

Builders along the New Jersey coast say that this has been the most prosperous and busy season they have ever known. There is a strong demand for laborers, masons and carpenters, and it is almost impossible to secure men to supply the demand.

Tioga Agitator: A dissolving view: In 1878 the Greenback vote in this State was 81,758; in 1879 it was 27,207; in 1880 it was 20,668; this year it is 14,876. We don't wish to hurt the feelings of the mourners, but it really looks as though there wouldn't be much more than the party "pigs' tails" left next year.

The Mikado of Japan has issued a proclamation notifying the people of the establishment of a constitution with a representative assembly in 1890. Dissatisfaction is shown to some extent, in consequence of the long delay. Several native newspapers have been suspended for adverse criticisms.

Since the days of Washington it is conceded by all Visitors to Washington (of course they do not all remember the Father of his Country) that no more affable, courteous and unaffected man ever carried the honors of the Presidential office in public and private than Gen. Arthur. His manners are those of a polished gentleman, without any approach whatever to pretension. He is dignified, but in no sense affected, austere or overbearing. Mr. Lincoln was perhaps the easiest (if we may use the word) man that ever held the office, but Gen. Arthur excels Old Abe in calm and attractive manners, that are hearty without being bluff. As President Arthur adjusts himself he fills and fits every part of it admirably.—*Harrisburg Telegraph.*

The staid old *North American*, of Philadelphia, was moved to remark the day after election that—"The vote for Mr. Wolfe must serve its good purpose, too, for if with no other leadership than that of personal vanity, against a candidate of unexceptionable character, whose nomination was made without contest or protest, the antipathy to the methods and arbitrary measures of the people who have controlled the Republican party finds voice in such numbers as enrolled themselves under the banner of Mr. Wolfe, it is easy to see how completely successful would be a revolt made with the sympathy and co-operation of all those whose disaffection is not less sincere but is more judicious than that of the independent candidate for State Treasurer. The election is a grave warning to the machine to adjust itself to the changed condition of affairs."

The Philadelphia *Telegraph* says considerable misinformation seems to be afloat concerning the next election in Pennsylvania. The State officers to be elected are Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Secretary of Internal Affairs, to succeed Hoyt, Stone, and Dunkel, respectively, and a Judge of the Supreme Court to succeed Sharswood. Mercur will become Chief Justice, and the new Judge will take his place at the foot of the bench, so to speak. There will also be chosen one-half of the State Senate (members from the even numbered districts), an entire House of Representatives, and members of Congress. The Senators elected will participate, in January, 1885, in the choice of a United States Senator to succeed J. Donald Cameron, but a new House will be chosen again in November, 1884. It is a notable fact that the term

of nearly all of the Republican Senators who took part in the Independent movement at Harrisburg last winter during the Senatorial contest, expire; it is also to be noted that no less than five of these gentlemen were present at the recent Independent conference in this city, one of them, Lee, of Venango, presiding. It is probable that the preliminary nominating proceedings in each of these districts will be lively, as no member who bolted the caucus will have a chance to do so again in '85 if the "machine" can prevent it.

The report of Postmaster General James is a voluminous document of fifty pages in which the condition of the department is ably and thoroughly discussed. We have space to glance only at its most important contents. The net reduction of expenditure for Star Route and steamboat service from March 1st to October 1st is \$1,137,757. In regard to the abuses in the Star Route service the postmaster general confines himself to the remarks that the investigation was ordered by the late president and is still being prosecuted; and that the post office department has co-operated and will continue to co-operate with the department of justice in the investigation. In the opinion of Mr. James the great majority of the railroads are over-paid for carrying the mails, and we think considerable reduction can be made in the expense of this as well as every other branch of the postal service. By economy in management his aim is to make the receipts of the department cover the expenditures, so that within three years letter postage may be reduced from three to two cents. The total expenditures for the last year were \$39,251,736 and the receipts were \$36,785,397, showing a deficit of nearly two millions and a half.

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