The Somerset Herald.

EDWARD SCULL, Editor and Proprietor.

WEDNESDAY.....September 14, 1898.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

GOVERNOR,
WILLIAM A. STONE.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,
J. P. S. GOBIN.

SECRETARY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS,
JAMES W. LATTA.

JUDGE OF SUPERIOR COURT,
WILLIAM W. PORTER.
WILLIAM D. PORTER.

CONGRESSMEN-AT-LARGE,
GALUSHA A. GROW, SAM'L DAVENPORT

COUNTY.

CONGRESS,
F. J. KOOSER, of Somerset.
(Subject to decision of District Conference.)

STATE SENATE,
JOHN S. WELLER, of Bedford County.

ASSEMBLY,
WM. H. KOONTZ, Somerset.
S. A. KENDALL, Meyersdale.

ASSOCIATE JUDGE,
A. F. DICKEY, Somerset Township.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
RUFUS E. MEYERS, Somerset.

POOR DIRECTOR,
ADAM S. MILLER, Somerset Township.

PEACE has its battles, no less fierce than those of war.

VERMONT adds two Republican Congressmen to Oregon's two, and Maine has wheeled into line with its usual clean score of four.

THE American dollar is received with full honors in our new possessions. It needs no apology, standing good everywhere for one hundred cents.

THE "fake" organs still carry the name of J. J. Hoblitzell at their masthead as a candidate for State Senator. Force of habit is a wonderful thing!

AFTER numerous fruitless ballots the Congressional Conference, in session at the Capital Hotel, Johnstown, adjourned Friday morning to meet again at the same place on next Tuesday, 20th inst.

GENERAL SHAFTER remarks that with no more than 13,000 men on the fighting line he captured 27,00 prisoners. Nevertheless, Democratic papers pronounce Shafter a failure and his campaign an awful example of neglect and incompetency.

THE most unfortunate royal family of the nineteenth century is undoubtedly that of Austria. The old Emperor has lost his wife by assassination, his son and heir by suicide, and his brother, Maximilian, by execution in Mexico.

A MEETING of the members of the Executive Committee of the Republican State Committee and of the Republican County Chairmen of the State was held at the Hotel Walton, Philadelphia, yesterday. County Chairman H. M. Berkley, of Somerset, was among those present.

LI HUNG CHANG is again bemoaning the loss of his yellow jacket and his peacock feather. He and Aguinaldo, who has lost all chance to blow his old whistle, should drop a sad and silent mutual tear over the tragedies which fate ever brings into human affairs.

THE HERALD is indebted to John P Elkin, Chairman of the Republican State Committee of Pennsylvania, for a copy of the campaign book of 1898 It contains much valuable information and a fine array of statistics in regard to the record and work of the party in the State.

THE friends of United States Senator Quay scored a decided victory at the Republican primary election in Montgomery county on Saturday, nominating every candidate on their ticket. One candidate for State Senator and five candidates for Assembly were nominated, all of whom will support Senator Quay for re-election.

GENERAL WHEELER will have the sympathy of the entire country in the loss of his son by drowning. The Wheeler family in this war—the men in the front ranks and the ladies in the hospitals—has endeared itself to every one for devotion, patriotism and self-sacrificing service, and the death of this noble young man is a sorrow which comes sadly in the hour of success and victory.

THE big crop of wheat, free deliveries in the Northwest, and prospects of larger receipts until the bulk of the spring wheat is sold, have been having a depressing effect on the price, which was already low. At Chicago wheat is now worth very little more than sixty cents, which seems as though it should be near the bottom; on the other hand we remember that only a few years ago it was under fifty.

THE Harrisburg Telegraph says:

"The speech made by Colonel Stone, the Republican candidate for Governor, at the Republican Club convention, is attracting attention everywhere for its straightforward, manly style. By the way, at that same convention Senator Magee sat side by side with Colonel Stone, thus giving the lie to the story that he will not support him for Governor. Senator Magee is too good a Republican to sit and sulk, especially when an Allegheny man is the leading candidate on the ticket. Party pride and home pride are strong within him."

PRESIDENT McKINLEY has been wrongly represented as averse to an investigation of the care of the army in the recent war. As a matter of fact he earnestly desires the whole truth to be ascertained. He not only entertains this wish, but has taken steps to give it the promptest practical shape. He has requested nine prominent citizens, men whose names command the widest respect, and belong to different parties, to serve on a commission to inquire into the operations of the medical, quartermaster and commissary departments during the war, and also into the treatment of the sick soldiers. The proposed commission consists of Gens. Schofield, Dodge, Gordon and Manderson, and Daniel O. Lamont, Robert T. Lincoln, Prof. D. C. Gilman, Col. James A. Sexton and Dr. W. W. Keene. These well-known men can perform a great service to the whole people by accepting the President's invitation. Their report, the country knows, will be decisive and impartial, and if neglect has occurred, will probably fix the responsibility.

AUSTRIAN EMPRESS STABBED AT GENEVA.

Italian Anarchist Named Luccheni, Perpetrator of the Crime.

USED A STILETTO AND REJOICED IN IT.

GENEVA, Switzerland, Sept. 10.—Elizabeth, Empress of Austria, was assassinated at about 2 o'clock this afternoon as she was walking from the hotel Beaurivage, where she had been lunching, to the steamboat dock where she intended to take a small steamer to Castle Chillon at Territet. She was accompanied only by some women of her suite, as she delights to go about incognito.

As the Empress was passing the Brunswick monument a man rushed at her and struck her a violent blow in the chest, which knocked her to the ground. The women of her suite picked her up, and with the aid of some persons near by carried her to the boat, while her assailant ran away. The Empress was unconscious, and the Captain of the steamer did not wish to start, but on the insistence of the women in attendance, who thought her majesty had only been rudely knocked down, he put the steamer under way. After endeavoring for some time to bring the Empress back to consciousness the women in attendance were horrified to discover a little stain of blood on her undergarments. The boat was at once put about and returned to the dock.

The Empress was carried on an improvised litter to the hotel. Doctor Golay and the Mayor were called, and everything possible was done to save her Majesty, but she expired at 3 o'clock without gaining consciousness.

An examination showed that she had been stabbed to the heart with a three-cornered stiletto. After dealing his death blow the assassin ran along the Rue Alps, but was caught by two coachmen, who handed him over to a gendarme. He proved to be an Italian anarchist from Paris, named Luccheni. When arrested he exclaimed: "I have struck well. She must be dead. I purposely came to Geneva to assassinate her."

While Europe rings with the news, and words of vengeance are uttered on all hands, the assassin laughs in a security known to few regicides. There is no capital punishment in the Swiss code.

An eye-witness of the assassination says that as the Italian was taken to the station he said boastingly: "Yes, I did it," and he said several times, as he walked along between his captors, "She must be dead."

Interrogated in the police station, the prisoner said: "Who am I? I am an anarchist, a starving anarchist." "Then you hate mankind," exclaimed the commissary. "No," was the reply, "I have no hatred for the poor, only for the rich." After that he became less loquacious. Taken to court and examined by a magistrate, in the presence of the police and three members of the local government, he remained silent, indicating by dumb show that he knew no French, which was false.

He also told the magistrate that he came to Geneva to assassinate "another important person," but he had been unable to execute the project. The reason of his failure he did not give, but he declared that it was only by accident he had learned of the presence of the Austrian Empress in Geneva.

Only by documents found in his pockets was his name learned. These showed too that he was born in Paris, of Italian parents, in 1873, and had served in the Italian army.

Bryan's Military Glory.

The publication of the list of troops to be mustered out of the service and to be retained until further orders has caused a flood of telegrams of protest, and the arrival in Washington of many officers anxious to secure a change in the orders. At the Adjutant General's office it is stated that the list, as made out, will be closely adhered to, and that appeals will be unavailing. The regiments chosen for retention have been selected with much care and because their services in the near future will, it is felt, be required. One of the regiments which is reported as protesting most bitterly against being retained in the service is the Third Nebraska, commanded by Colonel William Jennings Bryan. His regiment is stationed at Jacksonville as part of the Seventh corps, of which General Fitzhugh Lee is commander, and which, it is generally understood, will form a part of the army of occupation in Cuba. The regiment was raised under the second call, although not demanded by the Government, and in excess of the quota of Nebraska. It was accepted in response to the earnest solicitation of the friends of Mr. Bryan, and as the result of statements of friends of the administration that to refuse it would be considered in some quarters evidence of a lack of generosity on the part of the President toward a former political opponent, anxious to obtain military glory in connection with the war.

In the organization of the regiment the Governor of Nebraska selected as far as possible for officers prominent advocates of Populism in the various counties, and the bulk of the regiment itself was reported to consist of those who had voted for its Colonel in the last Presidential election. Very few of the officers or men had ever handled a musket, even in militia training. The first suggestion was that it should be utilized in garrison frontier posts in Nebraska, taking the place of the regulars who had been sent to Cuba. This was indignantly resented as an insult to Mr. Bryan, and in order that there should be no suggestion of partisanship, as soon as the regiment was mustered in and equipped it was sent to Jacksonville, Florida, and placed under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee's command for discipline and drill. Now that there seems to be a certainty that it and its Colonel will be given an opportunity to go to Cuba, a majority of the regiment and its officers, including Col. W. J. Bryan, are reported as clamoring to be discharged, in order that they may participate in the fall campaign in Nebraska.

The Governor is urging the War Department to muster them out, and Colonel Bryan is threatening to resign, in order to be able to take the stump before the coming election. Colonel Bryan will be allowed to resign, if he so desires, but his regiment will not be mustered out at present. It was forced upon the War Department purely for the sake of affording Mr. Bryan an opportunity to gain some notoriety in connection with the Spanish war. In response to earnest requests it was placed in General Lee's corps, because it was well known that the troops under that command were to be the first of the reserves to see foreign service. Inconvenient as it may be to Colonel Bryan and the men of his command to be away from Nebraska during a political campaign, the War Department is unable to convince itself that it is its duty to change a military programme in order to afford the late candidate of the Democratic party an opportunity to continue his interrupted series of rear platform addresses. A large number of individual applications for muster-out from the regiment have been granted, but the War Department has positively refused to place the regiment on the roll of those organizations which are to be immediately mustered out.

Boys Coming Home.

Every one will want to have a good meal when the soldier boys come home, and the way to have it is to buy your oysters at the White Palace Restaurant, where they always keep the largest, freshest and best oysters the market affords by the stew, raw, fried, pint, quart or gallon, delivered to all parts of town.

J. W. PISEL,
Proprietor.

Basement Cook & Beerits Building. Open till midnight.

MEN CHOSEN TO PROBE SCANDAL.

McKinley Asks Nine of Highest Repute to Act in the Inquiry.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—A feeling of relief and satisfaction will spread over the country when it is learned that a investigation of the war department scandals is actually to be held and that it will be conducted by the nine distinguished men whose names the President announced to-night. The names are as follows: Lieutenant General John M. Scofield, General John B. Gordon, General Greenville M. Dodge, President D. C. Gilman, General Charles F. Manderson, Robert T. Lincoln, Daniel S. Lamont, Dr. W. W. Keen and Colonel James A. Sexton. The message which President McKinley addressed to each of these follows:

"Will you render the country a great service by accepting my appointment as a member of the committee to examine into the conduct of the commissary, quartermaster and medical bureaus of the war department during the war and into the extent, causes and treatment of sickness in the field and in the camps?

"It is my desire that the full and exact truth shall be ascertained and made known. I cannot too strongly impress upon you my earnest wish that this committee shall be of such high character as will command the complete confidence of the country, and I trust you will consent to serve.

"WILLIAM McKINLEY."

It would have been difficult for the President to have selected nine men more favorably known to the American people, and yet equipped perfectly for the work they will be called upon to perform.

Li Hung Chang Dismissed.

Li Hung Chang, the Chinese statesman, has been dismissed from power, presumably in accordance with a demand of the English government.

Li Hung Chang was, among other things, a member of the Chinese foreign office. On August 15 it was reported in London that the British foreign office intended to demand that the Chinese government dismiss him from power, on the ground that he was responsible for the recent anti-British attitude of the Chinese foreign office. It was also asserted at the same time that the British foreign office had under consideration the question of seizing the Taku forts, at the mouth of the Peking river, and the city of Tien-Tsin, the port of Peking, in the event of China refusing to comply with the demand.

This is not the first time Li Hung Chang has been dismissed from power. In November, 1895, he fell into disfavor and was deprived of his yellow jacket and other decorations; or in other words, he was removed from the office of viceroy of the great province of Pe-Chi-Li, though he retained the title of grand secretary. But his disgrace was not of long duration, and he soon afterwards represented China on the coronation of the Czar of Russia, made a tour of Europe and visited this country while on his way back to China.

Li Hung Chang was one of the four great men named by General Grant as having been met by him during his tour of the world. The other three were Lord Beaconsfield, Prince Bismark and Gambetta, the French statesman.

Brick for Schley's Aide.

SAN JUAN de PORTO RICO, Sept. 9.—The American Evacuation Commissioners—Rear Admiral Schley, Major General Brooke and Brigadier General Gordon—at a meeting held yesterday afternoon, decided to notify Captain General Macias that they were present and ready to proceed with business. A communication to this effect was drafted in most courteous terms. It asked where and when the Spanish Commissioners would meet the American. Lieutenant Sears, Rear Admiral Schley's flag lieutenant, delivered the communication to the Captain General, driving to the Palace in a carriage.

At the gate of the Palace, a brick was hurled at him from the sidewalk. Being an old baseball player, he was able, partly, to ward the missile off with his hands, and it fell, striking him on the ankle, but doing only slight injury. This is the first incident of the kind since our arrival here. The Lieutenant did not deem it advisable to lodge a complaint, and the police made no arrest.

Who Ordered Cervera Out?

MADRID, Sept. 11.—In the Chamber of Deputies yesterday Capt. Aunon, Minister of Marine, replying to the attacks of Senor Canalejas, editor of El Heraldo, reminded the deputies that when he became Minister of Marine the Spanish squadron under Admiral Cervera was already at Santiago de Cuba. Therefore, he declared, he could not be held responsible for the acts charged by Senor Canalejas.

Moreover, he asserted that the admiral's met in council and expressed a unanimous opinion that the squadron should go to Cuba.

"Admiral Cervera not having coal or food, was unable," said Captain Aunon, "to leave the blockaded port of Santiago. He wanted to blow up his ships in the harbor, but I informed him that it would be preferable to leave the port and engage the enemy. Gen. Blanco ordered Admiral Cervera to leave Santiago and fixed the day of his departure."

Republican Victory in Maine.

The following dispatch from State Chairman Joseph H. Manley was published in the Philadelphia Press yesterday:

AUGUSTA, Sept. 12.—The election in Maine passed off very quietly, a small total vote being cast, the smallest for 55 years.

But the citizens of Maine have sustained the National and State Administrations with the largest majority given in the past 25 years, with two exceptions, 1894 and 1896.

People should remember that for the first time in the history of the Republican party not a single document has been issued or a single speech made, excepting those delivered by the Democratic candidates for Governor and for Congress in the First District.

We have carried every county in the State, elected every State Senator, and the Democrats will not elect over 15 members of the House out of 151.

It is a clean sweep, and under the conditions, the greatest Republican victory ever won in Maine.

News Items.

Admiral Dewey reports the situation at Manila as critical and it is understood that he has asked for an additional cruiser and a battleship. The Spaniards assert that the Germans will take a coaling station in the Philippines and that Spain will retain the rest of the islands. Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader, has announced his intention of convening an assembly of the Philippines on Sept. 15th, in order to decide upon the policy to be adopted by the insurgents. It is reported that the Oregon and Iowa will sail soon for the Pacific.

General "Joe" Wheeler says that the war is not over by any means, and that he expects to be called into action again.

The City of Rome, with Admiral Cervera and staff and over 1,700 Spanish prisoners, sailed from Portsmouth, N. H., for Santander, Spain, on Monday.

Four lives were lost near Texarkana, Texas, on Monday, when a passenger train broke through a bridge.

The Navy Department has awarded contracts for 1,000,000 pounds of smokeless powder.

Everything is being done to keep Maggie Wood, a Scotch lassie, who arrived in New York last week, from marrying a coal black negro. She fell in love with him when he was in Glasgow laying asphalt.

An explosion of gasoline Sunday evening wrecked three houses and killed a score or more of people on South street, Philadelphia.

As to the Cost of Street Paving.

The lowest prices at which street paving can be done, using vitrified brick or Ligonier blocks, ranges from $1.25 to $1.50 per square yard. The curbing needed along the sides of the streets will cost about 45 cents per lineal foot on each side. There would also be additional expense for grading at places, as well as for preparing the roadbed on which it is to rest, but we are not in a position to make any estimate of this item of cost.

In some cases the ground in its natural state is put in the best possible shape to receive the pavement, but where it is desired to do the very best of work it is often necessary to prepare a bed of concrete for the pavement to rest on, all of which will add to the cost of the work. But for the purpose of this article we will use $1.25 per square yard for making estimates of cost.

On our 66 foot streets, where the sidewalks—as on Main street—are to be 12 feet wide, there would be 4⅓ square yards of paving in each lineal foot of the length of the street; adding 90 cents for the curbstone on the two sides would make the cost for each lineal foot of the street $6.71. The same cost would apply to a part of Main Cross street. But on part of Main Cross street, on Patriot and Union streets the sidewalks are only 10 feet wide, and there each lineal foot would require five and one-ninth square yards, at a cost of $7.29 per lineal foot of street. On our 50-foot streets with 10-foot sidewalks the cost would be $4.93 per lineal foot of street, to all of which must be added the cost of grading the street and preparing it, whatever that may be.

Now, there are a few people who seem to think that these figures should not look very high to any one. But let us see where they will run to in the aggregate for the whole town, or even for any one long street. Main street, from the railroad on Pleasant street to the borough line on Franklin street, is 4,200 feet long, and to pave and curb it at the lowest price we know of, viz: $6.71 per lineal foot, would cost $28,182. Union street has 1,250 feet that should be paved, which, at $7.29 per lineal foot, would cost $11,112.50. Patriot street has 2,400 feet, which, at the same rate, will cost $17,496. West street has at least 1,350 feet and East street 1,050 feet that should be paved, at a cost of $4.09 per foot. On Main Cross street there is a length of about 3,000 feet that certainly should come in on any scheme for street paving. Assuming that a uniform curb line of twelve feet on each side for the sidewalks be set, then this street would cost $20,130. The grand total for all these streets would be $87,994. But even this large sum would not represent all of the cost. Let a street once be paved, and the sidewalks will have to conform to the new order of things.

There is not a side walk in the entire town that would not have to be torn up and relaid, and those of plank would have to go altogether.

We are impelled to give these figures on the cost of street paving because some of our people seem to have taken up the idea that the Borough ought to abandon its present system of street work and instead pave each year such a length of street as the taxes collected would permit. Now these people certainly never have made any very close calculation on cost. If they had they would see that such a scheme as that had very little feasibility about it, because, after first paying for street light, police service and other expenses of administration, and having used the taxing power to its utmost limit, the borough would be kept busy to pave as much as four hundred feet on any of the wide streets in any one year, and to do this much they could not do a particle of work on the streets any where else, not even as much as the opening of the gutters and water tables.

We have shown that at least 13,550 lineal feet have about an equal right to demand such improvements, and at that rate it would require thirty-three years to complete the round, and long before that time the first part paved would be ready to pave over, while the parts remaining unpaved would, after the first few years, be utterly worn out, and in wet weather as impassable as a ploughed field.

No, such a scheme will not work. Certainly some of those who speak in its favor must calculate that as soon as they can have their own street paved and made nice that they will then find some way of stopping the work, and so leave their neighbors who live on other streets in the lurch after having helped pay for the beautifying of the streets on which these people live. They may find that won't work either, for once started the people on the outlying streets will stand up for their own.

Under the act relating to street paving, on petition of a majority of the lot owners, the borough may pave the street and collect two-thirds of the cost from the property owners according to their frontage, and one third to be paid out of the borough funds.

This would be the better way; on petition we think the borough might pave from 800 to 900 feet each year and still have something left over toward keeping the remaining streets in passable condition while the work would be going on and the time required for paving all of the streets named could be brought down to about 16 years.

But will our property holders sign such a petition in numbers enough to justify a start? Outside of that part of Main Cross street between the Diamond and Union street, a distance of 230 feet (not enough to begin on) we do not believe that at this time enough signers could be obtained on any six hundred feet of street anywhere in the town, and on less than that distance it would not be worth while to start. But if such a length as that were to come in on petition (the signers of course having duly considered what it was going to cost them) then we think the council would be very likely to try to find the money for their end of it.

Should enough petitioners for such a length of paving come in, the first step necessary would be the employment of a competent engineer to establish and fix the grades of every street in the town. It looks to us at least that this would have to be done.

A proposition to do this was offered once in the council and was lost by a tie vote.

The cost of doing this work is variously estimated at from three to five hundred dollars.

Some, at least, if not all of the dissenting councilmen, voted against the motion because in their opinion there was not sufficient evidence of enough desire on the part of property holders to have the work of street paving commenced to warrant such an expense at the present time; that it would be a useless expenditure unless the work were to be taken up in dead earnest, and also for the further reason that the streets in many places were so nearly worn out that they must needs first be put in better condition, which would exhaust all of the present means of the borough.

This matter of fixing of grades and getting people to conform to them is going to prove one of the great obstacles in the way of paving our streets.

That council may establish such grades is, we believe, conceded. But there is a right time and a wrong time to do such a thing, and we fear that so far as Somerset is concerned the right time to do so has long since passed.

The time to do such a thing is before the people make their improvements on their properties; before they have built their houses, fences, etc. After all these things have once been done and left undisturbed perhaps for a hundred years, it becomes a difficult problem, and to do it now will damage many properties almost irreparably. Who is to stand such loss, the owner or the municipality? If the latter, then it would have to be bonded to the full extent of the law to make good such loss, and the town would be as far away from paved streets as ever.

If we know what is meant by grading a street, it means that at places it will have to be cut down and the material so obtained at one place must be filled in at other places to bring it up to grade, with the result that one man will have to have a ladder to get into his house from the street, while another will find that getting into his house will be something like getting down into a cellar. There certainly are places where just such a thing would happen, and if street grading will damage any man's property in that way, we believe the municipality will have to make it good.

We submit all this to the consideration of those who urge street paving. If they can show us how at least some of these difficulties may be surmounted, we shall be glad to receive the information. We admit it would be nice to have paved streets. We further believe that if our people could be brought to incur the expense, and could overcome the difficulties that seem to lie in the way, it would pay them to have paved streets; that in the end it would enhance the value of the real estate of the town far beyond the cost, to say nothing of the enjoyment of having smooth and clean streets and good sidewalks.

But do they really want these things? If they do, they must move of their own accord. If the people of to-day desire to enjoy these conveniences, they must provide them themselves; it is a work that posterity can not do for them.

But are our people willing to tax themselves for street improvements? We shall presently see. Sewerage and drainage must certainly precede paving. To have them will require a heavy outlay of money, and the people will on next election day say whether a new departure shall be taken or whether we will abide by the old order of things. If they vote in favor of sewerage, then we may reasonably hope that in due time they will also determine that we will have good streets. It will be the crucial test. If the people will not agree to tax themselves for anything so palpably needed as a good system of sewerage, it is not at all likely that they will want to tax themselves for anything else, and paved streets will be but an iridescent dream for years to come.

C.

Bounty Paid for Trees.

A few good laws slipped through the last Pennsylvania Legislature, along with the great mass of bad ones, and among them is one allowing a bounty to land owners who will help to preserve the forests of the State, and encouraging the planting of trees. It allows a reduction of taxes, or, what is the same thing, a bounty from the County Commissioners, on all forest lands that meet certain very moderate requirements. The first man to take advantage of the new law is said to have been a resident of Allegheny county, who secured a rebate of $22.50. Doubtless many other persons will follow his example as soon as the act becomes more generally known. Here it is, as found on the statute books, having been approved May 25, 1897:

Be it enacted, etc., That in consideration of the public benefit to be derived from the retention of forest or timber trees, the owner or owners of land in this Commonwealth, having on it forest or timber trees of not less than fifty trees to the acre, and each of said trees to measure at least eight inches in diameter at a height of six feet above the surface of the ground, with no portion of the said land absolutely cleared of the said trees, shall, on making due proof thereof, be entitled to receive annually from the Commissioners of their respective counties during the period that the said trees are maintained in sound condition upon the said land, a sum equal to eighty per centum of all the taxes annually assessed and paid upon the said land, or so much of the said eighty per centum as shall not exceed the sum of forty-five cents per acre: Provided, however, That no one property-owner shall be entitled to receive said sum on more than fifty acres.

Manila Hemp.

Every engineer knows what manila hemp is, but few are aware that it is the product of a species of banana which is cultivated in certain localities in the Philippine islands. The plant, called by the natives "abaca," throws up a cluster of sheathing leaf stalks to a height of 20 or 30 feet, which spread out at the top into a crown of huge undivided leaves. When it is three years old, it is cut down, and the stalks are torn into strips. These strips, while still fresh, are drawn between a knife and a wooden block, and the soft cellulose matter is removed. The fiber is then hung up to dry in the open air until it is fit for use. Each stalk gives about a pound of fiber, and two natives will turn out about twenty-five pounds a day. The inside fiber, which is thin and weak, is used by the natives for making articles of dress. The familiar manila rope is made from the fiber of the outer layer, which is hard and strong. The whole supply of manila hemp practically comes from the Philippines, and the United States consumes 41 per cent. of it.

A Great Zoological Garden.

The Zoological Society of New York propose to construct what will probably be the finest zoological garden in the world in Bronx Park, New York, and under the direction of the executive committee the plans are being fully elaborated. The society expects to open the garden to the public in a satisfactory way on May 1, 1899. While the work is progressing with all due rapidity and zeal, the old and well approved plan of relieving biliousness and constipation through the beneficent agency of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters finds general recognition. This excellent family medicine is a safeguard against malaria and rheumatism, and removes indigestion and nervousness. It invigorates the system through the medium of improved digestion and appetite, fortifies it against disease, and counteracts the effects of overwork, mental or physical. A wineglassful before retiring engenders health-yielding and strength-giving sleep. Let it have the persistent and systematic trial that it deserves.

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD.

Knights Templar Triennial Conclave.

Pittsburg, Pa., October 20 14, 1898.

For the Knights Templar Triennial Conclave, to be held at Pittsburg, Pa., from October 10th to 14th, 1898, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad will sell tickets from all points east of the Ohio River at One Lowest First Class Fare for the Round Trip, good going on October 8th to 13th, inclusive, and good returning leaving Pittsburg to and including October 17th, 1898, except by depositing ticket with Joint Agent at Pittsburg not earlier than October 13th nor later than October 17th, and on payment of fifty (50) cents, return limit of ticket may be extended to leave Pittsburg to and including October 31st, 1898.

Solid Royal Blue Vestibuled Trains run daily from New York Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington and intermediate points, elegantly equipped with Pullman Sleeping Cars, Observation Parlor Cars and unexcelled Dining Car Service.

For tickets and full information, apply to nearest Ticket Agent, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

Snow in Colorado.

DENVER, Col., Sept. 10.—The first snow storm is reported from Eastern Colorado, and it threatens to develop into a blizzard in Western Nebraska. No snow has yet fallen in Denver, but it is quite cold and the indications are that snow will follow the fall in temperature.

Soldiers Bet Against Death.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Sept. 9.—Albert Fish, of Company E, Twelfth New York Regiment, and James Mitchell, Company M, Fifth Illinois, last night wagered 50 cents on who would live the longer. Fish died at 2 o'clock this afternoon and Mitchell an hour later.

Political Notes.

The Republicans of the Twentieth Congressional district are having their biennial muddle over again. As usual, the pernicious conferee system is responsible for it. Each of the counties composing the district, Blair, Cambria, Somerset and Bedford counties, has a candidate, and as usual, each one insists that it is entitled to the nomination. The candidates have each appointed three conferees, and they have contrived up to the present time to prevent the nomination of anybody by sticking to the man who appointed them, so that nobody has succeeded in getting a majority. This trouble was experienced two years ago, when the time for filing papers caused a stampede, and the successful man barely got his papers into the State Department in time to get a place on the ticket. It is time this sort of foolishness was stopped. Of course, it rests entirely with the Republicans of the district to make an end of it, but they are all selfish and nobody wants to give an inch. It may happen that in the end there will be a display of good common sense and a nomination may be made, but we confess that at present the counties seem to be as far apart as ever. A Democratic Congressman in that district might awaken the Republicans of the district to a proper appreciation of the situation.—Harrisburg Telegraph.

* * *

Senator Quay has retained counsel in Montgomery county to prosecute Prof. H. W. Kreibel, of Pennsburg Seminary, for libel. In statements made in the Perkiomen Register Prof. Kreibel called the Senator, among other things, a liar, a thief, an embezzler, and a robber of widows and orphans. Prof. Kreibel is an anti-Quay candidate for Assembly.

* * *

The Middle-of-the-road Populists have nominated Wharton Barker, of Philadelphia, and Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota, for President and Vice President.

* * *

Senator Platt, of New York, has publicly announced that he will support Colonel Roosevelt for the gubernatorial nomination.

* * *

Gentlemen of the Congressional conference, stop fooling and give us a candidate, or the people will rise up in their wrath and throw you all out—body and breeches. Seriously though, it is exceedingly dangerous to delay this important matter so long. It may cause us the loss of our Congressional District. There are four candidates; they all can't be elected; therefore you should get together and settle on a man and end a suspense which is very galling to the Republican voters of the District.—Hollidaysburg Register.

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I have opened a merchant tailoring establishment on the second floor of the First National Bank building. Come and select your goods and the clothing will be fitted and finished on the premises. Only the latest styles in goods and cutting. First class workmanship guaranteed. Repairing and pressing neatly done. Give me a trial order.

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A Triumph of Modern Surgery.

The reputation of the well-known specialists, Drs. Sadler and Sigmann, 804 Penn Ave., Pittsburg, Pa., is too well established to need much comment. The thousands of deaf and blind people who have been restored to hearing and sight by these most eminent surgeons, are by far the best recommendation of their merits.

To the long list of marvelous operations which have been performed in their offices, a new one is added through the case of Mr. Massey, 107 Third Street, S. S., Pittsburg Pa. His right eye-ball was pierced by a piece of Steel in February last. The wound healed after a protracted and painful period of recovery, but the vision was totally gone, which was partially due to a cataract which developed in the injured eye; partially also to inflammation of the tender inside structures covering the pupil with an impenetrable membrane.

Dr. Sigmann, to whom Mr. Massey entrusted his case, performed a so-called Iridectomy (making an artificial pupil), removed the cataract, and now, eight weeks after the operation, Mr. Massey is a happy man. He sees (with glasses) even small objects at a long distance and can read coarse print. Indeed, a triumph of modern surgery.

MUSTERING OUT THE TROOPS.

It will Take Time and Rigid Examination.

The work of mustering out the troops, which is expected to begin this week, will require some time. This is one reason why the soldiers will go back to their own States for their discharge. Another reason given for sending the troops back to their respective States is to comply with the agreement of enlistment, that all soldiers when mustered out will be provided with transportation to their places of enlistment.

The general orders relating to the mustering out provide that to those officers and men who have served beyond the limits of the United States leaves of absence and furloughs for sixty days will be granted respectively, while to those who have not served outside of the country the leaves of absence and furloughs will be limited to thirty days.

Except for the necessary guard details, etc., of officers and men, leaves of absence for sixty days, and furloughs for the same period will be granted all officers and enlisted men of organizations which have served beyond the limits of the United States, and thirty days to officers and men of organizations which have not served beyond the limits of the United States, when such organizations are ordered to be mustered out of service.

Such leaves of absence and furloughs will be granted by the commanding officers after the organizations have arrived at the State rendezvous, all to take effect on one date for thirty days, or sixty days, as the case may be, and all officers and men must without fail report at the rendezvous on the thirtieth or sixtieth day thereafter. Any officer or man failing to

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