Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towanda, Pa., Dec. 16, 1880.

SECRETARY SHERMAN has remitted the duties on SARAH BERNHARDT's things—probably for the reason she did not bring anything with her that had not been in use.

THE coffee business needs settling. A syndicate formed to control the trade has proved disastrous in its operation to two of the principal members, who have suspended.

COLONEL MCCLURE has departed on a Southern trip, and is writing letters to the *Times*. His tarry at Washington was not long, but still long enough to tell General GARFIELD just exactly the proper course to pursue, when he becomes President. As an Oracle, the Colonel takes the cake.

OF course, the Harrisburg *Patriot* don't want Mr. GROW for United States Senator. But that is no reason why it should habitually and falsely misrepresent his views upon the tariff. The *Patriot* is also an excellent judge of the Republicanism of any man; and it is very solicitous as to Senator CAMERON's interests. Mr. GROW can well dispense with its friendship, for he will be United States Senator despite its enmity.

A SITE for the World's Fair in New York has at last been obtained, but it is such a long way out of town that it will take the New Yorker almost as long to run out to the exhibition on local trains, as it would require to come to Philadelphia by the fast lines. The site is inland from Washington Heights and about eleven miles from the City Hall. It is said to be otherwise well adapted to exhibition purposes, comprising two hundred and fifty acres of level ground, with gas and water service already provided.

IN view of the contemplated retirement or resignation of several Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States and the prevailing opinion that one of the vacancies so created will be filled by a Pennsylvanian, a correspondent of the *Press* suggests the name of Hon. ULYSSES MERCUR, senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of this State, as that of one in every respect well fitted for the honored position, and as one upon whom the "judicial ermine" of Judge STRONG or any other retiring Judge could well fall. Although the names of several Pennsylvanians have been mentioned in connection with that position, none would reflect more credit upon this State than that of Judge MERCUR, a man who, on account of his long judicial life, is above all others calculated to fill it with honor to this State and to the country. It, however, is not necessary to write of so eminent a jurist, and one so well known for his clearness of thought and well-defined opinions. His elevation to the Supreme Court of the United States would give satisfaction to all, and no one would be more universally acceptable to the bar throughout the State than Judge MERCUR.

THE great Tammany Chief, JOHN KELLEY, was dethroned on Friday last, so far as office is concerned, by losing his place as Controller, Mayor COOPER having nominated ALLEN CAMPBELL for the position, who was promptly confirmed by the Board of Aldermen, the vote being thirteen for confirmation to eight in opposition. The affirmative vote was composed of four Republicans, five anti-Tammany Democrats, and four Tammany Democrats. The negatives were two Republicans and six anti-Tammany Democrats. With the nomination for Controller were sent in the names for other city offices, the Republicans being allowed a fair proportion. It will be noticed that four of Mr. KELLEY's former supporters deserted him, and voted for confirming the Mayor's nominees. Their action was denounced in the most abusive language by KELLEY at a meeting of the Tammany society; they were called Judases, and charges of bribery were made with the greatest freedom. The news of KELLEY's downfall, however, appears to have been received with great satisfaction everywhere, particularly by the Democrats, who see in the chief the source of unnumbered woes. It is said that TILDEN's hand can be seen in the result.

THE Report of the Secretary of the Treasury is the most important and interesting of the State papers which make up the budget of Executive information for Congressional guidance. It is full of figures and facts, but chary of recommendation. The reason of this is doubtless to be found in the fact that its author, as a member of an outgoing administration, chooses to deal with what has been done rather than what should be done. The proposed scheme for refunding the national debt has solid merit. The restriction of the maximum rate of interest to four per cent. upon bonds issued for this purpose is undoubtedly warranted by the excellent credit which the Government finds itself. There is every reason to believe that three or three and one-half per cent. bonds may be readily floated in the present condition of the money markets of the commercial nations. The solution of the silver question by coining silver dollars of equal value with gold dollars, thus re-establishing a double standard upon a new basis founded upon the present market price of silver bullion, is a more doubtful expedient. It is a question that should not be decided without full discussion, and, if possible, an international understanding. The proposition to stop the coinage of short-weight dollars will meet with general approval. The Secretary shows by a few telling figures the decline of our shipping, and how other nations have monopolized our ocean carrying trade. He also points out the several plans by which we may recover the ground we have lost; but as between free ships and subsidies he fails to indicate his choice. He is probably astute enough to see the difference between attempting to lift ourselves by our boot straps and giving to the commercial instincts of the nation an unfettered liberty of action.

THE senseless talk about electing General GRANT to the United States Senate by the Legislature of Pennsylvania undoubtedly has its origin with the same people who were so frightened at the idea of a Third Term, and so apprehensive on the subject of Cæsarism. All this discussion as to General GRANT's future, and the plans for providing for him, do not come from his friends, but from those who would create a sensation at the expense of the distinguished soldier. General CAMERON spoke the words of wisdom and friendship when he asked that the stupid talk of General GRANT's being in training for the Presidency in 1884, should be emphatically and unequivocally denied. The venerable ex-Senator says General GRANT is able to take care of himself, and can adapt himself to almost any situation that may arise. The constant treatment of General GRANT as if he was a pauper, who was in danger of starvation, and incapable of providing for himself, is not an act of friendship, and is calculated to lower him in the public estimation.

If wealthy friends see fit to bestow upon General GRANT a portion of their superfluous means, it is no business of the public. It is a matter between the generous donors and himself. But by far the most proper testimonial of the Nation's gratitude and appreciation of the distinguished services of General GRANT, would be for Congress to carry out the President's proposition, or to put him on the retired list of army, with rank and pay equivalent to that enjoyed by him before he was elected President. There would be a justice and propriety in that which would be recognized by every one, and would be a substantial acknowledgment which had no flavor of the poor house.

But Gen. GRANT is not eligible to the place of United States Senator from this State, and if he was no sane man would seriously entertain the idea of electing him. His true friends will insist that his name and fame shall be respected, and not made use of in connection with the propositions which are calculated, if not intended, to belittle the one, and becloud the other.

THE trial of BENJAMIN K. BORTREE, for the murder of his brother-in-law HENRY W. SHOUSE, of Easton, began at Honesdale, on the 6th inst. The trial attracted unusual interest, on account of the standing of the parties, and the manner in which the crime was committed. It will be recollected that the victim was sitting in the law office of WILLIAM H. DIMMICK, when BORTREE walked in, and drawing from his pocket a large pistol placed the muzzle of the weapon against SHOUSE's temple, firing two shots before any one could interfere, with fatal effect, as the wounded man was dead before medical help arrived. A jury was empanelled with some difficulty. The defense was that SHOUSE's unfairness towards BORTREE in money matters had caused the murderer's mind to give way, and that there was also hereditary insanity. Many witnesses have been examined, experts, neighbors and relatives, and the evidence as sanity were very conflicting, as is usual in such cases.

THE situation of the Senatorial contest in this State is at once striking and anomalous. There is no question as to where public sentiment points. No one doubts but that if the popular will was respected Mr. GROW would be supported by two-thirds or more of the Republican members of the legislature. For while nearly one-half of the members have received positive instructions to support him, in many other counties the expression of the public choice was such, that the obligation to vote for Mr. GROW is equally binding. And up to this time, his is the only name presented which the public recognize as being especially fitted for the place, or which is supported by popular sentiment among the masses. So clear and unmistakable is the popular demand for Mr. GROW's election, that it should be promptly acknowledged and acceded to by all. His unanimous election would be a proper acknowledgment of his distinguished and valuable service to the party, and a graceful recognition of the right of the people to express their preferences, a hearty concurrence in which would be creditable, and of immense advantage to the Republican party in the future.

In defiance of this marked and unmistakable public demonstration, and in opposition to the wishes of the people, there are symptoms of a desire, and possibly a scheme, having for its object, an attempt to thwart the popular will, and there are vague hints of plans to concentrate the opposition to Mr. GROW, upon this man and that man, as names are suggested which seem most available to do the work of effectually carrying out the plot. There are rumors and hints that Mr. GROW is to be defeated by some undefinable but omnipotent power which is greater than the people themselves.

No legitimate Republican methods can compass the defeat of Mr. GROW. It can only be brought about by improper and disreputable means; by the grossest treachery on the part of members of the legislature to their constituents, and by a profligacy which it is an insult to a Republican legislature for a moment to suppose can prevail. It is assumed, by those who talk so flippantly about members disobeying their instructions or disregarding the wishes of their constituents, that there is no integrity in the Republican members, and that they are to be manipulated into the violation of their promises. Such an assumption is a gross libel upon the the members of the legislature and a disgraceful reflection upon the good name of the Republican party. It does no credit to men that they should advance the dangerous and pernicious doctrine that the representative may set aside the plain and unequivocal instructions of his constituents, or act contrary to their expressed desires. Those who counsel or countenance such a course, are not only dishonest and corrupt, but they would lead the Republican party to swift and sure destruction.

Nor is the United States Senatorship the especial possession of a few men, nor the Republican party of Pennsylvania a close corporation. It is no time to make mistakes, nor count upon the compliance of the people with wrong doing because we have unitedly and triumphantly fought an active canvass. Because the people have manifested their preferences for United States Senator, is that any reason why their choice should be prejudiced, and his election antagonized? Wouldn't it be better and wiser to respect the will of the people, rather than to attempt by discreditable means to circumvent and defeat their desires? The one result would bring peace and concord; the other could not fail to produce dissatisfaction and inevitable disaster.

IT is greatly to be deprecated that men who claim to be the strong friends of, and aspire to be leaders in, the Republican party, should do anything to weaken it, and injure its interests and future prospects by an appeal to personal prejudice, or by an attempt to renew or create factional lines, which the past canvass should have completely obliterated. With this feeling strongly impressed upon us, we are pained to see the injudicious friends of Mr. GROW, in some few instances, basing the advocacy of his election to the United States Senate upon the assumption that his candidacy antagonizes any interest, or that his success is intended or would necessarily be construed to the rebuke of any suppositious clique or clan. So, on the other hand, there are superserviceable and indiscreet men claiming to be the especial friends of Senator CAMERON, who would, if possible, bring about a state of affairs that would force the Senator to take part in the contest, and who seek to excite prejudice and compel opposition to Mr. GROW under the false assumption that his election would in some mysterious way prejudice the political power and standing, and not be agreeable to the personal feelings, of Senator CAMERON. Both of these classes of professed friends, have ulterior objects to accomplish, we very much fear, and are neither actuated by an unselfish desire to promote the welfare of the Republican party, nor a sole purpose of advancing the political fortunes of the man they profess to champion.

The late Presidential canvass merged and welded into a solid organization those who had ever professed to advocate Republican measures. Past dissensions were buried, divisons reconciled, differences forgiven. Particularly in Pennsylvania was this the case, and all factional lines, if any remained, melted away, under the fervor and enthusiasm of the contest, and the brilliancy and satisfaction of the glorious result. There are no factions in the great Republican party of the State, and there will be none, if justice, honesty and a reasonable amount of good sense prevail in its councils, allowing the people to rule, without flagrant attempts to thwart their expressed desires. We deprecate and denounce all attempts to create faction and division in our ranks, no matter from whence they may come. Those who are attempting to stir up strife and contention on account of the Senatorial question, or who would excite factional feelings, deserve the reprobation of every true Republican. It is not true that Mr. GROW's election would be a blow aimed at Senator CAMERON, or that such a construction could be possibly put upon it. Those who would secure Mr. GROW's election, or who would throw impediments in his way, have neither authority so to say, nor is such assertion sustained by the truth. There is every reason to believe that Senator CAMERON, to say the least, has no objection to Mr. GROW as a colleague. Together they would represent Pennsylvania in the Senate in a manner which would redound to the credit of both, and prove advantageous to the best interests of the Commonwealth.

Speaking for ourselves, we protest against the dangerous and unjustifiable attempt to stir up factional feeling, by dragging Senator CAMERON in the question. Of course he has this same right as belongs to any citizen, to enjoy and express his personal preferences. If he has any preferences as to who shall be chosen, he certainly has not made them manifest, and we have every confidence that they will never be proclaimed except in a proper manner, nor urged offensively. And we have a right as one who has always stood as his friend to exclaim against the injudicious and improper use of his name by pretended friends, and we repudiate the claim that Mr. GROW's candidacy or his election has any reference to Senator CAMERON or can in any way compromise or injure him.

THE SENATORSHIP.

Special Correspondence of the Press.

HARRISBURG, December 10.—The only candidate for U. S. Senator who thus far appears to have any pronounced following in the State is the Hon. Galusha A. Grow. This fact needs no burnishing. His column appears to be unshaken, and the undecided attitude of his opponents adds to his strength daily. To the 55 Republicans who were elected with positive instructions to support him there have recently been added the 6 votes of Montgomery County, making 61, and these, together with the well-known friends of Mr. Grow among the State Senators holding over will, foot up at least 70 votes. Then there are several members who have not been instructed, but who are said to regard his candidacy with great favor, and among whom some well-informed persons claim he will find sufficient strength to carry the caucus and make the election on the first ballot. Of course this calculation is based on the presumption that the members instructed for Mr. Grow will carry out the express wishes of the various Nominating Conventions. There is no proof that they will do otherwise, and it is generally conceded that the incoming Legislature will be scrupulous in its regards for public opinion. It is stated that as soon as the anti-Grow people shall have concentrated on a candidate, an aggressive effort will be made to weaken his forces by getting some of his pledged supporters to disregard their instructions, under the pretext that the Nominating Convention did not represent the will of the people on this important question. The way to do this is to nominate several candidates who are prominent in Mr. Grow's strongholds and then unite upon the man who shall develop the most strength in such a go-as-you-please contest.

There is no such thing as a war between Mr. Grow and Senator Cameron, nor is there likely to be, much as this Democratic Mefistofele might desire such a spectacle. I have the most positive direct assurances on the part of Senator Cameron's intimate friends that he will take no part in the fight, and I am violating no confidence in stating that during a friendly interview with General Cameron himself this forenoon he assured me he had no choice for the Senatorship, and only hoped for the good of the State that the best man would win. In view of all these facts, the most impartial observer cannot help coming to the conclusion that the conditions favor Mr. Grow and that in all likelihood he will be elected to succeed Senator Wallace on the first ballot. J. E. B.

From the Erie District.

There is no doubt that the sentiment of Western Pennsylvania is overwhelmingly in favor of Hon. Galusha A. Grow. Representatives of counties which have declared for him will of course support Mr. Grow as long as he is a candidate.

Special Correspondence of the Scranton Republican.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—The absorbing question among the politicians from all parts of the State who flit in and out here, giving indications of the near approach of the Legislative session, is who shall succeed Wallace in the United States Senate. The announcement made by Senator Cameron, some time ago that he would take no part in the fight has left the opponents of Hon. Galusha A. Grow in a quandary, and puts them in the ungracious attitude of fighting for "pure cussedness" in the interests of nobody in particular. Senator Jack Herr, of Dauphin, who dropped in here a day or two ago has been interviewed by the *Press*, and thinks that Hoyt is the man upon whom the anti-Grow elements will eventually concentrate. He is not favorably disposed toward Mr. Grow whose "defection in 1872" he regards "as a grave political mistake because if he had succeeded then he would have destroyed the Republican party." This is very vague and specifies simply nothing, yet it furnishes a hint of the latest libel which Mr. Grow's enemies are circulating. They claim that in 1872 he talked, worked and voted for Greeley. This is as false as that other exploded slander which represented him as an anti-tariff man. During the campaign referred to Mr. Grow was in Texas and did not make a single political speech, neither did he work or vote for Greeley. It is rather a severe commentary on Mr. Grow's opponents that they can do nothing better than tell lies about him, and thus far they have been floundering around in a sea of uncertainty as to whom they shall "tackle to" when the real contest comes. Representative Hewit of Blair, who has the inside track for the speakership, has been quoted as opposed to Grow, but this is a mistake, as Mr. Hewit himself assures me he is not working and will not act in the interest of any Senatorial candidate. This of course strengthens his position materially. Were he a pronounced, or even a passive anti-Grow man he would undoubtedly antagonize a force that would prove fatal to his aspirations. As it is Mr. Grow is quite friendly to Hewit, which in itself is an indication that Hewit is not opposed to Grow.

THERE CAN BE NO CONTEST BETWEEN HOYT AND GROW.

Scranton Republican.

The contest cannot be between Hoyt and Grow unless, indeed, honor has quit high political places. It is well known here that at an interview between these gentlemen after the election in 1878, the Governor expressed his sense of obligation and gratitude to Mr. Grow for his distinguished and successful service in his behalf during the campaign. At that time the Governor bade Mr. Grow command him at any time. To this voluntary offer of support Mr. Grow promptly responded that he should what nothing until 1881, when, if the Legislature was Republican he should be a candidate for United States Senator. Governor Hoyt then pledged his support to Mr. Grow in the furtherance of his ambition, only qualifying his promise by saying that if Colonel Quay should be a rival candidate his obligations to him were such that it would neutralize his position. "In any other event," volunteered the Governor, "you can depend upon my active co-operation, Mr. Grow." The time for choosing a Senator to succeed Mr. Wallace is rapidly nearing. Colonel Quay is understood not to be a candidate. Will Governor Hoyt lead an onslaught upon his friend Mr. Grow?

From the Independent Republican, Mechanicsburg.

In choosing a successor to Mr. Wallace the Senators and Representatives of the dominant party should not be unmindful of the popular will, and if they fail to be guided by the popular will, which is asserting itself with an emphasis that cannot be mistaken, they will be recreant to their trusts. They should remember that they are but the servants of the people, who expect of them obedience when they demand the election of such an eminent statesman as the Hon. Galusha A. Grow. With such a distinguished son in the Senate Pennsylvania could feel proud and highly honored. Mr. Grow's past record as a servant of the people needs no fresh recital from this independent standpoint. We simply wish to give our hearty endorsement to his candidacy. During the canvass just closed he has been frequently heard on the stump clearly and intelligently defining his views upon the vital questions at issue, and he will go into the election at Harrisburg with nothing concealed that might compromise his availability. Through a long and useful life his connection with the politics of State or Nation has been free from taint or suspicion. His loftiest ambition has always been to serve the people, and the wisdom of his statesmanship was amply exemplified on the floor of Congress as a Representative during the great conflict for the preservation of the Union.

From the Altoona Tribune.

As to Mr. Grow's ability to fill the position of Senator from this great Commonwealth there can be no doubt. He entered public life as a member of the Thirty-second Congress in 1952, at the age of 26, as the successor of the late Hon. David Wilmot, and at once stepped to the front as one of the ablest members of that body and his voice was always heard in the defense of the great principles of his party and of the rights of the people. He was re-elected to the Thirty-third, Thirty-fifth, Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congresses, and in the latter he was elected Speaker on the 4th of July 1861, and many are yet familiar with the trying circumstances that surrounded that Congress, and with what distinguished ability Mr. Grow presided over the deliberations of that body. He is one of the three distinguished Pennsylvanians who have been called upon to preside over the deliberations of the national House of Representatives—F. A. Mulenberg, and the present speaker, S. J. Randall. If the present Legislature would see fit to elevate Mr. Grow to the Senatorship he would not only reflect credit on that body, but would give a more healthy tone and dignity to the statesmanship that should characterize that distinguished body, and place it high above personal motives and selfish ambition.

Arguing in the favor of Mr. Grow as the candidate of Northern Pennsylvania, the Pottstown *Gazette* says: "Mr. McKean for four years, and Mr. Wilmot for two years—six years in all—comprise the whole time in which Northern Pennsylvania has been represented in the National Senate. Six years out of over one hundred and eighty—6 in 180—is all that the great Northern Tier has had in the higher branch of Congress. They now ask for six years more, in the person of one who served ten years in the lower branch, and who, in his last year of service, received the highest possible commendation for his able and impartial services as Speaker."

PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

PHILADELPHIA, December 13, 1880.

There was a sale of imported Guernsey and Jersey cows and heifers at the Bazar last week, which was very successful, the prices realized averaging for cows $383 per head, for calves $210. The highest price paid was for a Guernsey cow, $875, by S. W. Ledyard, of Cazenovia, N. Y.

Chapman Biddle died Thursday at his residence, No. 1831 Pine street. Mr. Biddle was a prominent member of the Philadelphia Bar, and was engaged in many of the principal suits that have engrossed the attention of the courts in latter years. For a long time he was assistant counsel for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, a position he resigned in January.

President Hayes, with several members of his cabinet, dined with General Robert Patterson on Thursday. In the afternoon he spent some time at John Wanamaker's Grand Depot. He was greatly interested in the pneumatic tubes used for carrying the money to and from the cashiers. Wherever the President went the throng became thicker, and for the time all thoughts of the great bazar were banished.

The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge F. and A. M. of Pennsylvania, reports that there are at present 376 lodges. In 1879 there were 3,879 members, of whom 124 were dropped; 1,308 were admitted in 1879, and 2,125 resigned, died or were suspended, leaving a total at the beginning of this year of 34,978.

The first shad of the season has arrived. It did not swim up the Delaware, but came by rail from Savannah, and was caught by a Dock Street Commission merchant.

The effect of the cold weather of the past week has been to freeze up the streams and ponds in this vicinity, excepting the Delaware. The Schuylkill is frozen over, and the skaters are having a carnival. The Delaware is full of floating ice, somewhat impeding navigation. Those who use large quantities of ice are "making hay while the sun shines," and large quantities have been cut and stored. The quality is not first-rate, but it answers well for refrigeratory purposes.

The lunatic who imagines that he is the heir to some vast estate has turned his attention to this city. A fortune hunter living in Worcester, Massachusetts, impressed with the idea that he is heir to a large portion of the city of Philadelphia, wrote to the Register of Wills nearly a month ago to ascertain if the records of the Register of Wills' could throw any light on the subject. The latter was duly answered, and the Register received a second communication, signed by "W. B. Warner," stating that a "Colonel Seth Warner" leased a lot of land to the city of Philadelphia for the term of ninety-nine years. He said he had been informed that the land was situated in the heart of the city, and was covered with buildings; and further that the property was about to be divided among the heirs.

Policeman Edward Victor, of the Seventeenth district, fell dead at Tenth street and Washington avenue at four o'clock Friday afternoon while on the way to the police station with a prisoner. He is supposed to have died from heart disease, aggravated by the intense cold. Victor was an experienced policeman and leaves a widow and six children.

Medical Inspector Taylor has been investigating the matter of hay in the street cars, and has come to the conclusion that the practice is very prejudicial to the public health.

Colonel A. Wilson Norris was Friday nominated for Senator, to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Elliott from the Senatorial District of Philadelphia. Colonel Norris was born in Lewistown, Pa., served during the war of the rebellion, was taken prisoner twice, and was confined twelve months in rebel prisons. After the war he studied law, was private secretary to Governor Hartranft and is the present reporter of the decisons of the Supreme Court of the State, appointed by Governor Hartranft at the expiration of the term of P. Frazer Smith.

The stockholders of the Keeley motor, retain their confidence in him and the success of his enterprise, notwithstanding the long delay. He is still at work endeavoring to make the motor an accomplished fact.

Annie Kirtz, who was arrested for picking the pocket of a lady in a store on Eighth street, was given a hearing before Magistrate Smith, at the Central Station. The testimony showed that the defendant was seen acting in a suspicious manner and that she, when arrested, swallowed two bank notes before an officer, who was watching her, could prevent her doing it. She was held in $500 bail for a further hearing.

The political pot is not boiling to any fierce extent in this city, notwithstanding the fact that the citizens Committee of One Hundred hold occasional meetings to provide for the reforms which are so much desired. There seems to be a difference of opinion amongst the members of the Committee not only as to the proper course to be persued, but also in reference to consulting with the regular party organizations. The Republican City Committee have have made propositions to the Citizens' Committee looking to the making of acceptable nominations for city officers, and a consultation will probably take place. It is not likely, however, that an understanding will be had. There is a feeling, which is very general, amongst all intelligent citizens, favoring the re-election of Mayor Stokely. He has made an excellent Mayor, and made life and property as secure as is possible in any large city. It would be worse than folly to replace him by any untried and inexperienced man, and the property-holders and business men of the city fully realize the fact.

Who shall be United States Senator attracts some attention in this city, though it does not take the prominence that so justly belongs to it, because the members of the Legislature are so largely governed in their action by extraneous and controlling influences. There are, however, quite a number outspokenly in favor of Mr. Grow, and he is favorably considered by many more who would be glad to vote for him if they were allowed to do so by parties to whom they feel bound by personal obligations. There is some disposition to honor a citizen of Philadelphia, but no name has been suggested which will combine the vote of the city members, or has the remotest chance of success. It would not be surprising if in the end Mr. Grow received the support of a large majority of the city delegation. His success now appears to be ensured, without aid from this city, as his opponents have abandoned the hope that the members would disobey instructions or disregard the known wishes of their constituents.

An old woman, who lived in a tenement house on Front street, near Race, was in the habit of smoking in bed, and Saturday night she retired indulging in her usual luxury. Result: fired the coverlet and communicated to the furniture. Four children were rescued, but a man who attempted to remove the old lady was burned with her, their charred bodies being found near the bed.

The Democrats of the Sixth District overcame their prejudices and nominated Dr. Frisby as their candidate for State Senator in opposition to Colonel Norris. The Doctor was sick in bed when the honor was announced, but he was able to astonish the Democratic Committee that he "was a Republican, and could not accept a nomination from a Democratic Convention." So they will have to look out for some body who will stand.

The people of your place should not neglect the opportunity of listening to the lecture of Colonel Arms, which is announced for next Friday evening. The lecture is very highly praised by those who have heard it.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 13, 1880.

The meeting of Congress after an election is always the occasion of greetings on the part of the members varied according to their various fortunes in the canvass. Those who have successfully run the gauntlet are fully impressed with a sense of their good fortune, and suffer no diminution of their self-esteem. They accost their fellow members who have been "left out" with expressions of regret and commisseration. When Congress met last week, there were many present who had been struck by the popular blast in November, and they were the subject of good natured badinage, while those who had been re-elected received the hearty congratulation of their colleagues. There was a remarkable absence of any evidence that the recent election, with its disastrous overthrow of the Democracy had left any animosities, but there seemed to be a hearty acquiescence in the result.

When the hour of twelve arrived in the Senate, about two-thirds of the grave and reverend Senators were present. The scene was enlivened by the floral display, as upon the desk of nearly every Senator was a boquet, some of them magnificent as to size and splendid as to appearance. That the Government has its conservatories is probably the occasion of this lavish display, which is literally sweetness wasted on the desert air. After an invocation of the Divine presence, came a brief interval of quiet, when the President's message was read. Nobody listened to it, as printed copies were supplied, and when the wearied clerks had concluded their task, the Senators folded their cloaks around them and like the Arabs quietly stole away.

In the House the scene was livelier, though the attendance was small. There were the same boquets as at the other end of the Capitol. Speaker Randall at precisely twelve o'clock rapped his gavel, and the House came to order. After a short prayer, the business of the session commenced. Mr. Frank Hurd, Democratic member of Congress from the Toledo district, Ohio, was in a great hurry to get his free trade scheme before the House in the shape of a joint resolution. It declares that legislation on the tariff should be governed by the following principles: 1. That a tariff is a tax on imported goods which is ultimately paid by the consumer. 2. That a tariff for protection, so-called, does not in most cases protect the interests it pretends to protect. 3. That a protective tariff does not increase the wages of workingmen. 4. That the protective tariff builds up one citizen at the expense of another. 5. That a protective tariff destroys the primal law of trade which governs exchanges by supply and demand. 6. That a protective tariff has driven American commerce from the high seas. 7. That a protective tariff increases the probability of the crime of smuggling.

The President's message was then received and read, when Mr. Bicknell attempted to call up the Senate joint resolution proposing a joint rule for counting the electoral vote. This is Senator Morgan's resolution of last session, which was purposely left over until the present session. It gives to the House or to the Senate, by the vote of a majority, the right to reject any vote from any State on any objection no matter how frivolous and unjust, and no matter whether it had previously been adjudicated by the State tribunals. This monstrous proposition was at once attacked and opposed by the Republican members, who successfully prevented its adoption.

A joint Republican caucus was held Wednesday night to consider the manner in which the resolution should be opposed. The discussion was spirited, and it was wholly to the effect that the pending joint rule was unconstitutional, and that it applied a usurpation of power on the part of the two Houses of Congress. It was determined that the attention of the country should be called to it, and that the lesson of this attempt to present wrong and call it right should be thoroughly known. It was stated by several in very strong language, that if the Democratic party persisted in pressing the proposed joint rule they would have to assume the responsibility of obstructing proper and necessary legislation by insisting upon the passage of a dangerous partisan scheme. It was stated by one of the speakers that the issue was not one that need be pressed now, in the face of so much business as this Congress has to do within its constitutional limit of time; that if the joint rule failed, after a two weeks' discussion, the Constitution provided for the counting of the votes. If it were passed, it could not by ordinary and honest means affect the result of the recent election, and that such a discussion would keep for a long session of Congress. Several speakers expressed the opinion that the Democrats were not pressing this matter through pure stubbornness, but had some sinister motive behind it that could be more easily defeated by resistance than inquiry.

The caucus adopted a resolution unanimously that the pending joint rule is unconstitutional, and therefore should be opposed by all known practical means. This determined attitude of the Republicans has had the effect to discourage the Democratic programme, particularly as they have not votes enough to pass it over the persistent opposition of the Republicans. The Democrats are divided as to the policy of attempting to force its passage. The majority of them favor a continuance of the fight even though an extra session be the result, because of the principle involved. Others, who retire at the end of the session are disgusted with the proceedings, and are anxious to get to business. Speaker Randall says that the Democrats do not propose to yield to the Republican theory that the Vice-President counts the Electoral vote, and means to get the 147 votes necessary to pass the Morgan bill; that they had not backed down or abandoned their position, but might not insist on debate to the exclusion of other business until they had a reasonable prospect of success. This indicates that the bill will be allowed to lie over indefinitely.

Judge Kelley, of Pennsylvania, is mentioned as a probable candidate for speakership of the next House. He says: "If the honor is tendered to me I will accept it, but I will not canvass for it." The Judge is now the Father of the House, and would make an acceptable presiding officer.

President Hayes sent to the Senate Monday a long list of officials for confirmation, appointed during the interim, including William Lawrence, of Ohio, to be first Comptroller of the Treasury, John F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, Collector of Customs at Philadelphia, and Matthew B. Barr, of Pennsylvania, Collector of Customs at Erie.

STATE NEWS.

—Diphtheria prevails to an alarming extent in Petrolia.

—The demand for iron at the Pittsburg mills is represented to be enormous.

—Cattle are being shipped to the East from Wayne county in large numbers.

—The earth over the old mines at Upper Lehigh sunk six feet on Wednesday.

—David Carbaugh, of Carlisle, has been arrested for illegally collecting pensions.

—In one week Mr. R. M. Hunter, of Tyrone, lost four children by diphtheria.

—A flock of wild turkeys was recently seen near Lawrence township, Clearfield county.

—A fleet of canal boats are blocked in the ice in the Schuylkill Canal near Norristown.

—Mr. C. W. Boiley, of Orwigsburg, Schuylkill county has a Bible that was printed in 1755.

—Land on the Columbia pike, near Lancaster, sold a few days ago at $306 and $360 per acre.

—The wood paper works at Spring City were damaged by fire to the extent of $1000 on Saturday.

—At the February election the people of Norristown will decide whether that place shall be made a city.

—Robert Johnson, a colored man, aged 84 years, was frozen to death on Gap Hill, near Lancaster, on Wednesday.

—The Oil City and Ridgway Railroad, with its franchises and property, has been purchased by T. H. Wilson, of Oil City.

—Mrs. Lynch, of Hyde Park, Lackawanna county, is 108 years of age. She is said to be almost as frisky as a miss of 18 years.

—Mrs. Anna M. McCartney, of Altoona, was badly but not fatally burned by her clothing accidentally taking fire from a stove Friday.

—The faro banks of Pittsburg were raided on Tuesday night and five arrests were made. The offenders were fined $50 and costs each.

—David H. Davis, of Chome, Chester county, is circulating a petition for signatures, asking the appointment of messenger at the White House.

—At Lancaster, on Saturday, Lewis Sowers was sentenced to ten years imprisonment for killing "Pud" Hershey on the 26th of June, 1879.

—A brakeman on the Lehigh Valley road, named Coyle, and residing at Penn Haven, was run over by the cars and killed at Catasauqua Friday.

—A number of prominent business men of Scranton are preparing a paper setting forth the advantages of that place for the location of manufactories.

—Benjamin Wagner, aged 30 years, and living near Orwigsburg, Schuylkill county, was found frozen to death within sight of his home on Saturday.

—The remains of John R. Sheetz are to be disiutérred at Leesport, as his death is believed to have resulted from a beating given him in a drunken brawl.

—The planing mill of John Schaeffer at Reading and a number of small buildings near by were burned down on Saturday morning. Loss, $10,000; no insurance.

—James Quinn, of Pittsburg, was brutally beaten during a bar-room brawl the other night by Fred Kimmel. The latter is in prison, while his victim's life is despaired of.

—Professor W. H. Jordan, of the Maine State Agricultural College, has been elected to the Chair of Agriculture and Agricultural Chemistry in the Pennsylvania State College.

—Eighty-six verdicts against the county of Allegheny for damages incurred by the riots of 1877 were rendered in Pittsburg on Tuesday. The judgments aggregate $30,000.

—The landlord of the Brunswick Hotel, in Titusville, prefaced his bill of fare with the Lord's Prayer. Several church members have denounced it through the newspapers as blasphemous.

—A terrific boiler explosion occured at the paper mills of Messrs. Morrison, Bare & Cass, at Roaring Spring, a few miles east of Altoona, on Tuesday. David McKee, an employe, was killed. Damage to building amounts to $10,800.

—The Pennsylvania Constitutional Amendment Association invites all Christian people and all philanthropists of the State to hold thanksgiving services during the last week of this month in celebration of the temperance victory in Kansas.

—Judge Pearson has given notice that the number of licenses for taverns and restaurants in the city of Harrisburg will be reduced one-third, and those throughout the county one-fifth at the license court to be held on February 2d next.

—In the Bortree trial at Honesdale on Saturday several medical experts testified that the prisoner was insane. A large number of witnesses also testified to his sanity, and the case was adjourned until Monday owing to the sudden illness of one of the jurors.

—The Pittsburg *Commercial* says that as a part of the new scheme of the Pittsburg, Titusville and Buffalo Railroad the Baltimore and Ohio is surveying a route across the eastern part of Allegheny county to make connection with the New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio for a through route to Cleveland.

—Owen Cunningham, once a wealthy lumber dealer of Northern Cambria, has been bound over to answer the charge of forgery at the ensuing term of Blair County Court. During the last few weeks he has raised considerable money by collecting bills and forging the name of the creditor to the receipts.

Matters of General Interest.

Great Fire at Pensacola, Florida.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Dec. 11.—Nine-tenths of the business portion of Pensacola was burned last night. Loss half a million of dollars. The merchants feel the disaster keenly, as they had just received their fall stocks. The calamity is without precedent in the history of Pensacola. Business is almost suspended. There is not a newspaper office or a job office, drug store or stationery store left in the city. The Merchants' Hotel and telegraph offices are almost destroyed.

The fire originated in Damiana's confectionary store. His family resided above the store. Several of them were burned, Mrs Damiana fatally. The fire engine was undergoing repairs, and this left the city utterly at the mercy of the fire. Both the *Gazette* and *Advance* offices were destroyed.

Over one hundred establishments are gone. Fifty families are homeless, and much suffering must ensue. All the custom house papers were lost. The post-office and United States Court clerks saved their mail and papers

AID FOR THE SUFFERERS.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Dec. 12.—The Methodist Conference adjourns to-night, the session being cut short, to some extent, by the partial destruction of the city. The ministers of the Conference filled the city pulpits to-day, and called for donations for the sufferers who had lost their homes.

THE CITY TO BE REBUILT.

A reaction is taking place, and it now seems that Pensacola will take a boom from her great calamity, as lots held by people not able to build, are readily taken by capitalists, and the city will soon rise, more modern and sightly than ever.

Resignation of Justice Strong.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Justice Strong, of the Supreme Court of the United States, handed his resignation to the President to-day, to take effect immediately. The resignation will be accepted and a new appointment made at an early day.

The condition of Justices Hunt and Clifford remains about the same. The latter is reported rather better to-day.

Jail Burned.

PETERSBURG, Va., Dec. 14.—Early on Sunday morning four prisoners, confined in jail at Lawrenceville, awaiting trial for incendiarism and other crimes, escaped by setting fire to the building, which was entirely consumed.

Boiler Explosion.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 14.—The boiler of Fabel & Sons' soap and candle factory, exploded this afternoon, killing Michael Hempell, a carpenter, fatally injuring Conrad Sparkell and Lizzie Ott, and severely injuring Peter Bolenberche, the fireman. The explosion levelled the centre of the building, a two story brick. Loss, $75,000.

Four Thousand Dollar Forgery.

SPRINGFIED, Ill., Dec. 11.—Three young men from New York have been "doing" this city some time under the names of Jas. Williams, Harry Raymond and George Edwards. They spent money lavishly, and the other day left for Peoria. Yesterday the father of one of them, said to be connected with a well known brokerage house in New York, came in search of them. He stated that one of the boys had secured four thousand dollars on a check.

THE PARTIES ARRESTED.

PEORIA, Ill., Dec. 11.—A young man, Isaac Sterns, clerk for Vandyke & Williams, bankers in New York, was sent to the bank with $2,800. He altered the deposit ticket, took $2000, and with a chum came west. A member of the firm overhauled the boys here, where they were arrested, and $1,200 recovered.

Large Fire in Olean.

BRADFORD, Pa., December 14.—A fire in Olean to-night destroyed the Buffalo House, Exchange restaurant and three other buildings, besides Merritt's block, occupied by several firms and six families. It is reported that a woman and two children were burned. The fire was caused by the explosion of a lamp in the Buffalo House. Loss $15,000.

Large Fire in Erie, Pa.

ERIE, Pa., December 13.—The large manufacturing establishment of F. F. Adams & Co. was burned to-night. By the falling of a w