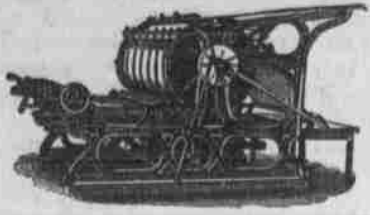


The Bloomfield Times.

NEW BLOOMFIELD, PENN'A. Tuesday, January 6, 1874.



Notice to Subscribers.

Subscribers to THE TIMES who wish some other publication and chromo, can have either of the following at the price mentioned:

- Peterson's Magazine for 1874 and The Times, for \$2.75. The People's Journal, with an engraving 13 x 19 inches (see advertisement) and The Times, for \$2.00. Wood's Household Magazine and the splendid chromo, YOSEMITE, and The Times, for \$2.25. All the above Magazines are monthly publications.

THE national indebtedness has been increased during the month of December to the extent of \$8,453,272.71, and since June 30, 1873, \$11,493,612.69.

HON. CALIB CUSHING has been appointed minister to Spain, vice Gen. Sickles, resigned. It is probable there is not a man in the country better able to deal with the questions now in dispute between that nation and the United States, than Mr. Cushing. The appointment gives general satisfaction.

It has generally been customary with Judges to hear both sides, and take the testimony offered by the defendant before deciding a case. In the case of the "Virginus," however, the Attorney General has decided that the register was fraudulent, without any testimony being taken on the side of the defense. It would seem that here was a case for the courts, as the question is not so much a point of law as a decision as to the facts in the case, and the reputed owner, Mr. Patterson claims his right to establish the justness of his claim, before a jury.

Some very remarkable accidents have happened in connection with the Spanish troubles. By a very curious coincidence a canal barge sunk just in the right place and in the nick of time to prevent the Spanish war steamer from going to sea while the question of war was unsettled.

And now the "Virginus" has sunk while being brought to New York, which obviates the necessity of refusing to deliver her to Spain, that nation having claimed her as the Attorney General has decided she had no right to carry the American flag. Of course both these incidents, were "accidental," to be sure they were, but it is not often that such desirable accidents occur.

THE Third Assistant Postmaster-General has completed a systematic and careful examination of the estimates recently submitted to Congress for appropriations estimated necessary for the proper performance of the postal service for the next fiscal year, and the conclusion arrived at after such revision is that no reduction in the sums asked for can safely be made. Before these estimates were approved by the Postmaster-General, every item was rigidly scrutinized and brought down to the lowest possible figures. The salaries of the postmasters amounting to about \$15,500,000, is fixed by law, and the estimate for the transportation of the inland mails, some \$6,500,000, was placed at an amount only five per cent. greater than the amount required for this purpose during the current fiscal year, although the annual increase in the cost of this service to keep pace with the growth and development of the country has for the past five or six years been not less on an average than nine per centum. These two items made up nearly the aggregate of all the appropriations asked for.

THE "Virginus" Loss. Washington, December 30. - Admiral Rowan telegraphs Secretary Robeson that the Virginus foundered and sunk off Cape Fear during a severe gale. Secretary Robeson has telegraphed for full particulars. A Cabinet officer says if no lives were lost, the total destruction of the vessel will be a great relief both to this government and that of Spain.

It relieves both governments from a most embarrassing question. Secretary Robeson shortly after the receipt of Admiral Rowan's dispatch, proceeded to the Executive mansion, to lay the news before the President and members of the Cabinet.

In Baltimore a woman named Christina Smith, about twenty-four years of age, gave birth to a male child, while the family were in the lower story of the house. The fact subsequently becoming known a physician was sent for, but the girl denied that she had had a child. The doctor asserted that she had, and proceeded to search the room, when the body of the child was found in a trunk with a string tied around its neck.

The Contingent Fund.

It would be a saving to the nation to do away with the contingent fund, and from recent disclosures it is probable that when Congress re-assembles, there will be an investigation into the charges against Attorney General Williams' abuse of this fund. Members generally have expressed their surprise at the statements that the Attorney General has provided himself with a handsome carriage and pair of horses out of the contingent fund of the Department of Justice, and that his coachmen and servants were employees of the Government. The fact is, that these practices were in vogue long before Mr. Williams went into the Cabinet, and they have been repeatedly exposed in the newspapers of the day. It is also well known that the expose of the transactions of Mr. Harlan, while Secretary of the Interior under Lincoln, led to Harlan's defeat when seeking a re-election to the United States Senate. It appears that Mr. Harlan entered upon his duty as Secretary of the Interior on the 15th of May, 1865, and that on August 15th of the same year, he appointed his son, a lad, as messenger in his office at \$840 a year—the boy while drawing this pay attending a college in Georgetown. Mr. Harlan being too aristocratic to ride in a one horse buggy, such as are furnished to Secretaries, according to the Cincinnati Gazette's correspondent "took two valuable and beautiful horses belonging to the Government away from the Aqueduct, of which he had official charge, turned them over to his family, and furnished a carriage to match. The coachman's name was entered upon the pay roll of the Department at \$60 a month. A footman was also provided, and was paid on the roll. One dining-room servant received his pay in like manner. The horses were boarded at \$60 a month, and the disbursing officer of the Department paid this little item regular with the rest."

These facts show that Attorney General Williams has at least had precedent for his use of the contingent fund, and he has certainly been more modest in his demands upon it than was Secretary Harlan. The fact is that in every branch of the Government these abuses, as they may be called (to use the mildest possible term), have grown year by year, and have thus received the sanction of custom. In vain has the press called attention to them. It is not long since the most specific charges were made against a prominent official (of the same nature as those which drove Mr. Harlan from the United States Senate), but they passed unheeded. There is said, however, to be a determination on the part of certain leading Congressmen to probe these scandals to the bottom, and there can be no doubt but that a searching investigation will reveal a misuse of the people's money to an extent of which few could have even dreamed. A good many reputations will suffer in consequence, and a good many dollars will be saved to the Treasury.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 3, 1874.

DEAR TIMES:—There is nothing transpiring of special notice in political circles here, although the politicians are hard at work to put up "a slate" for the organization of the House. Messrs. McCormick (Allegheny), Myer (Bradford), Mylin (Lancaster) and Mitchell (Tioga), are the aspirants for Speaker of the House, with about equal chances of success. Dr. Shurlock (Beaver) is at work to defeat Gen. Selfridge for the Chief Clerkship of the House, while Messrs. Rogers (McKean) and McAfee (Westmoreland) are striving for the desk of assistant clerk. Who will be the lucky one on Tuesday next it is now impossible to predict.

The Senate will have no difficulty, as Mr. Strang has been elected Speaker, and Russell Errett will no doubt be the Clerk.

The message of the Governor will not be delivered to the Legislature until Wednesday afternoon, and few if any advance copies will leave this city. The message will be very brief, unless the Governor should elaborate on the New Constitution. The session of the Legislature will be a long one and the business will be of the most vital importance to the State. Let us see how well it will be attended to. More again. HARRISON.

Strange Affair on a Railroad.

As the train on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Minnesota Railway which left Cedar Rapids Friday morning at 6 o'clock was nearing Solon, Ia., a man was observed sitting near the track and giving signals for the train to stop, which was done, and he was taken on board. He proved to be a passenger who had fallen out of the sleeping car on the express train going north during the night. He had been dragged by the rigging of the brake over a quarter of a mile, and after being released had managed to crawl to one side of the road, where he remained until taken up.

The man lived at Quincy, Ill., and was on his way to Minnesota. He could give no account of how he came to fall out of the car, but it is supposed he got out of his berth while asleep and wandered out of the door. He only had on his night clothes when taken up, and of course must have suffered considerably during the night. His feet were badly frozen, and he was so much chilled that he could give but little account of himself. He was put under the charge of a physician at Solon.

NEW LEGISLATIVE APPOINTMENT.

The following table gives the population of each county in the State and the representation which the new Constitution entitles each county to in the lower House:

Table with 3 columns: County Name, Population, No. of Rep's. Lists counties from Adams to York with their respective populations and representatives.

A Whirlwind.

A gentleman was walking down Virginia Canon the other day. There was no perceptible breeze at the time. Suddenly he was surprised by a roaring noise behind him—a noise like that of an express train when crossing a bridge, or passing a rocky wall. Stopping a moment to listen, a whirlwind, apparently not more than a yard in diameter, and traveling no faster than a spirited walk, picked him up, as it were, and waltzed off down the road with him. Its vertical force was sufficient to invert the tails of his coat above his head, notwithstanding the pockets were loaded with specimens of silver ore, and at the same time he was carried along for a hundred feet or more like a feather, with both feet occasionally off the ground, while under him was a noise like that of an empty cart bouncing over a stony street.

It is asserted on high official authority that President Castelar has decided to press the claim of Spain for the restitution by the United States of the steamer Virginus, and also to claim the payment of indemnity by the United States to Spain for permitting the Virginus to be fitted out in an American port and sent on a filibustering expedition against a Spanish colony. This course of action, it is understood, has been decided upon after an exhaustive consideration of the whole case by the Cabinet. It is believed now that this new phase of the difficulty will reopen the whole question for fresh and probably lengthy negotiations between the two Governments before it is finally settled.

The following material for a miracle is furnished by a New Hampshire paper: A man being very sick, the physician recommended a partridge for his food, and his son went out to shoot one. A long hunt proved unsuccessful, and he returned to the house empty handed. Just then a hawk was seen flying over with something struggling in his claws, and that something proved to be a nice fat partridge, wounded but not dead, which, while over the doorway of the sick man's house, got free of the hawk's claws, and came tumbling down at the very door where it was needed.

A man in Orange county, Vermont, warns the public against harboring or trusting his wife on what we should think were good and sufficient grounds. The preamble to his warning is worded thus: "Whereas, the Old Woman known as my Wife, in consequence of attending the Powwows of the Jumpers and Howlers and the Cat Burners has become entirely Senseless Crazy and Reckless and does nothing but run up and down the road and Circulate the Most Infamous Lies concerning myself and others thus accomplishing my Ruin."

Magee, a cloth merchant, at 31 N. Third street, who was to have been married on Christmas day to an estimable young lady, has disappeared leaving debts amounting to \$18,000, \$8,000 of which was to Bunting, Durborow & Co., and the balance borrowed money.

Miscellaneous News Items.

The Whitewater, Mich., girls have signed an agreement not to trade at any store that keeps open later than eight o'clock in the evening. The girls are friendly to the clerks.

The jury in the case of Maggie Jordan, charged with assisting in the escape of Sharkey, the convicted murderer, from the Tombs, failed to agree, and were discharged.

Robert Collyer, of Chicago, has moved his pulpit twenty-eight feet forward right amongst his people. Dr. Harper, of Philadelphia, has advanced his about six feet. There is evidently a forward movement on the part of the shepherds.

At New York, on the 31st ult., W. Robtson was arrested on the charge of using the mails in swindling the public by circulars, purporting to be from the firm of J. Wright & Co., agents for four dollar Geneva Watches.

A newspaper in Southern California advises greater cultivation of the fig tree because the fruit is so good for hog feed. An acre of figs will fatten more hogs than an acre of corn. All that is necessary is to stick a fig cutting in the ground, and in three or five months the plants will bear fruit—three crops a year—and in three years the tree attains the size of a twelve-year old apple tree.

One day last week a little child of Mr. Daniel Smith, who lives at Appletown on the Harper's Ferry road, accidentally fell into a well about 65 feet deep, with 40 feet of water. Fortunately the accident was discovered at once, and Mr. James Summers descended into the well and rescued the little one from a watery grave. When reached, the child was floating on top of the water.

At a fire in Elizabeth one man stepped in front of the stream, of water thrown by an engine, it striking him full in the left eye, and felling him to the ground. He was picked up and carried to his home and physicians called. It was feared that he would lose his eye, but the physicians think that there is hopes that he may ultimately recover the sight of it. The blow must have been a fearful one, as the victim has been delirious ever since.

The Empress of Germany is one of the most simply dressed of women, except on occasions of ceremony. Her dry goods bills are said to be less than the wives of any of the merchants. She drives out in a calico dress. And the Princes Bismarck, fresh and comely, though past sixty, superintends her farm work, goes about the house with a great bunch of keys at her girdle, and her house is filled with knitted quilts and such, the evidence of her skill and industry.

In Philadelphia, on Wednesday morning a baker named Kuhnle was murdered by a German, in his employ. After committing the murder the assassin strangled Mrs. Kuhnle, until she was unable longer to offer resistance and then searched the premises for money. Having secured about \$55, he made his escape from the house but was shortly after arrested by the police and committed for trial. He acknowledges the deed.

The house of J. P. Emmet, at Pelham, Westchester county, New York, was entered at 2:30 A. M., on the 23rd inst., by a number of masked men, who awoke Mr. Emmet, and handcuffed him. They then went through the house and led his nephew, sister and servants to his room, handcuffing the nephew and enjoining silence on the others. The house was then searched for the key of a safe which was in the front room, but it was not found, and after trying in vain to break and blow the safe open, the robbers collected about \$750 worth of watches, jewelry, money and clothing, and left.

They have a champion office-holder in Florida. He is thus described by a local paper: When the Hon. G. Dennis left us for his Northern trip, to be absent several months, we lost in him our Senator, county Commissioner, Board of Instruction, Deputy Marshal, Deputy Sheriff, Deputy County Clerk, Treasurer of School Funds, Custodian of County Treasurer's books, Senior Councillman and acting Mayor. Nearly all public business was suspended until his return.

At about 9 o'clock last Monday night twelve masked men entered the house of William K. Sautter, at West Brighton, Staten Island, securing three servants, one man and two females, who were the only occupants of the house. They ransacked the premises, carrying off silver and other property valued at about \$5,000. Most of the silver was stored in the safe, which the robbers blew open.

Washington, December 29.—To-night three roughs entered the restaurant of Mr. Hill, a German, on Delaware avenue, between I and H northeast, and asked for drinks. Being refused they assaulted and beat the wife of Hill, and he in response to her cry for help entered the bar-room with a double barreled shot-gun, one load of which he discharged. The contents struck his wife in the back of the head, instantly killing her. The roughs then fled, he pursuing and fired the other load, wounding one of them in the shoulder. Hill went to the Station and gave himself up and the assailants were arrested.

Two accidents are reported, the oddness of which deserves notice. The first was in a Philadelphia slaughter-house. William Kelly, the owner, was standing with a sharp slaughter knife in his hand, near Thomas McCarty an employe. McCarty being spoken to turned suddenly and ran the knife up to its hilt in his breast penetrating the heart. The second was equally strange and accidental. A reverend gentleman out hunting near Port Clinton, Pa., ran a rabbit into a hollow tree. He began to shake the tree when it suddenly split into three pieces, one of which fell on his head, killing him almost instantly. A companion saw the accident.

Recently two young men living in Detroit, anxious to exhibit their nerve, laid a wager with a third person, which resulted in some rifle shooting extraordinary. A dozen apples were procured, and one gentleman stood 40 feet distant from the other, who shot with a rifle each of the dozen apples from his friend's head, after the manner of the late William Tell. Not satisfied with that, the apple holder produced a common pasteboard match box cover and held it close to his head, between his finger and thumb, and in that position permitted his friend to fire three shots at it, each going plumb to the centre.

London, December 26.—At five o'clock this morning the steamer Gypsy Queen, belonging to the River Tyne Improvement Commissioners, struck the wreck of a sunken lighter in that stream and went to the bottom in five minutes. There were between fifty and sixty workmen on board the boat at the time of the disaster.—Twenty of them were rescued but the remainder, thirty or forty men, were drowned.

Wilmington, N. C., December 26.—The storm last night was fearful. A number of small houses were blown down, trees uprooted and fences prostrated. The bark Maria Needham dragged her anchor and went ashore on the middle ground, between the main bar and Rip. A steam tug which went to her assistance failed to pull her off.

Dayton, Ohio, December 26.—At a shooting match yesterday, at Rige, a village near here two brothers, John and Henry Stowe, quarreled about loading a rifle, and John called Henry a liar, when Henry drew a revolver and shot John, killing him instantly. The spectators, being much excited, caught and hung Henry to a limb of a tree, and when taken down, life was extinct. Too much whiskey caused the mischief.

Buffalo, December 26.—The second floor of a house in this city gave away last night precipitating the inmates to the basement. A girl named Jennie Griffin, was killed and several others injured.

The Great Wedding Card Depot! THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN WEDDING CARDS! LOWEST PRICES.

A Large assortment of Stationery of every Description.

INITIAL PAPER ALWAYS ON HAND ready stamped. Dollar box containing four quires French paper and two packs Envelopes with the initials. Sent by mail for \$1.25 by

WM. H. HOSKINS, STATIONER, ENGRAVER, AND STEAM POWER PRINTER. 38 B 6m 913 Arch Street, Philadelphia. Chartered March 11, 1870.

U. B. Mutual Aid Society OF PENNSYLVANIA,

HOME OFFICE: LEBANON, Lebanon county, Penn'a.

President, Hon. J. H. KINPORTS. Secretary, GEO. A. MARR. Treasurer, GIBSON LIGHT.

This Society is based on the assessment plan Assets subject to Assessment, \$8,000,000.00. Death losses paid to date, \$600,000.00.

This Society insures for SIX DOLLARS per thousand for the first year; FIVE DOLLARS annually, per thousand, for the next four years; TWO DOLLARS per thousand annually during the remainder of natural life, and pro-rata mortality assessments as each death may occur, which for the first class is as follows:

Table with 5 columns: Age Ass., Age Ass., Age Ass., Age Ass., Age Ass. Lists age ranges and corresponding assessment rates.

For all classes of \$2,000 benefits the above rates are to all classes double, and for all classes of \$5,000 benefits tripled. Each class is now in operation. Classes open to insure for \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$5,000. Male and Female from Fifteen to Sixty-Five years of age, of good moral habits, in good health, able to read and write, and sound mind, irrespective of creed, or race, may become members. For other information, address GEO. A. MARR, Sec'y U. B. Mutual Aid Society, LEBANON, PA. Or, D. S. EARLY, Gen. Ag't, Harrisburg, Pa. L. W. CHAMBER, Ass't Gen. Ag't, General Agent's Office, corner of 9th Street, and Hill Road, LEBANON, PA. AGENTS WANTED! \$1 3m