



CENTRE HALL REPORTER.

Centre Hall Pa., November 12th 1899

A Correction.

In the returns of the election of this county, published in the county papers, an error occurred in the table of Curtis township, in which Lewis Hess is reported as having 30 votes, the regular radical vote of the township. Whereas the correct result shows that Hess fell back 10 votes, having received only 20, and Mrs. M. O'Keefe 48 votes, a gain of ten in his own township, which is a flattering testimonial in favor of the latter, from his neighbors.

Judge Thompson of the supreme court of Pennsylvania, has lately given a decision that inures largely to the benefit of life insurers. The case arose on an appeal from the district court of this city, in the case of Helmer against a life insurance company, and is worthy of perusal by all interested in the subject. The abstract of the case is as follows:

f. A custom among life insurance companies to allow thirty days grace for the payment of premiums, notwithstanding a clause of forfeiture for non-payment on the day they become due, exists in the policy, is valid to interpret the contracts and may be proved by the insured.

It has been estimated that the first year's earnings of the Union Pacific Railroad will amount to eight million dollars. To this statement the Sacramento Union demurs and remarks: "The road will be of course blocked by snow during parts of January, February, March and April." The Secretary of the Central Pacific Railroad reports the gross earnings of that road for six months ending September 30, at \$3,300,000 in gold, or \$4,400,000 in currency. This half of the year includes April, which the Union remarks, is probably the month that offers greatest obstructions to transportation over the Sierra Nevada. The first half of May might also be included as not much more profitable than April. Land-slides are frequent during these six weeks, in March, February and January there are usually heavy snows, and last winter was no exception to the rule.

Ecumenical Council. London, November 4.—The Rome correspondent of the Post says concerning the expected action of the Ecumenical Council, "The dogmatic definition of the assumption of the Virgin, will encounter no obstacles. The Pope earnestly desires the consolidation of this dogma. The erection into a dogma of the necessity of the temporal power is not considered possible by its most ardent champions. The formation and preservation of a dogma do not afford elements of a dogma, and a belief in its necessity is not even a proxima fidei, but only of high importance. Probably the protests of 1862 and 1870 will be received. It is suggested that the Liberal Bishops will advise that terms be made with the kingdom of Italy, so that all appointments, even the Pope's, may be conferred without distinction of nationality, but such a change of policy, although desirable, is impossible at present, and must be left to time and force of events. The Council does not have the initiative with respect to the syllabus, and it is absurd to think that the syllabus will be abrogated. It is more probable that the Bishops will be asked to sanction it by open and unanimous assent, and to explain such portions as are obscurely worded, or erroneously interpreted. Beyond these points, the Council will only be occupied with the questions of imperial discipline, such as reforming missions, revision of schismatics and heretics, with the Church modifications of instructions to clergy, and the adaptation of the judicial powers of Bishops to the condition of society. It is important to observe that the initiative in everything belongs to the Pope alone, and as the Roman Catholic hierarchy is strongly and judiciously constituted, it is improbable that any serious opposition will be manifested.

Explosion of a Boiler on Board a Gunboat.

London, November 4.—While the gunboat Thistle was on a trial trip off Jermers, her boiler exploded, killing seven men outright, and severely wounding eight others.

Death of Hon. George Peabody.

London, November 4.—Midnight.—George Peabody died at 11:30 this evening.

The Late Great Fire in Dismal Swamp.—The Soil Burnt to a Depth of Ten Feet—Wholesale Destruction of Fruit Trees.

In regard to the fire in the Dismal Swamp, the Norfolk Day Book says: A gentleman who passed along up the seaboard road on a h. car, and had an opportunity to make a few observations, has been talking to us. He witnessed great trees, thirty or forty feet, on fire up to the top, all their leaves and branches burning up rapidly, and then a puff of wind tripping them over and down, as if they were burnt staves; when on looking at the roots you would find the ground underneath them completely burnt out, and nothing remaining but coal and ashes.

Large holes are to be observed all over the swamp completely burnt out and nothing remaining in or near them but the charred trunks of trees. He stopped for some time between the twelve and thirteen mile posts, and had a good view of the surroundings. The fire had burnt the earth or peat up to the fifth bank of the railroad, and in some places as far as the eye could reach it looked like a great waterless lake, which formerly was, dry land and vegetation. Great numbers of cattle and animals of all kinds have been destroyed by the fire, the bones of many of which can be seen from the road tracks. These matters cannot be observed in passing along on the cars, as they go too rapidly for observation.

It is an impression that nearly all the peat burnt out by the fire will be a layer from three to ten feet deep, as the earth or vegetable mould, which forms the surface in the swamp, is all burnt to ashes. A singular feature was mentioned by him in regard to farms along in the Dismal Swamp. Smoke could be seen issuing from underneath the corn fields of the farms, which led him to believe, that their whole foundation would burn out unless a heavy rain interfered to prevent it. This matter of the charred trees falling, owing to the earth being burnt from under them, will account for a fact that there has always been more or less theorizing about. It has long been a matter of surmise with many how it was that there were so many trees lying prostrate in the swamp, many of them eight and ten feet below the surface, apparently uninjured. It has been a business with lumber-getters to dig these trees up heretofore. This fire explains fully how they came in that condition.

The Story that the Telegraph Wires were Tapped Contradicted by Gen. Eckert.

We are informed by Gen. T. H. Eckert, general superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph lines in the Eastern States, that it is quite impossible to tap a telegraph wire without discovery, as was stated in Gen. Butterfield's defence in the Times of Monday. In the first place, the wire must be cut to insert an instrument, when the wire is severed, and the operators at both ends of the line know that something has happened. In the second place, every instrument that is inserted increases the resistance to the current; and even supposing that the connection could be made without discovery, the increase of resistance would tell the story and show that the wires were being tampered with.

ROME.

London, November 4.—The Rome correspondent of the Post says concerning the expected action of the Ecumenical Council, "The dogmatic definition of the assumption of the Virgin, will encounter no obstacles. The Pope earnestly desires the consolidation of this dogma. The erection into a dogma of the necessity of the temporal power is not considered possible by its most ardent champions. The formation and preservation of a dogma do not afford elements of a dogma, and a belief in its necessity is not even a proxima fidei, but only of high importance. Probably the protests of 1862 and 1870 will be received. It is suggested that the Liberal Bishops will advise that terms be made with the kingdom of Italy, so that all appointments, even the Pope's, may be conferred without distinction of nationality, but such a change of policy, although desirable, is impossible at present, and must be left to time and force of events. The Council does not have the initiative with respect to the syllabus, and it is absurd to think that the syllabus will be abrogated. It is more probable that the Bishops will be asked to sanction it by open and unanimous assent, and to explain such portions as are obscurely worded, or erroneously interpreted. Beyond these points, the Council will only be occupied with the questions of imperial discipline, such as reforming missions, revision of schismatics and heretics, with the Church modifications of instructions to clergy, and the adaptation of the judicial powers of Bishops to the condition of society. It is important to observe that the initiative in everything belongs to the Pope alone, and as the Roman Catholic hierarchy is strongly and judiciously constituted, it is improbable that any serious opposition will be manifested.

London, November 4.—The Times of today in its money article, comments on the rapid increase of importations of wheat from the United States. The most interesting question the writer says is the extent to which it can be kept up in competition with Russia and Central Europe, when the railways in that section, are fully developed. The great question for the United States to consider in this continent is the reduction of freight and other charges and the enlargement of communications with the Mississippi.

A Chester county farmer has made 25,000 gallons of cider this present season.

A "Widow's" Victim.

The New York Post says: On Monday a young woman, dressed in deep mourning, and bearing an infant in her arms, got on board a Southside train for Fatmough at Valley Stream, and took her seat by the side of a young man named Mulford, of New Jersey. A conversation ensued between them, and the woman informed him that she had last week buried her husband, and was then on her way to Philadelphia to spend the winter, at the same time informing him that she was to be accompanied by her uncle, who would join her at Springfield.

During the ride she leaned over the young man several times, apparently anxious to know how far he was from the station. Arriving at the station she pointed out her uncle, and asked the young man to hold the sleeping infant while she conducted him to the board of the train. She was smiling and took the child. The train soon moved off, but the woman did not return, and the young man becoming suspicious, felt for his watch, but found it missing. He was also his pocket book. He then proceeded to uncover the infant, and was astonished on beholding nothing more than a large rubber molder. He made the facts known to a few persons, and vowed never to ride in the same seat with a strange woman of a handsome nurse for widowed mothers.

San Francisco, Nov. 4.—Seven suicides and murders have been committed in this city during the past week. The number of cordials drunk during the present season amounts to 1,064,000. A shock of earthquake was felt at Hardsbury yesterday.

Rich gold mines have been discovered in Sonora, Mexico. Parties will leave Tucson for Sonora, with promises of protection by Mexican soldiers. New gold discoveries are reported on the Finlay branch of Plateau river, in British Columbia, and it is said will exceed Caribee's diggings in richness.

The advertisement of the table religious and secular newspaper appears in our columns this week. The Observer, a large eight page paper, filled from week to week with the best of original and selected reading. It is one of the oldest and best family newspapers published in the United States, owned by Sidney E. Morse, Jr., & Co., Park Row, New York.

The financial situation is reported as follows: New York, Nov. 9.—The rumors of failures are everywhere current. Among those announced is the firm of Messrs. White, Howard & Co. It is also reported that several of the city and Boston banks, including the First National Bank, are in a somewhat precarious position.

Concord, Nov. 9.—Snow to the depth of a foot has fallen in northern Vermont, at Richmond and at Edinboro.

MULTUM IN PARVO.—There is contained in Dr. Morse's Pills the principle of health. I have had many thousands of testimonials of their having restored the sick to health, which can be seen at our office. Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills, and you will find them not only a curative of disease, but also a preservative. They should be used in all cases of Biliousness, Headache, Liver Complaints, Female Irregularities, etc. We make no secret of the formula from which this medicine is prepared. Ask your store-keepers for the Omnia Almanac, read it carefully. Use Morse's Pills Sold by all Dealers. Oct 2m.

A Murderer Lynched.

Lexington, Ky., Nov. 9.—Frank Zarey killed Elise Hargis in Richmond, November 1. On the next day night a party of men went to Zarey's house, a long time before he awoke, and it is said killed one and wounded others. On Saturday Zarey was lodged in jail in Richmond, and this morning before day a body of men took him from the jail and hung him, attaching to his body a placard threatening death to any one who cut down his body, or to check. Zarey had killed four men, and had a bad character.

The Times has a female market reporter, who, unlike most girls in the market for choice, was very good. Strong Pepper has been commissioned a Postmaster of the village of Repentance, Nebraska.

Some very naughty and wicked men say Mrs. Cady Stanton is "wonderfully and fearfully" mad. For him out. A contemporary says of a rival editor that he "errs in eating meat and vegetables—these are his propensities."

The Erie, New York City, has resumed publication of its new newspaper. The publishers of the St. Paul (Minnesota) Press are building an elegant new office to cost over \$25,000.

A Minnesota paper thinks the doctrine of "total depravity" a very good one if men would only live up to it. An exchange thinks that Byron, who wrote about the "dark blue ocean," would not think much of "The Atlantic."

Holbrook, a Chicago "burglar," lets his friends fire at him across the room for a dollar a shot. A Georgia trial hearing of General Sherman's "little coming" was a success, as a whiskey barrel in the rooming and a barrel of whiskey were taken away.

A western editor writing a sketch of his life says he discovered he was only his uncle. A man in Ohio who has written three thousand communications to the newspapers, not one of which has been published.

A New York cotemporary says that owing to the pressure for room in the office of a rival paper, the latter's corps of African correspondents have moved to an adjoining hotel.

A Narrow Escape.

A narrow escape from a P. S. Kerlin, but certainly a narrow escape. Kerlin was again being experimenting with a railroad train in motion and the track. On Friday last, as the train was passing the station, Kerlin attempted to "draw a plank of coal from a coal car, but the piece being larger than he had calculated upon, it drew him instead between two cars.

Compressing himself as small as possible he lay flatly on the track, and the front end of the car and the back passed over him, one of the wheels catching his nose and pushing it into his eye. He then rolled out from under the car and took position under the edge of the platform where he remained until the train passed. When the train came to a stop, Kerlin crawled out from under the platform and out about half an inch of it, of course, across the top without injuring them in the least.

This is the last performance he has had since he was struck by an engine, which will strike by the country. He is very fortunate with all his mishaps, as this is the third time he has narrowly escaped death by the cars. The Erie, New York City, has resumed publication of its new newspaper.

The publishers of the St. Paul (Minnesota) Press are building an elegant new office to cost over \$25,000. A Minnesota paper thinks the doctrine of "total depravity" a very good one if men would only live up to it.

An exchange thinks that Byron, who wrote about the "dark blue ocean," would not think much of "The Atlantic." A card was hung out of a "welfare" shop in "Sandusky City," Ohio, while the State Sabbath School Convention was in that place, which reads: "Oysters in every stile, coked to order. Friends of the reformed will please call."

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Good News for the Ladies.

Good News for the Ladies. FALL OPENING OF BONNETS, TRIMMINGS, MILLINERY, at Mrs. M. E. Shoop's, In Centre Hall.

Mrs. M. E. Shoop, has just returned from Philadelphia, with the LATEST FASHIONS, and a complete stock of New Bonnets, New Hats, Elegant Trimmings, etc., which will be sold or made up, as usual, at reasonable prices.

Wholesale and retail dealers in Stoves & Tinware. Attention is called to his stock of Reeking Plate, a new size, which he has just received, size 40x20. It makes better job than he has ever seen, and is furnished cheaper than any other establishment in town.

LOW PRICES! Fall and Winter Goods. At The Old Stand. Ladies and Gents DRESSES, GOODS, DRY GOODS, AND GROCERIES.

Look Here! THE DEXTER CLOTHES WASHER. THE BEST WASHING MACHINE IN THE MARKET.

WOLF'S OLD STAND. WESSELL TAKE PARTICULAR CARE TO MAKE AS DESIRE.

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