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J. M. Weakley, J. M. Wallace.
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR.
Gen. JOHN F. HARTRANFT.

JUDGE OF SUPREME COURT.
Hon. ULYSSES MERCUR.

AUDITOR GENERAL.
Gen. HARRISON ALLEN.

THE LOCAL OPTION LAW.

On Tuesday morning the Court decided the Local Option Law, as passed for the borough of Shippensburg, to be unconstitutional. This decision was based upon a decision of the Supreme Court of this State in the case of Parker vs. Commonwealth, on an act passed in 1846, authorizing the citizens of Allegheny county to vote on the question of granting license. This judgment was rendered by three of the judges of that court—the other two dissenting. The principle on which it was rendered was, that the Legislature could not delegate its authority to any community, and that an act which sought to make the granting of licenses to depend on the vote of the people was unconstitutional. In other words, that the Legislature might pass a prohibitory act itself but could not do it through the intervention of a popular vote because it could not delegate its own powers.

There can be no doubt that our Court in this instance announced the law as it is found in the books. Any other decision would have been in direct disregard of the authority of the highest court in the State, and that if the decision had been otherwise, the court above would have set it aside, or have reversed their own decision. A judge of an inferior court is bound to respect the law of the land, as declared by the higher tribunal, and any other action in this case would have been unjustifiable, no matter what his own views or the impressions of even a large majority of the community may be on the subject of liquor selling.

And now with all due deference to judicial opinions, we seriously question the soundness of the reasoning which sets aside the local option law. Of course the Legislature cannot vest any power to legislate, either in the community at large, or any where else. That is admitted by all lawyers. But we think that it is a rather far-fetched conclusion that the provisions of the local option bill vest any legislative power in the people. The legislature has given the courts power to grant licenses, subject to many limitations. No license can be granted without a petition, signed by twelve citizens certifying that the applicant is of good moral character, that he has proper accommodations for hotel keeping, and that such a house is necessary for the accommodation of the public. Without such a certificate the law forbids the court to grant any license. Why cannot the legislature require the expression of a majority of the community that a tavern is necessary, as well as to require a certificate of twelve persons to the same purpose, and why can it not require that expression as well through the ballot box, as through a signed petition? Authorizing a vote which is to limit the action of a court under a particular statute, is in no fair sense delegating legislative power. If the Legislature had authorized the people to pass a prohibitory liquor law, then certainly it would have transcended its authority. It has done no such thing. It has, in effect, simply made a requirement that the question of the necessity of a licensed tavern shall depend upon the expression of a majority of the voters of a district, and not upon the petition of twelve citizens.

We have a hope that the Judges of the Supreme Court will reverse the decision made on this subject twenty-five years ago. They have reversed their own decisions in many questions of less importance within that time, and had it not been for disturbing vested rights, many others would have fallen. We all know the turnings and twistings which were made on the questions growing out of the war, such as the constitutionality of the conscription and legal acts, and many others. Doubtless, when this question again arises before the Supreme Court, it will be considered in the light of the sentiments of to-day and not of those of a quarter of a century ago.

Should the Supreme Court, however, maintain the doctrine held concerning the act of 1846, those who oppose reformatory measures which manifest themselves by attacking the evils which they content themselves to deplore, mustn't imagine they are through with this fight. Perhaps the new Constitution of Pennsylvania, may define in terms what restrictions the Legislature may or may not throw round a traffic which three-fourths of the entire community deplore and condemn. Or even the Legislature may at no distant day pick up courage enough to pass a law, cutting off the business at once. We remember a decision on the Federal Constitution, which was intended to perpetuate a barbarism, but which was the means of its speedy overthrow. We have but little fears that any far-fetched technicality, will long obstruct the determination of the people to cure one of the worst evils that ever afflicted the body politic.

THE names of quite a number of prominent gentlemen in Pennsylvania are announced as delegates to the Cincinnati Convention. It is not stated what constituencies these gentlemen are presumed to represent or by whom they have been elected. Perhaps, however, the Cincinnati concern is to be a mass convention, including constituencies as well as delegates. This plan has many merits for a small party—securing a large attendance and preventing rivalries. We remember a number of Johnson conventions got up in the same manner in 1866. They were successes decidedly as gatherings, but their effect on the grand result wasn't very perceptible.

THE Legislature of 1873, in spite of almost innumerable complications in the Senate, growing out of death, sickness and contested seats, finished its work in three months and adjourned. The Legislature of 1871, without any special difficulties, required five months to complete its work. The appropriations of this year are by more than $500,000 less than those of last year. The difference may be accounted for when it is remembered that last year there was a Democratic majority in the Senate.

THAT the Evans trouble was started solely for the purpose of involving Governor Geary, was well-known to almost every one. That he was completely exonerated, all fair men who read the evidence certainly know. The report of the committee, however, has done the Governor gross injustice by reporting the hearsay evidence of a man named Brown, who himself got $20,000 of the money, to the effect that Evans had once told him that the Governor was to receive certain amounts out of the commissions. This was contradicted by the Governor and by Evans himself, and yet the committee not only received the testimony but displayed it as facts in their report. This is an act of gross injustice, and we are glad to see that it is so denounced by leading journals throughout the State. The Harrisburg *Telegraph*, which, by the way, has always been an anti-Geary journal, denounces the action of the committee, and in a long article shows the unfairness and injustice shown toward the Governor. The Philadelphia *Press* has also spoken with great severity of this attempt to blacken the character of the Governor through hearsay evidence, which was fairly contradicted before the committee. It says:

"As Governor Geary's term in office, and opportunity to dispense patronage, draws near an end, he is become a target for all the men whose ambition he did not advance, and every mendacious journalist, with no opponent at hand. The last attack upon him is in connection with the report of the committee to investigate the settlement of the war claims. This report was one which no really fair-minded man would have signed his name to, and in the presentation—at the close of the session, when the Governor had no time to make an answer—was cowardly. Governor Geary, in an atmosphere of corruption, has remained an honest and faithful public servant, and can afford even this last charge."

WHEN the apportionment bill giving sixteen Republican and ten Democrat congressmen was before the State Senate, six Democrats voted for it, although they knew it would not be supported by all the Republicans. The fact is significant. The Democratic politicians of the State know full well that their party is hopelessly swamped. They understand that it will be defeated in the coming election and that for its future there is no hope. They know that the ten Democratic districts were constructed in such a manner as to waste voters by piling up huge majorities. As it is now arranged, nothing short of an earthquake could disturb their districts. Hence, they swallowed the bill, knowing that there was nothing to be done, but to look after their own personal interests.

HARRISBURG LETTER.

HARRISBURG, APRIL 5, 1872.

The Legislature adjourned on the fourth without day. Its closing days were about as those of former Legislatures—days of excitement, hard work and indiscriminate legislation. Calendars of private bills were rushed through unheeded, except as each member was interested in the bills on them, and a large amount of frivolous and unnecessary legislation will cumber the Pamphlet Laws of 1872. It is just, however, to say that there has been greatly less injurious and improper legislation in the session just closed, than in any former one within the last ten years.

Few measures of public importance were acted upon, but those which were passed will generally commend themselves to the public. The law forbidding the sale of liquor on election days, will be hailed with general satisfaction. Many of the worst features of our election days will vanish, when men have nothing in the shape of intoxicating liquor to render them less rational than nature has made them on that day. The Local Option bill will, doubtless, receive the sanction of four-fifths of the right thinking citizens of the State. The act providing for the calling of a Constitutional Convention, as it will make both the political parties so nearly equal in representation as to almost take politics out of the Convention, demonstrates that we have succeeded in doing much to eliminate partizan proscription and intolerance from the politics of this State.

There is one measure, however, which will not inure greatly to the credit of either party, and it is the Congressional apportionment. This is simply a gerrymander, and the best illustration of it is the reading of the bill itself. It passed both branches in the following form on the night before the adjournment:

First district—3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th and 16th wards, Philadelphia.

Second district—1st, 2d, 7th and 26th wards, Philadelphia.

Third district—8th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 14th and 20th wards, and all that portion of the 17th ward west of Second street.

Fourth district—5th, 21st, 24th, 28th and 29th wards.

Fifth district—18th, 19th, 22d, 23d and 25th wards and the 17th ward east of Second street.

Sixth district—Chester and Delaware counties.

Seventh district—Lancaster county.

Eighth district—Berks, and that portion of Montgomery northwest of Norristown, Whitpaine, Gwynedd and Montgomery townships.

Ninth district—Bucks and Northampton, and balance of Montgomery.

Tenth district—Lehigh, Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne.

Eleventh district—Schuylkill, Columbia and Montour.

Twelfth district—Dauphin, Lebanon and Northumberland.

Thirteenth district—Luzerne.

Fourteenth district—Bradford, Susquehanna, Sullivan and Wyoming.

Fifteenth district—Tioga, Potter, McKean, Cameron and Lycoming.

Sixteenth district—Union, Snyder, Mifflin, Centre, Clearfield and Elk.

Seventeenth district—Huntingdon, Blair, Cameron and Somerset.

Eighteenth district—Bedford, Franklin, Fulton, Juniata and Adams.

Nineteenth district—Westmoreland, Fayette and Greene.

Twentieth district—Cumberland, York and Perry.

Twenty-first district—Indiana, Armstrong, Jefferson and Clarion.

Twenty-second district—Pittsburg, Birmingham, East Birmingham, Ormsby, South Pittsburg, Monongahela; Mount Washington, Temperanceville, West Pittsburg, Union, Allentown, St. Clair, Verona, Braddock, and the townships of Plum, Wilkins, Penn and Potter.

Twenty-third district—All Allegheny county not included in the above.

Twenty-fourth district—Washington, Beaver and Butler.

Twenty-fifth district—Lawrence, Mercer and Crawford.

Twenty-sixth district—Erie, Venango, Warren and Forest.

This it is seen gives sixteen Republicans to ten Democrats, in a State in which the highest branch of the Legislature has been for many years in a constant state of tie. The districts are so carefully arranged that should some calamity befal the State so as to put it into the hands of the Democracy by 20,000 majority on the whole vote, it would hardly change the Congressional representation—surely even then the Republicans would have fourteen members. It is hardly necessary to say that such Legislation is neither fair nor even desirable. The wonderful part of the whole performance is that six Democratic Senators should vote for this bill on its final passage when they knew certainly that four Republicans would vote against it. The easiest explanation of this is, that each of these amiable gentlemen had his own district fixed to suit himself.

The closing hours of the session were somewhat varied from their usual style. The usual crowds were in attendance, and things went on regularly until the Speaker of the Senate pronounced his valedictory and suggested the election of his successor. The voting began with the Republicans, naming Senator Anderson, of Pittsburg, for Speaker, and the Democracy, Senator Davis, of Berks. When Mr. McClure's name was called, he astonished all but the initiated by responding, Butler B. Strang. Trouble was imminent evidently, and when the vote was announced, Anderson and Davis stood tie, and there was no election. The voting proceeded until the hour of twelve was reached—each vote showing the same result. As soon as the result of the last vote was announced, Senator White called the "orders of the day" the Speaker's gavel fell, and the session of seventy-two was ended.

This unusual winding up out short all presentation ceremonies and the usual complimentary resolutions which are spread upon the journals at the close of the session. In order, therefore, to get matters into shape, the Senate resolved itself into a town meeting with Senator Waddell in the chair, and Senator Buckalew presented to Speaker Rutan an ivory gavel and expressed in his peculiarly, forcible and deliberate manner, the sentiments of respect and confidence with which the whole Senate regarded its presiding officer. General White and Mr. Billing felt paid their tribute of regard also, and, but for the repetition of the same sentiment all the other Senators would have followed. Sufficient, however, was done and said to show the retiring Speaker how thoroughly his many excellent qualities were appreciated.

The failure to select a speaker for the vacation is another of the unlooked for emergencies which so frequently turn up in the Pennsylvania Senate. The effect of it is that Mr. Rutan remains speaker until the election in October next, when his Senatorial term expires. The only possible use for a speaker of the Senate during vacation is to have some one on hand to become Governor in case of a vacancy. If a vacancy in that office should occur after the next October election a serious question might arise on the succession. Altogether the present situation, demonstrates what a magnificently clumsy governmental machine, this grand old Commonwealth, keeps up for every day use.

RHODE ISLAND has held her annual election and has sent us the news of a Republican victory. It doesn't seem as if Grant's star was waning in New England, perceptibly. We have known the Democracy to carry New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island, at different times, and still get beaten badly in the grand fight. How do they expect to get along when they can't even carry one of these little Commonwealths?

CALUMNIES ON PUBLIC MEN.

A correspondent of the Louisville *Commercial* asks, "Was ever mortal man so abused and villified as General Grant?" Certainly, very many of the best and purest men of the country have been. Can it be forgotten that Mr. Lincoln, for months before his re-nomination in 1864, was everywhere conceded to be "the best abused man in America?" And then the war with the rebellion was in progress, when it would seem that every consideration of patriotism, of duty, and of honor, appealed to those claiming to be the friends of the Government, to save the good name of the representative man of the party struggling to save the nation. But there were then, as now, fault-finders, disappointed office-seekers, and that class of politicians from whose pen vituperation arises as naturally as poison from the tongues of asps.

And there was George Washington: he that was "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." Even Washington was not free from the "poisoned shafts of his malignant foes." Hildreth, in his history of the United States, tells us:

"The state of feeling toward Washington, among the more violent part of the opposition, may be judged of by the following extract from a contemporaneous article in the *Aurora*: "If ever a nation was debauched by a man, the American nation has been debauched by Washington. Let his conduct, then, be an example to future ages. Let it serve to be a warning, that no man may be an idol. Let the history of the Federal Government instruct mankind that the mask of patriotism may be worn to conceal the foulest designs against the liberties of the people."

Again the same authority tells us that on the day of the inauguration of the elder Adams, Washington's second term having just expired, the same paper—the *Aurora*—contained a communication, believed to be from the pen of Dr. Michael Leib, a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly, in which the writer says:

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation," was the pious ejaculation of a man who beheld a flood of happiness rushing in upon mankind. If ever there was a time which would license a reiteration of this exclamation"—so wrote this correspondent of the Aurora—"that time is now arrived, for the man (Washington,) who is the source of all the misfortunes of our country, is this day reduced to a level with his fellow-citizens, and is no longer possessed of power to multiply evils upon the United States. If ever there was a period for rejoicing this is the moment. Every heart in unison with the freedom and happiness of the people ought to beat high with exultation that the name of Washington, from this day, ceases to give a currency to political iniquity and to legalized corruption. * * * When a retrospect is taken of the Washington administration for eight years, it is a subject of the greatest astonishment that a single individual should have conquered the principles of Republicanism in an enlightened people just emerged from the gulf of despotism; and should have carried his designs against the public liberty so far as to put in jeopardy its very existence. Such however, are the facts, and, with these staring us in the face, this day ought to be a day of jubilee in the United States."

Such was the language used by violent partisans toward the Father of his country on his retiring from the Presidency. All who deplore such assaults will find some consolation, we hope, in the fact that the good name of Washington outlived the calumnies of his enemies and his great services to this country are yet, and will be, we trust, in all ages to come, the theme of just praise in all lands where liberty and Christian civilization abide. Nor do we believe that the calumny and detraction now heaped upon General Grant will ever tarnish or efface from the minds of the friends of true Republicanism the recollection of the great services rendered his country in the hour of her direst peril.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

Hon. J. P. Wickersham, Superintendent of Common Schools, has sent us the following, relative to the election of County Superintendents, in May next:

On the first Tuesday of May next, conventions of school directors will assemble at the county seats of the several counties of this Commonwealth for the purpose of electing County Superintendents of Common Schools, for the term of three years, commencing on the first Monday of June. At the same time there will be held, if the respective boards of directors so decide, in all cities and boroughs possessing 7,000 inhabitants, special elections for the election of city and borough Superintendents of schools for the same length of term as that for which county Superintendents are to be elected.

There are now serving in the State 81 county, city and borough Superintendents, to be increased probably at the forthcoming election to 85 or more. The importance of the interests intrusted to these officers can scarcely be overestimated. Pennsylvania will have 1,000,000 children to educate in her public schools during the next three years, and her annual expenditures for school purposes will most likely average full $10,000,000. Whether these children shall be well taught and trained or otherwise; whether this vast sum of money shall be judiciously or injudiciously expended will depend very much upon the men about to be chosen to fill the office of Superintendent, for it will be admitted by all who reflect upon the subject that as the Superintendents so the teachers, as the teachers so the scholars, and as the scholars so in good measure the social and political condition of the people.

In view of these facts, and appreciating the power of an intelligent press as an agency in creating a right public sentiment, I feel it my duty to ask you to impress editorially upon your readers, both school directors and citizens, the importance of securing the very best man that can be found willing to accept the office of Superintendent of schools in your county. No other office probably has a relation so vital to the interests of the people. Persuade the members of the convention, if you can, to lay aside all extraneous considerations and allow their choice to be determined by merit and merit alone.

Pennsylvania has within the last few years placed herself proudly alongside of the foremost educational States. She is taxing herself for educational purposes as heavily as any other State of the Union. She is pouring out her money for the education of her children most generously, and it is the high duty of all who have to do with the official management of schools to see that every dollar thus contributed brings back the greatest possible return of that for which it is given. Our people are willing to pay for the best schools, and we must have them. Let none but men fully qualified be placed in the office of Superintendent, and the rest is guaranteed.

SAMUEL FINLEY BREESE MORSE.

April 27, 1791, within sight of Bunker Hill, Samuel Finley Breese Morse was born. He was the son of Rev. Jedediah Morse, D. D., pastor of the First Congregational Church, and author of that many-volumed series of text books from which the passing generation studied geography. His historical works, also, are numerous. He was a graduate of Yale, 1783, and it was to Yale that he sent the boy Samuel, who graduated thence in 1810, in company with Gov. Ellsworth, of Connecticut, President Hasbrouck, of Rutgers, Prof. Chauncey A. Goodrich, Prof. Ebenezer Kellog, and other distinguished men. His first bent was toward engineering, but immediately after graduation he decided upon the life of an artist; so went to England with Washington Allston in 1811, becoming then a pupil of Benjamin West. In 1818 he exhibited at the Royal Academy his "Dying Hercules," and in May of that year a plaster model of the same which he had made in preparing for the picture, won the gold medal of the London Adelphia Society of Arts. This success encouraged him to compete for the premium for historical composition. The picture painted for the purpose was "The Judgment of Jupiter," between Apollo, Marpessa, and Idas; and West is authority for saying that it would have won the prize had not his departure from England withdrawn it from competition under the rules. In 1815 he returned, settling in Boston, afterwards going to New Hampshire and getting $15 the head for portraits. Thence at the solicitation of friends in 1822, he went to New York. The city gave him a commission for a full length portrait of Lafayette, and orders poured in. It was in 1826 that the National Academy of Design was formed, growing out of a drawing association started in 1824, Mr. Morse taking an active part in the organization, and being elected its first president. This position he held for sixteen years. The first course of art lectures, delivered in America was before the New York Atheneum. One of his important paintings is a large picture of the House of Representatives of that day, with numerous portraits.

In 1835 he completed a rude apparatus, all made by himself, with an experimental wire of half a mile around a room, but this only transmitted in one direction. By 1837 he had ready an improved apparatus, which he exhibited at one of the rooms in the University. This year he went to Washington, filed his caveat, and asked for a Congressional appropriation for a line thence to Baltimore. The session passed without action, and he went abroad. England refused him a patent, Wheatstone having in the meantime got to work; in France he obtained a *brevet d'invention*. But he met with little encouragement abroad, and came back to struggle through poverty and ridicule for four long years. Session after session he persevered. His bill was amended by Congressional wits to include experiments in mesmerism and *Millerism*, the chair refusing to rule out the absurd amendment on the plea that "it would require a scientific analysis to determine how far the magnetism of mesmerism was analogous to that to be employed in the telegraph." At last came the close of the session of '42. On the evening of March 3, the Professor gave up in despair, returned to his hotel "broken in spirit and bankrupt in purse," to start for New York the next day. "At the midnight hour of the expiring session," by a vote of 89 to 83, the bill was passed, and in the morning the inventor knew the dawn which follows the darkest hour. But there were more difficulties. The first plan was of burying the wires in lead pipes. Ezra Cornell devised a machine, drawn by oxen, which opened the trench, laid the pipe, and closed it again; but the expense was great and the plan failed otherwise. It is said that Cornell saved him confession of failure by "accidentally on purpose" smashing up the machine against a rock. Only $7,000 of the appropriation then remained; but Cornell suggested the use of poles, and on the twenty-seventh of May, 1844, "What hath God wrought!" flashed praise and victory from Baltimore to Washington.

GREAT FIRE AT DAUPHIN, PA.

ONE END OF THE RAILWAY BRIDGE GONE.

Between 9 and 10 o'clock, on Wednesday night last, the costly bridge crossing the Susquehanna at Dauphin, Pa., about eight miles west of Harrisburg, and belonging to the Northern Central Railway, was discovered to be on fire. A dispatch from Dauphin at 9.30 says: "One-half of the Northern Central Railroad bridge is in ruins. It was destroyed by fire this evening. The fire originated from a passing engine, and was first discovered at nine o'clock, and in thirty minutes that portion of the structure which connects Dauphin with the iron span was entirely destroyed. One of the watchmen was on the Perry county side and could not get back to Dauphin."

Later information states that the fire originated between the second and third spans from the Dauphin side, and that the time consumed in burning down the bridge was nearly an hour. Every vestige of the structure but the stone piers was destroyed from the eastern shore to the large iron span which separated the two sections. The number of spans consumed were nine or ten, the larger portion of the bridge. The entire length of the structure was nearly one mile. The loss by the fire is estimated at two hundred thousand dollars. The scene while the conflagration was raging cannot be described with any degree of accuracy. It was terribly grand. For miles up and down the river the reflection was visible on the surface of the water, and the heavens were illuminated in every direction for a long distance. The high mountains surrounding the bridge were invested with an indescribable grandeur, and Dauphin was almost as light as at noon to-day. The bridge was one of the finest and most substantially constructed in the State. Nine or ten years since a storm blew down four or five spans of the old structure on the Dauphin side. The bridge was then entirely re-built and covered with a slate roof. The cost of the entire structure was between $400,000 and $500,000. There is no insurance to meet any portion of the loss. The fire is supposed to have originated from sparks from a locomotive. About ten minutes before it was discovered a freight train passed over, and there is scarcely any doubt that the engine attached to it threw out the brand which started the conflagration. The watchman having charge of the burned section was between the raging element and the iron span when the fire broke out, and his retreat was effectually cut of. He was obliged to flee to the Perry county side to get out of danger. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is doing all in its power to facilitate the freight and passenger traffic of its neighbor. Until the section destroyed is re-built the Northern Central will have the privilege of using the Schuylkill and Susquehanna track from Dauphin to Rockville and the Pennsylvania from the latter place to Harrisburg.

Home and County Items.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1872.

MOONLIGHT nights.

THE Northern Lights were "beautiful beyond description" last night.

THE numerous friends of Rev. W. C. Leverett, Rector of St. John's Episcopal church, will be pleased to hear that he is slowly recovering from his recent dangerous illness.

THE new Presbyterian church will be lighted by the new process, on the occasion of Professor Johnson's musical entertainment, on to-morrow (Friday) evening.

SUDDEN DEATH.—We are called upon to record the death of Mr. Parker Moore, of this place, on the evening of the fourth instant, after a very brief illness. Mr. Moore leaves a widow and three bright little boys to mourn his sudden death.

OBITUARY.—As we go to press we receive tidings of the death of Ex-Deputy Sheriff A. R. Bowman, which occurred in Mechanicsburg yesterday. Sheriff Bowman was well-known throughout the county, having served in an official capacity for six years. Peace to his ashes.

[Communicated.]

MESSRS. WEAKLEY & WALLACE:—With pleasure and great interest I attended the examination of the classes under the tuition of Miss S. Weakley, in Forest school house, Dickinson township. It was clearly an examination, and not a showing off. The pupils were not only allowed but were *required* to depend upon their own ability, and the result was quite satisfactory—the smallest to the largest acquitting themselves creditably. The greater credit is due from the fact of its being the young lady's first experience in teaching.

The directors and gentlemen present declared themselves perfectly satisfied, and said the school stood second to none in the township, containing pupils of the same age. C.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—On Wednesday forenoon, the large paper mill of Mullin, Parker & Co., (formerly Zug's,) about five miles south of Carlisle and one-half mile east of Ritner's mill, was totally destroyed by fire. The building took fire about 9 a. m., and notwithstanding every effort was made to stay the flames, in a short time the large and imposing building, with its costly machinery for the manufacture of superior calendered book papers was a total wreck. The flames communicated to the large bank barn, belonging to Mr. Peter Ritner, close by, when it was also destroyed. The fire is supposed to have originated in the dust room on the third floor, from a heated journal. Messrs. Mullin, Parker & Co's., loss is estimated at $35,000, on which there is an insurance for $30,000. Mr. Ritner's loss is about $4,000, partially insured. Mr. Wilson Shupp, Mr Ritner's tenant, lost all his fodder and hay.

ON Tuesday morning, on motion of John R. Miller, esq., James McCurley was admitted to practice law in the several courts of this county, and at the same time, on motion of M. C. Herman, esq., Edward I. Todd and S. M. Leidich were also admitted. Messrs. Todd and Leidich pursued their studies under the direction of Hon. Lemuel Todd, and Mr. McCurley with M. C. Herman, esq.

It affords us pleasure to welcome these young gentlemen to the legal profession. They all begin their professional career with an excellent preparation and under circumstances which will make their success entirely within their own control. Their examinations, as we are informed by their committees, were unusually creditable, and evinced a careful and thorough preparation for their professions. They are young gentlemen of admitted abilities, and good character, and as such we cordially commend them to public favor.

ADVANCING.—The price of flour.

SUBSCRIBE for THE HERALD.

GO to THE HERALD office for job work of every description.

A DOG in town is said to have the whooping cough. What next?

"DOLLY VARDEN" hats are the latest style, worn by the ladies.

MR. H. ZAEPFEL, 319 Walnut street, Columbia, will accept thanks for a keg of beer received ten days since.

THANKS.—Mr. Charlie Weakley, will accept thanks for a half bushel of choice eating apples presented us a few days since. Call again.

SPRING CHICKENS—The first of this spring—were offered in market on Saturday morning. Only 80 cents per pair was asked for them.

REV. DR. WING will deliver a sermon next Sunday morning in First Presbyterian church, on "Drunkenness as a Disease and its Treatment as other Diseases."

FOR bargains in all kinds of dry and domestic goods, at reduced prices, go to Ogilby's, corner of Main and Pitt streets. A large invoice of new goods just received. Low prices a specialty

WE would direct attention to the circular of Prof. Wickersham, State Superintendent of Common Schools; also to the election notice of Superintendent Lindsay, announcing the election to be held on the seventh proximo.

COL. A. K. M'CLURE, will lecture in Rheem's Hall, Tuesday evening, April 16, at 8 o'clock. Tickets to be had at Carlisle Deposit, Farmers' and First National Banks, and at Piper's and Neff's stores

THANKS.—Mr. Obo Loudon, the popular tobacconist in Court House Avenue, will accept thanks for a bountiful supply of chewing tobacco and cigars. If you wish a mild segar or good tobacco give him a call.

THE St. ELMO.—Mr. Jacob Hipple, having leased the large stone dwelling on East Main street, has opened a first-class billiard saloon and restaurant. The billiard tables are to arrive to-day from New York, when "the ball will be set a-rolling." He bespeaks a share of the public patronage.

QUARTERLY MEETING services will be held at St. Paul's Evangelical church on Sunday, April 21. Preaching morning and evening, by Rev. A. L. Reeser, P. E of Carlisle District. Communion Services at the usual hour of morning worship. All are invited to attend.

BY reference to the ads. it will be observed that A. B. Sherk, No. 2, informs the public that the old and popular establishment of Ad. Senseman, on North Pitt street, is in full blast. Skilled workmen are employed in all the various branches, and the best of material used. Repairing a specialty. Visit him.

IF any of our subscribers have failed to receive their papers during the past week, they will confer a favor upon us by immediately giving notice of the non-receipt of the same, as we wish to make the proper corrections on the subscription list. Prompt attention to this matter will save future inconvenience.

NEW FIRM.—By reference to another column, it will be seen that Mr. C. Inhoff, the veteran groceryman, has taken Mr. John Good into partnership with him. This young gentleman has been in Mr. Inhoff's employ for a number of years past, and is no stranger to our citizens. The new firm have leased the room lately occupied by Mr. Devenney, on West Main street, better known as Washmond's stand, where they have opened a large and varied assortment of groceries, which they propose selling for *cash* only. We wish them success.

A GRAND CONCERT of sacred music will be given on Friday evening, April 12, in the new Second Presbyterian church, by Prof. Wm. Johnson, of Pittsburg, assisted by Miss M. A. Johnson, of California. This concert will be given under the auspices of our Young Men's Christian Association, and the proceeds go for their benefit. The reputation of the Professor as a sweet singer has been established by his recent visit to Carlisle. A fine entertainment may be anticipated, and we trust he may be greeted by a large audience.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Saturday afternoon last, a young man named John Gochanauer, aged about 25 years, was fatally injured by attempting to jump from one freight car to another in Shippensburg. The injured man was taken to his home in Scotland, accompanied by Drs. Robert Stuart and David Hayes, who intended to perform an amputation. But reaction taking place, he became worse and died. Colonel Lull ordered a special train to return the medical gentlemen to Shippensburg in the evening. No blame, whatever, attaches to the Railroad company or any of its employees.

READ THEN ACT!—Duke & Burkholder with their accustomed activity, have now opened the finest assortment of new, desirable, Spring stock, of dry goods, cloths, cassimeres, &c., ever brought into the valley. Notwithstanding the great advance in cotton, wool and linen, they manage somehow, to sell at the *old* prices. If you want a handsome Dolly Varden, they can certainly give you beauties to select from. A beautiful shawl, or suit of cassimere, they have the newest styles and at astonishingly low prices. All the new styles of trimmings to match every shade of dress goods. Call and see their fine assortment of all kinds of dry goods.

DOLLY VARDEN.—The new style of ladies' dress known as the Dolly Varden, and which is becoming so popular in fashionable circles, had its origin in literature. She was the charming daughter of a London blacksmith, Gabriel Varden by name, and lived in the reign of George III. She afterwards became Mrs. Joe. Willet. Dolly Varden, the locksmith's daughter in "Barnaby Rudge," is described by Dickens as having the face of a pretty laughing girl; dimpled, fresh and beautiful—the very impersonation of good humor and blooming beauty." Again she is spoken of as having her "charms increased a hundred fold by a most becoming dress, and a thousand little coquettish ways." She is also represented as having been attired, on a certain occasion, "in a smart, little, cherry-colored mantle, with a hood of the same drawn over her head, and upon the top of that had a little straw hat, trimmed with cherry-colored ribbons."

About a year ago some *modiste* re-christened what were then known as "cretonnes," and called them "Dolly Vardens." The name was at first confined to chintzes, but it spread to other materials. At a late dry goods exposition "Dolly Varden" silks were exhibited, and new whole costumes, whose like were never seen on land or shore, are named after the charming and coquettish little daughter of a London blacksmith.

PERSONAL.—Dr. J. H. Fishburn, of Lock Haven, was at home on a brief visit during the past week.

RIGHT—All the books in the law library have had the following inscription printed on the cover: "The Cumberland County law library, Carlisle, Penna."

WE were visited with a thunder storm, accompanied with lightning, on Tuesday last. This is said to be a precursor of a late Spring.

To the many kind friends who have visited us during the past week and renewed their subscriptions, and discharged other claims against them for job work and advertising, we would return thanks.

THE bright light witnessed by many of our citizens, in a north-easterly direction, on Wednesday evening of last week, was occasioned by the burning of a portion of the large bridge on the Northern Central, that spans the Susquehanna river, at Dauphin, Pa.

FISH of formidable proportions still continue to come through the water pipes. Might not this low state of the water eventually occasion sickness similiar to that which inflicted Harrisburg during the past winter? We think it demands an investigation from the officers of the Water Company.

RAIN.—The wiseacres predict seven rainy Sabbaths in succession, because it rained on Easter Sabbath. The prediction held true last Sunday—the day being very damp and disagreeable. We trust that the clerk of the weather will not give us seven Sabbaths of this description, as it will spoil all the plans of our young folks for showing off their nice Spring suits. Cruel rain. But what would we do without water.

HANDSOME DISPLAY.—We notice with great pleasure the very elaborate display of dress goods, in the windows at Greenfield's new store. He has just returned from the East with a magnificent stock, and is prepared to offer some rare inducements. He has established quite a reputation on black silks and dress goods. Go and see his stock, it will pay you. His windows will be illuminated every night, they are grand. Mme Demorest patterns. New stock for Spring just received.

FLORAL.—Mr. Lute A. Line, residing within the borough limits, has an unusually large selection of choice flowers, embracing all the latest varieties. He has fully 100 varieties of geraniums alone. He has turned his entire attention to the cultivation of flowers and is meeting with remarkable success. What is the use of our citizens sending away from home for plants and flowers that can be obtained at the same price here, and without extra charge. He is prepared to furnish crosses, boquets, hanging baskets and flowers on short notice. A cordial invitation is extended to our citizens to visit his residence whether they wish to purchase or not. Flowers can be obtained at his stall during market hours

LEFT.—The Penn and Dickinson Colony, under the charge of Mr. Samuel Coover, took their departure for Bunker Hill, Kansas, in the 5.30 train last Thursday morning. Many of our citizens assembled at the depot to witness their departure. At Mechanicsburg their number was still further augmented by the addition of several families. The colony originally numbered about 130 families. A number of them had already left at different times, and others were not prepared to leave, so that there were about 75 families went on the morning in question. They were not detained at Harrisburg, but soon after their arrival left on the way Passenger. It was expected, that should no unforeseen accident or delay detain them, their destination would be reached in about three days.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE CO., OF NEW YORK, through their agent, Chas. H. Hepburn, esq., have this week paid Mrs. Mary Jane Woods, the sum of ten thousand one hundred and eighty dollars and fifteen cents ($10, 180.15), amount of policy and dividend upon the life of her late husband, Richard Woods, esq. In taking out this policy of assurance upon his life, our late well-known and honored citizen affords another instance of that wise and prudent business management which characterized him and gives, at the same time, another actual result of Life Policies. We would say to all: Go thou and do likewise. The prompt payment of this large amount of money is evidence of that financial strength, integrity, honor and care in the exercise of the trust confided to them by their policy holders, which have marked the career of the Equitable Life Assurance Co., and placed them in so short a time at the head of the Life Assurance Co., of the world.

BARNUM'S RIDING GOAT "ALEXIS."—We clip the following notice of this wonderful animal from an exchange:

"P. T. Barnum beats the world in producing novelties. The last sensation we have heard of, is the training and education, in Cairo, Egypt, of a beautiful Circassian Goat. This animal rides on horseback, jumps through hoops, over garters and banners, and otherwise performs all the most difficult feats of the accomplished equestrian.

We always knew that Phineas was skilled in zoology, entomology, ornithology, anthropology—in fact all the "ologies," including that of (the famous Jerome) *chronology*, but we had no idea that he would ever be able to add to his vocabulary that of *goatology*.

Barnum has done wonders to elevate the standard of the once beautiful and health-giving equestrian art—perhaps he can succeed better with the *genus capricornus* than that of the *genus homo*. At all events the riding goat belonging to his great show, which made his *debut* at Niblo's last night, is the rarest novelty ever introduced to a New York audience We congratulate our country cousins on the opportunity they will enjoy this season of watching the "capers" of this distinguished equestrian Caper, as it constitutes one of the many leading features of Barnum's Great Moral Exhibition. We don't know which will create the greatest *furore*, the Fiji Cannibals, the Giraffe, the Sea Lions, the Automatons, or this Riding Goat."

This colossal combination is now on a tour through the United States, prior to taking its departure for Europe. The entire establishment travel exclusively by rail. It will hold forth at the following places on the days appended: Frederick, May 8; Hagerstown, May 9; Chambersburg, May 10; Carlisle, May 11; Harrisburg, May 13; and York, May 14.

MISS DICKINSON'S LECTURE.—The last lecture of the course was delivered on Tuesday evening, by Miss Anna E. Dickinson, to a very large and appreciative audience. The lecture was characterized by all of the lady's admitted ability and earnestness, and was listened to with marked attention. It seemed to be her aim to demonstrate that everything in the political world was lying around loose, and especially the re-nomination of Gen. Grant would be a most unpardonable blunder. Whom the fair lecturer regarded as the most suitable person for the succession was probably kept out of view from motives of modesty, which we really fail to appreciate. We are prepared to admit that if the ballot were placed in the hands of the ladies, they would use it with as much discretion as men ordinarily do, and also that they would fill offices about as acceptably. If Miss Dickinson really believes that the present politicians are sinners above all other men and women, we would she might have enlightened us on the question of finding more worthy persons to take the business off their hands. As a political speech the lecture was quite a success. It was earnestly delivered, carefully prepared, and abounded in telling hits at many real and some imaginary evils. That it was anything else than a political speech we don't suppose Miss Dickinson herself would claim.

CALL, see, taste and ask the price of sugar at Green's store.

THOSE wishing to engage in a profitable business read the advertisement of M. B. Dyott, 114 South Second street, Philadelphia, in this issue. Light equal to gas—at one-eighth the cost, &c., &c. *Rights* of counties and States for sale.

NEW GROCERY.—Mr. John A. Means has purchased the stock of groceries of Mr. John Heckman, and having made large additions thereto, will keep a number one class of groceries at all times. Family flour and feed a specialty. Don't forget the place, No. 78 South Hanover street. We wish the young gentleman success, financially.

PROMPT.—We have been informed by Messrs. Rhinesmith & Rupp, whose horse was burned a short time since, on which they had an insurance of $100 in the