contest for U. S. Senator are from the Philadelphia Ledger, a neutral and independent paper. Unlike the so-called "independent" newspapers, which are usually the most prejudiced and vengeful publications of the day; the Ledger has a well-earned reputation for honesty and frankness of speech. Its comments in the present instance are sensible and pertinent, and are as follows:—At the joint meeting of the two Houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature yesterday, the formal declaration was made according to law, of the re-election of Senator CAMERON, which had been made by the Senate and House, acting separately, the day before; and thus ended a contest that has been carried on, after a fashion, rather more heated than wise for more than a half a year. In fact, the contest was begun with the earliest nominations made for the present Legislature, with the exception of the Senators who held over. So far as the Republican nominations for the Legislature were concerned, the candidacy of Senator CAMERON was a clear issue in almost every District; and nine out of every ten of the Republicans nominated and subsequently chosen at the November election were distinctly understood to favor his reelection. As it turned out, the Republican party was the successful party in the legislative elections; their decision was in favor of Mr. CAMERON, and that was ratified by the Legislature. Under these circumstances it is not easy to perceive what useful purpose was to be gained by the sort of contest that had been carried on against him since the meeting of the Legislature. There never was the ghost of a show that enough dissatisfied Republicans, Greenbackers and Democrats could be brought into a solid combination to elect anybody else. Every scheme to that end proved abortive as soon as it became known, as any clear-headed politician who knew the parties to be combined readily foresaw. A better policy would have been to accept the inevitable and make the best of it. All know that Mr. CAMERON has business capacity and experience; they know that he is organizing talent and energy of character, quick intelligence and abilities for leadership; and that those may be made to count for a great deal in the service of the State in the Senate of the United States. The right course was the policy that would have enlisted those heartily for the whole State, but the policy pursued was calculated to drive any man of ordinary mould into the position of withholding the power of the United States Senatorship for the benefit of those only who stood steadily by the successful candidate. It will be the fault of those who committed this error of policy if Mr. CAMERON should assume that position; and an equally fatal mistake on his part if he should. He now holds the commission of the Commonwealth as one of its representatives in the Senate of the United States until 1879; he has abilities that can give him influence in that body for the advantage of the State; and ample intelligence and manliness of character to see that such is the direction they should take.

BETTER TIMES.

That the times have been sadly out of joint, for the past few years, needs neither remark nor evidence to establish. The depression in business and the shrinkage in values has been beyond all precedent, causing "hard times" to an extent never before known in the financial history of the country. Coming immediately after the enhanced values created by the war of the rebellion, the people were poorly prepared to meet the change, and bankruptcy and disasters have invaded every community. Trade has been paralyzed, the industries of the country at a standstill, invested fortunes entirely wiped out, or incomes reduced to a merely nominal figure by the failure of banks and corporations, caused by the extravagance or dishonesty of officials.

The spectre of hard times and bankruptcy has frightened the country into that worst of all financial evils, a general want of confidence, a feeling that shuts up in the strong boxes of the capitalist the money that should drive the wheels of trade, and paralyzes for the want of means, all the enterprises of the country. That there is nothing more sensitive than capital, is admitted. At the first alarm, it is withdrawn from active business, thereby producing or aggravating the very evil consequences it most deems—and when monetary depression becomes in a measure alleviated, it is the very last to acknowledge the improved condition, and to contribute to its re-establishment.

WHAT OUR CORRESPONDENTS WANT.

An effort will be made to assigning to the State the responsibility of paying the damages of the Pittsburgh riots in 1877. The amount is very large, aggregating several millions of dollars. By an act of 1853, Philadelphia and Allegheny counties were made responsible for damages by riots within their respective limits, but the Pittsburgh people urge that this referred simply to local disturbances, but that the great outbreak of 1877 was general, the result of influences covering the whole State. It is intended to introduce and endeavor to pass a bill making the State responsible for paying the damage. Such a measure will hardly meet the approval of the tax-payers, and its justice is very questionable. Much of the property destroyed at Pittsburgh might have been saved, had the local authorities shown a proper amount of courage and judgment, and there is no good reason why the people of other sections should be made to suffer for their cowardice and inefficiency. But there is "millions in it," and we have no doubt a powerful effort will be made to shift the burden upon the Commonwealth.

The friends and neighbors of Senator PLATT gave him a flattering reception at Meriden, Ct., showing the high esteem in which he is held at home. It was attended by the people irrespective of party. In his remarks he referred to his duties in a manner that indicates a great future for him. He said: "How I shall bear myself, how I shall walk in the new path laid out for me, time only can show." I do know this, that I shall always try to do right as I see the right. And I have faith that being determined to do right, I shall proceed without bringing discredit to you, to myself, or to the State."

LETTERS FROM PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28, 1879.
The inauguration of Gov. Hoyt and the election of United States Senator Cameron called all the politicians of greater or less degree to Harrisburg this week. The turnout was large and somewhat imposing. There is probably no city in the United States where political displays are so well managed as here. There are several clubs, under the leadership of prominent local politicians, and when they turn out, things are done in a small way. The "boys" are expected to wear good clothes, white or black hats, and they belong to one or the other of the rural clubs while the best music to be had, and the most gaudy banners are the accompaniments. When the Union club gets into line, with two or three hundred men, led by a band, it is a very imposing sight. The trip to Harrisburg was a very great pleasure, is not indicated by the remarks coming from the participants, though everybody seems pleased with Governor Cameron's presence.

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AT POTTSVILLE.

POTTSVILLE, Jan. 25.—The Locust Gap mines, situated between Mr. Carmel and Shamokin, operated by Messrs. Graber & Shepp, was discovered on fire last night at a depth of three hundred feet. There were several barrels of fat stored, and from these it is thought the fire got a start, but how the tar took fire is not yet known. This morning the miners report the fire gaining ground and difficult to get at, a dense volume of smoke coming up the slope. The engine with a gang of experienced workmen, was sent down from Shamokin this morning. They took with them a large quantity of hose to use, should it be found necessary to drown the fire out. There are other collieries in the immediate vicinity, and it is thought, unless other prompt measures are taken to drown the fire, it will spread to those mines. Two hundred and fifty men and boys were employed there. There are no miners below now, as they came out during the night. The engine should be filled with water, it will require six months to pump it out, and it would be fully seven months before the regular work would be resumed. It is impossible to estimate the loss, though it is not heavy if not controlled immediately.

BLOWN FROM A TRAIN.
BALTIMORE, January 25.—This evening, shortly before seven o'clock, a train of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, Delaware three young Princeton students, on the way to Wilmington, attempted to pass the train from an another. The wind was blowing fiercely at the time. One of the youths passed over the platform in safety, and the second one stepped from the door, and in an instant he was blown from the car and landed with fearful force to the track. His companions leapt from the train as he disappeared in the darkness and gave the alarm, though not until several miles had been run. The conductor determined to run on to Wilmington and telegraph back to the "Locust Gap" to have a hand-carrier to the scene of the accident. This was done and when the train reached Perryville it was learned that the young man's body had been found on the track terribly bruised and lifeless. His death must have been instantaneous. He was about twenty-five years of age and a son of Dr. Vaughtin, a prominent physician of Wilmington, Delaware.

PROGRESS.
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Here and there might have been a few persons who had espoused the Union cause, but he did not know more than three men in his State who were willing here and now to vote for a Constitutional amendment which should close the books and forever settle the accounts between them and the Government. The lecture which the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. Brown) had seen it to read the Democrats of the South came from him with a rather bad grace. No Democrat had proposed to desert the Democratic party. No Southern Democrat had intimated such a proposition.

Mr. ELLIS, in conclusion, said that the Southern people were as true to the Democratic party as the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. Brown) had intimated such a proposition. He had intimated such a proposition. He had intimated such a proposition.

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