

RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.



S. B. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA., MAY 20, 1857.

THE TENDENCIES OF THE AGE.

The peculiarities of this great, "universal Yankee nation" of ours, have been a prolific theme, and the conclusion invariably arrived at is, that we are decidedly and unmistakably a fast people...

The bill to increase the pay of District Attorneys has passed both Houses. By this bill the fees are:—Drawing indictment and prosecuting case, in Oyer and Terminer \$10.00, in Quarter Sessions \$5.00; a bill returned ignoramus, in Oyer and Terminer \$5.00, in Quarter Sessions \$3.00; case settled with leave of Court, \$3.00; and every case of surety of peace, \$3.00.

The bill to increase the salary of Associate Judges, passed the House this week. By this bill, they will receive a salary in proportion to the time they serve. Those who serve the fewest number of weeks, will have their salary increased only five dollars, while those who serve as many as thirty weeks, will receive in all as high as \$400.00.

Both Houses have agreed on the appropriation bill. The Apportionment bill is now the bone of contention.

The Senate have not acted yet on the Sunbury & Erie Railroad bill.

The bill in relation to the floating of loose logs is in the hands of a committee in the Senate.

Mr. John M. B. Petriken, a member of the House from Lycoming, died on Friday between one and two o'clock, of the National Hotel disease.

The Legislature will probably adjourn next week, and yet they may not get through with some of the important bills.

Correspondence of the "Raftsmans Journal."

HARRISBURG, May 16th, 1857. DEAR JOURNAL:—On Tuesday, the bill for the sale of the Main Line passed the House, as it came from the Senate, or in other words, the House agreed to all the Senate amendments. It only remains to be signed by the Governor to become a law.

After the bill had passed, the House took up the bill to prevent the floating of loose logs in the Bennett's Branch of the Sinnamahoning. The bill was amended, so as to apply to all the streams of the West Branch above the Sinnamahoning, and also, so as to empower the Courts to license persons to float their logs, when they give proper security to pay all damage that may accrue to rafts from obstructions caused by these logs. This is a compromise. The bill secures the raftsmen from damage, and yet gives the floater the right to float his logs, if he first give security to the raftsmen not to obstruct the highway, or which is the same thing, he gives it to the Court, for the raftsmen's benefit. According to this bill, the raftsmen will recover for all damage that may accrue to his raft from the floating of loose logs. All that is needed is proof that the floating of the loose logs of this or that individual was the cause of the damage. The log man takes out a license for floating, (pays ten dollars for it, I think,) stating the number of logs he intends to float, and his mark, and this license will last for one year and no longer. [Many of our raftsmen here at home think this bill does not afford them adequate protection; that it would involve them in endless litigation, (a nice thing for the lawyers, at least,) and that it would implicitly legalize the floating of loose logs. It is thought that this bill will not pass the Senate.—Ed.]

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KANSAS—AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT.

To the Editor of the N. Y. Daily Times: As the proposition of Governor Robinson and other Free State men, to Mr. Secretary Stanton, seems the cause of different judgments on the part of our Eastern friends, an explanation of the causes which produced that proposition may aid in the formation of correct opinions concerning it.

The writer hereof was present at Lawrence during Mr. Stanton's speech, and heard it all; and participated in the conversations which ensued between him and the citizens during the same evening and the following morning. Hence, what I shall here state will be given of my own knowledge, and will also be substantiated by various others cognizant of the same facts. The most important of those facts is this: That Gov. Robinson's proposition was the result of Mr. Stanton's own suggestion. During the supper which followed the outdoor speeches, Gen. McLean admitted that the law providing for the election of Delegates to the Constitutional Convention, had been framed with great care to ruin the Free State Party; knowing, to use his own words, that by it "we have you dead!" Afterwards he attempted to account for this ruinous anticipation, by the great numerical superiority of the Pro-Slavery Party in Kansas. So absurd a statement drew out a burst of good humored ridicule; and amidst the excitement, Acting Governor Stanton inquired of Gov. Robinson and others whether they were willing to make a fair trial of strength, if a chance were offered. The reply unhesitatingly was "yes." "What," said Mr. Stanton, "would satisfy you?" "An honest revision of the census list, and half the judges of election," was the reply. The plan proposed in Gov. Robinson's letter was then mentioned; he approved that part relating to the census, and thought the other might be satisfactorily arranged. He was told that he had not the power to secure these changes; but expressed himself confident that his influence would suffice. At his own request, the proposition was reduced to writing; and as he had left Lawrence before its completion, it was sent to him at Leecompton.

During the next morning, in conversation, he reiterated his confidence in being able to secure the co-operation of the Sheriffs and Probate Judges in this plan, and left town with the apparent expectation of receiving and acting on the proposal.

Knowing all this, you may imagine my astonishment at the tone and character of Mr. Stanton's answer! I had no faith in the success of the plan, but I did not look to see him so unhesitatingly and disingenuously ignore the whole of his own wish, and coolly assume to instruct his memorialists in the very principle of law and matters of fact which they had taught him a short time before. He was told that he would not be allowed to execute any such plan, at the same time that its proposal was yielded to his earnest entreaties; yet here we have him imparting to his correspondents the very ideas he would not receive from them!

But the cause is clear; having found, on returning to Leecompton, that his friends, the "Free State Democrats," (Sheriff Jones, Judge Wood, Gen. Calhoun, &c.) would allow no such tinkering of their just and fair Convention Law—which it is the confessedly special policy of Mr. Buchanan to see "executed"—Mr. Stanton was obliged to retrace his steps in the easiest way, and chose this path. W.

THE INDIAN DIFFICULTIES AT SPIRIT LAKE.

—We are indebted to a friend at St. Peters, Minn., for the official account of the late Indian difficulties at Spirit Lake. We glean from it a few items of interest.

Spirit Lake is situated near the north line of Iowa, adjoining the Des Moines river. A white settlement was established there last year, which had progressed to six or seven houses, when winter closed in; simultaneous with this settlement was another, ten or fifteen miles from the lake, called Springfield, which at the time of the Indian troubles, in March, contained two trading houses and several families. The nearest settlement to the south of Springfield, is In-yan-yan, on the Rock river, forty miles below—the extreme verge of civilization unpossessed of the means of self defense and unable to secure immediate assistance from others. The Indians were hunting in the vicinity of this settlement; one of them was bitten by a dog belonging to a white, and he killed it. The white assaulted the Indian and beat him, and the whites proceeded to the Indian camp and disarmed them; but recovering their arms, they attacked the settlement. The result is not fully known. They then proceeded to Spirit Lake, attacked one house at a time, and either killed, took prisoners, or drove away all persons residing there.

The first that was known of this outrage was ascertained by a Mr. Morris Markham, who had been residing at Spirit Lake, in the family of Mr. Gardner, and who returning after an absence of some time in Iowa, proceeded to his former residence on the 19th of March last, and found it sacked, and three dead bodies in the house. He visited two other houses that day, and found them deserted; he then secreted himself until night when he went to a fourth house and saw six or eight lodges of Indians encamped near it; supposing they had been the cause of what he had witnessed, he went immediately to the Des Moines settlement and reported what he had seen.

A company of the Tenth Infantry was dispatched from Fort Ridgely to the scene.—Thro a trader, who was killed by them, the Indians learned of the advance of the troops and made good their retreat. Troops have been stationed there to prevent further outrages.—It has been ascertained that the whole number of persons missing is twenty; the number killed is not known.

The Indians who committed the outrage are a branch of the Wak-pa-ta-ki Sioux, led by Ink-pa-ta and are well known. They do not number more than eight or ten lodges or about fifteen men. The Sioux who occupy the Reserve, which includes the Des Moines

and Spirit Lake country, are as much incensed as the whites at the conduct of the depre-dators under Ink-pa-ta, who are not included in the treaty—have no right on the Reserve, and are not on amicable terms with their Sioux brethren. It is safe to say, therefore, that the stories of great Indian up-risings, great slaughter of whites, &c., are exaggerations growing out of the fear, which a near resident to so powerful a tribe as the Sioux, inspires.

NEW FEE BILL.

The following act was passed by both branches of the Legislature and signed by the Governor:

An Act relating to Fees of Aldermen, Justices of the Peace and Constables.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of this act the fees to be received by aldermen and justices of the peace, shall be as follows:

- For information or complaint on behalf of the Commonwealth, for every ten words one cent. Docket entry of action on behalf of the Commonwealth, ten cents. Warrant or mittimus on behalf of the Commonwealth, twenty-five cents. Writing an examination or confession of defendant, for every ten words, one cent. Administering oath or affirmation, three cts. Taking recognizance in every criminal case, twenty cents. Transcript in criminal cases, including certificate, fifteen cents.

Returning the same to court, for each mile circular actually travelled, to be allowed in only one case at each session of the court, three cents.

Entering judgment on conviction for fine, ten cents. Recording conviction or copy thereof, for every ten words, one cent. Warrant to levy fine or forfeiture, twenty cents.

Bail piece and return or supersedeas, fifteen cents. Discharge to jailor, fifteen cents. Entering discontinuance in cases of assault and battery, twenty cents.

Entering complaint of master, mistress or apprentice, ten cents. Notice to master, mistress or apprentice, fifteen cents.

Hearing parties and discharging complaint, twenty-five cents. Holding inquisition under landlord and tenant act, or in case of forcible entry, for each day to each justice, one dollar and twenty-five cents.

Precept to sheriff, for each justice, twenty-five cents. Recording proceedings, to each justice fifty cents.

Writ of restitution, to each justice twenty-five cents. Warrant to appraise damages, twenty cents. Warrant to sell strays, twenty cents.

Warrant to appraise swine, twenty cents. Receiving and entering return of appraisement of swine, five cents. Publishing proceeding of appraisers of swine fifty cents.

Entering action in civil case, ten cents. Summons, capias or subpoena, each, ten cts. For every additional name after the first, two cents.

All witnesses' names to be put in one subpoena, unless separate subpoenas be requested by the parties. Subpoena duces tecum, fifteen cents. Entering return of summons and qualifying constable, ten cents.

Entering capias and bail bond, five cents. Entry continuance of suit, ten cents. Trial and judgment in case of defence made by defendant or defendants, twenty-five cents.

Entering judgment by confession, ten cents. Investigating plaintiff's claim and entering judgment by default, fifteen cents. Taking bail, ten cents.

Entering satisfaction, to be charged only when an actual entry is made on the docket, five cents. Entering discontinuance, five cents. Entering amicable suit, ten cents.

Entering rule to take depositions of witnesses, five cents. Rule to take depositions, ten cents. Interrogatories annexed to rules for taking depositions, for every ten words, one cent. Entering return of rule, five cents.

Entering rule to refer, five cents. Notice to each referee, five cents. Entering report of referees and judgment thereon, ten cents.

Written notice to a party in any case, ten cents. Execution, fifteen cents. Entering return of execution, ten cents. Scire facias in any case, twenty cents. Opening judgment for re-hearing, ten cents. Transcript of judgment and certificate, 20 cents.

Return of proceedings, or certiorari, or appeal, including recognizance, forty cents. Receiving the amount of a judgment before execution and paying the same over, if not exceeding ten dollars, ten cents. If exceeding ten and not exceeding forty dollars, twenty five cents. If exceeding forty dollars, fifty cents.

Every search where no service is rendered to which any fees are attached, ten cents. Entering complaint in writing in case of attachment and swearing, or affirming complainant, fifteen cents.

Attachment, twenty cents. Entering return and appointing freeholders, ten cents. Advertisements, each, fifteen cents. Order to sell goods, fifteen cents. Order for the relief of a pauper, each justice twenty-five cents. Order for the removal of a pauper, each justice fifty cents.

Order to seize goods for the maintenance of wife and children, twenty-five cents. Order for premium for wolf or fox, or other scamps, to be paid by the proper county, fifteen cents.

Every acknowledgment or probate of deed or other instrument of writing, twenty cents. Taking and signing acknowledgment of indenture of an apprentice, for each indenture twenty cents.

Assignment and making record of indenture, twenty cents. Cancelling indenture, ten cents. Comparing and signing tax duplicates, each justice fifty cents.

For marrying each couple, making record thereof, and certificate to the parties, 2 dollars. Certificate of approbation of two justices to the binding as apprentice of a person by overseer or directors of the poor, each justice twenty-five cents.

Certificate to obtain land warrant, fifty cents. Swearing or affirming county commissioners, assessors, or other township or county officers, and certificate thereof, to be paid by the county, twenty-five cents.

For administering oaths or affirmations in any case not herein provided for, ten cents. For issuing precept to lessee in landlord and tenant proceedings, each justice fifteen cents.

For hearing and determining complaint, and all other services rendered therein, fifty cents. For recording proceedings therein, each justice five cents.

For issuing and receiving returns of writ of restitution, including entry thereof, each justice twenty-five cents.

SECTION 2. The fees for services under the laws of the United States shall be as follows, namely: For certificate of protection, fifty cents. For certificate of lost protection, twenty-five cents. For a warrant, twenty-five cents.

For commitment, twenty-five cents. Summons for seamen in admiralty case, twenty-five cents. Hearing thereon with docket entry, fifty cents.

Certificate to clerk of district court to issue admiralty process, twenty-five cents. SECTION 3. That the fees to be received by constables shall be as follows:

For executing warrant in behalf of the Commonwealth, forty cents. Conveying to jail on mittimus or warrant, arresting a vagrant, disorderly person, or other offender against the laws, (without process,) and bringing before justice, levying fine for forfeiture on warrant, twenty-five cents.

Taking the body into custody on mittimus where bail is afterwards entered before the prisoner is delivered to jailor, twenty-five cents. Serving subpoena, ten cents. Serving summons, notice to referee, suitor, master, mistress or apprentice personally, or by copy, each ten cents.

Executing attachment, thirty cents. Arresting on capias, twenty-five cents. Taking bail-bond on capias or for delivery of goods, fifteen cents.

Notifying plaintiff where defendant has been arrested on capias, to be paid by plaintiff, ten cents. Taking inventory of goods, each item, one cent. Levying or detaining goods, and selling the same, for each dollar not exceeding thirty, five cents.

For each dollar above thirty, three cents. For one half of the said commission shall be allowed where the money is paid after levy without sale, but no commission shall in any case be taken on more than the real debt, and then only for the money actually received by the constable and paid over to the creditor.

Advertising the same, forty cents. Copy of vendue paper when demanded, each item, one cent. Putting up notice of distress at mansion house or other public place on the premises, fifteen cents.

*Serving scire facias personally, ten cents. Serving same by copy, fifteen cents. Serving rule and interrogatories in attachments of execution, twenty cents.

Executing bail-piece, twenty cents. Travelling expenses on an execution returned nulla bona and non est inventus, where the constable has been at the place of defendant's last residence, each mile circular, three cents. Executing order for the removal of a pauper, fifty cents.

Traveling expenses in said removal, each mile circular, ten cents. Traveling expenses in all other cases, for each mile circular actually travelled, counting from the office of the justice to the place of service, three cents.

For making returns to the court of quarter sessions of the proper county, fifty cents each for one day. Mileage for same, counting from residence of constable to the county seat, to be paid by county, three cents per mile circular.

For appraisement and all other services under exemption act 9th April, 1849, one dollar. For serving precept and returning same in landlord and tenant proceeding, 25 cents. Executing writ of possession, and returning same, fifty cents.

When the rent shall be received from the lessee by the constable, such commission as is now allowed by law on writs of execution. SECTION 4. That the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sections of the act approved March twenty-eighth, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and of the third section of the act approved March twenty-eighth, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, in relation to penalties for taking illegal fees and bills of particulars, are hereby re-enacted, and their several provisions extended and made applicable to all violations of this act.

SECTION 5. That the provisions of this act shall not apply to the city of Philadelphia. Approved, April 8th, 1857.

SALE OF THE MAIN LINE.

The bill for the sale of the Main Line was taken up in the Senate on Monday, May 11, it being the order of the day on final passage. Several motions were made for further amendments, which were all negatived.

The bill was then passed finally by the following vote: Yeas 18; nays 14. On Tuesday, the 12th, the bill was taken up in the House and the Senate amendments agreed to, so that it but now wants the Governor's signature to become a law. After providing for the sale of the main line at public sale, &c., the bill as passed provides as follows:

And provided further, That if the Pennsylvania Railroad Company become the purchasers of said main line at said public sale, or by assignment as aforesaid, they shall pay in addition to the purchase money at which it may be struck down, and which shall not be less than the sum of seven and a half millions of dollars, the whole amount of sale to be paid in the bonds of the company; bearing interest at the rate of five per centum per annum, payable semi-annually on the thirty-first days of January and July of each year, and which bonds without further record shall remain a lien upon the said main line, one hundred thousand dollars, of which said bonds, to fall due on the thirty-first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight and one hundred thousand dollars thereof annually thereafter, until the thirty-first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and ninety, when one million of the residue shall fall due, and one million annually thereafter, until the whole is paid; and upon the execution and delivery of said bonds to the Treasurer of the State, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and the Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company, shall, in consideration thereof, be discharged, by the Commonwealth, forever from the payment of all taxes upon tonnage or freight carried over said railroads; and the said Pennsylvania railroad company shall also be released from the payment of all taxes or duties, on its capital stock, bonds, dividends, or property, except for city, borough, county, township and school purposes, and that it shall be lawful for the purchasers, or their assigns, either to purchase or lease, hold, and use the Railroad of the Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mt. Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company; and to straighten and improve the said Philadelphia and Columbia railroad, and to extend the same to the Delaware river, in the city of Philadelphia; and it shall be further lawful for them to alter, enlarge and deepen the canal portion of said main line, and to make such additional locks and dams, and to make in whole or in part a slackwater navigation, as may be deemed expedient, and in the event of a sale or lease as aforesaid, by the Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster railroad company, the said company shall have the power to sell or lease, and the said purchasers, or their assigns, to buy or take on lease said road, and to make and receive respectively all such contracts, deeds or assurances, as may be necessary to carry the same into effect: Provided, That the right of the Commonwealth to enter upon, resume and purchase the road of the Pennsylvania railroad company, as provided in their charter, shall thereafter cease and determine: And provided further, That in case of the refusal of any stockholder or stockholders of said company to comply with the provisions of this act, after same may be accepted by a majority of the stockholders of said company to pay to the stockholder or stockholders so refusing, full market value of their, or their share or shares of stock, and such share or shares shall enure to the benefit of the company, to be disposed of by directors for the benefit of the balance of the stockholders.

SEC. 4. That if the said main line of public works shall be sold to other parties than the Pennsylvania railroad company, the purchasers shall be entitled to a like credit upon the amount of said purchase money, and for the performance of the conditions of said sale, in behalf of the purchaser, and for the security of the purchase money to the Commonwealth, the said purchase money, until paid, shall remain a lien on said works; and the individuals or company purchasing as aforesaid, shall within sixty days after said sale, give a mortgage on said main line of the public works, and bonds for the amount of the purchase money, and in addition thereto, shall deliver, within ten days after said sale, to the Governor, for the use of the Commonwealth, of the State of Pennsylvania or of the city of Philadelphia to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, and within sixty days the additional amount of one million nine hundred thousand dollars, or in lieu thereof a like amount of first mortgage bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and payment of the principal of such purchase money shall be made in certificates of loan of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at par or in cash, and the interest in cash semi-annually on the thirty-first days of July and January in each and every year upon any balance remaining due.

AN ELOPEMENT.—Joseph Darr, Jr., of Cincinnati, a member of the City Council from the 13th ward, has eloped from that city with a Newport widow, and has gone, it is said, to Europe. Mr. Darr is well known in Cincinnati. The widow is Mrs. Armstrong, a daughter of Capt. Summons. Darr's wife, whom he leaves behind, was the sister of Mr. Armstrong, deceased. The widow leaves behind her four children. Darr leaves a wife and two children. Had Darr been a "Black Republican" we should probably have had the fact made very prominent in the Buchanan papers, but as he is a Democrat, we shall probably hear nothing about it.—Ohio State Journal.

EUROPE.—The Steamer Asia arrived at New York with dates to the 24. inst. The Duke of Constantine arrived at Paris, and was received with great honors. The Queen of Spain, in her speech, announces the re-establishment of friendly relations between Spain and Rome. She hopes that Mexico will apologize and pay indemnity, otherwise Spain will take hostile measures. Reports are again in circulation that the King of Denmark will be forced to abdicate. The British Parliament has met, but formalities only have as yet transpired. Except increased discontent in the Turkish Principalities, there is but little European news.

BETTER BELIEVE IN THE COMET.—A French journalist advises that belief in the coming end of the world should be encouraged. He thinks we shall become better men. With death so near, every one will wish to put his conscience at ease, to repair wrongs, to do good, to abstain from evil. Ambition will be checked, avarice be abated, and liberality be universal. The many masks of society will fall, and sincerity prevail. It were better, at least, that we should try the experiment, and see the change that it would work in man, to believe the world near its end.

The Philadelphia Sun, the oldest American paper in the State, intends issuing a campaign sheet, from and after the 1st of June, for the success of the election of David Wilmot and the whole State Ticket. Each issue will contain forty columns, and will be furnished at the rate, for the campaign, of fifty cents, or of five dollars to clubs of 20 subscribers, or one dollar per annum for the present weekly.

THE LADIES' JOURNAL, and Illustrated Miscellany, is the title of a new monthly periodical published in Philadelphia, by Scattergood & Co., at \$1.50 a year. The May No. is before us, containing some choice reading matter, a splendid fashion plate, and a number of other illustrations. We have no doubt that it will be received with favor by the public.

FAY OFFICE.—While the salary attached to the Attorney Generalship of Virginia is only \$2,000 per annum, yet Seiden & Withers' indebtedness to that State, reaching over \$200,000, is about to be paid, and upon that sum the Attorney General is allowed a commission of 5 per cent for collecting, making in the aggregate over \$20,000 for the two years salary.

THE REPUBLICANS carried the recent election in Wisconsin by increased majorities.

THE CHURCH IN CONCLUSIONS.—An idea is spreading in England, that a real effort is making to Romanize the Episcopal Church thro' the agency of the Tractarian, or extreme High Church clergy. The idea, however, has not been much regarded by the public or the press, at large, until the Privy Council, the other day, gave a decision in St. Barnabas and St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, cases—which would seem to show that the highest court of appeal, in Ecclesiastical controversies, is on the side of the Tractarians.