Bradford Reporter.

E. P. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

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THE BOURBON DYNASTY.

There may have been some who doubted the sinister purpose of the Democratic party in its frenzied appeals for reinstatement as the depositary of power. The closing acts of the 45th and the opening scenes of the 46th Congress, must have resolved all doubts into certainties. The former expired in the act of inaugurating revolution. The latter came into the power of organized existence to reveal the revolutionary impulse. That impulse is very strong. It will overwhelm the conservative influence in the party, and such men as BAYARD will be swept along with the current, or, if resisting, they will be stranded high and dry outside of the party. It is only a question of the status of negative and positive powers, and is a question which has been settled a thousand times. Positive power is always aggressive and must dominate, where, as in this case, it has the numerical majority. Those Democrats who found their hopes of peace and progress upon the ability of the few, the very few, conservative leaders in their party, may as well dismiss their hopes. To cherish hopes so utterly unfounded is to be self-deluded.

The Democrats have been a minority party in the nation for about eighteen years. And they have been a minority party in every desirable sense of the opposite term. They have been a minority in numbers, which, though it may not be pleasant, is yet tolerable, because it may be remedied. But they have been in a minority of brains and of character, and these are without remedy. By no process of action that we know of can any set of men remedy that lack. Statesmen are born, not made, and none have been born into the Democratic party for more than thirty years. None have been developed during that period. The nearest approach to a statesman among the Democratic leaders is seen in BAYARD. And he makes a virtuous show of denouncing revolution only to join in revolution. The other great lights are THURMAN, HENDRICKS and TILDEN. The two first named are simply trimmers. Neither has ever uttered a sentiment or done an act that will outlive them. The last named is a crafty, hypocritical old man, who will go down in history as one who attempted to steal the livery of an honest man to cloak the baseness of his purposes.

There is not a man among the Democrats in Congress who can move the hearts or arouse the consciences of the masses. Their hold upon their constituencies consists in their appeals to passion and to prejudice. There was a time when a difference existed between Democracy and demagogism. There is no longer any difference; and when one is face to face with a Democratic leader he confronts a demagogue, and generally a traitor. Starting with the Speaker of the House, and continuing down through the mass, you will not stumble against anything higher in the scale than a fourth-rate man of affairs. Men who are great on ward and county occasions, and infinitesimally small everywhere beyond that. The Senate makes a better showing, yet it does not begin to reach the mark as to ability and character that existed just prior to the war. BAYARD is undoubtedly the brains of the majority in that body, and PENDLETON will crowd him closely. But BAYARD has no magnetism and no pluck. He can hardly be said to serve as anything more than a foil in a conflict with EDMUNDS, BLAINE, CONKLING, or CARPENTER. Of the remainder how many are there who do not owe their prominence to unmitigated Bourbonism? WALLACE, who is striving desperately to get the lead, has failed as a leader everywhere outside of Clearfield county. He did manage to lead his party like sheep to the slaughter in 1878. He will never lead the Senate. When the supreme moment arrives Mr. WALLACE will be set aside without ceremony, and the Senate, as a Democratic body, will follow the lead of some positive and daring man of the South. All this coquetting is permitted so long as it does not interfere with the working out of the Bourbon purposes.

THERE are, unquestionably, honest and well-meaning people who cannot understand why the colored people of the South should be so anxious to leave that sunny clime, and migrate to the bleak fields of Kansas. To the attention of such we call the recent order issued by the Chief of Police of New Orleans, by direction of the Mayor of that city, as a sample of the liberty and privileges enjoyed by the enfranchised race. By this order the preachers of the various colored churches are notified that services whenever held must terminate by ten o'clock, P. M., and it is made the duty of all policemen to arrest as a disturber of the peace any pastor having charge of a colored church in the city, who under any circumstances holds a service later than that hour. This illegal order is an outrage upon the rights of the colored worshipper, violating the letter and spirit of the Constitution, and shows the animus which pervades Southern communities in dealing with their former chattles. What right has the Mayor of New Orleans to say at what hour the negro churches shall close their service, holding the pastor, who shall become prolix, liable to arrest if he lengthens the services beyond ten o'clock? The order smacks too much of the ante war times, when the auction block and the whip were favorite means of controlling and punishing the human chattles, and when the right to worship, was at the pleasure of the owner.

The fair fields of the South are in great danger of being untilled, because the laborer has been cheated and defrauded of his dues, because he has been denied the rights guaranteed him by the Constitution, because he has been hunted and bulldozed until the slow-thinking colored population has become thoroughly imbued with the the belief that still greater wrongs and sufferings are awaiting them, awakening a feeling of mistrust, and causing them by thousands to flee from the presence of the oppresor. The Mayor of New Orleans has added to the long list of grievances to which the negro has been subjected, and given another proof, if it had been needed, that the wrongs of which they complain are real, and that there are abundant reasons why they should endeavor to escape from the condition to which they have been brought, through the cunning and dishonesty of the more intelligent and favored race, who should be their protectors and not their oppressors. It will be worse than useless to call Conventions to consider the question of the negro exodus from the South, and to devise ways and means to convince him that he should stay on the plantations where he was born, and has toiled, so long as such a tyrannical and oppressive disposition is shown, as is manifested in the order issued by the New Orleans Mayor.

PETER HERDIC has at last emerged from the voluntary seclusion which he has been enjoying since his last attempt to regulate the finances. Financially, PETER is such a remarkable instance of sagacity and the successful accumulation of indebtedness, that he feels himself competent to straighten out the indebtedness of States, counties or corporations. He states that, having been prostrated by acute catarrh of the throat and lungs, he was compelled to seek relief in a more congenial climate than that of his adopted home, the Keystone State, and that in pursuit of a proper climate he has wandered far and wide, and, what is almost incredible, "passed many hours and often whole days without conversation." While thus silently pursuing his weary way his thoughts did not turn to his disconsolate creditors, but his mind was overwhelmed with the condition of the State, its cities and counties, and, indeed, of the people of the whole country, burdened with debt contracted at the inordinate rates of interest which were established by the necessities of the government during the war. So, as PETER has had large experience in borrowing, he proposes that "for the purpose of funding any outstanding floating debt now in existence, or of refunding any maturing or already matured debt of *this State or of any county or city therein*, the proper authorities may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to issue coupon bonds of the denomination of FIVE AND TEN dollars, to bear interest at a rate not exceeding three per centum," etc. The remarkable facility which PETER manifested in accumulating the repudiated debt of Williamsport, affords an excellent opportunity for the authorities of that debt-ridden city to put his plan into operation. They can thus show their appreciation of his public spirit and their gratitude for his past services, besides disposing of a question which seems likely in the nigh future to get them into contempt of Judge ELWELL'S court.

THE situation of the Democratic leaders in Congress would excite our sympathy if their plans did not arouse apprehension of danger to the country. They have evidently been misled by the idea that the President could be coerced into the approval of any measure they might attach to the appropriation bills. Now that they have learned that PRESIDENT HAYES was true to his party and to the country, they are in a dilemma. To give way is to cover themselves with disgrace—to persevere is certain and inevitable defeat for the Democratic party. In any event disaster is to result. The consequence is that there is bad blood and contention amongst the Democracy in Congress, and apprehension and fear and trembling with the rank and file. The conservative, moderate Congressmen who counsel prudent and patriotic action, are denounced as traitors to the party. The badly reconstructed Confederates would adjourn without providing for the pay of the Army—(they have no great reason to love the Army)—and would stop the wheels of the government, rather than to forego their desire to wipe from the statute books, the laws made necessary by the Rebellion.

There has been much commotion amongst the Democracy since the President's veto was read, and great diversity of sentiment as the proper course to be pursued. In one thing they were unanimous, and that was that they were in a bad and indefensible position. So they have been caucussing with closed doors, as to the best manner in which the party could be extricated from the difficulty. The last plan is to introduce and pass as a separate and independent measure, a bill to prevent the President and all other civil officers from bringing troops to the polls on election day to "keep the peace," and it will contain a clause that it is not the intention of the bill to limit the lawful authority of the civil officers who may be engaged in supervising the election. In the meantime the appropriation bills will be held back until it is seen what the President will do with this modified attempt at coercion.

The Republicans will oppose this new bill as unnecessary and absurd. Should the proposed measure fail, the moderate Democrats will probably join in extending the appropriations for six months.

THE Riot Claims Investigation Committee commenced their work by holding secret sessions, but the clamor against secrecy was so strong that the doors were opened to the public. Much ill feeling has been created by the charges of bribery and the denials, which culminated in a free fight on Thursday last, during a session of the Committee in the House chamber. It is said that eyes were blackened, clothes torn, and furniture destroyed in the melee. Such scenes are disgraceful, and the House owes it to a proper self-respect and regard for reputation to deal severely with those who seek by force to prevent a full and fearless investigation of the charges of corruption which have been plainly and emphatically made. The people of the State will be satisfied with nothing less than a thorough sifting of the attempts at bribery. If they are true, the guilty should be exposed and punished; if they are false, the character of the Legislature should be relieved from the odium which now rests upon it.

THE *Gazette and Bulletin*, which is an authority on matters of lumber, says the report that there is an unusually large stock of logs in the boom is erroneous. It is true that there are forty or fifty million feet more in the boom than there were last spring, but it should be remembered that there were fifty million feet more of lumber on the yards last May than there is now, or than there probably will be at the opening of next season's sawing. There is no excess of stock now on hand, nor is there likely to be the present season.

ALL Russia has been proclaimed in a state of siege; in the streets of St. Petersburg bombs are being exploded daily, and already there are in custody 12,000 prisoners, who, with their families, are to be sent to Siberia as soon as the roads are passable. These prisoners comprise some of the highest classes, even persons in the royal household. The situation is extremely critical, and may result in a general uprising which will shake the very foundations of the imperial government.

THE lobbyist who tried to seduce Mr. WATSON, of Mercer, into voting for the Riot damage bill, put it on the grounds that he was a good fellow, and as there was some money in the bill, he might as well have some. Members were poorly paid, he said, and he wanted him to go on with the boys and become a "rooster." These inducements were not sufficient, however, in Mr. WATSON'S case, though they seemed to have prevailed with many of the "good fellows."

THE unconstitutional and revolutionary efforts of the majority in Congress, have at least produced one good result. They have brought about the consolidation of the Republican party. There is no longer division or quarrelling. The rank and file, the President, the Senators and all, are impressed with the importance of a united front in opposition to the usurpationists. The Republican party was never more unanimous and in earnest.

THAT the people of the County might be furnished with a full and reliable account of the doings of the State Legislature, we have published each week a letter which gave the proceedings of the Solons at Harrisburg. If any of our readers have failed to keep fully advised as to what was transpiring, it has been their own fault. In this as in all other matters we shall endeavor to make the REPORTER of value to our subscribers.

SECRETARY EVARTS is enthusiastic about the brilliant political prospect which the union of the President and his party opens up. He thinks the good result of the prevailing harmony will first be seen in the fall elections. Great care ought to be exercised in the selection of candidates in New York and Ohio, for those States will be the battle ground in 1880. With the party on its present high national ground, he even hopes for inroads in the South.

IT IS a great mistake to suppose that the Greenback-Democrat combination now performing at Washington has done nothing for the benefit of the people. DE LA MATYR is going to distribute a thousand millions in greenbacks, and Mr. DAVIS, of North Carolina, is going to abolish the tax on apple and peach brandies. An era of prosperity ought surely to follow plenty of money and cheap brandy.

J. MONTGOMEY FOSTER has been re-appointed and confirmed by the Senate as Insurance Commissioner of the State. This department has been admirably managed, Mr. FOSTER having great ability and unquestioned integrity in his official conduct. His re-appointment is creditable to the Executive and a compliment to the Commissioner.

EDITORS will occasionally "let their angry passions arise," just like ordinary mortals, and when they do forget themselves, they are just as unwise as anybody. This time it was in Indianapolis, and what is still worse on Sunday evening, that C. HARDING, editor of the *Herald*, entered the house of CALVIN A. LIGHT, editor of the *Democrat*, and attempted to shoot LIGHT, because of certain publications in his paper. HARDING was locked up until Monday morning, when he was released on bail. He soon went to LIGHT'S office, and fired at him several times, but missed him, hitting a workman named LIPSIUS, inflicting a serious wound. Another workman of LIGHT'S, named WALTERS, jumped from a window during the fusilade and broke both ankles. HARDING is in jail.

A RAILROAD car loaded with dynamite blew up at the Grand Trunk freight yard, in Stratford, Ontario, Monday morning, with tremendous effect. The whole town was shaken as by an earthquake. The freight shed, the houses around it and about fifty freight cars, were blown into splinters. About fifty other cars were damaged and the window glass in the business section of the town, nearly a mile distant, was shattered. Underneath the dynamite car a hole was scooped out by the blast several feet in depth. Two men were killed, and four badly injured. The damage to property is estimated at $250,000

THE State Treasury being pretty well depleted, Attorney General PALMER is overhauling the books to find out the delinquents who have not paid their taxes. Lock Haven, Altoona and Sunbury have come under his notice, and he has issued executions against them, and now they will have to "pony up."

THE colored people's National Board of Emigration, at St. Louis, are endeavoring to make arrangements for the transportation of several thousand negro emigrants now scattered along the Mississippi below Memphis. The regular packets refuse to take them.

THE *Press* very pertinently says that judging from most of the Democratic speeches on the Army bill, the only men who can be trusted to uphold the Constitution of the United States are those who a few years ago defied it.

ONE DAY recently the Union Pacific road took west from Council Bluffs twenty full cars of passengers, including nine of emigrants, and this is said to be not far above the present average of business. A large share of the passengers are destined for Colorado and the territories.

THE first business of the House Committee on Elections will be to give ex-Governor CURTIN the seat to which YOCUM was elected. The next business will probably be to unseat the entire Iowa delegation.

THE New-Orleans *Picayune* says that the Pioneer Grant Club of that city, which was organized in 1868, is still in existence, and is about to commence active operations for the next campaign.

THERE is now before the Missouri Legislature a bill to punish voters who stay away from the polls three times in succession with a forfeiture of their right to hold any office in the State.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* very wisely concludes that if General GRANT would like a real reception in this country, he should positively refuse a candidate for the Presidency.

THE Presbyterian General Assembly meets at Saratoga, N.Y., June 15.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Special Correspondence of the REPORTER.

HARRISBURG, May 3.—The session of the House on Monday evening of this, the seventeenth week of the Legislature, was principally devoted to the consideration of bills on second and first reading.

A resolution previously offered by Mr. Barrett, an intelligent member of the corps editorial from the new county of Lackawanna, preventing members from speaking more than twice on any question and more than ten minutes at any time coming up, caused considerable debate, after which the further consideration of the subject was indefinitely postponed. As long as that newsy and sprightly publication, the *Legislative Record*, prints the speeches of members, even if it is a week or more after they are delivered, the statesmen will continue to orate, and promptly vote down all propositions looking to an abridgement of that expensive amusement.

In the Senate on Tuesday evening petitions against the union of Church and State and favoring religious liberty, praying for the passage of Senate bill No. 135, known as the Seventh Day Baptist bill, from the States of Maine, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, New York and Iowa, were presented. Two or three new bills were introduced, and the rest of the session was devoted to the consideration of bills on first and second reading. Among those read the first time were the following:

An act authorizing the appointment of women prison inspectors.

An act authorizing the appointment of a commission to ascertain and adjust the losses caused by the insurrection of July, 1877. This is the new riot bill.

An act to repeal an act to declare Good Friday a legal holiday.

Among the bills passed second reading was the following: Joint resolution to amend section 17, article 2, of the Constitution, by providing that the whole number of Representatives in the Legislature shall be 101 instead of 201, the present number.

In the House on Tuesday morning an invitation was accepted from the Permanent Exhibition Company to be present at the anniversary of the opening of the Exhibition on May 10, 1879.

Mr. Brooks, of Cameron county, introduced an act to repeal the law creating a commission to erect a penitentiary for the middle penitentiary district, paying the expenses already incurred by the commission and abandoning the project. However *meritorious* such a bill might be, it will hardly get through.

House bill 107, which had previously been defeated, was re-considered and passed finally, and sent to the Senate. It originally required itinerant dentists to take out county licenses; this section was stricken out, and traveling jaw-breakers are one ahead.

The vote by which the House defeated the border raid bill on April 22d, was, on motion of Messrs. Shear, of Potter, and Reynolds, of Philadelphia, re-considered, 92 members voting to re-consider and 66 against. The avowed object was to amend the bill so that it would be satisfactory to the House. After considerable discussion, and the insertion of an amendment to the effect that "five per cent. of these certificates of loan shall be paid to the holders thereof on the 1st day of June, 1880, and the balance, with four per cent interest thereon, or such a part thereof as may be paid by the General Government, shall be paid whenever the General Government shall have acknowledged these claims and shall have paid the same to this Commonwealth; provided, that no money shall be paid from the Treasury by or under the authority of this act until the Supreme Court of the State shall have decided the same to be constitutional," the bill was laid over for printing and final passage, the prospects for which latter are by no means rosy.

Among the bills passed finally at this morning session of the House on Tuesday, were the following:

An act for the better regulation and treatment of the female insane in any asylums and hospitals, by the appointment of female superintendents.

An act authorizing one vote to be cast for each share of stock held in any turnpike, plank road or bridge company.

An act to enlarge the jurisdiction of courts of common pleas, relative to granting, improving or amending the charters of turnpike road companies.

An act requiring every person holding an office under the State government to take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation.

At the afternoon session of the House on Tuesday the general appropriation bill was considered on third reading at length; agreed to, and laid over for printing.

Among the bills passed finally were the following:

An act extending the time for the collection of city, county, township and borough taxes, for the payment of which collectors have become personally liable.

An act appropriating $20,000 to meet the annual expenses of the commissioners to superintend the propagation of fish.

The anti-discrimination freight bill was then discussed until the hour of adjournment, 6 o'clock.

In the Senate on Wednesday morning Senator Cooper, of Delaware, offered the following:

Resolved (if the House concur), That the General Assembly of Pennsylvania gives hearty endorsement to the President's veto of the revolutionary riders attached to the army bill, and hereby instructs the Senators and requests the members representing Pennsylvania to sustain the course of President Hayes upon this measure, and any other calculated to assure the constitutional prerogatives of any branch of the Government or to open the door to fraud in the national councils.

Mr. Holben, Democrat, moved that the resolution be referred to the committee on Federal Relations. Messrs. Schnatterly and Craig, Democrats, supported this motion, which was not agreed to—yeas 12, nays 26. The resolution was adopted—yeas 30, nays 12. Mr. Parker, National, voted with the Republicans in the affirmative. Messrs. Paulson and Nelson, of Wayne, elected by the Democrats and Nationals, voted with the Democrats in the negative.

The following among other bills passed the Senate finally on Wednesday:

An act relating to judgment dockets, designed to improve the present system of entering judgments.

House bill to encourage the planting of trees along the roadsides of the State.

House bill providing that the fines for selling clams and oysters out of season be paid to the guardians of the poor.

House bill providing for the transfer of the Western Reform school at Morganza, Washington county, to the State.

A message was received from the Governor returning, with his objections, a concurrent resolution, which had passed both Houses, appropriating $600 to pay the expenses of the investigation into the management of the State Agricultural College, near Bellefonte. The Governor took the ground that money could not be constitutionally appropriated by a concurrent resolution, but only by a bill passed in both Houses, read on three different days, on which the yeas and nays were called, etc. The veto was unanimously sustained.

In the House on Wednesday morning an act to provide for the ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative and judicial departments of the Commonwealth, interest on the public debt and for the support of the common schools for the years 1879 and 1880, known as the "appropriation bill," on motion of Mr. Hall was taken up and passed finally by 174 yeas to 2 nays. The rest of the morning session was devoted to the consideration of an act to provide revenue by taxation of corporations and associations and unincorporated companies, associations and limited partnerships, better known as the general revenue bill. The principal point debated was the section placing a tax on limited partnership associations. No vote was reached and the bill went over.

At the opening of the afternoon session of the House on Wednesday, Mr. Nicholson, of Jefferson, asked permission to make a statement. It was to the effect that the committee which was investigating the alleged corruption in the case of the Pittsburgh riot bill had decided to sit with closed doors. He (Nicholson) and other Western members objected to this. He asked leave to introduce a resolution, in which request he was sustained by Mr. Wolfe, of Union, a gentleman who consumes more time in talking than any other three members of the House. At this point there were numerous objections and demands for the "order of the day," when the resolution was read for information, as follows:

Resolved, That the committee appointed to inquire into and investigate the charges of undue and improper influence used in the effort to pass the riot bill, are hereby instructed to hold their sessions with open doors and that the examination of all witnesses be public.

Speaker Long decided that nothing was in order for the afternoon except the consideration of Senate bills as provided for by the special order made by the House, and that the resolution was not a question of order, and was therefore not in order. Mr. Wolfe appealed from this decision of the Speaker, and insisted that the introduction of the resolution was a question of privilege. The controversy lasted two hours, at the end of which the valuable little reformer from Union, who must verily believe in the motto "that he who bloweth not his own horn the same shall not be blowed," seeing that a large majority were against him, withdrew his appeal, thus virtually sustaining the decision of the Speaker. This is a specimen of the manner in which time is worse than wasted.

Several Senate bills of a local character were then disposed of, and the Senate resolution endorsing President Hayes' veto was concurred in by a vote of yeas 98, nays 79, after a good deal of noisy filibustering by the Democrats.

In the Senate on Thursday morning Senator Everhart offered the following as an additional rule: "That the vote on concurring in bills amended in the House, or on adopting reports of committees of conference, shall not be taken until said bills and reports have been placed on the files of Senators and particularly referred to on the calendar." After a discussion of about an hour it was referred to a select committee of five Senators. The idea is to prevent the "snaking" through of bills in the hurry incident to the last few days of the session, without affording Senators an opportunity to know what they are voting for.

The nominations of James B. Neale to be Judge for Armstrong county, vice Jackson Boggs, deceased, and J. Morrison Forster, of Dauphin county, to be Insurance Commissioner, were unanimously confirmed.

The nominations of a number of gentlemen from Western counties to be managers of the Reform school at Morganza, Washington county, were laid over until afternoon.

A supplement to an act increasing the penalties for the desecration of the Sabbath was called up on third reading. Mr. Jones opposed the passage of the bill, claiming that it was unchristian. Mr. Seymour moved that the bill be postponed for the present. Mr. Davies moved to amend the motion by postponing the bill indefinitely. Messrs. St. Clair, M'Neill and Gillilan supported the bill, the Senator from Indiana claiming that proper respect should be shown the numerous petitions in favor of the law. Messrs. Butterfield and Ermentrout opposed it, the former maintaining that the law would not be enforced, and the latter declaring it a horrible bill. To increase the penalties of the law of 1794 would be to make it more absurb than it is now. [The new bill makes the fine $25, instead of $4.] Messrs. Newell, Kauffman and Davies also spoke against the bill, but no vote was had upon the motion of Senator Davies to indefinitely postpone before adjournment.

At the afternoon session the consideration of the motion to confirm the nominations of managers of the Reform school was resumed. The names of these gentlemen are as follows: A. J. Keating, Jas. P. Barr, Jno. M. Irwin, R. P. Nevin and R. S. Waring, of Allegheny county; Thos. McKennan, James M'Cullough, of Washington, and Jacob Weigand, of Beaver county. Three of these gentlemen are editors: Barr of the Pittsburgh *Post*, Nevin, of the *Leader*, and Weigand, of the Beaver *Argus and Radical*. Senators Elliott and Seymour opposed Barr and Nevin on account of their course during the riots, but the nominations were all confirmed, except that of Weigand, who was two votes short of the two-thirds, two of the Allegheny Senators opposing him for personal reasons. His nomination was again on Friday, and will no doubt be confirmed next week when there is a full attendance of Senators.

Governor Hoyt was kind to editors on Thursday, conferring honors upon no less than four of them, the new Armstrong county Judge, who is the editor of the *Free Press*, the old Republican paper at Kittanning, being the other. The discussion on these confirmations occupied most of the afternoon.

Mr. Lamon offered a concurrent resolution, which was adopted, recalling the Mexican war veteran bill from the Governor. This is to keep control of the bill, so that the Governor will not be compelled to let it become a law, or veto it, until it is known from the action on the revenue and appropriation bills whether or not there will be any money to pay the pensions.

The House joint resolution to provide for additional copies of Small's Legislative Hand Book, passed finally.

In the House on Thursday morning, among the petitions presented was one signed by 500 business firms of the city of Philadelphia, praying for the passage of an insolvent law. This law is also endorsed by the Mercantile Jobbers' Association and the Board of Trade of Philadelphia.

A number of remonstrances against the passage of the act taxing oil were also presented.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the anti-discrimination bill, it being the special order. It was discussed until the hour of adjournment and went over, to come up again next week.

A number of local bills were disposed of in the House on Thursday afternoon, but none for Bradford county.

In the Senate on Friday bills on final passage and third reading were laid over, when some progress was made on the second reading calendar, but no business of importance was concluded during the hour and a half session.

In the House on Friday morning Mr. Smith (Philadelphia) rose to a question of privilege, and that in his absence in Philadelphia and during the session on Thursday evening of the riot investigation committee, serious charges had been made against him by a member of the House—a member whom he did not have the slightest acquaintance with. He said the accusations were false and malicious in the extreme, and hoped the committee would sit immediately after the adjournment of the House at 12 o'clock to-day, and give him a chance to be heard in public and before the members of the House. He was confident he could clear himself entirely from any connection with the affair in at least ten minutes.

Mr. Gatchell (chairman of the committee). The committee will meet immediately after the hour of adjournment for the purpose of hearing the gentleman from Philadelphia, Mr. Smith.

Speaker Long having announced that the revenue bill was now in order, Mr. Davis (Philadelphia) moved to postpone the consideration of the bill until Tuesday next, and that it be made the special order immediately after the third reading calendar and anti-discrimination bill are disposed of, and be made the special order, as follows: The anti-discrimination bill first, and the revenue bill for Wednesday's, Thursday's and Monday's sessions, until disposed of. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hall offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the appropriation bill, making appropriations for institutions in whole and in part under the control of the State, on second reading, be considered at the sessions of this House on Monday nights after May 5th.

The resolution for final adjournment of the Legislature on the 30th of May next came up, and after it was discussed at some length and attempts made to amend it, a motion to indefinitely postpone was agreed to by a *viva voce* vote. Mr. Hall called the yeas and nays, but was greeted with loud cries of "no!" "no!" whereupon he withdrew the call, leaving no record of those who voted for or against the adjournment resolution.

Mr. Souder's resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee for the purpose of welcoming General Grant upon his arrival in this country in the name of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, provided there shall be no expense to the State, came up, when a rambling discussion ensued and much confusion prevailed, cheers and hisses coming alternately from each side of the chamber. The resolution was adopted by a strictly party vote—yeas, 79, nays 73.

Senate and House adjourned until Monday evening.

The action of the committee to investigate the charges of bribery and corruption in connection with the riot bill, commenced its labors this week with a secret session on Tuesday evening. The decision of the committee to meet with open doors was not well received, and the programme has since been changed. Four or five witnesses, including Wm. H. Kemble, of Philadelphia, and John C. Barr, of Pittsburgh, a newspaper correspondent, were examined at this Tuesday evening meeting, and it is understood they all denied any guilty knowledge.

Additional meetings of the committee were held, publicly, in the Hall of the House on Wednesday and Thursday evening, and on Friday at noon, the latter being a very brief one to hear Mr. Smith, as above indicated.

The testimony taken at the meetings on Wednesday and Thursday evenings is very voluminous; so much so as to render it impossible, though it were desirable to do so, to give even a synopsis of it. Three members of the House, so far—W. F. Rumberger, of Armstrong; the second, Emile J. Petroff, of Philadelphia; and the third, George P. Smith, of Philadelphia—have been charged by fellow-members with approaching them improperly, but it does not appear that any money was used; it was only talked about. Silverthorne, of Erie, says Rumberger wanted to buy his vote, while Watson, of Mercer, testifies that Petroff endeavored to negotiate with him, and Knittle, of Columbia, avers that Smith told him where he could get cash for his vote.

Mr. Smith, in accordance with his own request, was sworn on Friday immediately after the House adjourned, when the committee met, and, in the most positive and solemn manner, denied the truth of the testimony of Knittle, saying that the only conversation he ever had with him about the riot bill, he (Knittle) introduced the subject, and seemed anxious to know if money was being used to pass the riot bill. Rumberger and Petroff have not yet been on the witness stand, but it is understood that they will also deny any criminal conduct. The taking of testimony will be continued next week.

The *role* of detective, which it appears has been played by certain members, to get others into trouble and to cause them to violate the law, is not looked upon here as a very honorable one; and if those who have been playing it, before the thing is all over, find out that that they have "bit off more than they can chaw," they may not feel so good. If these fellows were to take heed to the suggestion of Him who spake as never man spake, when He said, "Let him who is without sin among you cast the first stone," it is very certain no pebbles would be thrown by any of them.

CUSSAWAGO.

A Father's Terrible Crime.

Of all the crimes caused by religious fanaticism, none have ever been more unnatural and horrible than that recently perpetrated at Pocasset, Mass., by Charles F. Freeman. This man who was a farmer, became converted to the ultra views of Second Adventism about a year ago, and became a leader in that sect.

A correspondent of the New York *Times* gives the following graphic account of this dreadful transaction:

"He believed it his mission to preach, and was a zealous exhorter. As time passed, he came to regard it as his duty to make some great sacrifice, which should result in a miracle and fix the attention of mankind upon the new faith. Some time ago he announced this belief to several of his fellow-worshippers. Two weeks ago, as he says, the long-expected revelation of the necessary sacrifice came to him in the night. It was then indicated to him that a member of his family must die by his hand. He talked the matter over with his wife, and persuaded her not to stand in "the Lord's way," as they both considered it. They had two daughters, Bessie, 7 years old, and Edith, 5 years old. The latter was a sunny-haired child, the pet and idol of the household. The father prayed long to know who was appointed as the victim. He says he prayed that it might be himself, but it was not so to be. After patient waiting the second revelation came, late in the night of the murder. The pet Edith was pointed out as the sacrifice. The father was taken aback, out dared not resist the command of God. He awoke his wife, and told her what was demanded. Then the mother's heart refused to acquiesce in the unnatural deed. She begged hard for her darling's life, but the husband was inexorable. Working upon his poor wife's fear of displeasing God, he at last gained her consent. The scene that followed is horrible beyond precedent. After Freeman had knelt and prayed that he might be spared the test of his faith, he nerved himself for murder. He felt that he was another Abraham, and that God would either stay his hand or else raise his daughter from the dead, as a reward for his obedience. Then he and his wife went into the bedroom where their two children lay sleeping side by side. The mother carried the eldest to her own room. Freeman turned down the bed-clothes from the form of little Edith, raised the knife which he had provided for the occasion, and waited to see if God would not interpose. After a vain watch, he bent forward over the child, and with great care plunged the blade into Edith's heart. There was an exclamation and all was over. The insane father clasped his pet in his arms, and held her till he was certain life was extinct. Then he laid down and slept by her side, satisfied that he had done the will of God."

A Boston dispatch of Monday night, says: The funeral of little Edith Freeman, the victim of her father's fanaticism, took place in the Methodist church in the village of Pocasset this afternoon. The body was brought to the church in a casket by Allen P. Davis, a sympathizer with Freeman in his deed and one of his chief abettors who after depositing the casket near the altar announced his intention of addressing the audience, but was prevented from doing by threats of arrest. The services were brief and appropriate and were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Williams, pastor of the Methodist church. The Adventists who fully believed that the dead child would be brought back to life or translated bodily to heaven, are deeply mortified that their prophecies should result in so apparent a non-fulfillment.

PROSPECTS OF THE WHEAT CROP.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—The April returns to the Department of Agriculture show that the average of winter wheat is about one and one-half per cent. greater than last year. This average is due mostly to the transfer of spring sowings to fall sowings in the west and northwest. Unless the spring sowing increases beyond present expectation, there will be a reduced aggregate wheat acreage. The wheat in the ground, taken as a whole, is about two per cent. below the average. The crop in some sections was unfavorably affected by the fall drought, and in others by the absence of snow during the extreme winter cold. With average growing conditions, however, it will make a very large crop of winter wheat. Rye has fallen off about four per cent. in acreage, and is about four per cent. below the average. It follows the general averages of the wheat crop.

STATE NEWS.

JOHN PARRY, a miner, was killed by a fall of the roof in the Diamond mine at Scranton Friday.

WM. OSTERMEIXE, aged twenty-five years, while duck hunting near Pittsburg was shot and killed by the accidental discharge of his own gun.

THE stone masons of Pittsburg and Allegheny went on a strike Thursday. They demand $2.50. They are now receiving $1.75 and $2 per day.

ABOUT 200 miners employed in Rough and Ready shaft Pittston struck Friday against the reduction of ten per cent. in wages which went into effect yesterday.

MICHAEL and Sophia M'Andews were arrested and conveyed to the county prison at Pittston Thursday afternoon upon a warrant sworn out by Mrs. Elphison, charging them with the murder by beating of her husband, Thomas Elphison, on the 10th inst.

GEORGE W. KIRBY, an employee of the Chesapeake nail works, south Harrisburg met with a singular and very painful accident, a day or two ago, which will probably result in the loss of one of his eyes. While engaged at one of the nail cutting machines a "sliver" or splinter of iron accidently entered his eye, and he will, from all appearances of the wounded member, lose the use of it.

THE trial of Ephraim Snyder at York, for murder has ended in a verdict of not guilty. He was charged with murdering Christina Herman, of Heidelberg township, last December. He was known to have paid attentions to the girl, and when last seen alive she was visiting at the house where Snyder lived. Her dead body was found on the road not far from her own home. The head had been crushed in by a heavy blow. The case was given to the jury at 4.30 Friday afternoon, and the verdict was rendered an hour and a half later. The prisoner was discharged and there was a grand rush to the bar to congratulate him.

HARVEY THIXLER, aged 17 years, residing about three miles from Bethlehem, met with a singular and fatal accident Friday. He had climbed up a tree to trim it, but lost his grip and fell, striking upon the sharp edge of an axe. He sustained a deep, gaping wound in his left side, just below the lower rib, some six inches in length. The axe almost served the liver, and portions of that organ protruded from the wound. Hemorrhages followed, and though supplied with the best surgical attention, the young man died in the greatest of agony.

SINCE the erection of the Lehigh Valley Railroad bridge over the Delaware at Easton, three years ago, it has been ascertained that the weight of the two iron spans which rest on the pier near the Jersey shore had caused the iron shoes in which the spans rest to sink about an inch, throwing the structure out of grade, with the certainty of a still greater depression, owing to the fact that the inside masonry of the pier is not as solid as the outside. To obviate this the bridge superintendent of the road had an iron plate cast, edges of which were to rest on the solid stone of the pier. The casting was twelve feet long, three feet three inches wide, with ribs fifteen inches deep and a general thickness of three inches, the whole weighing seven thousand pounds. This was taken to the bridge and lowered into position, the task being accomplished Thursday afternoon. The iron spans weigh 180 tons each, and in order to elevate them hydraulic jacks were used. After the spans were elevated sufficiently the masonry was re-dressed and leveled, the huge plate placed in position and the spans were then lowered without the stopping of a single train. This is considered a great feat in engineering.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE strike of mill operatives at East Hampton, Mass., continues, with no present prospect of settlement.

A SMALL boat containing three persons capsized on the river above Hartford, Conn., Sunday, and John Murry, twenty years old, was drowned.

AN inmate of the jail in Columbus county, Wis., escaped Friday morning, it is supposed in company with the Sheriff's daughter, a girl of sixteen.

THE court at Richmond, Va., has refused the application for a new trial in the case of John E. Poindexter, convicted of killing C. C. Curtis. The case will be to the Court of Appeals.

THE Rev. Allen P. Beach, father of Secretary of State Beach, of New York, one of the oldest Baptist clergymen in the State, died at Hamilton, Madison county, on Saturday evening, aged eighty-three years.

AT the annual meeting of the Universal Peace Union, in Washington Friday evening, a resolution was adopted urging the appointment of a commission to confer with various Indian tribes relative to a peaceful adjustment of existing difficulties.

R. C. Rankin, one of the oldest telegraph men in Chicago and formerly manager of the Western Union business there died at Wyoming on Saturday evening. He had held various responsible positions under the company, and was widely known and respected in press and telegraph circles.

AT WARRENTON, Va., early Friday morning Eustace Smith, aged eighteen, surrendered himself to the jailor, stating that he had shot and killed his father. It is supposed that the boy, impelled by cruel treatment, fired at his father to frighten him, without any intention of destroying his life.

A HEAVY rain, extended all over Minnesota and the northern portion of Iowa, and continued cool weather remove all present apprehensions of a drought. Advices from all parts of the State just before the rain indicated that the crops had not suffered materially.

A DISPATCH from Odgen, U. T., says there was a terrible wind-storm along the Utah and Northern railway on Friday. A freight train near Round Valley, Idaho, consisting of sixteen cars, some loaded with silver bullion, were blown from the track and some of them carried a distance of twenty-five feet.

AN unoccupied two-story brick dwelling on Pike street, in Cincinnati, fell on Saturday evening, injuring four little children who were passing. Their names are Mary Welsh, six years, both legs broken; Mary Flaherty, seven years, one leg broken; Patrick Flaherty, six years, badly bruised, and Katie Doyle, five years, right knee fractured.

M. D. VINCENT, committed suicide by shooting himself early Friday morning. Two balls from a gun lodged in the neck, under the right ear. He was head of the firm of Vincent & Co., clothiers, who were recently sold out by Receiver Adrain. Graff, the absconding city treasurer, was also a member. Sickness and financial trouble were the cause. He was fifty years of age, and leaves a family.

WILLIAM LALLANCE and George Rhodes who were on a hunting and fishing trip, crawled into the drum house of the coal works at New Haven, near Pomeroy, O., on Thursday night, to sleep. About one o'clock Friday morning the house caught fire and burned to the ground, the sleeping men being consumed in flames. Their bodies were found in the morning, charred beyond recognition.

TOWANDA MARKETS.

REPORTED BY STEVENS & LONG,

General dealers in Groceries and Produce, Patton's