

THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

Raftsmen's Journal.



S. E. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA., FEB. 1, 1857.

DECLINES.—The Harrisburg Telegraph of the 27th Jan. says:—“We are authorized by Gov. Pollock to say that he will not be a candidate for re-election to the place he now holds. This determination was formed long since, and has been often expressed by him publicly and privately, to his friends. He is not and will not be a candidate.” We are really sorry to hear of this determination on the part of Gov. Pollock, for we believe with him as the candidate of the Opposition, we could easily defeat Locofocoism next fall.

The Congressional Investigating Committee will be prevented, by the non-arrival of witnesses living far distant from Washington, from making a report at as early a day as they had anticipated. Some progress has been made in the examination of witnesses. Mr. Simonton, the correspondent of the N. Y. York Times, gave his testimony, but divulged nothing calculated to criminate members. Joseph L. Chester, who was arrested at Philadelphia by the Sergeant-at-Arms, and committed for contempt, was brought before the Committee on Monday a week, but nothing important was brought to light by his testimony. A man named Sweeney, who was employed last year as Assistant Doorkeeper, testified that Mr. Gilbert of New York, and Dr. Welsh of Connecticut, both members of Congress, received bribes—the former fifty dollars, and the latter one thousand dollars. Sweeney, after giving his testimony, left the city, and the parties implicated have issued a warrant for his arrest, intending to prosecute him criminally. Gilbert and Welsh have presented abundance of proof that their defamer was actuated by malicious motives in giving evidence against them. We think this investigation, like all former ones of a similar character, will bring nothing of importance to light.

AN INTERESTING FIGHT.—The Democracy of Schuykill county are at loggerheads with each other, relative to the course pursued by Messrs. Lebo and Waggoner on the U. S. Senator question. One portion of the party denounces them, and another equally sustains their course. Meetings are being held by both factions all over the county, and if Gen. Cameron's election had accomplished nothing more, it has at least had the effect of creating a division among the Locofoco antagonists who have ruled Schuykill county for a number of years, with a high hand. We are inclined to think, from present appearances, that the “disturbances” will not be confined to that county, but that the “Harmonists” of other sections of the State may “get into each others' wool” also. Let them go it.

The recent snow storm was remarkably severe. No train was able to pass between Lancaster and Philadelphia from Sunday evening until the Sunday morning following. Six days the road was completely blocked up by snow banks. The greater part of the snow fell on Saturday the 17th.

The weather the last week has been very severe, the thermometers in different places indicating from 25 to 40 below zero.

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 27th, 1857.

MR. EDITOR OF JOURNAL:—The political excitement consequent upon the election of Simon Cameron to the Senate of the United States, has, in a great measure, subsided, and the legislators are attending to their usual duties. The excitement among the politicians and office-seekers was intense. A large number of persons, from different parts of the State, who were expecting and desiring office under the National Administration, were here, anxious for the election of that man to the Senate of the United States, from whom they expected help in obtaining their portion of the public crib. You may imagine their chagrin, when the first ballot was announced, and the Democracy, pert, disinterested, as they always are when there are offices to be distributed were defeated. All their hopes of office sank to zero immediately. On the part of the Americans and Republicans the thing was well managed. The Buchanan men were strongly under the impression that the Opposition could not agree among themselves. To favor this impression, the Republicans made a feint of unwillingness to go into convention for an election. They had a perfect understanding of their strength, and knew the result was, the Padre was sent for and formally received by this government as Minister Plenipotentiary of Nicaragua.

FUNERAL CEREMONIES.

The funeral ceremonies of Preston S. Brooks attracted a large crowd to Congress. The President, Heads of Departments and members of the Legislature were present; also, Mr. Buchanan. The proceedings were somewhat marred in the House by an indiscreet reference of Mr. Savage to the Sumner affair, which excited much resentment on the Republican side of the House and was discounted by others as most inappropriate and offensive. Many left the Chamber, feeling insulted by these remarks, and attempts were made to suppress or qualify them. Referring to that brutal assault he said distinctly, “the world has ever since approved and applauded the wisdom and justice of the deed.”

MR. BUCHANAN.—Mr. Buchanan overshadows everything. The Cabinet makers are in a state of great excitement, but they know nothing, for they learn nothing. It seems, however, to be generally understood that Gen. Cass, who was shaking in the wind when Mr. Buchanan left Wheeling, is now definitely laid upon the shelf. But Mr. Buchanan keeps his own counsels, and will make his own appointments, and with due deliberation.

Two heavy shocks of an earthquake occurred at Panama on the 16th inst.

A Convention between Chili and the United States has been signed by the representatives of both countries.

Two Ministers from Costa Rica were expected at Chili to organize jointly with Chili, an opposition to filibuster invasions.

The revolution in Peru has become general.

General Vivanco having obtained possession of every post on the coast except Callao, has issued a proclamation as Supreme chief of Peru, annulling the decree of President Castillo, which suspended the payment of the interest on the national debt.

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that within ten or twelve miles of that place, on the north side of Neuse, bears, catamounts and wild cats exist to such an extent that it is with great difficulty hogs and sheep are raised.

Senator Straub, who voted for Forney, has published some sensible reasons for refusing to sign the silly protest got up against Cameron's election. He shows by figures that if the doctrine contended for was recognized, there could be no election so long as the majority in the two houses were of opposite policies.

A letter from Portsmouth Va., states that an enterprising individual had established a bar-room on the ice in the river, where he was doing quite a business in selling liquor, oysters, &c., to foot passengers between Norfolk and Portsmouth. On account of the novelty many had given him a call, and partook of his “creature comforts.”

In a town in Orange county, in the State of New York, there are now living a man and his wife who have not spoken for eight years. They often go to work together, sleep in one bed, take their meals, at the same table, and show not the slightest anger towards each other. The only reason to be assigned for their obstinate and protracted silence is, that each is too proud to speak first.

Advance in Tea.—The New York Times of a late date says that “the news of the bombardment of Canton has materially increased the price of tea. Housekeepers are in despair. A cup of Souchong at its last drawing—all the strength is drawn out of them, now that meat and drink both have gone up to starvation point. We have meat and poultry at famine prices—the wine crop destroyed—no more brandy coming—vegetables worth their weight in gold—house rent up and rising, and the very air, light and water doled out to us through gisters. Where are these things to end?”

From your friend, very respectfully,
HENRY S. MOTT, Esq.,
HARRISBURG, Jan. 27th, 1857.

Mr. Waggoner considered this letter as an insult to Senators Bigler and Brodhead, and other prominent Democrats, and contrary to Buchanan's former expressed opinions. It stigmatized the two Senators as unworthy of confidence—that “highly confidential relations” could not exist between them and the President elect. No greater insult could be offered to the friends of Mr. Bigler, one of whom Mr. Waggoner pretended to be.

The allusion to Mr. Brodhead was unmistakably plain. Mr. W., then severely reviewed the character and conduct of Forney, and said by voting for Gen. Cameron he thought he had assisted in electing a gentleman to the U. S. Senate, who is highly esteemed in all the relations of life.

A TERRIFIC HURRICANE devastated the Philippine Islands on October 27th. All the suburbs of Manila and the neighboring villages were reduced to heaps of ruins. The number of houses destroyed at that place alone, was above three thousand five hundred. Official returns show that more than ten thousand houses were destroyed within a circuit of about eight leagues around Manila. Six foreign vessels in the Roads of Manila were also driven ashore.

The cost of the Cincinnati public school is over \$25 a year for each pupil in them.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

THE RECEPTION OF PADRE VIJIL.

Within a few days we have learned some facts in regard to the history of the recognition of Padre Vijil by President Pierce, which have not yet been placed before the public.—It seems that on the arrival of the Padre in the United States, it was arranged by Major Heiss, who accompanied him, that he (the Padre) should remain in New York, while he (the Major) went on to Washington and smoothed the way for his recognition by this government.

On Major Heiss' arrival in Washington, he immediately called upon a distinguished Senator, and with that Senator visited the White House for the purpose of having a conference with the President in regard to the new minister.

It appears, also, that the President would not at first see Major Heiss on the subject, but intimated that he understood the matter perfectly. Subsequently he discovered that he did not understand the matter perfectly.

It was therefore necessary that he should have an interview with Major Heiss, and a friend was dispatched, late at night, to request him to visit the White house without delay. After this a number of interviews took place between the President and Major Heiss, and the result was, the Padre was sent for and formally received by this government as Minister Plenipotentiary of Nicaragua.

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POLITICIANS.

Politicians and office seekers are as plenty as blackberries in June. There is no one who operates against them—they do not get as they expect, private interviews with Mr. Buchanan. He receives them all in one room, which of course disconcerts all their plans.

Women dread a wit as they do a gun—they are afraid lest it should go off and injure some one.

Sensible.—Bayard Taylor has gone to Lapland to avoid the severe winters of this climate.

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Another development has been made of the strange affair which occurred a couple of weeks ago near Altoona. The sister and brother-in-law arrived in the latter place on Sunday the 25th January, and identified young Narrows; and on Monday had the body conveyed to the home of his friends in Massachusetts. They stated that it was known by a letter they had received from Dunleith, Illinois, that he had \$2,000 on his person when he left that place. The name of the man who is supposed to be his murderer is David M. Kim, of Wilmington, Delaware, and not M. Kinney, as he registered his name in Pittsburgh. He is well known to the police of Philadelphia, and other places in the East, but had been at Dunleith for some time working as a blind-maker.

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