

THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

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A WORD IN SEASON.

Effort, it is said, is the price of success in every department of human action. Nothing can be accomplished without the exercise of the physical or mental powers. Every achievement of art, science or literature are the result of labor—constant, unremitting toil. No system of government has ever been framed in the haunts of indolence—no nation has ever attained to any degree of eminence whatever by reclining in the lap of apathy—and no great purpose can be consummated through inattention and carelessness.

The truths which are thought to be contained in the above brief paragraph, we would have every member of the American party ponder, study well. If there is any one thing which we would impress upon those who belong to our party more strongly than another, it is that of constant, harmonious action. There never yet was a party successful that failed to exercise it. This the great apostle of modern Democracy well knew, and it was his constant endeavor to have the party move and work like "a unit." And should we not profit by the opinions and experience of others? Should we not try to avoid the errors which have involved others in defeat, and practice those essentials which insure success? If we act wisely, we certainly will.

"In union there is strength," is a truthful maxim, and to its faithful and incessant practice by our revolutionary sires, are we at this day indebted for that great boon, which is guaranteed to every citizen of this country—civil and religious liberty. The perpetuity of these blessings depend, beyond a doubt, upon a just exercise of constitutional rights and privileges and a proper administration of our laws. It is conceived by a very numerous class of the citizens of the United States, that no one is so well calculated to perform the functions indicated as the individual who has been reared beneath the folds of our own "stars and stripes." The reflecting mind will have but little difficulty in arriving at such a conclusion. It is not to be expected that a person, imbued with the sanguinary doctrines of the Red Republicans of France, the deistical fallacies of the infidels of Germany, the agrarian views of the enthusiasts of Ireland, or the absurd and superstitious opinions of the bigotted Italian devotee, would, at least until a radical change had been effected in his antecedents, be a proper exponent of our constitution or in any way calculated to frame laws for either our individual, state or national government. Of all foreign influences, however, that might be brought to bear upon the political institutions of this country, it is presumed that none would be more pernicious than that of papal ecclesiastical—for its proclivities are, as well as its practices have been, at variance with the fundamental principles of Freedom. Nor does it require any special or elaborate argument to demonstrate this; for, if we but glance over the face of the earth, the truth is at once apparent that in those countries where catholicism has the supremacy, there despotism is invariably found to prevail. The restraining, therefore, of any and all influences that would prove deleterious to the principles of liberty, subversive of our republican institutions, or productive of evil in any way to our Government, should be carefully guarded against—and it is for the accomplishment of such a purpose, by securing the success of our party, that we urge our American friends to work constantly and unitedly.

"THE TIMBER BUSINESS."—We have received a lengthy communication on the "Timber Business," which, we believe, contains some very sensible and timely suggestions, but, as the writer observes in his postscript, it ought to have been re-written before it was sent for publication, as our time is so much occupied as to render it impossible for us to put it in proper shape. We embrace this opportunity for requesting correspondents to take pains to write in a legible hand, and to commit no grammatical or other blunders, as an editor's time cannot be occupied with their correction.

From a Statement of the Revenue Commissioners we learn that the whole amount of real and personal property in Pennsylvania, taxable for State purposes, for the year 1855, was valued at \$531,731,804, and the assessment of taxes thereon \$1,619,967—the taxable inhabitants numbering 565,151. The real and personal property in Clearfield county, for the year named, was valued at \$1,249,182, the tax assessed thereon amounted to \$3,845 04, and the number of taxables was 3,984—being on an average nearly \$1 tax for every taxable inhabitant, for State purposes alone.

THE HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH came to us last week in a large octavo form and printed on new type. It is now one of the largest and most handsome sheets in the State, conducted by able and experienced editors. It is issued twice a week during the session of the Legislature, and once a week the remainder of the year, at \$2 a year, "the money invariably to accompany the order." Any of our readers who wish to procure a paper from the State capital would do well to send for the Telegraph.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The message of Gov. Pollock, which we published last week and which our readers have had time to peruse and digest, is one of the best documents of the kind that has come under our notice for some time. The subjects, to which allusion is made in the message, are discussed in a lucid and perspicuous manner, the suggestions therein contained are prudent, useful and practicable, and, taken as a whole, it is an able and statesmanlike production. It has elicited the commendation of the press generally, throughout the State, and it is only here and there that a violent opposition sheet will venture to speak of it in anything like disparaging terms.

The financial affairs of the Commonwealth are represented as being in a wholesome condition, and it cannot be otherwise than gratifying to the taxpayers of the State to know that, notwithstanding large sums have been expended for unfinished improvements commenced under former administrations, no resort to loaning has been made and that the revenue of the year has exceeded the expenditures to the amount of \$630,601; that the interest on the State debt for the past year has been paid, and that the balance in the Treasury is amply sufficient to pay the interest for the current year.

On the several questions of banks, agriculture, common schools, the State institutions, &c., the Governor is explicit and utters opinions strictly in accordance with his views heretofore expressed on these subjects; the condition of the public works are set forth clearly; several valuable suggestions and propositions are made, after which, as a contemporary remarks, "a few well-expressed sentiments, in which every patriotic citizen will heartily join, conclude what we are disposed to regard as one of the best State papers that has ever been issued from the Executive chair."

WINTER, &c.—Here, in Clearfield, we are in the midst of winter. During the last two weeks, snow fell in large quantities, and at this time it is perhaps three feet in depth. Until the close of the past week, the sleighing was elegant. Within the recollection of that revered personage, "the oldest inhabitant," it was never known to have been better—and well it has been used by everybody. The more advanced in years, as well as the gay and youthful, have been indulging in the pleasures which are peculiar to the season. Springing juvenility and incipient manhood have been playing the delectable to smiling misses, and blushing maidens of "sweet sixteen." The farmer has taken advantage of the good condition of the roads to convey his products to market, and the sturdy raftsmen are busy gliding the slender spar and weighty timber to the river's brink. In short—to use a common phrase—all are endeavoring to "make the most of it."

On last Thursday morning, a large party left this place for Philipsburg, where they partook of an excellent dinner at the house of one Atherton, "who keepeth an hotel," and returned again in the afternoon, having enjoyed an agreeable and delightful sleigh-ride.

In the evening of the same day, another party went to Dr. Schryver's, where the time was pleasantly whiled away with music and dancing, until the "wee short hours away the twal" coming on apace, admonished them to desist and seek their homes.

The cold has been very severe, the mercury on Wednesday morning falling to 19 degrees below zero. The wind was very high on several days and drifted the snow in some places so much as to render the passage of the roads somewhat difficult.

THE NEW BANK AT CAMDEN.—We clip the following from the last number of the West Jerseyman:—"The new Banking House is fast approaching completion, and will prove quite an ornament to the principal street of the city, on which it stands. The Institution will go into operation under the most favorable auspices, having the good wishes of the entire community, which has felt that the growing business of this section of the State called for an increase of banking facilities for its accommodation. There is enough business for both the old and new Bank, and the judicious management of both these institutions cannot fail to impart a healthy impetus to the trade of which our city is the centre. The new institution will commence banking operations on Wednesday, the second day of the new year. The Board of Directors is composed of the following gentlemen:—A. W. Markley, Ab. Browning, M. Browning, R. W. Howell, C. S. Garrett, Wm. P. Tatom, B. P. Sisty, N. N. Stokes, Geo. Haywood, Ezra Evans, Wm. Buzby, C. P. Browning, Benj. Shreve. The subordinate officers having been elected at the Directors' meeting on Saturday, the following comprises a complete list of the officers of the institution: President, A. W. Markley; Cashier, D. R. Maddock; Receiving Teller, James H. Stevens; Book-keeper, Wm. Wright; Runner and Watchman, Hugh H. Bate; Solicitor, R. W. Howell; Notary, P. J. Gray."

THE MAILS have been much deranged in their transmission by the recent snow storms.—The cars on the railroads have been obstructed in their passage, and within the last few days there have been no regular connections. We have received no Philadelphia papers for several days. Nearly every journal we receive has accounts of the unusual quantity of snow that seems to have fallen everywhere.

BRADY, of the Brookville Jeffersonian, was in town on Monday on his way home from Harrisburg. He dropped in to see us, and we must say that he is the same easy, open-mouthed chap he always was. He thinks the "drama" is at a low ebb, and that "the last Act" was so poorly played that it had better be discarded and another substituted.

The New York Assembly is in a "fix" similar to what Congress is—they can't elect their Speaker, and poor prospects ahead.

THE LATEST.

U. S. SENATOR.—Monday was the day fixed upon by the Legislature for the election of a U. S. Senator. On last Friday evening, the Democratic members met in caucus to nominate a candidate, which resulted in the selection of Hon. Wm. Bigler, on the 16th ballot, the vote standing thus: Bigler 43, Foster 18, Buckalew 11, Jones 7, Robbins 3. On the 1st ballot, Bigler had 18, Robbins 15, Foster 13, Buckalew 6, Porter 7, Jones 8, McCandless 6, scattering 3.—We have no positive information regarding the election on Monday further than that the Evening Argus says it had a dispatch stating that Mr. Bigler was elected.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.—The steamer Atlantic arrived at New York on the 13th, bringing London dates to the 31st ult. The negotiations for peace had not progressed. Prince Esterhazy had arrived at St. Petersburg and submitted the propositions to the Czar, but the latter having three weeks in which to reply, nothing was known as to his intentions. There is nothing startling from the seat of war, the intelligence being limited to details respecting the capture of Kara. Breadstuffs had declined considerably at Liverpool.

CONGRESS has done nothing specially interesting during the past week. In the House they have several ballots each day for Speaker, and the remainder of the time is spent in defining positions, or something else equally "grave and important."

ABSTRACTS OF ANNUAL REPORTS.

WAR DEPARTMENT.—The actual strength of the army is 15,762 officers and men. The authorized force is 17,867. The recruiting service is progressing satisfactorily, and it is believed that in a few months the disparity will be overcome. Enlistments to the number of 19,546 were made during the year ending September 30, but this was the whole number who desired to win glory, fighting under the banner of Uncle Sam—for there were upwards of 20,000 persons who offered to enlist, and were refused in consequence of minority and general unfitness for service. Casualties amounted to 5,500.—It is lamented, as a growing evil, that applications for the discharge of minors are so frequent; the infants who are released subject the Government to a serious bill of expense. The Secretary recommends that the contract should be made binding in every case where deception has been employed, and a modification of the existing law is called for.

The troops retain the general distribution; four additional regiments have been organized. The cavalry company which were sent against the Sioux have gone into winter quarters at Fort Leavenworth, and will be in position for operation in the Spring. The 6th Infantry checks the Indians on the Oregon route. All intercourse with the Florida Seminoles has been strictly prohibited. Efforts are in progress for their removal from the Florida country. The troops have explored the region, have opened roads, and have arrived at sources of accurate information respecting the territory now in possession of the Indians, so that future operations will be greatly facilitated. The propriety of levying volunteer reinforcements in the Pacific Department, for the purpose of chastising the savages on that coast, is a question which the Secretary declines to decide, preferring to leave it to the military commander of the Department. The gallantry of the troops in the Indian campaigns of the year is spoken of in terms of high praise; but the unusual extent of operations has caused large expenditures, which have exceeded the appropriations.

In order to preserve the efficiency of the Army, several measures are suggested, viz:—1. It is recommended that there be a revision of the laws regulating rank and command. The right of command should follow rank, or on certain rare cases officers holding general commissions should not be placed at once upon the staff, but have an opportunity to acquire practical military knowledge; troops equipped for the same service should not be divided, nor should foot be subdivided into artillery and infantry, or mounted men into dragoons and cavalry.

2. Officers no longer capable of performing active duty should be retired from the service, but the rates of compensation should be increased, and the laws respecting allowances undergo revision.

3. The provision of the Act of August 4, 1854, increasing pay of rank and file, should be extended to all enlisted men.

4. An increase of the Medical Corps is recommended.

5. Five more military store-keepers are needed in the Quartermaster General's Departments.

6. The prohibition of the purchase of lands for military posts causes embarrassments, and should be removed. Unless military sites require to be sold, the Department.

The Secretary enlarges upon these points, and presses them earnestly. A considerable proportion of them are his recommendations of last year.

The anticipations entertained, at the time of the establishment of the Military Asylum, have not been fulfilled. The average cost of maintaining each inmate is \$500. It is too much, and a reduction is necessary. The number of men received, in four years, is 287; cost, so far, \$271,497. The new building near Washington will accommodate 150 men. The branch of the Asylum at East Pascagoula, Miss., is discontinued, and similar action is recommended to the branch at Harrodsburg.

The camels and dromedaries which were ordered from the East will arrive in February.—These animals have been found useful in the Crimea, and will be employed in military service here.

A new Professorship of Ethics, and sundry other improvements at West Point are recommended.

Proper attention to the coast defences is very important, particularly the fortification of Ship Island, as connected with the defence of the approaches to New Orleans, and the command of the inner channel of communication between the Mississippi river and Mobile harbor. The entrance of the Columbia river should be fortified. Appropriations are asked for the erection of arsenals in Texas, and New Mexico, and on the North Pacific coast. New models for all small arms have been adopted, embracing the late improvements. A new pistol, with increased length of barrel, and capable of instantaneous change into a carbine, is particularly noticed.

TO PHYSICAL SCIENCE INCLUDED IN THE RESULT OF THESE SURVEYS ARE EXCEEDINGLY VALUABLE.

The final portion of the Report is an elaborate consideration of the military defences of our Pacific territory. It is argued that a railroad to the Pacific is indispensable, for the reason that it will be the only means of throwing relief into the Pacific country, and of preventing collision with a maritime power, and our navy being inadequate to the convey of the necessary number of storeships. A railroad communication is not only likely to be a saving enterprise, but it will have the effect of fortifying the Western coast against attacks from abroad. No stronger ground in favor of a Pacific road has been taken by any party not directly concerned in the speculation, than that which is assumed by Secretary Davis.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.—The report of Secretary Dobbin is an extensive and valuable document; but it misrepresents in the facts which it furnishes solely, for it is excessively wordy, long-spun, and slovenly written. The most essential part of it is the defence of the Navy Retiring Board. The defence of the Board is not particularly forcible, and all its value is negated by the admission that important mistakes had been made, injustice been done, and that the necessity exists for correcting the errors the Board had fallen into. The Secretary calls the action of the board "a reform," though no reforms whatever have been arrived at or effected, and the navy is left in precisely the same defective condition it was in before the retiring Board assembled. The only thing the Board accomplished was to put certain officers in their places, who, in a fearful number of instances, we have reason to believe, are no better than those dismissed.

The Home Squadron, commanded by Capt. Paulding, consists of the frigate Potomac, the sloop Cyane and Saratoga, and the steamer Fulton. The Columbia was last at St. Thomas. No intelligence has been had of the missing sloop Albany, which has been given up as lost. The Mediterranean Squadron, consisting of the frigate Savannah, Captain Salter; the sloop Germantown, and the brig Bainbridge; the Secretary remarks, that these vessels have been "industriously" cruising between Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo; but, as there has been no special necessity for a Squadron there during the past 20 years, they have done nothing but cruise.

The African Squadron, under the command of Captain Boscawen, consists of the sloop Janestown, Dale, St. Louis, and brig Dolphin. The sloop Marston, recently attached to the African Squadron, has been condemned as unseaworthy. The slave trade South of the Equator has been broken up.

The Mediterranean Squadron, commanded by Captain Breeze, consists of the frigate Congress, the steamer Saratoga, the sloop Constellation, and the brig St. Charles. Nothing has been done in the Mediterranean.

The East India Squadron, under the command of Captain Abbot, consists of the sloop Macedonia, the steamer Powhatan, the sloop Vandall, and the storeship J. P. Kennedy.—The civil war in China has afforded some employment for our vessels in the East. The Secretary recommends sending one of two steamers of light draft to navigate the Celestial River. The steamer San Jacinto sailed from New York, in October, to relieve the Macedonia, whose time abroad has expired. The survey of Behring's Straits and the North Pacific, under command of Commander Rogers, has been carried on with satisfactory result. The account of this expedition is the most interesting part of the Message.

The Pacific Squadron is composed of the frigates Independence, the sloop St. Mary, John Adams, and Decatur, and the steamer Massachusetts, the sloop Warren, and the ship Fredonia. The Squadron is under the command of Captain Mervine.

The Michigan steamer has been usefully employed in the upper lakes.

Like all his predecessors, the Secretary enlarges upon the increase of the Navy, and particularly an addition of steamships of a light draft of water. A great Naval force, the Secretary hints, cannot be improved by the tap of the drum, like a great army. He considers our Navy too diminutive to contend with that of any respectable power, and too feeble to protect even our own harbors. The aggregate tonnage of the U. S. in 1852, was 1,272,997 tons. During the fiscal year it was 5,212,000 tons, and our sea coast, is now greatly increased in extent, and the damage effected by a respectable enemy in six months would greatly exceed the cost of a Navy sufficient to protect our commerce sufficiently. The question of an increase of the Navy, the Secretary regards as one of peace rather than war.

The Secretary enlarges at great length upon the appropriation which he has adopted as a means for furnishing a reliable body of seamen for the Navy; and gives the testimony of officers in its favor. But we look in vain for an original idea or suggestion in Mr. Dobbin's report; it is entirely destitute of anything of the sort, and exhibits no special knowledge of the service beyond the figures which are furnished by the heads of bureaus. The old aristocratic plan which he has adopted in the state of affairs which rendered the action of the Navy Retiring Board necessary, is to be continued, and the Secretary adopts the old plan of educating men to be common sailors, without the hope or prospect of bettering their condition by good behavior.

The estimated expenses of the Department for the ensuing year are \$13,524,505 47, which is less, by nearly \$3,000,000, than the estimate of the fiscal year.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.—The following is an abstract of the report of the U. S. Secretary of the Treasury, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855.—The total amount of foreign trade show the increase of dutiable goods imported during the year ending June 30, 1855, of \$126,195,900; do. of free goods, \$18,352,926; decrease of specie and bullion, \$111,430; showing a total increase of \$144,028,336 in favor of 1855. The increase last year over 1850 is given thus: Dutiable goods, \$65,744,688; of free goods, \$18,248,394; decrease of specie and bullion, \$368,880—total increase, \$83,144,642.

The foreign imports at all the ports of the United States (including, of course, California and Oregon) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, were \$261,382,960, against \$205,780,253 for the preceding year, showing a decline of \$44,397,296. The total exports from the United States to foreign ports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, were \$275,156,840, against \$278,241,064 for the preceding year, showing a decline of only \$3,084,218. It will be seen from this, that while for the year 1854 the imports exceed the exports \$27,589,189, for the last year the exports exceed the imports \$13,778,886.

The tables further show an increase, during the last year, of \$10,102,864 in the imports of free goods but a falling off of \$51,258,807 in dutiable merchandise.—\$62,246,250 in specie. Of the total export of specie for the last year \$53,957,418 were of domestic production, and \$2,289,925, of foreign. The shipments of domestic produce, exclusive of specie, were \$22,406,339 less than for the preceding year, while there is an increase of \$1,497,231 in the exports of foreign produce, and \$12,565,510 in the exports of specie.

The Secretary favors the admission, duty free, of wool as a raw material, together with chemicals and dye-stuffs but no interference with the article of iron. The Eastern manufacturers, would be satisfied with this.

CLAYTON AND BULWER TREATY.

The great length of the diplomatic correspondence between this country and Great Britain, on Central America Affairs, renders a digest, adapted to our columns, impossible, but we will endeavor to make our readers understand the present aspects of the question. Mr. Abbott Lawrence, when minister to England, wrote a letter under date of November 8th, 1849, inquiring "whether the British Government intends to occupy or colonize Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito Coast, so called, or any part of Central America," and also "whether the British Government will unite with the United States in guaranteeing the neutrality of a ship canal, railway, or other communication, to be opened to the world and common to all nations." Allusion is also made to the question between Nicaragua and Costa Rica on a question of boundary, and between the former country and the Mosquito kingdom on a question of sovereignty, accompanied with a suggestion that the "Indians can be provided for in a manner satisfactory to Nicaragua and Great Britain, and far better for them than the equivocal position they now occupy." To this letter Lord Palmerston replied under date of Nov. 13th, 1849, assuring Mr. Lawrence that it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to "occupy or colonize" the countries he had named, and that, while a "close political connexion has existed between the Crown of Great Britain and the State and Territory of Mosquito for a period of about two centuries," the British Government "does not claim dominion in Mosquito." To the second branch of inquiry Lord P. replies in the affirmative, and expresses a desire to unite with the Government of the United States in adjusting the differences between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. These are the letters which initiated the Clayton and Bulwer Treaty, the ratifications of which were exchanged 4th July, 1850.

A Washington correspondent, N. Y. Times, referring to the unusual importance of the Nicaraguan Treaty, sent to the Senate last week for ratification, says, "Spain's treaty with Nicaragua, in 1850, recognised the jurisdiction of that republic over all the territory claimed by Great Britain to belong to the Mosquito King; therefore to be covered by her assumed protectorate." It also stipulates for the joint protection of any ship canal which might be constructed through the Nicaraguan Isthmus. It will be seen that the treaty was an important one to the United States, because, while it boldly repudiated any British interest or right in that quarter, it opened the country to American enterprise, and offered advantages to the United States well calculated to give us a ready-made market for our goods. Mr. Clayton, then Secretary of State, embraced that opportunity to negotiate a treaty with the British Minister, Bulwer, for the absolute retirement of Great Britain from all occupation or dominion, of whatever sort, in any part of Central America—holding the Spaniard before him, showing that under it we were likely to get the advantage of England in that particular part of the Isthmus where the canal was expected to be made, and offering to unite with the latter government in an arrangement by which neither should ever be able to obtain any advantages of conquest over the other. Such a treaty, if lived up to, was far the best for the U. States, because under it the strife between the two nations could consist of commercial rivalry only, in which, because of our advantages of position, and our superior energy and more rapid movement, the United States were sure to win the victory.—So Mr. Clayton made his treaty of 1850—it was ratified, and became the law. Great Britain refuses to maintain it, and holds faster than ever to her Mosquito Protectorate, and her "occupation" in Kuanan, exclaiming herself by the most ridiculous pretenses that could well be imagined. Under these circumstances our government has made a treaty with Nicaragua, which formally repudiates the basis of the British Protectorate, and makes the issue at once. It will be ratified, doubtless; and if so England may make a collision with us upon it, or not, as she chooses. The correspondent, however, ventures the prediction that she will take early occasion to put a war with us on the question beyond the range of possibility.

The same authority says, public sentiment in the United States is evidently decidedly in favor of making the issue now with England, whose evasive diplomacy has completely exhausted American patience. While Lord Clarendon declines re-opening the general argument of the merits of the case, he invites further correspondence on the subject; but the President has not yet decided whether or no to make any new treaty with England, and England will probably propose arbitration, which is not likely to succeed, because there is no great Power in Europe which we could well trust at this time, except Russia, and the arbitration of the Czar would scarcely be satisfactory to England. There is one strong argument in favor of sternest inflexibility in insisting upon the fulfilment of the treaty stipulations, which is this.—Great Britain is determined to maintain, if possible, such a foothold in the Isthmus as will enable her to command it upon occasion. It is for this that she insists on the sovereignty of her King of the Gallinipers, and upon her Colony in the Bay Islands, which are the key to the Gulf. Maintaining these, she would be able in the event of war, to cut us off from that route to and from our Pacific possessions, and so render their conquest comparatively easy. And this power in her hands would constitute a bond to keep the peace towards her, which would be extremely difficult for us to break, no matter how serious occasion we might have for war. Now, the fear of her North American Colonies imposes a wholesome restraint upon England; but if she could cut us off from the Pacific, she could consider California, Oregon, and Washington Territories cheaply purchased at the expense of her Colonies on the Atlantic.—Philad. Daily Sem.

ROMANISM AND THE BIBLE.—The Freeman's Journal, the N. York organ of Bishop Hughes, makes use of the recent fanatical murder by the Wakemantic, in Connecticut, to argue that the people at large ought not to be allowed to read the Bible, or at least only under the supervision of an infallible expounder of it, in the shape of a Papist priest. Now it will be recollected that Sly, one of the murderers, killed his victim by knocking him down with a club of witch-hazel, and then cutting his throat with a pocket knife, and the Tribune appropriately asks, "what would be thought of an argument founded on these facts in favor of exterminating all witch-hazel trees, and of allowing no man to carry a knife in his pocket, except under the supervision of a policeman?"

THE DRAINING OF THE HARLEM SEA, HOLLAND.—The Chairman of the Commission on the Draining of the Harlem Sea has published a final report on this work, which is to be finished this year. The expenses from 1839 to 1855, inclusive, are \$3,400,000, and the receipts from land to be sold is estimated at \$3,200,000. It was at first supposed the reclaimed land would be worth only some \$32 per acre but in 1853 it was actually sold for over \$120. This return exceeds all expectation, as the draining was not undertaken as a speculation, but as a precaution against further inroads of the sea. Fruitful farms already begin to appear here and there on the former floor of the sea. Forty-five thousand acres have been reclaimed from the sea, which will supply 100,000 people bountifully with the means of life.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

On the 4th inst., the Speaker of the Senate announced the following Standing Committees: Finance—Messrs. Buckalew, Brown, Flenniken, Crabb and Killinger. Judiciary—Messrs. Wilkins, Price, Jordan, Welsh and Ingram. Accounts—Messrs. Wherry, Ferguson, Frazier, Laubach and Finney. Estates and Escheats—Messrs. Flenniken, Walton, Price, Finney and Southern. Pensions and Gratuities—Messrs. Taggart, Jamison, Sellers, Evans and Ely. Literary—Messrs. Buckalew, Wilkins, Gregg, Corporations—Messrs. Brown, Straub, South, Lewis and Pratt. Public Buildings—Messrs. M'Clintock, Shuman and Jamison. Banks—Messrs. Cresswell, Crabb, Ingram, Sellers and Hoge. Canals and Inland Navigation—Messrs. Cresswell, Hoge, Sellers, Jamison and Crabb. Railroads—Messrs. Walton, Taggart, Killinger, Evans and Cresswell. Election Districts—Messrs. Mellinger, Knox, Frazier, Shuman and Laubach. Retrenchment and Reform—Messrs. Jordan, Evans, Killinger, Knox and Ely. Education—Messrs. M'Clintock, Mellinger, Gregg, Hoge and Shuman. Agriculture and Domestic Manufactures—Messrs. Knox, Taggart, Straub, Lewis, Gregg. Militia—Messrs. Straub, Taggart, Ferguson, Ely and Cresswell. Roads and Bridges—Messrs. Jamison, Wherry, Jordan, Ferguson and Frazier. Compare Bills—Messrs. Hoge, Pratt, Laubach, Mellinger, and Lewis. Vice and Immorality—Messrs. Price, Flenniken, Wilkins, Jordan and Welsh. Private Claims and Damages—Messrs. Brown, Lewis, Buckalew, Crabb and Walton. Public Printing—Messrs. Pratt, Wherry, Finney, Ingram and M'Clintock. New Counties and County Seats—Messrs. Welsh, Pratt, Southern, Browne and Walton.

The following are the Standing Committees of the House for the present session:

Waynes and Meigs—Messrs. Foster, M'Combs, Wright (Luzerne), Ball, Getz, Buck, Riddle, Orr, and Roberts. Judiciary—Wright (Luz.), Whallon, Morris, Montgomery, Phelps, Miller, Longaker, McCalmont, and M'Go. Pensions and Gratuities—Smith (Cam.), Kerr, Hamilton, Hill, Burkhard, Thompson, Munroe, Clausen—Orr, Hunker, Fry, Crawford, Sheak, Hancock, and Glover. Agriculture—Roberts, Buchanan, Augustine, Numenmacher, Harper, Pearson, Struble, Johnson, Laubach, Hibbs, Lott, Vail, Brown, Johns, Landis, Taylor, and Johnson. Domestic Manufactures—Salisbury, Munroe, Kerr, M'Ghee, Carter, Ingham, and Anderson. Accounts—Innis, Vail, M'Ghee, Maugle, Holcomb, Gaylord, and Zimmerman. Vice and Immorality—Hill, Beck, Smith, (Phil'a.), Hamill, Wright, (Dauphin,) Reinhold, Smith (Allegheny,) Kerr, Robinson. Militia—Thompson, Ramsey, Wright, (Dauphin,) Maugle, Hillegas, Kienholz, Helms. Election Districts—Hoyer, Lott, Lott, Leisnering, Ingham, Haines, and Salisbury. Banks—Irwin, Johns, Laporte, Fausold, Hibbs, Witrode, Lebo, Robinson, and Craig. Estates and Escheats—Manly, Foster, Imbrie, Magee, Morris, Miller, and M'Combs. Roads and Bridges—Hipple, Anderson, Helms, Boyd, Strouse, Hamill, and Gibbons. Corporations—Eilinger, Leisnering, Brush, Walter, Smith (Wyoming,) Barry, Backus, Yearns, and Baldwin. Local Appropriations—Johnson, Smith, (P.) Haines, Smith (Ally,) Reed, Dock, Ramsey. Lands—Sheak, Backus, Baldwin, Colbourn, Moorhead, Brenhard, and Purcell. Divorces—Riddle, Manly, Purcell, Lovett, Reed, Moorhead, and Dowdell. New Counties and Co. Seats—Craig, Hillegas, Fulton, Hunker, Buckle, Gaylord, Caldwell. Compare Bills—Smith, (Wyoming,) Hunker, Barry, Hoyer, and Caldwell. Library—Longaker, Imbrie and Walter. Canals and Inland Navigation—M'Carthy, Zimmerman, Campbell, Holcomb, Patterson, Beck and Housekeeper. Printing—Hancock, Glover and Campbell. Public Buildings—Yoursley, Ball and Lovett. Railroads—Hunker, Buckle, Gaylord, Caldwell. 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