The Pittsburgh Gazette

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1868.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 7, 1868.

The readers of the GAZETTE are already informed by telegraph that nine Republican members of the House, including three from Allegheny county, refused to attend the Republican caucus for the selection of officers of that body, and announced their intention to defeat the ticket agreed upon by that assemblage. Having been at Harrisburg throughout this contest, and in such relation to legislative leaders as to give a pretty correct idea of the facts in the case, I propose to set forth the results of my observations.

The nation is ruled by political parties. Hence there is always a struggle going on for mastery. In like manner political parties are always ruled by factions, and each party is ordinarily divided into two or more clans, each jealous of the other, and each seeking the control, and especially the dispensation of the patronage. In Pennsylvania the clans that divide the Republican party are known as the clan CAMERON and the clan CURTIN. It has been my fortune to be fully identified with neither of them.

As soon as the recent State election disclosed the fact that the Republicans had a majority in each branch of the Legislature, combinations were set on foot by each of these clans to control the organization of the Houses. It was early conceded that the Senate would be organized with a mixed ticket—a Cameronian for Speaker, and a Curtinian for Clerk. For the House the Cameronians united on Mr. MCCAMANT for Speaker, and the Curtinians on Mr. DAVIS. The Cameronians sought to make Mr. CONNELL, the State Treasurer, the Curtinians, Mr. IRWIN. It is not needful to specify the minor offices. As the caucus progressed, it was manifest the Curtinians had the organization in their hands, and by so large a majority, as to involve the election of Mr. IRWIN as Treasurer. This result was deemed of great significance, and especially in view of the nomination of Mr. CURTIN for the Vice-Presidency by the Soldiers' Convention, which was to meet the following Wednesday at Philadelphia. When the Cameronians discovered they were to be beaten in the House caucus, they hauled off, and all but ten of them refused to go into the meeting at all, and announced their intention of running a candidate for Speaker of their own, thus making a triangular contest in the House, in which an election would be impossible, if the respective forces stood firm, and finally compelling Mr. DAVIS to decline, or to go over eventually to the Democratic nominee, Mr. JONES, with enough others to make him Speaker. What was desired was not this latter result, but to force Mr. DAVIS out of the way.

This arrangement was promptly met by a counter project by the Curtinians to defeat Mr. GRAHAM in the Senate in case Mr. DAVIS was not allowed to go through. It was stated that three Curtinian Senators were ready to vote for the democratic nominee for Speaker, in order to execute reprisals for the Cameronian bolt in the House. This seems not to have been authentic.

While these were influences prominent in the struggle, pretenses of different nature were set up to justify the strategy that had been resolved upon, and the ends intended to be reached. The Cameronians urged that Mr. DAVIS's legislative career was blemished, and the Curtinians retorted by pointing to Mr. CONNELL's deficiencies in the same particular. If it must be confessed that much these respective accusers said was true; it must, also, be admitted that neither got the start of the other. It was simply absurd for Cameronians to set up as purists for the purpose of defeating Mr. DAVIS, while they were cordially supporting men no better than he.

Then it was alleged that Mr. DAVIS was not reliable to those questions in which Allegheny county and the western portion of the Commonwealth generally feel an especial interest—that he was not sound on the Free Railroad Law and the restoration of the Connellsville charter. It was insisted, with considerable force, that Mr. MCCAMANT voted for the genuine Free Railroad bill last winter, while Mr. DAVIS dodged the question. In reply to this, Mr. DAVIS maintained that he dodged last winter because his mind was undergoing a change; from being against the proposed law he was turning in favor of it, but had not reached the point where he was fully prepared to abandon his old views and associations and openly espouse new ones. He stated that he was now confirmed in his convictions on the side of freedom in railroad building; had definitely proclaimed his purpose in published letters; had prepared his inaugural address in anticipation of his election as Speaker, and had made it as direct and uncompromising as he could; had promised to make Mr. WILSON, of Allegheny county, Chairman of the Railroad Committee, and should do it, believing him to have the full confidence of all the Free Railroad men; and that he should advocate and vote for the restoration of the Connellsville charter. He further stated that the opposition to him was in fact not based on any doubts as to his actual position, for one of the bolters from Allegheny county had offered to vote for him on consideration of having the Chairmanship of the Railroad Committee given to him instead of Mr. WILSON; and that the bolter was Mr. SMYTH.

But the Cameronians urged that some of the supporters of Mr. DAVIS were not Free Railroad men; that some of them were certainly in the interest of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. This was simply true. But, then, what I have already said must be borne in mind. These combinations had not primary reference to any questions about railroads. It was not more suspicious that some monopolists should go in for Mr. DAVIS than that some of them should go in for Mr. GRAHAM and Mr. CONNELL. Mr. GRAHAM and Mr. EARNITT are both unquestionably sound on the railroad questions, but they support Mr. CONNELL, who has been utterly and effectively on the other side for years. Mr. LANDON, who did more against the Free Railroad Law and the Connellsville bill, at the last session, than any other Senator, supports Mr. GRAHAM. This is not because of identity of views on these questions, but because of identity in clanship for general purposes.

And here it is proper to remark that the clans do not pull in perfect harmony on this occasion. They never do. Always, incidental or collateral questions spring up, which divert particular members of either clan from the body thereof temporarily. Hence it happens that some Western Cameronians now favor Mr. IRWIN. The idea, that control them in this special deviation is that the East has monopolized the advantages of the Treasurership, and that Western interests will be promoted by the election of a trans-Alleghenian to the custody of the public moneys. In these comparatively few instances the sentiment of locality overbears the zeal of clanship.

The three bolters from Allegheny county, when pressed, justify their revolt against the usages of the party by a communication in the columns of the GAZETTE on Monday morning, signed "Allegheny." They say that but for that article they should have gone into caucus and abided by its decision. Unfortunately for this view of the case, I heard of their determination to bolt at least six hours before the GAZETTE containing that communication arrived at Harrisburg. If the fact had been otherwise that document would not have afforded the justification they sought. The experienced Mr. JOHN HICKMAN hit the nail exactly on the head, in caucus, when he said, "If these men have real grievances, why do they not come here and state them, and demand redress?" It is not easy to see what answer can be made to that interrogatory.

But this example may be erected into a precedent that will be used with vast effect not many months hence. Next year a United States Senator will be chosen in place of Mr. BUCKALEW. A State Senator of the clan CAMERON wants it, and it is wanted for him. He has large mental powers, uncommon attainments in knowledge, and a capitivating eloquence. He would adorn the station. But he has been a most sturdy opponent of a genuine Free Railroad Law and of the restoration of the Connellsville charter. True, he says he is in favor of a General Railroad Law, but it is one whose chief feature consists in providing "how not to do it." The limitations and provisos weigh down such an enactment as he would make so as to cause it to blank into the category of a nullity. So long as the Republican party in State Convention did not plant itself on one side or the other of this question, this Senator was at liberty to act in reference to it as he pleased. It was in the same case as the question of Protection to Domestic Industry in the Republican party at large. No National Convention having decided that question, a Republican may be a Free Trader or a Protectionist, as he will. But the last State Convention at Williamsport adopted Freedom in Railroad Building as a plank in the Republican Platform, and, so far, has bound its representatives. Now, we concede that if any moral principle is involved in a question no man can be concluded by the action of his fellows. He is bound to make his conduct thereon accord with his individual judgment. But this is not such a question. It has no absolute moral character, but is purely a question of political economy. It falls exclusively within the legitimate domain of Policy or Expediency. In party fealty, therefore, this Senator is bound to conform his official conduct to the judgment of the Convention. He probably will not. I judge him by what he has said to me within a few days.

How will his Senatorial aspirations stand next year? Surely, it will be in vain to ask Free Railroad Republicans to go into a caucus where he will be sure to win, or to be bound by a caucus that agrees to elevate him to the United States Senate! Violating the discipline of the party himself, he cannot expect it to be enforced in his own behalf; and if he should indulge the expectation would surely be mistaken in the end.

Another view remains to be taken. The Republican party last year promised the people of this State a Free Railroad Law in case it was again entrusted with power. This was one of the definite pledges on which it was trusted. It will shortly be demonstrated whether that promise was made in good faith or not. If the law demanded and promised shall be enacted, all will be well. What if it shall fail? More, if its failure shall be owing to the fact that none of the regular and acknowledged appliances of party discipline were used in its behalf? Is the conjecture hinged that the Republican advocates of a Free Railroad Law may be fooled with impunity? If so, that delusion may as well be put aside, and that right speedily.

There are indications that the Democratic party, as such, means to commit itself to the monopoly; that even Mr. WALLACE intends to head a flank movement. I shall be slow to believe this of him until constrained by potentest facts. But such a movement would comport with that party, and give it valuable alliances next year; while it would make the course of the Republicans one of inevitable necessity.

These indications have greatly perplexed Mr. GRAHAM. While earnestly desiring not to violate the compact of the Senate by degrading Mr. LANDON from the Chairmanship of the Railroad Committee, or displacing him altogether from the Committee, he feels that trueness to the interests of his immediate constituents and to the declared policy of the party, requires he should run no risks. If he should count on Mr. WALLACE as a friend to a Free Railroad Law, he should constitute the Committee on that presumption, and that Mr. WALLACE should be found on the other side, he would be without sufficient reasons to justify his cause, and would fall under the imputation of actual treachery or culpable confidence. However, he is determined to make sure of that Committee, even if it become necessary to remove Mr. LANDON altogether, an even not improbable. In making choice of its members he will use great caution, selecting only such material as can be fully relied upon in any emergency.

Having said so much of the influence of factions in these matters, it is necessary to say more, in order not to be misunderstood. Factions always have a shibboleth under which they rally—an idea, a principle, a measure, or a name. The two factions of which we have spoken each have the name of an individual as its badge or token. Each of these individuals has acted a conspicuous part in the politics of the State or nation. One is now in the United States Senate; the other hoping to be there or into the Vice Presidential chair. Each is a magnetic character, adapted to attract or repel other persons. Unlike in dispositions, tastes, aptitudes and capacities, each has salient points and signal merits. As chiefs of factions neither is without faults, though far enough from justifying the harsh criticisms pronounced upon them. It happens with them, as with persons similarly circumstanced, that their respective clans sometimes do things, ostensibly in their interests, which they do not sanction. In popular governments clans use their chiefs often more than the chiefs use them. In the case under consideration no evidence is adduced to show that Mr. CAMERON sanctions the bolt of his clan. He is at Washington, and those who may be supposed to represent his wishes in a special manner have apparently not directed, advised or consented to the schism. It seems rather that the discipline of the clan was invoked, without authority, for the accomplishment of personal ends. The contest is a bitter one. F. R. P.

THE action of the Soldiers' Convention at Philadelphia in nominating Gen. Grant for the Presidency may be taken as indicative of the enthusiasm with which his selection as the standard-bearer of the Republican party will be hailed throughout the whole length and breadth of the land by the men who sustained the national flag in the field during the dark days of the rebellion.

GEN. HARTRANFT has signified his willingness again to become a candidate for Auditor General. So far as other person has been named in connection with the nomination. It may be presumed, therefore, that he will have no competitor for the place. He made an excellent soldier, and is making an equally good civil officer.

MR. MORTON M'MICHAEL has declined renomination for the office of Mayor of Philadelphia.

VOLUME LXXXIII.—NO. 2.

PITTSBURGH WEEKLY GAZETTE.

PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1868. ESTABLISHED IN 1786.

NO ORGANIZATION.

The Legislative Lockout continues, and the twenty-fifth ballot was reached in the House yesterday without effecting the expected result, the election of Mr. DAVIS as Speaker. The dissenters scattered their votes after the twentieth ballot, as no gentleman would consent to permit his name to be used as their candidate. The conduct of the fractious members excites condemnation and rebuke from the leading Republican journals of the State, and they certainly cannot blind their eyes to the fact that they are working their own political destruction as rapidly as it is possible for men to accomplish that end.

If it had been left to us to name the man for Speaker of the House, the choice would not have fallen on Mr. ELISHA W. DAVIS. No such authority was vested in us. Nor were we deputed to counsel or advise the Republican members of the Legislature in the matter. We consequently did not counsel or advise them. But a large majority of those Republicans chose Mr. DAVIS, as was their privilege. Nine others, not only exercised the privilege of choosing for themselves, as they were entitled to do, but when they found they were badly beaten refused to go into caucus at all. Some of them still put the whites of their eyes and sanctimoniously protest they cannot vote for such a man as Mr. DAVIS. Well; HICKMAN, MASON, NICHOLSON, WILSON, and most others who are widely reputed to have high personal characters, have no difficulty on that score. Mr. DAVIS has reason to be proud of the support of such men.

The fact is this unreasonable bolt has damaged the prospects of a General Railroad Law and of the restoration of the Connellsville charter. Republican members from other parts of the State, who have been acting in good faith, and meant to go straight through, are so vexed. Others who wanted an excuse to strike the measures particularly demanded by Allegheny and other counties, think they have found it. This illustrates the truth of what we said some days ago, that Allegheny was altogether too provincial for its own welfare, and could not alter its course in that particular a moment too soon.

Mr. DAVIS has been acting honorably, and would undoubtedly have made all his pledges good. He has been badly used, and naturally feels aggrieved. He would be less or more than human if he did not. His particular friends are angered. No reasonable man can blame them. Men from all parts of the State who have the welfare of the Republican cause at heart, and want it to triumph in the fall, in the election of General GRANT, are aggrieved, are out of patience, and with abundant cause. A Free Railroad Bill, or any other measure of importance, cannot be secured in this way, and, certainly ought not to be.

THE DEAD LOCK—A CARD.

The following is the card (referred to yesterday) of the Republican members of the State House of Representatives who refused to support Mr. DAVIS for Speaker:

HARRISBURG, January 8.—*Editors of the State Guard*:—Gentlemen: Our attention has been called to an article in the *State Guard* of this city, criticising severely on the position and motives of those of us who feel it to be our duty to withhold our support from the Hon. ELISHA W. DAVIS, as a candidate for Speaker of the House of Representatives. Permit us to state that we are not disorganizers, but have at heart the success and welfare of the Republican party. We have voted and acted with that organization ever since it had an existence, and we intend to do so in the future, except when an attempt is made to inflict a great wrong upon that party. We believe it now being done by some gentlemen who desire to see Mr. Davis elected Speaker, and who are and have been freely applying to us the epithets of disorganizers and malcontents. In the faithful discharge of our duty to an honest and incorruptible constituency, we have taken this stand, assured that when the time arrives for us to lay before the world our reasons as large for our action, it will meet with approval from every honest and true Republican in the State.

A. ARMSTRONG, Lancaster.
DAVID BARTRAM, Allegheny.
JOHN T. RICHARDS, Fulton.
GEO. R. RIDDLE, Allegheny.
J. HOWARD KEPT, Crawford.
SAMUEL MCCAMANT, Blair.
H. S. WEAVEON, Huntingdon.

THE SOLDIERS' CONVENTION will meet next Tuesday at Philadelphia. The representation from Allegheny county is quite small, in comparison to the number to which it is entitled. Still, the delegation from almost all the other counties will be full, so that the aggregate attendance will be large.

As a matter of course, this body will nominate GEN. GRANT for the Presidency. It is most suitable that a military convention, assembled for political purposes, should present the name of the most illustrious soldier in the republic for its highest honors, and especially as he has exhibited in the management of the War Department, as elsewhere, a high capacity for the civil service.

It might likewise be expected that the Convention will express a preference for a candidate for Vice-President. So far, Governor GRANT and ex-Governor CURTIN have been most prominently named in this connection. A large majority of the delegates, so far as we are informed, are for Mr. CURTIN. Indeed, we hear of few or no delegates instructed for General GRANT. Even in his own county, Cumberland, the delegates are for Mr. CURTIN. Two considerations, at least, have contributed to this result. General GRANT's term as Governor will not expire until the year after the election of President and Vice-President; and a decided inclination exists not to create an interregnum. It is ordinarily suitable that a civil officer should serve out the term of his election before entering upon another place. Then, again, if the first place on the ticket is conceded to a military man, it is wise to concede the second place to a civilian. Soldiers are entitled to just recognition; and all loyalists are ready to go as far as reason dictates in that direction. But if they should claim all the seats of honor a feeling would be apt to spring up that the slave-holding oligarchy had perished only to make room for the pretorian guards. This is an impression that thoughtful soldiers are anxious to avoid as any other class. But, be this as it may, Governor CURTIN will most likely be the choice of the Convention. Whether he will, upon this backing, go actively into the canvass, or decline, holding back for the next Senatorial vacancy, is a point on which we have no information.

THE noble and patriotic county of Allegheny, with her thousands of returned soldiers, is represented at the Convention of Boys in Blue, now in session at Philadelphia, by a single delegate. We do not know but this fact conveys a compliment to our soldier citizens, who have not shown much desire to press in political circles the claims they hold on a grateful people for military services prompted and rendered through pure patriotism.

J. J. SHYOCK, Esq., First Vice President of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, has resigned his position. He served with honor and credit, and contributed largely to the general success of that road, with which he has been identified since its infancy.

ON the first Wednesday of next month the French nation will celebrate the centennial anniversary of the birth of Napoleon Bonaparte.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

The second annual report of Mr. DAVID A. WALLS, Special Commissioner of the Revenue of the United States, was laid before Congress yesterday, and is a highly important and interesting document. The duties of that officer require that he shall investigate the sources of national revenue, the best methods of collecting the same, and administration of the existing laws bearing on the subject. In referring to the National debt and the requirements for National expenditure, he presents the following figures:

The amount of the National Debt on the 31st of August, 1865,—the period of its maximum—less cash in the Treasury, was $2,757,689,571 43, involving an annual obligation for interest of $138,031,628 24. The debt in general, at this period, might be classified as follows:

Of long obligations (5-20 bonds, 6s of 1881, 10-40s, &c.) $1,054,228,600; of *short time* paper (temporary loan, certificates of indebtedness, compound interest notes, Treasury notes, United States notes, fractional currency, bonds of 1847 and 1848), $1,073,456,971 43, of which $373,898,356 38 was currency proper.

By an elaborate table and comparison the Commissioner demonstrates *that the United States is the only one of the leading nations of the world which is, at present, materially diminishing its debt and reducing its taxes; and the only one, thereafter, which offers any substantial evidence of its ability to pay its debt with in any definite period, or even anticipated the probability of any such occurrence.*

In speaking of the immense revenue which should be derived from distilled spirits, he says, what we hereover held, that the tax has been placed at such a rate as to constitute in itself so great a temptation to fraud, that average honest nature, as it exists in the United States, is not able to resist it. And the system under which the officers have been selected to collect the tax and supervise the manufacture has not, thus far, recognized *honesty, intelligence, and business capacity* as the *first, only, and essential* qualification for appointment.

He proposes that the special taxes referred to, under this head, should be repealed; and that a tax of from two to three per cent. be imposed on the value of all spirits sold at wholesale, to be paid monthly, and a tax of ten cents per gallon on all spirits rectified, to be paid weekly. A tax of two and a half per cent. on sales, and ten cents on spirits rectified, will, in the opinion of the Commissioner, yield a revenue, which cannot be easily evaded, of at least twenty millions of dollars per annum; making a total amount of annual revenue which can probably be derived from the tax on distilled spirits, under the proposed system, of from *fifty to sixty millions of dollars.*

THERE are many and significant indications that Russia is stirring up mischief against Turkey. These signs have become so manifest that the Sultan has dispatched an envoy to solicit the intervention of England. There was a time when all Europe trembled at the tread of the Russian colossus, which threatened to subdue the continent and extinguish christianity. There was also a time when all Europe rang with enthusiastic shouts of armed legions on the way to drive the Turks out of Palestine. For long and bloody centuries there was no amity between these two forces, following respectively the cross and the crescent. Now, in former years, the Moslems have begged at Christian hands the boon of remaining in Europe. Before the Turks has appeared the dark shadow of destiny, silently motioning them away. As they were driven out of Spain, so will they at last be driven out of Europe into Asia. Strong as religious antipathies are conceived to be, they are strongest, indeed, than all other passions besides—here is an instance in which political passions and interests altogether outweigh all suggestions of ecclesiastical and theological rivalry. The Turks remain because the Christian nations can agree among themselves what shall be done with the country when vacated by the present occupants.

If a judgment should be formed touching this grave matter, based upon the relative value of the respective peoples inhabiting European Turkey; it may well be conjectured the balance would incline in favor of the Turks. Unquestionably when the Roman Empire of the East succumbed to the followers of the Prophet, the Christians had sunk below the ordinary athletic level. Ancient vitality had gone out of them. No stamina remained, and they yielded because they were the weakest. Since then the Mahometans have decayed; but not faster than the Christians. Both have gone down, but about rately to each other.

Russia missed its chance when Carl ball recently rose against Rome. Then combinations were feasible which would have terminated this debate of centuries, and made St. Sophia once again a Christian temple.

THE Philadelphia *North American* of Tuesday discourses at length on "Consolidated Allegheny." After speaking of the benefits which consolidation has brought to Philadelphia, and of those which it would bring to Pittsburgh, it winds up with the following:

"We read and hear so much in these days of representations made in and congress of Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati, that the extent and magnitude of Pittsburgh generally are lost sight of. We, therefore, learn now with surprise that the whole of Pittsburgh has a population of some two hundred thousand souls. We sincerely regret that at the election lately held there the people did not vote to make one consolidated city of it, as the approach of the census period for taking the national census renders it very desirable that Pittsburgh should not again figure in the official report of the sixth rate cities of the republic, instead of coming to the front rank, where she properly belongs. It is, however, gratifying to know that a step in the right direction, by consolidating with each of the two leading cities all their outlying suburbs, has been taken. If, now, the three divisions were consolidated into one city, it would always be easy to show the statistics of the real Pittsburgh. Hitherto this has been impossible for anybody except a Pittsburgher, and even many of them were unable to do it accurately. A good map of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and suburbs should be printed and widely circulated all over the republic."

THE democrats have taken the initiative, calling their State Convention early in March. Among other encouragements that have fallen in their way is the legislative lock-out at Harrisburg. They take this as a symptom that they are to encounter a host during the coming summer, which will be discordant, dissenant, belligerent; that will be carrying weapons against its own members. We doubt not they are calculating wildly; but it must be confessed the present look favors their inference. Republicans so close up this difference, and right speedily, that not a trace of it shall be left.

—The London *Times* has, for some time past, been engaged in a libel suit of great importance to newspaper publishers, which was finally decided on December 20th. It was the suit of Wason vs. Walter, Mr. Walter being proprietor of the *Times*. The question at issue was, affecting the public was, whether a newspaper might print the debates in Parliament without incurring the risk of an action for libel. The case arose in reference to statements made in the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor and other peers as to Mr. Wason's petition complaining of the appointment of Sir Fitzroy Kelly as a Judge, and which Mr. Wason complained of as libellous. The Lord Chief Justice distinctly declared that it is his opinion a correct report of what was said in Parliament was privileged, and being so instructed, the jury found for the defendant.

WARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Work in the Horticultural Department.

It is well that out-of-door work sometimes ceases, or at least becomes so little pressing, that we have time to plan and think. While the general aspect of these notes is such as might lead one to suppose that they were reprinted from year to year, there is really no more painstaking work put into the paper than just here. Certain things, it is true, have to be repeated, and it is not easy to give directions to transplant cabbages in any great variety of language. In making up these notes we are obliged to have several distinct classes of readers in mind: those who cultivate entirely for profit, and those who grow plants for the love of it, and without regard to gain; those who are familiar with the ordinary operations of horticulture and only need to be reminded of the season in which to do them, and those who need the simplest operation for the first time. Besides the routine directions it will be found that we each month incorporate much that is new under the different divisions, and answer in general terms many letters of inquiry. Horticulture has to always been the advance of farmers in unveiling themselves of the recorded experience of others, and we now have not only general treatises, but many excellent works upon special subjects, in which the various processes are treated more in detail than they can be by general writers. The past year has brought out works of great value in all departments of horticulture, and no one whose operations are upon any other than a very small scale can afford to be ignorant of the current literature of his favorite branch.—*Agriculturist.*

Orchard and Nurse.

Order Trees Early.—If one lives near a nursery it will sometimes pay him to give even an extra price for the privilege of digging his own trees.

Rabbits are troublesome, especially when the snow lies on the ground. Among the various preventives blood has been found the most easy of application and efficacious as any. One sprinkling will last all winter. If blood cannot be obtained readily rub the tops of the trees with liver or bloody meat, but this is more troublesome.

Mice work under cover; keep all rubbish away from the trees, and tramp down light snow. When there are many trees it will pay to clasp the base of the trunks with a girdle of old tin, or sheet iron.

The Tent Caterpillar is one of the most destructive insects in the orchard, and one of the most readily controlled. The eggs may now be seen glued on as a band around the twigs near their ends. Get them off at any expense of time and labor.

Clons.—The sooner these are cut, the better, as experience has shown that a much larger proportion of early cut grafts will live than of those taken after they have been exposed to the severity of the winter; this is especially the case when the autumn has been unfavorable to the ripening of the wood. Tie very correctly, and pack in boxes of fresh sawdust.

Root Grafting may be done; graft at the "collar" and never on the tips of roots. Waxed cotton twine is the most convenient tying material.

Map the Orchard.—We often advise this, and cannot do too strongly urge the best label will get lost or obliterated in time, and memory is not to be trusted. Write it on the tree, name it *inside* and will and much to its value.

Nursery Stock.—May be heeled back and shaped any time during winter when the weather is mild.

Why Not a Rhododendron?

Those who live in cities and towns have usually but a small lot to embellish, hence the necessity of getting the most out of it. The fitting out of these places is too often left to the care of a jobbing gardener who has more conceit than knowledge, and a small front yard is so cut up and filled with a confusion of things that it looks solid enough. We recently saw a place that struck us as particularly neat. A bit of nicely kept turf had in the centre a fine specimen of rhododendron, six feet high, and nearly as wide. With its beautiful, broad, evergreen foliage, and an abundance of buds of full promise for next spring's flowers, it stood in marked contrast to the usual sterile sort of the deciduous shrubs of the neighborhood. A single good plant like this will give more satisfaction than a crowd of shrubs, neither of which has a chance to develop itself. Good nursery grown Rhododendrons (and most other shrubs are likely to live) may now be had at from one to three dollars. They may be transplanted in spring or autumn.

(*Good Cheer.*

Fruit Garden.

Whoever contents himself with a single variety of strawberry, currant, or other fruit, gets only half the satisfaction his garden is capable of affording, or, if he cultivates for market, only a portion of the profit he might otherwise receive.

With proper forethought in selecting early and late varieties to supplement the main crops at both ends, the season of most fruits may be much extended. One can then time to think of such matters, and to arrange for a succession of fresh fruit, from the first opening of the berry ripens, until the last winter pear and long-keeping grape is gone.

At the best season, when the soil and even planting may go on, but in our colder climate but little can be done except preparing the ground for trees by manures and horse-ploughing, and in mild spots to prune such grape vines and currant bushes as have not been attended to.

General Work, such as protecting trees, removing the eggs of insects, is limited as under Orchard and Nursery.

Green and Hot-Houses.

An average temperature of 50° in the green-house, with a rise and fall of some 15° for the extremes of mid-day and night, will suit most of the tribes.

Camellias and Azaleas now in bloom need liberal watering; those done flowering need a little more.

Hyacinths and other bulbs may be brought into a warm place to hasten the bloom, and as soon as the flower fades, cut away the stalk.

Begonias of Verbenas, Heliotropes and other summer bedding stuff, may be carried on.

Rooted Pansies, Stocks, Petunias, etc., are to be sown to furnish plants for spring flowering.

Orange and Lemons are to be kept in a cool part of the house and only sparingly watered.

Insects find in dwellings are often killed by kindness. Thaw them always in a cool room.

Scale is to be kept under from the start. Tobacco smoke, and the use of a soft sponge and soap, are usually sufficient remedies in small collections.

A SCHOOL wishes to know what all shall do to acquire agreeable manners in her children at the table. There are probably a good many mothers among our readers pressed with the same solicitude. Good breeding shows itself at the table more than anywhere else. We come to gratify an animal appetite, and without some painstaking to redeem the occasion the repast is likely to be purely an animal exercise. Children learn more readily from example than precept, and unless the parents are agreed in having a little formality at the table it will be hard to overcome the rough habits in the children. If the parents will observe the rules of good breeding, gratifying to know that a step in the right direction, by consolidating with each of the two leading cities all their outlying suburbs, has been taken. If, now, the three divisions were consolidated into one city, it would always be easy to show the statistics of the real Pittsburgh. Hitherto this has been impossible for anybody except a Pittsburgher, and even many of them were unable to do it accurately. A good map of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and suburbs should be printed and widely circulated all over the republic."

THE democrats have taken the initiative, calling their State Convention early in March. Among other encouragements that have fallen in their way is the legislative lock-out at Harrisburg. They take this as a symptom that they are to encounter a host during the coming summer, which will be discordant, dissenant, belligerent; that will be carrying weapons against its own members. We doubt not they are calculating wildly; but it must be confessed the present look favors their inference. Republicans so close up this difference, and right speedily, that not a trace of it shall be left.

—The London *Times* has, for some time past, been engaged in a libel suit of great importance to newspaper publishers, which was finally decided on December 20th. It was the suit of Wason vs. Walter, Mr. Walter being proprietor of the *Times*. The question at issue was, affecting the public was, whether a newspaper might print the debates in Parliament without incurring the risk of an action for libel. The case arose in reference to statements made in the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor and other peers as to Mr. Wason's petition complaining of the appointment of Sir Fitzroy Kelly as a Judge, and which Mr. Wason complained of as libellous. The Lord Chief Justice distinctly declared that it is his opinion a correct report of what was said in Parliament was privileged, and being so instructed, the jury found for the defendant.

HARRISBURG.

Meeting of the Legislature.

Organization of the Senate.

Speech of Mr. Graham, Speaker Elect.

(Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Gazette.)

HARRISBURG, Jan. 7, 1868.

The Senate convened at *three o'clock* this afternoon, Speaker Graham presiding. The new Senators answered and were sworn.

Mr. McCandless, Democrat, of Philadelphia, protested against the old Speaker swearing in the new Senators. Ruled out of order.

For Speaker, Mr. Graham, Republican, received thirteen votes, and Mr. Wallace, Democrat, fourteen.

Mr. Wallace administered the oath of office to Mr. Graham, who spoke as follows:

Senators: In assuming the responsible duties of the Chair, to which your partiality has called me, I can only promise you to devote to their discharge whatever ability I may possess, and to give an earnest attention to the business of the Senate. The rules which govern this chamber, if observed with ordinary strictness, are sufficient to expedite the business of our constituents, and to frame such laws as may be needed by the people of the State; with due deliberation, without protracting the session to an unusual period. I shall in all kindness endeavor to have those rules observed, and by every means in my power to preserve the dignity of this body, and to expedite, as far as may be consistent with a proper regard for the deliberative character of the Senate, the consideration of the various legislative measures to which your attention may be invited.

The important interests of a great State are entrusted to our care. The enterprising people of a mighty Commonwealth, stretching from Lake Erie to the Delaware, will resume their diversified pursuits as they are boundless, look to us to legislate for their advancement in material prosperity and moral development.

Let us then see to it, that whatever measures will develope the buried wealth of our State, will most available the new inaccessible forests and mineral of our mountains and the products of our soil, whatever will encourage the labor and industry of our citizens, and diffuse intelligence among our children, shall receive our prompt and cordial support.

Prominent amongst these, I take it for granted, a liberal "Free Railroad Law," which will extend the benefits of our railroad system to every corner of the Commonwealth, and to every recess in our mountains, where obscure or remote, will receive your early and careful attention. The time for grants of special and exclusive privileges in the carrying trade has passed. They might possibly have been justified, at least excused in the infancy of our Commonwealth, when money was scarce and capitalists few and timid. Our wealth and population are now, when capital seeks everywhere for remunerative investment, and while the tonnage and the transportation and productions of the State lie hidden from public view, and are shut out from the world for want of a means of transportation; a broader and more liberal policy is demanded by the requirements of the times.

Not the greatest good of the greatest number," but the general good of all, should be our motto and our aim. The voice of the great political party, which for several years has controlled the Legislation, and wielded the destiny of Pennsylvania, now represented by a majority in each branch of this Legislature, was heard in unmistakable language on this subject, by its appointed representatives in session last winter, and emphatic declarations of the candidate for Governor, and of the distinguished orators, both on the floor of this Senate, and elsewhere, during the canvass so agitated. Though that debt, contracted to preserve the NATION'S life, has been cut down three quarter than it now is, the successful defense of our common country against treason and disruption would have been cheap even at that cost. The breaking of this once united land into fragments and the destruction of the work of our fathers, would have been a calamity far above all computation in money, or blood and treasure. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a State which has been prodigal of the precious blood of her sons, and of her treasure, than all money or property, when I say, that the continuance of her honor and glory, dear to the heart of every patriot, be sacredly and honestly paid. I mean that the pledge which she has imposed upon this generation. Let there be no imprudent or unnecessary haste; but let the pledge be redeemed. The resources are ample and are constantly increasing, our NATIONAL FAITH SHALL NOT PERISH, and the pledge of the obligation of our Government shall be honorably redeemed.

Coupled with the sentiment with these views would be a force reduction or repeal of the Internal Revenue taxes on the principal manufactures of the country. All the leading industrial interests of the country, and especially of our own State, are now depressed and suffering in consequence of the heavy and unnecessary taxation laid by Congress on our manufactures.

Vain are all our tariff laws for protection against foreign competition. If our manufactures are weighed down by an enormous and grinding system of taxation, no amount of protection whatever will demand of the National Congress immediate relief from the heavy burdens which oppress her labor and which experience has shown to be no longer necessary.

Grateful for the confidence reposed in me, thanking you for the honor conferred by this station, and solicitous for your indulgence for my errors, I have now only to ask you to designate a Senator to officiate as official editor. Tradition I am required to take on this occasion.

George W. Hammerely, of Philadelphia, was elected Clerk. F. M. Hutchinson, of Pittsburgh, was the Democratic candidate.

All the candidates of yesterday's Republican caucus were elected. The defeated candidates of the Democratic caucus were: For Assistant Clerk, Frank McGee, Timothy Sloan; Sergeant-at-Arms, Conrad Conneliy; Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, W. W. Williams, James Cady; Transcribing Clerks, Richard Kuhn, A. W. Walters, Thomas W. Watkins, John Pratt; Doorkeeper, Samuel Carson.

Mr. Worthington, Representative of Chester county, offered a resolution appointing a Joint Committee to inform the Governor that the Legislature was ready to proceed to business.

Mr. Lowry, of Erie, moved to amend by appointing a Senate Committee. The House might not organize for several days, and the Governor had already sent in Messages to the newspapers. The Message should be read in the Senate.

Messrs. Davis, of Berks, Searight, of Fayette, Dem., and Billingfelt, Rep., of Lancaster, thought the Governor was premature in delivering his message to the newspapers. Mr. Searight contended that the message could not be received till the House was organized.

Messrs. White, of Indiana, Worthington and Lowry cited the proceedings of 1864, when the Senate was unorganized.

Mr. Lowry's amendment was accepted.

The Governor notified the Senate that he would send in his message at twelve o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Davis, of Berks, submitted a resolution for the purchase of Purdon's Digest, for Senators, clerks and committee rooms, which Mr. Lowry characterized as an outrage in affording costly food for thefts. Agreed to.

Mr. White, of Indiana, moved that the rules of 1866, instead of 1867, be adopted, because by the latter rule bills had been read and passed by titles, and some, he was informed, had passed without an intelligent insight into their character or bearing on the part of the Senate. Agreed to.

Some two hours were taken up in the discussion of the validity of Mr. George Bergner's contract for printing the *Legislative Record* for three years to come.

Mr. White moved a new Committee to frame a contract, and announced that the newspapers here would make a reasonable bid. He did not believe that in law a preceding Legislature could bind a subsequent one to a contract for printing.

Mr. Lowry moved a reference of the subject to the Judiciary Committee. He believed the contract with Bergner was binding, and his claim on the treasury insurmountable.

Mr. Landon, of Bradford, supported Mr. Lowry. All asserted that they had not been satisfied with the manner in which the *Record* was published and furnished.

Mr. White accepted the amendment, providing that if no valid contract already exists, the new company may make a different contract, and report on the plans within six days from the organization of the Legislature.

Pending discussion, adjourned till to-morrow.

HARRISBURG, January 8, 1868.

SENATE.

The SENATE met at eleven o'clock.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny, presented a petition from A. W. Foster, of Pittsburgh, for a system of cumulative voting for Senators and Representatives.

Mr. Lowry, of Erie, presented thirty-nine petitions from Crawford, Venango and Warren, for a new county, to be created out of parts of Crawford, Forest, Venango and Warren.

Mr. Errett also presented a bill incorporating the Pittsburgh, Brownsville and Geneva Packet Company.

Mr. Searight, Democrat, of Fayette, a bill to repeal the liquor license law of last year.

Also, restoring the charter of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad.

Mr. Lowry, of Erie, a bill changing the name of the Cleveland, Paynesville and Ashtabula Railroad Company to Lake Shore Company.

Mr. Wallace, Democrat, of Clearfield, a bill repealing the act of last year compelling the admission of negroes into railway cars.

Mr. Beck, Democrat, of Lycoming, joint resolutions relative to currency, favoring an early return to specie payments, opposing national banks, and favoring an increased tariff and decrease of internal revenue. Laid on the table.

At twelve o'clock the Governor's Message was read. Five thousand copies in English, and two thousand in German were ordered printed.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The HOUSE met at twelve o'clock. The chamber was crowded and the excitement great.

Nine more ballots, making fifteen in all, were taken without effecting an organization.

On the eighth ballot Mr. Wharton, of Huntingdon, withdrew the name of Mr. McCamant, and Messrs. Armstrong, Beckert, Espy, McCamant, Smith,