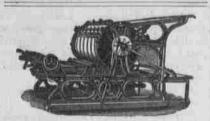
# The Bloomfield Times.

NEW BLOOMFIELD, PENN'A.

Tuesday, April 7, 1874.



THE contest for United States Senator still continues in the Massachusetts Legislature. Neither party appears disposed to give way and it is impossible to tell what the result will be ; but it does not seem possible that either of the present Republican candidates, Dawes, or Hoar can be elected.

THERE was considerable excitement Abroughout the State during the past ten days on account of a threatened riot of considerable proportions at Susquehanna Depot, on the Erie rail road. About 1,000 hands had gathered there and for a time stopped all trains. The Sheriff of the county of Susquehanna called upon the Governor of this State for aid, and troops were sent on Saturday a week. This move had the desired effect, and the trains now run as usual. Most of the troops were sent home on Thursday last, while a few remain to guard the shops until matters get fully settled down. The strike originated in the neglect of the company to pay the February wages, as promised.

#### The Judicial Districts.

The following is the Judicial Apportionment under the new bill, which, became a

Venango

30 Crawford. 31 Lehigh.

Delaware.

Armstrong.

- law last week : 1 Philadelphia.
  2 Lancaster.
  3 Northampton.
  4 Tioga, Potter MeKean and Cameron.
  5 Allegheny.
  6 Erie.
  7 Washington.
  9 Versee
- Buelcs. Northumberland. 9 Cumberland. 10 Westmoreland.
- Luzerne. 33 Dauphin & Leban'n 33 13 Bradford.
  14 Fayotte & Greene.
  15 Chester.
  16 Bedford and Som17 Warren, Forest and
- 17 Butler & Lawrence. 38 Montgomery. 18 Clarion & Jefferson. 39 Franklin and Ful-19 York. 20 Union, Snyder and 40 Indiana.
- Minim Schuykill. Wayne and Pike.
- 41 Juniata and Perry. 42 Adams. 43 Carbon and Mon-

Disastrous Fire at Millerstown.

Millerstown, Butler Co., April 1 .- A fire broke out here at half-past one this morning, in the Central Hotel, from gas used in the building, as is supposed. Seven persons were burned to death, their bodies being recovered. The names of the victims are as follows :- Norah Carty of Pleasantville; George Deet, a German; Captain Oliver, oil operator; Martin Phillips and Sanford Acert, drillers. The names of the other two are unknown.

Norah McCarty jumped from a thirdstory window of the Central House, and was badly injured, but is still alive.

Ninety-six buildings in all, have been burned. More persons are thought to have been burned, but have not yet been recovered. The loss as far as ascertained, is \$232,800; insurance, \$34,850.

## A Brave Watchman.

Jersey City, March 30-At midnight last night four masked robbers entered Jacob Glase's house, 123 Railroad avenue, where Mr. Muller, watchman of Demmills & Brothers' jewelry manufactory sleeps. They seized and bound him, and two remained as sentinels while the other two ransacked the house for the keys of the manufactory. They failed to find them and threatened Muller with death. He firmly refused to deliver up the keys, and the robbers gathered bedding together, saturated it with oil and set it on fire They then went out, leaving Muller to a horrible death. Fortunately he succeeded in breaking the bandages on his legs and gave an alarm. He was rescued, narrowly with life. The house was totally consumed. The thioves escaped.

Plymouth church, Brooklyn, was never so crowded as it is now, and Mr. Beecher really seems to be at the height. both of his popularity and power. This church has 600 free seats-free to the first comer, and the pews are rented with the express condition that the ushers may fill up all vacancies when service begins. It is estimated that at least 1,000 strangers are scated every Sunday morning. The hospitality of the members of the church has become proverbint.

Christiana Lackenmayer, a middleaged woman, of respectable appearance, was on Saturday morning sentenced in the Easex co., N.J., court to the State Prison for one year for setting fire to her own house. She is the mother of six children, one of them a babo three months old. Her husband and children were all in court at the time she was sentenced, and the scene is described as truly heartrending.

Western Correspondence. Below will be found another interesting letter from a correspondent in Indian Ter-

WEWOKA, I. T., March 20th, 1874. Mr. Editor :- In my former letter from this place, I promised a sequel that should describe the home-life and certain peculiar customs of the Indians, yet retained from their uncivilized state.

Each tribe is sub-divided into a number of clans or bands, as they are called, having at the head a "band-chief" who exercises immediate supervision over them, and to whom all disputes are referred for adjudication. In the Seminole nation he represents them in the "Council," which is a sort of combined legislature and supreme court, meeting at irregular times when summoned by the head chief of the tribe. (I should have said imprimis, that the tribe is governed by a head chief and a second, or vice chief).

But in the Creek nation the band chief's duty is comprised solely in the regulation of and enforcing attendance upon the "Busking," an annual ceremony which shall be described presently. There was a time when it was also incumbent on him to be heedful to the comforts and necessities of the widows, see that their corn was hoed, etc., and to exercise guardianship upon the orphans. But these as obligations of his office are now obsolete. In this nation the council consists of two houses: one called by the rather high sounding title of "the house of Kings;" the other by the equally chivalrous name of "the house of Warriors." Each band sends a King, but the Warriors are elected "pro rata"-I think one for every 200 popula-

The "Busking," above alluded to, is almost the last of the aboriginal customs; and, as it is essentially inimical in both its design and prosecution to the spread of Christianity, is opposed strenuously by the advocates of a progressive civilization, and as warmly upheld and insisted upon by the least cultivated and indeed, many very influential among them, who use as a convincing argument, "let us once lose our ancient customs and our nationality is destroyed." The band chiefs strive to rigorously enforce attendance and exact a forfeited taxation for absence. But those who have been converted to Christianity disclaim fealty to the band chief; and the attempt to levy the impost on their defection is of course resisted and compels much bad feeling. It is a rite that at one time was the embodiment and manifestation of their religion, and is dear to those who look back with pride to the glories of that mighty Maskokee nation, that driven out of the place of their nativity, Mexico, by the conquering army of Cortes, marched across the continent to the shore of the Atlantic ocean, overcoming and amalgamating eight other great tribes; there again to be met by the ever victorious white man and once more turned back toward the setting sun, but sadly diminished

in numbers and power. The assemblage for the observance of this ceremony takes place in the latter part of the Summer, when the new corn is ripe enough to be eaten. Each band has its own meeting place. That of the largest, the Tukabachee, is near this point-the postal station. Upon the banks of the meandering Wewoka, hidden away amongst the thickly-growing bushes and trees, stands the edifice devoted to this ceremonial -the shrine of their divinity. It would be a difficult task to give an intelligible description of this building; not because of its immensity or beauty, but on account of the eccentric and barbarous taste displayed in its architecture. It is a building without a nail; a large open shed, without walls, quadrangular in form, inclosing a square plot of ground not covered by the roof, upon which the votaries perform their mystic evolutions. The roof of the building is made of clap-boards upon which logs are laid to keep them in their places. In the centre of this enclosed ground is built a fire-a sacred fire, with much ceremony and many incantations attendant upon its making, by one appointed to this duty, called "the fire-maker," elected for life; no white man or indifferent spectator being permitted to witness it. The fire must be kindled in the good old heathen way; a hole is punctured in a dry log into which a pointed stick is inserted and rapidly revolved until the friction sets the wood on fire. This feeble spark is fanned or blown into a flame which is carefully kept up throughout the whole proceedings which continue for seven days. In the buildings surroun ding the square, sit the spectators and those not engaged in the dancing, who, being exhausted, retire for a spell. In a seat reserved for him, on one side, in a pulpit like structure sits in stern majesty the band-chief enrolled in his official regalia and glittering with ornaments, commanding a view of the dancers and issuing his orders. Sometimes, however, he descends from his throne of state to take the land in the solemnities. There is something fascinating to the Indian in the noisy and demonstrative exhibition, and many christianized Indians, who come merely as spectators, yield to this infectious excitement and the pressure of opinions and persuasion brought to bear upon them and join in the mummeries, thereby losing their

standing as professed Christians and be-

coming excommunicated by the church,

And these apostates often sink to a more obstinate benightedness than previous to their supposed conversion. It is the great temptation and most successful obstacle to piety here; for in this territory that other most powerful foe to virtue and good resolution, rum, is by the most stringent laws entirely excluded. The building of the fire inaugurates the ceremonies, and on that day the people assemble. From every direction, on foot and on horseback, clothed in varied costumes, they come to particiin varied costumes, they come to participate in the yearly thanksgiving, or Busking. pate in the yearly thanksgiving, or Busking.
All day long men and women, with children of all sizes, straggle into the encampment, bringing wagous, tents, cooking utensils, etc., to make themselves comfortable for the seven days they will remain—and very few luxuries suffice to make an Indian comfortable. As they arrive the men separate themselves from their retines and with the most portentious gravity nnes and with the most portentious gravity and in dignified silence, walk round among the different groups, shaking hands with each individual. It is but a single, lifeless shake, unaccompanied by a single word of greeting, except upon seeing a white man when they briefly but pointedly inquire, "How?" They bring with them, as camp followers, a score of mongrel curs whose snarlings and snappings make amends for the absence of vocal effort on the part of their masters. Little attention is paid to the women by the men, and to them falls all the labor of putting up the tents, gath ering fuel and preparing the food. As the night approaches the dancers and spectators enter the sheds surrounding the enclo-sure. At the call of the criers, the men fall into single file and begin slowly marching in a circle around the fire, the leader uttering at short intervals peculiar guttural cries, like a suppressed whoop, which is re-sponded to by the rest with similar sounds. sponded to by the rest with similar sounds. As they warm up the cries increase to yells and the march quickens into a succession of short jumps, with occasional "spurts" of rapid walking. As the excitement rises and they gradually "get up steam" the women enter the ring and complete the circle. The latter arrivals on their ankles a number of tortoise shells filled with pebbles, the noise of which keeps time with the movement of their limbs, which with a drum vigorously pounded by a man seated on an elevation near the chief, furnish the music for the dance. Louder and faster grows the yell-ing, and now the march is a shufile, the arms are tossed about wildly, and there is a unique display of funcy gymnastics. As they revolve, their savage howls and more savage countenances, their disheveled hair and uncouth gestures present a spectacle that for a while amuses the onlookers, but at length becomes wearisome, even painful. The clamor augments, the shuffling, hopping and floundering grows more furious, the tossing and flourishing of arms is re-doubled, the cries become unbroken and all the voices in unison swell into a wild, barbarous, unmelodious chant; and this continues until perfect exhaustion compels them to cease, and their places are taken by fresh dancers. This scene is repeated constantly throughout the night or until the chief gives the order to stop; at which time generally all the participants are un-terly prostrated and so hoarse as to be in-audible. One who has witnessed the nocturnal orgic will retire, not to sleep, but to lie awake with the hideous sounds still ringing in his ears, and suffering the most acute nervous distress. The second day is devoted to performances by the gentler sex alone, the men armaining subsections. alone, the men remaining quiescent and fortifying themselves against the austeri-ties of the next day. The women array themselves in their most gorgeous apparel, "bravely bedecked" in calicoes of brilliant patterns, and ribbons a-flying. They exhibit the same vanity and delight in adornment of their persons for which women are everywhere proverbial. Their faces be-token their conviction that they appear to advantage before their husbands and lovers. As they slowly file into the ring the maidens with downcast eyes and palpitating bustles, the elder ladies with firm step and heads erect, to the music of the rattles affixed to their ankles, and the singing or roaring of two lusty fellows detailed to furnish a vocal accompaniment to their

sessed by them being the power of their lungs. It is a pageant to excite the admi-ration of every beholder. Their dance is similar to that of the pre-ceding night, except, that the vocalization is modified, both in volume and discordance. This continues all day with short intervals for food and rest. When night comes the men again unite with them for a

"o-pa-ne-tuh," the only qualification

comes the men again unite with them for a time; but on this night they desist early as they have a trying day before them.

On the first and second days they are permitted and encouraged to eat to satisfy, several oxen being roasted and consumed. The morning of the third day begins a fasting of twenty-four hours duration—a total abstinence from everything except tobacco; a period of penance, contrition, mortification of the body and purification. The men dance throughout the day and night, the women encouraging them with night, the women encouraging them with dulcet vocal strains and performance upon the harmonious tortoise shell. On this day can be seen some striking tableaux, as ludicrous to those not concerned in the formalities as it is solemn and harrowing to

The 'fire-maker' prepares an enormous pot of a decoction of certain roots, called "the black drink," which is a powerful to be a constant of the black drink, and the black drink and prompt emetic. After it is brewed gourds are hung beside it and it behooves gourds are hung beside it and it behooves every man to step forward and quaff the nauseous stuff. After the doss has had the desired effect it is repeated and continued during the day, although they persist in dancing in the pendancy of ejecting the drink. Many bring flasks with them, and, filling from the large earthen pot, carry them about with them and imbibe as occasion demands. It is affecting to behold casion demands. It is affecting to behold a group of several grave and austerely dig-nified old gentlemen engaged in a talk in their slow ponderous manner, each provi-ded with his "pocket-pistoh," as one might

As from time to time the remembrance of his duty presents itself, each one draws out his flash takes quant. suf., and restores the receptacle to his pocket. The converthe receptacle to his posket. The conver-sation goes on until one, jogged by his sen-sibilities, solemnly and decorously stalks to the nearest tree, and leaning against it, turnultuously and explosively "rids his bosom of the perilous stuff," and then re-turns as slowly and gravely to his former position—not a feather rum pied, not a par-ticle of his stately composure disturbed. And thus be lounges and vomits the happy hours away. But it is indeed a distressing

sight when the sufferers are infirm and feeble old men. The fearful bodily contortions, the dire distress depicted on his lugubrious face, retchings and strainings that raise him on tiptoe and make every nerve quiver, and the expression of disgusand weariness on his countenance when at last the bitter, masty upheaval takes place, would excite the commiscration of the most would excite the commiscration of the most obdurate. And as the poor tottering old martyr to his faith walks away, wiping the tears from his eyes, with many a spasmodic shake of the head and ghastly grimace, he is in truth to be sorrowed for. Upon the third day and night they neither sleep nor eat, hence the fourth day is spent in pro-found slumber and absolute silence and inaction reign over the camp, except for a short period when they are employed in gorging themselves to recompense them for the abstinence of the previous day. On the fifth day the men all go hunting, the women remaining behind to bake bread, and the night is spent in feasting.

The sixth day is a repetition of the second day's proceedings, together with a "band council." On the morning of the

seventh day they again have recourse to the cleaning drink of the third day. Orce more they fill the flowing bowl and pa-tiently await the overflow, and after this renewed purification they scatter to their

homes, worn out pilgrims.

The chants connected with their dances are hymns of thanksgiving to the Great Spirit for the harvest and invocations for a

continuance of his favors. The fire maker is a sacred personage, a sort of high priest and oracle. The facts connected with the death of the last firemaker of the Tukabachee band shows how accident or coincidence sometimes favors them in securing a belief in their supernatural powers. He had for a long time been charging the members of the band with indifference to the importance of the "busk," and accusing them of failure in attendance, and frequently "prophesied" that their want of zeal would cause his death. Sure enough, during the time of the last "busk" he died; and of course his name will long live in the traditions of the tribe as a divinely endowed mortal.

It may be though, that his death might be accredited to an overdose of his own vile compound. But be that as it may, after a generous goblet or two of the bev-

He smiled a kinder sickly smile, and curled upon the floor, And the subsequent proceeding interested him no more."

and the singularity of his demise gives additional prestige to his successor.

I have yet many things distinctive of the Indians and peculiar to the two tribes with which I am best acquainted to tell you but shall reserve them for another time.

A. W. C.

#### Miscellaneous News Items.

The leader of a great revival of religion in De Kalb county, Ill., is a boy of 14, described as "a most fluent exhorter."

A postmistress in Mississippi discharged her husband from a clerkship the other day for non-attendance to duty.

Near Fort Ticonderoga recently : wagon containing 1,200 pounds of nitroglycerine fell over a bluff, but fortunately did not explode.

At Boston on Sunday evening Mr. Goglery, organist at the Baptist church, West Concord street, died of heart disease in his seat while conducting the service.

137 On Friday evening a week, William Marks, a stone mason of Allentown, Pa., dropped dead at his work. He leaves a wife and several children.

At the Oakland park on the 2d inst., the California mare, Lady Mac, made what is said to be the best time on record in a five mile trotting race. She trotted against Jerome and Omaha. She sold in pools at \$2 against their \$20 and \$6 respectivly, and won the race in thirteen minutes.

The women of Worcester, Mass. have abandoned the Dio Lewis plan of operation against liquor-dealers, and have decided to go to work privately visiting owners of buildings occupied by liquor dealers and endeavoring to induce them to sign a pledge not to let their premises to any one for the sale of liquor.

This is what we learn from the Cleveland Voice: A West-sider, who keeps a general store, in descanting on the completeness of his stock says he tries to keep everything in creation but the ten commandments; and he would keep them, but no one else keeps them and he don't want to appear eccentric.

A lady at Madison, Ohio, thinking pleasantly to surprise one of her boarders. put a gold ring which he had lost in a pancake and placed the production on his plate at breakfast. But the boarder bolted the paneake in such large bites that the presence of the ring was not discovered, and now it is lost again.

At Reading, on Sunday, while a little daughter of Adam Dease was passing along the street, on her way to Sunday School, her clothing took fire, as is supposed from a lighted stump of a cigar being thrown upon her. She was taken into a house and quickly stripped of her clothing, but was so badly burned that her condition is now

About 500 operatives in the hosiery mill and bleachery of the Boston manufacturing company, in Waltham, Mass., have struck for 10 per cent. advance on the wages. There is much excitement in Waltham and it is generally believed the company will not accede to the demand. In the hosiery department only a few girls are left, and of the bleachery hands only a small number are at work. The whole number employed by the company is about

A dispatch from Austin Nevada, received at San Francisco on Wednesday night, gives the particulars of a horrible tragedy in Smoky Valley in that State. It appears that Christopher Reckstein had been for a long time jealous of his wife in consequence of attentions paid to her by a young man named Norton, and they had frequent quarrels about him. Yesterday a man named Osterhaus went to Reckstein's house, and, receiving no response to his demands for admission, broke open the door. On the floor lay the naked body of Mrs. Reckstein, out in pieces and her head split open. At her feet were the bodies of their two little girls their heads nearly severed from their bodies, and near were the bodies of Reckstein and young Norton, grappled as in a death struggle. Reckstein grasped in his right hand a large bowie knife, covered with blood, and in Norton's right hand was a dragoon pistol, two chambers of which were discharged. There is no living witness to this terrible affair.

23 In no part of the country have female crusaders met with a more obstinate and successful resistance than from Mrs. Ward, of Greenville, Tonnessee. The contest has lasted for several weeks, and been conducted with determination on both sides. In rain and sleet the women have stood before the saloon, singing, and praying and adjuring, while Mrs. Ward stood inside defying and laughing. She has even taken out another license, the old one having expired. At the latest advices, noon of St, Patrick's day, she showed no signs of yielding. The ladies are equally resolved, and Greenville thinks that it's getting

New York, March 31, 1874 .- Mr. Oliver Davidson, a wealthy builder of Brooklyn, entered the Park hotel, nodded sociably to the clerk and took a seat in the reading room. He made one or two common-place remarks and then became silent. Presently the clerk noticed that while he preserved his previous position, his head fell unnaturally back. A closer inspection revealed immobile features, and the staring eye

The Rev. Mr. Kerns, of Clintonville, Centre county, was chopping wood to kindle a fire when a chip struck him in the eye and knocked it out upon his cheek .-He then took his handkerchief and wiped his face when he found, to his horror, that he had wiped out his eye.

## Foreign Items.

Paris, March 30 .- The report that Henri Rochefort and Paschal Grousset have escaped from New Caledonia is confirmed. A dispatch from Melbourne of to-day's date says they, with Gourde and Bulliere, and two other convicts, have arrived at New Castle, New South Wales.

Political disquietude throughout the country is on the increase, and the various political factions are again discussing the probabilities of important changes in the administration at no distant date. The recent debates in the assembly, from their general tone and character, have weakened the confidence of the country in the permanence of the seven year presidential

An apprehension is becoming popular that France and Germany will soon be gain involved in dange and that an early renewal of the late war between the two countries is unavoidable.

"Housekeeper" of Health.

The liver being the great depurating or blood cleansing organ of the system—set this great "housekeeper of our health" at work, and the foul corruptions which gender in the blood, and rot out, as it were, the machinery of life, are gradually expelled, from the system. For this purpose Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery with very small daily doses of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets are pre-eminently the articles needed. They cure every kind of humor from the worst scrofula to the common pimple, blotch or eruption. Great eating ulcers kindly heal under their mighty curative influence. Virulent blood poisons that lurk in the system are by them robbed of their terrors, and by their them robbed of their terrors, and by their persevering and sensewhat protracted use the most tainted systems may be completely renovated and built up anew. Enlarged glands, tumors and swellings dwindle away and disappear under the influence of thes great resolvents.

DOCTORS COULDN'T HELP HIM.

Meigsville, Morgan Co., O., March 24th 1872. Dear Dr. Pierce:

When I was 12 or 15 years of age I took what is called King's Evil, and by constant doctoring it would heal in one place and break out in another. I first found your name in the Obristian Advocate, and sent 10 wiles for the Christian Advocate, and sent 10 miles for the first bottle, which did me more good than all other medicines I ever used. I am 28 years old and doctored with five doctors, and not one of them helped me so much as your bottle of Discovery. I have got well and able to do a good day's work. John A. Wilson.

HORTTER'S

BRONCHO LARYNGEAL TROUBES.



S. E. Corner of 20th & Green Streets.

PHILADELPHIA For sale by F. MORTIMER, New Blooms field, Perry county, Pa.