

# The Post.

MIDDLEBURG, MARCH 11TH, 1875.

J. GROUSE, Editor & Proprietor.

The Forty-third Congress expired on the 4th inst.

The House has repealed the Local Option Law by a vote of 124 to 54 mays. The liquor men say it will also pass the Senate by a decided majority.

The Civil Rights Bill passed the United States Senate on the 27th inst., in the form in which it previously passed the House, the provision in regard to mixed schools in the South being omitted. It has since been signed by the President.

A necessary decision of the patent office in Boston that no more patents for medical compounds will be granted. The examiner refuses a patent, first, because the applicant has not invented or discovered anything; second, because the alleged invention was not useful; and third, because the production of this and similar preparations is a mere matter of skill.

**IMPORTANT IN TRINITY.**—The *Rand Sun* says: Every species of snake may be permanently driven away from an infested place by planting geraniums. In South Africa people plant their premises of snakes.—Germans are highly redundant of volatile oils—demon-scented, musk-scented, and peppermint-scented. What, therefore, is a very pleasant mosquito for man is repugnant to the serpent tribe.

There is a general opinion in Austria that a war with Germany is imminent, and that Russia is preparing to arrange matters so that Austria may seem to be the aggressor. The Emperor Francis Joseph is very desirous that peace should continue and averse to the discussion of the war question. It having pleased the Archduke Leopold Salvator of Austria to write a pamphlet declaring that an Austro-German war was imminent, his imperial relatives, the Emperor Francis Joseph, placed him under arrest and debarred him from military ranks. If he is to any faith in tradition, Russia is bound to assist Austria in the event of Germany forcing the latter into the field.—*Philadelphia Press.*

**GEN. HARTFORD.**—A Harrisburg correspondent of the *Senate Reporter* writes: There is no conceivable talk here already concerning the prospects of the next State election. It seems to be conceded all hands that Gov. John F. Hartford will be renominated without opposition in accordance with what is believed to be the unanimous desire of the mass of the Republican party throughout the State. It is a noticeable fact that many of those who opposed Hartford's nomination most earnestly three years ago are now just as ardent in demanding his renomination. He has made himself available by proving himself an admirable executive. His record as Governor is by all conceded to be pure and characterized by ability and statesmanship.

Under the new tax law just passed by Congress the tax on whisky has been increased from 70 to 90 cents per gallon. The tax on tobacco is increased from 20 cents to 24 cents a pound; cigarettes the duty is increased from \$5 to \$6 a 1,000; and on cigars from 50 to 75 per cent ad valorem. The increase of 25 per cent on the present duty on sugar and molasses and the restoration of the 10 per cent duty taken off in 1872 on woollens, steel and iron, glass, &c., are retained as in the Committee's bill, so is the provision relative to goods on shipboard on the 10th of February, and there is an additional section exempting button cloths from duty and the receipt books of saving banks from the tax which would have assessed on them under the Little Tariff act approved February 8, 1875. This bill will increase the revenue \$35,000,000 annually. It was passed by a nearly party vote, all the Democrats voting against it.

The Democratic party has not possessed the good sense, or call it shrewdness if you will, to husband the fruits of their victories last fall is daily becoming more apparent. The independent journals of the country who gave it such effective aid in its compass, have been sadly disappointed in respecting the change of sentiment among the people, like rats deserting a sinking ship, are hastening away from the wreck, in the hope by their early desertion they may again be received into the counsels of the only party which has shown itself capable of governing. Among this class the most prominent is the New York *Advertiser*, which in a recent article discussing the political situation says:

"In the country at large the Democratic party has not gained since the fall election to re-elect some other

## Equalization of Bonuses.

Week before last the House of Representatives at Washington passed a bill equalizing bonuses, without much opposition, and that solely from the Democrats, a number of whom voted against the bill. It gives a bounty to every soldier who served between April 12th, 1861, and May 9th, 1865, at the rate of \$3.33 per month, less all bounties received from the United States or State governments. During the debate in the House, General Albright, one of the members of Congress-at-Large from this State, elicited the fact that the reason the soldier had not long since received the bounty to which he was justly entitled, was merely a technical one. We copy below that portion of the debate, viz:

Mr. Albright. Let me ask the gentleman a question: Whether, according to the decisions of the Treasury Department, a very large number of soldiers who were enlisted in the service for nine months, until the expiration of their services, were prevented from receiving any bounty at all by a technical ruling of the Department; and whether the Second Auditor, Mr. French, does not state that he considers that class of men the most meritorious that went into the service.

Mr. Gunckel. The Second Auditor engaged paying them, supposing they were volunteers, fully competent under the law. The War Department found out they were not volunteers, but militia, and under some old law the President had the right to call out the militia; and therefore the nine months men and others who served for less than a year were treated as militia and ruled out.

Mr. Albright. But is it not the fact that they were actually mustered in by the United States mastering officers, placed under command of United States officers, taken into the field in Virginia and other States, and served just in the same way as other soldiers?

Mr. Albright. Yes, sir. But when it came to this bounty question this point was raised, that if they had not been in the service for a year they were not in the United States service and therefore were not to be paid bounty.

Mr. Albright. Pennsylvania furnished twenty-seven thousand and of that class of men at a time when the demand for troops was very great; when the Army had been defeated on the peninsula, and at the time of the second Bull Run; and they were immediately brought into the Maryland and Virginia campaign. These men have been deprived of this bounty to this day, and have failed in any way to get any recognition of their services to the country.

This bill proposes to reach a class of men, too, who were in the service for a longer period of time. The bill is meritorious, just and fair all the way through. It provides that there shall be deducted from the bounties of the men entitled to the same any land or other bounties they may have received, and in that way realized; and that then it shall be ascertained whether they came under the general terms of the law which provides there shall be paid after one year's service and makes up the basis of his calculations. Nine months men will get seventy-five dollars.

Since the above was put in type the bill has been defeated in the Senate. We think however that Congress will soon pass a law equalizing bounties.

**A HUMAN FIEND.**—The sad story of the death by freezing of the family of Richard Daniels, of Lynn, Conn., who was forced out in the cold by the burning of a house a few days ago, awakened universal sympathy. The sequel of the story, by which it appears that the father was the worst kind of fiend in human shape, can not be told, but awaked universal indignation. The father, it seems, is a most brutal fellow, and the reason why the children did not call on the neighbors for help was because he had denounced the most terrible threats against them if they ever called for assistance from the neighbors. He made these threats anew when he came home on Saturday night and found that they had been forced to beg. He had even punished them for taking food from the neighbors. The girl, thirteen years old, found dead and naked, had a chemise on when she left the house, but it had been torn off by the others to keep them warm. The boy found on Mr. Coul's steps had been there from midnight until seven in the morning, with nothing on but shirt and pants. The most terrible part of the story is that in the arms of one of the girls saved was her child, twelve months old, and the girls' father proved to be its father. Daniels has cleared out, and the officers are after him.

—Some months ago a sewing machine agent of Johnstown, visiting the house of Jacob Sigler, in Westmoreland county, to sell or leave a machine that had been engaged, was charged by Sigler with intimacy with Sigler's wife. At the muzzle of a gun the agent was forced to give a receipt for the machine. The agent brought suit, and Sigler was found guilty and ordered to pay \$100 fine and be imprisoned in the western penitentiary for six months.

The 18th inst. is the time fixed for the adjournment of the Legislature and it is not likely any further effort will be made this session to make it an act.

The North Carolina House of Representatives considered the resolution of J. Wm. Member for Warren county, ninth sessions last week, on his non-belief in the existence of God.

## From the Black Hills.

A special despatch to the Sioux City *Journal* from Yankton says Eph Witcher a well known citizen, who was a member of the expedition to the Black Hills, arrived in Yankton. He reports having left his companions at the stockade of the expedition within two miles of Harney's Peak, on Box Elder Creek, on the 3d ult. Witcher says the expedition was composed of twenty-seven men, and one woman and her son. There were six wagons, and the party were well armed, some being mounted. They are also well supplied with provisions and mining tools. The expedition left here on the 6th of October. They struck Niobrara river about 12 miles above its mouth, and after following the stream some distance they crossed the country to a point east of the Black Hills. On Cheyenne river they met a party of 200 mounted Indians, with whom they held a peaceful parley.

After reaching an apparently passable path at the foot of the hills, they struck into the mountains, and after picking their way, reached a point within two miles of Harney's Peak in fifteen days after the date of their entry into the hills. They erected a stockade eighty feet long and built log cabins from an abundant supply of timber which they found. The cold weather greatly impeded their prospecting. They sank twenty-five prospecting holes and struck gold in every instance.

From the grass to the bed of the rock they found numerous gold and silver-bearing quartz ledges, and the specimens Mr. Witcher has brought back are pronounced very rich. The party never saw an Indian while in the hills.

Mr. Witcher describes the parts of the hills they saw as having magnificent valleys, seemingly limitless forests of pine, and abundance of Elk, deer, and other game. The greater portion of the return trip was made through snow drifts, over a trackless country, in most stormy and severe weather. They discovered in coming out of the hills what has been named Witcher's Pass, a good natural wagon road. This shortens the way out of the hills by thirteen days. Their animals lived on the grass they found beneath the snow. Mr. Witcher says he can take loaded ox teams into the hills from Sioux City in thirty days.

The members left in the hills are in good health and spirits. Mr. Witcher returned for reinforcements. He says there is no evidence of other parties being in the hills. Mr. Gordon, who came with him part of the way, was delayed by his horse giving out. Nothing has been heard or seen of the two disastrous army expeditions sent out to intercept them.

**Cattle at Large.**

The following bill for the prevention of horses, cattle, sheep or swine running at large in the various townships of the Commonwealth has been introduced into the Senate:

**SENATOR L. B. BENNETT, d.b.**—That no horses, cattle, sheep or swine shall be suffered to run at large upon the public roads or highways, in the various townships of the Commonwealth, under penalty of two dollars for each offence.

**SACRE 2.** It shall be the duty of the constable, within the various townships of the Commonwealth, respectively, and they are hereby empowered and directed, without any special warrant or other authority than this act, to seize and secure every animal of horse, cattle, sheep or swine kind that may be found running at large as aforesaid, and the same to sell at public sale in the same manner as is provided by law for selling strays, giving the owner if he can be found, at least five days previous to such sale. If the said owner shall pay to the said constable the said penalty of two dollars, and also pay the expenses of keeping the said animal or animals, then it shall be the duty of the said constable to deliver said animal to the owner or owners thereof; but if he shall make sale as aforesaid he shall pay the overplus after deducting the said penalty and expenses, to the constable making such seizure shall be allowed for the same to retain one-half the penalty, and it shall be his duty to pay the other half to the school treasurer of the township where such seizure was made for the use of the schools of said township.

**SACRE 3.** That if any constable shall neglect or refuse to seize or secure any animal as aforesaid running at large being notified by any person to seize or secure the same, such constable shall pay a fine of five dollars for the use of the schools of the township where the said constable resides for every such neglect or refusal.

**SACRE 4.** The penalties imposed by this act shall be prosecuted and recoverable before a justice of the peace, in the name of the school district of the said respective townships. **Provided**, That the provision of this act shall not be enforced until approved by a majority of the lawful voters on the same at any annual spring election to be held for the election of township officers. That in each of the said townships, on said day, the election officers shall receive ballots on this subject, for or against approval.

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—As set forth in a pamphlet, they voted on the last night, resulting, May 31.

## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD REPORT.

The annual report of the directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for the year 1874 has just been published. The following is decidedly favorable and encouraging. Notwithstanding the continued business depression the net earnings was considerably greater than in the year 1873. As compared with that year the number of passengers carried over the main line between Pittsburgh and Philadelphia and its several branches was greater by 203,419, and the number of tons of freight carried was less by 880,372 tons. The figures of the United Railroad of New Jersey show a decrease of passengers to the number of 154,726 though the average distance travelled by each was 210 miles more, and an increase in tonnage to the amount of 416,375 tons. The operating of New Jersey railroads and canal resulted in a loss of \$31,161 after paying dividends, interest, &c., but the net profits on all its roads was \$19,433.49 which deducting loss on the New Jersey lines leaves a surplus profit of \$3,168,332.49 after providing for a ten per cent dividend, interest and every form of expense.

The ice gorge on the Juniata is said to be fourteen miles long.

**CHARLES LAMB.**—Excerpt: "I descended all pretensions as to my distinction," poor Lamb said, "and living would only spoil the rest." **ALBRIGHT, EX-UNITED.**—Advertised as "Carrie's" in the *Times* of New York, he is reported to be the world's best violinist, which contains no falsehood. It is Dr. Walker's California Vinegar Blister. [Mar. 11, 1874.]

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