

Congress reassembled, after its holiday rest, at Washington on Monday last. The first days proceedings give somewhat of an idea of what Congressmen learned from their constituents at home during the recess.

Again: the day demonstrates that the people do not desire any more tinkering with the tax laws, in shape of readditions to the burdens in that way, already almost too hard to be born.

Again, the day demonstrates that the people look for retrenchment in all the expenditures of the Government, as the very best means of certainly making "both ends meet."

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SPAIN.

Poor, benighted Spain is now suffering another crisis. Castelar the most glorious Republican in Europe, has been defeated in his efforts for the good of his country and people, the Cortes has been forcibly dissolved, and a new ministry has been formed which will be death to present hopes of Republicanism, if it does not, through intrigue, succeed in placing in power that Royal "Soiled Dove" Isabella, or her protegee of may fathers Don Alfonso.

It is singular that a people can be so stubbornly blind to their best interests as the Spaniards prove themselves to be. With the best of opportunities before them and with the best of leaders beckoning them on they halt at the very threshold of liberty, and more like dogs than like men return to the vomit of tyranny and prepare again to gorge themselves with the rotten medley which royalty spreads before them as a feast.

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WRITE 1874.

COLORED hosiery is the latest affectation among our fashionable women. TUESDAY was a delightful day for gloomy people. Wednesday, ditto. THE season is rapidly approaching when the cry will be "Shoo-fly, don't bother me."

SOWING wild oats would be a very fine thing were it not for the crop one has to reap. SPORTSMEN will do well to remember that the hunting season closed on the 31st of December, ult. THE payment of the interest on the borough Bounty, Fill and Fire bonds, was commenced by Treasurer Wallace on Thursday last.

THE protracted meetings in the M. E. Churches of Stroudsburg and East Stroudsburg, still continue with marked success. THE dense fog of Saturday night, left us almost in darkness, the lamp-lighter depending upon the rise of the moon let the "glims" slide. OUR Carrier desires the return of his hearty thanks for the liberal manner in which his New Year advances were met. It almost made an Aster in miniature out of "little Dorey."

WORKMEN are busy on all the buildings we noticed, as in the course of erection in this borough a couple of weeks ago, and they will all be ready for occupancy on the 1st of April. THE robbery of the till of the Williams' Billiard Hall, on Saturday evening, said to have amounted to \$15, was the subject of much speculative talk. Have we "ill-tappers" among us?

THIS is the strangest winter, so said, that has fallen within the recollection of the "oldest inhabitant." Thus far but little cold weather, less snow, and not a single day of good square sleighing. Too bad. WE are pleased to see our old friend Daniel Staples upon the street again, he having nearly recovered from the injuries received at Succasunna Plains, N. J., on the morning of the 21 of December, 1873. MR. CHARLES WILLIAMS, of Bossardsville, this county, slaughtered a porker, on the 30th ult., which weighed 733 pounds when dressed. Can any one else in Monroe county, show better figures in the Pork line.

ALMANACS of every description for the year 1874, are being distributed through the borough and surrounding country by our men of pills. They dilate on nearly all the "ills that flesh is heir to, and promise the wherewith to cure them too. TOM. B., whose name has a ring in it, furnished the Turkey for our New Year's feast. It was plump, fat and luscious, and proved to us a most interesting sequel to the Turkey operations of the Street Passenger Railway Company on Thanksgiving day. Thanks, Thomas, and may your shadow never be less.

THE first lecture of the course for the benefit of the Lutheran Church, will be delivered on Monday evening, in the audience room of the church. The lecturer, the Rev. J. Fry, D. D., of Reading, is a finished scholar, and the subject, "The Bonds of Matrimony," is one which should draw a full house. The lecture will commence at half-past seven o'clock. WE receive from the publishers, Messrs. Geo. F. Root & Sons, Chicago, the "Song Messenger" for January. This well known musical journal has recently undergone a change in editorial management, which has resulted in a marked improvement of the paper. The present number is filled with the best musical matter, and is on the whole the finest one we have ever seen.

SOME dozen or more of the Chestnut Hill "nimrods," were arrested and carried before a Tannersville Justice of the Peace on Monday, for hounding deer in the wilds of Jackson township on Sunday, contrary to the law in such cases made and provided. They were to have a hearing to-day, and will probably be bound over to court. If we have laws why not execute them? THE brethren of the I. O. of O. F., Neola Lodge No. 827, indulged a glorious supper at Charles Andrew's Hotel, in Snyder'sville, Saturday night last. The table was bounteously burdened with all the good things of the season, and the brethren enjoyed themselves in a manner which showed that they fully appreciated the occasion. Mine Host and his assistants deserve more than usual credit for the excellent manner in which the feast was gotten up.

SCRANTON is looking after the practices of her officials. Within a month a member of her councils, and her right honorable mayor, have both been "spotted" and compelled to give bail for their appearance in Court to answer the charge of malfeasance. Scranton is a city of "magnificent distances," and why not have "magnificent crimes among her city fathers" as additional attributes of greatness. She is neither larger nor better than New York, and has as good a right to boast a Boss Loftus as the latter has an Oakley Hall, or a Boss Tweed. Money is what is the matter. PERSONAL.—Mr. Luther Fillmore, for many years Superintendent on the D. L. & W. Railroad, and long a resident of East Stroudsburg, but now extensively engaged in the breeding and herding of cattle on the plains of Laramie, is visiting his friends in this neighborhood. Luther holds his own so well, in every respect, looking not a day older than when he left here some three years ago, that one cannot well doubt but that the life of a Farmer on the plains, agrees with him. We were pleased to take him by the hand.

Court Proceedings.

Judge Streeter, and Associates DeYoung, and Graver on the Bench. The only case tried, was Davis, McMurtry & Co. vs. Brown & Stoddart. This was an action of ejectment brought to recover possession of the Samuel Harvey tract of land in Tobyhanna township. The evidence showed the history of the case to be as follows: Several years ago the tract belonged to Messrs Day & Saylor, who, in 1860, sent money to James H. Stroud, Esq., to pay the taxes on this and several other tracts owned by them. Mr. Stroud handed the tax money to Wm. Smith, Esq., the Treasurer of the County, who applied a part thereof to the payment of the taxes on the Samuel Harvey Tract in Coolbaugh township, which did not belong to Day & Saylor, and at the same time, following, sold the tract in dispute to Stroud J. Hollinshead, for taxes and costs, who in turn sold to Brown & Stoddart. Under the charge of Court, the only question for the Jury to determine was whether the misappropriation of the money was the mistake or negligence of the plaintiffs or of the Treasurer, Mr. Smith, if the former then the verdict should be for the defendants, but if the latter then the plaintiffs were entitled to recover. Verdict for plaintiffs.

Alfred Heiney, who had been acquitted of the charge of assault and battery on the ground of insanity, but whose insanity was proven to the satisfaction of the Court to be of a dangerous type, was directed to be taken to the Insane Asylum, at Danville, Pa., for treatment. Christie Hiller, convicted at the September sessions for selling liquor to a minor, and whose motion for a new trial failed, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 and the costs of prosecution, and to undergo imprisonment in the county jail for ten days. In the Orphans' Court the following sales were confirmed. Sale of Real Estate of Michael Super, dec'd. Jackson Twp., to Christian Sibthorn for \$656.25. Real Estate of Henry Strunk to Moses T. Strunk for \$2250. Alias orders of sale granted to sell. Real Estate of Joseph Shackleton, dec'd. " " Mary Larue, a minor. " " Joseph Heckman, dec'd. John Baldwin, Adm'r, vs. Arela E. Hall and Samuel E. Palen—Rule for new trial—discharged. Andrew Triebel vs. George and James Michaels—new trial refused. Bossard Estate vs. Phillip McCluskey—new trial refused—Plaintiff to release amount of judgment above \$200. John S. Brown, Esq., appointed Auditor to settle account of Prothonotary and Register and Recorder with Commonweath. Thomas M. McIlhenny, Esq., appointed Auditor on the Estate of George Buskirk, deceased. John S. Brown, Esq., on Estate of John Woolbert, dec'd. John S. Fisher, Esq., on Estate of Emma Snyder, dec'd. Th. M. McIlhenny, Esq., on Estate of Francis Wagner, dec'd. Th. M. McIlhenny, on Estate of Benjamin Dupue, dec'd.

The exceptions to the Auditors Report argued and Judge Streeter recommended the report to Th. M. McIlhenny, to make correction according to the direction of the Court. MURDER CASE.—The trial of Timothy Heller who is confined in our Jail charged with the murder of Jacob Muffly, last fall at Kresgeville in this county, did not take place at this term of our Court. On application of the Defendant the case was continued and will be tried the first week of the February term. The prisoner is very respectably connected, his relatives embracing many of the oldest and best citizens of our County. The accusation has brought upon his widowed mother, his brothers and sisters, deep and anxious grief. We deeply sympathize with them, and hope, although the law must take its course, if he is innocent of the charge of wilful and malicious murder, (which circumstances have apparently hung around him), he may vindicate himself and be set again at liberty. He will, we have no doubt, be well and ably defended by his counsel, the Hon. John B. Storm, Gen. Burnett and James H. Walton, whose services have been secured and who are preparing his defence. We have seen Mr. Heller frequently since his incarceration and always find him in good spirits. He evidently does not realize as he should the seriousness of the crime with which he is charged.

NUMBERS who were present at Berlin's Hotel, in Kresgeville, on New Year's day, speak in the highest terms of the performance of the band which was present, under the leadership of Prof. William Moran, of Mauch Chunk. The band is composed mostly of young men of Pleasant Valley and Brodheadsville, who are said to handle their instruments with the grace and skill of veterans. Is it not a shame that Stroudsburg should remain handless under such an example? DEDICATION.—The new Reformed Church edifice at Bushkill, Pa., will be dedicated to the worship of God on Tuesday, January 13th, 1874. Services at 10 o'clock, A. M., and 2 P. M. In the morning, Rev. S. W. Mills, of Port Jervis, N. Y., will deliver a historical discourse, presenting old and interesting reminiscences of the Reformed Church, in the Delaware valley. In the afternoon a sermon eminently suited to the occasion will be preached by Rev. E. P. Rogers, D. D., of New York City. Addresses may also be expected from Rev. A. McWilliams and other reformed ministers from abroad. The dedicatory form peculiar to the usages of the Reformed Church in America. Friends who may be present will be entertained at dinner in the basement of the church. A cordial invitation is hereby extended to the public generally—to participate with us in these services. J. F. SHAW, Pastor.

THE small-pox has made its appearance in portions of Northampton county. Last week the Easton Argus announced its arrival at Bangor, and this week the same paper notes the death of two bright little children of Andrew Albert, at Flicksville, and of several in a family named Smith, in the same locality from the same disease. JONAS ALTIMUS, Esq., the newly elected County Treasurer entered upon the duties of his office on Monday. He is both honest and capable, and will doubtless make an excellent officer. Mr. Featherman the retiring Treasurer carries with him into his retirement, the well earned reputation, of being one of the best, if not the very best and most obliging Treasurers the county ever had. THE County Auditors commenced their work of examining the financial operations of the county for the year past, on Monday last. The board is made up of Kindarus Shupp and E. H. Heller, Esqs. George Shannon, of Smithfield, the third Auditor, is confined to his home by illness. The work of the Auditors is important to the Tax payers, but we have no doubt it will be well done by the board. MOUNTAIN HOME, PA., Dec. 22, 1873. The second lecture at this place under the auspices of Mountain Home Lodge, No. 684, I. O. O. F., will be delivered by the Rev. Thomas W. Maclary, of Tobyhanna, in the Oakland M. E. Church, on Thursday evening, Jan. 15th, 1874. Subject "The Utility of Odd Fellowship." Seats free. Lecture to commence at 7 P. M. ELY UTT, Committee of J. P. ZABRISKIE, Arrangements.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE. ORGANIZATION OF BOTH HOUSES. SENATE. HARRISBURG, Jan. 6. The Senate was called to order at three o'clock by Speaker Strang. After prayer by the Chaplain the eleven new Senators were sworn in. An election for Speaker resulted in a choice of Butler B. Strang by the Republican votes. The Democrats voted for Senator McSherry, and Mr. McClure voted for Mr. Strang. The Speaker elect was then sworn in. ELECTION OF OFFICERS. The following officers were then elected, viz: Chief clerk, Russell Errett; assistant clerks, Thomas Cochran and J. R. McAfee, and transcribing clerks, E. Cowan, T. A. Riley, John D. Fleming, Wm. A. Rapert, Samuel E. Nye, J. S. Kneezle; sergeant at arms, R. P. McCall and John Tomlinson; doorkeeper, John Cromer; assistant doorkeepers, William Shearold and H. S. Sartwell; postmaster, Lewis B. Richtmyers; messenger, Charles Dariah; assistant messengers, J. W. McKinley and Thomas Roberts; dookeeper of rotunda, Augustus Correll; superintendent of following room, Cornelius Lowe; pastors and folders, Lewis Knipe, A. G. Monks, W. R. Dunn, William Coates, James Smith and D. W. Aiken. A resolution, offered by Senator Heilman, was adopted, electing Rev. J. W. Sayers chaplain. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The House was called to order at twelve o'clock, noon, by Chief Clerk Selfridge. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Snyder (German Reformed Church). The Secretary of the Commonwealth, Hon. M. S. Quay, presented the returns of the election of members, which were opened and read. The roll being called, all answered to their names except Mr. Young, of Alleghany. Mr. Maylin moved to proceed to the election of a speaker. Agreed to. THE ELECTION FOR SPEAKER. Resulted in the choice of Henry H. McCormick, of Alleghany, by 56 Republican votes, against 42 Democratic votes cast for John H. Orvis, of Centre. The Speaker elect was escorted to the chair by Mr. Orvis. The Speaker was sworn by Mr. Orvis, and the members were then all either sworn or affirmed. The election for Chief Clerk and Resident and Assistant Clerks resulted in the election of W. C. Shurlock as Chief Clerk, John A. Small as Resident Clerk, and Hugh A. Morrison as Assistant Clerk. The Democratic candidates were Wm. P. Furey and D. B. Herbert. Mr. Small was voted for by both parties, receiving 93 votes. A committee was appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform him that the House was organized. Committee—Newmyer and Orvis. No business was done in either house, the members passing the time in consultation relative to the course of business under the New Constitution. THE Titusville Herald records the following matrimonial muddle: A singular marriage occurred in this city on Tuesday last. The couple presented themselves before a Justice to have the ceremony performed. The bride was rather elderly, say about forty five, while the groom was but a little out of his teens. However, as "Barkis was willin'" the squire had no objection, and tied the two in that knot which binds for life. Since the honeymoon begun it has leaked out that the young man was a step son of the woman he had taken to wife. The statute books declare a marriage to be illegal when contracted between a woman and her husband's son, but whether this is void or not, it is the province of lawyers to say. The question of relations growing out of this event is a little curious. Should there be any children they would be grand-children to their own mother, and the boys would be brothers, and the girls sisters to their own father. Most of the public offices at Washington run on half time during holiday week.

A MISERS FATE.

As Officer Fullmer of the Twenty-third Precinct was making his rounds on Friday afternoon he saw something like a heap of old rags lying on a stoop at Nineteenth and Fifth ave. The officer soon reached the place and discovered an old woman evidently in the last stages of destitution. He was about to take her to the Station house when, perceiving her intent, she strongly objected. She was not a vagrant but had a home. One hundred and sixteenth street, near Fourth-ave. She had only been sitting on the stoop to rest. Under these circumstances the officer allowed her to depart. Coughing dreadfully the old woman began to pick her way down the street, but after proceeding a few paces she was obliged to desist. The officer had watched her movements, perceiving her wretched condition, obtained a horse and wagon, and with a roundsman, came along at the time, conveyed her to the station house in East Eighty eighth st. Here she said her name was Margaret Fitzsimmons, and her age 62. She stated that she had been 23 years in the country. She refused to go to the hospital, and Sergeant Hicks sent for Police Surgeon Steiner, who said that she had consumption and asthma. She was willing to go to the Bellevue Hospital, and remained at the station house one night. The Sergeant observing that she looked wan and starved, sent for a physician which she seized upon with great avidity. Owing to her opposition she was not taken to Bellevue Hospital until Saturday evening. The surgeons discovered that she was suffering from general delirium produced by starvation and exposure. She was too weak to endure a bath, and her clothes were simply taken off, her dress being put beside her bed. The clothing was black with dirt and filth, and vermin. While the nurse was dressing her, she threw aside the dress, when suddenly the old woman sprang out of bed and fiercely resisted her. Warder Brennan then examined the dress, and found that it was absolutely quilted with money. It contained 19 pockets, each of which was filled with money, from pennies up to dollars. About \$310, including \$8 in pennies and \$46 in old city and State bank bills were found, with a quantity of bank bills which were absolutely rotten and crumbling to pieces. It took the Warder over two hours to count the money. Meanwhile the old woman was growing worse, and early yesterday she died.

The old woman had no home, and had been sleeping one night in one shanty and another on a door step, depending entirely upon the charity of the very poor for food and lodging. She had evidently been begging and starving herself for some while she was scraping together the \$310 which was found in her worn eaten dress. Tribune, Jan. 5.

Uses of Rawhide. The skin of an animal, whether of a calf, colt or horse, that dies on the farm is worth more at home than at the tannery. Cut it into narrow strips, and shave off the hair with a sharp knife. Lay the kitchen fire, or in your wash shop, on stormy days and evenings. You may make them soft by rubbing with rawhide halter—strap an inch wide, and hold a horse better, and last longer than an inch rope. It is stronger than iron and more durable, and may be used to hoop dry casks and boxes, and to hinges. Try it on a broken thill, or on weak wood that has been split. Put it on wet, and nail fast. This skin and the best bag strings in the world. Rawhide is a good substitute for chain. It is valuable to mend a broken link in a trace chain. For some purposes it is best to use it in its natural state. For some purposes it may be dressed soft.

The Mysterious Murder of Nathaniel French. NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The mysterious death and burial of Nathaniel French, provincial Grand Master of Masons of the Bahamas, created considerable excitement among Free Masons in N. Y. and Brooklyn. The members of a Free Masons' club held a meeting last night, and various plans were considered as to what course should be adopted to trace out, if possible, who the murderers were and the place where the murder was committed. It was finally decided to refer the matter to Grand Master Fox, and to follow his advice as to the course to be adopted. Detective are working up the case, and it is said, will soon be able to throw additional light on the subject. The body of Mr. French has been taken from Potter's Field and decently buried at Greenwood.

Barking by Telegraph. "Sam," said a darkey to his brother, "how am it dat dis yah telegraph carries de news froo dem wires?" "Well, Caesar, now s'pose dar am a dog free from long ear." "Nebber was such a big dog do'n b'lieb dat!" "You jess wait mine I's only illustratin, you stupid nigger. Now, dis yah dog, you see puts his feet on de Hoboken sho', and he puts his belined feet on de New York sho'." "Yesser." "Now s'pose you walk on yah dog's tail in New York." "Yesser." "He'll bark, wont he?" "Yesser." "Where will dat dog bark?" "In Hoboken I cale late." "Dat am jess it. You see on de dog's tail in New York, an de bark in Hoboken; and dat's de way de telegraph works." "Yesser; dasso dasso. You'a right, by golly."

The President, last Monday, sent to the Senate the nomination of Caleb Cushing to be Minister to Spain. He also nominated J. C. Caldwell, of Maine, to be Minister to Uruguay and Paraguay; Ebenezer Knowlton, of Maine, to be Consul at Valparaiso; Edward L. B. of Illinois, to be Consul at Buenos Ayres.