

# THE REPUBLICAN

JUDSON HOLCOMB, | Promontory.

CHAR. L. TRACY, |

JUDSON HOLCOMB, Editor.

CHAR. H. ALLEN, Associate Editor.

"Reasonable fares, honest expenditures, competent officers, and no stealing." — Harper's Weekly.

Entered in the Post Office at Towanda as

SECOND CLASS MATTER.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1882.

The national debt was reduced, \$5,534,

142 during the month of November.

Governor-elect Pattison says he will make no appointments until after January 1st.

Senator Edmunds, of Vermont, has written a letter declining to be a candidate for President in 1884.

Minnesota was the banner State at the last election, rolling up a Republican majority of thirty-four thousand.

Cremation would do away with the body-snatching business. An urn of ashes would be a mighty poor subject for the dissecting table.

Official returns of the vote for Governor in New Hampshire give Hale (Rep.) 38,517; Edgerly (Dem.), 36,919; scattering, 936; Hale's majority, 542.

Editor General Lomax's annual report, now in the hands of the printer, shows the total receipts of the State Treasury for the year to be \$16,429,650.11.

If the United States Government can carry a postal card for one cent postage, why can it not carry a letter that takes less than twice the room for two cents?

The list of members of the next House of Representatives has just been made public by Resident Clerk Patterson. It consists of 113 Democrats and 88 Republicans, a Democratic majority of 25.

The Garfield Board of Audit made the following award of claims: Dr. Bliss, \$6,500; Dr. Agnew, \$5,000; Dr. Hamilton, \$5,000; Dr. Rayburn, \$4,000; Dr. Boynton, \$4,000; Dr. Susan A. Dean, \$3,000. The doctor are much dissatisfied.

President Arthur's message contained 11,001 words, and was transmitted by the Western Union Telegraph Company from Washington to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York simultaneously on their wires. The time occupied in its transmission was 55 minutes.

The House Committee on Ways and Means at its meeting last week adopted a report in favor of the bill abolishing all internal revenue taxes on tobacco, snuff, cigars and cigarettes. The total revenue derived from tobacco in 1882 was \$47,391,988.91. The largest item is chewing and smoking tobacco, which alone yielded \$25,033,741 in 1882.

The capital and funded debt of the rail road companies of the United States is \$6,314,699,787. The actual cost of building and equipping the railroads now in operation is \$45,577,993,931. The annual earnings amount to about \$725,000,000, and the interest bonds to \$128,357,302. Last year the railroads paid off \$449,505,071 for working expenses and paid \$93,344,200 in dividends.

There has grown up in Congress, irrespective of partizan distinction, a strong opposition to the creation of new territories and the admission of new States, and attention has lately been called to the long-continued neglect of Congress to provide a territorial government, or, indeed, a government of any kind whatever, to the remote Territory of Alaska, in utter defiance of the treaty obligations to the Russian government, under which the Territory was acquired.

The volume of money in the country at the present time is undoubtedly very large, and may in fact appear to be excessive in quantity as compared with the anti-war standard. But it must be remembered that the Republic now has twenty millions more people than it had then, has treble the number of miles of railways, and has quadrupled its productions, its resources, its active capital and its available wealth.

There are comparatively few who are aware of the extent and richness of the new City Hall in Philadelphia. We are told that fifty-seven millions of brick are laid in its walls, in addition to the granite and marble, the latter article alone costing \$5,000,000. The building is the largest in the country, having an excess of 33,885 superficial feet over the Washington Capitol. The roof of which is now being laid, will be the most substantial in the country. It is nearly one hundred feet wide all around the central court-yard, and the surface will be covered with French asphalt, so that it can be used as a promenade.

Contrary to general belief, the Tariff Commission has completed its report, accompanied by a bill embracing all the recommendations contained in the report. These documents have been laid before Congress. The bill provides for a more general and decisive reduction of all the protective duties on foreign imports than the public had been led to expect or believe possible. If the bill should pass as reported by the Commission, it is difficult to see how any further reduction of the tariff would be practicable for the next twenty years, in view of the revenue necessities of the government and the magnitude of the war debt.

In many places the sky was so far obscured by clouds as to preclude successful observation, there are good grounds for believing that the astronomers saw enough of the transit of Venus to answer their purpose, and that such observations have been taken as will result in important additions being made to our stock of astronomical knowledge. It is possible that there are some people who will argue that whether the sun is ninety-two or ninety-five millions of miles from the earth is not of much consequence after all, but the scientists had set their hearts upon seeing the transit, and they are a deserving set of people, every one will be glad that they have not been wholly disappointed.

A dispute has arisen between Senate Librarian Delancy and one of the contractors for supplies for the State Government, which is already causing considerable embarrassment in the preparations for the coming sessions of the Legislature. Mr. Delancy claims that the goods furnished are not equal to the sample, and has refused to accept them. Several wagon loads of

goods which were sent to the Librarian's room were returned to the contractor a few days ago, who refused to receive them, and they were taken back. Thus the matter stands, and the result is hard to foretell. The contractor claims that the goods furnished are inferior to the samples furnished to him at the time of filing his bid, but they are conceded to be inferior to the standard advertised for.

The appointment by the President of Clayton McMichael, of Philadelphia, to be Marshal for the District of Columbia is a sign of returning consciousness on his part that the people demand that federal appointments shall be made solely upon the ground of fitness, and for the promotion of the public service. Mr. McMichael will honor the position, and his administration reflects credit upon him.

The East Smithfield Post-Office.

We publish below a copy of the petition upon which the postmaster at East Smithfield was recently appointed. It is the sign of boss control over the interests of the people, that is doing more than any other cause, to weaken and destroy the Republican party in Bradford county. We publish it for the purpose of placing the responsibility where it belongs, and to show how entirely false was the statement of the reporter that Mr. Jadin had recommended the appointment of Mr. Durfee. Mr. Jadin can well afford to allow the men whose hands appear in this transaction, to have all the credit and bear all the responsibility. We trust that Mr. Webb will not repeat his assertion that he knew nothing about the appointment until after it was made.

To the Hon. Timothy O. Howe, Postmaster General of the United States — We, the undersigned citizens of Smithfield, and patrons of the East Smithfield post-office, most earnestly request that you will appoint Ernest G. Durfee postmaster at this place, and we will ever pray.

W. E. DUNN, W. C. BROWN, S. WITMER, W. B. ANDREWS, O. B. SUMMERS, H. L. BING.

\*I recommend the appointment of Mr. W. T. Davies, E. Overton, Jr., in the handwriting of James H. Webb. Appointment made Nov. 20, 1882.

Give the Public the Pension List.

It is well known that our present pension list embraces a large number of pensioners who are annually defrauding the government, and bringing disgrace upon the honest soldier who merits the recognition of the country. In nearly every community there are cases of fraudulent pensioners who are known to their neighbors, but there are many others who studiously conceal their pensions from their communities. Under the recent loose pension laws assuming to provide for the equalization of pensions, it is notorious that the most flagrant frauds have been perpetrated, and it is due alike to the government, to the deserving pensioners and to the thieving pretenders, that the most vigorous measures are taken to expose the various forms of pension frauds.

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## ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

Several communications from correspondents are unavoidably crowded out this week. They will appear next week.

Referring to the lecture of Col. Copeland lately, the *Gazette* and *Bulletin* say:

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