The Somerset Herald.

EDWARD SCULL, Editor and Proprietor

WEDNESDAY.....February 29, 1888.

SENATORS CAMERON and Quay are both recorded as having voted yea on the final passage of the Blair educational bill.

GOVERNOR BEAVER, of this state, is being prominently mentioned as a candidate for the presidential nomination.

AND now General Sheridan is reported as saying that he would not accept the presidential nomination if it were tendered him.

THE Democratic National Convention will meet at St. Louis on the fifth of June, just two weeks prior to the meeting of the Republican Convention at Chicago.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND and wife have returned from their electioneering trip to the sunny south, and we suspect all hostility to his re-election in that solid section has subsided.

THE three national political conventions of the year will meet within the same fortnight. The Republican Convention will be held at Chicago, the Democratic at St. Louis, and the Prohibition at Indianapolis.

SENATOR DON CAMERON says that he is not a candidate for the Republican nomination for president and will not be under any circumstances. Many of the Senators friends have been urging his candidacy claiming that he would be the strongest candidate that could be nominated.

AFTER this year, unless a vacancy should occur by death or resignation there, will be no Judge of the Supreme Court to elect until 1895. At that time Judge Paxson's term will expire, he, with the late Judge Woodward, having been the first elected under the present Constitution. Judge Paxson will become chief justice at the end of this year and will have six years to serve in that position.

THE Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers long considered the most conservative labor organization in the country have inaugurated a strike that promises to be wide spread in its dimensions. Monday morning 1600 engineers and firemen of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, one of the foremost of the western railway systems, quit their posts and refused to do further work until the difference between the Brotherhood and Company are adjusted.

SENATOR HOAR'S resolution, proposing to change the date of adjournment of Congress and the date of the inauguration of President from March 4 to April 30 was defeated in the House last week. It had one majority in the vote, but a motion to adopt required a two-thirds since it proposed to amend the constitution. This ends for this session the attempt to get the day of meeting, or the day of adjournment for Congress, or the day for inauguration changed.

THE interview with Mr. Blaine by a New York *World* correspondent, an abstract of which is published in our news columns, should satisfy the most doubting that Mr. Blaine was in earnest when he said that he was not a candidate for the presidential nomination and that his name will under no circumstances be presented to the National Convention. He withdraws from the fight for personal reasons and in favor of no other candidate. Mr. Blaine thinks that the Republican party has every reason to feel sanguine of winning this fall, as the fight will be made largely on the tariff issue.

THE Edgar Thomson Steel Works at Braddock, one of the largest iron industries in the United States have banked their fires for an indefinite period, because the firm insists on a reduction of wages which the men refuse to accept. This is the first rupture that has occurred between the management and workmen at these great works for a number of years and the country had come to look upon the Edgar Thompson Works as distinguished for fairness towards its employees. It looks as though there is to be no amicable adjustment of the difficulties as 2500 of the laborers were discharged Tuesday morning.

THE Democratic committee on Territories in the House, propose to admit Dakota into the Union, providing Washington, Montana and New Mexico, three supposed Democratic sections can be admitted at the same time. Statistics show how unjust this is. A territory is never entitled to admission until her population equals the quota of a member of Congress—now 153,000. Dakota has an area of 150,932 square miles, and a population which probably exceeds 606,000 people. If admitted as a whole it would be entitled to two Senators and four Representatives. But it is doubtful if any one of the other three territories named has a population large enough to entitle it to one representative even. New Mexico has 122,460 square miles and possibly 140,000 people; Montana has 145,310 square miles and probably 125,000 people; and Washington has 26,880 square miles and an estimated population of 135,000. It is evident, therefore, that Dakota has a population exceeding that of the other three Territories combined, while none of the three supposed Democratic Territories are entitled to admission.

IN the almanac of the New York *World* of 1888 is published a new census of the country's population. The Governor or some State officer of each State and territory was asked to make an estimate of the number of people within their own special limits. The total of these calculations, with the exception of the Indian Territory, from which no return is given, aggregates 62,874,274 as compared with 50,155,783 given in the national census of 1880. This shows an increase in eight years of 12,728,479, and if approximately accurate and the same percentage of increase continues during the next two years, the population of the country will probably reach 66,000,000 in 1890. One of the most significant statements in this computation is the large increase claimed in the population of Pennsylvania. The 1880 census gave this State 4,282,891 people and the calculation places its present population at 5,047,527, showing an increase of 764,636. The population of New York State is placed at 5,700,960, or an increase of 627,098; so, on the basis of this computation the population of Pennsylvania has increased 164,638 over that of New York since 1880.

Every State is believed to contain a larger number of people now than it did eight years ago, but the most marked gains are in Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York North Carolina, Georgia and Texas, and the territory of Dakota. Kansas is supposed to have added over 600,000 to its population, Minnesota 700,000, Missouri nearly 1,000,000, Nebraska, 500,000; North Carolina, 600,000; Georgia, 600,000, and Texas, 1,400,000.

AMONG the many bright and practical things that crystallized in the matchless speech of Chauncey M. Depew, before the Union Club in Chicago, on Wednesday last, which challenge the attention of all thoughtful minds is his reference to the defective teachings of many, if not most, of our schools. The effete systems of government in European countries seem to form the basis of much of the instruction of our youth, to the inexcusable overlooking of theories upon which the prosperity of our country depends.

"Teach, first and last," says Mr. Depew, "Americanism; teach it in the schools, and the children will go home and educate their parents." Unfortunately the text books on political economy seen in our Yale and Harvard schools are so strongly tinctured with the fallacies of the free-trade ideas of England that many of the Professors in such schools are totally ignorant of the principles of protection.

We, therefore, commend to the attention of the general reader the following paragraph from the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, in reference to Mr. Depew's excellent and brilliant address:

"It is time that this were reformed, and not indifferently but altogether. It should be taught in the schools that within less than a century the United States has risen from the poorest to the wealthiest condition among civilized nations; that this great increase of wealth has been accompanied by such an equitable distribution as no other country has witnessed; that the condition of the wage earner has improved in at least equal ratio with the condition of him who pays wages. That while the number of house owners and small farm owners has continually increased, there is but one instance of the conservation of great wealth to the fourth generation in all this United States. From the knowledge of these great truths will grow a wise determination to so preserve and enlarge the application of the "American system" as to insure that majority which is to be satisfied alike from subjection to competition with the ill-paid labor of foreign nations and from the insidious encroachments of domestic trusts and monopolies. "Teach, first and last, Americanism."

WHILE we don't endorse all of the following editorial from Sunday's Philadelphia *Times* there is still a great deal of solid truth in it which, coming from the source it does—from a life long antagonist of the senior Pennsylvania Senator—entitles it to consideration.

"When Blaine withdrew his name from the list of Presidential candidates, his power over the nomination was ended. In Maine and possibly a few other states, he could dictate the choice of the delegations; but in Pennsylvania, where he is strongest outside of Maine, and in most other states, he will not be specially consulted as to the proper candidate.

Had Blaine continued a candidate, he would not have received a thoroughly cordial support from Pennsylvania; in any contest for the prize, there would have been Pennsylvania votes against him; and now, with Blaine eliminated from the struggle, his power will be little felt in shaping the action of the delegates There may be a few who will want instructions from Blaine, but the large majority will act as if Blaine had never been a factor in Republican politics.

The withdrawal of Mr. Childs closely followed by the withdrawal of General Sheridan, presents a new and sudden aspect of the Presidential question in Pennsylvania. Had Sheridan been a candidate, Cameron and Quay would have been quite satisfied with him, as he is practically one of the "Old Guard" that had its Thermopylæ at Chicago in 1880; but with the field clear of outside complications, there is now an unmistakable drift of Republican sentiment toward Senator Cameron. He has not formally, or in any way, entered the race, but it now seems reasonably certain that the overwhelming sentiment of the April Convention will be favorable to his nomination.

Discounted by all the drawbacks which could be presented as obstacles to Cameron's candidacy, he remains undoubtedly the strongest Republican now named, in the exact localities where his party has most need of strength. If any man can carry New York against Cleveland, Cameron can do it, and he most distinctly represents the issue that gives the Republicans the only hope of success in New Jersey and Connecticut. He would weaken Cleveland in his strongest strongholds by commanding the positive trust of the financial and business interests of this country; he would give the highest measure of vitality to the active party elements, and he would, like Tilden, be General-in-Chief of his own campaign. There would be no Burchard tomfoolery; no Jay Gould dinners; no State lost for want of what would do just the most good at the right time; and if elected, there would be no mistaking who and what had won the victory. If the Republicans of Pennsylvania would make their best fight for 1888, they will give Senator Cameron a solid delegation to Chicago.

PRESS COMMENT.

Philadelphia *Press*: General Phil Sheridan is on the retreat for the first time in his career.

Milwaukee *Evening Wisconsin*: The Democratic party is now just as much afraid of Phil Sheridan as it was in 1863-4-5.

New York *Tribune*: Little Phil Sheridan won't run. But he is good at making other people run. Ask General Jubal Early.

New York *Press*: Senator Don Cameron has a deal of the hard headed American good sense which makes a President successful.

New York *Press*: St. Louis will be a notable city this summer. The anti-administration Democrats mean to kill off the Battle Flag Blunderer on the scene of his humiliation.

New York *Mail and Express*: It is pleasant to note that so far the discussion of Republican Presidential candidates has been entirely free from heat, rancor or ill-will. The more there is of this sort of discussion the better for the party.

Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette*: There is no man in the United States better equipped for the Presidency than John Sherman. This proposition will not be questioned even by those who favor other candidates.

New York *Herald*: Just keep your eye on Judge Gresham, if you please. His Presidential boom is not as clamorous as Sherman's, but it has started for Chicago and will reach that city in time for the Republican convention.

Milwaukee *Sentinel*: The Republican party in convention has no right to ignore the situation in the South. The negro is not to be the ward of the Republican party for his own good. It would be well if the negroes in the South should join the Democratic party. It is not to secure the negro vote but to protest against the inequality of representation that the Republican party should hammer away at this living issue.

He Killed Nine People.

COLEMAN, Tex., Feb. 25.—*John* McCelvy was shot and killed at this place last night by Sheriff Holcomb and a posse from Houston county. He was riddled with bullets. It is said that McCelvy was in jail at Crockett and escaped, after killing a woman and a man on Friday night and another man on Sunday, and that he was on the way to Corrington to kill a man named B. B. Parsons, a constable of this place, who arrested him some time ago for some cause not known. His last words were: "I've killed nine persons and want to kill three or four more of the d—d scoundrel's.

Mr. Darr Begins His Contest.

UNIONTOWN, Pa. Feb. 23.—Michael Darr to-day began proceedings in court to obtain the office of Burgess of Connellsville, to which he claims to have been elected on Tuesday. There is no dispute that he received a majority of the votes cast, but several ballots were thrown out on a technicality.

Talks on the Tariff.

Chauncey M. Depew ought to be a good judge of on investment, and he said in Chicago Wednesday night that the tariff had been a good investment for the people of the United States.

"The genius of our scheme of general government and spirit of our people are hostile to direct taxation for national affairs. The federal tax gatherer has always provoked friction and lawlessness, even under the necessities of war, and his presence at every door to levy and take three times the amount required by the State for home and local wants would peril both prosperity and loyalty. Two hundred and fifty millions of dollars flow into the National Treasury annually, and under the custom system of collection we are unconscious of our burdens. It is only the necessities of war which justify internal revenue taxes, and only a concession of the moral sentiment of the country which permits the continuance of any part of them. No revenue laws are perfect or permanent, but in modifying them to meet the changing conditions of the country, the principle of ample protection for everything which cannot be successfully produced or manufactured on American soil must be maintained.

"The factory doubles the value of the adjoining farms for the farmers, whose tariff exactions are too small to be calculated. Beside the mill grows the village, and the resistless energies of American development burst the village bounds and build the Western city. To this new mart the railroad is constructed almost with the speed of its moving trains, and the cheap and quick communication between country and city furnishes new solvents for the safety in the prosperity of the country. Protected opportunity has developed our incalculable natural resources and enabled us to manufacture in iron, glass, cotton and wool as well any nation in the world, and more cheaply, save only in wages. If the duty on importations is the bounty to labor which lifts it above the degrading and dangerous conditions of Europe, and enables our artisans to retain their self respect and independence, it is the republic's best investment.

"Celebrating here to-day the one hundred and fifty-sixth anniversary of Washington's birth, and recalling the influence of his victories in war, his counsels in convention, his acts as President of the republic, and his matchless character, the visible results of the policy inaugrated by the first exercise of his executive approval are the most marvelous. The purely agricultural States which formed his confederacy have become the foremost region of the world in the variety the usefulness and the volume of its manufactures and the fertility of its inventive genius. Paying its labor fifty per cent. more than the rest of the world, it produces the food, the clothing and the household effects which the laborer uses cheaper than the older nations; and the surplus of wages flowing into the savings banks are finally invested in homes, and in the multitude of homesteads is the greatest safety of society and the state.

"The United States is the granary, the workshop, the political hope of the world. It can largely feed and in the interchanges of trade supply many other material wants of the peoples who are inspired by its successful liberty to strive for better government and nobler lives. Its vast network of railways, its lakes, rivers and canals carry a commerce of incalculable value, and its surplus above our home consumption is to be the growing element of our national wealth."

Endicott on the Battle Flags.

Secretary Endicott has made an unsatisfactory report regarding the celebrated battle flag order, which will make a lively fight in the House in a day or two. He gives his reasons for hiding the flags in a garret in the War Department, by assuming that the law required only foreign captured battle flags to be kept where the public can see them. He gives a brief statement about the flags in possession of the department by saying that of the whole number captured and deposited with the department, 236 were United States flags, originally captured by Confederates and recaptured from them, and 544 were Confederate flags taken by the United States troops, making a total of 780.

When received they were deposited in a vacant attic room of a building on Seventeenth street occupied by the clerks of the Adjutant General's office. In 1876 the superintendent of the buildings without instructions, as far as can be ascertained, had them removed to his office, where a few were placed upon the walls and the remainder upon shelves or in pigeon holes. At this time an inventory of these flags was entered in a book in which was also entered a description and brief history of the capture of those that could be identified as belonging to particular organizations.

They remained there until the latter part of 1874. The secretary then goes on to say that while some of the Confederate flags have since been given to the companies or regiments capturing them, no flags have passed out of the custody of the department that were in such custody when he assumed charge of the department. The order to return them and the order revoking it are given and the statement is made that no flags were actually returned under the first order.

Corcoran Breathes His Last.

WASHINGTON, Feb 24.—W. W. Corcoran died this morning at 6.30 o'clock. His end was expected, and in fact he had outlived the expectations of his physicians and friends by several days. Since his recent sudden decline the paralysis had extended to his throat, and that occasioned him so much trouble that recovery was not expected.

His death was painless. Dr. Garnett, his physician and friend, who was prominent formerly as the physician to Jeff Davis, was with him at the last. His nearest relatives, his niece, Miss Jones, five nephews the Messrs. Eustis and his granddaughter, Miss Eustis, were also present. Mr. Corcoran's fortune, in spite of the immense donations during his lifetime, was still very large. Great sorrow is universally expressed in this city.

William Wilson Corcoran had a notional reputation in two respects: one for his wealth, and another for the wise, elevating and benevolent use he made of it. He was born on Dec. 27, 1798. He received a good education, and at the age of 19 went into the dry goods business.

In 1835 he married Miss Louisa Morris, daughter of Commodore Morris, U. S. N. In 1842 he went into the banking business, in which he made most of his money. Presently he got to be so wealthy that he hardly knew what to do with it, so he looked around for worthy charities upon which to bestow it.

One of his greatests delights was in paintings. In the city of his home is one of the best galleries in the country filled with rare pictures and sculptures, and free to the public, called the "Corcoran gallery."

In 1884 he and George Peabody, who had been playmates as boys, went to Italy together and spent much time in the galleries of Rome and Florence.

Mr. Corcoran remained a widower after 1840. He was then described as slightly above the average height, of regular features, his ample gray hair and mustache cut and trimmed with care, but suitable to his age.

The retired banker spent his days of repose from business in a magnificent home just across the park near the white house. Fortunately, though childless, his home was cheered by the presence of three grandchildren.

He had given away between $8,000,000 and $4,000,000, and had many more millions left.

Cleveland in the Land of Flowers.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA., Feb. 23.—The President and his party visited the Sub-Tropical Exposition this morning, and were delighted and astonished by the grand display. After three hours they left at 11:50 on the special train for this city, where they were the guests of H. M. Glagler. They were received here by a committee of citizens, several military organizations, the school children, the firemen, etc., and escorted through the brilliantly decorated streets to the Hotel Ponce de Leon.

BLAINE IS SURELY OUT.

He Again Declares That He Is Not a Candidate.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The New York *World* of Sundy contained a three column interview with Mr. Blaine, which had been cabled from Florence by Mr. T. C. Crawford, for some time the *World's* correspondent in Washington and Now in Europe. Mr. Blaine, in the course of a long conversation, distinctly asserted that under no circumstances whatever would he allowed his name to be used in connection with the next Presidential nomination. He insists on the sincerity of his withdrawal and asserts that he had made up his mind thereto long ago. He considers, first, thas any man whose name has been associated with a defeat in a Presidential campaign owes it to his party not to allow himself to be renominated; and secondly, he is unequal to facing the fatigues worry and excitement of another canvass, all the more as he would feel himself bound to work as hard as on previous occasions. Mrs. Blaine and the other members of his family are most emphatic in their approval of his withdrawal, which is definitive and neither hasty nor recent in its decision. Mr. Blaine will not return from Europe until June and not until after the Republican Convention.

He declines to express himself on the subject of the Republican candidates now in the field, but asserts that he did not retire in favor of any particular one of them. He is convinced of a Republican victory, basing his conviction in particular on the tariff question.

When Mr. Blaine was asked the direct question whether he would, under any circumstances, permit his name to be used again as a candidate, he replied in the most emphatic negative, but then added: "I do not wish to make any new affirmations upon the subject. I have said all that I wish to say upon this subject in the letter. That letter, as you must know, was not a haphazard, off-hand affair. It was the result of much deliberation and careful thought. You will remember that I told you in Paris last December that I had no intention of being a candidate again and that I had practically made up my mind at that time to forbid the use of my name in the approaching convention."

"I hold," he said later in the conversation, "the I have no right to be a candidate again. A man who has once been the candidate of his party and defeated, owes it to his party to withdraw and not be a candidate a second time. More than this, these is another plain reason for my withdrawing. I could not go through the burden and fatigue of another Presidential canvass—such a one as the canvass of the last campaign. To accept a nomination, and to do less than before, would be impossible."

Mr. Crawford thus concludes his dispatch:

"Towards the close of my last call I asked Mr. Blaine when he expected to return to America. He said that he expected reach New York about the last of June. He expects to spend the late Spring in London. He has not yet determined upon movements. After leaving Florence he will probably go straight to England farm Italy. He said with an air of frankness not to be mistaken:

"You have no idea what a relief it is to me to think that I am now out of the canvass and that when I go back to New York in the summer that I shall not be going back there to face receptions and to enter into the turmoil and excitement of a political canvass. I can now come back quietly, after the convention has once decided the result, and enjoy my own life in my own way, free, I hope, from further criticism or comment."

Stole to Get Food.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Henry Hoffman refused last fall to join a strike in the furniture factory where he was employed. He got into a quarrel with Herrmann Weininger and others about it, and killed Weininger. Hoffman was tried and was acquitted on the ground of self-defense. Mrs. Emma Hoffman, his wife, was arraigned before Judge Martine in the General Sessions, to-day, charged with grand larceny. Delia Mahon, of 157 Mott street, left Mrs. Hoffman in charge of her rooms on February 2, and when she returned Mrs. Hoffman had gone, and dresses and other clothing valued at $30 were missing.

Mr. Hoffman was very poorly dressed and her face was pale and pinched. She is a little, careworn woman. Tears streamed down her cheeks when her lawyer said she confessed her guilt. Since her husband's trial, the counsel said, he found that all trades union workmen were against him, and though he he had tried to get work he met opposition at every turn, because union men refused to work in the same shop with him. Mrs. Hoffman, the lawyer said, was actually starving when she took Mrs. Mahon's dresses and pawned them to get food. Mrs. Hoffman will be sentenced tomorrow.

Indians Starving.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 23.—An Edmonton correspondent gives the facts in regard to the reports of the starving condition of Indians in the Far North. He says the failure of the crops and the scarcity of game has left the Indians solely dependent on the Indian Department for food. The Government supplies have failed to come, and the consequence is most deplorable. All the stock of fish they had frozen in the early part of the winter was spoiled by mild weather in January. The chiefs of White Fish Lake and other tribes became demonstrative and threatened the Government officials with rebellion unless food was given them. The agent at Saddle Lake came down to Edmonton and refused to return without food, being afraid for his life. The correspondent accused the Indian Department of criminal negligence, and says if the Indians are not looked after the consequence may be disastrous.

An Eloping Couple's Fate.

Charles Wingard, aged twenty-four, and Miss Anna Fox, his niece, aged about sixteen years, who were arrested at Alliance, Ohio, for eloping from Monroe, Mich., committed suicide.- Sheriff Eaton, of Monroe, Mich., identified the prisoners. Chief of Police Stacey and Sheriff Eaton had a conversation with the prisoners and requested them to go back to Michigan without a requisition. They asked for a short time in private to decide on what they should do, and the officers let them alone for a few minutes.

On returning to the prison they were horrified to find Anna dead and Wingard in a dying condition. There was a bullet hole in the forehead of the girl and one through the top of Wingard's head, made by a 32-calibre revolver. A note was found stating that they had decided to kill themselves rather than go back to Monroe, and that they had taken their own lives.

Dynamite Deals Death.

DULUTH, MINN., Feb. 22.—In a cut which is being blasted through the rock on Fourth street a dynamite explosion occurred this morning. Several charges, which are supposed to have been fired on Saturday, remained unexplored, and when the men began to drill the rock to-day these charges went off. The rock was torn away to the depth of 12 feet and flung in all directions as if from a catapult. The 30 workmen in the cut were thrown violently against the rough wall opposite or struck by the flying rocks and nine of them were injured terribly.

Andrew Dohl is already dead and three others will die. The other injured men are Jacob Nels, Charles Matson, Aaron Erickson, Fred Ecklund, Andrew Ecklund, Eric Matson, A. Ordling and L. Anderson.

Wild Panic at a Church Social.

ALTOONA, Pa., Feb. 24.—A gas tank used at a stereopticon entertainment in the Second Presbyterian Church exploded this evening with a report like a cannon and the audience at once became panic stricken, rushing for the doors and windows. The excitement was intense when the cry of fire was raised, but cool heads succeed in restoring order. No one was seriously injured.

The Democratic National Convention to Meet at St. Louis.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The National Democratic Committee met this morning at 10 o'clock, in secret session, to continue the balloting for the selection of the city in which the Democratic Convention shall be held.

Mr. Scott moved that the pending business be suspended, so that the motion might be made to reconsider the vote by which the 3d of July was decided upon as the date for holding the Convention. This was lost by a vote of 23 to 24, but another effort to change the date will be made.

The first ballot resulted: San Francisco, 17; Chicago, 17; St. Louis, 13; and New York, 1.

After the first ballot there was a recess of ten minutes. Another ballot was then taken, but before the result was announced Mr. Walsh, of Georgia, rose in his place and stated that he had thus far voted constantly for San Francisco, but as he was satisfied that that city would not be selected he would change his vote to St. Louis. Other changes followed, and St. Louis was chosen and the choice was made unanimous.

Mr. Scott, of Pennsylvania, moved a reconsideration of the resolution naming July 3d as the date for the Convention. This was agreed to, and on motion of ex-Senator McDonald, June 5th was fixed upon as the date.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM MAYOR FRANCIS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Mayor Francis, of St. Louis, has sent the following telegram to President Cleveland:

"Congratulations to you and the Democratic party on the time and location of Convention at St. Louis. It means the fight will be made squarely on the principles so clearly, forcibly, and courageously enunciated in your message.

[signed] D. R. FRANCIS.

Local Option Legislation in New Jersey.

New Jersey applejack is not going out of use just yet, but if the New Jersey Senate prove of the same way of thinking as the Assembly, some of that seductive fluid will have to be exported to find consumers.

The Assembly passed finally on Tuesday by a vote of 34 to 26 a combination high license and local option bill that will, if it become a law, shut up the license mills entirely in some counties and make the saloon-keepers in other s pay roundly for the privilege of dispensing New Jersey's favorite drink. The bill is a caucus measure, and the Republicans, who control both branches of the New Jersey Legislature, have undertaken to make it a law or throw up the Democratic Governor the responsibility for its defeat. Five Republicans in the Assembly bolted the caucus and voted for it, giving it a good margin of majority.

Wild threats are made that the passage of the bill will injure the Republican party of the state, but as the Republican party never carries New Jersey this threat has little terror in it. The bill is a sensible one and its passage is likely to strengthen the party by bringing back to its ranks more prohibition voters than it will lose by the saloon defection in a few of the cities.

The bill passed the Senate on Thursday by a vote of 12 to 6.

An Enterprising Lawyer.

CHATTANOOGA, Feb. 23.—Almost every day brings new revelations in the case of O. P. Adams, the attorney wanted for horse stealing and who left the city the first of the week a few hours ahead of an officer. Adams came here six or seven month ago and began the practice of law in a way that brought upon him the contempt of the attorneys at the bar. He never got outside the justice courts. Owing to the peculiarities of Tennessee law it was easy to stir up agitation among certain classes, and Adams put in his time doing this. As soon as he got the parties in court he proposed a compromise and secured a fee from each side.

On Monday he was recognized by Sye Williams as a much wanted horse thief from Florida. Adams got wind of what was coming and fled. Since then investigation proves that the fellow has stolen horses from the gulf to the Ohio, and was here as the head of an extensive gang operating now in Southern Tennessee and Northern Alabama. From this city he could direct their movements in security. It is thought a number of horses which have recently disappeared in this vicinity were stolen by him or his pals. A heavy reward will be offered for his arrest.

Settled With Shotguns.

TOLEDO, Feb. 24.—Will Lindley and John Tibbett, well-known farmers, living three and a half miles north of Oak Harbor, fought a duel with shotguns, the contest resulting in the death of Lindley. The two men were brothers-in-law, Lindley was married to a sister of John Tibbett. Their married life was unhappy, and Mrs. Lindler left her husband and returned to the home of her mother.

Lindley pursued his wife, and when she refused to return home he swore to kill the whole family. He secured a shotgun, and, skulking behind fences and trees, tried to carry out his threat. The Tibbett family barricaded the residence and prepared for the siege. Shot after shot was exchanged by the relatives without any effect, and Lindley dared Tibbett to come out and fight him.

Tibbett, although a mere boy of 19, accepted the challenge, and at the first exchange of shots Lindley received the charge full in the face, and his head was blown from his shoulders. Lindley is only about 23 years of age and his wife was scarce 18. He came from Michigan several years ago, while the Tibbett family have resided in Northwestern Ohio for years. Popular sympathy is with Tibbett, and no arrests have been made.

Four New States.

WASHINGTON, February 23.—By a strict party vote the House committee on Territories to-day agreed to report favorably Chairman Springer's "omnibus" bill to enable the people of Dakota, Montana, Washington Territory and New Mexico to form Constitutions and State governments and to be admitted to the Union on equal footing with the original States. The Constitutions of the new States are to be submitted to a vote of the people on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November next and if a majority are in favor of it the results shall be certified to the President of the United States of America.

Until the next general census the new States, with the exception of Dakota, are to be allowed one Representative each in the House of Representatives. Dakota is to be allowed two Representatives. After the acceptance of the Constitutions the Legislatures are to meet and elect two Senators from each State, and when each State is admitted into the Union by special act of Congress the Senators and Representatives are to be admitted to the seats in Congress and the State Governments become operative. The Republican members of the committee will file a minority report.

Forced to Starve to Death.

READING, Pa., Feb. 22.—Jacob Hollenberger, aged 20 years, died here to-day from starvation. Some weeks ago, while he was working at a foundry in Philadelphia, a quantity of molten iron flew down his throat and cooled there, obstructing the passage. Since then he has not eaten a morsel of food which was retained and the doctors failed to remove the obstruction. He weighed 165 pounds at the time of the accident but was gradually reduced to 47 pounds. He suffered intensely and welcomed death. Hollenberger came to America four years ago. His mother resides in Englebach Germany.

Important Election Decision.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 24.—Owing to the fact that six tickets in the Eighth ward were voted in the wrong precinct, there was a tie vote between a Republican and Democratic candidate for Common Council, but the court to-day decided that these tickets must be counted. This elects the Republican, making Common Council stand 15 Democrats and 13 Republicans.

A Family Runs a Mint.

IRONTON, O., Feb. 25.—United States Deputy Marshal Van Horn made an arrest of a counterfeiter at South Point, this county, this morning. For sometime considerable base coin has been circulated in the villages of Sheridan and South Point, a few miles above here. The counterfeits were cleverly executed and were mostly nickles and dollars. The party arrested, Fawson McKee, is a farmer; on his premises was found counterfeit coin, base metal, dies and correspondence with New York die-makers. McKee has a wife and eight children and circulated the base coin all over the county through the aid of his large family. Other arrests will be made, as it is believed that he is the leader of a regularly organized gang of counterfeiters.

A Big Iron Failure.

Graff, Bennett & Co., iron manufacturers, of Pittsburg, filed a deed of assignment to P. H. Miller, of Pittsburg, on Tuesday. The failure was a great surprise to the business community, as nothing of the kind was looked for. In 1883 the firm failed for about $1,2000,000 and were granted an extension. Since then they have paid about two-thirds of their indebtedness and were supposed to be doing well. The cause of the failure was the investment of all their profits in the extension of their plant. No statement has yet been made, but it is understood that the secured liabilities from $600,000 to $800,000. The latter consists of notes for ore and other materials. Among the liabilities is a mortgage for $450,000, held by the New York Life Insurance Company, which is not yet due.

A Train Robbed.

TUCSON, ARIZONA, Feb. 23.—The westbound train on the Southern Pacific railroad was boarded by two masked men at Steins Pass Station about 8.30 o'clock last evening. After the train had started the men crawled over the water tank, covered the engineer and fireman with rifles, and when a mile and a half from the station the engineer was compelled to stop the train. One of the robbers uncoupled the mail and express car with the engine from the other part of the train. The engineer was compelled to move on a mile and a half further, when the robbers again ordered him to stop and then forced the Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express messengers to open the car, which they rifled of valuables, but without disturbing the mails.

A Runway Couple Arrested.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 23.—A couple giving the names of W. C. Brown and Mrs. May Bennett were arrested here to-night as suspected diamond thieves. They had in their possession about $1,000 worth of diamonds and could give no satisfactory account of themselves. Brown had a small pocket on the palm of his glove, in which to secrete a ring or other piece of jewelery. Mrs. Bennett said she gave her true name, her home was in Cleveland, O. Brown had induced her to run away from her husband.

Acquitted of Libel.

LANCASTER, Pa., February 23.—Warfel & Geist, publishers of the *New Era*, who have been on trial in the quarter sessions court for the past two days on the charge of libel preferred by Alfred H. Ball, were acquitted this evening. The accused were made to pay two-thirds and prosecutor one-third of the costs. The *Era* sometime ago published a statement that Ball had neglected his wife and children and left them destitute. The defense was that everything the newspaper published was true. Ball has brought a civil action for damages against the paper.

Additional Local.

Washington Letter.

From our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Feb. 27, 1888.

I am well aware that pension literature is not very spicy reading to the general public, but knowing that the hundreds of old soldiers in Somerset county are deeply interested in such matters, I will give a resume of the most important pension legislation now before Congress.

First comes the G. A. R. bill introduced by Senator Manderson, granting pensions to ex-soldiers and sailors who are incapacitated for the performance of manual labor, and providing for pensions to dependent relatives of deceased soldiers and sailors. This is the measure known as the "Dependent Pension bill" which passed the last Congress, and was vetoed by the President. It has been favorably reported to the Senate, is now the unfinished business before that body, and is certain to pass before long. It will also pass the House, without much doubt. There is also very little doubt that Cleveland will sign the bill, as it is devoid of some of the objectionable features of the act which passed the 49th Congress.

Then comes the bill introduced by Senator Ingalls to remove the limitation in the payment of the arrears of pensions. The act of March 3, 1879, so amended the "Arrears Act" of January 25, 1879, as to require all applications for arrears to be filed prior to July 1, 1880. The purpose of Senator Ingalls' bill is to remove this limitation, and permit the filing of applications for arrears at any time. Its effect, also, is to entitle all pensioners to pensions from date of discharge or from date of disability, if said disability occurred subsequent to discharge. My belief is that this bill will not pass.

Next comes Senator Cameron's bill to grant a service pension to every officer or enlisted man who served in the army, navy or marine corps between March 4, 1861, and July 1, 1866, at the rate per month of one cent for each day's service. The ubiquitous statistician has come forward with a table showing how many hundreds of millions of dollars would be required to pay the pensions under this measure. I am of the opinion, based upon careful inquiry, that the bill will not pass.

Following the above comes Senator Quay's bill granting to ex-prisoners of war a one-half pension for imprisonment of two months and less than six; a three-fourths pension for imprisonment of six months and less than twelve; and a total pension for imprisonment of twelve months or more. The bill provides, furthermore, that all surviving prisoners of war shall receive two dollars for each and every day's confinement. Having conversed with several members of the Senate Pensions Committee, I am of the opinion that this bill will be favorably reported to the Senate before long, although action may be delayed until Col. Quay's return from Florida. The prospects for the final passage of the bill are excellent.

Another very important measure is one introduced in the House by Congressman McDonald, of Minnesota, to prescribe and define the evidence in the case of certain Union soldiers, and widows and orphans of the same. This bill is a lengthy one, and it is impossible to give even a synopsis of it in the brief space at my disposal. It is sufficient to say, however, that the bill is an exceedingly important one, and it ought to pass. If it does, hundreds of pension claims which have been rejected upon technical grounds will be favorably acted upon by the Bureau of Pensions. As the bill has not been considered yet, it is impossible to say whether or not it will pass.

And still another important bill, also introduced by the junior Pennsylvania Senator, is the one known as the "Maimed Soldiers' League bill," to increase the pensions of those who have lost eyes, limbs, or the use of them, are totally helpless, or deaf, and for other purposes. With some amendments, which will be made in Committee, it is more than probable that this bill will become a law.

Of course there are dozens of other general pension bills before the two Houses, but I have enumerated above those which occur to me as of the greatest importance. I trust your readers will not haul me over the coals for giving so much space to the soldiers. In 1861-'65 we were all quite willing to give them plenty of room.

The House of Representatives having passed the bills for public buildings at Allentown and Lancaster, there promises to be a regular scramble among other Pennsylvania cities which are asking for similar favors. Among these are Altoona, Chester, Allegheny, Wilkesbarre and York. Some of them are certainly doomed to disappointment.

Mr. Scull has recently presented a memorial of the authorities of Tyrone, Pa., relating to public buildings; also, memorials of Fork, Cambria and Good Will Councils of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, praying that Washington's birthday may be made a legal holiday; and a petition from citizens of the Seventeenth district, praying for the passage of a law prohibiting the manufacture, sale and importation of all alcoholic beverages in the District of Columbia. He has also recently introduced a bill granting a pension to John McDonnell, and one for the relief of James Bookhammer. He has also reported a number of bills from the Committee on Pensions, of which he is the only member from Pennsylvania.

There are two very important bills now before Congress, which have in view changes in the postal laws, so far as second-class matter is concerned. Under existing laws novels of the "Seaside Library" sort, which purport to be issued weekly, are looked upon as periodicals, and are mailable as second-class matter; whereas all other books, including Bibles, educational works, etc., are mailable as third-class matter, and therefore at much higher rates than are charged for weekly periodicals. One of the bills to which I refer, which has passed the House and is now before the Senate Committee on Post-offices and Post Roads, puts such novels as I have indicated in the third class, with all other books. It certainly seems unjust that to send a Bible through the mails should cost a good deal more than to send "Badger Bill, or the Bloody Boys of the Border," or some such work.

The other bill I speak of is one putting monthlies, etc., in the same category with weeklies, at one cent per pound, instead of one cent each for monthly and semi-monthly newspapers, the same for other periodicals weighing less than two ounces, and two cents for periodicals weighing over two ounces. This latter bill has been negatively reported by the House Committee, but there is still no reasonable chance of its passage.

Congressman Scull left here on Saturday last to spend a few days at his home in Somerset, this being his first absence from the capital since the holiday recess.

Randall was not one of the "big injuns" at the meeting of the Democratic National Committee last week. Nevertheless, in October next, when it is ascertained that Scott's bar'l is not going to carry New York for Cleveland it will be Randall who will be sent for, as he was in 1884, to keep the Empire State from casting her vote against her own candidate.

The Pennsylvania Grangers are writing to our Senators and Representatives relative to the reduction of postage on seeds, bulbs, etc., to the re-issue of fractional currency, and to the abolition of the postal note.

I have run across a new idea in honeymoons. A few days ago the daughter of Prof. Simon Newcomb, of the Naval Department, was married. Did the bridal couple go off on a tour? Not a bit of it; but the lady's parents, and brothers and sisters did, while she and the groom took possession of the parental domicile, and settled down at once to enjoy wedded life.

For the first time since Congress opened, the Senate last week held a session on Friday.

On the 22d, being the anniversary of the father of his country, I saw only two buildings in this City of Washington which had flags out.

MARRIED.

WALKER—CARVER.—On January 15 1888, at the Lutheran parsonage in Somerset, by Rev. J. F. Shearer, Mr. Irwin G. Walker and Miss Cynthia N. Carver, both of Somerset County.

KEEFER—TRENT.—At the residence of the bride's parents, in Somerset, on Thursday, February 23, 1888, by Rev. H. King, Mr. Wm. E. Keefer and Miss Nora Trent, the former of Stonycreek and the latter of Somerset.

BERKEY—OTT.—At the residence of