TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1873.

We publish this week a quarter-sheet supplement containing about a page of matter, and making the AGITATOR consist of forty columns of print. We are impelled to this course by the great pressure upon our advertising space, and by the desire to give our subscribers the usual amount of reading matter.

A glance at the forty long columns of this number will convince anybody that the business men of Tioga county and of many regions | zanilla, Quba. If it is true, as alleged, that more remote thoroughly appreciate the fact that the Captain General has required of the the ten thousand readers of the AGITATOR are Government at Madrid a reinforcement of among the most thrifty and enterprising citi- troops for Havana to prevent a revolution sens of the land.

The Legislature adjourned last Thursday. Hon. B. B. Strang, Senator from this district, was elected Speaker of the Senate just

There was a great flood in the Genesee river last week, resulting in the loss of a number of lives by drowning at Rochester.

We print this week a couple of speeches made in the Constitutional Convention by the delegates from this county. They are upon subjects which will interest every voter and taxpayer in the county, and we commend them to the careful consideration of

At the recent State election in Rhode Island the Republican candidate for Governor received a majority of about 4,000. The remainder of the Republican State ticket was also elected. In the Senate the Republicans have secured 16 majority, and in the House the majority on the same side is about

Last Tuesday the Speaker of the Senate announced to that body that a House bill had been stolen from the clerk's desk, and the same day-a member of the House made a statement in his place that a bill had mysteriously disappeared or been stolen from the files of that body. It is facts like these that go far to disgrace the Legislature and the whole Commonwealth in the eyes of all

The investigation of the terrible disaster to the steamship Atlantic, which commenced last week at Halifax, seems to establish beyoud controversy the fact that the immediate cause of the calamity was the inefficiency, carelessness, or ignorance of the captain and chief officers of the vessel.-The agents of the line on the other side of the ocean are also to blame for sending to sea a ship, with near a thousand souls on board, at the most stormy season of the her intended haven. To parsimony and tion. carelessness is to be charged this fearful ca-

ed a bill to enable the voters of towns and country. More than six thousand persons cities to determine whether licenses to sell intoxicating liquors shall be granted. We suppose this action may be credited to our own "Local Option" legislation; but it is a pity the Pennsylvania law was not more closely copied. We imagine that a law which permits the sale of liquor in one-half the towns of a county and prohibits it in the rest will not prove very efficient in suppressing intemperance. The law of this State, which makes the question of license depend upon the vote of the whole county, is preferable to this.

'We print in another column of this paper the bill apportioning the State into Congressional districts. The bill passed both houses of the Legislature last week, and will probably receive the Governor's approval and become a law. As will be seen. Tioga county is placed in the Sixteenth district with Potter, M'Kean, Cameron, Lycoming, and Sullivan. As first reported, the district consisted of the same counties | The robins came about two weeks since, with the exception of Sullivan, which was and now the groves are vocal with the musubstituted for Montour. The change in sic of summer songsters. We had several the bill as finally passed reduces somewhat the number of inhabitants in the district, but changes its party complexion very little. As now constituted, the new Sixteenth district should be good for about 3,000 Republican majority on a full vote. Our old neighbors, Clinton and Center, are placed in the Twentieth district along with Union, Clearfield, Elk, and Mifflin, making a district hopelessly Democratic.

The Connecticut State election last week resulted in the election of the Democratic candidate by a majority of about 3,000 over his Republican and Temperance competitors. The members of Congress from the devoted to the consideration of public bills, State were all re-elected, so that the delegation still stands three Republicans to one Democrat. The return of ex-Governor Hawley, the member from the First district, is an event of hardly less interest and importance than the result on the State ticket. In the Senate the Republicans have secured a majority of one, while the Democrats have control of the House by a majority of about a baker's dozen. The result of the election is fairly to be attributed to local complications, the Republicans of New Haven being disaffected by the question of the | This evil might in large measure be cured, removal of the State capital. The Republican candidate was charged with being a Hartford man, and the result is seen in the vote of New Haven. Last year that city gave a Democratic majority of 580 at the spring election, against a majority of about 3,700 now. This tells the story so plainly that even the Tribune is forced to admit that the result "is not in apy degree a Demo cratic victory." Aside from this local defection, it must be admitted that the general apathy of the people would go far to account for the result, that sort of a canvass being generally advantageous to the Democ-

## OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

PROMPT CONVICTION. The trial of Thomas Wright for the mur der of the Jew peddler, Rogerski, resulted last Saturday in his conviction of murder in the first degree. Gen. Hinkle, his counsel, protested that the proof did not cover the case in several material particulars.-Among these are want of proper identification of the body found as that of Rogerski, and a failure to analyze or otherwise prove the crime on an innocent man. The recent murder of Hahn, charged upon another of graded negro, has excited the minds of our graded negro, has excited the minds of our community, and our press reporters have been too ready to work up a sensation against the includy settled and wealthier for the coatm and deliberate operation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable when his life is at stake. It will appropriate for the cealm and deliberate operation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable when his life is at stake. It will appropriate for the cealm and deliberate operation of the cealm and deliberate operation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to grant a prevent of the community of the Court for grant a prevent of the community of the Court for grant a prevent of the consideration of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the cealm and deliberate operation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the cealm and deliberate operation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to grant a prevent of the community of the consumation of this protected by the propose of the cealm and deliberate operation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the consumation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the consumation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the consumation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the consumation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the consumation of the law to which every one is entitled, more estable to the consumation of the law to which the under consumation of the law to which the under consumation of the report, it seems to me but the rule. The consideration of the report, it seems to me but the rule. The the rest of the consumation of the life trule. The consumates of the will necessate the connection of the content in the report of the whole districtive profices of the well and truly dest

case, on account of the unreasoning clamor of feeling which the newspapers have the West Capitol park a bleeding human the time, the feelings of the jury, as it did | This is the beginning of a policy which I those of numerous respectable citizens -Taking it all together, I am inclined to the belief that the dignity and majesty of the full and more fairly considered trial of this poor degraded man who has no friends except inpaid counsel to stand by him.

THE CUBAN PATRIOT CAUSE. News, said to be from Spanish authority confirms the report of the capture and sack ing of the fortified city and scaport of Manbreaking out among the Spaniards, as well as a revolt by the slaves, there are great hopes of the success of the patriot cause in that island. The home government has as much as it can do to suastain itself against the Carlists and Communists, and if the government party on the island intends to divide at this juncture of affairs, the revolution and freedom of Cuba from Spain never were so near accomplished as now. The trouble is that no report can be believed until several times reiterated and investigated. Manzanilla has 15,000 population, more than two-thirds of which are free-colored and slaves. It is a good harbor, but probably not sufficiently fortified to defy a Spanish war fleet. Otherwise the taking of the city would give the revoluionists a claim for recognition as a belligerent power among the nations.

THREATENED CORNER IN GOLD, The New York brokers' ring, which ha levoted its time since the appointment of secretary Richardson to producing a corner in gold and denouncing the new Secretary of the Treasury, is still unhappy. They wanted a man to their liking, but failed to secure one. Hence they are determined to give the Secretary all the trouble in their power, thinking to drive him into some ar bitrary act'on which they can base a regular attack, with the hope of securing a suc cessor. Fortunately the Secretary is no new hand at the financial business of the country, and is able to appreciate the efforts of these reckless financiers. When the time comes for putting a large supply of gold or currency upon the market, Secreta ry Richardson will take the responsibility and smash these gamblers, as well as their designs. They have succeeded in running gold up to 119, with no other reason for it than their unworthy combination for the

CONNECTICUT ELECTION. Connecticut is so close politically that i can rarely be counted on by either party, but this time it is generally conceded to the Republicans. The candidates on both sides are popular men, but the returns will soon render useless any prophecy that may be atyear, without coal enough to carry her to tempted as to the result of Monday's elec-

CAPITAL ITEMS. The grand Union Ball held recently is the mammoth inauguration building was The New York Assembly last week pass- the greatest success of any ever held in this participated, and the accommodations were ample for all. No more delightful vision was ever witnessed than that which the grand hall presented from the north platform when the floor was covered with youth and beauty engaged in the mazes of the Thursday.

## FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

SPRING WEATHER—SOME LOCAL LEGISLA TION NECESSARY-EQUALIZING TAXES-A GOOD RULE-THE APPROPRIATION BILL-THE NORMAL SCHOOLS-A NEW POLICY IN REGARD TO THEM-STATE CHARITIES-THE FINAL ADJOURNMENT LAST THURS

HARRISBURG, April 7, 1873. Editor of the Agitator:-I have seen but three or four county papers during the winter. As I suppose they have been mailed, There is still a remnant of snow in State street—a very unusual thing in this latitude. The river has been high here for two weeks. But few rafts have yet passed this place. delightful days last week, and the roads dried off so they were dusty yesterday. I took a ride up the Susquehannal Saturday, and saw the gardens were ploughed, and some early vegetables put in. Wheat already covers the ground, and the meadows

cheerful spring is a welcome relief, and evry sojourner here is anxious to go home. The House has not yet agreed to the resoution, as amended by the Senate, for final adjournment on the 10th instant. It will come up to-day, and I hope it will be agreed out submitting the question to a vote of the be extended a week. If the time could be the question shall vote for the same.

devoted to the consideration of public bills, "Section.—There shall be no territory several of which are important, it would be stricken from any county, unless a majorwell spent. But private bills are so plenti-ful that it is with great difficulty public shall petition for such a division, and no House, which devote but one day a week to ters of the county to which it is proposed to their consideration. Very many private be added. But the portion so stricken off bills are a local necessity, and the cry against and added to another county, or formed in local legislation is not fully justified. A whole or in part into a new county, shall be holden for and obliged to pay its proportion State so vast, embracing interests so varied, cannot be developed and properly governed | which it had been taken.' under general laws on every subject. But a ery large number of laws annually enacted should be general, or not be made at all.-This evil might in large measure be cured, thirty-fourth page of the Journal, they will either by constitutional prohibition of spe- find a copy of the substitute just offered by cial laws on general subjects or additional joint rules of the two houses. For instance: laws exempting property from taxation in special cases have been passed every session -principally property of religious, charitahad grown to such an extent that some millions of property in the city of Philadelphia it falls far short of it, and in my opinion, alone was exempt, and large amounts in the pending report, if adopted, will not proother sections. A law has just been passed finally repealing all such special laws and made against them by men who are eager finally repealing all such special laws, and leaving the exemptions only of such as are provided for by the general laws on the subect—such as churches, cemeteries, and pubreproperty. After the passage of this act direction, and gives us smaller counties than have other States of the Union, save

special case shall be passed by either house. There are other subjects which might be regulated in the same way, and much expense and confusion of laws be thus pre The Senate passed the appropriation bill last Friday, but the House refused to agree to it by a vote of 40 to 42, and recommitted that the alleged blood marks in Wright's it to the committee of conference. Since house were actually blood. The principal the Senate has passed the bill, there can be witness, who alleged that Wright admitted no further conference without a reconsiderthe murder, was stated at the time to have ation, and the House committee can do broken down in her testimony, and it is not nothing but report the bill back without beyond the bounds of possibility that some amendment. There are some things wrong deed and buried the peddler's pack on the should not have been; but it is probably as premises of Wright, whose character was good a bill as can be agreed upon, and I the crime on an innocent man. The recent it is a great improvement on the past. The

aroused. The cruel joke of exposing in by a board composed of the State Superintendent, Governor, and Attorney General, in head, doubtless cut from a subject for med- their discretion, as they think the best inical dissection, was calculated to excite, for terests of the State and the schools require. hope may never be departed from. The Committee of Ways and Means gave \$10,-000 to each school the present year, and same to be a lien upon the property of the schools; but some of them are not as much in need of it as others, and it may be wise o vest a discretion as the bill amended provides. In the end it will come to about the same thing. The Shippensburg school is about \$50,000 in debt, and the \$20,000 is given upon the condition that the debt shall

be fully provided for before the money is year, and has only been paid \$15,000 heretofore. The school at Bloomsburg is in for Normal purposes in the State. This institution may survive. The State is to be what may remain of what had once been, in secured by a lien to the satisfaction of the board, and I understand that none of this less a local subscription shall be raised—to just what amount I am unable to say. The school in our county is likely to get its full share of this money, to enable it to complete the building already commenced, if the people in the locality shall raise a rea-

sonable amount for the same purpose. I do not think the amount required will be excessive, and we should do our reasonable share in remuneration for the local benefits. Certainly it is a good step in the right direction, for it is a virtual adoption of a permanent policy which will make these institutions the children of the State, to be cared for by it in future, if this policy shall be

are expensive institutions, but noble charities. The one at Danville will probably be completed this year, for which \$100,000 is provided, and \$20,000 for expenses. There is a large number of unfortunates already cared for there. Our county is in the Danville district. The Northwestern Hospital for Insane, which has been contemplated as a part of the system, will probably be commenced this year, and \$100,000 is asked for this. The bill has already passed both houses. This institution will cost \$700,000, and will be located in the northwest. Some papers allege that the House re-

fused to pass the appropriation bill because the pay was not increased to \$1,500. This is a great mistake. There never were more than twenty of its members favorable to it. and the bill was put through the House in the first place without any person having an opportunity to say a word or call the yeas and nays upon it.

The Philadelphia papers are as busy as ever abusing the whole Legislature indiscriminately, having no knowledge whereof they speak. This wholesale abuse of men, some of whom are among our best citizens, should be condemned by all good men. LATER. -Since writing the above the ap-Treasurer by the people have passed finally, and the House agreed to adjourn next

## ECHOES FROM THE CONVENTION.

The Division of Counties. Convention being in committee of the whole, the report of the committee on Counties, Townships and Boroughs came up for consideration, and the Clerk read the will preserve the territorial integrity of the

"Section 1. The Legislature shall have ounty shall have an area of less than three hundred square miles, nor a population of y shall be reduced to a less area than four undred square miles. No new county shall be erected until the same shall be approved by three-fifths of the votes cast by the electors embraced within each of the sections of the counties taken to form the new county."

After an ineffectual effort to postpone the consideration of the report, Mr. Niles submitted the following substitute for the

"Section.-No new county shall be formed or established by the General Assembly which shall reduce the county or have put on their green. After a season of shall be taken, to less contents than four propose to consult them in all matters of lonearly three months of constant snow hundred square miles; nor shall any county be formed of less contents; nor shall any of any county seat of the county or coun- ial law, and to that I am agreed. How ties proposed to be divided.

"SECTION .- No county shall be divided or have any part stricken therefrom withbut the probability is that the time will people of the county, nor unless a majority

territory shall be added to any county withbills can be reached under the rules of the out the consent of the majority of the vo of the indebtedness of the county from

the substitute of the gentleman from Tioga. Mr. NILES. Mr. Chairman: If the Com me. It was offered by me to the Convention on the seventh day of January, and by it referred to the Committee on Counties. Having some interest in this question, I desire to say a few words in support of the substitute just offered, to take the place of the report of the committee. While the committee's report, in some respects, is an mprovement upon the amendment of 1857. n the present Constitution, in many other for the formation of new counties. The report is at fault wherein it reduces the reone fourth. This is an advance in the wrong

one. No reason has been, nor do I believe House, and passed both branches of the there can be, given for this departure. An Legislature, which provides that "No bill other objection to the report is, that it does exempting property from taxation in any not submit the question of the formation of ulation of some of the counties to be innew counties to the vote of the people of any of the counties affected, no matter how of some men is past finding out. At this much territory may be taken therefrom.— moment a bill is before the Legislature of Three-fourths of a county may be taken our State, has already passed the House of the Convention a proposition to prevent the away without consulting any except those Representatives, which proposes to carve a change of county seats except by the apwho are to be included in the proposed new organization. No county, as a whole, is to be consulted, whereas under our present the one that I, in part, represent upon this Constitution, by virtue of the amendment originated in the Senate by the delegate from Columbia, (Mr. Buckelew,) if more a vote of the people on a single one of them. thing wrong in declaring that in reference than one-tenth of the population of any And to do this Sullivan is to be reduced to to the creation of counties and the location county is taken, the question must be sub-mitted to the people of the whole county. I undertake to say, Mr. Chairman, the pend-ing report of the committee is much more favorable to new county projects than the Constitution under which we are now living. This may not have been intended by the other person might have perpetrated the in the bill, and some stricken from it which | Constitution under which we are now living. This may not have been intended by the committee, but such, I submit, is its legitimate effect. Only those who desire new or their rights! Every Senator from those four their rights is correctly to the constitution are to be consulted. They are bad, for purposes of escape by fastening think it will pass to day. In some respects mate enect. Only those who described bad, for purposes of escape by fastening think it will pass to day. In some respects ganizations are to be consulted. They pro-

which go to the Shippensburg school, and the I tion of new counties, their powers may be balance to be distributed among the others | 50 circumscribed by proper testrictions and the State may be protected This proposition of mine is not an impracticable one, nor does it impose any unnec

ssary hardships upon those who desire the formation of new counties. In substance it has been submitted to the people of severa States, and it bus always overwhelming majorities. What is my proposition? It prohibits the formation of new law might be better subserved by a more \$5,000 annually hereafter, requiring the counties of less area than four hundred square miles. This is the minimum under our present Constitution, and a less area han allowed in any other State, save one, where restrictions are imposed upon the legislative power. Do the delegates of this Convention believe that new counties should be created with a less number of square miles? It provides that existing counties shall not be reduced below that area. Is not this right? That is the intention of the ling the real estate of the owner, now mostly present Constitution, and yet a bill is now woodland, with not another building in or paid. That school received nothing last | pending before our Legislature, with a fair county below that standard, and this, too, debt about \$60,000, with a property worth It also declares "that no new county line about \$150,000, probably the best buildings | shall pass within ten miles of any existing county sent." Is this prohibition wrong debt is now pressing, and that school will And yet the report of the committee does debt is now pressing, and that school will not prevent ambitious corner lot men from probably get as much as the one at Ship-running their new county lines to the very pensburg, if provision shall be made for a door of old and existing county seats, the liberal subscription on its debt, so that the leaving them upon the very outskirts of

> substance, a county.
>
> But, Mr. Chairman, the part that will afboard, and I understand that none of this ford the people a substantial protection for money is likely to be paid to any school un- all coming time, and which will defy legislative spoliation, is that which provides that "no county shall be divided or have any part stricken therefrom without submitting the question to a vote of the peothe legal voters of the county voting on the question shall vote for the same." My substitute squarely raises the question as to the justness and propriety of consulting the eople in the formation of new counties.-In a matter so vital to their interests, it proposes to consult the will of each and every The report of the committee allows the formation of new counties upon the mere

application of the parties interested, wherefound on any given three hundred square miles. It is practically, but most effectually, peaceable secession. When any portion of community numbering eighteen thousand desire to serve their political relations, they can do it under the pending report, without "let or hindrance." the old organizations, have not a word to say; they will be powerless in the matter. and the most they can do is to quietly fold their arms and "see their wayward sisters depart in peace."

At present we have sixty-six counties, with a mean average of seven hundred square miles. The committee's report gives us, i our people avail themselves of its provis ions, one hundred and fifty-three counties It is not apparent that a multiplication of counties means an increase of local taxa tion? Does not an increase of county of ficers, jurors and the various judicial chinery of our courts carry with it a corresponding increase of expenditure And in these days of extravagance and magnificence, who can calculate upon the cost of new county buildings, and the increased burdens of the people' within its

I confess, Mr. Chairman, that I have some nterest in this question; that I desire the adoption of something that will prevent the or changed by local law. No county can be creation of counties by special acts of the Legislature, without the approval of all of the parties interested. But few more important questions have or will come before question affecting the territorial integrity of is an abuse of the liberty of the press, and is an abuse of the liberty of the press, and in the Commonwealth is interested in the This was submitted as a separate proposition result of our deliberations. In a great de- and ratified by 105,171 inajority. gree the permanent peace and prosperity o propriation bill, the apportionment bill, and all our people depend upon the adoption of with less than four hundred and thirty-two the bill providing for the election of State some substantial proposition. Mine is a stand it. It simply prohibits bold unprin cipled men who have corner lots to sell, and

onds to an unlimited extent, from going to the Legislature and, by a mere act of Assembly, destroying three or four counties for the purpose of creating one of their own. We simply say that old county lines and landmarks shall not be destroyed by special legislation to suit the convenience of to enhance the private ends of any man or set of men; that the rights of the many are superior to the rights of the few: that we quiring a change shall bring their case with-in some wholesome provision that will afford protection to the people. I presume that cases will arise, as many have already arisen in the history of the State, where i will be convenient and perhaps necessary that new counties should be erected. Judg ing the future wants and needs of our peo ple by a glance at our past history and pro ress, I can readily understand that, with he development of our State, the organiza tion of new counties may become a neces sity. And when the commercial and busi

ame relief in this that we desire to give them in any other particular. Sir, in my opinion, whatever concerns the peace and to a great extent the prosperity of our people should be beyond the reach of any mere legislative rescript. We now cal and special legislation. We propose to prohibit the Legislature from even granting divorces from bed and board by specmuch more important is it that we should inhibit them from tearing down county lines: from divorcing whole communities of peowho may have lived a century together, who understand the wants of each other, and who are more than satisfied with their existing political organizations

ness wants of a community have outgrown

Sir, this is a practical question. Scarcely a session passes without an attempt being creation of new counties, in opposition to the clearly expressed wish of the people afected by the change. In the Constitutions of 1798 and 1837 there was no legislative restriction in relation to the formation of new counties. In those days the greed of capital had not become so exacting. The Legpower in opposition to the wants and wishes of the people. Time in this, as in many and growth of our extensive system of railroads centers of population changed. The ressure had become so great that in 1857, y an amendment to our Constitution, one of the many originated and prosecuted to a accessful termination by the delegate from Columbia, (Mr. Buckalew,) the Legislature was prohibited from cutting off over onetenth of the population of any county without the express assent of the people inter-

new county of less than four hundred square much to this amendment originated and defended by the delegate from Columbia (Mr. Buckalew.) For sixteen years it has stood the people. A great amount of ingenuity has annually been wasted in attempts to amendment under consideration we do not nullify its provisions. It was intended by the amendment of 1857 that in the future no county should be created save by consulting the counties affected by the change. It was then believed that no county of four hundred square miles could be formed without taking more than one-tenth of the popcluded in the new one. But the ingenuity new county out of parts of Lycoming, Sullivan. Bradford and Tioga, the latter being floor, and the one wherein I reside, without submitting the question of "new county" to posed to this great outrage and wrong upon their rights! Every Senator from those four counties is opposed to the new county scheme, and back of a united senatorial whence he comes; his word is to the penalties of any provision that might be embodied in the Constitution, or enacted by the Legislature, the most comprehensive that human ingenuity could devise.

onidies the formation of counties square miles, and no county can be reduced below that standard. In Kansas no county can be formed or less than four hundred and thirty-two squar miles, and no seat of justice removed with out the consent of a majority of her voters. prohibits the formation of counties of les than four hundred square miles, and withevery county within the limits of the prosed new one. In Michigan every county must contain four hundred and twenty square miles, and no county can be changed, except by a twothirds vote. Her Constitution was frame

the fact that it contained healing properties

and the hotel attached to it, and of enhanc-

lature is asked to carve out a county in

open and direct opposition to every county

be successfully thwarted, but if my propo

sition is by us adopted, and subsequently

ratified by the people, we shall not hear of any Minnequa jobs in the future.

people were not in their present danger.--

within the last twenty years contains pro-

can be altered except by a vote of the peo

Mr. Niles. I do not remember. Bu

entitle it to a member of the Legislature.

Mr. Niles. Yes, sir. That would give

one to Scranton. I have no doubt about it

The Alabama provision is that a county

must have six hundred square miles, and

Mr. Brodhead. At two dollars an acre. Mr. Niles. I have not been buying land

in Alabama. Perhaps the gentleman has,

and very likely he knows more about that

In Georgia, by her Constitution of 1868

every county must be created by a majorit

of two-thirds of each House, and ratified

Illinois, by her Constitution of 1870, do

clares that county seats cannot be located

square miles, and the submission of the question to a vote of the people. On every

the report gives us three hundred.

by a majority of the people.

the inroads of corner lot men.

epresentative.

in Alahama?

In Minnesota, by her Constitution of 1857 all laws changing county seats or county lines must be submitted to a vote of all the counties affected, and none can be formed In Missouri, by her Constitution of 1865 no county shall contain less, or be reduced below five hundred square miles, and each must have a population sufficient to entitle it to at least one Representative. No county

seat can be removed, except by a two-thirds Tennessee, by her Constitution of 1870 provides that no portion of a county shall thereof, without the consent of two-third of the qualified voters of the part taken off. Texas, by constitutional enactment, prohibits the creation of counties of a less area than nine hundred square miles. Virginia, in 1870, provided that no ne county should contain less than six hundred square miles and must have at least eight ousand inhabitants. West Virginia prohibits the making of

counties of less than four hundred square iles, and no county can be reduced below that number in the formation of new ones Wisconsin, by her Constitution of 1848 prohibits the creation or division of counties without the approval of her people, and by an amendment adopted in 1871 her Legislature is prohibited from locating or changing county seats. Mr. Chairman, it will be seen that many made by greedy land speculators for the of our sister States have taken the precaution to insert into their organic law a sul stantial protection for their people. Do not our own people demand as much? Shall we not afford them this relief when we have it within our power? Is there a delegate sition could be ratified by a large majority slature had never attempted to exercise its | Would not this give strength to our work The people would gladly indorse it. The corner lot men would oppose it, but while other things, worked a change. Corner lots they may have power in our legislative became more valuable. By the creation halls, they are powerless to affect our four

millions of people scattered throughout the length and breadth of the Commonwealth But, independent of its being a question of legislative power that is liable to abuse, I respectfully submit that it is one of those questions that should never be decided without consulting the people affected by the change. It is a branch of our political government that should be controlled only by those counties that are territorially in

In 1861 we opposed the secession of the Southern States. Was it because they were not willing to go? Was it because they did not desire to form an independent govern sir. We said they had no right to withdraw from and destroy the family of States without the consent of the whole. By the propose to keep counties where they now are against their consent. We only propose State full and ample security against being torn away from their present political condition against their consent; that forcibly and against their will they shall not be ta ken from their friends and delivered over into the hands of our modern real estate

proval of the people. This question was submitted in Wisconsin in 1871, and adopted by a large majority, only 3,675 voting against it.
Mr. Chairman, I submit—is there any-

At the proper time I intend to submit to

Why should the ill-fated people living with I full and free discussion before the people in the limits of the proposed now county be most deeply interested, and by them will be decided in accordance with their convicsubjected to increased taxation to build county buildings, and to pay the expenses löns. Sir, we prohibit the Legislature of an extra municipal government? The from doing many things less injurious to the reasons are simple. Some time since a sup Commonwealth, We propose to lob of posed mineral spring was discovered in many of the branches of the legislative Bradford county swamp, close by the line of afwer-that have given us real or fancied couble in the past. Whether wisely or unhe Northern Central railway. After passing through the hands of various speculavisely remains to be seen i We practically tors it came into the possession of its prespropose to cut up by the roots local and ent owner. A clever analysis demonstrated special legislation.

The extensive and transcendent powers

erctofore exercised by our General Assemumanity is heir! Hundreds of acres of bly are, in a large degree, to be returned to lands were purchased in the vicinity, a hotel the people. One of the main reasons that has been built, and the spring and hotel induced the calling of this Convention was have been named "Minnequa," which, in the Indian tongue, from which it is derived, is said to mean healing water. Now, sir, for the alarm with which the people beheld the constant encroachment of the legislative ower, and the easiness with which legisla the mere purpose of building up the spring, ive grants have been and were being given o interested parties. It is an old axiom that "any law is better than anarchy." is any law better than that condition of things which keeps a people in a constant about the premises, and which was a wilderstate of unrest to protect themselves from land pirates who are constantly preying upon their borders. Adopt this proposition, affected by the change. This scheme may now succeed. The will of the people may and henceforth Minnequa jobs will no more disgrace the night sessions of our Legislaure, continuing them until the early dawn. nd then passing bills in defiance of a united elegation, as was done on the night of the 24th of March. Bir, in the early days of the republic the Our people need relief. Shall it be de-nied? When they ask for bread shall we The greed of real estate speculators had not give them a stone? Let them understand that in the future-for all time to comethen assumed its present gigantic proportions. In the older Constitutions of the they cannot be despoiled of their territory different States but little mention is made of without their approbation. Then sharpers legislative restriction in this regard. But as will no longer set themselves at a conjuncme wore on-as real estate became more | tion of three or four counties, and whenev valuable, we find that very many States er and wherever they can get four hundred found it necessary to hedge their Legsquare miles of blue sky, and less than one islatures around with limitations and restrictenth of any of the counties affected, have Almost every Constitution formed a county carved out without the approba-

visions designed to protect the people from lay the ax at the root of the tree. We have ong known the mischief. Let us apply the For the purpose of showing the care taken by our sister States to preserve the integrity of their counties, I will glance at The district from which I come has great a few of their Constitutions upon the subfeel, and that correctly, that their rights ject. Alabama, by her Constitution of 1868, will never be safe until the legislative power prohibited her Legislature from creating is restricted. For years we have had a war new counties of less than six hundred square miles, and that by a vote of twothe Legislature has fallen at Herdic's feet, thirds of both Houses, and no boundaries and has crowned his iniquitous proposition with success. Sir, let us remove this great ple, and every new county must have a poptemptation from our representatives, and ulation sufficient to entitle it to at least one then all men will breathe easier. I must beg the committee's pardon for Mr. BRODHEAD. Mr. Chairman : If the gentleman from Tioga will allow me, I' would like to ask what population would you have listened to these desultory rethat, at that time, have allowed for a county marks. I can now only hope and trust that every county must have a sufficient ratio to speculators may not indorse you, the people | the least. Mr. Brodhead. About one thousand five hundred population, while this report provides for eighteen thousand population.

## The Question of the Ballot.

Some time since the Constitutional Conrention having under consideration, in committee of the whole, the second section of willing to yield this great principle of the the report of the Committee on Suffrage secret ballot, which gives to elections their he report of the Committee on Suffrage, Election and Representation, Hon. M. F.

pallet; the ballets may be open or secret, as the elect or may prefer, and they shall be numbered by th in the profession of the profession of the profession of the control of the profession of the professi In discussing this section Mr. Elliott said:

Mr. Chairman: As a member of the Comuittee on Suffrage, Election and Represenfor opposing this section of the report of I shall vote for the amendment first offered or one substantially like it. In my judgment there is no principle involved in elections by the people which meets with such general approval from th

thinking men of to-day, none which has been for so long a time a part of the organic law of nearly every State in the Union and none, the propriety of the continuance of which in the Constitution of the State is as the principle that all elections by the people should be by secret ballot. The practice of voting by secret ballo has become so general throughout the country that it would have been singular indeed f a committee of this Convention had re ported against the propriety of continuing he practice in this State. could not well ignore a policy that has pre esentative governments. The commit

vailed for so long a time that it has almost become the common law of elections in repby their report, in the section under consideration, recognize the propriety of permiting the elector to vote by secret ballot, and provide that "all elections of the citizens shall be by ballot; the ballots voted may be. open or secret, as the elector shall prefer most heartily approve of the section thus ar; but the committee have thought proper to impose requirements on the elector which in my judgment absolutely and entirely de-

troy the secrecy of the ballot.
In the first place, they require that the hat he offers, provided he can write his name, but that if he cannot, he shall procure some other elector of his election rict to write his name on his ballot for him hus compelling him to place the mark of he officers of the election hoard to ascertain for whom he voted by an inspection of the ticket. It would seem that this requireent ought to be sufficient to satisfy the most zealous advocate of the open ballot, but in addition to this this section of the report provides that when the ballot thus narked is passed over to the officers of the election board they shall further mark it by placing a number thereon corresponding ith the number placed opposite the elect or's name on the tally list. Now, with these two requirements complied with—the ballot identified by name and number—can here be any doubt but that the election officers would know absolutely just how the lector voted, and that the secrecy of the ballot would be destroyed beyond the possioility of a question? And yet, with these equiremennts in this section, the committee gravely report that the elector shall have he right to vote by secret ballot. In my udgment the manner of voting provided by this section is infinitely more ble than the open ballot; it is in fact openticket voting by circumlocution. It is said lowever, by those who favor the require nents contained in this section, that a pro stitution requiring the election officers to ake and subscribe an oath that they will not communicate the knowledge obtained as such officers as to how an elector casts his vote, except when called to testify as a witness, and the fact becomes a material inbosed that this Convention should incorpo rate such a provision in the Constitution If it was thought proper to impose such requirement on election officers, the Legislature is the source from which the require ment should come. 🗸 But such provision, whether embodied in the Constitution or imposed by legislative enactment, would not preserve the of the ballot. As a rule, the election boards hroughout the State are composed of active local politicians, who know the politics of nearly every man in their respective districts, and they are on the lookout for the irpose of ascertaining how the voters east heir ballots; and if a man in the district voted against his party ticket, or differently from the way his employer had promised hi hould, or differently from the way he him self, under the constraint of his peculiar situation, had promised, the fact would be known from one end of the election district. to the other within twenty-four hours after

the polls were closed, notwithstanding you provision for secrecy on the part of the lection officers. It would not be necessary for the election officer to state in so many words just how this or that man voted, in order that his political friend outside the board might be parted without rendering the officer liable to the penalties of any provision that might

ticket. I know it is a favorite theory of some gentlement in this Convention, and for that the man who is afraid to go to the polls and declare openly for whom he desires to vote, in the presence of the voters of the right of an elector. This may sound very well and be all right in theory, but the votes of the class who, for various reasons, dare not go to the polls and openly declare their preferences, will be cast; and the ques tion for their consideration is whether it i better to have them east as the electors' consciences and judgment dietate, under cover of the secret ballot, or as their fears or ne cessities compel, by the open ballot. It does not require great courage for the

man who occupies an independent position it to be wondered at that the poor laboring man, although he may be more intelligent than his more fortunate neighbor, whose bread and that of his; family depends upor the will of his employer; has not the courage to face that employer at the polls and cast his vote openly against the express command of him on whom he is dependent for the means of subsistence? I know very well that the reply to this argument is tha in this country labor has nothing to fear from capital. But, sir, there can be no greater fallacy than this. In nearly every contest between labor and capital in this country capital has come out of the struggle the victor. The reason for this is plain. While capital loses little by lying idle, if the laborer refuses to work for any length are aside from the President's "ten"-just as m of time starvation knocks at his door, and cadets at West Point on there are members in the he is obliged to yield to the demands of capital.

The power of party discipline would prevent many a man from casting his vote as some other young man residing in his district ca he thought to be right, if he was compelled have the cadetship. A person to be eligible to ap tion of the people. Let us in this respect | may feel that a bad man has been put in | year at least in the Army or Navy during the nomination by his party, and he would war, when he will be admitted into the Academy strike that man with the secret ballot; yet not over twenty-four years old. The law also make you inform him that his party friends must it impossible for a person who has served in ellips of necessity know just how he votes, and the Army or Navy or the Confederate States during feeling upon this question. Our people knowing that under such circumstances he the war to become a cadet. would lose caste in his party if he votes against its nomince, the average man would | President is very simple. The person destring vote his party ticket, wrong though he knew it to be. I do not say this is right, but the authority in the matter can write to the Secretary result I have described would, as a rule, be | War at any time and inform him of the applicant attained while weak human nature remains as at present constituted. What good results are to accrue to the people of this State in consideration of their bandonment of their time-honored method espassing so long upon their time. I can of casting their ballots? Will the casting of a single fraudulent vote be prevented by this proposed method of casting ballots?-

No, not one illegal vote will be kept out of you will sustain the substantial part of my the box; nor will any of the corrupt practiroposition. Do this, and while corner-lot ces of illegal voters Le interfered with in Hon. simon Cameron, asking him to see the Presiden The provisions proposed to be of our great State living upon our hillsides | engrafted on our system of voting have no and in our valleys will ratify your work by active life for good, at least until the votes an overwhelming majority.

active life for good, at least until the votes are all cast and the count begins. In fact, that "if the President had a hundred times as many that had a hundred time had a hundred times as many that had a hundred time had they cannot be of the slightest use except in contested election cases; and I am will ing to admit that these provisions may serve to furnish evidence of how a person, proved voter, cast his ballot. I am, however, unreal value to a large class of our citizens, simply and solely upon the ground that the Elliott made an excellent speech in opposi- trial of contested election cases may be simtion to the report. The section as reported plified. Happily for the State, contested elphia are few indeed. I am opposed to this section as reported also for the reason that the requirements of

the elector contained in it would be more appropriate as a legislative enactment than as a provision in the organic law of the electors of the State by an act of the Legislature, and were found to be burdensome ation I desire to state briefly my reasons and oppressive on the people, the law could at once be repealed; but if they become a ever much the people may desire to get rid Arithmetic. His knowledge of grammar must stand of them, they then must remain for a number of years before they can be got rid of. Again, I oppose this section for the rea son that it would be inconvenient and burdensome upon the great mass of the people of this State to carry its requirements into great deal about grammar. If I remember aright, execution. To those who are familiar with out submitting the question to the vote of so well justified by reason and experience of this position will at once be apparent.

country elections and the conveniences usully at hand for conducting them, the force Take for example an election in the coun ry where the election is held in a country shool house, and from three to five hundred votes are polled; you require those three or five hundred voters to write their names, ordinarily not less than three times. vith no place to write within a mile of the olls, and you can form some idea of how aconvenient it would be to carry into exe cution this new patent for the prevention of I hope, Mr. Chairman, that this section will not be adopted.

The Apportionment Bill.

Dividing the State into Congressional districts is generally one of the most difficult tasks imposed upon the Legislature. In the clash of so many differing personal and political interests it is simply impossible to please everybody. The bill printed below elector shall write his name on each ballot was the work of compromise, and was last week reported by a committee of conference and accepted by the two houses. It will therefore become a law upon receiving the signature of the Governor. As finally passed by the Legislature it is as follows:

> 1st district-1st, 2d, 7th and 26th wards of Philadelphia. 2d-8th, 9th, 10th, 13th; 14th and 20th wards, and that part of the 17th ward lying it an officer stepped in and taking a book from his west of Second street. 3d-3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th and 16th

4th-15th, 24th, 27th, 29th and 29th wards. 5th-18th, 19th, 22d, 23d and 25th wards, and that part of the 17th ward east of Second street. 6th-Chester and Delaware counties. 7th-Montgomery county and all that ortion of Bucks county not included in the Hh district. 8th-Berks county.

9th-Lancaster county. 10th-Northampton and Lehigh counties nd the townships of Durham, Springfield, Milford, Richland, Rockhill, Haycock, Tincum and Nockamixon, and the borough of Quakertown in Bucks county. roe and Pike counties, and the townships of Nescopeck, Black Creek, Sugar Loaf, Hazel Butler, Foster, Bear Creek, Bucks, Sa lem, Spring Brook, Roaring Brook, Hollenback, Huntingdon, and that part of the city of Scranton south of Roaring Brook creek

13th—The county of Schuylkill. 14th-Dauphin, Northumberland and ebanon counties. 15th-Bradford, Susquehanna, Wyoming and Wayne counties, 16th-Tioga, Potter, M'Kean, Cameron vecoming and Sullivan counties. 17th—Cambria, Bedford, Blair and Som erset counties. 18th-Franklin, Fulton, Juniata, Hun tingdon, Snyder and Perry counties, 19th-York, Adams and Cumberland

20th-Union, Clinton, Clearfield, Mifflin Elk and Center counties. 21st-Westmoreland, Greene and Favette 23d-Pittsburg city and the townships of Chartiers, Union, Scott, Stowe, Robinson Upper and Lower St. Clair, Baldwin, Wil kins, Penn and Snowden, and the boroughs of Mansfield, Chartiers and Braddock in Allegheny county. 23d-All that portion of Allegheny coun-

ty not included in the 22d district: 24th-Washington, Beaver and Lawrence counties 25th-Clarion, Armstrong, Indiana, Jef ferson and Forest counties. 20th-Mercer, Butler and Crawford coun-

THE U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY.-The story and scene of Benedict Arnold's treachery must be so thoroughly understood by every American who understands anything at all of his country's history that for me to rehearse it here would be useless. I only intend to write up such facts in regard to the Military Academy as would be likely to instory and scene of Benedict Arnold's treach

The Acadebry had the hirth to the made to establish such an institution, but Coppe was slow to act and consequently no special momade in that direction. True, as carly as 1776. green appointed a committee to prepare a plan for Military Academy; but appointing committee least plans and then paying no more attention to dent eventually found out. An attempt was made to teach the art of warfare for a corps of Artillerists and Engineers to bestate nt West Point to train a few young chaps who foubt aspired to become Lient. Generals when the should grow old enough. But until 1802 the Acade which was intended for grinding out the Gri into existence.

Up to 1818 the Academy continued to be a fact, were accepted without an examination, and as then was no prescribed age for admission the incor ienees arising from such a loose y stem can be real count of the carly history of the school, I will a proceed to inform him

There, are just two ways of gaining admission he Academy as a cadet, viz: By securing the influer a Congressman, or gaining the favor of the Pres Each Congressional electrical as the right to keeping West Point four years unless sooner discharged some cause, and as such an event creates, a vacar Take an ambitious partisan: He two years of age, unless that applicant has served

The manner of securing an appointment by the cadetship, his father, guardian, or any one having age; place of residence, and the number of the Con. becoming a cadet, and the Secretary will have his trance, so us to give the person appointed time to preand try to secure one of his appointments for a cer tain young man living in this State. Mr. Cameron ppointments to fill he would not have enough for all hose who had a claim on him." As soon as a person reports to West Point who has an appointment, he is if he is found to be in the least particular unsound he ia rejected at once.

The mental qualifications of a young man about he common English branches. That is, he ma anderstand arithmetic, grammar, the history of the Inited States, and geography, together with reading writing and spelling. Now, let it not be understor of the educational branches, he will not profit by such master the course. Grant, when he entered the Acad emy, barely passed the examination, and while there suffered severely in competition with other member

But although the law does not require anythin nore than what is taught in our public schools, it requires that much to be understood thoroughly. In arithmetic the candidate will be required to solve men tally examples which will average very well with the promiscous examples in fractions in a more severe test than to tell the examining board that "cow" is a noun, but whether common or proper parse sentences which would require the knowledge of more than one teacher who assumes to know a six or thirty-seven candidates rejected because the couldn't spell. Just think of that! Thirty-six or thirty-seven Congressional districts reported without representative at West Point because their boys

Thus it will be seen that a person who is not physially sound and possessed of a good common school education at least, had better give the Military Acade. y a wide berth, and thus escape the mortification onsequent upon being rejected. A certain writer in mining officers have no opinion; they must reject the deheight. The nation sends these young men to the Military Academy, supports and pays them adequately and opens to them an honorable profession, in the expectation that their best efforts will be given to qualiy themselves for the higher duties of the military service. Those who will not, or cannot profit by the provisions, should not occupy the places of those who rill and can." LIFE INSIDE THE ACADEMY.

Those who become inmates of the Academy in June another examination called the semi-annual examina tion, which is also very severe. The "Aunual examination" is held in June, and like all other examinations at the Academy, is very rigid. At this time those adets who cannot show that they are doing well and school at once. The system of "hazing" which the cadets used to practice so extensively has gone out de duction from a very influential gentleman to an older cadeta Everything went off well until after Grant and the callet just referred to had kone to bod, when a pocket gave Grant and his room-mate a number of recitation, as he said, to test their minds. bowed him very politely out of the room and then went to bed while his room-mate remained up all night and studied a leason which he was never com-

inght and studied a lesson which he was never compelled to recite.

At about the twenty or twenty first of June the cadets doser the barracks and go into their summer quarters, consisting of an encampment of army tents. This is the time for the 1st and 2d classes to got a furlough for a visit to their homes. During the encampment season the cadets drop their regular academic studies and devote all their time to the study of military matters. They drill regularly and learn the art of conducting war in a scientific manner. This short season is all the rolaxation they get from their academic studies.

The encampment usually terminates about the last of August when the cadets return to their old quarters and musty books. The evening previous to bidding adieu to the camp the boys. Get upon a regular yelling and howling spree, making the camp seem for the time a regular gathering place for all the wild animals known. A visitor at West Point once described it thus: "An illumination of the camp usually takes place on the evening before it is broke up, and the convolutions of a 'stag clance' are performed on the Parade-ground, with a fervor and vivacity worthy of imitation in a Comanche war-dance. This curious cross in the Terpsichorean art, between the placean wing, double shuffle, hoe-down, and the quadrille, is a frequent diversion in the cadet camp. It is performed by twenty or more cadets, who gyrste between the placean their movements by the very uncertain sounds of a plateian faddle and the low, muffixed rattle of a drum. and east of the Lackawanna river, and the boroughs of Dunmore, New Columbus, Jeddon Goldsboro, White Haven and Hazleton in Luzerne county.

All that part of Luzerne county not known are at West Point."

All that part of Luzerne county not known are at West Point."

The early part of the Lackawanna river, and the formed by two rows of candles stuck in the ground, candendary of their movements by the very uncertain sounds of a ground distribution of a drum, are and the striking of the tents in many parts. The scene during the striking of the tents is not altogether devoid of interest. During the early part of the day the cadets carry all their property into the barracks, leaving nothing in the encampment says

their arms and accoutrements. At the proper time the "Dan't you bear the General say, Strike your tents and march away,"

ner tent cords are cast mass and the pain are while are drawn; at the second, the corner cords and pins are cast loose, and the tent is gathered around the tent-poles and steadied in an upright position, so that at poles and steaded in an upright position, so that at the third tap all the tents instantly go down in concert, and woo to the 'gross' one who fails to omplete the prostration at the moment? The cadets are divided into four classes which are numbered First, Second, Third and Fourth, instead of the usual manner of distinguishing them in other colleges.

Titlow't think I ought to conclude this article without telling the leaders of the Aguarda who it is that represents the Fighteenth Congressional district in the Military Academy. His name is George A. Dodd. His home is in Molfoursville, Lycoming county. I understand his father was killed in the late war. I might go on to describe George's appearance, but can just as well cut my description short by saying that he just so well cut my description short by saying that he looks very much like the pictures I have seen of Jas. Спая. А. Свач.

Administrator's Notice. TETTERS of Administration on the csuate of Danjel Cowley late of Union township, decrased have
been gratited to Catharine Cowley, residing in Union,
Tioga county, Pa., to whilm all persons indebted to
said estate are requested to make payment, and those
having claims or demands will will make known the
same without delay.

Union, April, 15, 1873.-55.

Executor's Notice...

IHE following cases are certified to the Special term of Court, May 14th, 1873, before Hop, B. F. Streeter: John Vischer and John Raudall va Wm. E. Dodge, James Stokes and Daniel James.
John McGraw vs Farmington Barcalow and Amanda