



SENATOR MITCHELL was absent from his seat in the Senate, and did not vote on the civil service bill, but that dreadful spoilsman, Senator Cameron, voted for its passage.

THE public debt was reduced \$15,413,222 85, during the month of December. In the last six months or since the first of July last, the total reduction was \$81,370,783 88.

THE income of the Girard estate is officially stated to be \$1,000,000. The whole estate in Philadelphia is worth between nine and ten millions. The city's management of the trust has been remarkably prudent and honest.

EX SENATOR McDONALD, of Indiana, has been put in nomination as a Democratic candidate for President, by his admiring friends in that State, and the aspiring gentleman has made a speech accepting the nomination.

WE deeply sympathize with our bereaved Democratic brethren in their distress over the miscarriage of that little game to prevent Republican control of the Senate. The grapes are very sour, we know. Accept our condolences, brethren!

PHILADELPHIA ought to be pretty well satisfied with her share of honors resulting from the late election. With the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, and the Attorney General, she ought to be able to worry along for the present.

THE late James Laughlin, of Pittsburgh, well known as an iron manufacturer, left by his will \$10,000 to the Western Theological Seminary; \$15,000 to the Pennsylvania Female College, and \$5,000 to the Western University, all of that city.

WHAT unconscionable fellows those Democratic and Independent editors are: always trying to excite nervous people, and scare timid old ladies. Only a day or two since they were dancing with joy because they had "unloaded" Boss Cameron, and now they are shrieking he is on top again.

A BRIEF time since, Senator Lee was in the eyes of the Democratic journalists, not only a very proper man, but the sole President, worthy to be made President of the Senate. Now, alas! he is a tool of "Boss" Cameron, and a most creditable fellow. What a difference it makes as to whose ox is gored!

THE civil service reform bill passed the House by a vote of 155 yeas, to 48 nays. Only five negative votes were cast by Republicans. Who does not remember the Democratic clamor for civil service reform during the last political campaign? Here is another signal example of the engineer being hoist with his own petard.

THE Democrats can never, no, never, forgive the Republicans for harmonizing, and electing the President of the Senate. They did so enjoy the sight of Republicans quarreling among themselves, while they run away with the spoils, that it does seem to be cruel thus to deprive them of the pleasure they were enjoying.

THE civil service bill passed the House without debate on Thursday last, and needs only the President's approval to become a law. A more disgruntled set of politicians, than are the Democrats, never winked at each other. They were confident that it would be strangled in the House, and cannot now conceal their chagrin over its passage.

WE lay before our readers to-day the last annual message of Governor Hoyt. It contains many good points and recommendations which are of interest to all citizens of the State, and we advise all our readers to give it a thorough perusal. The stump speech with which he closes it, is in bad taste and out of place in a State paper of this character. Governor Hoyt cannot justify his base desertion of the party that made him Chief Executive of the State, and his parting fling at it, reminds us of the story of the burly Scotchman whose little wife was in the habit of broomsticking him. To the inquiry of an amazed neighbor, why he submitted to such attacks, he replied: "It dinna hurt me, and it assues her."

THE Edmunds bill, to prevent and punish compulsory political assessments, passed the Senate on Thursday last. Like all of Edmunds' work, this is in good legal shape, and is free from the unconstitutional follies of the Beck bill. It forbids the levying and collecting of assessments or voluntary contributions by any officer of the general government, appointed or elected; forbids anybody from collecting or receiving money for political purposes in any government building, and prohibits discharges from the government service for non-payment of such assessments. Adequate punishments are of course provided for any violation, but no man is or can be forbidden to voluntarily give his own earnings to any political party or person.

PATTISON starts out with a display of back-bone unusual in a Democratic politician. To the objections made to the appointment of Cassidy, by McClure and others of his friends, he says:

"I would not be moved from my determination to appoint Lewis C. Cassidy Attorney General, if a battery of Gatling guns were directed against me."

THE Connecticut Legislature met on Wednesday last, and one of its first acts was to legalize the black ballots, thus making valid the election of Wallace, (Dem.) Governor. Compare this prompt action of a Republican Legislature, with that of the Maine Democrats three years since, when the Democratic Governor, Garcelon, with other leaders of that party, tried to defeat the will of the people, in spite of the law. We had a right to expect honest fair dealing from the Republicans of Connecticut, and are not disappointed.

THE State Senate was organized on Tuesday last, by the election of Senator Reymun, (Regular Republican) of Philadelphia, as President pro tem.

Messrs. Reymun, Lee and Hall, were placed in nomination. On the first ballot, Reymun received 23 votes, Lee 7, and Hall 20. On the second ballot, Mr. Reymun was elected, receiving 26 votes. Messrs. Aull, McCracken and Longenecker, who had voted for Mr. Lee, on first ballot, changing to Mr. Reymun.

THE House was organized by the election of John E. Fausch, (Dem.) of Philadelphia, he receiving 111 votes to 88 for J. B. Niles, (Rep.) of Tioga.

On Thursday, both Houses adjourned over to Tuesday, 9th, to give the Speakers an opportunity to select the necessary committees.

THE burden of the Democratic argument, during the last campaign, was the waste of public moneys by the Republicans, and the useless sinecure offices created and maintained by them at the State capital. "Reform, reform," was the watchword. "Give us the power and we will abolish all the useless offices and conduct the government on a purely business basis." The people gave the House to the Democrats, and last week they assembled at Harrisburg to organize it. With them came also a swarm of their hungry followers, and lo! when the public was a-tiptoe and agape with expectancy of the sweeping reduction of useless offices, to abolish which, the Democrats had so consuming a desire, it was suddenly discovered that all these sinecures existed by virtue of law, which mandates required them to be filled; moreover, if they were not at once filled by their own holders and strikers, the Republican incumbents would hold over. A committee has been appointed to wrestle with this suddenly discovered barrier to retrenchment, and the public breathlessly awaits its report.

THE humbug of this is as thin as water to the palate of a thirsty tourist. Did anyone suppose that these offices existed outside the law? There is no law commanding the creation of a sinecure. They may be permitted, but they are not commanded. If there are any useless offices and the Democrats want to get rid of them, all they have to do is to remove the incumbents, and refuse to appoint others in their place. Let us have no creeping behind fine spun theories of a mandatory law. If they meant anything by all their promises of economy and reform let us have it. The kicking out of a few poor scrub-women, or pages, or postmen and folders will be a pitiful ending of so loud a cry for reform. Let us have reform with a big R. The people were promised it, they voted for it, and they expect it. Piddling economy is not reform.

IT goes without saying that the Democrats and the Independent bosses were sorely disappointed at the organization of the Senate by the Republicans. These gentlemen were confident that they had a combination made by which they could defeat the Republicans and force the election of an Independent by the votes of the Democrats, and their disappointment is shown by their bitter reviling of Messrs. Lee, Aull, McCracken and Longenecker, whom they could not coerce into this Democratic combination. Senator Lee, who was selected as the candidate of the Independent and Democratic coalition, was elected to the Senate on the Regular Republican ticket, he distinctly stated that he would not accept an election at the hands of the Democrats, and on both ballots voted for Mr. Reymun. Mr. Longenecker, as is known of all men in this county, was nominated and elected as a Regular Republican, an Independent candidate was nominated against him and persistently urged upon the voters in spite of his withdrawal from the contest. He was viciously opposed by and brutally assaulted in the Meyergarde Courthouse, and all the Independent votes he received in this county could be counted on his fingers and toes. In the county of Bedford, we believe he did receive some Independent votes, but these were cast for him mainly by personal friends, and on account of his high personal character and merits. To say that he owes anything to the Independent, as an organization, or that by refusing to coalesce with the Democrats, he deceived or betrayed them, is but the ravings of imbecile fury. To have voted for a Democrat would have been a crime against the men who elected him, and to have persistently cast his vote for Senator Lee, when he himself was voting for

Reymun, would have been folly or worse.

In twice voting for Senator Lee, Mr. Longenecker showed his desire for harmony, but when he knew, as he has now openly admitted, that if he had permitted his vote to stand for Mr. Lee, the Democrats would on the next ballot have gone over to him and thus have prevented an organization by the Republicans, he simply did his duty, as an honest man, by changing his vote. If Mr. Longenecker committed any error, it was in voting for Mr. Lee at all. Mr. Reymun was an unexceptionable candidate, against whom nothing was said or can be urged, other than that he was the choice of a large majority of Republican Senators, and was therefore distasteful to the four or five implacable Independents who would destroy the party if they could, because they cannot rule it.

The folly of attempting to placate the bosses of the Independents, is by this time, we think, apparent to all observing men. The more that is conceded, the more is demanded. They will not be conciliated except on their own terms, and ordinary manhood revolts at the unconditioned surrender of a majority to a handful of malcontents.

Mr. Longenecker was elected as a Republican, and is expected to represent, not a faction, but the Republican party of this district. We would not have him attempt, either to conciliate or to punish the Independents. A straightforward, manly course, looking neither to the right or to the left, but holding in view the good of the State, of his constituents, and the organization of the party that elected him, is what is expected by the Republicans of Somerset County. If the Independents size up to this position, well and good, if not, then he is not responsible.

As to his vote for Mr. Reymun, we can assure him that it meets with the approval of all the Republicans whose chosen representative he is.

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there is more vitality in the Republican party than some of its internal enemies have been ready to admit.

THE annual report of the superintendent of public instruction, presented to the legislature yesterday, contains the following statistics: Number of school districts in the State, 2,215; number of schools, 19,183; number of graded schools, 7,812; number of school directors, 1,022; number of male teachers, 9,651; number of female teachers, 12,778; average salaries of male teachers per month, \$55.12; female teachers \$28.89; average length of school terms, in months, 6.09; number of pupils, 611,318; cost of tuition, \$4,265,577.81; cost of building, purchasing and renting, \$1,229,232.04; cost of fuel, contingencies, debt and interests paid, \$2,058,391.64; expenditures of all kinds, \$8,263,244.54; state appropriations, \$1,000,000; value of school property, \$28,341,560. As compared with the preceding year, the increase in number of districts is 7; increase in number of schools, 555; decrease in number of male teachers, 208; increase in number of female teachers, 785; increase of salary of male teachers per month, \$1.40; decrease of salary of female teachers, 14 cents; increase of length of school term in months, 11; increase in number of pupils, 15,596; increase in average number of pupils, 12,250; increase in cost of tuition, \$146,901.41; increase in cost of building, purchasing and renting, \$22,220.90; increase in cost of fuel, contingencies, debt and interests paid, \$59,617.26; increase in value of school property, \$1,795,259.14. The Danubius has risen to a height of 40 centimetres. A thousand persons residing in the lower parts of the city have been compelled to leave their homes. Traffic on the railway connecting Vienna with Moravia is suspended. The large railway bridge over the Danube has been demolished, and the Vienna terminus of the road is flooded.

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BRASSI, January 3.—Seventy houses have fallen at Bedenheim in consequence of the floods. At Rechem, Morsch, and Oppan, eighty houses have fallen in each place from the same cause. At Vienna the danger is serious, and preparations are making to sound alarm bells directly the dykes show signs of falling.

ROSENBERG, January 3.—This town, with the exception of the church and houses of the clergy, is deeply submerged. The water in many houses nearly reaches the roof. In Friesenheim, on the Rhine, the scene beggars description.

DRESDEN, January 3.—The market square here is flooded to-day.

MAYNE, January 3.—The Rhine has reached the height of 57 1/2 metres. With great efforts a trawney has been laid to bring earth for the construction of a dam.

VIENNA, January 3.—Ten thousand persons have been rendered homeless by the floods in the districts near Worms, and are in danger of starvation.

GENEVA, January 3.—The railway between this city and Belle Garde has been washed away. Direct rail communication with France and Italy is interrupted.

VIENNA, January 3.—The bridge of boats at Ottensheim was washed away to-day, with several persons on them. The boats floated down in an hour and a half reached Linz, where they on board managed to run them ashore at Mayne.

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HARRISBURG, Jan. 4.—It is said here by those who know, that the Southern Pennsylvania Road, Vanderbilt's is to come into the Legislature this session and ask for an important privilege to enable them to complete with the Pennsylvania Railroad. It is asserted that there are two routes from Harrisburg to Burnt Boats, one via the Presidential Succession bill at which it labored for some hours without, however, disposing of it. Mr. Hoar made a speech in explanation of his plan of succession. He claimed that it was a plan which had been suggested by Mr. Madison at the time when the law which at present governs the succession was enacted, in 1792. The discussion was participated in by Senators Edmunds, Garland, Jones of Florida, and Morgan of Alabama.

SENATOR EDMUNDS moved to recommit the bill, with instructions to the committee to report a bill to regulate the order of succession to the Presidency of the President pro tem. of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, in the event of the death, resignation or inability of the President or Vice President. The bill is also to contain a provision directing the Secretary of State, in case there should be no President pro tem. of the Senate and no Speaker of the House, to call both Houses of Congress together within ten days to elect their officers, he to act as President in the interim. In the event of his refusing to convene Congress, both Houses are to assemble of their own volition within ten days from the time a necessity arises to fill the office of President. The motion was pending when the Senate went into executive session.

DR. E. T. BARNETT, of Oakland, California, recently purchased a mountain in Santa Clara county as a pasture for his flocks. There was a spring upon it, and the doctor commenced to bore down in order to get a better supply. In order to get a level it was necessary to tunnel through the rocky composition of the mountain. The tunnel one day last week built a fire place out of the lumps of rock quarried, and lighting a fire, were surprised to see the rock blaze sulphur. They hurried out of the tunnel, believing old Nick had arrived. The doctor was informed of the circumstances, and, on investigation, discovered that the mountain was composed of sulphur, which, within ten feet of the opening, developed into bright yellow, yielding ninety six per cent sulphur. The market value of sulphur is twenty dollars per ton, and it the rock holds out the mountain is worth a million.

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WASHINGTON, January 5.—Congress continues to work as if seized by a sudden spasm of virtuous industry. The House to-day followed up