The Somerset Herald.

WEDNESDAY, - - - - - June 10, 1874

On Monday of last week an alarm of fire in the State Lunatic Asylum at Harrisburg caused all the doors to be thrown open, and four hundred of the patients rushed out into the grounds. All were secured again except six, who made their escape.

The Secretary of the Treasury officially announces the decrease of the public debt during the month of May at $4,456,838,97. This is the largest decrease effected in any one month since September last, and proves, notwithstanding the cry to the contrary, that the financial affairs of the country are prudently managed.

The lower House of Congress has passed a bill declaring that no person shall be allowed to serve as a juror in the United States Courts who cannot read and write. This is a rule that might be beneficially extended to our State Courts, as "intelligent jurors" are the great requisite in determining questions submitted for their decision.

For the last week the Democratic press of the country has been jollifying over the victory achieved by that party at the late election in Oregon. Later advices, however, go to show that the Republicans have swept the State, electing the Governor and the entire State ticket with one exception, and sending Williams, Republican, to Congress in place of Nesmith, Democrat. Our Democratic friends, as usual, were a little previous in hallooing before they were out of the woods.

The Philadelphia journals approve the election of Colonel Scott as President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, with great unanimity and enthusiasm, and predict for his administration an increase of the business and an augmentation of the influence of the road. His acceptance of the position is understood to include the relinquishment of all outside engagements except his connection with the Texas Pacific Railway Company, and of that as soon as the condition of its affairs will permit of his retirement.

Some two years since the racing mare Australia, owned by Governor Bowie, of Maryland, was so seriously injured while being loaded on a car of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, that she was withdrawn from the racing field. He brought an action of damages against the Company, charging that the accident was caused by negligence of the railroad employees, and recovered a verdict of $8,000. The Company obtained a new trial, and a few days since he obtained a second verdict for $10,000. The Courts of Maryland hold the injury of a racing mare at more than five times the value a Pennsylvania Legislature did that of a citizen, passenger on the railroads of this State.

The following good jury story is credited to California: The jury had been out for some time, when the Sheriff was despatched by the Court to see if they were likely to agree. He found them performing a sort of triumphal march round a big bottle of whiskey, from which they had all been copiously imbibing, to the music of a fife and drum, the latter instrument being borne on the back of the foreman and vigorously pounded by the next juror, while the rest of the happy band were singing, "We couldn't agree upon a verdict nohow," was this affable foreman's explanation to the Court, "and we didn't think it was any hurt for to have a social time s'long's we was a congen'l party."

Judge Richardson having resigned his position as Secretary of the Treasury, the President on Monday last, (1st inst.,) nominated Benjamin H. Bristow, of Kentucky, as his successor, and appointed Richardson to the vacant Judgeship of the Court of Claims. The nomination of Bristow was unanimously confirmed by the Senate, and Judge Richardson was also confirmed by a majority of seven, all of the Democrats and a few Republican Senators voting against him.

Col. Bristow, the new Secretary of the Treasury, is of old Kentucky Whig stock, and raised and commanded with distinction, a regiment of volunteers during the late war. He was formerly Solicitor General, but resigned that position and returned to the practice of law at Louisville. He is a gentleman of culture and fine legal attainments, and was named by the President as Attorney General when, last fall, Attorney General Williams was nominated for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. His appointment as Secretary of the Treasury appears to give very general satisfaction, and it is hoped will assist to relieve the financial muddle from which the country is suffering.

Speaking on the subject of health in our schools, the *Ledger*, Philadelphia, says: A copious supply of fresh air should be had by scholars, winter and summer, as a corrective of the lassitude, weariness, headaches, and tendency of the blood to the head, which nearly all parents find in their children, especially the girls, after long sessions in poorly ventilated class-rooms. Many of the chronic maladies which affect men and women in the maturer years of life are now clearly traceable to their school days, and to the defects referred to. It is only of late years that the sanitary side of the school system has been investigated by competent men, who devote to its examination the patient study of experienced investigators and the intelligence of scientific men. After every such examination it becomes more and more apparent that a great deal of permanent mischief has been done through the agency of poorly ventilated and badly heated and imperfectly lighted class rooms; through the instrumentality of poorly constructed school seats and desks; and finally through the absorption of nearly the whole time of the pupil, either in the confinement of study in the close air of the class-rooms, or in equally confining memorizing of their lessons at home, to the exclusion of a sufficient amount of time spent in the open air or in gentle bodily exercises of a salutary nature. Girls of course suffer more than boys, for the latter are pretty sure to have their romps at some time.

But not only as conducive to health should the gymnastic and calisthenic exercises be encouraged, but also for the reason that they give graceful motions and posture to the scholars.

One of the resolutions adopted by the National Convention of the "Brethren" at their late session at Girard, Ill., is refreshing in this day of money getting, extortion and scrambling for riches. If the practice of the brethren conforms with the precepts of the church, a very salutary lesson will thereby be taught to other christian denominations. As reported, the decision of the convention is that it is improper for members of the society to engage in banking operations, upon the grounds that the funds invested would not be under their control, and that in case parties to whom they should make loans should fail to meet their indebtedness, it would be collected from them by process of law, and might, therefore, be the means of depriving the widow and orphan of homes; that banks often loan money at high rates of interest, which has a tendency to make them covetous, and to lead them into temptation; and that the brotherhood should keep their property under their own control, so that they can use it for the good of mankind. They are permitted to loan money at legal rates of interest in the several States, but never to take a greater per cent.

Not content with bothering the politicians with their claim to the right of suffrage, and their persevering efforts to sing and pray whiskey sellers out of their vocation, the women have tackled the church authorities with the conundrum of their right to exhort and pray in public, and great is the consequent tribulation that is in store for the churches. The Presbyterians—if the annexed article be true—are attempting to dodge the issue, and have put in a plea in avoidance, that is sure to return at no distant day to plague the church. The Baltimore *American* thus summarises the late proceedings of the General Assembly of that church on the subject:

The Presbyterian General Assembly has declined to answer the very embarrassing question propounded by one of the Illinois Presbyteries concerning woman's right to exhort and pray in public. The Rock River brethren desire to know whether a literal interpretation of the language of St. Paul would not prohibit women from preaching, exhorting or praying in a promiscuous assemblage. This overture was referred to a committee, of which the learned and polished Dr. Howard Crosby was chairman. Dr. Crosby is a celebrated Greek scholar, and he did not care to imperil his standing among linguists by attempting to soften down the restriction laid upon women by the Apostle, and he reported that a literal interpretation of the passage referred to *does* prohibit women from preaching, exhorting or praying in promiscuous assemblages. This report was warmly debated, but the accuracy of Dr. Crosby's interpretation was not questioned. The real matter at issue (although not expressed in words) was whether Paul's injunction was binding on the Christians of this age, or whether it was intended for a state of society that no longer exists. The General Assembly refused to send out Dr. Crosby's report as a law for the churches, but adopted a substitute offered by Dr. Aikman, which gives discretionary power to pastors and elders to permit women to preach, exhort or pray in promiscuous assemblages, or to prohibit them.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

New York, June 2, 1874.

THE STAGE DRIVERS' STRIKE.

Last Monday the stage drivers' of New York struck for an advance of wages. They had been receiving $2,50 per day, and struck for $3,00. Monday and Tuesday the hundreds of thousands of people who depend upon the stages, to get up and down town, were compelled to fall back upon the street cars, or walk. Half took the street cars and the other half plodded their weary way on foot.

It is singular how little a thing makes or mars the happiness of the denizen of Gotham. In this matter of transportation, for instance, anything that interferes with it, in however slight a degree, works discomfort to the whole city. The transportation capacity is deficient at best, and if any one of the means of going to and fro is withdrawn, all the other methods are overburdened to an unbearable degree. Hence the public shuddered when the stage drivers dismounted from their boxes, and the stages stopped. Broadway immediately assumed a queer aspect. You could actually cross it in safety. The thousand stages taken off, so reduced the number of vehicles, that the street lost its crowded appearance and became a quiet orderly place.

The drivers ought to have got the advance they asked for, for their is nothing in the way of labor, so severe as theirs. They are seated on their boxes, though it may rain, hail or shine, seventeen hours each day, except Sunday, and the skill required is very great. It is no small matter to guide a stage through the great crush of vehicles that crowd Broadway with one eye on one side and the other on the other watching for passengers. It is a trade that requires years of practice.

The strike revealed a queer thing. The custom has always been for the drivers to receive fares. You got into the stage and poked your ten cents up through a hole to the driver, who deposited in a box, and was supposed to turn it over to the proprietors at the end of the round. So long as this way of doing things continued, the Jehus never said anything about wages. They were satisfied with $2,50 per day, for they paid themselves, such a salary as they saw fit. They turned over at the end of the trip what they pleased. But last fall the proprietors, put in each stage, a glass-box, into which the passengers deposited their own fare. Then was no more 'knockingdown." The driver got his $2,50 per day, and nothing more or less. Then he struck for more pay, and for two days the public did without stages.

Of course the drivers were beaten. There are to-day, fifty thousand able-bodied men in New York with nothing to do, who would jump at the chance to get work at $1,50, no matter what it might be, and the companies found enough capable of doing this work, and they mounted them at once, and on Wednesday the trouble was over.

Speaking of drivers there is a legend connected with Col. Kipp, of the old firm of Kipp & Brown, the oldest stage proprietors in this city. In those days the fare was six pence. Kipp was on a hay loft at the terminal stable, and he observed a driver who had just made his trip and put out his horses, take out his box to make his return to the cashier. He emptied out a pile of silver sixpences and in an audible voice said: "This is for old Kipp; this for me," and so on till he had divided the pile in two parts. There happened to be an old sixpence. "Shall I give this to old Kipp, or shall I keep it," he said to himself. "Old Kipp is a pretty good man—he shall have it. No, I guess not. It's been a hot day, and I want a mug of ale, and I'll keep it."

Just then Kipp slid down to him. "John"' said he, "you are discharged. You'll never drive stage for me again. I don't object to an even divide, but I want you to understand that if their is an odd sixpence, it's mine. Get out you thief."

And the driver went his way sadly.

Speaking of

"KNOCKING DOWN,"

as this kind of thieving is called, it pervades almost all kinds of business. Anent the stage drivers strike, I had a conversation with a street car conductor yesterday.

"Every body knocks down," was his frank confession.

"But what stops you of taking all you want?" said I. "The money all passes through your hands and there is no way of checking it."

"Averages do it," was his reply. "They know what every trip ought to yield. Take a fair, cool day, and less people take cars than in rainy or hot days. But the owners know just how much money will get into this car this day, and I return money to that amount. If my return is less than the man behind me, I go. The average is exact, and we make it. You have noticed how anxious we are to get passengers. That is to make a trip above the average?"

"And the amount above the average?"

A significant cough was his answer.

"We hate to have new men come on the line," he continued; "because they turn over for the first week or to all that they collect, and the company growls at the rest of us. But we make em knock down to the point, or we make it hot for'em"

The conversation was interesting to me, and I wanted to continue it, but my conductor caught site at this moment of a fat woman, two squares off, who was making a frantic effort to reach the car, and he stopped for her. Her six cents was what he wanted to help swell his average, and he got it.

But you can see what chance there is for a man to keep honest under a system that compells him to be a thief in order to retain his place. And speaking of

LABOR,

Don't let any young or old man come to get work at this time. There is scarcely any building in progress. Trade is so wretchedly dull that manufacturers are discharging hands daily. This is true of all the trades and occupations. There are more than 50,000 men doing nothing in New York this moment, and the number is increasing hourly. Keep away from New York. Living is fearfully high; labor is scarce, and wages low. Think of the case of poor Adolph Lessure, yesterday. He landed with his wife and two children four weeks ago. He was a skilled cabinet maker, but could get no work. They consumed the little money they had, of course, and Adolph begged. Finally, last Tuesday he got something to do, and he went home joyfully to his wife to tell her that at least they had their bread assured. She asked him what the wages were, and he told her, and ran away to his newly found work.

He returned at night, and found his children crying and calling for their mamma. Half suspecting what had happened, he rushed into their wretched bed-room and his worst fears were realized. On their poor bed lay his wife, dead, a pan of charcoal explained her death, and on the stand a note addressed to him with these words:

Dear Adolph:—

The wages will just feed and clothe you and the children. I go. Farewell!

Marie.

And so it was! The poor woman, loving her husband and children better than she loved herself, deliberately embraced the hereafter rather than to shorten their supplies by the amount that she should consume. Poor woman! Let us hope that in the next world the crime of selfmurder will be balanced by the motive that led to it.

MODERN DRINKING CUSTOMS.

The drinking customs of society form a curious topic of study. One hundred years ago people of Anglo-Saxon stock drank coarse, alcoholic drinks to the most beastly excess. The habit was universal, and practiced openly and without disgrace. Men of all degrees literally *wallowed* in drunkenness, and the number of bottles a sound drinker could put under his belt and live was a matter of proud boasting.

The refinement, and, it may be added, the hypocrisy, of modern society has changed all this, and made it disreputable to drink deeply, and, in many parts of our own country, to drink at all. But in fact is there less consumption of alcoholic drinks than went on a century ago? I believe the amount consumed will be found to be about the same per head, and that the various temperance movements have not essentially lessened the amount used. The way of using it has changed and what was formerly practiced openly is now done in secret, and orgies which would have set English society a blushing in the time of the Georges, are now occuring under the safe roofs of many a brown stone dwelling along the avenues. I know a lady—and she is not the only one—of great attractiveness and power, well born, well bred and imparting all grace to a high social station, who goes to bed with almost nightly regularity in a situation of inebriety. Her husband and a few intimate friends know of her misfortune, and all means have failed to check her secret consumption of wine. If we could lift off the roofs of the houses of the great city, where secrecy is easy and temptations thick and powerful, we should be staggered at the disclosures, and believe what I think is true, that while society changes and modifies vices, it has as many at one time as another.

And now that I think of it, I don't believe that drinking is any more a secret than it used to be. Walk through Water or any of the low streets in New York and you will see whole blocks of rum mills, at which liquor is sold openly and without concealment. Go up into the respectable portion of the city, and it is just as bad. There is not a block on Broadway which does not contain a dozen, and on the side streets the number is appalling. A man doing business on Wall Street, and living in Fourteenth, will pass on the way up-town, not less than two-hundred drinking places. And they all do business. They pay from $5,000 to $12,000 per annum rent, and the amount of alcoholic beverages that must be sold to pay this expense may be imagined. The millenium is not yet at hand.

THE WEATHER

continues glorious. New York has the most magnificent springs of any city on the globe. The weather is warm, but the air is bracing and healthy. But woe to the dwellers here a month hence.

Pietro.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, D. C., June 9.—We have to report continued dullness in Congress, as regards questions of importance to the general welfare, though some of the debates have been of local interest, and others not without a touch of tartness and humor. Thus there was the question of passports furnished to people who are going aboard. Years ago the price of a passport was $2, then during the war it was raised to $5, and afterwards passports were made free. The proposition was to renew the fee of $5, and one would not think there was much milk in a cocoanut of that kind; but there was. Butler wanted to raise the price to $20, because it would fall on the rich, who are the only people who go aboard, and because it would tend to keep people at home. People he said, go on abroad and spend their money and impoverish the country, and buy all their clothes there, thus cheating the tailors, and the weavers at home, of their chance of work, and robbing the government of revenue, while they get false and aristocratic notions into their heads, and all sorts of extravagant and oolish ideas. At this Holman of Indiana, plumped down upon Butler, on accusation that he was the enemy of the poor naturlized man, who after having been in this country a few years and voted, wanted to return to the old country and display the broad seal of the State Department to the astonished gaze of the potentates of Europe, as evidence of citizenship and to protect them from the tyranny of European Monarchies, and Butler, he said, wanted these poor men to pay their $20, for the privilege. Then Butler said if a man was poor he could go without a passport, as four fifths of them did, and Holman said Butler's face was as good as a passport, but the joke about Butler's face is so old that no laughed. The amount of it all was that 40,000 persons go abroad of whom 9,000 get passports, and the rest go without. A tax of $5, would probably induce the whole to go without, and a tax of $2, would yield ten or twelve thousand dollars. The price was fixed at $5.

There was some debate on the "bark" question in which Butler, Conger, Bradly and others, embarked in the interests of their constituents. The New York and Michigan farmers are in favor of a tariff upon bark, and the Eastern tanners and shoe manufacturers are opposed to it. Mr. Conger was the champion of the farmers, and carried his point.

After so many month's of rumro concerning the intentions of Mr. Richardson, he has at last concluded to leave the Treasury. He was nominated judge of the Court of Claims, and Mr. Bristow of Kentucky for Secretary, on Monday. Bristow as Solicitor General, made favorable impression here, as he is able, genial, and popular in manners. Considering the panic, Mr. Richardson leaves the Treasury in good condition, the debt the past year having been reduced two and a half millions.

General Butler got a bill to a third reading on Monday to allow women to practice law in the U. S. Courts. Mr. Dawes pushed through the Tariff bill on the same day, and a large business was done with many measures of minor importance.

We have to report a case of unhappiness—Dawes, of Mass. Four years ago, he opened up on the Chorpenning claim— and staked his reputation before the country, that it was a fraud. He made out, that the man had not done half the service he pretended; had been more than twice paid and was claiming it the third time; that he smuggled bills through Congress, right under the very nose of Dawes himself, and then bamboozled Creswell into making him an award of half a million, when he had been doubly paid already. Dawes said he had the proofs, and said it so boldly, that no one disputed him, and Chorpenning and his claim went into history as frauds, with Creswell nick-named after him as a co-swindler. In his stump speeches, Mr. Dawes from that day made a great handle of vigilence in the matter of this claim, and thought folks could'nt see exactly how he made out that Chorpenning Creswell was all right, and Chorpenning alone a stupendous fraud, they accepted the latter as a fixed fact.

But Chorpenning demanded a hearing, and kept demanding, while Dawes stood up and threatened annihilation to the man who should venture to ask it for him. This session however, John Cessna not having the fear of Dawes before his eyes, got in a petition for a hearing for his constituent, and had it referred to the Judiciary Committee. This committee has eleven lawyers on it, the greatest in the House; among them Butler, Poland, Frye, Tremaine, Clarkson N. Potter and Eldridge, republicans and democrats. They investigated. They asked Dawes for his "proofs," but Dawes never came, nor his proofs. They asked again, but there was no answer. They read his old speech, and studied it, and analyzed it, and got all the evidence they could hear of, and then reported to the House, that Chorpenning challenged the severest scrutiny, submitted himself for examination, demanded a full investigation, and after all their search and effort, they had unanimously concluded that the Government was in debt to him. This conclusion knocks Dawes off his stilts, and into the mud. He thinks the man has been over paid, and twice paid, and has humbugged a whole Congress, and he has the proofs; but a dozen able lawyers after examining the papers, with Dawes' club over their heads, find that his proofs are no proofs, and that Chorpenning has been improperly and illegally kept out of his money for many years. Such a report in the face of the public sentiment, could only come from deep conviction, and it leaves Dawes in a sad plight, as he must have prostituted his influence and talents to deny justice to a citizen and rob him of his good name at the same time. They reported a bill sending the case to the Court of Claims to fix the amount on the evidence, and as the only thing against the claim, is the stump speech of Dawes, Chorpenning will get his money, the committee of lawyers not regarding that speech as proof.

Honest John Cessna has made his mark, by courageously meeting the violent and unreasoning opposition to an investigation of this claim.

On Thursday, Mr. Bristow, the new Secretary of the Treasury stepped into the shoes of Mr. Richardson. The contrast in personal appearance of the two, is as marked as the difference in public favor. Richardson is a pale faced, diminutive person, and Bristow a ruddy bluff-looking Kentucky giant-like person, who could hold his own in a wrestling or boxing match with the best of them. He received the Bureau officers with cordiality and ease of manner, and produced a favorable impression.

Mr Richardson has been more popular in the Department than Boutwell, but owing to the panic and the state of finances he has had a rough time generally, and the demands upon him, no Secretary could have satisfactorily met.

The Illinois editors, and their wives, have been here on an excursion, and visited the White House under the escort of the gallant Senator Logan, marching up there in the rain from Willard's.

Both Houses have been discussing Internal Improvement measures, the opening of the mouths of the Mississippi being the principal. This opening of mouths it is contended, will greatly facilitate the feeding of the hungry, but the opening of so many mouths in Congress is likely to result in keeping the Mississippi mouths closed another year.

Baker, the ridiculous Commissioner of Pensions, still holds on, but only by the eyelids. He will have to drop. His support by Delano, killed Delano's chances for being Secretary of the Treasury, so the latter can see how much he has made by trying to float dead wood.

Assistant Secretary Sawyer has tendered his resignation.

H. B. M.

Pennsylvania Reserves.

Bellefonte, June 4.— The ninth annual reunion of the Pennsylvania reserves, held in this charming town to-day, surpassed any former meetings of that association. A detailed detachment of cadets from the agricultural college fired a morning gun at sunrise and a national salute at noon. Business was entirely suspended and thousands of people from this and adjoining counties thronged the streets during the day and evening.

From every house in and about the town flags were displayed and arches of bunting with appropriate words of welcome suspended in the streets. Never did a people give greater evidence of regard for the veterans of the corps. A procession nearly a mile long, consisting of reserves and other soldiers of the war of 1812, a section of artillery and citizens on foot, paraded the principal streets, with eleven bands of music playing lively and patriotic airs.

Gen. W. H. Blair acted as chief marshal. In the court house yard were long rows of tables loaded with provisions, which were served to the soldiers by the fair ladies of Centre county. In the afternoon the business meeting of the association was held in the court house, President Currin in the chair. The address of welcome delivered by Gen. James A. Beaver and song composed for the occasion by Mr. Joseph W. Fury were vociferously applauded.

The oration of Col. R. A. M'Coy was a most creditable effort. He reviewed many recollections of other days well nigh forgotten. He stated this fact not generally known—that while the reserves fired the first shot of the army of the Potomac the first flag of truce received from Gen. Lee at Appottomax court house was through the pickets of the veteran reserves. Speeches were made by Col. Mann, of Philadelphia, and ex-Governor Curtin.

While they were speaking Col. W. Forney, of the Philadelphia *Press*, entertained the thousands who could not get inside with an able and eloquent speech. Never was such enthusiasm displayed, especially when the speakers referred in a kindly manner to the people of the south. The utterances of Gen. Beaver, who lost a leg in the service, could not have been of a more friendly character.

Mr. Curtin was re-elected president of the association. The following additional officers were re-elected:

Vice presidents, Col. Wm. B. Mann, Captain Wm. M'Clelland, Colonel John Taylor; secretary, Charles Devine; recording secretary, Colonel Chill Hazzard; treasurer, J. H. Killingsworth. The committee adjourned to meet at Williamsport on the first Tuesday of June next. General Martin D. Hardin, of Chicago, was elected orator, with General Jesse Merrill as alternate. Subsequently the procesion reformed and after parading a short time halted in front of Governor Curtin's elegant mansion where speeches were delivered by that gentleman, Col. Forney, Hon, W. Mackey, Chaplan Beale and Gen. Hartshorne.

In the evening the display of fire works was the grandest ever seen outside of Philadelphia, at the time the different bands were serenading the citizens and distinguished visitors, of whom there were quite a number. This demonstration shows what an affection exists for Pennsylvania's great war government.

There was no disturbance on the streets. Bellefonte being a local option town, nor any of that disorderly conduct which generally manifests itself on such occasions. But three of the reserve soldiers were present from Western Pennsylvania.

Railroad Litigation.

The action in ejectment brought by the Mount Pleasant and Broadford Railroad Company against the Connellsville Railroad Company was tried in Greensburg last week, and on Saturday the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff. Judge Sterrett, of this county, who occupied the Bench, instructed the jury that the Connellsville Company had violated the terms of the lease by which the Mount Pleasant and Broadford Road was held, in not furnishing requisite rolling stock and not paying the rental at the time agreed upon. The case will go to the Supreme Court on a writ of error.

Murder in Brooklyn.

New York, June 2.—Mrs. Michael Devine, who lives with her husband, and three children at No. 35 North Eighth street, Brooklyn, E. D., this morning, shortly after arising, came behind her husband and struck him a violent blow on the head with a cooper's adze. He rushed to the Station house and had his wound dressed. Officers immediately started for the house, and on arriving there discovered that the woman had murdered her three children—Maggie, James and Timothy—aged, respectively, seven, four and two years old. It appears that after her husband left the house she seized a large flatiron and beat the children's brains out with it. On being asked why she had murdered her children she said that she was going to Heaven, and wanted her children to go before her. Devine's skull is fractured, and his injuries will probably prove fatal. He has been on a strike for a week past, and thinks that led to his wife's derangement. It has been ascertained that Mrs. Devine was about a year ago an inmate of the King's County Lunatic Asylum, and was thought to have entirely recovered. She is only twenty-six years of age. It appears that only Devine and his wife arose early, and while the latter was preparing breakfast they had a discusion about his resuming work. When he thought the matter had been dropped she came suddenly behind him and dealt him two powerful blows on the head with a cooper's hammer, fracturing his skull front and back. While he was out to the Station House she took a flatiron in each hand, and going to the bedroom where her children were sleeping, absolutely pounded their brains out. The skull of the eldest child, Maggie, was mashed into small pieces, and the faces of the other two were hardly recognizable. Blood was spattered over the walls as high as the ceiling. The husband was removed to a hospital, and is said to be sinking fast.

Forgeries by a Pennsylvanian.

A United States Government Service detective arrived in New York with a warrant from Governor Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, for Levi Saunders a wealthy cattle dealer at Waynesborough, Franklin County, Pa., charged with extensive forgeries on the Franklin County Bank, at Chambersburg. The officers tracked him from New York to the Suspension Bridge, Niagra Falls, and found him boarding on the Canada side, under the name of Jarvis Stevens. The postmaster on the American side enticed him across to get a letter, and he was arrested as he was stepping off the Grand Trunk cars. He was taken to Pennsylvania under the requisition upon Gov. Dix, and after being fully identified was locked up in the Franklin County jail on Saturday.

The prisoner has been a fugitive since 1872. He is charged, among other acts, with having forged the signatures of Simon Lecrone and J. Nicodemus, two rich Pennsylvania stock speculators, as indorsement on five checks of $2,500 each, which he drew on the Union Bank of Philadelphia, where he had an account. He passed four of the notes on the Franklin County Bank, but on presenting the fifth one Mr. Johnson, the bank cashier, refused to discount it, because of some disrepancy in the figures. Subsequent investigation revealed all the forgeries, and also showed that Saunders had personally sent all the checks, except the four named, a day before they matured at the Union Bank. Saunders is also accused of stealing several thousand dollars belonging to an estate for which he was assignee. Detectives have been looking for him for two years.

A Father and Daughter Killed.

Pittsburgh, June 6.—Coroner Mc Callin yesterday was summoned to Long Run Station, on the Connellsville Railroad, four miles above McKeesport, to hold an inquest on the bodies of Richard Mack, about forty years of age, and his little six year old daughter, Maggie, who had been run over by a freight train and killed. From the testimony it appeared that Mack and his son came from New Castle, Pa., about two weeks ago, and obtained employment at the brick works of George Baird, about one mile above the scene of the accident. Mack came to this city on Wednesday to fetch home his little daughter Maggie who was making a visit at the house of Mr. Andrew Flynn on Magee street. He started back on the evening train accompanied by his daughter, but the two got off at McKeesport. They left McKeesport about half-past six o'clock the same evening, and when last seen alive Mack was standing on the track, between nine and ten o'clock. This was within two hundred yards of where the bodies were found. The remains were discovered about midnight by one of the men engaged at the salt works. A verdict of accidental death was rendered.

Double Murder and Suicide.

Jeffersonville, Ind., June 6.—John McDermott, a saloon-keeper of this city, said to be under the influence of liquor most of the time, committed a horrible murder at 6 o'clock this evening. He had been in the habit of abusing his wife, who, it is said, was equally abusive of him. She left him, and had applied for a divorce. Trial was set for Wednesday next. McDermott called at his residence, where his wife was, asking her to come back and live with him which she agreed to on Monday. He then left the house and returned in ten minutes with a large navy revolver, and found Mrs. McDermott nursing her baby. He raised the weapon and deliberately fired at her. The ball struck the baby in the forehead, passing clear through its head and lodging in the breast of its mother, producing probably a fatal wound. He then placed the revolver to his head and blew his own brains out. The baby died instantly, and but little hopes are entertained for the recovery of its mother.

Wintermute Found Guilty of Manslaughter in the First Degree.

Yankton, D. T. June 3.—The jury in the case of the people vs. P. P. Wintermute, for the murder of Gen. McCook in September last, returned a vedict this afternoon of manslaughter in the first degree, after being out twenty-one hours. According to the laws of this Territory this is the highest degree of homicide of which he could be convicted without having a death penalty affixed, there being but one degree of murder. The penalty of manslaughter in the first degree is in the discretion of the court, but cannot be less than four years imprisonment. Counsel for Wintermute asked for a stay of proceedings until ten o'clock tomorrow, to which time the court adjourned. The verdict is, by most people, considered a just one according to the testimony.

Compulsory Education.

Senator Stewart, of Nevado, has proposed an amendment to the Constitution as follows:

Article 16.—If any State shall fail to maintain a common shool system, under which all persons between the ages of five and eighteen years, not incapacitated for the same shall receive, free of charge, such elementary education as Congress may prescribe the Congress shall have power to establish therein such a system, and cause the same to be maintained at the expense of such State.

This is one of the most important amendments that has ever been submitted to Congress. The constitution imposes upon Congress the guarantee to every State a republican form of government. Now there can be no such form of government, either in form or in spirit, with education. We are rapidly coming to the doctrine that ignorance is crime, and certainly it is a crime against the State. It is more necessary to build school houses than jails, and quite as important to send children to school to preserve the quarantine at our ports. We trust the Senator will press this amendment, or one similar to it in spirit, and that it will commend itself to the prompt and intelligent consideration of Congress.

One Milion and Three-quarters Given Away.

San Francisco, June 4.—The act of James Lick, deeding the whole of his property to the public, excites much comment. It donates $700,000 for the construction of the largest and best telescope in the world for the Observatory at Lake Tahoe; $420,000 for public monuments; $150,000 for public baths in this city; $100,000 for an Old Ladies' Home; $10,000 to the Society for the Protection of Animals. $25,000 to the Ladies' Protection Relief Society; $10,000 to the Mechanics' Library of the Protestant Orphan Asylum; $25,000 to the city of San Jose for an orphan asylum; $150,000 for the erection of a bronze monument to the author of the Star Spangled Banner, in the Golden Gate Park; $300,000 for the endowment of the School of Mechanical Arts of California. The residue, in excess of $1,780,000, to the Pioneers Society. He makes ample provision for relatives, and reserves the homestead and $25,000 per annum for himself.

Wild Buffaloes in Indianapolis.

Indianapolis, June 5.—During the parade of John Robinson's circus through the streets of this city to-day two buffaloes become frightened and got away from their keepers. They rushed into the sidewalks and knocked down Mrs. Sarah Harold an elderly lady, who was holding a babe belonging to Mrs. Shirpley in her arms. Mrs. Harold was struck upon the head by one of the buffaloes and received a terrible gash several inches in length. She also had her right hip broken. The baby received a blow upon the temple which rendered it unconscious and produced spasms, from which it is feared it will not recover. The buffaloes ran down the street, but were soon under control of their keeper. The excitement at the time was intense, and a number were crushed and bruised by the crowd. A team became frightened and ran into a carriage, in which there were two ladies and a child who were thrown out and dragged some distance with the wreck, but escaped unhurt.

Fire at Conneautville.

One-third of the Town Burned.

Conneautville, Pa., June 1.—Our town was about one-third burned to-day. The fire commenced near the old Courtright warehouse and burned all the warehouses along the canal, the livery stable, and all the wooden buildings back of the Courtright & Strick's brick building, then across Centre street, taking all the buildings south of Centre and two west of Main street, to the next cross street, stopping at the house of Mrs. Charles Hammond.

About forty-five buildings were burned in all, near the centre of the town, rendering about twenty families homeless. The mayor of Erie was telegraphed to for a steamer, which was promptly sent by special train, but arrived too late to assist in putting out the fire, as it was already under control. It, however, did good service in putting out the burning debris and preventing the further spreading of the fire, thus relieving our tired citizens, who were completely exhausted.

Great praise is due to the Mayor of Erie and the fire department of that city for their promptness in sending their steamer, and to Messrs. Kimball and Bates, managers of the Erie and Pittsburg railroad, for their promptness in sending the special train with the steamer. The loss is about one hundred thousand dollars. The insurance is light.

Will of the late J. Edgar Thomson.

Philadelphia, June 2.—The will of the late J. Edgar Thomson will be admitted to probate in course of a few days. It is generally understood that the instrument contains provision that after the death of Mrs Thomson the estate is to be disposed of for the purpose of erecting and maintaining an institution in which children and employees of the Pennsylvania railroad, who were killed in the discharge of their duty, may have a home.

Two Kentucky Tragedies.

Cincinnati, June 2.—At Nicholasville, Ky., this morning, Harding H. Masters was shot and killed by W. H. Soper, son of J. H. Soper.

About noon, another tragedy occurred twelve miles south of Nicholasville. Grantville Smith, aged sixty years, killed his nephew, William Hughes, and then shot himself. Smith is mortally wounded.

A Murderer Sentenced.

Little Valley, N. Y., June 2.—William Boone aged fifteen years, indicted for the murder of his stepfather, Caleb Omans, by chopping him to pieces with an axe at Steamsburgh, in January last, to-day pled guilty of murder in the second degree, and was sentenced to imprisonment at Auburn for life. The murder was commited when both parties were intoxicated. Boone received his sentence with the utmost indifference.

Murder and Suicide.

San Francisco, June 2.—At Hamilton, Nevada, this evening Patrick Casey was shot and fatally wounded by his foster-brother, Thomas Casey, who instantly blew out his own brains.

Election of Colonel Thomas A. Scott to Succeed the Late J. Edgar Thomson.

Philadelphia, June 3.—The special meeting of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania railroad company was held to-day. The object of this meeting was to fill the vacancy in the office of the president, caused by the death of the late J. Edgar Thomson. There was a full attendance of the board.

An election was at once held for president of the road, resulting in the unanimous choice of Colonel Thomas A. Scott, the first vice president.

By this promotion the position of first vice president was vacated, and George B. Roberts, second vice president, was selected without a dissenting vote.

A Terrible Collision.

Elmira, June 3.—A freight train on the Erie Railroad this afternoon struck a wagon at the crossing about five miles east of here. Four persons in the wagon were killed. They were from Smithfield, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, their names being John Dashie, George Dildine, Justin Peat and Jane Dildine. The engine threw two of them into the air as high as the telegraph poles.

New Advertisements.

The New WHEELER & WILSON Sewing Machine.

The undersigned would respectfully beg leave to inform the citizens of Somerset county that he is agent for the "New Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine."

Over 800,000 Wheeler & Wilson machines are now at work in all parts of the civilized world—200,000 more have been sold for family use than of any other manufacture. The demand for the new Machine is such that the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Company have been compelled to greatly increase their facilities for manufacturing; and at their immense factories, covering fourteen acres of ground, and employing two thousand hands, they are now making 600 machines per day or one machine every minute. Agents wanted to travel this county. For particulars apply to the subscriber. JOHN COLE, Agent.
may6 Stoystown, Somerset Co., Pa.

NEW ENGLAND Mutual Life Insurance Co.,

Chartered 1835.

Statement, Jan. 1st, 1874,

Premiums received in 1873	$2,540,207 06
Interest received in 1873	747,782 48
Total receipts	$3,288,089 54
Total Assets, Jan. 1, 1874	$12,670,119 81
Reserve, or Re-Insurance Fund as required by law	$10,209,492 58
All other liabilities	227,180 16
Total liabilities	$10,536,672 74
Surplus as regards policy holders	$2,133,447 07

This would enable the Company—if such a course were desirable—to divide during this year

Eighty-four per cent.

Ratio of Expenses to Receipts, 10 per cent. For every $100 of liabilities the Company has $121 of assets.

Agents Wanted for this Vicinity.

Marston & Wakelin.

General Agents,

133 South 4th St.. Phil.

mar11

PICKERGILL, LYONS & CO.
Manufacturers and Dealers in
LOOKING GLASSES,
Of every description; also, Mouldings, Ovals, Chromos, Engravings, &c. Fine Mantel and Pier Looking Glasses and Picture Frames a Specialty.
141 Wood Street, PITTSBURGH Pa.
may20

EXECUTORS NOTICE.
Estate of William Fisher, late of Somerset twp., deceased.
Letters testamentary on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned by the proper authority, notice is hereby given to those indebted to it to make immediate payment, and those having claims against it will present them to the undersigned at the residence of the executrix, in said township on Friday, July 3, 1874.
ROSEANN CASEBEER, Executrix.
may27

PUBLIC SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE.
Pursuant to an order of the Orphans' Court of Somerset county, Pa., will be sold at public sale, on the premises, in Shade township, in said Co., on

Thursday, June 18th, 1874,

the following described real estate, late of Jacob Chrissey, deceased, to wit:
No. 1. A valuable tract of land situate in Shade township, Somerset county, Pa., containing 265 acres, adjoining lands of David Rodgers, Conrad Wolford, John Weigle, Jacob Berkeybile, John Fry, Aaron Flyshower and others. The improvements are a dwelling house, barn, orchard, &c.
No. 2. A tract of land situate in Shade township, Somerset county, Pa., containing 58 acres, adjoining lands of Jacob Powell, Jesse Slick, Joseph Lohr, John Reel, Ephraim Lohr and others. The improvements are a dwelling house, stable, orchard, &c.
TERMS.—Ten per cent to be paid as soon as the property is knocked down; one-third of the balance when sale is confirmed, and the balance in two equal annual payments, with interest be secured by judgment bond on the premises. Sale to commence at 1 o'clock p. m.
S. J. COVER, Trustee
may27

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.
Estate of Daniel C. Meese, late of Elklick twp., deceased.
Letters testamentary on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned by the proper authority, notice is hereby given to those indebted to to make immediate payment