BUSINESS NOTICES.

Albrecht:
RIKER & SCHMIDT,
FIRST-CLASS GUNSMITH,
PERKIN PORTER,
Warrenoe,
No. 518 ARCH street,
Philadelphia.

Just Out!
"CHERRY PECTORAL TROCHES."
No Odor, Couche, Sore Throat, Colds, and Bronchitis.
These so good, and so pleasant, some cases quick.
BRINTON & CO.,
16 Astor House, New York.
Use no more of those horrible tasting nauseous
"BROWN CURED THINGS."
sold in the world.

Since the Reduction in Prices of PIANOS, ORGANS, and MELODEONS, PIANOS to nearly OLD TIMES' FIGURES, we are having great demand for them.
We keep Mason & Hamlin's celebrated organs.
C. GUILD,
No. 923 Chestnut street.

Steinway & Sons' Grand Square and Upright Pianos, with their newly patented Resonator, by which the original volume of sound can always be restored the same as in a violin. STEINWAY & SONS,
No. 106 Chestnut street.

EVENING BULLETIN.

Thursday, January 6, 1870.

THE STATE TREASURERSHIP.

Governor Geary puts his finger upon a sore spot in the body-politic, when he handles the subject of the State Treasurership, with the bold touch of uncompromising exposure, as he does in his message to the Legislature. It is only occasionally that official documents present such unpleasant subjects in their plain, unvarnished colors, and it is not remarkable that this part of the message produced a sense of surprise in the Legislature. When the Governor of Pennsylvania deliberately and officially declares, in regard to an office whose salary is seventeen hundred dollars, that "there are but few men who have held this office, however poor they may have been when they took charge of it, who have not become rich," he stands on a fact which is not new to a large body of the people, but which is full of very unpleasant suggestions. "There is certainly some advantage," says Governor Geary, "to be gained by the holding of the position of State Treasurer, unknown to the public, but which readily accounts for the disgraceful scramble, and for the political and moral debauchery which the people of this State seem to be doomed annually to witness, in the election of that officer; and, because of the disgrace it brings upon their representatives, the people hang their heads in indignation and shame." If there is anything wanting in this manly and most timely exhibition of this disgraceful matter, it is an open statement to the people of the method by which this "advantage" is attained, the mode of manipulation by which peer men grow rich on seventeen hundred dollars a year.

There must be a great prize, indeed, in this office, to warrant the fierce fight of contending factions over it, which is annually witnessed at Harrisburg. The office, as we have stated, is not a remarkably valuable one, legitimately, and its duties are numerous and onerous. But it is impossible to be most sanguine over that there could be no such desperate struggle over any but a bone full of marrow and fatness, a bone worth plotting and intriguing for, a bone worth the investing of considerable sums of purchase-money. The matter is made worse by its annual recurrence. All the other State officers are elected by the people and for three years, but the Treasurership is for one year and is the gift of the Legislature. The Legislature would be the better for its removal. It would do better if, besides adopting the Governor's recommendation to pay the Treasurer a liberal salary, the choice were placed with the people, and the emoluments of the office rigidly restricted within such moderate bounds as to take from it the immense overplus which now makes it the annual occasion of so much public scandal.

Governor Geary's manifesto on this subject comes in just in the nick of time. The election of the State Treasurer is now pending, and the war over the spoils is at its height. The official criticism of the Governor is, therefore, impersonal and impartial; as it would have been at any other juncture. Moreover, it comes in very nearly to block a clever little game of that sly creature, Mr. Coffe-Pot Wallace, and to turn the tank of that other sagacious politician, Mr. Buckalew. These two disinterested representatives of the Democracy, always on the alert for any opening in the armor of their opponents, had pounced upon this available over the Treasurership as the material for some political capital for their party, and had marshalled forward, all aglow with virtuous indignation, to place the laurel of a popular reform on the wrinkled brows of the Democracy. When, to the Republican party, it occurred to them, in the field, declaring, through its official head, that this abomination must be done away. Gov. Geary undoubtedly carries with him the consciences and sympathies of the great masses of his party in Pennsylvania in thus striking a bold blow at the root of this evil, and the reform that will certainly come from the Legislature will be credited to him and to that of the great party which he officially represents.

URGENT GENEROSITY.

We have been the opinion expressed in one or two respectable quarters, that the Metropolitan Police bill ought to be framed so as to give the Democrats a representation in the Commission. This is one of those magnanimous suggestions by which the Republican party has often sacrificed justice to generosity, and we trust that it will be adopted in the present instance show that the Democratic party is ready to accept all concessions, and to grant none; and in the matter of the police of Philadelphia, especially, there is certainly nothing for that party to claim at the hands of a Republican government. We have heard it suggested, for instance, that the First Congressional District ought to be represented by a Democratic Commissioner. But why? It is the misfortune of that District that it is under Democratic domination, but that does not seem to constitute any very good reason why one-fourth of the police of Philadelphia should be placed in Democratic hands. One of the five Congressional Districts is this four are Republican, but Mr. Fox left a solitary Republican patrolman upon his rolls? Not at all. The Democracy is never guilty of any such generosity towards its adversaries, and, as between political parties, it sounds a little sentimental,—we use the word with the kindest respect for the estimable gentlemen who make the suggestion—to offer such a concession to the Democracy, which is not expected, cannot be claimed, and would not be appreciated or reciprocated.

On the other hand, every guard heard be placed about the Metropolitan Police bill to prevent its becoming the mere machine of any clique or ring of intriguing politicians. That such private combinations are working eagerly to gain the control of the police of Philadelphia is well known, and it will rest with Governor Geary, if the power is vested in him, or with the Legislature, in framing the bill, to thwart these unworthy and selfish schemes. *Better for that we should have no Metropolitan Police, than that we shall create it only to promote the personal ends of any knot of schaming, ambitious or hungry tricksters, to whom the Republican party is nothing but a ladder for their own personal advancement.*

When the Board of Public Charities was created, this plea for a Democratic representation in it was urged upon Governor Geary, and very properly disregarded; not because there was any political power, advantage or significance connected with it, but because there was an abundance of the best material in the Republican party from which to construct a Board fully competent to the discharge of all its duties. The Board of Police Commissioners should consist of the same sort of material, and it will then be a permanent success. Individuals are already being named as Police Commissioners, in anticipation of the speedy passage of this bill; but we have heard no mention of the name of any Democrat, whose fitness for the office, of the stamp and style which ought to be selected for this important position. Give us a Board of Commissioners, composed of Republican gentlemen of known high character and public respectability, whom no one can even suspect of being used as the tools of any "ring," men of business experience and capacity; let the Mayor of Philadelphia, if it is desired, have an *ex-officio* connection with the Board, and the Metropolitan Police bill will be a measure of most valuable reform. Let the thing be started in the hands of any knot of unscrupulous, selfish, scheming politicians,—and there are such to be found in all parties,—and it will be a failure and a disgrace.

THE WISSAHICKON.

Our city is exceptionally fortunate in having in its neighborhood, so beautiful a stream as the Wissahickon. To us, who live on a plain, it brings within our reach a genuine mountain brook, with lovely reaches, beautiful turns, and steep, wild, wooded banks. It is also a piece of rare good fortune that it has become possible to make its charming scenery public property, and to preserve it from future destruction, piece-meal, by the caprice or avarice of owners. Many years ago it seemed to us that such a thing was most desirable, but impossible. This apparent impossibility has been, however, accomplished by the exertions and influence of the Park Commission, to whose public, spirited labors this generation and all to come will owe a large debt.

Entertaining these feelings towards the Commission, if we permit ourselves to point out some matters connected with this portion of the Park that seem to demand attention, it is explicable to most readers, we hope, never that there could be no such desperate struggle over any but a bone full of marrow and fatness, a bone worth plotting and intriguing for, a bone worth the investing of considerable sums of purchase-money. The matter is made worse by its annual recurrence. All the other State officers are elected by the people and for three years, but the Treasurership is for one year and is the gift of the Legislature. The Legislature would be the better for its removal. It would do better if, besides adopting the Governor's recommendation to pay the Treasurer a liberal salary, the choice were placed with the people, and the emoluments of the office rigidly restricted within such moderate bounds as to take from it the immense overplus of which now makes it the annual occasion of so much public scandal.

Governor Geary's manifesto on this subject comes in just in the nick of time. The election of the State Treasurer is now pending, and the war over the spoils is at its height. The official criticism of the Governor is, therefore, impersonal and impartial, as it would have been at any other juncture. Moreover, it comes in very nearly to block a clever little game of that sly creature, Mr. Coffe-Pot Wallace, and to turn the tank of that other sagacious politician, Mr. Buckalew. These two disinterested representatives of the Democracy, always on the alert for any opening in the armor of their opponents, had pounced upon this available over the Treasurership as the material for some political capital for their party, and had marshalled forward, all aglow with virtuous indignation, to place the laurel of a popular reform on the wrinkled brows of the Democracy. When, to the Republican party it occurred to them, in the field, declaring, through its official head, that this abomination must be done away. Gov. Geary undoubtedly carries with him the consciences and sympathies of the great masses of his party in Pennsylvania in thus striking a bold blow at the root of this evil, and the reform that will certainly come from the Legislature will be credited to him and to that of the great party which he officially represents.

URGENT GENEROSITY.

We have been the opinion expressed in one or two respectable quarters, that the Metropolitan Police bill ought to be framed so as to give the Democrats a representation in the Commission. This is one of those magnanimous suggestions by which the Republican party has often sacrificed justice to generosity, and we trust that it will be adopted in the present instance show that the Democratic party is ready to accept all concessions, and to grant none; and in the matter of the police of Philadelphia, especially, there is certainly nothing for that party to claim at the hands of a Republican government. We have heard it suggested, for instance, that the First Congressional District ought to be represented by a Democratic Commissioner. But why? It is the misfortune of that District that it is under Democratic domination, but that does not seem to constitute any very good reason why one-fourth of the police of Philadelphia should be placed in Democratic hands. One of the five Congressional Districts is this four are Republican, but Mr. Fox left a solitary Republican patrolman upon his rolls? Not at all. The Democracy is never guilty of any such generosity towards its adversaries, and, as between political parties, it sounds a little sentimental,—we use the word with the kindest respect for these estimable gentlemen who make the suggestion—to offer such a concession to the Democracy, which is not expected, cannot be claimed, and would not be appreciated or reciprocated.

On the other hand, every guard heard be placed about the Metropolitan Police bill to prevent its becoming the mere machine of any clique or ring of intriguing politicians. That such private combinations are working eagerly to gain the control of the police of Philadelphia is well known, and it will rest with Governor Geary, if the power is vested in him, or with the Legislature, in framing the bill, to thwart these unworthy and selfish schemes. *Better for that we should have no Metropolitan Police, than that we shall create it only to promote the personal ends of any knot of schaming, ambitious or hungry tricksters, to whom the Republican party is nothing but a ladder for their own personal advancement.*

When the Board of Public Charities was created, this plea for a Democratic representation in it was urged upon Governor Geary, and very properly disregarded; not because there was any political power, advantage or significance connected with it, but because there was an abundance of the best material in the Republican party from which to construct a Board fully competent to the discharge of all its duties. The Board of Police Commissioners should consist of the same sort of material, and it will then be a permanent success. Individuals are already being named as Police Commissioners, in anticipation of the speedy passage of this bill; but we have heard no mention of the name of any Democrat, whose fitness for the office, of the stamp and style which ought to be selected for this important position. Give us a Board of Commissioners, composed of Republican gentlemen of known high character and public respectability, whom no one can even suspect of being used as the tools of any "ring," men of business experience and capacity; let the Mayor of Philadelphia, if it is desired, have an *ex-officio* connection with the Board, and the Metropolitan Police bill will be a measure of most valuable reform. Let the thing be started in the hands of any knot of unscrupulous, selfish, scheming politicians,—and there are such to be found in all parties,—and it will be a failure and a disgrace.

THE WISSAHICKON.

Our city is exceptionally fortunate in having in its neighborhood, so beautiful a stream as the Wissahickon. To us, who live on a plain, it brings within our reach a genuine mountain brook, with lovely reaches, beautiful turns, and steep, wild, wooded banks. It is also a piece of rare good fortune that it has become possible to make its charming scenery public property, and to preserve it from future destruction, piece-meal, by the caprice or avarice of owners. Many years ago it seemed to us that such a thing was most desirable, but impossible. This apparent impossibility has been, however, accomplished by the exertions and influence of the Park Commission, to whose public, spirited labors this generation and all to come will owe a large debt.

Entertaining these feelings towards the Commission, if we permit ourselves to point out some matters connected with this portion of the Park that seem to demand attention, it is explicable to most readers, we hope, never that this should be in no spirit of criticism; but that, understanding the largeness of the work on hand by the Commission, we fully realize how difficult it is for it to accomplish everything that is desirable.

Within the last few months, that portion of the Wissahickon that is nearest to and most accessible from the city, has suffered great injury. The space between Ridge road and the first toll-gate is, or rather was, a lovely little valley. A large dam at the Ridge road has raised the water, and filled up part of the valley. A million and a half of dollars, and those dollars, nearly all the trees that shaded the ravine on the southerly side have been cut down.

Just above this, a bold and rugged mass of rock jutsout and narrows the stream, and has placed the first toll-gate. This mass of rock was crowned with beautiful trees, and made a sort of natural portal or entrance to the second valley on the stream. Some months ago, two-thirds of all these beautiful trees were recklessly cut down, to be used, we believe, for timber. As if this was not enough, on Wednesday last thirteen of every remaining tree was removed, and the hill is now almost completely bare.

Such wanton destruction as this is of course irremediable. These trees cannot be replaced in less than a generation, and it may be doubted if this part of the stream can ever be restored to the beauty of last summer. Certainly not in less than thirty years.

Of course all this is in direct violation of the act of Assembly, which vests property to the city, subject only to the payment for it upon just valuation. There is one and only one way to stop this sort of thing. It is by having it fully understood that such devastation as this will be punished by diminishing the price paid for the ground, *in proportion to its injury for the purpose for which it is taken.* A dozen of trees may be worth perhaps one or two hundred dollars for lumber, and the owner, on receiving them in violation of the act, evidently hopes that he will get the same price for his ground as if he had not so taken them, and thus clear a trifling profit. But these trees have been worth twenty times as much for the adornment of a park as they were for lumber. Let it be then fairly understood that when such valuation is done, the price awarded to be paid will be diminished in a rate bearing no sort of relation to the value of the plunder, but based exclusively on the injury done *to the Park*, and not another step will be taken. The Commissioners have ample power to do this. Having had some opportunity to observe, we know that there is little disposition to appeal from their decisions. Owners of ground, whose property has been taken, have generally acquiesced in the valuations made, but even when dissatisfied they have hitherto felt that by going before a jury they might fare worse, besides a certainty of largely increased expense for proceedings. Practically, the Commissioners are complete representatives of the situation, and if it be once for all understood that, in a simply pecuniary sense, an owner cannot possibly injure his own interests more disastrously than by such acts of devastation as those here referred to, there will be an end of them immediately. In this most unfortunate instance, we estimate the injury done to the Park at thousands of dollars, and hope that those persons, whoever they may be, who have been guilty, will be made to feel it in the pocket, the only place where such persons can be reached.

At the same time, we feel that more care might be reasonably taken of this portion, by far the most beautiful, of the Park. Within the last few months, that portion of the Wissahickon that is nearest to and most accessible from the city, has suffered great injury. The space between Ridge road and the first toll-gate is, or rather was, a lovely little valley. A large dam at the Ridge road has raised the water, and filled up part of the valley. A million and a half of dollars, and those dollars, nearly all the trees that shaded the ravine on the southerly side have been cut down.

Just above this, a bold and rugged mass of rock juts out