

THE public debt statement for February shows a reduction of \$9,670,678 during the month. And a decrease since June 30, 1882, of \$102,638,346.

CONGRESS adjourned at noon on Monday last, having died a natural death. In the Senate, David Davis, president pro tem., resigned on Thursday, and Senator George F. Edmunds was elected to fill the vacant seat.

THIS new administration has not been running two months, but what Governor Pattison doesn't know about taxes, taxation and all the departments "on the hill" is not worth knowing. He is what Artemus Ward calls "a amosin ooss."

CONTROLLER PAGE, of Philadelphia, made Frank Willing Leach Chief Auditor of his department. Mr. Leach is the Secretary of the Independent Republican State Committee, and this cognition comes in the way of payment for valuable services rendered to Democracy last year.

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, Governor of Georgia, died on Sunday morning last, aged about 71 years. He was one of the greatest men of the times, and although for years in feeble bodily health, his mind was clear and powerful. His name will go down in history as one of America's great statesmen.

THE Illinois Senate last week passed compulsory education bill, by a vote of 32 to 8. The bill provides that children between the ages of 8 and 14 years must be sent to school for not less than twelve weeks in the year, and provides penalties for parents and guardians who neglect their duty in this matter.

THE Democratic House effected a small saving for the state by curtailing a few superfluous employees, and then attempted to appropriate \$7,000 of the people's money to supply the members a second time this session with Small's Legislative Hand Book. Such is Democratic reform. The discharged door keepers, scrub women and messenger boys could not divide. So they had to go.

THE Supreme Court of this State recently rendered a decision that the boarding-house act, passed by the legislature in 1876, is unconstitutional and in conflict with other laws on the statute book, and that a debtor has the same right to the benefits of the "three hundred dollar law" in an action to recover a board bill that he has in a suit for any other kind of claim. This decision is a notification to every landlord and landlady to collect all running accounts for grub before the debt gets cold.—Franklin Press.

MR. HENSEL, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, claims to have examined the vote cast at the last general election in the counties of the State for Jury Commissioners, and that the aggregate vote cast for the Democratic candidates for that office amounts to 1,500 more than were cast for Governor Pattison. If his statement is correct it most factually contradicts the claim set up that a large number of Independent Republicans voted direct for Mr. Pattison, and necessitates the finding of some other excuse for the meager vote received by Mr. Stewart and his associates.—Brookville Republican.

UNCLE JAKE ZIEGLER'S great Daisy Bill is a foreordained success. It has been the theme of much earnest and flowery oratory in the House, where it has passed a third reading and may be considered a thing accomplished. The bill requires the farmer to root up the ox-eye daisy before it goes to seed, under a penalty of \$15 for each offense. Not having the bill before us, we can't say whether the penalty applies to each extirpated daisy, or to each negligent owner of a daisy farm. We know of farms on which we'd rather pay the \$15 than grub out the dodged daisies. This bill, by the way, is the grandest and most practical step toward reform yet taken by our Democratic House. Having outlawed the daisy, they may be trusted to push through a bill to encourage the cultivation of tansy.—Independent Press.

EX-SECRETARY EVARTS disposes of the "monopoly" cry, as used against the system of protective tariff, in this vigorous way: "It is said the protective system is a monopoly. If this has any meaning at all, it means that the system of protective labor gives a monopoly to the labor of this country in its own affairs, instead of a monopoly to British manufacturers over American affairs. Are you going to commend yourselves to the favor of your fellow-citizens by such a play upon the word monopoly as that?—a monopoly to Americans of the profits and the fruits of their industry, rather than their industries be made a hunting ground for the monopoly of a foreign nation."

THE bustling and self-constituted advocates of woman's rights are again hammering at the doors of Congress in these fast-vanishing hours of the session, for legislation to secure for their sex a sort of legal Utopia. That woman have been a factor in affairs of statecraft and politics is amply testified by history. An elopement caused the fall of ancient Troy. The love for Semiramis lost the dazzling monarch Ninus his head, and changed the destinies of the Assyrian Empire. The sparkling eyes of Briseis deprived Greece of its liberties. The seductive charms of the Egyptian queen cost Anthony his life and the Imperial purple of Rome. The beauty of Judith gave a new King to Cappadocia. The wife of Candantes spurred Gyges to the throne of Lydia. In fact, the rights of women from the time of Adam's downfall through Eve, down to the breaking up of Jackson's cabinet by Mrs. Eaton, or even later, have always been asserted. These Amazonian agitators do not represent the women of America. Her rights are amply protected, and in no commonwealth more so than in Pennsylvania. The right to vote will not add to her influence in the social or political scale. Her power is in the training of her children to make honest, industrious, temperate and useful citizens. The mothers of any of the men illustrious in our Nation's history have done more for their country than untold votes with the sacrifice of home and home interests which they would have involved.—Harrisburg Telegraph.

Nothing but a Democrat.

There is nothing in law or science or ethics, nothing that relates to finance or political economy worth knowing, which is not known to Franklin B. Gowen, or rather, which he thinks he does not know. Mr. Gowen is not a modest man. On the contrary he is particularly the reverse. We have before us a copy of his "Argument, before the Committee on Railroads, of the House," on the discrimination bill, which Mr. Gowen had printed in Philadelphia. So it may be considered his version of what he said. In this the president of the Reading company leaves the subject before the committee, which was not politics, and ostentatiously announces, "Ever since I could vote, I have voted the Democratic ticket. I have always taken great pride in being a Democrat; I was a Democrat by birth and from conviction."

What this pompous announcement had to do with the subject before the committee, the president of the Reading did not explain. Who cared what were his political opinions, or for what party he had always voted? Most men of intelligence, of the present day, however much they may have been so-called Democrats in the past, would not care to boast of it. A Democrat, during the war, is not, as a rule, given to bragging of it. Some people may think if the president was more of a railroad man and a financier and less of a politician, the financial condition of his company would be a deal healthier than it is with its bonds of every shade and shape and its obligations of every form and character. The president of the Reading can boast of being at the head of the company with more paper out to the mile than any railroad in the country. But that is all right, as he has always "voted the Democratic ticket."—Harrisburg Telegraph.

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