

THE PITTSBURGH POST.

JAMES P. BARR, Editor and Proprietor.

PITTSBURGH: FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 2, 1898.

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS.

FOR SUPREME JUDGE, WILLIAM A. PORTER, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER, WESTLEY FROST, OF FAYETTE COUNTY.

THE MARKETS.

The Weekly Review of the Pittsburgh Markets, Allegheny Cattle Market, New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia Telegraphic Markets will be found on our first page this morning.

AN EXCELLENT NUMBER.

The Weekly Post of this week is unsurpassed for interest and variety of contents. It is a mammoth sheet, printed on large, clear type and fine white paper, at the low price of one dollar per year in clubs of ten; two dollars per single subscription. The following embraces a portion of the contents:

EDITORIALS.

THE PRESS.

REMOVAL OF JUDGE LOVING.

JUDICIAL SALARIES.

THE COLLIER FRAMERS.

THE STATE TICKET.

RAILROAD STATISTICS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

STILL THE SAME.

THE LAST PHASE OF THE KANSAS QUESTION.

APPEARANCES OF DAMAGES.

THE CONDITION OF MICHIGAN.

WORTHILY DESTROYED.

THE MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS' BANK.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

MISCELLANY.

FIGHTING THE TIGER.

PITTSBURGH, ST. WAYNE & CHICAGO RAILROAD.

GOING UP ON SHARP.

THE PUBLIC PRINTING PLUNDER.

AMUSEMENTS IN NEW YORK.

WILD CAT ASSET.

NEWS, ETC.

EXECUTION OF THE FRENCH ASSASSIN, GEMINI AND FERRIS.

EXERCITION TO DEATH.

OUR CANDIDATE FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER.

JUDICIAL FORFEIT.

WESTERN EDUCATION.

FURNISHING ORDER.

NEWS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

OHIO, HOBBLES.

REPLY OF COL. JOHNSON.

ANOTHER DIFFICULTY WITH A PRISONER—ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

RELEGATION TO PHOENIX.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

PASSAGE OF THE LEICOMTON CONSTITUTION IN THE HOUSE.

ARRIVAL FROM EUROPE.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN NEW YORK.

WASHINGTON CITY AFFAIRS.

FROM UTAH.

LOCAL.

ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS.

A WATCHMAN BEATEN.

ROBBERY OF THE HIGHWAY.

THE BEMPHIELD RAILROAD.

FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED.

PAN HARBOR.

FAYETTE COUNTY RAILROAD.

ROBBERY.

COMMERCIAL.

REVIEW OF THE PITTSBURGH MARKET.

ALLEGEDLY CATTLE MARKET.

PITTSBURGH RETAIL MARKET.

NEW YORK RETAIL AND CATTLE MARKET.

CINCINNATI MARKET.

THE LAST PHASE OF THE KANSAS QUESTION.

The long-ay is over. As will be seen by reference to our telegraphic column, the House of Representatives have acted finally upon the Bill for the admission of Kansas, having first adopted the amendments of Mr. Montgomery to the bill as offered by Mr. Crittenden in the senate. This substitute as given by a correspondent of the Philadelphia Press was in effect as follows:

The first section provided that, "inasmuch as it is greatly deprecated whether the Constitution with which Kansas is admitted, was fairly made, &c." Instead of this, and to avoid even a tacit admission of the legality of that instrument Mr. Montgomery substituted these words—"but inasmuch as it is greatly disputed whether the Constitution formed at Leicommton and now pending before Congress, was fairly made, or expresses the will of the people," &c.

The second amendment provides that after the Constitution is framed by the Convention, (the Leicommton Constitution having been rejected) it shall be submitted to the people for adoption or rejection; and that as soon as the result of said election is made known to the President of the United States, he shall issue a proclamation declaring Kansas one of the States of the Union, without any further legislation on the part of Congress. This is done to terminate the controversy on the Kansas question at once; and to make the act of admission a finality, and give the lie to the slander that the anti-Leicommton men desire to keep the question open for an indefinite time.

The third amendment strikes out the clause which provides that "no person except citizens of the United States" should be permitted to vote at any election—and substitutes "all white male inhabitants of said Territory over twenty-one years of age, who are legal voters under the laws of Kansas, and none others, shall be permitted to vote, &c."

Mr. Montgomery, by this modification of Mr. Crittenden's proposition, has made the bill a fair one, and by his prompt, manly and successful efforts has won for himself a proud position in the esteem of the honest, patriotic and conservative of all parties.

Throughout this entire Kansas question, we have advocated a fair compromise for the sake of the whole country, and have been abundantly answered by our talented young Pennsylvania Legislator, in such a character as should meet the views of all parties to "sober second thought." We sincerely hope that the amendments of the House may be promptly concurred in by the Senate, in a spirit of manly and honorable compromise, and that this vexed question shall be forever put at rest.

We know that this will be claimed by the enemies of the Democratic party as a defeat of the administration? We do not look upon it in that light. We know that Mr. Montgomery who offered the substitute in warm, ardent, and active, and in Pennsylvania we may add, as powerful a friend as the President has in the country. He has done what he has done for the good of the great Democratic party. He has successfully upheld a great principle of that party, but he is none the less a warm supporter and ardent admirer of the wisdom, the prudence and patriotism of the distinguished Pennsylvania Statesman who now so ably fills the chief position in this great nation.

The Democratic party of the United States is no weak thing to be dismissed and deserted by any temporary differences of opinion upon isolated questions of public policy, and it now depends upon the Senate to consummate that which the House has so happily begun.

Not less than two hundred buildings are now in process of erection in Leavenworth, Kansas, notwithstanding the severity of winter. We venture to say there will be one thousand buildings put up in the present season.

THE COUNTY JAIL.

The Gazette gives a frightful picture of outrages committed by the prisoners upon one another in the county jail. These things are greatly to be deplored, but the cause of them does not lie in any neglect or malfeasance of duty in those having charge of the institution, but in the system of jail imprisonment itself. In large cities like our own, it is the duty of the tax payers to provide an additional place of confinement for vagrant, idle and disorderly persons, where they may be put to work, and earn their living. The County Jail is designed as a place to confine persons charged with crime, and awaiting trial, and as a place of punishment for certain classes of criminals. In the rural counties all answers all the requirements of the law, but in a large city humanity and public policy both imperatively demand a workhouse for the criminal class which ever infests large cities. Some weeks since we spoke at length upon the evil influences of jail associations, and urged that the county authorities should initiate some measure of reform. The evils incident to the system cannot be remedied as long as criminals of all classes are permitted to be crowded into a building utterly unfit to properly contain a third of the number who are sent within its walls. Outrages like those of which the Gazette speaks are inevitable as things at present exist. Our jail, originally designed for confining in single cells no more than fifty prisoners, is crowded at all times with at least one hundred and fifty, and generally a much greater number. It is absolutely necessary that three and four prisoners should breathe the air of each other seven by nine cells. This is inhuman. It is not to be expected that the social intercourse among the congregate assemblage of burglars, gamblers, thieves, murderers, drunkards, barbers, should be particularly polite, refined or moral, under the circumstances in which the jail places them. Wolves and lambs, faxes and geese, are penned up together by law, and it is idle to expect that they should constitute a "happy family." The mere fact of the existence of such a system in a Christian land is an outrage upon common sense and humanity. The superfluous poison and corruption of society is poured into one common receptacle, and it is idle to think it will purify itself.

For many years out-ages of the kind which the Gazette speaks have occurred within the walls of our county prison. In Sheriff Magill's time a boy was actually barred to death by some benighted young devil in the cell mates. The present custodian of the jail, Sheriff Patterson and Jailor Phillips are careful, full, intelligent, and no indefatigable officers, but it is not possible for them, nor for any man or set of men to prevent such occurrences altogether as long as they are compelled to keep near two hundred villainous vagabonds at no more than fifty. The Gazette does not directly throw the blame upon them, but it leaves the inference that it is in their power to prevent the evil. Such is not the fact. They are officers of unusual efficiency, and the best mechanic cannot do good work unless furnished with the requisite machinery and tools.

It is time that the public voice demanded in tones too loud to be resisted, a total change of the present system. Give us a place where the vagabonds and criminals, who now are supported by the tax-payers in idleness, and are only made worse, instead of better by their punishment, shall be compelled to earn their own livelihood, and their outrages may be prevented, but under the present system they will always from time to time recur, and will continue to occur, not withstanding all the vigilance of such excellent officers as we at present have. The change will cost something at the outset, but it will be cheaper in the end, and public morality will be largely the gain.

HOLY WEEK.

The present week is devoted by the Catholic Church to a variety of religious ceremonies—it being the closing week of Lent—the penitential season.

Yesterday was Holy Thursday. On this day the Catholic Church celebrates the institution of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The oils which are used in the administration of the Sacrament and other ceremonies of the Church are blessed on this day. It is one of the most imposing functions of the year. The ceremonies took place at the Cathedral yesterday and were celebrated with great solemnity and magnificence. The celebrants on this occasion was the Right Reverend Dr. Leary, Bishop of Fort Wayne, Indiana. The Right Reverend E. McMahon was Assistant Priest, Fr. E. Plank, Deacon, and Mr. Seneca, Fr. St. Michael's Theological Seminary, St. Deacon. Nearly all the priests of Pittsburgh and environs were present, robes in their sacred vestments. The students of St. Michael's Seminary also assisted in the ceremonies.

To-day is Good Friday—the anniversary of the death of Christ. The ceremonies at the Cathedral to-day will be of the most solemn and imposing character, and are intended to represent the profound grief and sorrow that should afflict the Christian mind at the remembrance of the sufferings of the Redeemer, upon the anniversary of his passion. The services at St. Paul's will commence this morning at nine o'clock, and in the afternoon at 8 o'clock.

Next Sunday will be Easter, the close of the long fast of Lent, and appropriate ceremonies will take place in the Cathedral to celebrate the occasion.

THE TONNAGE TAX AGAIN.

The Union asks of us light relative to the Commission agency of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in this city. As we are not the agents of the company, we respectfully refer our neighbors to Messrs. Clark & Co., who, we presume, will give them every satisfaction. The Pennsylvania Railroad pays agents, as do all other roads, to do business for them, and to secure freight for their line, but what they pay we never inquired. We do know, however, that freight is charged cheaper now on this city than ever before, and we are confident, and active, and in Pennsylvania we may add, as powerful a friend as the President has in the country. He has done what he has done for the good of the great Democratic party. He has successfully upheld a great principle of that party, but he is none the less a warm supporter and ardent admirer of the wisdom, the prudence and patriotism of the distinguished Pennsylvania Statesman who now so ably fills the chief position in this great nation.

THE MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS' BANK.

The Governor has signed the bill for the recharter of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Bank of this city, as we presumed he would, when we yesterday announced its final passage in the House. The successful result of the application of this institution for recharter will be hailed with satisfaction by our entire business community.

REVENUE.

Hunt & Leonard were sent on the March number of Miner Scott & Co's republication of this old and sterling Magazine. The number is a first rate one, and may be had at the great Periodical Depot, under Masonic Hall, Fifth Street.

OF LEGISLATURE.

We are not disposed to find fault with the public servants without cause, but we must reserve the Sol to Mr. Harrisburg that their constituents in this western half of the State are impressed more than ordinarily with the idea that, as yet, they have not done anything like what was expected of them. The session is now drawing to a close, and yet we find upon the list of enactments already passed very few bills of general public interest and importance. We are perfectly aware that an immense number of bills have been introduced and a large number of laws enacted, which will do much to make every thick book covered with blue paper, and will be called "Pamphlet Laws of 1898." By a wise exercise of the veto power the Governor has done considerable to reduce the size of this volume, but still a large share of the enactments which will contain will not relate to matters of grave public importance. It may be all right to spend the public time and the public money in making charters for military companies, and the Sons of Malta, and other similar matters of local concern. We do not object to these if to be the time expended upon them does not interfere with other questions of more moment to the people at large.

The members of the present Legislature were elected in the midst of a great financial crisis when the currency was tainted and business prostrated, and it was expected that they would take some decided steps to provide, so far as lay in their power, a remedy against similar disasters in time to come. A reform of the banking system of the State was, beyond doubt, one of the measures which the people have expected from their representatives. That our present system had defects which might be remedied, was pretty generally admitted, and some former legislation was deemed necessary to establish a wider specie basis and to restrict the amount of paper circulation. Thus, the people thought when the Legislature met, but times have not gone on as money is plenteous, the Relief Law of the special session enabled the banks to re-establish their affairs and place themselves in a condition from which they never should have departed, and now there appears to be an apathy about giving the people an efficient security against future financial evils like those of the past six months. The Relief Law was right enough, and has enabled the banks to increase their specie and reduce their circulation without oppression to their customers and the business interests of the community. Now, let us have such laws as will keep them where they are and prevent a recrudescence of the storm is over and the country again becoming prosperous—industry is reviving and prospects all look bright—but we want provision for the future. It should be put out of the power of the banks to re-commit past errors, and now is the time to do it.

The insurance business also needs a thorough overhauling, and some means should be devised for the public safety against frauds in this business, which is a large, an increasing, and an important one.

The important questions of the size of the remainder of the Public Works, and the Relief of the Tonnage Tax, we presume will be discussed.

The bill introduced by Mr. Buckle, relative to railroad statistics, should be acted upon, and it would be greatly for the interests of the people of the State, and tend most potently to develop her resources, if a department were established for ascertaining and arranging and publishing the statistics of all the great sources of wealth which exist so abundantly in our State.

There are many other subjects of general interest which might have been properly brought before the present Legislature. We need more general and less special legislation, than we have had the winter. No doubt the members think they have worked hard, and earned that extra pay of two hundred dollars, but the people think, too; and their thoughts are that they pay a good deal for a very little. Let the next three weeks show that their servants have earned their money.

In this connection, it is with pride and pleasure that we have remarked that during the entire session, the Senators and Delegates to the Assembly from our own county have been among the hardest workers at the Capitol from any part of the State. We have nothing to complain of them. They have been diligent for the interests of their constituency, early and late in their seats, and unflinching from labor and investigation when required. The large legislative experience and great practical knowledge of our Senators, have been of immense value to us; and our Assemblymen, although most of them are new in legislative halls, have at once taken position among the most active and useful members.

Our complaint is not special—it is general. We had hoped that his suggestion of Governor Paeker, in his inaugural message, that the most important business of the session should not be deferred until the last, would have been more closely acted upon than has been. We have spoken—and spoken what the people hereabout think.

WESTLEY FROST.

The London Illustrated News.

We have frequently spoken of the high degree of artistic skill exhibited in the engravings of this journal which also possesses a fit and rare literary character. Messrs. Hunt & Leonard of the Periodical Depot in Masonic Hall, have just received a new number which is a perfect gem. Besides an unusual number of splendid wood illustrations, it contains an exquisitely finished lithograph. Call and buy a copy. It is worth ten times what it costs.

What the New York Police Costs.

According to the report made to the Legislature by the Metropolitan Police Commissioners, the expenses of the department for less than five months is \$477,664.24. As a large number of the old force, under Mayor Wood, are decided by the courts to have been illegally discharged, the city will have to pay them in full for their demands. The number of policemen in the new department is not so large as the old force. That cost in the course of \$800,000. This year the Metropolitan Police will not cost less than \$1,300,000.

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THE TONNAGE TAX QUESTION.

The Dispatch of Thursday morning has a very sensible article upon this question, from which we make the following extract. In speaking of the Tonnage Tax, that paper says: "Having the impost to pay, the Pennsylvania Company acts as does the individual. Where it can, it will make the shipper pay the freight, and will not let the carrier by that route. There are no competing lines, to carry the freight, means the impost tax. The increased cost to the shipper by reason of the State levy, inevitably falls upon the tonnage shipped. The shipper is made to pay the tax."

But there are competing routes for the freight, and the Pennsylvania road, conjoining with its western connections, desires to retain that freight, they will make it, for instance from Cincinnati to Philadelphia or New York, at the same cost as the Lake Shore or other routes contract to do. The western shipper has a choice of alternatives, not given to the local trader, and he will not give to the company to take the freight at rival prices, though the profit be small, or lose it through trade altogether. It is not to be expected that the Pennsylvania road, upon the tonnage, for freight transit through this State, from its own revenues.

The Pennsylvania road, therefore, grows out of the impost levied by the State, which falls upon the local shipper, and not upon the western. It is absurd to talk about what the Company ought to do, or what they can afford to do. The Pennsylvania road is not blessed with more sensitive consciences, or burdened with more commercial integrity, than individual men. They are governed by a law of individual interest working through a corporate form.

That this discrimination operates upon Pittsburgh shippers is a matter of fact. What policy should govern our business men—what course should they pursue? If they insist upon continuing to do the bills, while they gain nothing for themselves, they cripple the business of a road ultimately to become one of the main arteries of the State, and between the extreme West and the Atlantic seaboard. If they insist upon the tonnage impost as a measure of retaliation, they will strike themselves and their shippers with increased momentum."

This is certainly a common sense view of the matter, and one which we presume will be ably sustained by the senior editor of that paper, who is one of the most careful, hard-thinking and hard-working members whom Allegheny county has ever sent to the State Legislature. We regret that the crowded state of our columns prevents us from reproducing the Dispatch's article entire.

CHIVALRY.

The Hon. Mr. Smith, of Virginia, announced on Saturday that he should make public use of any private conversation which he might have had with him upon public affairs, should he be compelled to give evidence before a grand jury, and was expressly cited at the time that it was confidential. We suspect, says the New York Times, that this frank but slightly sneaking declaration will render Mr. W. Smith's acquaintances a little cautious in politics. After this, he will probably hear nothing worth retelling. Some men find it impossible to be patriotic except by becoming spies. Mr. W. Smith would exactly suit France. His ideas would exactly suit Napoleon III.

Billy Boyette Gives In.

Accounts from Key West to the 21st state that there is at least a prospect of the Indian war in Florida being brought to a conclusion. The Arkansas delegation of Senators had a talk with Billy Boyette on the 16th, when Billy expressed his determination to withdraw from the contest, and to remove his headquarters as soon as it was made in the form of his hands, it was thought that San Jones, the head of the war party, was dead. The Indians would not, however, acknowledge it. Another talk was to take place on the 19th.

REMOVAL.

JOHN MOORHEAD has removed to No. 74 Water street, below Market.

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