

Read and Reflect.

There appears to be a general movement in this State in favor of urging upon Congress to give us more protection on iron.

We give below the returns of the various Military Election Districts, held by the Volunteers of Lehigh county for the office of Brigade Inspector, for the unexpired term of Major Hiram B. Yaeper, who resigned the office, having moved out of the district.

Brigade Inspector's Election.

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Table with 3 columns: Names of Companies, Votes, and Candidates.

We congratulate Major Ettinger for such is by virtue of his office now his title, upon the advancement of his military rank.

Fire at Bierysport.

On Thursday morning, the 20th of November, between three and four o'clock, the large three story brick building and store of Mr. William Gross, on the corner of Cider and Race streets, at Bierysport, Lehigh county, and a large frame shed belonging to the Tavern of Mr. Solomon Biery, about 60 feet distant from the above was discovered to be on fire, and in a short time were levelled with the ground.

Homestead Exemption.

We make the following beautiful extract on the Homestead Exemption Law, from a letter recently written by Judge Dillahunty, of Tennessee.

Court Week.

On Monday next, the December term of our Court will commence. His Honor, Washington McCarty, of Easton, the new Judge elect, will make his debut as President Judge of the third Judicial District, composed of the counties of Lehigh and Northampton. He is a gentleman of splendid talents, courteous in his manners, and respected by all for his amiable qualities.

Snow.

This white visitor made its annual appearance on Tuesday afternoon, for the first time this winter, and fell to the depth of about four inches, though not quite deep enough to start the "merry ringing of the bells," there is nevertheless a fair prospect ahead, that we will have sleighing during Court week, which commences next week.

Swiss Bell Ringers.

The highly popular musical corps of "Campanologists or Swiss Bell Ringers," in native costume, will give two grand musical entertainments at the Odd Fellows' Hall, on Friday and Saturday evenings, the 28th and 29th of November next, at 7 o'clock.

Dreadful Calamity in New York.

We publish full accounts of the disastrous accident in New York, says the Philadelphia Sun, by which some fifty young and happy children were snatched in a moment, from the home circles of which they were the life and joy, and buried into the eternal world.

Communitated.

A. Bank.

Sir:—I take the liberty of writing a few lines to you upon a subject which is now one of considerable excitement and interest, and of advancing a hint thereupon, whether it prove instrumental to the purpose or not, can do no harm.

A Bank being at present a very desirable acquisition to the business doing portion of our Borough, and undoubtedly to a large majority of the citizens of the County, instructions are being, and from time to time have been forwarded to our members in the Legislature to obtain an Act for that purpose.

Instruction in Agriculture.

In the kingdom of Prussia, says the New York Tribune, there are five Agricultural Colleges, and a sixth is about to be opened; in these are taught by both theory and practice, the highest branches of science connected with the culture and improvement of the soil; of Agricultural Schools of a more elementary order there are ten; there are also seven Schools devoted to instruction in the culture of flax; two specially devoted to instruction in the management of meadow lands; one for instruction in the management of sheep; and there are also forty-five model farms, intended to serve in introducing better modes of agriculture; in all seventy-one public establishments for agricultural education, not mentioning others of a kindred nature, or those private schools where the art and science of good farming are taught.

Protection in Pennsylvania.

The Boston Journal, referring to a statement in a Washington letter, that New England was in favor now of giving protection to Pennsylvania iron, says:

"The manufacturers of New England may consent to give protection to Pennsylvania iron, and yield their own claims, but that they are in favor of such a course, is a nonsensical assertion."

It is reasonable to believe that the above exactly represents the sentiments of the eastern manufacturers. Pennsylvania wants protection on iron, and some think on Coal, the two great mineral staples of the State. As to the latter the necessity is not so pressing, inasmuch as only an inconsiderable quantity is imported and that of the bituminous kind, which is mostly consumed in the manufacture of gas.

Artesian Wells.—The Southern Standard contains a very interesting account of an artesian well lately bored in Columbus, Miss., by Messrs. Copeland and Evans. The well is near the center of the town, 100 feet above low water mark, is a little over 600 feet deep, and discharges about thirty gallons of water per minute four feet above the ground.

Tariff Meeting in Berks.

We observe that the Tariff Mass Meeting of Berks county, was held on the 17th inst., in the Court House at Reading, and was very numerously attended. All parts of old Berks sent its delegates, and the meeting was a most enthusiastic and encouraging one for the industry and interests of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That we hereby renew our pledges to stand by the principles of the Tariff of 1846, regarding them as acquiesced in by the Democratic party of the Union as a permanent adjustment of the Tariff question.

Resolved, That while we have sustained the principles of the Act of 1846 as a final disposition, we have looked forward with earnest solicitude to the period when Congress would be able and willing to settle upon a permanent basis, the details of that Act, and particularly the duty upon iron.

Resolved, That the crisis has now come, when Congress should finally settle this question, by standard; and by so regulating the mode of assessing duties upon that article as to secure it as far as practicable from fraud and fluctuations. The Democracy are now in power in the National Legislature, and to them Pennsylvania looks. Time and experience has proved to her that a revenue Tariff, may afford ample incidental protection to iron. She has the pledges of the Southern and Western Democracy in their votes on the Hon. Mr. McKay's bill of 1844, and of 1846 in his report to Congress in 1847, that an increased duty on iron would not only be perfectly consistent with the principles of the Act of 1846, but that it would add to the revenue.

Resolved, That Pennsylvania is now prepared to accept as a final adjustment, the modification of the duty on iron; believing that by it she can receive constant employment for her mechanics and laborers at fair wages, and the full development of her mineral resources.

Resolved, That we maintain as firmly as ever our principles of political equality; regarding all the great interests of the country—agricultural, commercial and manufacturing—as standing alike before the Government, and each entitled to the same fostering care; and that we regard the modifications of the Tariff of 1846 proposed in the foregoing resolutions, as perfectly consistent with those principles of political equality.

When may Kossuth be Expected?—The New York Evening Post has received a letter dated Southampton, Nov. 7th, in which it is said that Kossuth may not leave England in the Washington, but that if he does not he will come in over the Humboldt. Rumors of Austrian spies and hired assassins taking passage in the Washington, have reached Southampton, and have occasioned so much concern that many of his friends there think it would be exposing both himself and the steamer to too great a risk if they allowed him to take passage in her.

The Cheap Postage Law.—The working of the cheap postage law, under the first quarter, it is said, will show a reduction of 25 per cent. in the receipts of that office, compared with the same quarter of the year previous, under the former law. The gross receipts of the year 1850 were \$5,252,971, and if the falling off should hold the same proportion as the first quarter, through the entire year, the receipts for year will be less by over \$1,348,000 than last. This will require an additional sum to be voted by Congress to make up the deficiency, the appropriation by the last Congress not reaching near the amount of falling off.

Rum's Doings in New York.

It appears from a record kept in New York, that the deaths by delirium tremens and similar causes in that city, for the last twelve months was 150. Only a portion of the deaths from intemperance is reported by physicians, who out of regard to the feelings of families, generally report them under the name of apoplexy, congestion of the brain, &c. The most of those on record are reported from coroner's inquests and hospitals. With this view of the case, the 150 deaths above stated, may be taken as the record of 350 to 450 deaths during the twelve months.

Resolved, That in the next Presidential election, we will support no man for that distinguished office, North or South, who favors the agitation of slavery, or who is not true to the Constitution and Compromise.

Erie Canal.

If the boats of the Erie Canal, five thousand and fifteen in number, were placed in line, they would reach from Albany to Utica, a distance of eighty-three miles. The distance achieved by this enormous fleet, in one year, is eleven millions of miles, equal to three thousand six hundred voyages across the Atlantic—transporting more than three millions of tons, which is twenty-six times the quantity carried by the railroads which run along the banks of the Canal. The daily business of the Canal, twenty thousand tons, would require two thousand cars, loaded to their utmost capacity. The value, in money, of the property transported by the Canal in 1850, was one hundred and fifty-six million dollars—These striking calculations were made, not by an eminent statesman, who communicated them to the Sun a day or two before the election. Young America, he adds, has not yet got his growth, and the Canal must be let out to fit the gentleman's increasing dimensions.

The Bank question seems to have swept the county and the city like a tornado. Mr Farwell has been carried on the crest of that wave, and a very large majority of the Legislature are in favor of a Free Banking law.

Death of an Elephant.—The Pittsfield (Mass.) Sun gives the following account of the death of the Elephant Columbus, well known in this section of the country:

The Elephant Columbus, attached to the menagerie of Raymond & Co., and Herr Driesbach, died at Lenox, in this county, on Saturday. Columbus was the largest and most valuable elephant in the United States. He is supposed to have been 100 years old. His weight was five tons, and he was valued at 16,000. When crossing one of the streams in Adams, the bridge gave way, and the elephant was precipitated some fifteen feet into the water. The injury received in consequence of the accident is said to have caused his death, and it is rumored that the owners of the animal have prosecuted the town of Adams for damages.

Extraordinary Signally.—On Sunday afternoon as the Morris and Essex Railroad train was returning to Newark, New Jersey, when within about one mile of the depot, an infant was discovered lying or crawling on the track. A large New Foundland dog, belonging to J. Bishop, rushed forward and seizing the child bore it to a place of safety.

Too Social?—A citizen of Pittsion, says the Wilkesbarre Farmer, who was in the woods a few days since, with a gun in hand, unexpectedly found himself between a Bear and her Cub. She, regarding him an intruder, made towards him. He snapped his gun, but missed fire. The Bear coming too near, he used his gun as a club until too much broken to be available. By this time the Bear had him by the clothes, and exhibited a very determined spirit. The clothes yielding, the animal lost his hold, and discovering that her cubs had fled, left the man and followed them.

Gov. Bigler's Cabinet.—We learn from good authority, that there is strong probability of the selection of R. C. Hale, Esq., of Millin county, as the next Secretary of the Commonwealth. Andrew H. Reeder, Esq., of Northampton county, as Attorney General, and General Francis M. Wynkoop, of Schuylkill county, as Adjutant General.

Bank Law in Vermont.—An act to authorize free banking has passed both branches of the Vermont Legislature. Its majority in the House on Monday was 52; and in the Senate 9.

The Major Barnet.—The late accident to the Major William Barnet, says the Philadelphia Sun, in attempting to run from Trenton to Lambertville, renders it necessary to bring her back to Camden for repairs. Our predictions that the navigation of the Delaware above Trenton by steam would be attended with much difficulty, have been verified.

Eclipse in 1852.—Mr. Gibbs, the great American Almanac maker, states that there will be a great eclipse of the Moon, 6th and 7th of January next, visible and total in this section. Duration 3 hours and 40 minutes.

Louisiana.—The Whigs will have the ascendancy in the next Legislature of Louisiana, the members of which have just been elected. They will have to elect a United States Senator, to succeed Mr. Downs, whose term of service will expire in March, 1853.

Cleanings.

Hon. J. H. Graham, of Carlisle, who has recently been elected President Judge of the District, has resigned the Presidency of the Carlisle Deposit Bank.

The approaching Thanksgiving will complete two hundred years since this venerable custom commenced.

Over six hundred thousand dollars worth of postage stamps have been issued from the Post Office Department since the first of July last.

Ex-Secretary Walker has been nominated for the Presidency by Lord Dudley Stuart in London. If an English nomination is as lucky as his Tariff Bill, submitted to the British Parliament before it was offered to our Congress, the citizens of the United States may respond to the voice of the Stuart.

Father Mathew, the great apostle of Temperance, left New York, the other day, for his home in Ireland.

At a late term of the United States District Court, held at Iowa City, Isaac Sloan was convicted of using post-office stamps a second time, and sentenced to pay fifty dollars and three cents damages. This is the first instance of the kind under the new law.

Twenty-three papers in Virginia have hoisted the Fillmore flag.

Union Movement.

The Union men of Houston county, Ga., held a meeting at Perry on the 4th inst., at which the following, among other resolutions, were adopted:

Resolved, That no man has a claim on the party for any services he has rendered; but that we have the right to the services of all the members of our party, and that no man is worthy of our suffrages who does not support our principles from patriotic motives, and who is influenced by the hope or the desire of office.

Conviction of Steller.

In the United States District Court, yesterday, Judge Kane on the Bench, the case of William Steller, charged with forging coin of the United States, was continued.—The counsel of either side having made their concluding speeches on the evening previous, immediately upon the opening of the Court, the Judge proceeded to charge the jury. He said, that the offence with which the prisoner was charged, is, in its nature, among the most dangerous to the community. It goes to destroy all confidence among men, and to diminish commercial intercourse with neighboring States and Nations. It is especially oppressive upon innocent persons, who from their want of judgment in detecting spurious coin, are induced to take it in exchange for their merchandise or labor. It is an offence that may be perpetrated without much difficulty, and belongs to that secret class of crimes which admonishes us to seek around for evidence to make apparent the guilt of the offender. In offences of violence, committed in the heat of blood, there are generally to be found witnesses who have seen the act. But where fraud is an element of the offence, there is always secrecy in the movements. The Judge said that he made these observations in the outset because the jury had doubtless remarked, that there was no direct proof of the prisoner's guilt, as no witness had been produced who had seen him manufacturing the coin found at what was supposed to be his premises, or elsewhere within the Eastern Judicial District of Pennsylvania. The testimony of Allgar did not bear directly upon the case before the Court but it might be taken, with the other circumstances in the case, which remained unexplained by the prisoner, as adding to the presumptive evidence of guilt. It presumpions, gives way to more effective evidence. When stolen property is found in the possession of a person charged with larceny, some explanation, or presumption is raised of guilt.

The legal presumption of law is, that a defendant is not to be presumed guilty; but he who has it in his power to explain certain very suspicious circumstances against him and refuses to do so, can not shelter himself under the presumption of innocence. It rarely happens that an innocent man is without power to defend himself against an unjust accusation.

In cases like the present, it is the business of the Court to deal with matters of a practical and not of a metaphysical character.—It is not necessary to analyze how the minds of men differ in their arrival at correct conclusions. We know that such is the case. And the question here will be: Is there that sort of evidence before the jury as will satisfy their minds under sanctity of an oath, of the prisoner's guilt, without looking around for fictitious doubts.

The Judge then reviewed the evidence at length, and at about ten o'clock in the morning, the case was given to the jury.— They were out about five minutes; and upon their return found the prisoner guilty upon the whole five bills. His counsel will be moved for a new trial, which motion will be argued at a future day. The extreme penalty of the law, under this present conviction, would subject Steller to any imprisonment of fifty years and the payment of a fine of \$25,000.