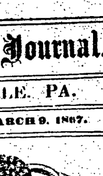
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1867.



Be just and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,
Thy God's and truth's."

THE THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

The Congress closed its session on Thursday last, after a most eventful experience. If it had commanded the hearty co-operation of an Executive who was determined that the fruits of victory should not be lost, and that Reconstruction should be alone on the basis of substantial guarantees from the ex Rebels, its path would have been comparatively smooth and its labors in that direction light. But it had no such assistance. With the President and the Rebels arrayed against it, Congress found that it must undo the mischievous work of Mr. Johnson's policy, and protect the Unionists of the South. To effect the latter purpose it greatly enlarged the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau, and made the Civil Rights bill a law. The Constitutional Amendment was offered to the Rebel States, and although the mildest terms ever proposed by conquer or to conquered, was rejected. But the rejection is not to be regretted, for that was merely a measure of expediency. Congress however, rose to the full level of Right and Justice, in its Reconstruction act, now a law, which declares Universal Suffrage the principle upon which the Union shall be reorganized.

Although there is cause for regret in the fact that the Tariff bill was defeated at the late session by the combined opposition of the Copperhead members and of the mass of the Western Republicans, yet the following brief statement of the leading measures of the session, which we find in the Philadelphia North American, shows that much work of value and interest to the county, was accomplished:

1. The bill establishing universal and impartial suffrage in the District of Columbia without distinction of race or color has become a law over the President's veto, and the first election has been held under it, and has resulted in a Republican triumph.

2. In like manner the bill establishing universal and impartial suffrage in all the territories of the republic has been enacted into a law over the veto, and thus terminated the validity of all territorial laws that disfranchise a man on account of race or color. By this operation of this bill the colored man will have a right to vote in Colorado despite the unfriendly statutes of the territorial Legislature, and all efforts to disfranchise the colored citizens in territories like New Mexico, Utah, Arizona and Idaho are rendered useless. This act will not enfranchise the Chinamen in California and Nevada, but it will have the effect of attracting them from those fields to the gold mines of territories, where they will be voters.

3. The Military Reconstruction bill, of which we have heretofore spoken at length has become a law over the veto. It establishes military protection for freedmen and Unionmen at the south, fixes terms of readmission for the rebel States, declares the existing government in those States provisional, and secures the right of suffrage forthwith to every adult colored man in all the elections therein.

4. The bill to regulate the tenure of national civil offices has become a law over the veto. It puts an end to the capricious removals for political reasons that have disgraced the present Administration, and renders the officials no longer a mere dependent on the Executive pleasure. It deprives the President of much of the power he has wielded for corrupt purposes.

5. The Mandatory Tax bill has become a law, with the President's signature. It reduces the income tax, the manufacturer's tax, and many other imposts, to the extent of at least seventy millions per annum.

6. An amendatory Tariff bill has been passed relating mainly to the duties on woolen goods, and intended to benefit chiefly the west.

7. Nebraska has been formally admitted as a State, despite a Presidential veto.

8. A bill has been passed authorizing an issue of loan certificates at a little over three per cent. interest, to the extent of fifty millions of dollars, to provide for the redemption of the accruing compound interest notes.

9. An act has been passed providing for the suppression of the abominable institution of peonage in New Mexico and other territories.

10. Payment to slaveholders for slaves enlisted as soldiers have been directed to be stopped.

11. A national bankrupt law has been enacted.

12. All future danger of a legislative impeachment, such as happened in 1861, at the outset of the rebellion, has been obviated by the passage of an act providing for the meeting of every new Congress on the first day of its term, March 4.

13. An act has been passed providing for the acceptance of League Island as a site for the iron-clad naval station.

14. An act has been passed establishing a department of education as a part of the national government.

We might remark that the failure at the late session to act on the Tariff bill, will not be so severely felt in consequence of the reduction in domestic taxation which in itself will have the effect of encouraging home industry. As the Fortieth Congress will without doubt, embody much of the character of its immediate predecessor, we shall look to it confidently for a continuation of the policy that seeks the elevation of oppressed races; the extension of democratic republican rights; the limitation of Executive patronage, power and influence; the protection of life, liberty and property in the rebellious regions; the guardianship of the public liberties against governmental usurpation; the preservation of our representative form of government intact, and a prudent policy in the public finances.

THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

This Congress organized on Monday last, immediately on the expiration of its predecessor. In the Senate Benjamin F. Wade of Ohio, who enjoys the entire confidence of the Republican party, was elected President. This is an important selection in view of the possible impeachment of President Johnson. The new Senate shows a gain of four Republican members, nearly a three-fourths majority.

In the House Schuyler Colfax was re-elected Speaker and Edward McPherson Clerk. Both are strong Republicans and are respected by even their political opponents, in an unusual degree. The Tribune estimates that after the Congressional elections which are yet to take place in California, Connecticut, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Tennessee, the House will stand 145 Republicans to 47 Democrats, still leaving to the Republicans a two thirds majority. Comparing the Thirty-ninth with the Fortieth Congress, our gains and losses are as follows:

	Gain.	Loss		Gain.	Loss
Indiana	1	0	New York	1	0
Maryland	1	0	Ohio	1	0
New Jersey	1	0	Pennsylvania	2	0
Nebraska	1	0			

—showing a gain of five, against a loss of three or a net gain of two.

The Fortieth Congress gives promise with the accession of such intellects as Butler, Logan and Covode, to be one of the most able Congresses since the foundation of the American Republic.

LOCAL LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENTS.—In the House on the 26th ult., the following bills were read the first time and laid aside for a second reading:

Senate bill No. 301, an act supplementary to an act to incorporate the Union Hall Association of Pottsville.

No. 509, an act authorizing the supervisors of Blythe and Norwegian townships, Schuylkill County, to make and repair the public roads, bridges and culverts in said township.

Amended by Mr. Breen.

In the Senate on the 27th, an act to divide the borough of Port Carbon, into two wards, passed finally.

A supplement to an act relative to the publication of local laws in the counties of Centre and Schuylkill, approved the 16th day of April, A. D. 1866. Passed finally.

An act to change the time of holding borough elections in the borough of Minersville. Passed finally.

An act relative to hawking, peddling and selling by sample in the County of Schuylkill Passed finally.

An act declaring Wiconisco creek, from Oakdale forge, in Dauphin County, to the public road leading from Clark's Valley to Tremont, in Schuylkill County, a public highway. Finally passed.

The Senate on the same day received from the House for concurrence an act supplementary to an act to incorporate the Union hall association of Pottsville.

In the House Feb. 27, an act authorizing the supervisors of Blythe and Norwegian townships, to make and repair the public road bridges and culverts in said township. Passed finally.

Senate bill No. 301, an act supplementary to an act to incorporate the Union Hall association of Pottsville. Passed finally.

An act to incorporate the Tremont gas and water company. Passed finally.

In the Senate Feb. 28, Mr. Colamen presented petitions from citizens of Schuylkill County, for an act entitled, an Act for the better and more impartial selection of persons to serve as jurors. Laid on the table.

The following was presented to the Senate for concurrence:

An act authorizing the supervisors of Blythe and Norwegian townships, Schuylkill County, to make and repair the public roads, bridges and culverts in said township. Referred to the Committee on Roads and Bridges.

Mr. Ridgway, from the Committee on Corporations, reported as committed, a bill entitled an act to enable the parties interested under a certain indenture of trust from Christopher Loeser to William S. Wetmore and others, dated October 28th, 1855, to become a mining company.

Mr. Randall read a bill entitled an act to authorize Patrick Galagher, a justice of the peace of the borough of Ashland, to hold his office in either ward of said borough. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary Local.

Mr. Jackson read a bill entitled an act to repeal an act to lay out a State road in Schuylkill and Columbia counties, approved April 4, 1866. Referred to the Committee on Roads and Bridges.

In the House Feb. 28, the following bills were received from the Senate for concurrence:

An act to divide the borough of Port Carbon, Schuylkill County, into two wards. Referred to the Committee on Municipal Corporations.

An act to repeal the fourth section of an act relating to certain election districts in Schuylkill County. Referred to the Committee on Election Districts.

An act to change the time of holding elections in the borough of Minersville, Schuylkill County. Referred to the Committee on Municipal Corporations.

An act relative to hawking, peddling and selling by sample in the County of Schuylkill.

An act to incorporate the Tremont gas and water company.

A supplement to an act relative to the publication of local laws in the counties of Centre and Schuylkill, approved the 16th day of April, A. D. 1866.

An act declaring the Wiconisco creek from Oakdale forge, in Dauphin County, to the public road leading from Clark's Valley to Tremont, in Schuylkill County, a public highway.

Local Affairs.

Weekly Almanac.

'67.—Mar.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.
9 Saturday	6 22	6 0	New M. 4 42 mo.
10 Sunday	6 21	6 1	First Q. 13 8 41 mo.
11 Monday	6 19	6 2	Full M. 20 3 59 mo.
12 Tuesday	6 17	6 3	Last Q. 28 2 56 mo.
13 Wednesday	6 16	6 4	
14 Tuesday	6 14	6 5	
15 Friday	6 12	6 7	

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Temperature at Greenwood during the week ending March 7th, 1867.

MARCH, 1867.	A. M.	NOON	P. M.
1	38°	42°	36°
2	36	52	41
3	18	32	26
4	18	32	26
5	28	42	29
6	26	32	26
7	20	37	34

Prof. Anderson is giving gift entertainments in Union Hall, this Borough.

A building and saving fund association has been organized in Tremont.

To-morrow—Tenth Sunday of the year, and first in Lent. Day's length, 11 hours and 41 minutes.

The State Treasurer names $5,105 82 as the proper apportionment on the personal estate of this County.

An inquest was held on the 21 inst. on the body of Condy Sharp who was suffocated in the mines at Newkirk.

Major William Bartholomew, U. S. A., is on a visit to his friends here. The Major we are glad to see, is in the enjoyment of excellent health.

The Rev. Prentiss de Venne will preach in the 2d Presbyterian Church, Market street, to-morrow morning and evening at 10½ and 7½ o'clock.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Mrs. Hannum as postmaster at Schuylkill Haven, and Mrs. Harriet L. McGuigan at Tamaqua.

A shooting match will take place at Mahanoy Plane to-day, between Edward Henderson of Mahanoy City and Peter Edwards of Ashland. Stakes two hundred dollars.

More snow on Wednesday night. Our farmer friend's prediction made last month that there were to be eight more snows before Spring fairly sets in, is likely to be realized.

Capt. Levi C. Leib has been confirmed by the Senate as Postmaster at Ashland. The people of Ashland are well satisfied with the Captain, for he is a courteous and attentive officer.

Previous issue	$470 25
	16,564 21
Total	$17,034 46
Adjourned.	

To Pennsylvania Soldiers.—In compliance with the request of Mr. Bates we publish the following:

The undersigned, appointed to prepare a History of the Pennsylvania Volunteer and Militia organizations, having discovered many imperfections in the minutes of the company, deem it necessary that each soldier, who served in any organization from this State, would furnish the information in his personal history pertaining to the following points:

1. Wounds—If wounded, give the date: in what engagement received; nature of wounds; result of the wounds: nature of surgical operations, if capital, and by whom performed.

2. Imprisonment—If a prisoner, give the date and place of capture; where imprisoned; nature of treatment, and the date and manner of escape and release.

He also desires that the relatives or representatives of deceased soldiers would give the cause, date, place of death and place of interment of each, and any facts in his history touching the subjects above referred to.

Write at the head of the page the name of the person to whom the letter is addressed, the company, regiment and letter of company to which he belonged.—Write in concise terms in a plain hand, on letter paper, and on but one side of the sheet.

The undersigned also desires to make a collection for present and for future use of—

1. Complete files of newspapers published in the State from the beginning of 1861 to the close of 1865, to be bound and permanently kept in the archives of the State. Will the publishers or any friend possessing them furnish such file?

2. Discourses commemorative of fallen soldiers; pamphlets pertaining in any manner to the rebellion or its causes; articles published or in manuscript containing historical facts.

3. Published histories or sketches of regiments batteries or companies; printed rolls and descriptive matter.

4. Diaries of soldiers; letters descriptive of military life, containing information of permanent historic value, or descriptions of interesting incidents; plans of battles, sieges, forts and of naval engagements.

5. Complete rolls of students and graduates of each college in the State who served in the war.

6. Card photographs (vignette) of each officer, of whatever grade, who at any time acted as commander of a regiment, battery or independent company, described with his name, number of regiment, &c., dates of period during which he held command, with his present post-office address. The relatives of deceased officers are requested to forward the photographs of such officers, inscribed as above. No use will be made of these photographs without the express permission of the senders, further than to arrange them in albums for preservation.

Much of the matter called for under these several heads may not be needed for immediate use, but the day will come when it will be important, and the present is regarded as a favorable time for commencing the collection.

Let every true son of Pennsylvania respond promptly to this call, and thereby rescue from oblivion many memorials of her patriotism and her power.

SAMUEL P. HARRIS, State Historian.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY HISTORY.
Harrisburg, Feb. 22, 1867.

Robberies.—On Sunday morning last about 1 o'clock, a man entered the cellar of Misses Kimmel, Norwegian street near Centre, for the purpose of robbing the house. He was heard by some boarders, one of whom ran down quickly with a revolver. The robber however, heard him coming, and made his escape, running up the alley at Dr. Davis's.

On Monday a woman entered the house of Mr. Shiely in Norwegian street, east of Coal, went up stairs, took a dress and bonnet and walked away with them. The bonnet was the property of a young lady visiting at the house. Our citizens should keep their front doors locked during the day.

On Monday night some person entered the yard of Mr. James Lanigan, Mahantongo street, and stripped the lines of clothes that had been left out to dry.

On the 20th ultimo Sarah Shields of Minersville, was arrested in Reading charged with robbing Peter Hughes of that Borough, of $260. She was brought up and had a hearing before Squire Taylor. From the evidence elicited, it seems that she had spent $50 of the money for clothing, and had given $150 to a young man whose name we have not learned. This amount was found in a coal box in her mother's house. He was arrested on a charge of receiving stolen goods. Both were committed in default of $1000 bail each, to answer.

On the morning of Thursday, 28th ult., between 12 and 1 o'clock, several men went to the house of James Kernes, Mine Hill Gap, about two miles from Minersville, and attempted to force the door. Mrs. Kernes who was up with her infant, heard them, and told her husband that something was wrong; that she heard men trying to get into the house. Mr. Kernes took a double barreled gun, which was loaded with slugs and large shot, and approaching a window in the upper story fired both loads simultaneously at the crowd of men endeavoring to force an entrance into his house. One of the robbers exclaimed, "I have got enough," and they retreated carrying off the wounded man after firing a shot in return at Mr. Kernes. Next morning a pool of congealed blood was found near the house, while for a distance of about one hundred and fifty yards to a coal ditch bank at the breaker there were traces of blood which had evidently dropped from a body carried to that point. A handkerchief saturated with blood was found there which had it is supposed, been used to stanch the flow of blood. Marks of blood were traced to a still further distance, and it is thought that the body of the wounded robber was taken to Glen Carbon, about four miles distant. It is quite certain that there was the dead body of a man who had been shot, at that place next morning, and that the friends explained the cause by saying that robbers had shot and killed him.

Last week three Irishmen made an attempt to rob the house of a man named Schmidt living near New Philadelphia. They succeeded in gaining an entrance, but Mr. Schmidt defended his property so valiantly, that the robbers retreated without obtaining any booty.

On Saturday night last the cellar of Dr. Charles Haeseler, Market Square, was entered and robbed of provisions. The robbers made a clean sweep, not leaving the Doctor a morsel of anything for his Sunday breakfast.

On the night of the 1st instant the office of Wm. Kear & Co., in Miner-ville, was entered by boring through a window shutter. Upon being alarmed however, they fled without making any attempt on the safe. The only money they found was a three cent piece, which they took.

On Tuesday night last, 5th inst., at 11 o'clock, two men entered a drinking house kept by Matthew Doran at Lorberry, in Tremont Township, about four miles from Tremont. They obtained a drink at the bar. Mr. Doran talking to them. Just as they drank two men entered the room with pistols in their hands. They compelled the two first men to stand in a corner, with their faces to the wall, swearing that they would blow their brains out if they turned round to look at what was going on. Then two other men armed with pistols, entered and searched the house. They obtained $575 in money, and when they left they took with them some light articles of furniture. While this went on in the house accomplices of the robbers to the number of six, stood guard outside, to prevent possible interruption. As Mr. Doran thought that he knew some of the men engaged in this robbery he on Thursday obtained warrants for their arrest.

The following is an account of the above affair as narrated by the Tremont Union:

On Tuesday night a party of men went to the public house of Mr. M. Doran, and four of them entering, inquired if any robbers or deserters had been seed there, and adding that they had come in search of them. They went up to the bar and called for drinks, for which they paid, and were about to make search when one of the young men who was staying at the house demanded that they show their search warrants, whereupon the whole party rushed upon the inmates and drew their pistols, and while secured in this way by two or three of their number the rest ran upstairs and searched the premises. They secured $530 in money and a good suit of clothes worth $50, after which they called for drinks for four, handed out a twenty-five cent note and demanded change, which, of course, the bar-tender could not give, as the rascals had swept the money-drawer but a few moments before. They then demanded the twenty-five cents, and making one of the girls fill their bottle with whiskey, with the remark: "You shall have a husband for this, Mary!" they started on their way. The young man called up some neighbors and a party of eight or ten followed on their track, but missed it before overtaking them. From the direction they took it is thought they belong in the neighborhood of Shamokin."

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

[REPORTED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL BY CHRISTOPHER LITTLE, ESQ.]

March Term—Quarter Session.

The Term began on Monday morning. The Court room has been unusually crowded all the week. The following cases were disposed of, up to the adjournment on Thursday evening:—

Jury Trials.

Christian Steiger—Assault and Battery on Emanuel Eichorn. Not guilty, and each party to pay half the costs.

Christian Steiger—Assault and Battery on Elizabeth Bartach. Not guilty, and costs equally divided.

Jeremiah Sullivan—Assault and Battery on John McGuire. Guilty, and directed to pay $25 fine, and costs.

Patrick and Margaret Quinn—Assault and Battery on John Sullivan. Not guilty and costs equally divided.

Joel Koppenhafer—Larceny of some $70), in money from Andrew K. Hepler. Convicted, and sent to prison for two years, solitary confinement at labor.

Henry Treyz plead guilty to selling liquor on Sunday, and was sentenced to $10 fine, and imprisonment for 10 days.

Joseph Gardiner—Fornication and Bastardy with Elizabeth Hughes. Convicted, and to pay $10, lying in expenses, and to give the usual security for support of the child.

Jacob Laura, Eugene and Kossuth Bickleman, and Lewis Wolff. Some twenty bills were preferred against these parties, together and separately, for Burglary, Larceny, Receiving stolen goods, &c., and extending back for about fifteen months. Kossuth Bickleman was found guilty of two burglaries and four larcenies, and sentenced, in all, to ten years' imprisonment, solitary confinement, without even the gray haired relief of house-breakings and robberies that took place in Tremont within six months past. Kossuth seems to have been the moving spirit, if not the principal actor in the whole affair. Lewis Wolff, old people, the old man appearing to be inoffensive and probably having little to do with this business, though it is questionable if they show their search warrants, whereupon the whole party rushed upon the inmates and drew their pistols, and while secured in this way by two or three of their number the rest ran upstairs and searched the premises. They secured $530 in money and a good suit of clothes worth $50, after which they called for drinks for four, handed out a twenty-five cent note and demanded change, which, of course, the bar-tender could not give, as the rascals had swept the money-drawer but a few moments before. They then demanded the twenty-five cents, and making one of the girls fill their bottle with whiskey, with the remark: "You shall have a husband for this, Mary!" they started on their way. The young man called up some neighbors and a party of eight or ten followed on their track, but missed it before overtaking them. From the direction they took it is thought they belong in the neighborhood of Shamokin." Jacob Laura, Eugene and Kossuth Bickleman, and Lewis Wolff, Burglary, Larceny, Receiving stolen goods, &c., and extending back for about fifteen months. Kossuth Bickleman was found guilty of two burglaries and four larcenies, and sentenced, in all, to ten years' imprisonment, solitary confinement, without even the gray haired relief of house-breakings and robberies that took place in Tremont within six months past. Kossuth seems to have been the moving spirit, if not the principal actor in the whole affair. Lewis Wolff, old people, the old man appearing to be inoffensive and probably having little to do with this business, though it is questionable if they show their search warrants, whereupon the whole party rushed upon the inmates and drew their pistols, and while secured in this way by two or three of their number the rest ran upstairs and searched the premises. They secured $530 in money and a good suit of clothes worth $50, after which they called for drinks for four, handed out a twenty-five cent note and demanded change, which, of course, the bar-tender could not give, as the rascals had swept the money-drawer but a few moments before. They then demanded the twenty-five cents, and making one of the girls fill their bottle with whiskey, with the remark: "You shall have a husband for this, Mary!" they started on their way. The young man called up some neighbors and a party of eight or ten followed on their track, but missed it before overtaking them. From the direction they took it is thought they belong in the neighborhood of Shamokin." Fornication and Bastardy with Catharine McAtee, and was sentenced to pay $40, lying in expenses, and to give the usual security for the child's support.

John Hurly, jr., plead guilty to Fornication and Bastardy with Catharine McAtee, and was sentenced to pay $40, lying in expenses, and to give the usual security for the child's support.

John Twiggs was convicted of stealing an overcoat of Guy Wheeler, near Pinegrove, and sent to prison for one year, solitary confinement, at hard labor. The evidence showed that the old man had been induced to come to Pinegrove, and get drunk at Pinegrove, and took the coat not knowing what he was about.

Sarah Shields plead guilty to a charge of larceny preferred by Peter Hughes.

John Sullivan was convicted of larceny, charged by Catharine Donnelly.

Frederick Border plead guilty to selling liquor without license, and was fined $10, and costs.

William Burke was found guilty of selling liquor on Sunday, and was fined $50, and costs, and sent to prison for 20 days. He was also convicted of selling without license, and was sentenced to pay an additional fine of $25, and costs.

Benjamin F. Thomas was convicted of malicious mischief, in cutting the harness of a team belonging to Stephen Wachter, at St. Clair; and was sent to prison for three months.

Lawrence Phalen was found guilty of assault and battery on Catharine Collins, and was fined $25, and costs.

Sureties of Peace.

Charles Eckert—John Freichman, pros. Each to pay his own costs, and to give security in $100 to keep the peace, &c.

John Freichman—John Schafer pros., each to pay his own costs, and give bail in $100, &c.

John Snyder—John Freichman, pros. Deft. to pay the costs.

Patrick Casey—Bridget Murphy, pros. Patrick to pay costs, and both parties to give security in $100 to keep the peace, &c.

John Sullivan—Margaret Quinn, pros. Costs equally divided.

Wm. Griffith, John Butz and Pursel Fisher—Fress Miller, pros.; defendants to pay costs.

Christian Drashman—George Grosser, pros.—Deft. to pay costs.

Wm. Beard—Mary Beard, pros.; defendant to pay costs.

[COMMUNICATED.]

CELO PATROL.

But a short time ago, a large convention of the society known by the name of Celo Patrol, was held at Allentown, this state. It was then and there decreed that a committee should be appointed in each city, to the city of Schuylkill and organize a chapter of Celo Patrol, which should be denominated Delta. Accordingly, the committee did meet, and founded the said chapter. We are glad to say, most of our best young men have become members of that band.—Initiations in the order have taken place, and have created considerable excitement and style. Reports of this kind were frequently circulated, that the Patrols were out, and that they had taken up some individuals who were inclined to be rowdyish, who chanced to be out: (extract from Daily News). To give you some idea of the Society, I will here publish an article which appeared in the columns of Reading. "To return to the early formation of this Society; an old porter at the inner Temple of Solomon in Salem, said to have been the founder, but on account of a certain strife between those of the inner and outer Temples, he was able to have but one companion behind him, and he was obliged to escape from generation to generation, until Munch Hansen became a most zealous spirit in their order. Through him it came to this country, and it is said the papers were carried across the seas by a strange animal—neither fish, flesh nor fowl. This strange creature deposited the papers in a cave on the shores of Long Island, where they were found by some avaricious persons in search of the booty of the renowned Captain Kidd of pirate fame. They were then brought to the shores of many towns of Pennsylvania." This being a subject, Editor, which will interest many of your readers, I thought proper to give you these facts, and will close by doing so I hope I have the sanction of the Delta of Pottsville. "Sir,—" M. M. S.

[COMMUNICATED.]

COUNTY ALMS HOUSE.

I have been waiting patiently for the publication of the annual expenditures of this very economically conducted Institution. In reviewing the statement as published, I merely desire to draw the attention of the proper parties, few little contingencies that are not itemized.

The average number of paupers during the year, is given at 421; the average cost per week for each pauper, is $150. This, in comparison with other counties, is inexplicable. This county should be in a better state at the Alms House, than a large proportion of people who have never been obliged to ask for alms. Such a proper system should be introduced in reference to probably a huge piece of bread to carry from the table, to be used as a 11 o'clock lunch. I have seen the well buffed fragments of the best of wheat bread, picked from the tables after meals. I have seen the children throwing bread about the yard. Meat is furnished three times a day, to those who never saw meat, only on Sundays, or on class receive every indulgence without any labor. Tobacco is issued to male and female paupers; pipes are probably supplied ad libitum; good stating places of amusements, little or no work, and the result is, that once fastened as a pauper, you can never rid the institution of their presence.

The bill of salaries is worthy of special consideration. The Steward's kitchen is well supplied with domestic substitutes; the kitchen of the Alms House is entirely performed by the female paupers; the paid daughters of the Steward are the ladies of the place, and as Mrs. Partington happily exclaims, they are a "*duler-far-niente*." By-the-way, one of the daughters was married last Fall; has been under salary at the house ever since, and her husband is still on the same table, while the Steward makes no return of his expenditure.

The "old stagers" at all public institutions, offer a little while, get into the confidence of the powers that be, and I may be permitted to suggest the propriety of any person in the community, getting hold of one of these "old stagers," and you will learn more in one hour about the "inside" of our Alms House than you will ever know by paying the most exorbitant taxes.

The indiscriminate purchase of dry goods and their wholesale distribution, is one of no unpalatable extravagance. The persistent habit of purchasing in small quantities and at the highest prices should be opposed.

The farm is an additional expense to the institution, rather than a benefit. The endless amount of help should make the farm pay, but it is sadly in debt at the end of each year. Think of being obliged to purchase straw, to the amount of $729 74. Potatoes to the amount of $1,341 28, and have a farm containing over three hundred acres, in a state of cultivation.—The farm is badly managed and that covers the case entirely. If any person will take the trouble to look over the amounts that properly belong to the farm, they will discover at once, the fallacy of publishing that a profit of over fifteen hundred dollars has been realized from the farm, when the actual profit is only $630 01.

The salary paid the farmer, in addition to his boarding, (and I believe some clothes and certainly all his mending and washing) is highly extravagant; a teamster several hundred a year in addition, and too exclusive discretion when, where and how to work the farm is ridiculous. There are not seven hours good work upon the farm in one day, winter nor summer—(harvesting excepted). How long is this gross outrage upon the community to exist?—Can't the Honorable Court appoint another investigating committee, and let us have at least, the true statement of affairs?

"TURNPIKE."

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—SENATE.—The Committee on Foreign Relations reported adversely on the resolution to protect the rights of American citizens in Mexico, and also on the resolution to protect the claims of American citizens who have invested in Mexico loans. The Tariff bill, as passed by the House in July last, was passed. The Bankrupt bill was also passed, and sent to the President. Also the Compound-Interest Note bill; also the Indemnity bill. The President's veto of the Tenure of Office bill was then taken up and was passed over the veto—yeas 35, nays 11. An Executive session was held, and a recess until ½ P. M. was taken. At the evening session the veto of the Reconstruction bill was taken up, and after a speech from Mr. Johnson, of Maryland, against the veto, the bill was passed—yeas 38, nays 11. At 11 P. M. an Executive session was commenced, and continued until 5.30 A. M. on Sunday. The reports of the Conference Committees on the Army Appropriation bill and the Internal Revenue bill were agreed to. Also the report on the Deficiency Appropriation bill. The Deficiency Appropriation bill was passed with amendments. At 8.30 A. M. a recess was taken until 7.30 P. M. At the Sunday evening session the credentials of Messrs. Conkling of New York, and Davis of Kentucky were presented. The Conference Committee on the Indian Bureau Bill reported that an agreement could not be arrived at. A report of the Conference Committee on the Fortification Appropriation bill was agreed to. At 8.45 P. M. another Executive session was held. After the Executive session the bills to prevent the issue of the mails, giving thanks to G. W. Fields, giving compensation to the Tennessee Senators, and instructing General Howard to investigate the alleged wast of food in the army, were passed. The Senate then went into Executive session.

HOUSE.—In the House Thomas M. Marquette, member-fr m Nebraska, was sworn in. A resolution of Mr. Miller, of Pennsylvania, declaring that no State shall be admitted to ratify the constitutional amendment shall have representation in Congress, was objected to. The report of the Conference Committee on the Indian Appropriation bill was agreed to. A joint resolution allowing the contract price for artificial limbs to be paid to disabled soldiers instead of such artificial limbs at their option, was passed. The President's veto of the Military Reconstruction bill was read, and after a speech from seven of the Democratic members, the bill was passed—yeas 135, nays 48. The report of the Conference Committee on the Army Appropriation bill was agreed to. Also a report on the Compound Interest Note bill. A recess was then taken until 7 30 P. M. At the evening session the Tenure of Office bill was passed over the President's veto—yeas 131, nays 37. The report of the Conference Committee on the Tax bill was agreed to. A vote of thanks to Speaker Colfax was passed unanimously. The Judiciary Committee made a report in reference to the alleged neglect of the Executive Department in the pursuit and arrest of Surratt. After considerable debate the report and evidence were ordered to be printed. The Judiciary Committee then made a report on the Impeachment of the President, which was also ordered to be printed. The Navy Appropriation bill was considered in Committee of the Whole, the Senate amendments non-concurred in, the bill reported, passed, and a committee of conference asked. The Legislative Appropriation bill was passed finally. Also the Compound Interest Note bill. The report of the conference committee on the Civil Expense Appropriation bill was agreed to. The Senate bill to prohibit peonage in New Mexico and other parts of the United States was passed. The report of the conference committee on the Naval Appropriation bill was agreed to. At 9 o'clock Sunday morning a recess was taken until Sunday evening. At the Sunday evening session Mr. Stevens made a personal explanation, denouncing as totally false the recent publication in regard to a conversation alleged to have taken place between him and Messrs. Ashley and Bingham, in which the name of General Grant was mentioned in connection with the impeachment question. The Senate amendments to the Deficiency Appropriation bill were non concurred in. The report of the conference committee on the Fortification Appropriation bill was agreed to. The Senate amendments to the Navy Appropriation bill were concurred in. The report of the conference committee on the Indian Appropriation bill was agreed to. The House bill to provide for the erection of a public building at Omaha, Nebraska, and for the purchase of a site for a Post-office and Sub-treasury building in Boston was passed. The Deficiency Appropriation bill then demanded the twenty-five cents, and making one of the girls fill their bottle with whiskey, with the remark: "You shall have a husband for this, Mary!" they started on their way. The young man called up some neighbors and a party of eight or ten followed on their track, but missed it before overtaking them. From the direction they took it is thought they belong in the neighborhood of Shamokin." was passed. The bill authorizing Mr. Fox and officers of the Monitorsto accept the presents tendered them by the Emperor of Russia was passed. The resolution thanking the legislative chambers of Brazil for their expression of sorrow for the death of President Lincoln, was passed. The bill for the representation of the United States at the Paris Exposition was passed, after the appropriation had been cut down one-half. The conference committee on the bill providing for an annual inspection of Indian affairs reported that they were unable to agree. Speaker Colfax then delivered an address to the members, and at noon declared the House adjourned without day. Such was the end of the Thirty-ninth Congress.

THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

SENATE.—The Senate was called to order at half past twelve, and the new Senators were sworn into office. The credentials of John M. Thayer, and T. W. Tipton, Senators from Nebraska, were presented, and they were also qualified. The usual committees were appointed to wait upon the President and the House. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Colfax was re-elected Speaker of the Thirty-ninth Congress, the Clerk, Mr. McPherson, called the House to order, and proceeded to call the roll of the fortieth Congress. It was then moved that an election for Speaker be had, when Mr. Brooks, after a lengthy speech, presented a protest against such organization of the House, on the ground that several States remained unrepresented. This was overruled, and Schuyler Colfax was elected Speaker of the fortieth Congress by 127 votes. Thirty votes were cast for S. S. Marshal, of Illinois. Edward McPherson was elected Clerk. Mr. Colfax made an appropriate address on taking the chair. Adjourned.

March 5.—SENATE.—Mr. Sumner gave notice that he would introduce a bill to guarantee a republican form of government for the lately rebellious States, and also a bill prescribing a form of oath to sustain a republican form of government. A joint resolution was presented tendering the thanks of Congress to George Peabody for his gifts for educational purposes, and directing the President to cause a gold medal to be struck for presentation to him. A joint resolution in relation to the Paris Exposition, similar to that introduced in the last Congress, but which did not reach the President in time for his signature, was presented. A bill was introduced extending the time in which the increased duties on wool and woolens shall take effect. The committee appointed to wait on the President reported that he had no message to present to Congress. A bill conferring the judiciary of the United States was introduced and ordered to be printed.

HOUSE.—After the usual election of officers the names of Territorial delegates, except those from Colorado, were ordered to be placed on the journal. The seat from Colorado is claimed by two persons. Other seats are to be contested. The members then proceeded to draw for seats for the session. Rev. Dr. Boynton was re-elected chaplain of the House. Mr. Pike presented his credentials as a member from Nebraska, and was accordingly sworn into office. The Speaker announced that for the present no committees would be appointed except those on Rules, on Mileage, and on Elections. Adjourned.

March 6.—SENATE.—A resolution was adopted calling upon the Secretary of War for information in communicate to the Senate a copy of the report of Brigadier General Simpson on the Pacific Railroad and its branches. A concurrent resolution to revive and continue the Committee on Retrenchment was agreed to. A resolution was adopted to add to the standing committees of the Senate a committee on appropriations, to consist of seven members. A bill was introduced to admit Colorado. Mr. Sumner, according to previous notice, introduced a bill to provide a republican form of government for the late rebellious States. It provides for the re-establishment of civil government on the basis of loyal voters. It was ordered to be printed, and to lie upon the table until the committee are formed. Mr. Sumner also introduced a bill to prescribe an oath to maintain a republican form of government, which was laid on the table for present. A joint resolution was also introduced to restore the commercial offices of Alexandria, Va., to be vacated. The joint resolution in relation to the Paris Exposition was taken up, but before action the Senate went into Executive session.

HOUSE.—The credentials of Mr. Hooper, delegate from Utah, were presented, and he took the customary oath. An effort was made to suspend the rules to permit the introduction of the bill amending the national currency act, but the House refused. The papers of J. J. Stewart, who contests the seat of Mr. Phelps, of Maryland, were presented. A resolution was introduced instructing the Secretary of the Treasury to make inquiry into the facts attending the seizure of wines at the New York custom-house in 1864. A resolution was debated to refer the tariff bill with the pending amendments, to the Ways and Means Committee when it shall be appointed. Adjourned.

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