

The Post,
MIDDLEBURG, NOV. 23, 1871.

J. CROSH, Editor and Proprietor.

FOR GOVERNOR IN 1872,
HON. JOHN B. PACKER,
OF SUNBURY.

THE Forty-second Congress is now complete, and when it assembles at Washington next month will show a Republican majority of thirty-seven votes in the House of Representatives. In the Senate the Republicans are probably stronger than any other party ever was. That body, when full, now consists of seventy-four members; but there are three vacancies—one in Alabama, caused by the death of Goldthwaite, another in North Carolina, by the refusal to admit Vance, and one in Illinois by the resignation of Logan. The Georgia vacancy has been filled by the election of Newell, classed as a Moderate Democrat. Whether or no he will be admitted to his seat remains to be seen. The Alabama and North Carolina vacancies will be filled by Democrats that from Illinois by a Republican, and the Senate when full, as it will doubtless be before the session is over, will have fifty-seven Republicans to seventeen Democrats. The Republican majority on joint ballot will then be exactly eighty.

Interesting to Supervisors.
In 1861 a teamster employed by Michael H. Moore of Lancaster county, drove over the bridge in Ralph and West Hempfield townships, that county, and the team broke through, killing a horse and breaking the wagon. Sun was instituted.

The court charged that the townships were liable—the question being referred to the jury. The jury found \$7,178.33 for the plaintiff. On a suit of error to the supreme court, the judgment below was affirmed and the liability and duties of supervisors were thus decided.

1. Buildings are treated as portions of the highways which cross them and are to be maintained and kept in repair by the supervisors of the townships.

2. The neglect of the supervisors to keep them in repair, subjects them to personal liability; but does not lessen the primary liability of the townships to those who suffer injury from their neglect.

This being the case, it is clearly the duty of the supervisors, having thus reason to believe that defects may exist, to call to their assistance those whose skill will enable them to ascertain the true state of the structure and determine the question of liability. With out doing this much at least, their duty to the public is not performed; nor to do it is therefore negligence, and this is the point on which the case went to the jury. There is, therefore no error in the submission.

A Standover Answered.

Senator Cocking of New York, in a recent speech at Albany, made the following just reply to the oft-repeated charge that Gen. Grant has been enriched by accepting presents:

MILITARY.—A State Military Convention met at Harrisburg on the 7th instant of which Adjutant General Russell was President. A committee of one member from each military division, seven members to constitute a quorum, was appointed to prepare a law for the better organization of the National Guards of Pennsylvania. Resolutions were also adopted, to the effect that tax levied for the support of the National Guard should be a State tax and not a military tax; that the number of officers and men composing the National Guard should be limited by law; that the necessary uniforms and equipments should be furnished by the State; that the present form of enlistment should be changed, from signing the "enrollment book"; that faces levied by county should be considered collectors; given due consideration of his military services, and his political opponents never cast foul aspersions on him for it. Wellington after Waterloo, received presents amounting to more than two millions of dollars. Whether heroes, in former or recent times, have done well or ill in accepting tributes from their countrymen, is not, however, the point here; but that one way or the other, the right or wrong is the same in all cases alike, and since Gen. Grant's accession to the Presidency, as far as I can learn, he never accepted a "costly present" from any one.

The Pennsylvania Railroad.

On Sunday a week the track of the Pennsylvania railroad, says the Philadelphia *Day*, was strengthened between Rosemont and Villa Nova a short distance from this city. This was rendered necessary by removing the bend in the old track, which amounted to some miles. The new track crosses the old one four times, and involved the building of a trestle bridge eight feet in height and ninety feet in length, the throwing up of an embankment of some four feet in height and of one hundred and fifty feet in length, and the connection at two other points of the new and old tracks by shifting the rails and cross-ties from one bed of ballast to another, and when it is remembered that all this had to be done in a little under four hours, some idea may be formed of the amount of engineering skill and forethought that had to be brought to bear upon the work.

The whole of this work was accomplished in a little less than three hours, owing to the immense working force employed and the energetic manner in which the work was done.

In four hours after commencing a special train, bearing Thomas A.

A fond mother advised her daughter to oil her hair, and fainted away when that candid damsel replied.

"Oh no, ma, it spoils the gentleman's

Violating the Pension Laws.

On Monday last Samuel A. Savage, a lawyer residing in Northumberland county, Pa., was arraigned before the United States District Court for the western district of Pennsylvania, Judge McCandless presiding, on an indictment for wrongfully withholding a pension due to Mrs. Mary Miller, mother of Abraham Miller, who was killed in the United States service. The defendant has been an attorney and claim agent and had collected the sum of \$617.73, which he neglected and refused to pay to the pensioner. In February last Mrs. Miller entered her complaint before the Commissioner of Pensions, who caused legal proceedings to be instituted against Mr. Savage, which had the effect to induce him to pay over to her the sum of \$200. Being an infirm woman the agent deceitfully and illegally obtained a receipt for the full amount, but before the trial caused the balance to be paid to her through an agent, evidently for the purpose of inducing a suspension of the prosecution, with the hope of ultimate dismissal of the case. Historical conviction in the mind of Commissioner Baker became a necessity, not only for the just punishment of the offender, but for its moral effect in the vindication of the law and the protection of pensioners in their legal rights. The instructions of Judge McCauley to the jury, as to the criminality of the act, even after the full amount withheld had been refund, were clear and positive, and the jury rendered a verdict of guilty. The wrongfully holding of pens on money collected by attorneys and claim agents is made a high *misdemeanor* by the statute, under a penalty of a fine not exceeding \$300, or imprisonment at hard labor not exceeding two years, both according to the aggravation of the offense. —*Gazette & Bulletin*.

On Wednesday last the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, at Pittsburgh, received the answer of the Democratic return judge of Cambria county, who refused to sign a pro forma certificate of the election of the Hon. J. M. Weakley to the Senate from the Cambria and Franklin district. In the answer the return judge, Mr. Ensminger, refused to sign any further certificate than he had already signed. He appeared by counsel, who resided in his behalf, the prayer of Mr. Weakley for a pro forma certificate on the recent judge. After argument the court promptly and unanimously ordered a pro forma mandamus, which compels the signing of a pro forma certificate or the punishment of the return judge for contempt. This settles a very important controversy. It determines that there will be at the opening of the Senate sixteen Republican Senators, which the Democratic organization will have to recognize, and the final control of the Senate will depend upon the result of the election in the Fourth district. This nation of the court is important in its results, for it prevents the possibility of the Democrats getting control of the organization of the Senate. Mr. Weakley has pressed his case with indomitable energy, and was ably represented by Hon. Thomas M. Morris, of Allegheny, and General Hartley White, of Indiana. —*Press*.

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CHLORAL DRINKING, according to the physicians, is suspending absinthe, opium, and alcoholic stimulants among the better classes. The manufactory of this drug is the best evidence of the extent of its use. In Europe its production has become one of the leading chemical industries, and it is sold by the ton. Baron Liebig affirms that one German chemist manufactures and sells half a ton a week. The London *Spectator* says: "Taking chloral is the new and popular vice, particularly among women, and is doing at least as much harm as alcohol. The drug is kept in thousands of dressing-cases, and those who begin its use often grow so addicted to it that they pass their lives in a sort of continual drowsiness." Chloral-drink will soon be an admitted variety of the species."

The returns received at the Census Bureau show that there are in the United States 20,320 people who are blind; and of these 96 are deaf and dumb; 75 insane, 105 idiotic, 7 deaf, dumb, and insane, and 11 who are deaf, dumb, and idiotic, as well as blind. The total number of insane persons in the Union is 37,382, of whom 6,333 are found in New York, the largest number reported in any state. Only two are reported insane in Nevada, while California has 1,146, a very large number in proportion to the whole population. The little district of Columbia has 479 crazy inhabitants, a sad evidence of the demoralizing influence of Congress. The deaf and dumb in all the States and Territories number 16,822, and the idiotic 24,527, according to the census statistics, though it is doubtful if all have been included in the latter class who are entitled to the distinction.

There are no more revolting devilments made in our courts than those brought out in hearing writs of habeas corpus, for the release of prisoners confined in lunatic asylums by authority of relatives who thus seek to get possession of property for which they cannot patiently wait the events of life and the regular course of law; and it seems strange, too, that in this State, most if not all these cases grow out of the acts of those having charge of what is known as Kirkbride's asylum in Philadelphia. The courts in that county are frequently occupied in hearing such cases, the list of which is that a lady named Mintzer, recently an evenhanded incarnation of a manic asylum, in order that the relatives might profit by the result of the conspiracy.

We agree with our contemporary of the Harrisburg *State Journal*, that the ease with which official robbers sweep off prisoners and escape conviction, and the boldness with which they treat these are treated, because they were respectable before their crimes were exposed, is working a fearful evil in society. Encouragement like that of Verney in Philadelphia, and transactions like those of the Philadelphia city treasurer, are influences which will infect all kinds of business, encourage evil everywhere, and dignify crime in all shapes. We most stoutly convicting little rascals and take-gangs of crime by the throat, or our jurisprudence will become a contemptible mockery.

MAJOR Hobart, who recently stole several hundred thousand dollars from the Treasury of the United States, was arrested by the order of the present Republican administration, was convicted as a defrauder and without delay was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of years. "Boss" Tweed, who stole over \$5,000,000 of the people's money in New York, and who is now charged with wife enough of crimes to send him to prison for more than the remainder of his natural life, was elected by the Democrats to fill a high position. It would be well to remind Democrats of these facts when they speak about corruption and dishonesty in the Republican party.

The Tribune says Chicago has paid during the last fifteen years, enough money in extra instances caused by fire to buildings to have built a brick building for each wooden one erected within that time. As a matter of economy, therefore, the further erection of wooden buildings ought to be prohibited. The owners of wooden structures now feel the great loss. They are paying an advance of 150 and 300 per cent. in the rate of insurance, and their building are of less value, because tenants for the most part are unable to get any insurance from responsible companies on good wooden buildings.

On Monday a week laborers were at work cutting a new road through a hill in a hollow known as Long Hollow, near Council Bluff, Iowa, they excavated a rock containing \$12,000 in gold and silver. The money was hidden there eighteen years ago by a man named Moise who murdered a comrade. Californian in the city Moise was captured and hung by a mob of Californians. He said that he had hid the money under a stump in his hollow, but refused to tell where. Many have hunted for this secret treasure, but all in vain. The laborers shared the booty equally.

GOVERNOR GEARY has appointed Hon. A. G. O'Neil of Potter county, as an additional law judge in the judicial district of Bucks and Montgomery counties, in the place of Judge Taylor, promoted to the president judge of the district at the late elections. Mr. O'Neil was the late Senator from Bucks and Potter counties, and was an undeniably recommendable man in regard to the necessity for some law on the subject, more efficient than any now on our statute-books. The shameless traffic in medical diplomas, too, is under consideration; and in the general crusade against quacks we are promised a system of oral examination which will assure

THE doctors and lawyers are putting their heads together for the purpose of devising a bill which, when it shall become a law, will secure the adequate punishment of men like Rensselaer. Opinions differ as to details, of course, but all are of one mind in regard to the necessity for some law on the subject, more efficient than any now on our statute-books. The shameless traffic in medical diplomas, too, is under consideration; and in the general crusade against quacks we are promised a system of oral examination which will assure

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A WISCONSIN Justice of the peace granted himself a divorce.

THE burned Chicago buildings, if placed side by side, would reach one hundred miles.

A CLERK in the sixth Auditor's office of Washington, lost his wife and five children by the Chicago fire.

THE First National Bank of Richland, Va., recently paid a check for \$3,000 altered from \$36.

Three negroes who murdered the Park family near Henryville, Indiana, were taken from the Charleston jail in that State, Tuesday morning, by a mob of disguised men and hanged.

ENGLAND can manufacture most articles of hardware much cheaper than ourselves, but in point of finished grandeur of outline, we are far ahead of the old world.

MANY farmers throughout Nemaha county, Wisconsin, have been compelled to sell their stock, on account of prairie fires burning up their winter supply of hay.

THEY believe in witches out in Titusville. A lot of men employed in a machine shop there, quit work the other day because they had been informed by a witch that the boiler would explode at a certain hour.

BENJAMIN BREMER died.

A MINISTER'S NOTICE.

A Notice is hereby given that letters of Administration on the estate of Benjamin Bremer, deceased, deceased have been granted to the undersigned persons themselves intended to said estate to make payment without delay and to have their claims paid as early as possible.

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