Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towanda, Pa., Thursday, May 22, 1879.

A WORD FOR FAIR PLAY.

Let us be just to the Legislature; for, to be just, is to wrong nobody. It is not, as some say, the worst Legislature that ever sat at Harrisburg. In some respects it is better than any that has convened in forty years; in others it is as good, and probably in none is it measurably worse. The habit into which men and journals have fallen, of voiding all their bile upon the Pennsylvania Legislature, is a bad habit. We shall easily agree that neither this nor any other Legislature is immaculate. Immaculate Legislatures will come into fashion when individual immaculateness is the rule. When the body politic becomes pure, its agencies will become pure. Our standard of comparison is false when we estimate the character of deliberative bodies. We pick out the cream of a neighborhood and measure mankind by that excellence. If a Legislature comes short of that standard—and it necessarily must—we scourge it with hard words. But that is not the way to average mankind. The safe standard of judgment in estimating popular agencies is to give the people credit for selecting as good an average as universal suffrage will admit. At all events, it is a fact, that our rulers and lawmakers fairly represent the average of popular intelligence, honesty and honor. Some may reply that if our deliberative assemblies fairly represent the average intelligence, honor and honesty of the people, then we are in a pitiable plight indeed. But that reply cannot alter facts. And whether our plight be pitiable or not, it is what it is, and unjust judgments cannot improve it.

The sitting Legislature is certainly entitled to the rare credit of taking a new departure from the ways of its predecessors. Whatever else can be said of it, this much is true—that it has had honesty and independence enough to defy the blandishments of an exceptionally unscrupulous and powerful lobby. Whatever may be said to its discredit, it cannot be charged that it is the subservient creature of the Pennsylvania Railroad Corporation. And perhaps it is the first Legislature that has convened in Harrisburg for a quarter of a century that has not made haste to obey the commands of that powerful corporation. Under the old system, before the era of the new Constitution, nothing could have prevented the passage of the Riots indemnity bill. There would not have been even a feint of resistance. With a Legislature of a hundred men, there would have been no difficulty in "fixing" the majority in the short space of two nights and a day. This Legislature has chosen not to seem to be under the control of corporations. It has stood by the people at large, and in so much deserves approbation instead of indiscriminate abuse.

Of course, we shall be reminded of the upscendy exhibition some members have made of themselves during the investigation into charges of corruption. If men choose to make fools of themselves, they cannot expect to be defended. We do not defend them. We have no apology to make for any man who offers himself for sale to the highest bidder, in the Legislature or out of it. There is no excuse for any man who engages in corrupt practices. If any man is guilty of trying to influence votes by the use of money, or by the promise of money, let the fact be established and then deal out the penalty of the law. It is certainly a startling thing that a Legislature should consent to an inquisition into its methods. A totally corrupt body, such as Irish commentators seem to consider this Legislature, would not tolerate an investigation of the nature of that now in progress. Not one man, and not half a dozen, however able and plucky, could force an investigation, against the will of the majority. There have been Legislatures whose methods would not have borne anything like the searching light now turned upon the methods of this. And though we can by no means bestow upon it an unalloyed commendation, it is only just to say that it does not lose by comparison with any of its predecessors during the last thirty years, at least, in either ability, integrity or knowledge of affairs. And as we have said before, it stands alone among its predecessors in its independence of corporate dictation. In dealing with an agent of the people, we must applaud when that agent stands by the people against the graspingness and greed of combinations in the interest of the few.

THE Democracy has again been rebuked in Congress. After suffering from two Presidential vetoes, they were suddenly confronted with the responsibility of putting themselves on record on the temperance question. The decision of a Democrat as a man "who takes his whisky straight," applies with unusual correctness to the average Democratic Congressman. So Mr. FRYE, when he offered a resolution creating a standing committee on Temperance, to which all petitions, &c., &c., on that subject might be referred, stirred up a hornet's nest and set the Democracy into a fearful commotion. It was a threatened innovation upon the habits and rights of the Democracy which was without precedent and not to be tolerated. So Mr. COX, seconded by Mr. KNOTT, moved to lay the resolution on the table. The Republicans and the Greenbackers, with a few Democrats not perfectly loyal to the traditions of the party, promptly sustained Mr. FRYE's resolution, and it was adopted. The foundations of Free Government, in the opinion of the Democracy, are placed in imminent peril by this assault upon the time-honored prerogatives of the Democrat. If he cannot be allowed his Bourbon or old rye without Congressional interference, it is an invasion of State Rights, and shows the centralizing and despotic despotism of the Republican party. It is worse than bayonets at the polls. The crisis demands that some safeguard shall be put in the appropriation bill which will protect the Democrat in all his bibulatory rights—or else refuse supplies for the carrying on of the government. What would the Union be worth, anyhow, without Free Whisky to the average Democrat?

THE verdict of the second Coroner's jury in the case of Colonel DWIGHT appears to have no effect upon the interested insurance companies. They announce their intention to continue the contest, and if life insurance was the business of these companies only, perhaps it would be wrong to complain if they make it unpopular. But while these companies and the heirs of Colonel DWIGHT are interested in this particular $200,000, there are many thousand people and many other companies interested in other sums of money great and small, that will be more or less effected by this contest. Two juries, after the most patient investigation, directed by the best medical and legal talent, have decided that death was from natural causes, and to the minds of reasonably honest people that ought to suffice. The companies interested are the United States Life Insurance Company, of New York; the Ætna, of Hartford; the New York Life Insurance Company; the Mutual Benefit, of New Jersey; the Travellers, Hartford; the National Life, of Vermont; the Northwestern, of Wisconsin; the Washington, of New York; Berkshire, Pittsfield, Mass.; Manhattan, New York; Massachusetts Mutual, Springfield; National Life, United States of America; Germania Home, Metropolitan, State Mutual, Worcester, Mass.; New England Mutual, of Boston, and the Homœopathic Mutual, of New York. The claim of the heirs is for amounts against these companies varying from $5000 to $20,000.

THE reckless and unscrupulous manner in which some newspaper correspondents deal with reputations, and the loose and dishonest way they have of inventing or circulating rumors affecting the character of individuals or officers, is forcibly exemplified by the late proceedings before the Legislative Investigating Committee at Harrisburg. The charge had been boldly made and published that certain newspapers in Philadelphia had been corruptly employed to favor the passage of the Riots Claims bill, by the payment of large sums of money. The editors and publishers were accordingly summoned to Harrisburg, and a hearing was had before the Committee on Thursday last. Not only was the charge not proven, but it was almost impossible to find the source of the slanderous imputation. The newspaper publishers which had published the insinuations and based thereon high-toned editorial remarks about profligacy and corruption, were unable to bring a particle of evidence to sustain their allegations, but were even unable to trace the charges to any responsible or respectable author. This trifling with the motives and reputation of men is quite too common, and should be discountenanced by all decent newspapers.

THE Boston *Herald* is a Democratic paper, but independent enough to admit that the sun might shine even though its party caucus resolved to the contrary. It very sensibly concludes that "in the contest between the Democratic Congress and the Republican President, the advantage is on the Republican side, simply because the jury to decide—the people of the North—do not feel that there is a real grievance in the use of the army, and therefore do feel that the Democrats have unnecessarily raised the issue. For this reason, though the President might sign the last bill without danger to the country, his refusal to sign it will not make any political capital for the Democrats in the North, where it is most needed."

ON Friday last, JOHN J. WEST was executed at Boonville, Mo., and HENRY DAVIS, HENRY T. ANDREWS and LEWIS CARLTON, at Hillsboro', North Carolina. In the case of three of these persons the rope used was too long, and a horrible scene took place, the nearly insensible persons being led upon the scaffold a second time. At Hillsboro', a terrific thunder storm raged during the hanging, making the scene wild and awful. If the death penalty cannot be abolished, certainly some more certain and humane mode of extinguishing human life can be employed than the unreliable and barbarous manner in which we strangle people to death. The garote or gullotine is merciful and humane in comparison with the bungling methods we employ.

ALMOST every state has on its statute books what are called Sunday laws, inflicting penalties for violating the Sabbath. Most of these laws are never enforced, but lately there seems to have arisen a disposition to put them in force. Last week the police of Reading, by order of Mayor TYSON, notified the proprietors of all stores usually kept open on Sunday that they must positively close next Sunday. The Mayor has expressed his determination to do all in his power to prevent open violation of the Sunday laws. The matter is being discussed in the local papers, and the feeling seems to be against the Mayor.

THE Governor has vetoed the bill authorizing the appointment of women prison inspectors. Not that he is not kindly inclined to such officers, but their appointment is already vested in the discretion of the Courts, and the bill under consideration would limit their powers to the women's department, while already the privilege, if not the right, of freely visiting all parts of the prisons is extended to the Sisters of Charity and committees of other charitable and religious societies, who have at all times access to the cells of female prisoners.

JUDGE JENKIN's charge to liquor sellers in Perry county opens a wide reach for offenses under the liquor law. He said that if a landlord sold a bottle of liquor to a sober man, and that man gave it to people of known intemperate habits, or to minors, they (the land ord so selling) were liable under the law for the penalty. If this is sound law, the business of the landlord is indeed a risky one, so far as fines and imprisonment are involved.

THE Commissioner of Pensions is vigorously pushing forward the work of adjusting applications for arrears of pensions. Up to date 1,600 cases have been disposed of and the work is progressing at the rate of seventy-five cases per day. Up to date 130 cases from the district which includes Philadelphia and that portion of the State east of the mountains have been disposed of and the disbursements upwards of $30,000.

THE tide of emigration has again set in. The arrival of emigrants are quite up to those of any previous year. The steamers are bringing from five hundred to one thousand each trip, and the numbers are constantly increasing. A large proportion of the arrivals are Scandinavians, and their destination is the West and Northwest. None go South. They are a hardy, industrious, frugal people, and will prove valuable citizens.

BEN BUTLER is accumulating bricks for another campaign. At least the Boston *Traveler*, which ought to know, says: "Those who have been speculating as to whether General BUTLER will or will not run again for Governor, next fall, may cease their speculations. He will run."

DEATH OF JUDGE PACKER.

The End of a Useful and Honorable Life.

Hon. ASA PACKER died at his Philadelphia residence, May 17th, at 10:20 P. M., from the effects of a severe cold contracted in the fall. He was confined to his house for about three weeks, from exhaustion produced by a loss of muscular power, consequent upon deterioration of the blood. His symptoms soon became alarming, but nearly two weeks ago the physicians thought he had passed the crisis. He seemed to be improving until about noon on Monday last, when he suffered a relapse, and for some hours his death was looked for momentarily. He rallied, however, on Tuesday, and seemed to be gaining strength until three o'clock Saturday morning, when he began to sink rapidly and continued to grow weaker until at eight o'clock he spoke his last word, and from that time until his death he was entirely unconscious. He died surrounded by his family and friends. His funeral took place at Mauch Chunk, on Tuesday, and was largely attended by railroad officials and others, who mourned with heartfelt sorrow the loss of a man who was universally recognized as a worthy and valuable citizen.

In this brief notice of Judge PACKER we desire to pay our tribute of respect to his high character for integrity, his indomitable energy, and his far-reaching sagacity as a business man. Those who had the pleasure of knowing him, will remember the cordiality and sincerity of his friendly greeting, his unassuming manner, and his clear, concise and sensible utterances. In his rise and at the summit of his successful career, he was a man to whom the young men of the day could be pointed as worthy of their notice and imitation. His rapid and enormous accumulation of wealth was not smirched by an instance of wrong doing, nor of extortionate or doubtful propriety. He wronged no man; but judging by cool-headed and clear-minded calculation what enterprises would bring him successful results, he enjoyed his success feeling that he had not profitted by the losses of others. His private life was exemplary; his benefactions noble; his hospitality refined and generous. Though past the time of life allotted by the psalmist, such a man cannot pass away without creating the regret that his useful and honorable life could not have been spared a little longer, that he might have seen the full realization of all his plans and the full fruition of his large benefactions.

A brief sketch of his early life, his struggles and his successes, will be of advantage to the young men of the country. ASA PACKER was born at Mystic, Connecticut, December 29, 1805. His parents were poor and his early education was confined to what was taught in the rude district schools of those days. At the age of seventeen he started out to seek his fortune. Carrying over his shoulder a small bundle containing all his worldly possessions, a few simple articles of clothing, the plucky lad walked the entire distance from his birth place to Brooklyn, Susquehanna county, in this State. After weeks of weary marching he arrived in Brooklyn, at the house of his cousin, EDWARD PACKER. The latter was a house carpenter, and with him ASA learned that trade and became a first-rate workman. When the time of his apprenticeship was out he went to New York, where he worked at his trade for a year. He did not like the city, however, and returned to Susquehanna county and settled in Springville township. There he worked at his trade and there, on the 23d of January, 1828, he was married to a poor farmer's daughter, SARAH M. BLAKSLEE, who survives him. They were married according to the rites of the Episcopal Church, in the parlor of the little inn, kept by Mrs. BARNES, the bride's sister, at Dimmock Four Corners, Susquehanna county. The young couple spent the next four years in farming, having rented a farm which had formerly been worked by Mrs. PACKER's father. While Mr. PACKER plowed and sowed and gathered the not over-abundant crops, Mrs. PACKER milked the cows and administered the household affairs with cheerfulness, energy, neatness and economy. But the crops were poor and markets distant, and at the end of four years they were as poor as when they began. In the winter of 1833, hearing that men were wanted to run coal boats on the Lehigh Canal, Mr. PACKER hitched his one horse to a jumper and drove to Mauch Chunk, where he made an engagement for the summer, and went home to settle up his affairs. In the spring he returned to Mauch Chunk, walking as far as Tunkhannock, where he boarded a raft and rode to Berwick. He finished the rest of the journey on foot, and at once became the commander of a canal boat. He soon afterward contracted for another boat, which he placed in charge of his brother-in-law, JAMES I. BLAKSLEE. During the summer he moved his family to Mauch Chunk, where his home has since been. At the end of two years he was able to retire with some capital from active participation in the boating business, but retained an interest therein. He bought a small store, putting Mr. BLAKSLEE in as manager, while he engaged in canal boat building. He was prosperous both in the store and the boat yard. In a few years he placed in his store at one time a stock of goods which cost him $25,000, which was unprecedented in that region in those days. He took large contracts for building locks on the upper Lehigh, which he finished in 1839, with large profits. Mr. PACKER was then counted a rich man. In partnership with his brother, ROBERT, in the following year, he took heavy contracts from STOCKTON & STEVENS, of New Jersey, for building boats at Pottsville, to be constructed for the direct shipment of coal to New York. It took three years to complete these contracts. Mr. PACKER then engaged in mining and shipping coal from the Nesquehoning and other mines, and thenceforward uninterrupted prosperity attended him.

In 1852 Judge PACKER took the contract for building what is now known as the Lehigh Valley road from Mauch Chunk to Easton, and after difficulties which would have daunted any ordinary man, completed the contract, afterwards extending the road to Wilkes-Barre, buying the North Branch Canal and connecting with the Erie road at Waverly, and securing also connections with the New York Central by the Geneva, Ithaca and Sayre road, and to Lake Ontario by the Southern Central, and also building an independent outlet for its coal trade to New York by the Easton and Amboy road. These great enterprises were brought about by his sagacity and courage, and though their great value has been somewhat disturbed by the financial distress of the past few years, yet they are destined soon to be an evidence of his forethought. He owned twenty five per cent. of the entire capital stock of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, besides large private interests in coal and iron. His estate is estimated all the way from ten to twenty millions of dollars.

Judge PACKER was the founder of the Lehigh University, which was formally opened September 1, 1867. His original endowment was $500,000, and he has since made very liberal donations. Politically a Democrat, he was not an ultra partisan, and a man of his character and influence could hardly keep apart from the political arena. He held several local positions, was twice elected to Congress, and was the Democratic candidate for Governor at the election when Governor GEARY was successful by a small majority. He was not, however, an aspirant for office, and his railroad business was more congenial to his feelings. No political opponent ever breathed a word against his character, or said an unkind word of him personally.

Judge PACKER and his venerable wife celebrated their golden wedding at their Mauch Chunk residence, on the 23d of January, 1878. She survives him, and he leaves two sons, ROBERT A. PACKER and HARRY E. PACKER, both holding important offices in the service of the Company, and one unmarried daughter. His loss will be severely felt by his family and friends, and by a large number who only knew of his kindness and his unassuming and unostentatious benevolence. The world is all the better for such men as ASA PACKER; his example will be in bright contrast to the over-reaching and sordid extortion which mar the history of so many rich men—and few men could have departed this life who would have been more sincerely mourned, or whose loss will be more deeply felt.

CONGRESS.

Friday:—In the Senate, Mr. Eaton made a long speech on the Legislative bill; Mr. Conkling replied, and there was a lively debate between the Senator and Mr. Voorhees; Mr. Blaine stated that he would reply to some remarks of Mr. Eaton at an early day. In the House, Mr. Frye called for the appointment of a committee on the alcholic liquor traffic: The Democrates generally opposed the appointment of such a committee but the resolution of Mr. Frye was adopted; next Tuesday was set apart for the bill on contagious diseases among cattle; considerable discussion took place on the Warner Silver bill; the Mill amendment was defeated, but nothing further was accomplished.

Saturday:—In the Senate the Legislative bill was again disqussed on Saturday; the debate took a political turn, and animated colloquies occurred, in which Mr. Conkling, Mr. Saulsbury and Mr. Windom took part. In the House, the bill concerning the removal of causes from State Courts to Federal Courts was debated by Mr. McLane, of Maryland (Dem), who spoke in favor of the bill, and Mr. Urner, of Maryland (Rep.), who spoke against it; the Warner Silver bill was taken up; the discussion was a long one; a large number of members took part in it; an inflationist amendment offered by Mr. Ewing was adopted by the decided vote of Speaker Randall; the Springer proposition, to which it was an amendment, was then defeated; the Belford amendment was defeated; General Garfield spoke in opposition to the bill; the House adjourned.

Monday:—In the Senate, reports were presented from Secretary Sherman on the direct taxes still due to the Government from eleven Southern States, and on the quantity of coin in the Treasury; the Legislative bill was taken up, and Mr. Blaine occupied the most of the time of the Senate with an aggressive speech, which called up Mr. Eaton, Mr. Bayard and Mr. Vance in reply; the debate was animated to the close; it was agreed that the political part of the Legislative bill should be voted on to-day; the rest of the bill was disposed of. The House was not in session.

LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, May 19, 1879.

An important railroad lease was concluded last week by which the Reading Railroad Company acquired possession of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, the Bound Brook road and all the lateral branches for a period of 990 years from the first of May of the present year. What effect this arrangement will have upon the Lehigh Valley remains to be seen. So far as the Philadelphia market or outlet is concerned, it leaves the Lehigh Valley at the mercy of Mr. Gowen. It also gives the Reading a direct route to New York, and brings it more directly in competition with the Pennsylvania road. It is a bold move for a bankrupt corporation, but it may prove very advantageous to the Reading.

The festive strawberry festival is already in order here, and those who are disposed to indulge in this mild form of dissipation, do have their choice of a dozen different localities where they obtain the blushing strawberry and the arctic cream, and thereby aid sundry benevolent and religious purposes.

Decoration Day will be more generally observed than usual this year. The various Posts of this city to whom special duties have been assigned, are busily at work arranging for the ceremonies, and some of them will be of a very imposing character.

The members of the Soldiers and Sailors' Colony, which recently left this city for Kansas, send word back advising those thinking of going West to wait until times become better. The majority of the colonists found such poor prospects that they are getting ready to return East.

It is stated in the papers that Gen. W. W. H. Davis and Mr. Michener, of Doylestown, will start at an early day upon a footpad trip through the coal regions. They expect to escape the penalties of the new tramp law by wearing good clothes, will out-walk Weston and, in the course of time, end the campaign way up in Bradford County. When these gentlemen reach your county, your people should be careful not to mistake them for members of the peripatetic and predatory bands with whose daily visits they are so familiar—for by the time they make your county their "good clothes" will hardly be a distinguishing mark.

An old man, named Alexander Barney, who had been suffering rheumatism for twenty-five years, swallowed seventy-five bottles of a remedy which his doctor, Joseph P. Fitler, M. D., furnished him under a written guarantee of cure. When Barney found he was not cured, he brought suit to get his money back. The case was tried before Judge Pierce, and the jury returned a verdict for the full amount claimed with interest, to wit, $106.69.

Your readers will probably read some remarkable instances of the sagacity of rats, when they were in quest of food, but we can hardly credit the rodents with a malicious intent when as we are told in the newspapers that Benjamin Hendrix, of East Coventry, Chester County, put some rat poison in his cellar to kill rats, the latter, instead of eating, smeared the poison over a cake of cheese near by. At breakfast, a few days ago, Mr. Hendrix, his son Aaron, and Mrs. Aaron Hendrix, were taken violently ill. They had eaten from the cheese. All recovered.

The following may be taken with as many gains of allowance as the reader pleases: Some time ago G. W. Hastings, a conductor on the Delaware railroad, tried to pull a gun out from the debris of a train wreck, when the gun was discharged, wounding him in the hand. The hand was amputated and buried at Dover where the accident happened. One day recently Hastings, who lives in Wilmington, felt pain in the spot where his hand would be had it not been cut off. He clearly felt that the hand was cramped and became possessed of an inordinate desire that it should be straightened. He accordingly sent to Dover and had the hand taken up. Sure enough the buried hand was cramped. It was straightened out and reburied, and now Mr. Hastings feels relieved. This is related to a Dover lawyer over Hastings' signature.

The Earl of Caithness and his son, Lord Berridale, were passengers on the Indiana last week. They looked like ordinary mortals, only more so, and are extensively lionized by the "tuft hunters" of this city, who are ambitious of having had the distinction of entertaining a live lord.

Last summer one of the sea lions on exhibition at the Zoological Garden climbed over the fence around the enclosure, and escaped to the river. Yesterday afternoon, at high water, while several Philadelphia fishermen were engaged in shad fishing in the Delaware, below Marcus Hook, they caught in their seine a large male sea lion, nearly four feet in length. The boat containing the fishermen was anchored in the middle of the river, and while hauling in the net a great commotion was observed in the water just below the surface. They continued to draw in the net, and at times found that it was tearing. Finally, after a great deal of exertion, the seine was safely drawn into the boat, when it was discovered that the sea lion was entangled in the meshes, and had torn a large gap in it, allowing a large number of shad to escape. In order to save the seine from destruction the sea lion had to be killed, one of the fishermen despatching the animal by hitting him in the head with a boat hook.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Special Correspondence of the REPORTER.

HARRISBURG, May 17.—In the House on Monday evening, the 12th instant, the General Revenue bill was taken up as the special order, when Col. Davis, chairman of the committee of Ways and Means, offered an amendment to the bill, providing for the taxation of oil at the rate of ten cents per every forty-two gallons of crude petroleum, and providing the manner of collecting the tax. After a brief discussion and an agreement that the bill should maintain its place on the calendar, it was laid over to have the amendment printed. The House then proceeded to the consideration of appropriation bills on second reading, and the act appropriating $600,000 to the middle penitentiary at Huntingdon coming up, a lengthy debate ensued, occupying nearly the whole session. A motion to indefinitely postpone was voted down (91 nays to 50 yeas), when the bill, amended so as to appropriate $200,000, payable in two years, was passed second reading by a vote of 81 yeas to 54 nays.

At the morning session of the Senate on Tuesday, the 13th instant, the following bills were passed finally: Senate bill to extend the jurisdiction of Courts of Common Pleas in cases of *quo warranto*; Senate bill relating to the collection of township rates and levies; House bill to regulate the compensation of auditors and commissioners appointed by the Court. [It provides that the maximum compensation of auditors and commissioners appointed by the Court to audit the accounts of administrators, executors, etc., to make distribution of the proceeds of sheriff's or assignee's sale, shall not exceed ten dollars for each day necessarily engaged, unless the Court, for special reasons shown, shall allow a higher rate, not to exceed fifteen dollars per day.] Also, House bill relating to the sale of the property of bridge companies. At the afternoon session the following bills passed finally: House bill regulating proceeding against attorneys-at-law in this Commonwealth; House bill to regulate the fees of justices of the peace and constables of the several counties of this Commonwealth; House bill to provide additional remedies for the unlawful removing or injuring of any breakwater or embankment along property fronting on any river or stream within this Commonwealth; House bill granting an annuity and a gratuity to James Osterhout, of Susquehanna county, late a member of Company F, 141st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers; Senate bill to authorize the courts of quarter sessions to change the names of townships. House bills noted as having passed the Senate, or Senate bills as having passed the House, go to the Governor for his approval. The Senate passed a resolution in the morning providing for the final adjournment of the Legislature on the 29th of May, and sent it to the House, where it was amended to read the 13th of June, and sent back to the Senate. The Senate refused to concur, of which action the House was notified, when the further consideration of the subject was postponed there for the present.

In the House on Tuesday morning, the 13th instant, the anti-discrimination bill was defeated by a vote of 87 yeas (14 less than the constitutional majority) to 74 nays. The General Revenue bill coming up, an amendment offered by Mr. Nakel, of Lehigh, to make the tax five cents per barrel was adopted, the House adjourned, and the subject went over.

In the Senate on Wednesday Senator Cooper, chairman of the committee on Finance, called up the general appropriation bill on second reading, and at his suggestion the amount fixed in the first section for legislative expenses was reduced from $595,000 to $530,000, a subsequent section providing for the increased sum necessary. Some progress was made on the bill, but it is still pending.

The House on Wednesday morning resumed the consideration of the amendment to the General Revenue bill taxing oil, and after considerable discussion and some excitement, the amendment of Mr. Davis, as amended, making the tax on oil five cents per barrel, was defeated—yeas 69, nays 106. Mr. Nakel then moved to reconsider the vote adopting the section imposing a tax of three cents per ton on coal, which was agreed to. The same gentleman then moved to amend the section by reducing the tax per ton from three cents to one cent. He said it was just as fair to exempt the coal interest as the oil interest, and he pleaded for the poor miner in the same manner as the gentlemen pleaded for the poor producer. It was not fair to tax one industry and not another. This amendment elicited considerable discussion, pending the consideration of which the House adjourned. The session of the Senate on Thursday morning was consumed in considering and disposing of Mr. Jones' "religious liberty" bill, which was the special order for that day. This bill exempts those who observe the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath from the penalties of the law of 1794, and on the vote being taken it was lost—yeas 21 (five less than the constitutional majority), nays 17. Senator Davies was necessarily absent, but had he been present, would have voted in the negative. This is the fourth session in succession that this bill has been defeated.

The Governor returned to the House on Thursday the following bills without his approval: To encourage the destruction of foxes, wild cats, etc., in Snyder county; authorizing the appointment of women prison inspectors. The veto was sustained in both instances, but the women prison inspectors bills received 57 affirmative votes to 91 nays, on the question, "Shall the bill pass notwithstanding the Governor's veto?"

In the Senate on Friday morning a concurrent resolution was passed and sent to the House, asking information from the Superintendent of Public Printing as to the cost of printing, binding, etc., for the Legislature during the year 1879, and the estimated cost for 1880. This was offered by Senator Ermentrout with a view, as he said, to obtain such information as would enable the Legislature to act intelligently when voting on the sections of the appropriation bill appropriating money for this purpose. A number of bills were passed second reading.

Both Houses adjourned to meet on Monday evening. CUSSEWAGO.

Presbyterians in Council.

The Presbyterian General Assembly met in annual session at Saratoga, N. Y., at eleven o'clock Thursday morning. The Rev. F. L. Patton, of Chicago, the Moderator of the last Assembly, preached the opening sermon. It was a sharp presentation of the doctrine of the incarnation of the Son of God, and in opposition to the views of Unitarians. After the roll call of Commissioners, the Assembly proceeded to elect a Moderator. The Rev. Henry Darling, of Albany; the Rev. Dr. Henry H. Jessup, of the Syrian Mission; William E. Dodge, of New York, and the Rev. Dr. E. F. Hatfield were nominated. On the nomination of Mr. Dodge, the question was raised as to the eligibility of a Ruling Elder to the place of Moderator. After some debate the question was laid on the table. The number of votes cast was 172, of which the Rev. Dr. Jessup received 275, which, being a majority, he was declared elected. The Rev. Dr. Darling received 150 votes, W. E. Dodge 11, and the Rev. Dr. Hatfield 35. W. F. Beatty, E. H. Bulkley, Dr. Condit, and Dr. Clelland were elected Temporary Clerks. In the evening the Lord's Supper was celebrated, the Rev. Dr. F. L. Patton presiding, and addresses were made by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Creigh and the Rev. Dr. Herman C. Riggs.

Friday afternoon the Rev. Dr. McLean spoke for twenty minutes in behalf of the American Bible Society. In the course of his remarks he stated that the Society had distributed thirty-six million Bibles in sixty-three years; also that a new press put in during the last year prints one Bible per minute. Rev. Dr. Prime offered a resolution, commending the Bible Society and calling on William E. Dodge to give further details of the busines of the Society. A resolution offered by Rev. Dr. Calkins, of Buffalo, was adopted, directing that a special committee be constituted, consisting of one or two members from each synod, to be chosen by the commissioners present, to consider all overtures on the subject of representation and report on or before May 21.

STATE NEWS.

THERE are in Pennsylvania 23 Baptist associations, 549 churches and 63,559 members.

PENNSYLVANIA has the largest number of post-offices of any of the States, having 3618 offices on March 1, 1879.

THERE were 268 wells completed in the oil region during April, producing 6653 barrels, and 475 wells are now being drilled.

THE Pennsylvania Railroad Company will not suffer any of their tenants in Pittsburg to sell liquor.

CLARENCE ROBERTSON, a miner, while descending into the Pennsylvania Coal company's No. 12 shaft, at this place Friday afternoon, fell off the carriage and was instantly killed.

THE total valuation of property in Luzerne county, as returned by the assessors amounts to $17,031,105. The number of taxables in the county is thirty-five thousand six hundred and fifty-three.

AUGUST GEISLER, aged 50 years, a native of Germany, but for many years a resident of Bustleton committed suicide Saturday by taking arsenic. He had been drinking for some time. He leaves a wife and several children.

A LARGE double breaker and saw-mill, owned by A. Pardee & Co., Hazelton situated on the estate of A. S. and E. Roberts, and all the machinery, including two stationary engines were totally destroyed by fire Friday night, entailing a loss of $25,000.

JOHN and Robert Boas, miners, working in the Glen Iron Company's mines, two miles from Easton, were buried 100 feet beneath the surface Saturday morning by the caving in of the ore-washing pond. Robert was taken out dead shortly afterwards, but John's body has not yet been reached.

THERE was a Turners' Festival at Streng's Hall, Pittston, Sunday, and one of the members, who came from Scranton, fell from the horizontal bar on which he was exercising and struck on his head. When taken up he was insensible and remained in that condition. It is thought that his injuries will prove fatal.

The scarlet fever is raging at East Lemon, Wyoming county to an alarming extent. All of E. E. Stanton's children, six in number have had it; two of whom have died and one other lies in a critical situation. The remainder are convalescing. Mrs. John Wringley and Mrs. Theron Ball are suffering with the same disease.

WEDNESDAY morning May 14th, while Mary Scanlon, aged ten, was walking on the track of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, near Shenandoah, she saw a torpedo attached to the rail, and not knowing what it was, she struck it with a stone, when it exploded tearing the flesh from her arms and leg. Her injuries, though serious, are not thought to be fatal.

GENERAL NEWS.

HENRY J. CROSS, city treasurer, of Salem, Mass., committed suicide Friday morning by hanging himself to his office railing. Insanity from overwork is the alleged cause.

BROTHERTON, aged 68 years of Albany, N. Y., who murdered his son-in-law in 1877 and whose case has since been in the courts, was Friday sentenced to be hanged on the 11th of July next.

THE village of Unadil'a, in Broome county, near Binghamton, was partially destroyed by fire Sunday May 11th. Nine stores, a bank, four dwelling houses and three barns were entirely consumed. Loss, $30,000; insurance $25,000.

CAPTAIN EADS has made application for an additional payment of five hundred thousand dollars, claiming that he has opened a channel at the mouth of the Mississippi twenty-five feet deep and two hundred feet wide. The matter is under consideration in the War department.

AT Jamestown, N. Y., May 14th, while several men were repairing the bridge on the Lake road, the structure gave away, falling upon George Reed, a contractor, and Swan Johnson, causing a concussion of the brain of the former and breaking the back of the latter. Their injuries are probably fatal.

A DESPATCH from Cincinnati, May 19th, says as Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Price were riding near Brooklyn, Mich., their carriage was upset over an embankment. Mrs. Price received injuries from which she died. Mr. Price's skull was fractured, which will probably prove fatal.

The roof of a large building on State street Chicago, on which a number of men were working, gave away Friday morning. Newton Nelson, Charles Larson John Richards and John Linden, were very badly injured, some of them probably fatally. Other workmen were injured slightly.

WALLACE WILKERSON, who shot Baxter, in Tintic, about two years ago, was executed at Bravo City, Utah May 19th, at noon. He evinced great nerve, and sat in a chair facing three guns distance about thirty feet, without either bandaging or closing his eyes. At a signal from the marshal three concealed marksmen fired. He leaped from the chair exclaiming "Oh, God!" fell forward on his face, and continued writhing and breathing a few gasps for twenty-seven minutes, when the physicians pronounced him dead.

WOMEN NEVER THINK!—If the crabbed old bachelor who uttered this sentiment could but witness the intense thought, deep study and thorough investigation of women in determining the best medicines to keep their families well, and would note their sagacity and wisdom in selecting Hop Bitters as the best and demonstrating it by keeping their families in perpetual health, at a mere nominal expense, he would be forced to acknowledge that such sentiments are baseless and false.

TOWANDA MARKETS.

REPORTED BY STEVENS & LONG,

General dealers in Groceries and Produce, Patton's Block, corner Main and Bridge Streets.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY, 21, 1879.

	PAYING.	SELLING.
Flour per bbl	5 25@ 6 25	6 75@ 7 00
Flour per sack	1 20@ 1 50	1 40@ 1 75
Corn Meal per 100 lbs	1 00@	1 10@ 1 20
Chop Feed	1 00@	1 10@ 1 20
Wheat, per bush	95@ 1 00	1 00@ 1 10
Corn	1 @45	50@ 55
Rye	45@50	55@ 60
Oats	32@30	32@ 35
Buckwheat	35@	40@ 50
Clover seed		4 50 5 00
Timothy, western		1 60@ 1 75
Beans, 82 lbs	1 00@ 1 50	1 25@ 2 00
Pork, fat cut	6@ lbl.	12 00
Dressed hogs	4@5	6@ 10
Hams	5@8	7
Shoulders	5	7
Lard	7@ 7	10@
Butter, tubs	12@ 14	14@ 15
Rolls	10@ 11	12@ 15
Eggs, fresh	10@	12
Cheese	10@ 11	12½
Green apples, bush	60	60@ 70
Potatoes, per bushel	70 @ 80	85@ 90
Onions	1 00@1 00	1 25@ 1 25
Beeswax	22	25

CORRECTED BY DAYTON & BRO.

Hides	6@6½
Veal skins	50@60
Deacons	20@30
Sheep Pelts	1 00@1 25
Tallow	05@05
Wool	22@25

New Advertisements.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate of *Delmon Messing*, late of the township of Smithfield, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and all persons having claims against said estate must present them duly authenticated for settlement.

ANDREW MESSING, Administrator.

East Smithfield, Pa., May 20, 1879, 51-w6*

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate of Luke Dolan, late of the township of Herrick, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and all persons having claims against said estate must present them duly authenticated for settlement.

W. A. WETMORE, Administrator

Herrickville, Pa., May 19, 1879. 51-w6.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.—In the estate of Dennis Driscoll, deceased.

The undersigned, an Auditor appointed by the Orphans' Court of Bradford County, to pass upon the exceptions filed to the first and partial account of J. L. Elsbree, Administrator of the estate of Denis Driscoll, deceased, will attend to the duties of his appointment on FRIDAY, the 27th day of JUNE, A.D. 1879, at 9 o'clock A. M., at the Exchange Hotel in the borough of Athens, when and where all persons interested must attend.

J. F. SHOEMAKER, Auditor.

May 22, 1879, 51-w4.

CATARRH.

IS CURED BY

ELY'S CREAM BALM

AND

HAY FEVER IS RELIEVED BY ITS USE.

A Household Remedy. Effectual and Simple. Free from Injurious Drugs. Application Easy and Agreeable.

The effect is truly magical, giving instant relief and a cure rarely follows.

It is a local remedy, obviating the disagreeable use of liquids and snuffs, that only excite and give temporary relief.

CREAM BALM has the property of reducing local irritation. Sores in the nasal passages are healed in a few days. Headache, the effect of Catarrh, is dispelled in an almost magical manner.

ASK YOUR DRUGGIST FOR CIRCULAR.

Price 50c. ELY BROTHERS, Owego, N. Y.

For sale by CLARK B. PORTER, Ward House, Druggist.

Interesting Item.

Messrs. A. J. INGOLS & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.: Gentlemen—I send so much relief from using the sample bottle of Ely's Cream Balm, for Catarrh, that I purchased three bottles of large size, which has almost cured me. I had suffered with catarrh for ten years; at times the pain would be so bad that I was obliged to stay in the house and send for a doctor. I had entirely lost all sense of smell. The Cream Balm has worked a miracle for me. I shall persevere in its use, for I am convinced it will effect a cure.

C. S. HALEYS, Binghamton, N. Y.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE.—In Bankruptcy. By vir