The Somerset Herald.

EDWARD SCULL, Editor and Proprietor.

WEDNESDAY.....January 19, 1881

On Tuesday last, (13th,) in northern Minnesota and Dakota the thermometer ranged from 30 to 34 degrees below zero.

It is reported that Hon. W. P. Schell of Bedford—present Auditor General—will be a candidate for Governor before the next Democratic State Convention. Coffroth will have to bring all his science to bear to crack this Schell.

The public debt is now only $1,900,000,000. Last year $100,000,000 was paid, and under continued Republican rule every dollar of the remainder will be paid, without onerous taxation or oppression of the people.

Congressman Hooker, of Mississippi, irretrievably disgraced himself one day last week, by appearing in the House in a state of maudlin intoxication and greatly delaying the business of the session.

Disdaining to take advantage of technical irregularities, as did the Democrats a year since, the Republicans have conceded the election of Plaisted, and accordingly on Tuesday last he was duly inaugurated Governor of Maine.

On Thursday last Senator Mc Millan (Rep.) of Minnesota, was duly nominated for re-election, and on the same day Thomas C. Platt was nominated by the Republicans of the New York to succeed Senator Kernan of that State.

The consolidation of the principle telegraph lines of the country, means a monopoly that will increase rates, and squeeze the dear public out of the last cent it will stand. It will be profitable to the stockholders, but death to competition and all hopes of moderate rates.

Both Houses of the Legislature met in joint convention on Thursday last to count the vote cast at the last election for Auditor General. The official vote was, Lemon 442,335 votes; Deckert, 405,736; Roberts, 19,226, and Turner, 1,898 votes. The formal certificate was issued to John A. Lemon.

The Republican party of Pennsylvania is rich, very rich in Senatorial material. No less than fifty of her distinguished sons having been placed in nomination for U. S. Senator by admiring representatives. The "compliment" was entirely too common to be desirable.

Twenty-four new Senators will take their seats on the 4th of March next. Of these the Republicans gain six—one each in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Connecticut, New Jersey and New York, and may possibly gain another in Tennessee. The Democrats gain one in Nevada by the election of Fair in place of Sharon.

The principal objections urged against Mr. Grow's nomination for Senator were that he was not altogether sound on the tariff question, and that he was a bolter, having supported Greeley and bolted the nomination of Grant in 1872. That one at least of these objections was well founded, is now evidenced by the fact that he has again bolted, and is attempting to disrupt the party from purely selfish motives.

We are gratified at the position occupied by the Members from this County. In accordance with the well established custom of our people, they were not hampered by instructions, but left free to exercise their best judgment in the selection of a Senatorial candidate, accountable only to their constituents for their action. Accordingly they went into the regular caucus, voted for Hon. Wm. H. Koontz as their first choice, and afterwards for Mr. Oliver. Nominated and elected as they were, by and through the party organization, they recognized its binding force, and in sustaining the regular nominee they will be sustained by their friends at home.

As is well known to the readers of the Herald, Mr. Henry W. Oliver was not its choice for U. S. Senator, but having been fairly nominated in a caucus composed of two-thirds of the Republican members of the Legislature, he is now entitled to the support of every Republican member of that body, and to the moral aid and support of every earnest Republican in the Commonwealth.

Had any unfair, dishonest, or unworthy means been employed to procure Mr. Oliver's nomination, reputable members of the Legislature would not be bound by it, but no such allegations have been made, and the question now for them to decide is, will they abide by a nomination, honorably made in accordance with the well established rules of the party, or will they ally themselves to the fortunes of the handful of political gamesters to whose keeping Mr. Grow has weakly entrusted not only his political fortunes, but his personal honor. It is no longer a question between Oliver and Grow, it is a question between party loyalty and disloyalty; it is a question whether the minority or the majority shall rule; it is a question between honest and fair dealing, and the gamblers game of "heads I win and tails you lose;" it is a question whether one third of the party shall be permitted to dictate to the two-thirds; it is a question of whether the Republican party of the State is to live as heretofore, by virtue of its organization, or to be overthrown by a few desperate politicians because they are not allowed to control it. The occasion calls for that firmness begotten of high moral courage, and we trust that no concessions will be made to the rule or ruin spirit displayed by the bolting members. Mr Oliver is the nominee of the party, and is entitled to an election. If he is defeated, let the responsibility and the consequences rest upon those who set themselves up against the will of the majority.

We doubt not, that the calm, sober second-thought of the members of the Legislature who were induced to stay out of the regular Republican caucus will lead them eventually to vote for Mr. Oliver. He was unanimously nominated by two-thirds of the party, and is undoubtedly entitled to support as the party nominee. As we understand, the fourty-four members who refused to participate in the caucus were instructed for Mr. Grow, and these instructions mean that they shall use all fair and honorable means to secure his election, but they do not mean that they shall refuse to participate in the councils or caucuses of the party, or that they shall antagonize the man who proves on a fair trial of strength, to be stronger than their candidate. To presume that instructions mean this, is to hold that a minority may at any time demand to control the the party, or that a minority instead of a majority may elect. We do not believe therefore that all the members who stayed out of the caucus will absolutely refuse to vote for Mr. Oliver, and we hope that after having fully carried out their instructions by voting for Mr. Grow in the Convention of the two houses, a large portion of them will prove their fidelity to the party by sustaining Mr. Oliver as the regular nominee. There is also another view to be taken in regard to their instructions, and that is, whether the refusal of Mr. Grow to submit his claims to the caucus does not release them from all further observance of their instructions. Surely no constituency in the State when they were instructing for Mr. Grow, contemplated that he would bolt, or that any other than the regular and legitimate means known to the party would be resorted to to procure his nomination. By his action Mr. Grow has put himself outside the organization, and is not entitled to further support, and still less to dictate who the candidate shall be.

Speaking of Mr. Grow's bolt and the refusal of his friends to participate in the nominating caucus, the Philadelphia *Press*, (Rep.,) that was opposed to the nomination of Mr. Oliver, says:

"It is a question which concerns the integrity, success and character of the Republican party. Mr. Grow and his friends in refusing to recognize and accept the caucus have assumed a very serious responsibility. The caucus or convention of the chosen representatives and the rule of majority are the foundation of party organization. To go outside of settled party usages and refuse to abide by the decision of the established tribunals is subversion of all associated political action for common political principles and purposes. * * * Mr. Grow and his friends must be prepared to give solid reasons for an act which if it carried any measure of success, would be destructive of all political unity."

The Philadelphia *North American* (Rep.) that was also opposed to Mr. Oliver's nomination, claiming that that city was entitled to the candidate says:

"There were many more becoming ways of settling the Senatorial succession, but the result has been accomplished, and Mr. Oliver, having secured the votes in caucus of the majority of the Republican members of the Legislature, is reasonably sure of polling the solid Republican vote in the joint convention. The fact that nearly threescore Republicans declined to enter the caucus at all is not so important as it would be had Mr. Grow been unrepresented in the balloting. If the minority had declined to caucus at all there might have been some hope that caucus had lost its power. As it is, Mr. Oliver's vote is large enough to show that there was hardly a shadow of a chance of defeating him at any time during the past week, and that the other candidates were only put up for the purpose of affording a cover under which the real purpose of the managers might be concealed. Philadelphia has been made a catspaw as usual, and the names of citizens who would ably have represented the State in the Senate have been used only like pawns to be swapped early in the game. Fortunately for Pennsylvania, however, her industrial interests will have an intelligent and energetic Representative in Mr. Oliver, and we may hope that the space he fills in the *Congressional Record* will be by no means the measure of the value of his Legislative services."

The Mercer *Dispatch* (Rep.) has this to say on the subject:

"Just before going to press a telegram from Harrisburg was received in Mercer stating that the Grow men in the Legislature had determined not to be bound by the Republican caucus. We hope this is not true. Our representatives are instructed to support Mr. Grow, but the Republicans of Mercer county expect them, as loyal Republicans, to abide by the caucus nomination and make no fusion or combination with the Democracy."

The *Record of the Times* (Rep.) published at Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county, and opposed to the nomination of Mr. Oliver, closes an article on the bolt as follows:

Senator Seamans and all the Republican representatives of Luzerne and Lackawanna, except Mr. Seely, were in the anti-caucus. Many of these gentlemen will take a second thought with reference to their conduct when they hear from their constituents. At this time and distance it looks very much like an attempt of a defeated minority to bull-doze the majority, and if this is what it means it will not be likely to succeed. Mr. Grow and his friends did all they could to win and when they found themselves beaten it was their duty to submit to the will of the majority, unless they were unfairly beaten, which is probably not the case or they would have so stated in their resolution.

The Washington *Republican* speaking of the Senatorial question, says:

"Not only did Mr. Oliver obtain the nomination, but he received seventy-nine votes, which is a majority of all the Republican members of the Legislature. If any now refuse in the Legislature to vote for him they do so in defiance of the expressed will of a majority of the party representatives. This we do not believe they will do. There is but little doubt that on Tuesday next Mr. Oliver will receive the united Republican vote and be elected. He is a gentleman of sterling character and ability, and the interests of the nation, the state, and of the Republican party will find in him earnest and able support.

The Pittsburgh *Commercial-Gazette* published at the home of Mr. Oliver, and his warm advocate, in commenting on the result at Harrisburg recognizes Oliver as the regularly chosen representative of the Republican party, looks upon the action of Grow's supporters as rather the impulsive action of men smarting under foreshadowed defeat and of temporary personal bitterness, engendered thereby, but rather thinks calmer consideration will allay much of this feeling and restore harmony. It further counsels good temper and fair treatment all around as the best thing for individuals as well as the party.

The situation at Harrisburg can be stated in a few words. Mr. Grow, candidate for the Republican nomination for United States Senator, persistently during the last campaign, sought the machinery of the party in various counties, and obtained in numerous instances an instruction to legislative members in his behalf. After the elections, and before the Legislature convened, he conducted an active personal canvass among the members elect. Other gentlemen were talked of by the press and the politicians as probable and suitable candidates for the place, but beyond in some cases obtaining the promised support of members from their own counties they did not canvass in the "machine" way for votes and were not considered applicants, if it is proper to use the word in that connection, until after the assembling of the Legislature. Every effort of Mr. Grow was made in the direction of the caucus. He rallied in some quarters, bullied in others and used the instructions of county conventions and committees wherever they applied, in a determined endeavor to get to his support a majority of Republican members of the Republican members of the Legislature. Log rolling and other species of wire pulling were applied in his behalf, and he had a reasonable hope of success. But other candidates began to be pushed from various localities. The western portion of the State demanded recognition. Allegheny county presented the name of a worthy citizen, and, giving him a united delegation, asked support for his claims from every section. The equities of the case began to be canvassed, and as Mr. Oliver began to be personally known, a feeling was generated in his favor apparent to every one who watched the progress of the struggle. Mr. Grow saw it, and after a careful count of all instructed and favorable to him, was forced to the conclusion that he was not the choice of a majority of the Republicans of the Senate and House. He suddenly determined, therefore, not to go into the caucus and by specious arguments inflamed the prejudices of fifty of his devoted followers with the intention of defeating Mr. Oliver or any other Republican. In the impulse of the moment these gentlemen refused to go into the caucus and Mr. Grow now stands in hearty accord with the Democracy, laughing at the result which has so far followed his disregard of principle and honor. It will probably be found before Tuesday next, however, that the scheme of betrayal will miscarry. No Republican can afford to vote against the nominee of that party for United States Senator. Any one who does take such position will be marked by his constituents as a man devoid of personal honor, and will probably be permitted hereafter to retire to a privacy which he is eminently fitted to adorn. The bolt of a party nomination under some circumstances would be not only justifiable but praiseworthy. In this case, where no cause except one man's disappointment can be alleged, such an act would be treacherous to good faith, conscience and decency.—*Pittsburg Telegraph,*

The action of Mr. Grow in counseling and consenting to the absence from a Republican caucus of a number of members of the Legislature elected as Republicans, proves that his opponents knew their man when they said he is one whom the Republican party cannot trust. In 1872 Mr. Grow betrayed the Republican party. He did not simply join himself to the Liberal movement of that year by reason of his respect and attachment to Horace Greeley. He seized the candidacy of Mr. Greeley as an occasion sent to him to organize a new party to be composed of Liberals and conservative Democrats. To accomplish this design he sundered pleasant personal relations, jeopardized business interests committed to his care, and labored with the zeal of a fanatic, or rather the frenzy of an apostate, to disintegrate the Republican party. His expectations were not fulfilled. Greely was disastrously defeated. Grow withdrew to the privacy of railroad building on the plains of Texas. After a year's isolation he returned to Pennsylvania to find the Republican party stronger and more vigorous than it was when he deserted it. He allied himself and gained some prominence by stumping the State in 1875. He became a candidate for Governor in 1878, but the recentness of his apostacy prevented the convention giving his candidacy more than a respectful hearing. In 1879 he commenced his canvass for the Senatorship, and has pushed his claims unceasingly. He has been a lover of party machinery. He has sought to employ it in every county in the State. When it worked for Grow, Grow believed in it. When it works against Grow, Grow wants to smash it. The principal objection to Mr. Grow has been, and is, that his course in 1872 showed he is a man whom it is dangerous for any party to elevate to high position. This belief was so prevalent that it defeated his nomination for Governor. The same belief has ended his dream of being United States Senator. But the nature of the man would not allow him to accept defeat in such a way as to dispel the doubts of his fealty to the Republican party. So he organizes a bolt, and thereby proves that the Republican caucus did wisely and well when it refused to make him the Republican candidate for United States Senator.—*Harrisburg Telegraph.*

Stage Robbers.

Galveston, Tex., January 14.—A special to the *News* from San Antonia says: "The east-bound stage of the San Antonia and Eagle Pass line was stopped yesterday morning about 3 o'clock ten miles from Sabina by two masked men. There were four passengers in the coach, two of whom were ladies. Nothing was taken from the ladies, but a small amount of money was obtained from the men. One of the passengers—C. H. Winters, a merchant at Brackett—being warned in time, concealed $1,300 in a door panel, which escaped observation. The mail bags were cut open and rifled. It is thought that the robbers are the same parties who robbed the Laredo stage a couple of weeks since.

THE CAUCUS AND THE KICKERS.

Harrisburg, Jan. 14, 1881.

The senatorial contest assumed a new and rather unexpected phase yesterday morning when a caucus of the Grow men was called to meet at 3 o'clock in the afternoon in parlor A of the Lochiel hotel. This caucus was attended by the following members and senators, forty-four in all: G. B. Seamans, Lackawanna; I. D. McKee, Philadelphia; Charles S. Wolfe, Union; George E. Mapes, Venango; John A. Landis, Lancaster; Lewis Emery, Lancaster; W. L. Hardison, McKean; M. H. Silverthorn, Erie; W. B. Roberts, Montgomery; J. H. McClay, Mifflin; C. W. Tyler, Crawford; James Neill, Phila.; John M. Emery, Lawrence; William Reynolds, Wyoming; J. B. Niles, Tioga; Charles Tubbs, Tioga; C. H. Hungerford, Susquehanna; J. J. Millham, Wayne; W. T. Davis, Bradford; E. L. Hillis, Bradford; J. Thomas, Bucks; C. S. Kauffman, Lancaster; G. W. Lee, Venango; Norton McGiffen, Washington; Thomas Phillips, Lackawanna; Jas. George, Luzerne; Thomas Perry, Mercer; L. Taggart, Cameron; Ellis Morrison, Lawrence; James Sill, Erie; Isaac B. Brown, Erie; W. P. Braham, Butler; R. L. White, Potter; S. M. Loveland, Mercer; A. W. Hayes, Erie; W. Wayne, Chester; Theodore K. Stubbs, Chester; Joseph H. Marsh, Bradford; John Stewart, Franklin; George V. Lawrence, Washington; W. B. Hierlihy, Lackawanna; L. D. Tyler, Crawford.

After their deliberations the announcement was made that all who had attended had signed a pledge to absent themselves from the general caucus called for eight o'clock in the evening. When this report spread the number of bolters began to increase and by evening had reached to fifty-six.

Notwithstanding the serious defection the remaining republican members and senators met in the state library room at 8 o'clock. Senator Cooper, of Delaware, called the caucus to order, and moved that Mr. McNeill be made chairman, which was agreed to. Messrs. Jones, Colborn and Harry Huhn were chosen secretaries.

Mr. Law, of Philadelphia, said he could not abide by the action of the caucus unless he was assured that the candidate nominated would receive a sufficient number of votes to elect him without the aid of the democrats. Mr. McNeill said that the future action of any one participating in the caucus depends upon his sense of honor.

In the interest of harmony, as he stated, Mr. Cooper submitted a resolution providing that it shall require a majority of the republican members of the legislature to nominate. Mr. Law at once offered an amendment requiring enough votes for the election of the candidate. The amendment was laid on the table and Mr. Cooper's resolution adopted. Mr. Law then retired. Mr. Cooper took the floor and made a speech against factions which was of considerable length and received applause. Senator Herr followed in remarks criticising the action of Mr. Law in withdrawing and was also applauded.

Mr. Ruddiman, of Philadelphia, said that he deprecated the revolutionary course of the bolters; but nevertheless he did not feel that he could conscientiously remain, and thereupon followed the example of Mr. Law.

Nominations being in order, Mr. Hill read a letter from Harry White withdrawing from the contest, but notwithstanding the letter nominated the Kiskiminetas statesman. Mr. Cooper named William Ward, of Delaware; Mr. Newmyer, H. W. Oliver, of Allegheny; seconded by Senator Norris in an able speech; Mr. Reynolds, Galush A. Grow, of Susquehanna; Mr. Hulings, C. W. Gilfillan, of Venango; Mr. Pollock, H. H. Bingham, of Philadelphia; Mr. Flinn, J. K. Moorhead, of Pittsburg; Mr. Benedict, C. W. Stone, of Warren; Mr. Colborn, W. H. Koontz, of Somerset; Mr. Boggs, D. J. Morrell, of Cambria; Mr. Knowland, George Shiras, of Pittsburgh.

After the nominations were closed Senator Smiley, of Perry, suddenly discovered that he would be compelled to retire, as a matter of conscience, and suited the action to the word. Mr. Colborn withdrew the name of Koontz.

The first ballot was then taken with the following result:

Oliver	51
Grow	10
Snowden	12
Morrell	2
Koontz	2
Stone	2
Bingham	5
Gilfillan	5
Ward	4
White	2

There being no choice a second ballot was taken as follows:

Oliver	63
Grow	6
Snowden	15
Morrell	2
Stone	1
Gilfillan	2
Ward	3
White	3

Mr. Morrell's name was withdrawn and a third ballot taken:

Oliver	79
Snowden	2
Grow	6
Ward	2
White	2
Gilfillan	3
Stone	1

Mr. Oliver having received the votes of a majority of the republican members of the legislature, was declared the nominee of the caucus for United States senator, and on motion of Mr. Cooper the nomination was made unanimous. The caucus then adjourned.

A Man Murdered.

Norfolk, January 13.—A most horrible murder was perpetrated last night, the victim being a well known colored man named Henry Wright, living near Churchland, this county. Wright was returning to his home from Trotman's store, when he was waylaid and shot by an unknown party, and so badly wounded that he died this morning. He was unable to name his assassin, and could give no cause or provocation for the assault. The charge of shot entered his left side, tearing away part of the hip bone and inflicting a horrible wound. A negro who was arrested some two years ago, by the aid of Wright, and sent to the penitentiary, and who has recently returned to the neighborhood, is suspected of being the assassin. The sheriff has offered a reward for the arrest and conviction of the murderer.

Conkling's Congratulations.

Albany, January 14.—Senator Conkling last night sent a telegram to Mr. Thomas C. Platt, saying: "I congratulate the Republican party and the state of New York on the choice of a Senator who never apologized for being a stalwart Republican."

Cannon's Certificate.

Louisville, January 13.—General Eli H. Murray, Governor of Utah, arrived in the city this morning. He is accompanied by Professor Clayton, of Salt Lake City. The Governor stated to a reporter that the gist of the whole matter about the Cannon election was that Cannon was not a citizen of the United States, and consequently ineligible to the office of Congressman. "Cannon," said the Governor, "was born of foreign parents, in a foreign country, and has by no court of any kind in the United States been recognized as a citizen. The law of the United States on this point is that the fact of citizenship must be recorded in the minutes of the court. There are no records that declare him to be a citizen, and consequently he could not give the certificate. Added to this was the aggravation of his being a Mormon polygamist, which makes him a felon and criminal against the laws of the nation. I don't see how I could have done otherwise. I wish it distinctly understood, however, that there is not the slightest bit of politics in the matter. It is not a political question, but is simply a question of right and wrong. To show the sense of Congress on the matter, when Cannon took his seat, before they admitted him, the House passed a resolution providing that members of territories be qualified by the same rule as that applied to States, viz: that he be a citizen of the United States for seven years, and be over twenty-five years of age. The resolution went on to say that any man guilty of polygamy was ineligible as a congressman. But the resolution was unfortunately crushed in the Senate. Out of a population of 143,000 there are fully 30,000 Gentiles, and these represent I may say, fully one-half the wealth of the territory, although of course, the Mormons have settled almost all the land. Things are rather warm out there, but I don't apprehend that there will be any serious trouble, except of course, bad feeling, and I will be grandly abused by the Mormon papers. There are more Gentiles in Utah than the whole population of the territory of Wyoming, and they certainly have a right to be heard."

Consolidation of Telegraphs.

New York, January 12.—It can be authoritively announced that a consolidation of the rival telegraph companies, the Western Union, the Atlantic and Pacific and the American Union, has at last been effected. The final arrangements were concluded this morning. The matter has been under consideration for several days, but the completion of the negotiations were not effected until to-day. The details of the consolidation have not been known to the outside public; in fact, negotiations are now in progress to settle the exact terms of the consolidation. The market price of the stock of each of the three companies has advanced in consequence of the consummation of the negotiations for a pooling of interests.

It is understood that the combination of the telegraph companies was effected on the basis of $80,000,000 capital for the new company. Of this the Western Union is to have $58,000,000, the American Union $15,000,000 and the Atlantic and Pacific $7,000,000. The present capital of the Western Union is about $43,000,000. Of the American Union $15,000,000 and of the Atlantic and Pacific, $14,000,000. Thus it will be seen that the Western Union gets a scrip dividend of 40 per cent., the American Union goes in at par, and the Atlantic and Pacific is put in at 50. It is undeniable that this movement has been engineered throughout by Jay Gould, who today holds a vastly preponderating control of the entire telegraphic system of this country.

Accident.

St. Louis, January 12.—As the Wabash express train, which left Chicago last night, was pulling out from a side track at Mitchell, Illinois, about twelve miles north or here, this morning, the rear passenger coach was derailed and ditched and some dozen or more passengers more or less seriously hurt, though none dangerously. F. W. Smith, of Pittsburgh, was badly hurt about the head; Isaac R. Trask, wife and lady friend, of St. Louis, badly bruised; Mrs. Wagner, St. Louis, arm broken, her husband badly thumped on the head; Harry Martin and wife and Mr. Ryan, of Chicago, bruised about the head and body; Wm. J. Fryer, Chicago, ribs broken and his brother J. E. Fryer, of Billisca, Iowa, hurt in breast, S. H. Stout, of Noblesville, Ind., nose smashed and otherwise hurt; Mrs. Ella Leavenworth, of St. Charles, Mo., ear torn off.

Crushed to a Jelly.

Pittsburg, Pa., January 14.—A collision resulting fatally to a brakeman named Thomas Lee occurred between two freight trains this morning on the Baltimore & Ohio R. R., at Everson Station. The train on which Lee was employed was standing on a siding, when through freight train No. 66 was thrown on the same track by a switch which had been left open, and a collision resulted. Lee was setting a brake between two cars at the time, and was mashed to a jelly. The engineers and firemen of both engines, which were badly wrecked, escaped injury by jumping off.

The Old Story.

Washington, Pa., January 14.—Miss Harriet Ott, of Spring Hill township was handling a revolver a day or two since, supposing it was not loaded. In this she was mistaken, however, for the revolver was discharged, the ball taking effect in the thigh of Mrs. Hester Nuss, making an ugly wound and came near severing the main artery.

Office Robbed.

East Liverpool, January 13.—The ticket office of the Cleveland & Pittsburgh Railroad at this place was entered by burglars last night and the safe blown open. About one hundred dollars in money and two gold rings were taken. Two suspicious looking characters have been arrested on suspicion at Wellsville, four miles below. The library room of the public school building was also burglarized and about fifty dollars in change taken.

Lynched

Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 13.—On Tuesday the daughter of Sheriff C. H. Banks, of Marianna, Lee county, was brutally outraged by a negro, who was captured and lodged in jail. An infuriated mob surrounded the prison, overpowered the guards and, taking the darkey out, literally riddled his body with bullets.

Three Lives Lost in a Fire near Rockville—A Terrible Affair.

Rockville, Md., January 12.—A terrible loss of life occurred near here last night in the burning to death of the hired man named John Falby and two boys, the sons of Mr. Timothy Cavan. Mr. Cavan's house is on the road to Laytonville, about seven miles north of Rockville, and four miles from Gaithersburg, on the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Mr. Cavan is a well known railroad contractor, of the firm of Codwise & Cavan, and has just completed a part of the Somerset and Cambria railroad. Mr. Cavan had just returned home from Washington, and the family consisting of his wife and five children, retired at a seasonable hour last evening, leaving a brisk fire in the kitchen stove. The hired man and the two boys—Francis aged 12 years, and Denis, aged 9—went to their room immediately above the kitchen, and the others to the rooms in the front part of the main house. It is supposed that the fire caught from the stove, and that the three victims were first suffocated and afterwards burned to a crisp. Mrs. Cavan was first awakened by the cracking of the flames and the smell of the smoke, and awakening her husband and the children, near them, they found they had not time to attempt to get their clothing even, and immediately ran down the front steps, which by this time were catching fire, and escaped from the burning building, but were horrified to find that the two boys and the man who had gone to sleep in the back room, were not to be seen. The flames were then so far advanced that those who had escaped could make no efforts to save others, and they were obliged to leave them to their fate. Mrs. Cavan tried to enter the room over the kitchen, but was restrained by her husband. She was severely burned in the attempt. This morning the three bodies were found burned to a crisp. Besides the destruction of the building, the family lost all their wearing apparel; also some money—eighty-five dollars—a gold watch and jewelry. The hired man was a native of Ireland, an honest, hard-working man, who was much respected by his neighbors. The two sons of Mr. Cavan were boys of much promise. The only entrance to the bed-room over the kitchen was by a stairway in that apartment, so that the retreat of those in the upper room must have been cut off soon after the fire started. Nothing was saved but a sheet and pillow, upon which they carried their infant in their bare feet and nightclothes fully half a mile to Mr. William Kelly's residence. The remains of the boys and man were buried from St. Mary's church, Rockville, to-day. The loss on the house and property will amount to about $3,000, on which there is no insurance.

A Tragic Mystery.

Oshkosh, Wis., January 13.—A terrible tragedy occurred four miles north of this city about eight o'clock last evening, the facts of which only became generally known this morning. About a mile north of the Insane Asylum, and between that place and the County Poor House, lived a German family, consisting of a man named Wiskow, his wife and a daughter 20 years old. At the hour named neighbors discovered a bright light in the direction of the farm house. Hastening to the place a terrible scene was revealed, the house, barn, and granary being in flames, but securely locked, having apparently been set on fire. The daughter was found some rods from the house insensible, with two ugly gashes on her head and face, and her clothing partly burned. The charred remains of the wife were found in the burning embers, but sufficiently preserved to reveal the fact that she was murdered, her throat being cut from ear to ear. Mr. Wiskow has not been seen since the fire, and in the absence of any clew to his whereabouts, the probability points strongly to him as the author of the terrible crime of having murdered his family and then fired the premises, in the endeavor to conceal his crime. Some bones were discovered in the ruins of the barn, which were thought to be those of Wiskow, and this, though a matter of conjecture, lends color to the theory that the old man, after butchering his wife and attempting the life of his daughter, proceeded to the barn and made away with himself. The verdict of the Coroner's jury that Mrs Wiskow came to her death at the hands of some person or persons unknown seems to leave the matter in doubt as to the real authors of the crime. There is great excitement over the horrible affair, which will remain a mystery until the daughter recovers sufficiently to throw some light upon it. She lies in a semi-unconscious condition at a neighbor's house, unable to give any satisfactory version of the affair.

Craig Case.

Marshall, Ill., Sanuary 13.—The reported homicide, south of this city in the country, is proven on full investigation to have been a desperate, bloody and sneaking murder. Young Paul Sweet shot Gen. Craig without notice and from behind the back. When the Coroner's jury closed their investigation Sweet was held for murder. It appeared in the evidence that ever since the quarrel about the woman Bodine, last September, the parties have been threatening to kill each other. On the fatal day Sweet saw Craig passing, and on his return met him, and after passing him began shooting. He sent three balls into his head and one through his left arm. Craig was unarmed. Sweet succeeded in getting out reports favorable to himself, and that Craig began the shooting. Craig stood fair in the community, and had served as Justice of the Peace. He was 45 years of age and leaves a family.

Self-Murder.

St. Paul, Minn., January 11.—Phillip A. Goddard, Auditor-elect of Wabash County, Minn., shot himself through the temple this morning while laboring under a fit of aberration, superinduced by ill health. He was dead when discovered. Deceased was unmarried and about 34 years of age.

Gas Explosion.

Pittston, Pa., January 14.—An explosion of gas occurred to-day in the Pittston Coal Company's twin shaft at the junction. Robert Linnott and his son Michael and Martin Healy, and the mine boss, Wm. Harrison, were severely burned. Considerable damage was done to the mine.

Manifesto of the Grow "Kickers."

Harrisburg, January 13.—Early this morning a call was issued for the meeting of certain Republican members of the Legislature in caucus. The call reads as follows:

The Republican members of the Senate and House in favor of the election of Hon. Galusha A. Grow to be United States Senator are requetted to meet in Parlor "A," Lochiel Hotel, at 3 o'clock.

The result of the call was the preparation and signing of the following paper:

We, the undersigned Republican Senators and members of the House being of the opinion that in the existing condition of things it is not for the best interests of the Republican party or the welfare of the State that we should go into caucus for the selection of a candidate for United States Senator, decline going into any caucus, and intend to give expression to our individual preference in the Senate and House, or in joint committee of the two Houses.

The signers of the paper as near as could be ascertained were as follows:

Senators—Seamans, Emery, Davies, Thomas, Kauffman, Lee, Sill and Lawrence.

Representatives—McKee, Landis, Ellis, Wolfe, Mapes, Hardison, Silverthorn, McCleery, Neill, Taylor, Millham, John Emery, Latrouche, Reynolds, Roberts of Montgomery, Niles, Tubbs, Hillis, Hungerford, McGiffin, Thomas, Phillips, George, Hierlihy, Perry, Taggart, Emerson, Brown, Braham, White, Loveland, Hayes, Wayne, Stubbs, Marsh, Taylor, W. T. Davis and Stewart.

It was claimed that other signatures were added to the paper before the meeting of the regular Republican caucus in the evening.

Sketch of Mr. Oliver.

Hon. Henry W. Oliver was born in Ireland in 1844, and during his boyhood came to America with his father, who was a sadler, and settled in Pittsburgh. His education was such as the public schools could give him before 1859, when he became messenger boy in the Western Union Telegraph office at Pittsburgh. Soon afterward he was employed as office boy for Graff, Bennett & Co., a Pittsburgh iron firm, and rose in their service till he became shipping clerk. In 1863 he told his employers that he wasn't making money enough. They valued his services, and offered to raise his salary from $60 to $75 a month, but he said he didn't want that, but an interest in the firm. He couldn't have that, and at once left them and set up in the iron business for himself. Ten years afterward his firm rivaled that of his old employers. Its present style is Oliver Brothers & Phillips, and it employs nearly three thousand men and boys, turns out 50,000 tons of iron a year, pays a $100,000 per month in wages, and salaries, works up into specialties most of the iron manufactured in its own mill, and does a business of about $4,000,000 a year. Mr. Oliver's business ability has made him one of the recognized leaders in the Pittsburgh iron trade. He will be one of the youngest men in the next Senate. A correspondent of the Chicago *Inter Ocean* says:

"He is of medium statue, has black hair, dark brown eyes, wears a black moustache, and has a prominent nose. His countenance betokens him a man of keen perceptive powers, indomitable energy and much strength of character. Mr. Oliver has been a diligent reader, and is well posted in the affairs of the country."

Fatal Explosion.

Newburyport, Mass., January 12.—An explosion of celluloid occurred in the factory here this afternoon and killed Charles B. Schofield, thirty years of age, unmarried, of Patterson, N. J.; fatally burned Charles Hayes, married, and badly, perhaps fatally, burned Walter Van-Dusen, married, of Newark, N. J. The fire department was unable to subdue the flames, and the building was totally destroyed. It was insured in fifteen companies. The works were removed from New Jersey, where an explosion had previously occurred.

A nail or piece of iron is supposed to have been in the material, causing a spark, which ignited the inflammable stuff and blew up the machine. The body of Schofield wat found in the ruins, terribly charred and burned. the lower limbs being completely gone. Haye's recovery is impossible. His clothing was burned off, the skull laid bare and the body badly burned. Walter Van Duser's injuries consist of terrible burns on the head, neck, and shoulders. His clothing was burned off. The building is completely gutted, and part of the machinery is rendered worthless. The is only a small loss on stock, as there was but little in the building.

Explosion.

Detroit, Mich., January 12.—The boiler in the Union Flouring Mills of this city exploded this morning about 7 o'clock, with terrific force, tearing out the side of the building, and so wrecking the structure that it will have to be taken down to the foundation. The engineer, a young man named Whittier, the fireman and oiler were instantly killed and buried under the debris. A fourth man standing just outside was severely injured in the head, but will probably recover. Three horses standing near were also killed. These mills were a part of the new Mammoth Glucose works, and commenced operations here last week. Mr. Sweet, the manager, was just entering the engine room as the explosion took place. He was blown some distance, but escaped without serious harm.

A Lady Drowned.

Easton, Pa., January 10.—Miss Mary M. Wikoff, daughter of the late Dr. Isaac Wikoff, of this borough, has for some time past exhibited symptoms of mental aberration, but not of such a character as required restraint. On Saturday night last she retired to rest as usual, and in the morning was missing. The alarm was given, and during Sunday unavailing search was made for her. She had been a remarkably bright women, and moved in the best of society. She has a large circles of relatives and friends in Philadelphia.

Allentown Explosion.

Allentown, Pa., January 10.—Six of the victims of the recent boiler explosion were buried yesterday afternoon, three this morning, and four this afternoon, making thirteen in all. The funerals were all largely attended. It is thought that the lives of the others can be saved.

Married His Sister.

A most unnatural crime has just been made public in Calvert county, Md. It appears that about 23 years ago one Thomas Bowen of said county, under compulsion, married a lady, who in a very short time after, gave birth to a boy, whose existence was kept a secret. In a little while after the mother died. The baby was taken into the family and represented as the child of a friend. In three or four years after, Bowen married again and became the father of a daughter. These children, ignorant of the real facts, grew up together, became strongly attached to each other, loved, and an engagement followed. The father did all in his power to prevent it, but rather than allow the exposure to be made, permitted the wedding to take place. A discarded lover of the girl having heard of some mystery connected with the first marriage and death alluded to, proceeded to investigate the same, with the result as stated. A trial, conviction and sentence to the House of Correction for six years followed in November last. Bowen was an officer in the church, had wealthy and influential friends, and the proceedings were kept out of the papers. But he has applied for pardon, and the story is now in print. The brother and sister parted. The latter, from nervous prostration, it is feared, will die.

Narrow Escape.

Williamsport, Pa., January 12.—Layfayette Lockwood, a well-known farmer of Shippen township, Cameron county, came here to attend court as a witness. On Monday night he retired at the Hepburn House about midnight and not appearing when his name was called the court sent for him about eleven o'clock. On search being made he was found in his room in a dying condition from asphyxia, having failed to turn off the gas. Three doctors worked with him all the afternoon and by the liberal use of the galvantic battery succeeded in restoring him to consciousness and last evening pronounced him out of danger. His recovery is considered remarkable.

Damage to Cotton and Rice Crops.

Charleston, January 13.—The *News and Courier* publishes a summary of reports received from all sections of the State showing great damage to the cotton and rice crops from the protracted wet weather. It estimates that of the cotton unpicked in December fully one half has been totally lost, while the remainder has been much damaged in quality. On the Sea Islands the crop is rotting in the fields. The rice harvest, owing mainly to rainy weather, is one of the most unfavorable on record.

Murderous Moonshiners.

Louisville, Ky., January 11.—A special from Gallatin, Tenn., to the *Courier Journal*, says: "Captain S. Keene, a well-known and respectable citizen, who lives about eight miles north, while in his yard Sunday night attending to domestic duties, was fired upon by unknown parties and fatally wounded. Seventeen buckshot were taken from his body. They had literally torn his right hand off, and entering his right side, inflicted a ghastly wound. He is expected to die at any moment. It is thought the deed was perpetrated by some moonshiners, who, it is said, Keene had reported to the authorities.

Hanged.

San Francisco, January 11.—A despatch from Los Angelos gives the following: "On Sunday afternoon a Mexican named Mirando, attempted to outrage one of a party of three girls, near Wilmington, breaking her arm in the struggle. Her companions gave the alarm and Mirando was captured by a number of citizens, from whom he was taken by a body of masked men, and this morning his body was found hanging to a tree not far from the scene of his capture. A Coroner's Jury rendered a verdict of hanging by parties unknown."

Horrible Suicide.

Peterboro' N. H., January 12.—At 6 o'clock this evening Hatch Walsh, aged forty, and his wife, who lived in the rear of the Baptist Church, were found outside, upon the snow—she dead, with her throat cut, and he near her, with his throat cut from ear to ear, and almost dead. A razor was found in the house. It is supposed that after cutting her throat he cut his own, and both went out. They leave a family of four children. He lived but a few moments. No cause is known for the deed.

Insanity.

Jersey City, January 11.—The trial of Mrs. Mary O'Connor for the murder of her three children in this city in July last was concluded this afternoon in the Hudson county court of oyer and terminer. After a brief charge of Judge Knap