

B. F. SCHWEIER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Their Way—Four Ways or Methods of Counting the Electoral Vote—What are the Would-be Changeless Men Going to do with the Three Methods of the Past that they Themselves Supported?—The People are With the Plan of Settlement as Reported by the Committee.

Eighteen hundred years ago they nailed the hands and feet of criminals to crosses and set the crosses in the ground and allowed the victims to die on them.

The Redeemer of man died that way. That was the method of execution in those days and among that people, and those who proposed some other way were considered a rather dangerous set, to be watched with the greatest of caution.

Eighteen hundred years ago the inhabitants of England, Scotland and Ireland, in summer-time ran naked as when they were born, and in winter-time a few of them wore a skin or robe around them, as the American Indian does now.

Eight hundred years ago, in Europe, when a dispute arose among gentlemen they settled it by individual encounter. To settle otherwise was not their way.

Five hundred years ago, in Europe, they burned heretics, that is, people who did not believe in the orthodox church, and the church that was not orthodox did fully as bad by helping to burn witches.

These are all facts, as clearly attested as it is possible to attest human action, and all the practices or customs enumerated were in the regular ways of those days, and to do otherwise, or to propose something new that was wrong and contrary to the ways of the fathers, though the ways of the fathers were manifestly wrong. But by degrees the people of those countries have come to adopt other and better ways, more humane ways of executing criminals, better ways of living, a more tolerant spirit of religion, less superstition, and a comparatively better way for society for the settlement of disputes.

If such things were the every day occurrences among the people, it requires no long article to tell what the inspiration or main-spring of action among the kings and princes would be, as between the different countries. Whenever an insult, real or fancied was given, or a dispute arose, the troops of the respective parties were marshaled and the question was settled by war. The American people affect to discard such ways.

The people of this country profess to have an adjustable system of government that admits of the framing of such laws that redress for all grievances may be obtained, if not immediately when the wrong complained of is perpetrated, as soon as it has become so manifest that there is no question that a wrong exists. That is the way the people of this country claim their system provides for.

In last November the people of this country passed through an election for President of the United States, and since that time the country has been in a greater or less state of excitement as to who has been elected, both parties claiming the President. A number of States have got into such a wrangle over the electoral vote that they have come up to Congress with a double set of electors, and say that body, here, settle this business between us. If they had settled the question of electors at home and presented only one set to Congress the case would have no trouble in it, but a number have not done so; they have a double set at Washington for the consideration of Congress in joint session on the 14th day of February.

The whole mass of the people, irrespective of party, say to Congress, You must settle the question submitted, in a peaceable way. That is the way in accordance with the spirit of the governmental system of the Republic.

Outside of a few office-holders and official aspirants the whole country says to Congress, settle the dispute on the 14th day of February, the day set by the Constitution for the counting of the electoral vote, and announce who has been elected, the announcement of which is incumbent on the President of the Senate.

The action of Congress in the past, in the counting of electoral votes, has been limited to four methods.

The first one was, that on the assembling of Congress in joint session on the day appointed by the Constitution, the President of the Senate in the presence of both houses opened and counted the electoral votes and declared George Washington elected.

The second method was adopted between the first President and James Buchanan, and consisted in appointing tellers from both houses to keep a record of the votes as they were opened, and then hand them to the President of the Senate to announce to both houses.

When James Buchanan was elected, tellers were appointed, and they reported that they had counted the vote of the States cast for President and Vice President, and then the President

of the Senate announced the same result, and this may be classed as the third method.

The fourth method was adopted in February, 1855, and is known as the 22nd joint rule, which provides that an electoral vote to which objection is urged shall be counted, except by the agreement of both houses. This last method was repealed by a recent Congress, and such are the ways or methods by which an announcement of the result of past Presidential elections have been reached.

Our predecessors in this country have not been quite so dogmatic in their ways as the crucifiers, as those who ran naked, as those who settled personal grievances then and there just as they happened, or as those who burned heretics and witches.

Under the almost unanimous expression of the people for a settlement of the present dispute in a way that will give satisfaction to the general public, a committee of fourteen Congressmen was appointed by Congress to devise a plan to count the vote on the day appointed by the Constitution and in accordance with the provisions of that document.

The committee was composed of seven Republicans and seven Democrats. They reported a plan last Thursday, which find and read carefully in another column, and all signed it but Senator Morton, of Indiana.

Thirteen for the plan, and one against the plan, certainly an overwhelming majority, and a minority so small that if it had been less it would be nothing whatever.

Congress should take the report and pass it, and thus secure the way for a satisfactory settlement of the vexatious question. Already a number of men are shouting, Give us the old way, just like the sticklers for the crucifixion and the stake. They say the committee's way is not the way of the Constitution.

For what the Constitution says see Article 2nd. All that instrument says has been enlarged on in times past by the passage of the 22nd joint rule, and the counts of February, 1865, February, 1869, and February, 1873, held under it. The rule was repealed last session. Were the counts of the votes under that rule for the second term of Abraham Lincoln and the two terms of President Grant unconstitutional? Who will so declare them?

The Constitution says the President of the Senate shall in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted.

That is the way it does not say that the President of the Senate shall count the votes. When the Constitution says that each State shall have a Republican form of government guaranteed to it, it does not enter into details as to how the guarantee shall be vitalized into a code of laws for the State. Congress must do that. So with the counting of the votes. That is the way.

The Constitutional declaration "and the votes shall then be counted," is a command that they shall be counted, without telling how they shall be counted, and the fact that it provides no way for the counting of the votes render the proposed bill of the committee of fourteen perfectly constitutional.

The Constitution is positive as to the time when the work shall be done. It is positive as to who shall be present on the occasion, but as to the way it is not positive, as to the way is the least positive point of the document on the question, and therefore to cry out in favor of the first way, as described above, remind one of the unyielding ways of the crucifiers, heretic and witch burners, and all that class of people who fail to recognize the progress of better methods for the suppression of crime and settlement of disputes.

What in the world are these professionally changeless men going to do with the three other ways under which Congress has acted in the counting of the electoral votes? and what in the world are they going to do with their own action in sanctioning the three different ways, that they now wish to pronounce unconstitutional?

The people are with the plan of settlement as reported by the Committee.

One Million to Arm the Militia. Last week it was proposed at Harrisburg to pass a bill to appropriate one million of dollars to place the militia of this Commonwealth on a war footing, to be used in case of Democratic rebellion at Washington. But by the advice of Governor Hartman, the bill was not offered in the Legislature, but held in the hands of committees of both houses, to be put on its immediate passage if the rebellion takes place. That was the wisest stroke of diplomacy that the Governor ever made.

The Whipping Post. "Virginia is re-establishing the whipping post. The reason for it is a bad one. It is in order that white whips may be laid on black backs. But Virginia in this has adopted what might end the tramp business, if Pennsylvania should pass an act to whip all vagrants found prowling about this country with no visible means of support. It may be a relic of barbarism, but the stocks and whipping post might yet serve a very useful purpose."—Er.

Jack Keboe was found guilty of a murder committed fourteen years ago in the Schuylkill region. Murder will out.

President Lincoln's Ancestry. Hon. Orlan Welles contributes to the January number of the Galaxy an article on the Administration of Abraham Lincoln, which contains some interesting and hitherto unpublished information about Lincoln's ancestry. This was a subject of which Lincoln confessed his own ignorance. In 1875 there died in Bellefonte, in this State, a Mrs. Lucy Potter, who was a great-aunt of President Lincoln. Her father, William Winters, was born in 1728 and died in 1794. He emigrated from Berks county to Northumberland now Lycoming county, in 1738. He had by two wives nineteen children, and there was an interval of forty-two years between the birth of the oldest and that of the youngest. His first wife, whom he married in 1747 in the then province of Virginia, was Ann Boone, a sister of Colonel Daniel Boone, the famous Kentucky pioneer. By her he had four sons and seven daughters. The eldest daughter, Hannah, married Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President, in Rockingham county, Virginia. He emigrated to Kentucky, where his State he made a visit to his father-in-law in Pennsylvania, and when he returned took with him a brother-in-law, John Winters. Not long afterward Lincoln was killed by the Indians, leaving a son six years old, who became the father of the President.

Mr. William Winters married his second wife Ellen Campbell, in 1784, and from this union were born three sons and five daughters, of whom Lucy, who died less than two years ago, was the youngest. After the death of William Winters, his widow was licensed to keep a "house of entertainment" where Williamsport now is. There she lived and reared her own large family and several of her step-children. Her daughters seem to have been very fortunate in their marriages. The husbands of two of them became justices of the Supreme Court of the State, and Lucy, the youngest, was the wife of W. W. Potter, who died while a member of Congress in 1838. She survived him thirty seven years, continuing a widow. What is new in these facts is the connection of the Winters family with the Lincolns, which was not known to the President. Mr. Welles says that he has no doubt of the authenticity of the relation, and that the President's ancestry in this country, paternal and maternal—Lincoln, Boone and Winters—is to be traced to the county of Berks in this State.

The Connecting Link—Men With Tails. The latest news from Africa is that a tribe of people have been found in the interior of that country that have tails, and speak a language of their own. How happy Darwin will now be. The newly discovered race will be pronounced the connecting link between man and the monkey tribe. Moon shines, that is, the connecting link.

Wanting a Place. The colored Republicans of Philadelphia held a meeting last week for the purpose of influencing the appointment of one of their race to a place in the city government.

News Items. Among the lectures in the West this season is a great-grand-uncle of Tecumseh the Shawnee chief, who was killed in the war of 1812.

A Chester capture says a large hawk was lately captured in the woods near that place, the bird's feet being frozen to the limb of a tree so that it could not fly.

The true sportsmen of Delaware county are paying twenty five cents per pair for partridges in order to keep them during the winter and turn them loose in the spring.

The grand jury of Allegheny county has decided that none but cowardly carry concealed weapons. The Pittsburg Dispatch thinks the "grand jury ought to be a reporter crossing a lonely bridge at three in the morning, and have two or three fellows meet him in a dark place and ask him the time."

There are twenty-five colored men on the Philadelphia police force.

Thursday afternoon a week Louis Hark was married in Reading. The wedding was coming down Elm street at "lightning speed," when he came in contact with two sleds that were being drawn up the hill by young men. He struck his chin against the front part of one of the sleds, which broke his jaw bone in front, and a piece of tin spouting that lay in the gutter cut his throat immediately under the chin, and nearly severed the wind pipe.

A Bedford lawyer named J. S. Moyer, Esq. has been charged with forging notes to the extent of several thousand dollars.

A postal clerk in Dubuque opened a letter just to see if a certain girl was very sweet on a certain fellow. She was and the Government is also very sweet on the postal clerk.

A peculiar horse transaction took place at Reuscheid, in Germany, the other day. It was agreed that if the horse should weigh 1,000 pounds, or less the purchaser should pay nothing for him, but that if he weighed over 1,000 pounds 390 marks (about \$15) should be paid for each pound over the 1,000. The horse, on being driven on the scales, was found to weigh 1,118 pounds, and under the agreement, made his price 44,400 marks, equal to about \$11,000.

The Rev. R. F. Parrish, of Vallejo, Cal., tried to kiss a church sister, she indignantly repulsed him, whereupon he wrote to her, "My dear sister I wish you could see this matter as I do, and I believe God will bring you to see it." As he and she were both married to other parties his fervor was to good for the sister to keep, she told another sister, and now the whole congregation, and everybody else know it, and are talking about seeing matters as the preacher sees them.

The Report of the Committee of Fourteen.

The Committee of fourteen, appointed by the Senate and Lower House of Congress to devise a plan by which the unpleasant wrangle over the result of the Presidential election may be satisfactorily settled, reported last Thursday.

The plan is a good deal after the plan of the celebrated 22nd joint rule that was repealed at a former session.

This is the report of the committee of fourteen: A bill to provide for and regulate the counting of votes for President and Vice President, and the decision of questions arising thereon for the term commencing March 4, 1877.

Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that the Senate and House of Representatives shall meet in the hall of the House of Representatives, at the hour of 1 o'clock post meridian on the first Thursday in February, Anno Domini 1877, and the President of the Senate shall be the presiding officer. Two tellers shall previously be appointed on the part of the Senate, and two on the part of the House of Representatives, to whom shall be handed, as they are opened by the President of the Senate, all the certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes, which certificates and papers shall be opened, presented and acted upon in the Alphabetical order of the States, beginning with the letter A, and said tellers having then read the same in the presence and hearing of the two houses shall make a list of votes as they appear from the said certificates, and the votes having been ascertained and counted as in this act provided, the result of the same shall be delivered to the President of the Senate, who shall thereupon announce the state of the vote and the names of the persons, if any, elected, which announcement shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons elected President and Vice President of the United States, and together with a list of the votes be entered on the journals of the two houses.

Upon such reading of any such certificate or paper, when there shall be only one return from a State, the President of the Senate shall call for objections, if any. Every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely, and without argument, the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House of Representatives before the same shall be received. When all such objections so made to any certificate, vote or paper from a State shall have been received and read, all such certificates, votes and papers so objected to and all papers accompanying the same, together with such objections, shall be forthwith submitted to said commission, which shall proceed to consider the same with the same papers, if any, now possessed for that purpose by the two houses acting separately or together, and by a majority of votes decide whether and what votes of any such State are the votes provided for by the Constitution of the United States, and how many and what persons were duly appointed electors in such State, and may therein take into view such petitions, depositions and other papers, if any, or shall, by the Constitution and now existing law, be competent and pertinent in such consideration; which decision shall be made in writing, stating only the ground thereof, and signed by the members of said commission agreeing thereon, whereupon the two houses shall again meet, and such decision shall be read and entered on the journal of each house, and the counting of the votes shall proceed in conformity therewith unless, upon objection made thereto in writing by at least five Senators and five members of the House of Representatives, the two houses shall separately occur in ordering otherwise, in which case such concurrent orders shall govern. No votes and other papers from any other State shall be acted upon until the objections previously made to the votes or papers from any State shall have been finally disposed of.

Sec. 2. That if more than one return or paper purporting to be a return from the State shall have been received by the President of the Senate purporting to be the certificates of electoral votes given at the last preceding election for President and Vice President in such State (unless they shall be duplicates of the same return), all such returns and papers shall be opened by him in the presence of the two houses, when met as aforesaid, and read by the tellers, and all such returns and papers shall thereupon be submitted to the judgment and decision as to which is the true and lawful electoral vote of such State, of a commission constituted as follows, namely: During the session of each house on the Tuesday next preceding the first Thursday in February, 1877, each house shall by viva voce vote appoint five of its members, who, with the five Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States to be ascertained as hereinafter provided, shall constitute a commission for the decision of all questions upon or in respect of such double returns named in this section.

On the Tuesday next preceding the first Thursday in February, A. D. 1877, or as soon thereafter as may be, the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, now assigned to the First, Third, Eighth and Ninth circuits, shall select in such manner as a majority of the Associate Justices of said court, which five persons shall be members of said commission, and the person longest in commission of said five Justices shall be the president of said commission. The members of said commission shall respectively take and subscribe the following oath:

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will impartially examine and consider all questions submitted to the commission of which I am a member, and a true judgment give thereon, according to the Constitution and the laws, so help me God.

Which oath shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate.

When the commission shall have been thus organized, it shall not be in the power of either house to dissolve the same or to withdraw any of its members, but if any such member shall die or become physically unable to perform the duties required by this act the fact of such death or physical inability shall be by said commission, before it shall proceed further, communicated to the Senate or House of Representatives, as the case may be, which body shall immediately and without debate proceed by viva voce vote to fill the place so vacated, and the person so appointed shall take and subscribe the oath heretofore prescribed and become a member of said commission; and in like manner, if any of the Justices of the Supreme Court shall die or become physically incapable of performing the duties required by this act, the others of said Justices, members of said commission, shall immediately appoint another Justice of said Court a member of said commission, and in such appointments regard shall be had to the impartiality and freedom from bias sought the original appointments to said commission, who shall thereupon immediately take and subscribe the oath heretofore prescribed and become a member of said commission to fill the vacancy so occasioned.

All the certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral vote of each State shall be opened in the alphabetical order of the States, as provided in section 1 of this act, and when there shall be more than one of such certificates or papers, as the certificates and papers from such State shall be opened (excepting duplicates of the same return), they shall be read by the teller, and thereupon the President of the Senate shall call for objections, if any. Every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely, and without argument, the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House of Representatives before the same shall be received. When all such objections so made to any certificate, vote or paper from a State shall have been received and read, all such certificates, votes and papers so objected to and all papers accompanying the same, together with such objections, shall be forthwith submitted to said commission, which shall proceed to consider the same with the same papers, if any, now possessed for that purpose by the two houses acting separately or together, and by a majority of votes decide whether and what votes of any such State are the votes provided for by the Constitution of the United States, and how many and what persons were duly appointed electors in such State, and may therein take into view such petitions, depositions and other papers, if any, or shall, by the Constitution and now existing law, be competent and pertinent in such consideration; which decision shall be made in writing, stating only the ground thereof, and signed by the members of said commission agreeing thereon, whereupon the two houses shall again meet, and such decision shall be read and entered on the journal of each house, and the counting of the votes shall proceed in conformity therewith unless, upon objection made thereto in writing by at least five Senators and five members of the House of Representatives, the two houses shall separately occur in ordering otherwise, in which case such concurrent orders shall govern. No votes and other papers from any other State shall be acted upon until the objections previously made to the votes or papers from any State shall have been finally disposed of.

Sec. 3. That while the two houses shall be in meeting, as provided in this act, no debate shall be allowed, and no question shall be put by the presiding officer, except to either house on a motion to withdraw, and he shall have power to preserve order.

Sec. 4. That when the two houses separate to decide upon an objection that may have been made to the counting of any electoral vote or votes from any State, or upon objection to a report of said commission or other question arising under this act, each Senator or Representative may speak on such objection or question ten minutes, and not oftener than once, but after such debate shall have lasted two hours it shall be the duty of each house to put the main question without further debate.

Sec. 5. That at such joint meeting of the two houses seats shall be provided as follows: For the President of the Senate, the Speaker's chair; for the Speaker, immediately upon his left; the Senators in the body of the hall upon the right of the presiding officer; for the tellers, Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives, at the clerk's desk; for the other officers of the two houses, in front of the clerk's desk and upon each side of the Speaker's platform. Such joint meeting shall not be dissolved until the count of the electoral votes shall be completed and the result declared, and no recess shall be taken in regard to counting any such votes or otherwise under this act, in which case it shall be competent for either house, acting separately in the manner heretofore provided, to direct a recess of such house, not beyond the next day, Sunday excepted, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and while any question is being considered by said commission, either house may proceed with its legislative or other business.

Sec. 6. That nothing in this act shall be held to impair or affect any right now existing under the Constitution and laws to question, by proceeding in the judicial courts of the United States, the right or title of the person who shall be declared elected or Vice President of the United States, if any such right exists.

Sec. 7. That said commission shall make its own rules, keep a record of its proceedings, and shall have power to employ such persons as may be necessary for the transaction of its business and the execution of its powers.

The Wrong Coat. Senator Goldswate, of Alabama, has long been afflicted with absent-mindedness. He also has the habit of taking other people's coats by mistake, particularly if they happen to hang near his own peg. One day a Senator missed his coat, which had about \$3500 in money in it. Four days afterward two detectives called at Goldswate's house and asked him if he had his own coat. After searching his closet for a time he returned, bringing the lost coat, and saying, "This does not look quite like my coat." The lost money was found safe in the pocket.

The Longest Days. At London and Bremen the longest day has sixteen hours. At Stockholm, in Sweden, the longest day has eighteen and a half hours. At Hamburg, Germany, and Danzig, Prussia, the longest day has seventeen hours and ten minutes. At St. Petersburg, in Russia, and Tobolsk, Siberia, the longest day has seventeen hours and the shortest five hours. At Tornea, in Finland, the longest day has twenty-one and a half hours and the shortest two and a half hours. At Wardnas, Norway, the day lasts from May 21 to July 24 without interruption, and at Spitzbergen the longest day is three and a half months.

The Pennsylvania Agricultural Society met in Harrisburg on the 17th inst. and elected the following officers: John W. Hammond, of Erie, president; J. B. Rutherford, treasurer; Eldridge McCooky, corresponding secretary; D. W. Sells, recording secretary; S. S. Haldeman, chemist and geologist.

Harry Sankey, a son of the evangelist, is engaged in religious work among boys. He is 15 years of age.

A Valuable Book. History of the United States from the Aboriginal Times to the Present Day. By John Clark Ridpath, A. M., Professor of History and Belles-Lettres, Indiana University, Bloomington. Royal Octavo. Illustrated with Maps, Charts, Portraits and Diagrams. Sold only by subscription. Price \$3.00. Jones Brothers & Co., Philadelphia, Chicago and Cincinnati.

The circumstantial detail of 384 years—the years that have opened a new world and created a mighty nation—has never given in better style than in this work. When we look through the bulky volumes of Bancroft we wonder that one man should attempt to write all the history of our country upon the preliminary portion of it takes up so much space. But we cannot see that Professor Ridpath has omitted a single material fact that is contained in Bancroft, while he has avoided that tedious detail which unites the work of the latter for popular use. The intricacies of the English Court and Cabinet, the petty squabbles of the House of Commons, the rise and fall of parties in England, which are supposed to have had an influence on American affairs, these are indeed omitted from Prof. Ridpath's work; but in their stead is given a brief and masterly summary of the causes which led to the American Revolution, which we venture to say, conveys a better understanding of the matter to ninety nine in every hundred readers. Take for instance the following extract: "The whole cause leading to the Revolution was found in the natural disposition and inherited character of the colonists. They were, for the most part, republicans in politics and in religion. The people of England were monarchists and High Churchmen. The colonists had never seen a king. The Atlantic lay between them and their mother country. Their dealings with the royal officers had been such as to engender a dislike for monarchical institutions. The people of America had not forgotten—was never forgotten—the wrongs which their ancestors had done to the New World. For six generations the colonists had managed their own affairs; and their methods of government were necessarily republican. The experience of the French and Indian War had shown that Americans were fully able to defend themselves and their country."

As one important cause, it is not that more satisfactory than a volume of commentary. The author's rare ability to condense a vast amount of information into a single paragraph is shown in any of his numerous, graceful biographies. Take the following on Benjamin Franklin:

"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, the author of the first treaty between the United States and a foreign nation, was born in Boston on the 17th of January, 1706. His father was a manufacturer of soap and candles. To this humble vocation the young Benjamin was devoted by his parents; but the walls of a college were too narrow for his aspiring genius. At the age of twelve he was apprenticed to his brother to learn the art of printing; but the brother beat him, and he ran off to New York. There he found no employment. In 1725 he repaired to Philadelphia, entered a printing office, and rose to distinction. He visited England; returned to Philadelphia, and became a man of science; edited Poor Richard's Almanac; originated the American Philosophical Society; discovered the identity of electricity and lightning; made himself known in both hemispheres; exposed the cause of the patients; and devoted the untapped energies of his mind to perfecting the American Union. The name of Franklin is one of the brightest in the history of any nation."

In this work Prof. Ridpath has surmounted one difficulty which confronts all historians; to set forth all the facts, with fitting comments, without on the one hand making his work too voluminous for common use, or on the other making it a mere outline of dry and disconnected facts.

A series of Charts show the contemporary men and events, and colored maps illustrate the changes in political boundaries from time to time. There are of great assistance to the reader. In short it is difficult to find a paragon in which this history does not meet every want of the citizen and patriot. It is the work of a cultured mind and careful historian, and must rank as the best history of the United States yet published.

Sec. 8. That nothing in this act shall be held to impair or affect any

News Items.

A factory for making butter from tallow has been started in Scranton. The process has not yet been made public.

A Kentucky man was frozen to death in bed, recently, and his wife didn't find it out until morning, when he failed to remind her to get up and kindle the fire.

Mrs. Workman has been held to answer the charge of beating her husband at St. Louis.

The cold spell has killed hundreds of thousands of cabbage plants in Virginia, and it is feared there will be a considerable advance in the price of pure Havana cigars in consequence.

A Chicago man, not fully imprisoned for beating his wife, said he was locked up, "I've one comfort, anyhow, and that is, that I'm not sent to jail for doing a mean thing."

A half pound of powder in a chestnut log thoroughly demoralized a family in Lycoming county a few days ago. The log had been borrowed without the owner's consent.

Mansfield Island, in Lake Erie has been bought by a man who intends to stock it with black cats, and kill their progeny for their fur.

Baltimore dealers say that entire oyster beds are destroyed by drum fish—voracious creatures, strong enough to break the shells with their teeth.

Miss Lunny, of Sacramento, had been inclined to marry Mr. Roberts, but she said she could not marry the wife of a poor man. She would wait a reasonable time for him to make a fortune, and whenever he reached a condition to support her finely he might claim her. He went to California and made a fortune of one hundred thousand dollars. He wrote to that effect to his love of bygone days, she wrote warmly back that any day would suit her, then he wrote back that he could not marry her. She has sued him for breach of promise.

During a heavy rain storm on Monday week, a fall of small live snakes was observed in the southern part of Memphis, where thousands of them could be seen on Tuesday. The snakes are from one foot to eighteen inches in length.

Notice to Justices of the Peace. JUSTICES OF THE PEACE are hereby notified that heretofore the certificates that the animals killed were full grown—whether foxes, wild-cats or minks—that heretofore premiums will only be paid upon the scalp of an animal, not full grown. The Peace issuing a certificate of any other character, will be prosecuted for a misdemeanor, because there is no premium on the scalp of an animal, not full grown. In Junata county. By order of the Board of County Commissioners.

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JUNIATA VALLEY BANK. DEALERS IN Farming Machinery and Agricultural Implements, such as Corn Planters, Corn Workers, GRAIN SEPARATORS, CLOVER SEED SEPARATORS, Horse Powers from One to Ten Horse Power.

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Sale Bills of all kinds printed on short notice at this office.

Legal Advertisements.

DECLARATION.—W H E REAS, the Hon. BENJ. F. JEWELL, President of the Court of Common Pleas for the 14th Judicial District, composed of the counties of Juniata and Perry, and the Honorables Noah A. Eldor and Francis J. 257, Associate Justices of the said Court, Common Pleas of Juniata county, have issued their precept to me directed, bearing date the 5th day of December, 1876, for holding a Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Sessions of the Peace, at MIFFLINTOWN, on the FIRST MONDAY of FEBRUARY, 1877, being the 24th day of the month.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, to the Coroner, Justices of the Peace and Constables of the County of Juniata, that they be then and therein their proper persons, at one o'clock on the afternoon of said day, with their records, inquisitions, examinations and other remembrances, to do those things that are required of judges of the said Court, and those that are bound by recognition to prosecute against the prisoners that are or then may be in the Jail of said county, and of general orders, to prosecute against them as shall be just.

By an Act of Assembly, passed the 10th day of May, A. D. 1854, it is made the duty of the Justices of the Peace, of the several counties of this Commonwealth, to return to the Clerk of this Court of Quarter Sessions of the respective counties, all the recognizances entered into before them by any person or persons, charged with the commission of any crime, except such cases as may be ended before a Justice of the Peace, under existing laws, at least ten days before the commencement of the session of the Court to which they are made returnable, and in all cases where any recognizances are entered into less than ten days before the commencement of the session to which they are made returnable, the said Justices are to return the same in the same manner as if said act had not been passed.

By a virtue of sundry writs of *Fred. Ezz.* and *Ex. Fac.*, issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Juniata county, and to me directed, will be exposed to sale by public auction, at the Court House, in the borough of Mifflintown, at 2 o'clock P. M. on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1877, the following described real estate, to wit:

A tract of land situated in Greenwood township, Juniata county, adjoining lands of W. H. Ely on the east, Adam Wilt's heirs on the south and west, containing FIFTY ACRES, more or less. ALSO, a tract of land in the same township, adjoining lands of Frank Cam and Levi Light on the south, the above described tract on the west, lands of David Fisher on the north, and Adam Arnold and others on the east, containing FORTY ACRES, more or less, and having thereon erected a Log Dwelling House and Stable. To be sold as the property of W. H. Ely.

A lot of ground situated on the southwest corner of Main street and Thompson street, in the town of McAllisterville, Fayette township, bounded on the west by lot of David Fisher, on the east by the lands of W. H. Ely on the east, Adam Wilt's heirs on the south and west, containing FIFTY ACRES, more or less. ALSO, a tract of land in the same township, adjoining lands of Frank Cam and Levi Light on the south, the above described tract on the west, lands of David Fisher on the north, and Adam Arnold and others on the east, containing FORTY ACRES, more or less