

**BUSINESS NOTICES.**  
The publishers of this paper offer for sale cheap for cash the type (Brevier and Minion) on which the Agitator has been printed up to this year. The type has been in use but a short time, and is in good order. There is plenty of it to print an eight-column paper. Address Van Gelder & Barnes, Wellsboro, Pa.—Jan. 8, 1872.

**The Agitator.**  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1872.  
Gold closed in New York last Saturday at 110.

At the late Potter County Republican Convention the delegates to the State Convention were instructed to vote for Hon. H. W. Williams for Supreme Judge.

It looks now as though the New York Legislature would pass the bill repealing the Erie Classification Act, and so effect the expulsion of the present Board of Directors of that road.

Here are a couple of English items that will be read with peculiar interest by those who heard Miss Dickinson's lecture here last week. The operatives in the silk factories of Leek, in Staffordshire, to the number of 8,800, have been locked out for refusing to accept the terms offered them by the masters. Fifteen hundred coal miners of Scotland are on a strike for higher wages. What a sum of human misery do these few lines imply?

The first embassy sent from the Japanese Government to a foreign nation was received by the President last week Monday. The usual complimentary speeches were made on the occasion. The embassy bring with them five young girls, said to be maids of high degree, whom they design to place in American schools. Japan seems to have a sincere desire to learn more of western—and especially American—civilization.

The past week was marked by extensive fires, two of which were noteworthy. The fine granite building belonging to the estate of Dr. Jayne and standing on Chestnut street, Philadelphia, was severely damaged by fire and water Monday night. The building is so high that the powerful steam fire engines were almost useless in reaching the upper stories. And early Thursday morning six river steamers lying at the wharf in Cincinnati were totally destroyed with their cargoes, involving a loss of a quarter million dollars.

As will be seen by reference to our legislative summary, Mr. Mitchell introduced a bill in the House last week to repeal the act creating the office of assistant law judge in this district. We trust our member will press this bill to a speedy passage by the House, and that Senator Strang will give it his special attention in the Senate. The office is one which is acknowledged on all hands to be an unnecessary one, and it is one which the people of the county most earnestly desire shall not be continued beyond the present term. We can conceive of no objection to Mr. Mitchell's bill which will bear public statement. If there is any, the people will no doubt be interested in considering it. But we can't see why, on grounds of public policy, the bill should not become a law in short order.

The sale of government arms is in a fair way to be thoroughly investigated at last, if committees are good for anything. While the Senate was voting on the bill to repeal Governor Sumner's preamble, the House without any fuss or palaver at all ordered an investigation of the whole matter. So when the Senate at last elected its committee there were two of them "wanting to know you here" about the sale of arms to France. We trust they will both keep busy at work until the whole truth is brought to light. So far nothing at all has been brought out showing any illegal, corrupt, or improper action on the part of the Government or any of its officers. We have no doubt the result will show Mr. Sumner's charges to be the most baseless fictions of the year; but no matter—let us go clear to the bottom, so that the Sorbels shall not have the faintest excuse for a grov.

We are happy to see, by the report of a convention held at Coudersport a few days since, that the Republicans of Potter county are in a fair way to have the differences that have distracted the party there for the last few years. The convention seems to have fairly represented both wings of the party, and remarks were made by men of all shades of opinion indicating a general desire to conciliate and harmonize. It was proposed to adopt the "Crawford county system" of nominating candidates, and the new County Committee were instructed to take the matter into consideration. We hope, in the interest of the whole party in the county, that the proposed change will be made, for we believe that system is the most effective mode to prevent the evils of packed conventions and purchased nominations—evils almost certain to grow up in any party whose dominance is of long continuance.

Local elections are not always the surest indication of the political current, for they are frequently influenced by local issues and personal preferences; but when a number of them in various localities agree in result, it may be fairly assumed that the popular sentiment is thereby shown. So we have a right to congratulate Republicans on the general success of their political comrades in widely scattered city elections last week. Portland, Sacon, Bath, Lewiston, and Auburn, in Maine, and Elmira, Auburn, Rochester, Poughkeepsie, Cohoes, Utica, and Oswego, in New York, elected Republicans to their chief local offices. In some of these cases the political revolution was complete and overwhelming, as in Rochester and Elmira. And in all, the indications of Republican vitality and unity are most significant and inspiring. The political skies are rapidly clearing. A few brief weeks and the bright May sun will shine upon a harmonious, confident, and determined host ready to follow Grant to one more victory.

Mr. Brooks, of New York, offered a joint resolution in the House of Representatives the other day directing the Vice President and Speaker of the House to appoint a joint committee of three from each body to devise the wisest and best means for the pacification of Mexico. This strikes us as a decidedly queer notion. There is no doubt Mexico needs pacifying badly enough; but any meddling in her affairs by our Government would be in direct opposition to our habitual and well-considered policy, and would probably be of no benefit to that unhappy land, whose governments seem to wax and wane with the moon. There have been several hints recently of an intention in some quarters to establish a United States protectorate of the Juarez government, and it is now rumored that the present journey of Mr. William C. Bryant

to the city of Mexico has some public object in view. But it is only necessary to recall the effort of England, France and Spain in that line to see the folly of any such movement. Let us mind our own business, Mr. Brooks, and leave our neighbors to mind theirs.

Mr. A. O. Hall, the janitor Mayor of New York, has been so busy in that city for the past two weeks as a criminal. He was indicted for misdemeanor in certifying certain fraudulent vouchers so that money was drawn from the city treasury on them. Chief among these were the notorious conveyance vouchers for plastering the new court house. The trial was rendered as interesting as a play by the sudden introduction of this principle of plasterers on the witness stand last Thursday, when the public and the Mayor supposed him still in some foreign land. He ran away from New York months ago when Tammany's troubles culminated; but he was recently induced by Attorney General Barlow to come back and tell what he knows of those suspicious friends of that model Democratic city. And here is what he tells, so far: He had done work on the court house for which his bills amounted to about \$292,000. But he was to pay large sums to other people, and so he made up a fraudulent bill for \$295,000. Of this he received 50 per cent. He paid \$147,500 to use in corrupting the Legislature at Albany; \$60,000 was spent for buildings at Greenwich, Connecticut; \$11,000 went to Woodward; \$2,000 to Walter Roche, and \$2,000 he reserved to spend in politics. And this is one of the claims that the innocent Mayor Hall testified to! We await the result of this trial with lively interest.

**Evans—Harrington—Mackey.**  
The New York Tribune recently published a letter dated at Harrisburg which stated that on the 19th of January Mr. Cooper came into the House of Representatives toward the close of the morning hour, and endeavored to bring before that body a resolution of inquiry, but before the purport of his resolution appeared, a well-known leader of the "Third House" hurriedly went upon the floor, and immediately, by a movement known to the initiated as the "Harrisburg flurry," the session was broken up rather than adjourned. The writer then goes on to say that "events" placed a copy of the resolution in his hands, and that the two State officers mentioned in it having interested themselves to procure the pardon of a certain young broker of Philadelphia, lately convicted of frauds on the Treasury of that city, he has thought proper to make public the suppressed resolution. We publish it, not because we attach much importance to it, but because it has excited great interest at the State capital, and because it is necessary to enable our readers to understand current political movements. It is as follows:

Whereas, John E. Harrington, Auditor General, and Robert W. Mackey, Treasurer, have been accused of illegally using moneys of the Commonwealth in applying the same in carrying on various operations in stocks, to the amount of several millions of dollars, and to the payment of their private debts; and

Whereas, the said State officers are further accused of having used the moneys of the Commonwealth in the purchase of the loans of the Commonwealth for their own benefit, particularly to the purchase of \$130,000 of the five per cent. loan of the Commonwealth, and \$81,000 of the six per cent. loan of the Commonwealth; and of having sold the said loans to the Sinking Fund of the Commonwealth at an advance of 10 per cent. to the said Mackey of \$2,933.42, and of an advance to the said Harrington of \$2,700; and

Whereas, the said Mackey is further accused of having received, among other sums, the following payments as interest on the moneys of the Commonwealth loaned or deposited by him for or on account of such consideration, viz: On August 25, 1869, \$277.50; on February 9, 1870, \$8,220.00; on August 25, 1870, \$5,000. Therefore, be it

Resolved, (the Senate concurring), That a joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives be appointed to inquire into the accusations aforesaid, and report, with authority to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Cooper took the earliest opportunity to read the story of this anonymous writer as false. He said he was urged by Mr. George O. Evans to offer such a resolution, but he declined the job, that Evans approached other members of both the House and Senate with the same request, but could find no tool for his purpose in either house or in either party.

It will be remembered that this man Evans was the agent of the State for the collection of its war claims from the General Government; that he is charged with improperly appropriating \$201,000 of State funds in collecting those claims, and that a special committee of the Senate is now investigating that charge. But the committee have been unable to procure Mr. Evans's attendance before them. In the first place he was terribly sick in Philadelphia. So the committee went to that city, but when they got there they found the gentleman had suddenly recovered and gone to New York on important business. Then the committee went to New York, but when they got there they found the gentleman had suddenly recovered and gone to New York on important business. Then the committee went to New York, but when they got there they found the gentleman had suddenly recovered and gone to New York on important business.

What Congress did last week.  
In the Senate, on the 4th instant, memorials were presented protesting against the proposed theological amendment of the Constitution, in favor of a ship canal around Niagara Falls, against the sudden repeal of the duty on tea and coffee, and for permission to purchase the site of the present post office in New York by the Chamber of Commerce. Bills were passed providing for the appointment of a chief medical purveyor in the army, and authorizing the purchase of a site for government buildings in Cincinnati. After some time spent in considering the legislative appropriation bill, the Senate went into Executive session and adjourned. In the House a number of bills were introduced and referred to the general interest of our readers. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the deficiency appropriation bill, and after discussing it about two hours adjourned.

The proceedings of the Senate on the 6th were highly interesting. Mr. Caldwell, of Kansas, made a personal explanation. He said it was known that a committee of the Kansas Legislature had been investigating the alleged corrupt practices connected with the election of United States Senator J. B.

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The Senate last Thursday passed bills for the erection of public buildings at Albany, St. Louis, Hartford, and Little Rock. A bill was passed directing the Secretary of the Interior to suspend and expel from the treatment of immigrants, and also into the quarantine and health regulations at the chief ports of the country. The legislative appropriation bill was then taken up, and a debate followed on the amendment appropriating \$50,000 to enable the President to put in force the civil service reform laws. Mr. Carpenter moved to substitute a provision repealing all laws under which the Reform Commission was appointed. Mr. Trumbull moved to lay that substitute on the table, which was done by a vote of 40 to 19. Messrs. Carpenter, Sherman, and Logan spoke in opposition to the reform, while the latter gentleman characterized as a humbug, and Mr. Edmunds argued in favor of it. The Senate adjourned without reaching a vote. The House took up the deficiency bill and proceeded to vote on the amendments reported from the Committee of the Whole. After disposing of the bill granting to the Central Pacific Railway Company the use of one-half the island of Yerba Buena in the bay of San Francisco was taken up and debated. During the discussion Mr. Blair referred to the charges in the newspaper reports against the Secretary of the Navy, and moved the appointment of a select committee of five to investigate them. It was stated in behalf of the Secretary that he claimed and desired the full investigation. Mr. Blingham objected to it on the ground that no reason was alleged for the proposed investigation, and he did not think the House turned into a Star Chamber. The matter finally went over to the 12th without action.

Last Friday a bill was introduced in the Senate to provide for the payment of widows of men who served in the war, also one to refund to State officers the taxes paid on their salaries. The status of Jonathan Trumbull and Roger Sherman were formally presented to the Senate in the name of the people of Connecticut by the Senators from that State, in appropriate addresses. A resolution was unanimously adopted thanking the Staff for the services they will be placed in the old hall of the House of Representatives. The legislative appropriation bill was taken up, and a debate followed on civil service reform. Mr. Howe believed the scheme adopted was unconstitutional. The Senate adjourned without reaching a vote. In the House a bill was passed providing for the payment of \$100 bounty to the soldiers and to the widows and orphans of those who were mustered into the service prior to August 6, 1861. A bill was also passed granting pensions to United States Judges who have attained the age of seventy years, and been on the bench at least twenty years. The post office appropriation bill was then taken up, and a debate followed on the tariff and finances of the country. Both houses adjourned until Monday.

Legislative Summary.  
The only business of importance transacted by the Senate on the 1st instant was the passage of a bill to submit to the people of the Commonwealth a proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for the election of State Treasurer by popular vote. The bill passed unanimously. In the House the Speaker announced the committee to inquire into the election frauds in Philadelphia. The majority of the committee on the Green-Short contested election case reported that the sitting member, Mr. Short, is entitled to the seat. Numerous petitions, remonstrances, and local bills were intro-

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