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NEW BLOOMFIELD, PENNA.

Tuesday, September 27, 1870.

The Treasury officials are now paying off the heirs and administrators of the unfortunate victims of the "Oneida" disaster, besides the heirs and administrators of a large number of other deceased sailors and marines.

THE PROSPECTS are good for a long war between the English, and French, and the Chinese, in consequence of the late massacres. The citizens are so much opposed to the foreigners that the Governor of one of their cities was recently killed by the populace for expressing sympathy with the victims of the recent murders.

Foreign News.

The news from France shows that the Prussians are gradually, but surely investing the city of Paris, and have already succeeded in cutting off all communication except through their lines.

The Italians have entered Rome, the Pope having retired, thus ending his temporal power. The intention is to make that city the Capital of united Italy, and a vote of the people is soon to be taken to decide upon moving the Seat of Government from Florence to Rome.

JUDGE STRONG has rendered a decision that the Government Tax on dividends of the Reading Railroad, were illegally collected, taking the ground that Congress at the late session repealed that tax.

It will be remembered that Congress, at its late session, passed an amended tax bill, section seventeen of which construed the Internal Revenue act of 1864 to extend the collection of the tax on these items of income to and for the year 1870, but also provided that they should cease on the 1st of August, 1870.

Mr. Justice Strong, in differing from Congress in its construction of the law, contends that the interpretation of statutes is a Judicial rather than a Legislative function, and construes the law differently from Congress.

At Pittsburgh on the 22nd inst., the paymaster of Mr. Shoenberger's iron mill, while walking along the street was knocked down by two men and, who seized a satchel containing \$11,000 and ran into the Pan Handle Railroad tunnel, where the police captured the robbers and recovered the money.

Interesting Facts Regarding Gold Coin.

Unless great care is taken by the attaches of the bureau where gold is received, the Government is liable to be imposed upon by designing men, and the reader may think that instances would occur where several light pieces might be slipped into a bag of five thousand dollars, and the fraud not be readily detected.

WHENCE COME THE COIN.

The larger part of the coin received at the Sub-Treasury comes from the banks and the Custom House. Very little is brought in by private persons, and not a great deal direct from brokers, because the coin which they take in the course of business goes into the banks on deposit.

On steamer days, or a day or two before, the drafts upon the Sub-Treasury are pretty heavy. Then on the presentation of an order for coin, "Governor" Birdsall goes into the vault with a messenger and brings out a truck load of gold in bags, which are delivered to the porter in the main hall, the court being watched carefully by the officers on duty in the building, who see that no suspicious person has access to that quarter of the apartment.

At the period of the year when the interest on the public debt is paid, the gold comes into the Sub-Treasury vaults almost as fast as it goes out. The creditor of the Government no sooner receives his interest than he hastens into the "street," where he exchanges his coin for currency, receiving the benefit of the premium. The broker sends the gold to the bank at the close of the day's business, and that institution in turn suffers the coin to flow back into the Sub-Treasury.

Where about twenty-five or thirty-five millions of gold are kept circulating about in the manner above described, the task of examination is not an easy one, and on some days the musical ring of coin is heard in the Gold Room of the Sub-Treasury from morning till night. No matter if a bag of gold that has been issued one day is returned the next, its contents must be re-examined as carefully as if had been away a year, and search made for pieces that have been tampered with.

Then this small lot is placed into one pan of the scale, and sufficient of the uncounted coin is poured into the other pan to balance it; then the contents of one pan are poured into the other, and the empty one filled, and so on until the clerk is satisfied that the amount designated on the bag is correct. A receipt is then given, or the exchange is made as required, and the bag is tied up and sent into the vault for safe keeping.

One would think from the description above that it would be an easy matter to smuggle a base coin or one that had been tampered with, among a lot of gold. But, indeed, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible; and during the twenty or twenty-five years that "Governor" Birdsall has been in charge of the Gold Room not a single base or imperfect coin has been received, though thousands have been detected.

has been shown on various occasions when visitors have been present. A little explanation will enable the reader to be convinced.

Coin is tampered with generally by filling, for no counterfeiter would be so foolish as to issue a coin entirely of base metal. The process of filling is one requiring great skill: and those who resort to it have brought it to such perfection that they have been, in some instances, obliged to mark the pieces so filled to prevent being subsequently deceived themselves.

They first split the coin with a very fine saw. Then the inside of the two halves is carefully dug out, and the cavity is filled with a material which is the exact weight of the abstracted gold. The two halves are then placed together and subjected to heat and strong pressure which completely unites them. The milling on the edge of the coin must then be retouched, and this is done with a tool which betrays the manipulation and assists the practiced judge to detect the fact that the piece has been tampered with—if it has recently been done.

Any one who has had opportunities for the examination of any considerable amount of gold coin must have observed that they are of various colors, from a brassy hue to a copper color. This is not true with the coins of other countries which are uniform, and is accounted for by the fact that when gold first poured into the mints from California, it came in large quantities, and faster than the machinery of the mints could accommodate.

The coin which is received at the Bank of England is examined by machinery. The pieces are placed in a hopper and the machine set in motion. The light coins are thrown out, but those of exact weight are passed. No care is taken to detect filled pieces, and therefore coin which has been tampered with by filling may pass through the machine, so long as it is the exact weight, and not be discovered until some person accidentally brings the fraud to light.

On the afternoon of Thursday last, a young man named Thorn while standing in front of the New York Times office observed a young man leap hurriedly from a third avenue car, in company with another. Scarcely had they reached the sidewalk ere the car was stopped and an old lady alighted, screaming that she had lost two thousand dollars.

Mr. Thorn, thinking that one of these men had stolen the money, seized George Hilton, a young fellow 20 years old, who was one of them, and had just entered the Times publishing house.

Finding that his companion, considering discretion the better part of valor, had deserted him in this his hour of need, Hilton surrendered, and hoping to purchase his liberty by so doing, handed back \$224 in cash, and bonds worth in all \$2,000 to the old lady.

The result of the wear in coin is a direct loss to the government; and it is true, but still a loss. An estimate, made as close as it is possible to make it, shows that the government is a great gainer by the destruction of fractional currency, and some have estimated that the profit to the government arising from the destruction of stamps in process of circulation is sufficient to defray the entire cost of manufacturing the fractional currency from year to year, and also pays for the engraving and printing of legal-tender notes.

A young fellow in Nashua, N. H., recently got angry with his sweetheart, and for revenge took her to ride and left her on the steps of a country hotel, several miles from home to find her way back as best she could. The girl one evening afterward induced him to drive her to visit a sister twenty miles distant, and while he was out of the buggy endeavoring to decipher the name on a door plate, she drove off and left him to go home when he got ready. The fun cost him \$20.

Miscellaneous News Items.

Chicago's population is put down at 348,700—a gain of 203,755 in ten years.

The business portion of Rockville, Ind., was nearly all destroyed by a supposed incendiary fire on last Saturday night.

An incendiary, on Sunday evening exploded a magazine at Fairport, Ohio, containing about three tons of nitro-glycerine.

A curiosity in the shape of a time-table of the Pacific Railroad rendered in the Chinese language, has made its appearance in the West.

A trout was caught from Otsego lake a few days ago, which weighed 21 pounds, measuring 67 inches in length and 21 in girth. It was sold for ten dollars.

On Thursday last, while Mr. Thomas Westcott, of Sterling, was chopping wood, he had his leg so badly jammed by a falling tree, that he died on Friday from the loss of blood.

There is a general cry made by railway passengers against the extortionate prices demanded for sleeping car berths on most of the lines—and with good reason, too.

Some mean thief at Laynesborough, Minn., recently took advantage of the absence of a family at the funeral of one of its members to steal the sheets and pillows from all the beds.

The people of Harrison county, Ind., were excited a few days since by the discovery of a vein of gold by laborers who were engaged in sinking a well. The excavation will be continued.

Thirteen cotton factories, located in the vicinity of East Haddam, have been compelled to entirely suspend operations, on account of having no water to turn their wheels. They were employing about 700 men.

The Internal Revenue Department has decided to prohibit the use of beer barrels in all cases where they have in them two holes for spigots, as it is calculated to offer inducements for defrauding the revenue.

Keziah Hinton, a colored domestic, who had lived thirty-five years in the family of Dr. McDowell's family, at Bloomfield, N. J., has confessed that she fired his barn, poisoned the well, and stole the family silver.

An Irish woman living near Jackson, Mich., while engaged in hanging out her washing, recently, was bitten in the face by a potato bug which she brushed off the line. Her face immediately commenced to swell, and she rapidly grew worse, and died after three days of agony.

In the Pension office the cases for commutation of lost limbs are being disposed of as fast as they come from the Surgeon General. During the past ten days the work has averaged one hundred and twenty cases per day. Up to date, 13,627 cases have been allowed.

At Colorado, recently, Wm. Heany was detected in the act of committing an assault on a little girl six years of age, a daughter of Judge Hughes. While being conveyed to the jail he was forcibly taken from the officers by a crowd of citizens and tarred and feathered and driven out of the town.

A well of water in the town of Reading, Ct., on premises in possession of one family nearly 200 years, and never failed in its supply is now dry, as are many others in different parts of the country. A gentleman in Hartford, disgusted with the quality of the city water, resorted to his well, which had been for ten years closed, and found it dry.

Our Consul at Sheffield writes here that there will be several emigrants from that portion of England to this country, with a view to settling in the West, principally in Minnesota. Among them there will be a member of the English Parliament, who will be accompanied by several young men anxious to experience life in our country.

Mr. Sumner Clark, of Cornville, Me., a few days since was digging a ditch through a piece of low ground, and when at a depth of three or four feet he struck a vein of pure water that gushed out two or more inches in diameter. As he stood looking at it a fish five or six inches long appeared, and at length another, until he had gathered thirty. The fish resembled what are usually known as chubs.

The development of the Illinois coal fields is claimed to be due to a farmer near Springfield, who thought that such a country could not be destitute by Providence to be without fuel. "The wood is nearly gone," said he to himself, "and there must be coal." In this almost whimsical faith he sank a shaft one hundred feet, and then struck a vein of bituminous coal, which he is now mining to the amount of \$2,700 per week.

The Whisky Ring is coming to life again in some sections of the country, and is threatening to use its power against the Republican party if the Internal Revenue Bureau insists upon affixing the Tice meters to distilleries. In one or two instances, candidates for Congress in large distilling districts, have even appealed to the Bureau not to enforce the law too rigorously. Commissioner Delano is, however, deaf alike to appeals and threats and will not submit to any dictation. He says the law must be strictly enforced without regard to consequences. To yield to the Ring in this particular would be to give it a new lease of life and induce it to make other demands.

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Pennsylvania R. R. Time Table.

NEWPORT STATION. On and after May 29, 1870, Passenger trains will run as follows: WEST. Pittsburg Expt's. (Flag) 4:41 A. M. daily except Sunday. Way Passenger, 8:15 A. M., daily except Monday. Mail, 11:31 A. M., daily except Sunday.

DUNCANNON STATION.

On and after Sunday, June 12th, 1870, trains will leave Duncannon, as follows: EASTWARD. Fast Line, (Flag) 4:35 A. M., daily except Monday. Harrisburg Accom. 12:04 P. M., daily except Sunday. Mail, 8:25 P. M., daily except Sunday.

Stage Line Between Newport and New Germantown. STAGES leave New Germantown daily at four o'clock a. m. Landsburg at 7:30 a. m. Green Park at 8 a. m. New Bloomfield at 9 1/2 a. m.

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