

Wednesday, April 23, 1873. HON. R. F. MEYERS has our thanks for numerous and valuable Public Documents, furnished us of late.

WE are in receipt of the Evening Telegraph a new daily just started in Pittsburgh. It is a large, handsome sheet, ably conducted, and comparing most favorably with the other dailies of that city. In handsome, able, and sprightly journals the Smoky City now leads the State.

THE Bedford Gazette bitterly denounces the new appointment bill, but nevertheless, although the Republican majority in this district is about two thousand, lays the flattering eulogium to its credit that it can, nay, it makes the prediction that it will be carried by the Democracy at the next Congressional election. This is surely the faith that removes mountains.

THE State Superintendent of Common Schools—Hon. J. P. WICKESHAM—has invited the county Superintendents of the State to meet him and other officers of the School Department in private conference, to talk over and settle all educational questions which it is their duty to consider. The meeting for this section of the State is fixed at the Union Depot Hotel in Pittsburgh on the 11th day of June next at 2 o'clock P. M. The counties included in this meeting are Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Armstrong, Lawrence, Indiana, Washington, Greene, Somerset, Fayette, Cambria and Westmoreland.

At last accounts from Harrisburg, Governor HARTMAN had not yet signed the appointment bill, and his said, some would-be Congressmen are beginning to fear that there has been entirely too much commendation of his fearless use of the veto power. GEARY'S refusal to sanction the bill passed by the previous Legislature, sent many loud hopes to grass, and the bare recollection of those crushed aspirations, causes a nervous thrill to the gentlemen who are anxiously waiting for something to turn up. We hope the Governor will soon put them out of their misery.

FROM Frank Owen's Paper we learn that at a meeting of the Directors of the Mount Pleasant & Bradford Railroad held on the 18th inst, a lease was made of that road to the Southwestern Penna. Railway (alias Penna. Railroad) for the term of ninety-nine years. This is certainly the most leased road within our knowledge, the Pittsburgh & Conneleugh road at the present time holding a lease of it for the same period of ninety-nine years. Such adepts at repudiating contracts have the managers of this road become, that we shall not be surprised to learn ere long, that a third party claims its franchise under a similar lease. We much envy the stockholders, the luxurious little legal tea-party the directors have provided for their entertainment.

Forney's Press not content with the miserable failure of its attempt to disrupt the Republican party last fall, is now laboring to induce a bolt in our ranks in Philadelphia, at the next city election, the object being to elect that immaculate reformer A. K. McCLECKE Mayor of the city. Forney stayed in the Democratic party for the sole purpose of betraying it, and he is vain enough to think that he can repeat his treachery to the destruction of the Republican organization. The man who organized the frauds of the Buchanan campaign, and the engineer of the Tonnage tax commutation swindle, are a beautiful couple to reform the Municipal government of Philadelphia.

THE Beaver Argus refuses to be gulled by the assumed virtues of Governor HARTMAN, and therefore takes no stock in the general commendation of his many virtues. On the contrary it insists that they are all "put up" jobs, concocted to throw dust in the people's eyes, for the purpose of having them vetoed as agreed upon in advance. We know that the last Legislature contained a great many naughty fellows, but we are constrained to differ with the Argus for several reasons, not among the least of which is the belief, that a majority of that delectable body was entirely too lazy to go so far, to accomplish so little. Our Beaver cotemporary carries the war into Africa with a vengeance, if not with discretion.

As was anticipated, the legality of the "Local Option Law" was tested in this district last week before his Honor Judge Hall, then presiding in the Court of Quarter Sessions, for the County of Franklin. The ground taken was "that no legal return had been made of the election on the question of license or 'no license' held on the 21st day of March last."

The Court held that the return as made was sufficient, and charged the jury that it was their duty to convict the defendant, and to award a fine of \$50.00. This was made a test case under the new license law. Mr. Miller obtained a license to keep a tavern in the borough of Chambersburg for the period of one year at the January Term of Court. It was proved that Mr. Miller had sold spirituous liquors after the 1st day of April last, in violation of the act of Assembly, approved March 27, 1872. Defendant admitted the selling, but claimed that no legal return had been made of the election on the question of "license" or "no license" held on the 21st day of March last, and that

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therefore said law so far as the County of Franklin is concerned is of no effect, and that he had a right to sell under his license. The Court held that the return was sufficient and charged the jury that it was their duty to convict under the law. A writ of error was granted. The case will go to the Supreme Court and be argued at the May term.

It is held by a portion of the legal profession in this State, that no provision being made in the Local Option law for the return and certifying of the votes cast for or against license as is required in all other cases where the vote of a County is taken, that therefore the law is so defective as to render it a nullity. This evidently was the position taken by the counsel of the defendant in the case above quoted, but it was held not to be tenable by the Court.

We learn from the same journal that all licenses were refused by the Court, but it was intimated that should the Supreme Court reverse the decision of Judge Hall that applications for license will be heard at the June term.

Judge Hall having thus defined his position we presume that the parties in this County proposing to test the question, will agree to abide the opinion of the Supreme Court so soon as it is rendered in the Franklin County case.

The recent storm along the line of the Union Pacific in Nebraska is described as being as severe as that of 1856. The wind swept over the plains with a velocity of seventy miles an hour; houses were blown down and hidden from sight under the drifting snow; valuable cattle stampeded from corals, and were lost and drowned; prairie animals were frozen to death and maimed by the terrible wind, which dashed them about like small birds, and many human lives were lost. In some places rivers were completely bridged with snow, reaching in depth from fifteen to eighteen feet, and snow packed that loaded wagons were afterwards driven over it with perfect safety. At last reports the farmers at Wood river, where no lives are known to have been lost, had organized themselves into companies for the purpose of scouring the country to ascertain the extent of the damage done, and to render aid to those who may require it.

THE FRESH MODOCS. Their Hiding Place Discovered and Escape cut off.

SEN FRANCISCO, April 22.—Gen. Gillen reports to Gen. Schofield, that the MODOCS have been discovered in Lava Beds, four miles from their old stronghold. The MODOCS were compelled to evacuate their first hiding place in consequence of a scarcity of water. The Indians were seen on the 21st inst. at a point about four miles south of the Lava Beds, and were seen to be carrying off the bodies of the dead MODOCS. The MODOCS were seen to be carrying off the bodies of the dead MODOCS. The MODOCS were seen to be carrying off the bodies of the dead MODOCS.

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THE WAR ON THE MODOCS.

SEN FRANCISCO, April 23.—A special to the Chronicle says: Col. Mason is camped in the lava beds. The Warm Spring Indians and Gillen's cavalry are scouring the table around towards the probable location of the MODOCS. Col. Mason's troops are exploring the lava beds, which present a horrible spectacle. Seventeen dead MODOCS have been found and an old squaw who was unable to escape confirms the death of John Schonchin. The MODOCS are apparently a great puzzle to the military, hiding among the rocks, breaking through the lines where least protected to secure water, and then retreating to the lava beds, where they cannot be tracked. Later reports from Scott Valley state that the Klamath Indians are putting on the war paint.

SEN FRANCISCO, April 21.—A courier arrived at Yreka to-night with the following news from the front to April 18. Col. Perry, Lieutenant Miller and 110 men left this morning at 8 o'clock on a scout southeastward. Nothing will be done in camp until they return, unless the MODOCS make an attack, which is not probable. Part of the command will return tomorrow night, and part will proceed to the Willow Spring and route and determine whether the MODOCS have fled that way.

Indians were seen in close proximity to the camp to-day. Three shots were heard in the southeast, evidently fired by the Indians in killing cattle. This afternoon the Indians were seen on the ridge of the Lava Beds, four miles southeast of this point and an equal distance south of their former position.