

The President is thinking the popularity of the penitentiaries pretty rapidly. Two hundred and forty-five pardons during the first year of his administration is an extensive exercise of the Executive clemency.

JAPAN has had one hundred and forty-nine destructive earthquakes during the last five hundred years. The lesser ones are innumerable. This interesting information is sent by Minister Bingham, who, while in Congress, was humorously described as "the gathered wisdom of a thousand years."

THE LANCHESTER News, in speaking of the mineral wealth of Pennsylvania, declares that the product of her petroleum wells, an article in which she appears to enjoy a practical monopoly, is more valuable than the immense yield of gold and silver found in Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, and California.

FOR the first time in twenty years Pennsylvania has a Democratic State Treasurer, Col. Noyes having taken possession of that office on the first of this month. In announcing the fact of his accession to office, his party journals all remind him that he is pledged to administer it honestly. Apparently they have no faith in his integrity, else they would not be thus reminding him of his pledges.

THE Ohio Democrats are about redistricting that State for Congress, and propose to gerrymander it in the interests of their party. At a Legislative party caucus held in Columbus on Tuesday night last, a committee was appointed to prepare a re-districting bill, and a pledge was exacted from the members to abide by whatever bill may be agreed upon by the caucus.

CONGRESSMAN CONGER, of Michigan, is distinguishing himself in the fight against the tariff bill. He does not believe in the old-fashioned style of set speeches, but instead keeps constantly on the alert, ready for battle at a moment's warning. He has several times succeeded in demoralizing Wood and his followers by the sharp parliamentary points he has made.

STANLEY MATTHEWS doesn't want to run for Congress any more, and Governor Tom Young is deemed the coming man from the Second district of the Buckeye State. General Banfill's majority was very small in 1876, and it is alleged that it was obtained by fraudulent means. If he runs again, the chances are very strong that Young, who is said to be very popular, will beat him.

In 1876 Joseph H. Rainey, Republican, received 18,180 votes for member of Congress in the First District of South Carolina. J. S. Richardson, Democrat, received 16,661 votes. And yet the Democrats of the House Committee on Elections have reported that the seat is vacant. They do not charge that any of the votes credited to Rainey were fraudulent, but they think some of Richardson's friends failed to vote through fear of the United States troops in that locality at the time.

THE worst set of disappointed schemers that ever "set up," and who did it unexpectedly knocked down, are the Democratic politicians of this State. For months they have been intruding to procure the nomination of Armstrong and Agnew, for Governor and Judge of the Supreme Court, by the Greenback Labor party. The Committee, however, when it assembled in Philadelphia last week, declined to endorse this nice Democratic slate, and instead of adopting the two Republicans, selected by the Democratic schemers, nominated two of their own men, and with Democratic proclivities, much to the disgust of the would-be managers, who had hoped to draw away the Democratic portion of the new organization by procuring the selection of Republican candidates.

Of course, the failure of this nice little Democratic plot is attributed to the "Cameron managers," and loud and deep are the howls of the disappointed schemers, and bitter are the denunciations of the convention host with their own party, and the laughing stock of the State, the poor fellows must be allowed to vent their feelings by cursing some one, or their fealty, and what so natural as to denounce the "Cameron managers" to whom they would just as readily ascribe the ravages of potato bugs, or the blight of a June frost if they could not subsolve a purpose thereby.

THE result of the National Greenback-Labor State Convention, is not likely to worry either of the two old political parties in this State. The ticket is composed of respectable men of good character, but unknown out of their respective localities. Mr. Mason, the nominee for Governor, although long a resident of Mercer county, and a man of worth, has never been heard of by nine-tenths of the voters of the State, and the same may be said of Messrs. Shearer and Wright. The candidate for the Supreme Court—Judge Bentley—who it is said will decline on account of his impaired health, is better known by reason of his being the Greenback Labor candidate for the same office last year. With the exception of the candidate for Governor who of these gentlemen are known to have had any fixed political principles, nor are they in any sense representatives of the Labor element. The candidate for Governor was a school teacher and is now a lawyer; the candidate for Judge is a lawyer, of course; the candidate for Lieutenant Governor is a

"gentleman" possessed of a large private fortune; and the candidate for Secretary of Internal Affairs is a "thorough handed" tailor. It is a most inconsequent combination, that the Labor wing of the party, after capturing the Convention, should have adopted such a ticket, and that the platform adopted favors the Greenback more than it does the Labor element. On the whole, the movement which looked so formidable to Republicans, when it proposed to nominate Armstrong for Governor, and Chief Justice Agnew for the Bench, has lost all further interest to them.

A Disgusted Revue

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—Hon. William H. Armstrong, in a private conversation, announced his withdrawal from the National party, and his determination to support the candidates of the Republican convention. He says he went before the National convention as an advocate of the principles of the Greenback party, but that if the will of the Greenbackers in the convention had predominated he would have been the nominee for Governor. But as it is, the National party is now under control of the Democratic element of the State, and he cannot identify himself with any set of men who support the doctrine of the committee. Mr. Armstrong says he is aware that his withdrawal will be misconstrued and that he will be charged with treachery, but he maintains that his present position is the only safe one for the man who has no regard for the consequences to himself. He is firm in the Greenback faith and will go into any movement for the advancement of Greenback principles, but the platform the National party have adopted he can never assent to.

Block Hills Politics

DEARWOOD, May 7.—THE LAWYER, County Treasurer, George E. Brigham, having failed to furnish the necessary books, the Board of County Commissioners to-day declared the office of the Treasurer vacant, but Brigham refused to surrender the possession of the office and has declined the nomination of Wm. K. Manning as his successor. The Sheriff Manning was ordered to take forcible possession of the office and books, and proceeded to the office, demanded admission but was refused, whereupon he broke the door in, gained entrance, and is now in possession of the office. Manning pulled a revolver and placed it within a foot of Brigham's head, pulled the trigger, the cap snapped, but failed to explode. The Deputy Sheriff intervened, arrested and jailed Brigham. The Sheriff is now in possession of the safe and all of the books.

National Election

WASHINGTON, May 9.—THE Senate sub-Committee on Education and Labor has agreed to report a bill setting aside receipts from public lands, after June 23, as a fund, the interest of which shall be divided for educational purposes among the several States and Territories according to population, two-thirds of such interest to be applied to the maintenance of common schools, the remainder to such agricultural and mechanical schools as have already been established. The latter part of the bill may meet with opposition, as many Senators think agricultural and mechanical schools already endowed have received sufficient aid from the Government. The bill will be reported to the full Committee soon, and is expected to pass early in the month. The Senate will probably agree to this as a substitute for the House proposition to give all proceeds from sales of public lands to States according to relative illiteracy.

Cameron-Sherman

CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONAL BIRTHDAY.—The celebration of the National Birthday, at St. Paul's Episcopal church, Senator J. D. Cameron and Miss Elizabeth B. Sherman were married. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Bishop G. T. Bell, Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland. The bridegroom is the Rev. S. N. Bell, Rector of St. Paul's. The bride is the daughter of the late Senator Cameron. The bridesmaids were Miss Ella Sherman, of Washington; Miss Edith Sherman, Miss Jennie Deamson, Columbus; Miss Julia Smith, of Cleveland; Miss Ellen Cleveland; and Miss De Billier, Yonkers, N. Y. Mr. Cameron being a widower, there were no groomsmen. The music was rendered by Prof. Underer, of this city, and consisted of the overture to Auber, "Mendelssohn's" overture, "Eurydice," by Weber, Meyerbeer's "Coronation March," and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." One thousand invitations had been issued, and fully two-thirds were present. After the ceremony one hundred and fifty refreshments and friends were seated at a banquet in the case of Colgate Hall, Esq., on Case avenue, brother-in-law of the bride. The wedding gifts were numerous and costly, their aggregate value being one hundred thousand dollars. Many friends were present from Washington, New York, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Cameron left by the Lake Shore route for New York at 10:30 o'clock.

Severe Storm to Memphis—A Trampy Crime and its Punishment.

MEMPHIS, May 8.—At 3 o'clock, this morning, a storm passed over the city, partially annihilating a number of business houses and the Peabody Hotel, and blowing down Meacham's cotton-shed. Damage by wind and water probably \$40,000. A house of plaster, five miles south of Oxford, Miss., was absent at the time, and after attempting to outrage the lady of the house, struck her on the head with an ax, from the effects of which she died. Her little girl alarmed the neighborhood. Some a traveling party had lady relatives of the wife, who was captured in the woods near Oxford, and is doubtless lynched by this time, as the excitement was very great there yesterday.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

NEW YORK, May 14, 1878. SLUDGE AND SLUDGE. If ever patience appeared to be a virtue, it was with respect to the trial in regard to the sludge masses which affect the regions from 15th to 50th streets. The North river is filled with pens keeping 1,000 hogging factories, slaughter-houses, and boiling factories, which work over refuse and carry off the thousand tons of sludge from the west wind, blowing their sickening odors into the best neighborhoods of New York. On the east side are the Hunter's Point petroleum refineries, and giant fertilizer works. Where blood, oil and carrying off sludge, which is oil of Vitriol mixed with crude refined petroleum, an acid of such overpowering odor, that the blains of the streets has been attached to it alone. Add to this the Nightingales, which dump the thousand tons of sludge into the North river, spreading an awful, suffocating miasma, which makes the dwellers on Murray hill, out of their sleep, and sickness the hardy crews of manure boats, and the wonder is, that decent people have endured these worse than Egyptian plagues for years, and that the thousands of men whose business or whose negligence were the cause. Owners have had to leave handsome houses on account of these smells, property has depreciated along the river, till owners are unable to sell for a tenth of what they are worth. The Board of Health and the Board of Sanitation, and stamps the Board of Health with criminal indifference is the awful fact, established by physicians, that the death rate of the city is increased 7,500 yearly by diseases from these odors alone. With all this absolute power and high authority, the Board has allowed this state of things to exist for years, and most unwillingly and tardily moves an action now, when the citizens' committee has taken the matter in hand. If adequate justice were done, the committee would have to sue the guilty of the deaths of 7,500 of their fellow beings a year, out of carelessness, or from interested considerations.

Attempt to Assassinate Emperor William

BERLIN, May 11.—At 3:30 this afternoon, as Emperor William was returning from a drive with the Duchess of Baden, several shots from a revolver were fired at him in the Avenue Unter den Linden. Nobody was hurt. The city is again excited. Great crowds assembled in front of the palace, to whom the Emperor several times presented himself in acknowledgment of their expressions of sympathy. Members of the military, foreign ambassadors and officers of the army hastened to the palace to render their congratulations upon the Emperor's escape. The would-be assassins are in the hands of the police, who decline to furnish any information. The character of the perpetrators and motives for their crime are unknown.

Communism in Motion

With the want of work, and the state of semi-starvation which has lasted an entire year, and the rumors of the failure of the German Government, the people are becoming restless. The would-be assassins are in the hands of the police, who decline to furnish any information. The character of the perpetrators and motives for their crime are unknown.

THE HAPPY FAMILY AT PHILADELPHIA YESTERDAY, AND HOW THEY GOT IN THEIR WORK.

A Grand Fight over the Delegates, and Touches of Communism in Some of the Speech-Making. PHILADELPHIA, May 8.—The National Convention was called to order in Concert Hall this morning, at half-past ten o'clock, by State Chairman DeWeese. All the counties in the State, with a few exceptions, had full delegations. Philadelphia had two delegations. The number of delegates present was about two hundred and thirty. A delegation of women, representing the citizens' Suffrage Association, was on the floor at the opening of the proceedings.

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