

Allentown has a nootback of 2 years old, who is the sprightliest boy among them all.

A valuable bed of China clay has been discovered in Herk county, near Fleetwood.

The oldest fiddle in this country is aged three hundred and sixteen, or a hundred years older than the oldest grub hoe.

A Boston lady lost a pocket-book containing \$70, and when an honest little boy returned it to her she was so grateful that she gave him a great deal of good advice and didn't charge him cent for it.

Andrew Tracy, the McKean county murderer, was hanged at Snodgrass on the 5th inst. for the murder of Miss Reilly, his cousin, whom he killed in a fit of jealousy.

Mr. Hendricks now explains that his refusal to take second place on next year's ticket applies only to Tilden. He has no objection to riding behind Byard, or some other real statesman—but no more Tilden for him.

Lumbermen labor under great disadvantage on account of the failure of the usual flood. The shores of the creeks in the lumbering regions are covered with stock ready to be floated to market.

The Grant reception at Harrisburg on the 15th promises to be an imposing affair. Civic and military associations from all parts of the State will take part, and as all railroads centering there will issue excursion tickets an immense crowd is anticipated.

The baby of the Mayor of Stafford, England, is rocked to sleep in a solid silver cradle, but it wakes in the night, kicks off the covers, rattles the old man with his bowels, and makes him take up his son and patrol the floor with him until 2 a. m., all the same as though it went to rest in an old trunk lid on slab rockers.

Wise, one of the murderers of Joseph Faber, who attempted to save his neck by turning State's evidence, has been sentenced to be hanged. Two others are also under sentence of death, and two have already been hanged for the same crime. This is the celebrated Lebanon conspiracy and murder case. The sixth of the gang of murderers escaped conviction on a second trial.

Two hundred and fifty years ago Manhattan Island, now the city of New York, was purchased by the Dutch of the Indians for twenty-four dollars. And yet, if that twenty-four dollars had been securely placed at eight per cent interest annually added to the principal, the amount would exceed the present market value of all the real estate of the city and county of New York.

In the bribery cases in Dauphin county in the Allegheny riot cases, Judge Pearson quashed the indictment because there was an interloper in the Grand Jury room when the bills were found. It appears that the whole twenty-four grand jurors summoned responded to the call, and while one was not sworn, he continued to act, and was in the room when the bills were found. There was a very strong array of legal talent present on both sides. Another start it is said will be taken by the presentation of new bills of indictment at January Court.

For the second time within two years, the youthful King Alfonso of Spain, has been married. He was first wedded when less than twenty years of age, and became a widower a few months later. He grieved for his young wife and is said to have been severe to this second alliance, but for State reasons it was deemed advisable that the King should have a wife and that she should have royal family of some other power. The Archduchess Christina of Austria was finally selected for the place beside the boy King, and Alfonso gave his assent. On his twenty-first birthday, therefore, he was married a second time, and thus becomes closely allied with Austria, at least by marriage.

The principal business of the present session of Congress will be President making. The rebel brigadiers, seeing in the result of the late elections the disastrous effect of the aggressive measures they inaugurated at the extra session, will try to restrain their rebellious propensities for the purpose of quelling the fears of the loyal north pending the Presidential contest. Speaker Randall it is said has undertaken the contract of applying padlocks to the jaws of garrulous members of the House, with what success remains to be seen. If he shall succeed in keeping the Brigadiers quiet, he will perform a difficult task, and now that his friend Tilden is selected, he should be named as his successor. Their efforts will be directed to breaking down Grant, whom they must fear, but their third term cry will scare nobody, as Grant has the confidence of the people, and if again elected will have former experiences with most of the highest expectations of the country. While believing Grant to be the strongest candidate, we will not withhold pleasure under the name of Sherman.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The third annual message of President Hayes was submitted to Congress on Monday a week. It is a very voluminous document, and therefore we publish only its most important topics.

The Message opens with an acknowledgment to the Giver of all good for the large and unusual measure of prosperity which we now enjoy.

The most interesting events which have occurred since the last annual Message are connected with the financial operations of the Government directly affecting the business interests of the country. The resumption of specie payments has been followed by a very great revival of trade. With a currency equivalent in value to the money of the commercial world, we are enabled to enter upon an equal competition with other nations in trade and production. The increasing foreign demand for our manufactures and agricultural products has caused a large balance of trade in our favor, which has been paid in gold from the 1st of July last to November 15, to the amount of about \$59,000,000.

The amount of the national debt which matures within less than two years is \$792,121,700, of which \$500,000,000 bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent, and the balance in bonds bearing 6 per cent interest. It is believed that this part of the public debt can be refunded by the issue of 4 per cent bonds, and by the reduction of interest which will thus be effected, about \$11,000,000 can be annually saved to the treasury. To secure this important reduction of interest to be paid by the United States, further legislation is required, which it is hoped, will be provided by Congress during its present session.

A very large part of the Message is taken up with a discussion of the President's views and policy in regard to civil service reform. He adheres to the views expressed in previous Messages as to the necessity of lifting the subordinate officers out of the domain of what he calls "the partisan spoils system." He holds it to be the duty of the officers who more immediately represent the policy approved by the people at the ballot-box to take part in political campaigns; but this doctrine does not apply to those who fill subordinate places. There responsibility is not to the people, but to their superior officers.

Our relations with foreign countries are generally satisfactory, and there has been a gratifying increase in our trade with them which it is believed can be still further developed. On this subject he says that "a provision for regular and more frequent mail communication in our own ships, between the ports of this country and the nations of South America seem to me to deserve the attention of Congress as an essential precursor of an enlargement of our carrying trade." With Great Britain there are still unsettled questions growing out of the local laws of the maritime Provinces and the action of provincial authorities, deemed to be in derogation of rights secured by treaty to American fishermen. The subject has been taken into consideration by the British Government, and an early reply is anticipated.

The continued violation of the laws forbidding polygamy in Utah is sharply noted by the President, who says "there is no longer any reason, now that the Supreme Court has affirmed the constitutionality of the congressional statutes for their non-enforcement," and intimates that with legislation providing more comprehensive and searching methods he will do all in his power to extirpate the crime from the Territory. The need of laws for the complete establishment of universal suffrage freedom in the exercise of the elective franchise is referred to, but the recommendations on the subject are rather vague and indefinite.

The President says that he renews his recommendations of former Messages in favor of enlarging the facilities of the department of agriculture, which is the leading interest and the permanent industry of our people. It is to the abundance of agricultural productions, as compared with our home consumption, and the largely increased and highly profitable market abroad which we have enjoyed in recent years, that we are mainly indebted for our present prosperity as a people.

As regards educational matters the Message states that it is gratifying to learn from the bureau of education the extent to which educational privileges throughout the United States have been advanced during the year. No more fundamental responsibility rests upon Congress than that of devising appropriate measures of financial aid to education, supplemental to local action in the States and Territories and in the District of Columbia. The wise forethought of the founders of our Government has not only furnished the basis for the support of the common school system of the newer States but laid the foundations for the maintenance of their universities and colleges of agriculture and the mechanical arts.

In speaking of the threatened raids of white people on the Cherokee lands, the President says that it is his purpose to protect the rights of the Indian inhabitants of that Territory to the full extent of the executive power; but it would be unwise to ignore the fact that a Territory so large and so fertile, with a population so sparse and so great a wealth of unused resources will be found more exposed to the repetition of the attempts as happened this year, when the surrounding States are more densely settled and the westward movement of our population looks still more eagerly for fresh lands to occupy.

The President also denounces the renewed agitation of the question of the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department, on the ground that such a discussion tends to obstruct officers in the Indian Bureau in the execution of their duty and produces no good.

The President recommends some organized form of government for the Territory of Alaska, in order that the terms of the treaty with Russia, under which the Territory was ceded to the United States may be carried out.

These topics, together with a summary of the operations of the departments and a brief reference to the importance of the proposed Nicaragua canal, and the necessity of its being built under the protection of the United States, include the salient points in the business-like document of the President.

A Fight with Cats.

One morning recently a boy about fifteen years old, nephew of Mr. Harrison's, an inmate of his family, went out to the barn to feed the horses. When he entered the loft he discovered two large cats lying on the straw asleep. Boy-like, he took up a bundle of fodder, and creeping up, struck both of them at one blow. There was something of a disappointment in the result. The cats, instead of running away, sprang at the boy with a fury that startled him. Having nothing with which to defend himself, the boy tumbled around, while the cats squall, clawed and bit him unmercifully. The boy's cries did not bring assistance, and of course, realizing the fact that it might prove fatal to delay desperate efforts, the boy sprang toward the ladder leaning against the rafters and ascended to the roof of the barn. The cats followed him, and despite his efforts to keep them away, bit and clawed him frightfully.

Realizing his ladder folly, he jumped down on the hay. The cats followed him. By this time he was bleeding very freely, and his coat was almost torn in threads. Seizing one of the cats by the hind legs, he attempted to beat it to death against the wall, but the animal doubled around and began tearing his arm. Shaking the feline off, he ran to the ladder leading down. The animal followed him. Just as he reached the ladder, he discovered a monkey-wrench lying on the floor. Seizing it, he turned, dealt the foremost cat a blow between the eyes, and before it could recover mashed its head. The other animal was not rendered less ferocious by the death of its companion, but fought with fury. With a heavy blow the boy stretched out the remaining feline, and beat out its brains.

Catching them by the tails, he marched to the house to give an account of his battle. When he entered the house, ragged and bleeding from almost every inch of his body, holding two large cats by the tails, the astonishment of the nurse and terror of the aunt were what you might well call boundless. The boy has been confined to his bed since the encounter, and his physicians say his recovery is doubtful.—Little Rock (Ark) Gazette.

The case of Thomas Graham, the accomplice of Hunter in the murder of Armstrong, in Camden, N. J., was disposed of before the Supreme Court at Trenton last week. Graham pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree; his plea was accepted and he was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE!

THE undersigned, Assignee of the assets of the late J. B. ... of the County of ... State of ... will sell to Public Sale, in Franklin Co.,

One Acre, more or less, adjoining the Borough of ... being situate in Franklin Co., whereon are erected a Brick Store & Dwelling House.

with outbuildings, being a very desirable Store and residence, and well adapted for business purposes, and also for the purpose of a residence, leading to Middleburg, Pa.

Two Acres, more or less, situate as aforesaid, whereon is a large and convenient

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EXECUTORS NOTICE.

EXECUTORS NOTICE.—Letters testamentary on the estate of Jacob Pile of West Ferry, Pa., dec'd, have been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment, while those having claims will please make immediate payment, while those having claims will please make immediate payment, while those having claims will please make immediate payment.

ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE.—Letters of administration on the estate of Isaac Frederick, late of Monroe County, Pa., dec'd, have been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment, while those having claims will please make immediate payment, while those having claims will please make immediate payment.

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A New Book Orders Now Taken. AGENTS.—Can be had at the following places: The Standard Book Co., Philadelphia; The Standard Book Co., Philadelphia; The Standard Book Co., Philadelphia.

CAUTION. NOTICE is hereby given that the following articles have been purchased by the undersigned, at Constable Sale, and left in the possession of Isaac F. Foye during her pleasure. All persons are cautioned not to meddle or interfere with the same: 2 Hags, Iron Kettle, lot of Potatoes, 20 yards of Carpet, &c.

ASSIGNEE NOTICE. ALL persons interested are here notified that Isaac Hester of Iron Hill, Pa., assignee of the assets of the late J. B. ... of the County of ... State of ... will sell to Public Sale, in Franklin Co.,

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