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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1868.

We print on the inside pages of this morning's GAZETTE: *Second page—Condensed News, A Blunder of the Opera Composers. Third page—Financial Matters in New York, Markets by Telegraph, River News, Imports, &c. Sixth page—Local Markets, Finances and Trade. Seventh page—Letters from New York and St. Louis, Miscellaneous Reading Matter, Amusement Directory.*

WE PRINT this very important enactment this morning. The merits of the law must be judged by its practical operations. We have, nevertheless, attentively considered its provisions, and feel bound to say that they seem to us well guarded, carefully elaborated and completely adapted to the great purpose which the Legislature had in view and which has been concurrently demanded by all the friends of the purity of the ballot-boxes. That purpose may be briefly stated to be the securing of a more complete exemption from frauds upon the suffrage, by the preparation of a correct voting-list, bearing the name of every citizen who is entitled or who claims title to exercise the right, and the seasonable publication of that list in advance of the election day. We commend this act to the particular attention of election officers and all good citizens, irrespective of party.

IN OUR columns, this morning, appears a requisition upon our worthy townsman, Col. WILLIAM PHILLIPS, to become a candidate for Congress in the Twenty-second Congressional District. This document is signed by hundreds of our best citizens, representing all the leading interests of the neighborhood, and is a testimonial which does him high honor. Few gentlemen in Allegheny county are as well qualified to fill the position as Col. PHILLIPS, to which he is called, and certainly none have more ardent friends and admirers. It required no little moral courage to decline becoming a candidate under such auspicious circumstances; but Col. PHILLIPS, unfortunately, is so wrapped up in a great local railway enterprise that he cannot withdraw his attention from it sufficiently long to represent this district in the National Assembly. His declination will greatly disappoint his many friends who sought him out for the office, and while they excuse him this time, his services may in the future be more imperatively demanded by an intelligent constituency.

THE ELECTIONS.

Connecticut gave ENGLISH (Dem.) for Governor, last year, a majority of 987, but the Republicans carried the Legislature by majorities of one in the Senate and ten in the House. At the election on Monday last, ENGLISH was re-elected by a majority somewhat increased, the latest estimates being about 1,500, but the Republicans not only again control of the Legislature, but have increased their majorities to three in the Senate, and a majority of at least thirty in the House. In '67 the Republicans polled 46,578 votes and the Democrats 47,565,—the total being 94,143. The aggregate vote of Monday has not yet reached us; a heavy poll was anticipated and no doubt it has been cast. In the absence of any details, or of any precise figures in the different sections of the State, speculations based upon the result would be premature. We can, however, well afford to be satisfied with any election which strengthens our hold upon all the substantial fruits of a triumph. Our control of the Legislature is strengthened, giving us, among other things, the seat in the U. S. Senate now held by Hon. JAMES DIXON, who has abandoned the Republican party which elected him, linking his fortunes to those of the President whom he will soon follow into a perpetual retirement from public life. On the whole we need not complain of Connecticut. Can our Democratic friends conscientiously do the same?

Michigan follows the example of Ohio, Wisconsin, Kansas and Connecticut in refusing the right of suffrage to colored men. But the exultation of the Democracy over this result is sadly checked by her vote also on Monday to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors. Between free whisky and the equally free "nigger," it is the general impression that they would rather swallow the latter than to be deprived of the former. The lesser gain is to them no compensation now for the greater affliction to which they must submit.

The charter elections at Cincinnati and Cleveland have resulted, on the whole, in Republican success. At Cincinnati the Democrats get three of the minor city offices, and have diminished our majority on the others by the aid of the "working men's" movement. At Cleveland, the Republicans gain in the council, with a general majority of from 500 to 700 on the ward tickets, a gain of nearly 1,000 over the last election.

ON MONDAY Mr. GEORGE B. VASHON, of Allegheny, was admitted as a lawyer in the Supreme Court of the United States at Washington, Judge NELSON administering the oath. He was admitted on the same credentials upon which he was excluded a few days ago from the bar of this county. Fortunately for him an appeal cannot be taken from the National Supreme Court to the Court of Common Pleas of this county; otherwise he might even now be thrown overboard. It so happens, notwithstanding the dicta of Judge MELLON, that State lines are not obliterated, and the State governments, including their Courts, are at liberty, within their prescribed orbits, to be as bigoted and proscriptive as they see proper to be.

THE MAYOR'S VETO.

By the 18th section of the Consolidation Act, passed last year, the Mayor of Pittsburgh was armed with the power of negativing any Ordinance enacted by Councils. The section provides distinctly that upon the passage of an Ordinance several things shall be done: 1. That the President of each Council shall sign it; 2. That it shall then be submitted to the Mayor; 3. That if he approves, he shall sign it; 4. That if he disapproves, he shall return it to the Councils with his objections; 5. That the return shall be made within five days after the delivery of the Ordinance to him; 6. That the Councils may pass any vetoed Ordinance into a law, by the concurrence of not less than three fifths of the members.

Some little time ago the Councils passed an Ordinance for widening the side-walks on Fifth street—which widening would have proved a notable accommodation to the crowd of idlers who plant themselves in it, like multitudinous posts, every pleasant evening, and are not ordered by the police to "go along, and keep moving," as they ought to be. This Ordinanee was duly attested by the Presidents of Councils and delivered to the Mayor. Not liking its provisions, he concluded to withhold from it his approval. Accordingly, he wrote out his objections, and meeting the President of the Council, with which the Ordinance originated, in the street, he handed the documents to him. The President, as was most proper, remarked, on the spot, that he was not the Council, to whom the veto was to be delivered, and that he had no authority to convoke the Councils, so that the Mayor's veto could be received by them within the five days specified by the law. However, the Mayor went on his way, taking no apparent heed of this pertinent suggestion.

By the 23d section of the Consolidation Act, the Councils are required to hold at least quarterly meetings, and may hold special meetings by adjournment. Special meetings may, also, be summoned by the Mayor, a Standing or Special Committee, or by five members of Councils. This would seem to make the duty of the Mayor plain in the premises under consideration. He was entitled to time in which to consider the Fifth Street Ordinance, and to write out his objections thereto, but only so that his objections were duly presented to the Councils inside of the specified five full days. If no regular quarterly meeting of the Councils was to occur within those five days, and if no special meeting thereof was summoned, either by Standing or Special Committee, or by the joint action of five members, it was his duty to call a special meeting within the five days, and, upon the assembling of the Councils, to have sent in his objections in a formal and decorous manner. Failing to place his objections before the Councils within the five days, the Ordinance became valid notwithstanding the handing of his objections to the President of one of the Councils—which was an act not required of him, because, by no construction of law, and no deduction of common sense, can the President be made to stand instead of the Council itself, or a street delivery to him be made to answer for that precise and legal presentation which the law commands.

On Monday last the Mayor's veto was brought before the Councils, and, after discussion, was sustained. Now, we have no interest whatever in the Ordinance in question; but, we hold as a matter of law, that the action of Councils was just as irregular as that of the Mayor himself, and consequently of none effect. When the Mayor failed to return the Ordinance to the Councils within the prescribed five days, it became a law, to all intents, purposes and constructions whatsoever. The Mayor might as well have kept that Ordinance in his own pocket, as to have slid it informally, on the highway, into the pocket of the President of one of the Councils; the legal effect of the pocketing being the same. If the Councils, upon fuller consideration, whether induced by the objections of the Mayor, or by any other cause whatsoever, were of the opinion that the Ordinance was impolitic, their true course was to treat it as valid and subject it to the repealing process. By sustaining a veto, which clearly was no veto at all, and has no legal significance under any proper aspect, they have only made the affair into a more complete muddle than it was where the veto left it.

These considerations, of some consequence as the case stands, would be of serious moment provided the Mayor's power of veto had remained in the charter. It so happened, however, that on Friday last, a bill amendatory of the Consolidation Act was passed by the Legislature. By this act the veto power is taken away from the Mayor, and Ordinances are now valid by the attestations of the Presidents, after having passed the Councils. Another important fact remains to be noticed. The Mayor's veto did not get before the Councils until last Monday. If that document had been regularly transmitted, it was not received within the five days, and hence was destitute of effect. But, if our information is correct, the bill amendatory of the Consolidation Act, and taking away the Mayor's right of veto, was signed by the Governor, and became a law, before this veto message came before the Councils. If this be so, the case is still more confounded.

THE ENGLISH MINISTRY.

Mr. D'ISRAELI, it is reported, has decided to give up the seals of office in case the opposition should retain their large majority after the recess of Parliament. We are, nevertheless, disposed to regard his intentions, in this respect, as not so distinctly pronounced as to preclude him from another consideration of his duty. He knows well, already, that the combined opposition are too strong in the Commons for the Tory party. He knew it when he took office; he knew it when Earl DERBY, his predecessor as Premier, and leading the same party, assumed the reins of government in 1866; he knew it as well before the Commons counted out on Friday night, as after the result was declared by the tellers; he knew it when, before the division, and indeed in his first speech in the debate, he declared that if the House should be against Ministers, he would appeal to a new election. The issue which he therein presented to the opposition, they accepted, and then voted him down, to signify their disregard of the menace. By law, the present Parliament would expire, by limitation, next year, and the succeeding one, whether elected now or one year later, will be chosen under the provisions of the new Reform bill of last year, which extends the suffrage, enlarges the constituencies and re-distributes the seats.

But the Premier has thus far more distinctly committed himself to a new election however unpromising, than to its alternative of resignation, as announced in the later report. And such, we are confident, will prove to be his policy—waiting until the Budget and other pending measures of importance, such as the Scotch and Irish Reform bills, settling the suffrage in these portions of the Empire, have been passed, and then, dissolving Parliament, he will appeal to a new general election. This course will be strictly in accordance with the spirit of the British Constitution, as established by the uniform practice of Ministers in similar cases since the reign of the First George.

The results of a new election are morally certain to sustain the opposition. Popular sentiment in Great Britain is unquestionably well up to the mark at which ministers are now beaten; many intelligent observers declare that the constituencies are even far in advance of their present members touching these great questions. But Mr. D'ISRAELI will, however hopeless the case, avail himself of the established precedents and their resulting privilege for a beaten ministry. He will not, by resigning now, himself sign the death-warrant of the once powerful Tory party. He prefers to exhaust every resource for protracting its life, and will retain to the last possible moment its hold upon a power which,—when his ministry shall finally succumb to the irresistible pressure of events, in the onward march of popular enlightenment among the middling and lower classes of the population of the Empire—will never again, in all time to come, be entrusted to the Tories. When his successors, of whatever peculiar shade of political liberalism among his opponents, shall take the seals of office, the history of English Toryism may be written. Its mission accomplished; its life exhausted, the elements in which it originated and which have sustained its vitality, disappearing forever, to be hereafter felt, if at all, as an unknown, collateral and almost infinitesimal quantity in English politics, the destines of the British Empire will be controlled, in all coming years, in the interests of the great masses of an enlightened, progressive people. Class interests,—and these, the interests of a limited and exclusive aristocracy which derived all its title to power not from numbers, but from a wealth, intelligence and aptitude for public affairs, then peculiar to titled rank, but now shared more than equally by the millions,—are no longer to rule England. The policy of the Empire, whether domestic or foreign, demands a larger view of the progress of civilization and knowledge, a more generous acknowledgment of equal political rights and of the absolute freedom, in all civil and religious things, of the individual citizen, and that demand shall never again be gainsayed. The ruin of D'ISRAELI'S Ministry, a work which can but be postponed for a twelve month more, will crown the final and hopeless wreck of the old order of things, and the new era then comes in. As the vital principles of Social and Individual Freedom shall hereafter be faithfully interpreted, in the same measure will England advance to higher glories, a nobler and broader power and to a more conspicuous influence among the free peoples of the globe.

IT IS CONCEDED at Washington that Impeachment has established itself by adequate proof upon at least nine of the eleven articles. As to the President's line of defence, we see no cause for changing the opinion which we have heretofore uttered, that his express admission of the violation of laws, for whatever motive, would alone render all the ability and ingenuity of his counsel hopelessly futile. Whichever way they may turn, for an avenue of escape from the legal penalty of his misconduct, the fatal power of that confession overshadows them as an unconquerable obstacle to his acquittal. In admitting proof that his agent, General THOMAS, had declared that he would make that violation of the law effective, in taking possession of the War Office by force, the Senate gave a vote which was nearer a test than any yet recorded on the trial. The testimony, when objected to, was ruled in by the Chief Justice and sustained by the Senate in a vote of thirty-nine to eleven, every Republican present voting in its favor. And such will be the future votes, whenever they are to decide, not minor issues, but the great underlying question of innocence or guilt. His counsel will introduce but little testimony, and much of that will be of no intrinsic weight. For example, he will prove by General SHERMAN and by one or two of the letter-writers who have been his confidential exponents for months past, that he verbally disclaimed to them any intention to violate the Civil Tenure act. Of what consequence can such proof be, against his official and express declarations to the contrary? How does it explain his undeniable intention to accomplish a violation of the law, not only through THOMAS and by force, but also through COOPER, whom he attempted to foist into the Treasury in order to secure the control of the Department funds? How will such evidence reconcile his suspension of Mr. STANTON under the provisions of the law itself, as admitted officially by him in his communication to Congress and to the other Secretaries, with his subsequent claim to suspend or remove him under the Constitution alone? Mr. JOHNSON'S lawyers have a bad client and a bad cause; they have ability, and will accomplish all they can in his defence, but the age of miracles has gone by. Nothing short of one can save him!

THE REGISTRY LAW.

A Further Supplement to the Act Relating to the Elections of this Commonwealth.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:* That, from and after the passage of this act, it shall be the duty of the several assessors within this Commonwealth, on receiving their transcripts from the county commissioners, to proceed to make out a list in alphabetical order of the white freemen above twenty-one years of age, whom they shall know, or who shall make claim to said assessors, to be qualified voters within their respective townships, boroughs, wards or other election districts, and, opposite said names, state whether the said freeman is or is not a housekeeper and, if he is, the number of his residence, in towns where the same are numbered, with the street, alley or court in which situated, and, if in a town where there are no numbers, the name of the street, alley or court on which said house fronts; also the occupation of the party, and, where he is not a housekeeper, the occupation, place of boarding, and with whom, and, if working for another, the name of the employer; and write opposite said name the word "voter;" and, where said party claims to vote by reason of naturalization, he shall exhibit his certificate thereof to the assessor, unless he shall have voted in the township, borough, ward or district at five preceding general elections, and, on exhibition of the certificate, the name shall be marked with the letter N; where the party has merely declared his intention to become a citizen, and designs to be naturalized before the next election, the name shall be marked D I; where the claim is to vote by reason of being between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-two as provided by law, the word "age" shall be entered; and, if the party has moved into the election district to reside since the last general election, the letter R shall be placed opposite the name; and in all of the cases enumerated a tax shall forthwith be assessed against the person. And in order to carry this law into effect for the present year, it shall be the duty of the commissioners of the respective counties of this Commonwealth, within sixty days after the passage of this act, to cause alphabetical lists of the persons returned by the assessors as having been assessed in the several districts for the present year to be made out and placed in the hands of the respective assessors, whose duty it shall be, on or before the first of September, to ascertain the qualifications of the persons so named, and their claims to vote as before mentioned, and perform in regard to such persons all of the duties enjoined by this act, and furnish said list to the commissioners and election board as hereinafter directed; *Provided* That the names of all persons, who were duly registered and permitted to vote at the next preceding general election in October shall, without further proof or application, be placed on the list or registry directed to be prepared for the election in November, but they and all others shall be subject to challenge, and their right to vote be passed on as prescribed by the fourth section of this act.

SEC. 2. On the list being completed and the assessments made as aforesaid, the same shall forthwith be returned to the county commissioners, who shall cause duplicate copies of said lists, with the observations and explanations required to be noted as aforesaid, to be made out as soon as practicable and placed in the hands of the assessor, who shall, prior to the first of August next ensuing said assessments, put one copy thereof on the door of the house where the election of the respective district is required to be held, and retain the other in his possession for the inspection, free of charge, of any person resident within the said election district who shall desire to see the same, and it shall be the duty of said assessor to add from time to time, on the personal application of any claiming the right to vote, the name of such claimant, and mark opposite the name C V, and immediately assess him with a tax. On the tenth day preceding the general election in October next thereafter, it shall be the duty of the assessor to produce the list in his possession to the inspectors and judges of the election of the proper district, at a meeting to be held by them as hereinafter directed.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the inspectors and judge of the election, together with the assessor, to attend at the place of holding the general elections for the respective election districts, on Saturday the tenth day next preceding the second Tuesday in October, and on the other days hereinafter mentioned, and continue in open session at said place from nine o'clock A. M. till six o'clock P. M. of said day, to hear proof of the right of the respective persons to vote whose names are contained in the assessor's list as before mentioned, or who shall apply to them to have their names registered, and all persons who have not previously voted in the election district shall make due proof, in the manner now prescribed by the election laws, of their right to vote in said district, and like proof shall be made in all cases by those applying for registry whose names are not enrolled by the assessor and marked "voter," and it shall then be the duty of the assessor forthwith to assess said person with a tax as required by law, on the proof being made to the satisfaction of the election board if not already assessed; on the list of the voters in the said district being complete, it shall be the duty of the election officers aforesaid to cause duplicate copies thereof to be made out forthwith in alphabetical order, one of which shall be placed on the door of or on the house where the elections are to be held, and the other retained by the judge of election, who shall hold the same subject to the inspection of any citizen of said district until the day of the general election, and produce the same thereat; *Provided*, that the officers hereinbefore named, when they shall deem it advisable, may meet for the purposes named in this section one or more days (not exceeding four) prior to the tenth day next preceding any general or presidential election, of which meeting and its purposes they shall give due public notice by written or printed handbills posted in at least six of the most public places in their respective wards in cities, boroughs, wards in boroughs or townships; *And provided further*, That, where any ward in a city, borough, or ward in a borough or township, having but one assessor is divided into two or more election precincts or districts, the judges and inspectors of all such election districts or precincts in each ward in a city, borough, ward in a borough or township respectively, shall meet at the usual place of holding the election in the precinct polling the largest number of votes at the last preceding election in their respective wards, boroughs or townships, and shall give due public notice as herein before provided of the time and place of their meeting, and, in all cases where any ward in a city, borough, ward in a borough or township, is so divided into two or more election districts, it shall be the duty of the assessor to assess each voter in the election district to which he belongs, and to furnish separate duplicate lists to the election officers in each election district; it shall be the further duty of the said inspectors, judges and assessor, in each ward, borough and township, to meet again at the place fixed on by the third section of this act on the Thursday next preceding any general election, between the hours of nine and ten A. M., and remain in session until six P. M., for the purpose of hearing and determining any claims that may be presented to them by any person or persons claiming to be entitled to vote, and whose name or names have not been entered on the registry of the election district in which he or they claim to be entitled to vote; each person so claiming to be entitled to vote therein shall produce at least one qualified voter of the district as a witness to the residence of the claimant, in the district in which he claims to be a voter, for the period of least ten days next preceding the general election then next ensuing, which witness shall take and subscribe an affidavit to the facts stated by him, which affidavit shall define clearly where the residence is of the person so claiming to be a voter, and the person so claiming to be registered shall also take and subscribe an affidavit stating where and when he was born, that he is a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and of the United States, and, if a naturalized citizen, shall also state when, where and by what court he was naturalized, and he shall also present his certificate of naturalization for examination, unless he has been a voter in said election district for five years then next preceding, that he has resided in this Commonwealth one year or, if formerly a citizen therein and has moved therefrom, that he has resided therein six months next preceding the general election then next following, that he has not moved in the district for the purpose of voting therein, that he has paid a State or county tax within two years, which was assessed at least ten days before the election for which he proposes to be registered, and that he was prevented from registering his name at the first meeting for that purpose as directed by this act; the said affidavit shall also state when and where the tax claimed to be paid by the affidavit was assessed, and when, where and to whom paid, and the tax-receipt therefor shall be produced for examination unless the affiant shall make oath that it has been lost or destroyed or that he never received any receipt; *Provided*, that if the person so claiming the right to vote shall take and subscribe an affidavit that he is a citizen of the United States, that he is at the time of making the affidavit or will be on or before the day of the next election ensuing between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-two years, that he has resided in the State one year and in the election district ten days next preceding such election, he shall be entitled to be registered as a voter although he shall not have paid taxes; the said affidavits of all persons making such claims, and the affidavit of the witnesses to their residence, shall be preserved by the said board until the day of the election, and shall, at the close thereof, be placed in the ballot box along with the other papers now required by law to be preserved therein; if said board shall find that the applicant or applicants possess all the legal qualifications of voters, the name or names shall be added to the list alphabetically with like effect as if done ten days before the election, and they shall forthwith be placed with the other names at the foot of the list on the door or house of the place of election, and, as such person whose name is enrolled votes at said election, one of the clerks thereof shall mark on or opposite to the name "vote," and it shall not be lawful for the officers of the election to receive the vote of any person whose name was not contained in said registry made out and put up at least eight days before the election as aforesaid, or in the registry made on the Thursday next preceding the election, and the reception of the vote of any person not so registered shall constitute a misdemeanor in the election officers so receiving it, and on conviction thereof, the election officers so offending shall be subject to fine or imprisonment or both at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 4. It shall be lawful for any qualified citizen of the district, notwithstanding the name of the proposed voter is contained in the registry and the right to vote has been passed on by the election board, to challenge the vote of such person, whereupon the same proof of the right of suffrage as is now required by law shall be publicly made and again acted on by the election board, and the vote admitted or rejected according to the evidence; every person claiming to be a naturalized citizen shall be required to produce his naturalization certificate at the election before voting, as required by existing laws, except where his case comes within the fifth provision of the sixty-fourth section of the act of one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, to which this is a supplement, although the same may have been exhibited to the election board before registry; and, on the vote of such persons being received, it shall be the duty of the election officers to cause to be distinctly written therein the word "voted," with the month and year, and if any election officer at the same or any other district shall receive a second vote on the same day by virtue of such certificate, they and the person who shall offer such second vote upon so offending shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, be fined and imprisoned at the discretion of the court; *Provided*, Said fine shall not exceed one hundred dollars and the imprisonment shall not exceed one year; and like punishment shall be inflicted on the officers of the election who shall neglect or refuse to make or cause to be made the endorsement required as aforesaid on said naturalization certificate.

SEC. 5. On the close of the polls, the registry list, on which the memorandum of the voting has been kept as before directed, shall be sealed up with and preserved in the same manner now required by law as to the tally papers, and not taken out until after the next meeting of the Legislature, unless required on the hearing of a contested election, or for the purpose of being used at the election of presidential electors or preparatory thereto as hereinafter provided, after which it shall again be sealed up and carefully preserved as before directed.

SEC. 6. Ten days preceding every election for electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, it shall be the duty of the election board and the proper assessor to meet at the place of holding the general election in the district, for the same length of time and in the manner directed in the third section of this act, and then and there hear all applications of persons whose names have been omitted from the registry, and who claim the right to vote, or whose rights have originated since the same was made out, and add thereto the names of such persons as shall show that they are entitled to the right of suffrage in such district, on the personal application of the claimant only, and, if the person shall not have been previously assessed, it shall be the duty of the assessor forthwith to assess him with the proper tax; after completing the list a copy thereof shall be placed on the door of or on the house where the election is to be held at least eight days prior to holding the same, when the same course shall be pursued in every particular in regard to receiving or rejecting the votes, marking the same on the registry list, endorsing the naturalization papers with the proper month and year, preserving the paper and all other things, as are required by this act at the general elections in October.

SEC. 7. At every special election directed by law, and at every separate city, ward, borough or township election, the registry required to be kept as aforesaid may be used by the proper officers as evidence of the persons entitled to vote thereat, and said officers shall require all persons whose names are not on the registry, whether challenged or not, to show that they possess the right of suffrage at said election, but nothing herein contained shall make the want of said registry conclusive against the rights of the person to vote at such election, but the same shall be judged of and decided as in other cases.

SEC. 8. Before entering on the duties of their offices under this act, the respective assessors and inspectors and judges of the elections shall take an oath before some competent authority, in addition to the oaths now required by law, "to perform the several duties enjoined by this act with fidelity and according to the requirements thereof in every particular to the best of their ability;" they shall each have the power to administer oaths to every person claiming the right to be assessed, or enrolled, or the right of suffrage, or in regard to any other matter or thing required to be done or inquired into by said officers under this act, and any wilful false swearing by any person, in relation to any matter or thing concerning which they shall be lawfully interrogated by any of said officers under this act, shall be punished as perjury; said assessors, inspectors and judges shall each receive the same compensation for the time necessarily spent in performing the duties hereby enjoined as is provided by law for the performance of their other duties, to be paid by the county commissioners as in other cases, with a proper allowance to be judged of by the said commissioners for the expense of making the list or registries hereby required to be made out, and it shall not be lawful for any assessor to assess a tax against any person whatever within ten days next preceding the election to be held on the second Tuesday in October in any year, or within ten days next before any election for electors of President or Vice President of the United States, and any violation of this provision shall be a misdemeanor and subject the officer so offending to a fine on conviction of not less than ten nor exceeding one hundred dollars, or to imprisonment not exceeding three months, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 9. On the petition of five or more citizens of the county, stating under oath that they verily believe that frauds will be practiced at the election about to be held in any district, it shall be the duty of the court of common pleas of said county if in session, or, if not, a judge thereof in vacation, to appoint two persons, judicious, sober and intelligent citizens of the county, to act as overseers at said election; said persons shall be selected from different political parties where the inspectors belong to different parties, and, where both of said inspectors belong to the same political party, both of the overseers shall be taken from the opposite political party; said overseers shall have the right to be present with the officers of the election during the whole time the same is held, the votes counted and returns made out and signed by the election officers, to keep a list of the voters if they see proper, to challenge any person offering to vote and interrogate him and his witnesses under oath in regard to the right of suffrage at said election, to examine his papers produced, and the officers of said election are required to afford to said overseers so selected and appointed every convenience and facility for the discharge of their duty, and if said officers shall refuse to permit said overseers to be present and perform their duty as aforesaid, or they shall be driven away from the polls by violence or intimidation, all the votes polled at such election district shall be rejected by any tribunal trying a contest under said election.

SEC. 10. If any prothonotary, clerk, or the deputy of either, or any other person, shall affix the seal of office to any naturalization paper, or give out the same in blank whereby it may be fraudulently used, or furnish a naturalization certificate to any person who shall not have been duly examined and sworn in open court in presence of some of the judges thereof according to the act of Congress, he shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, or if any person shall fraudulently use any such certificate of naturalization knowing that it was fraudulently issued, and shall vote or attempt to vote thereon, he shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and either or any of the persons, their aiders or abettors, guilty of either of the misdemeanors aforesaid, on conviction shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars and imprisoned in the proper penitentiary for a period not exceeding three years.

SEC. 11. Any assessor, election officer or person appointed as an overseer, who shall neglect or refuse to perform any duty enjoined by this act without reasonable legal cause shall be subject to a penalty of one hundred dollars, and if any assessor or election officer shall enrol any person as a voter who he shall know is not qualified, or refuse to enrol any one who he shall know is qualified, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor in office and, on conviction, be punished by fine and imprisonment and also be subject to an action for damages by the party aggrieved, and if any person shall fraudulently alter, add to, deface or destroy any registry of voters made out as directed by this act, or tear down or remove the same from the place where it has been fixed by or under the direction of the election officers, with like fraudulent or mischievous intent or for any improper purpose, the person so offending shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor and, on conviction, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and imprisonment not exceeding two years.

SEC. 12. If any tax collector is found guilty of issuing a receipt for taxes to any person whatever, said taxes not having been paid, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor in office and, on conviction, shall be fined in a sum not less than one hundred dollars and suffer an imprisonment in the county jail for a term not less than three months for every offence.

SEC. 13. That for all elections hereafter holden under this act the polls shall be opened between the hours of six and seven o'clock A M and be closed at six o'clock P M.

SEC. 14. That the county commissioners shall, at the proper expense of the county, procure and furnish all the blanks made necessary by this act.

SEC. 15. All laws inconsistent with any of the provisions of this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Teachers' Institute.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Permit me through the columns of your paper to say a word respecting the Teachers' Institute. The object of this association is the improvement of the teachers in our public schools, and and the attainment of a higher educational standard in those schools. Was this object, *in any degree*, attained by the Institute held in your city during the last week? If the opinion of many of the eminent educators who addressed the Institute—among whom was our worthy Deputy State Superintendent, and also a distinguished educator from New York—is of any value, we may safely assert that this object was not attained,—but the reverse. The teachers of this Institute were repeatedly told that they were spending their time *in vain*. One lecturer told them that they "reminded him of a huge inert sponge"—that "every word he uttered was uttered under protest—and that he did not "believe in casting his pearls before ———." An intelligent public will naturally demand, "why the Institute failed in the accomplishment of its object?" "Are the teachers of Allegheny County incapable of forming themselves into and conducting such an association properly?" We think that the fault does not rest with the majority of the teachers, but is to be attributed to a *few* demagogues, who for some time past have been endeavoring to control the educational interests of the county—men whose motto, like that of all demagogues, is rule or ruin—and who, having differed on certain educational points, turned the Institute into an arena for the display of their oratorial (?) powers, and succeeded in destroying the peace and harmony that otherwise would have prevailed. Men whose minds are so *small*, and whose egotism is so *great*, that they could not lay aside, for a time, their petty jealousies and labor for mutual improvement and the good of all present. The only remnant of our lost Eden that remains for a fallen race is the mutual and social intercourse of pure, refined and cultivated minds, and the greatest pleasure such minds experience arises from and is proportioned to the lasting benefits they bestow and receive. We frequently noticed an expression of sorrow and of pain passing over some intelligent and refined countenance whenever an exhibition of vulgar passion occurred. Cultivated and refined minds are always pained and disgusted when brought in contact with low browed baseness and vulgarity. Some of the would-be prominent members of the Institute, instead of winning the admiration and applause which they so much coveted, only succeeded in arousing a feeling of contempt mingled with pity. The scene on Tuesday would have disgraced an Indian pow-wow. On the afternoon of this day an election was entered into for the purpose of selecting a committee of five, who are to recommend or reject the applications of those wishing permanent certificates. During the morning session, while an able lecture was being