

THE TIMES.

New Bloomfield, July 8, 1879.

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FROM LATEST ADVICES it looks very doubtful whether the spinners' strike at Fall River will be a success. The manufacturers seem very determined, and say they will run as long as they can, and if compelled to shut down, it will be to stay down until the strike is over. They know exactly what wages they can afford to pay, and discounted the cost of the strike in advance. After a season of trouble, turmoil, and suffering, the strikers, who, it is said, are governed and led by imported workmen from England, will be glad to get work again at any price. Strikers rarely learn anything either from their own experience or the experience of others.

THE EXTRA SESSION of the Forty-Sixth Congress adjourned on Tuesday last to the great relief of a much over-governed people. The session was occasioned by pure stubbornness and was carried through in the same spirit. The Congress did, however, succeed in passing all the necessary appropriations except one for the pay of marshals and deputies, which bill was vetoed by the President and left in that condition by the adjournment. Nothing was accomplished that could not have been done at the regular session, except the expenditure of the money the extra session cost, and the stirring up of more bitter feelings between the members and the tightening of party lines.

The Number of Bills Received and Signed by the Governor.

Governor Hoyt has received from the legislature, which adjourned finally on the 6th of June, two hundred and thirty bills. Of this number one hundred and ninety-four have received the gubernatorial signature and are now laws. He has found objections sufficient for non-approval or fifteen legislative measures. Eleven bills are still in his hands awaiting action. The constitution provides that all bills that are not acted on within thirty days after the adjournment of the legislature shall become laws. Quite a number of local pension acts will be permitted to be legalized by limitation under this provision.

The following is a list of those most interesting to the general public:

Providing for the completion of the equipment of the National Guard.

Directing county commissioners to procure a place for holding courts in the event of the destruction of a court house or the insecurity of the same.

Supplement to an act providing for the division of counties having 150,000 inhabitants and providing for the election of county superintendents.

To define and punish tramps.

Extending the power of county auditors, authorizing them to settle, audit and adjust accounts of poor directors.

Repealing an act giving the several courts jurisdiction to inquire of, hear, determine and punish persons charged with the first offence of receiving or buying stolen goods or chattles.

Supplement to an act to regulate the sale of clams and oysters.

To authorize the planting of trees along the roadside.

Making an appropriation to the Pennsylvania working home for blind men.

For the protection of children from cruelty and relating to their employment, protection and adoption.

Making an appropriation for eastern penitentiary.

Making an appropriation for Pennsylvania institution for the blind.

Making an appropriation for house of refuge, Philadelphia.

Making an appropriation for normal schools.

Making an appropriation for northern home for friendless children, Philadelphia.

To prevent the burning of woods.

Making an appropriation for geological survey.

For the protection of fishing interests.

Providing for the continuance of soldiers' orphans' schools.

Providing for the board of public charities.

For the collection of borough and township and school taxes which collectors have become personally liable for.

Authorizing county commissioners to levy and collect the taxes necessary to pay the expenses necessary for the erection of poor houses destroyed by fire.

Fixing the date of commencement of terms of township officers and of auditors' settlements.

Authorizing the governor, superintendent of public instruction and attorney general to purchase the real estate of normal schools in which the state has a lien.

Regulating the compensation of auditors and commissioners.

Authorizing appeals to be taken in equity cases when special or preliminary injunction has been refused.

Granting power to boroughs which have issued bonds to redeem the same before maturity and issue new bonds at less rate of interest.

Making an appropriation to mark the grave of Gen. Anthony Wayne.

Authorizing banks and savings institutions to divide their capital stock into shares of par value not less than \$50.

An act relating to turnpike and plank-roads.

Relating to actions of ejectment upon titles acquired by sheriffs, treasurers or commissioners' sales and limiting time for bringing such actions.

Providing for better security of life in cases of fires in hotels, etc.

Making an appropriation for the enlargement of the western penitentiary.

Requiring magistrates in cities of the first, second and third class to take acknowledgement and administer oaths free of charge to soldiers and widows of soldiers for purpose of drawing pensions.

Permitting prosecutors to testify in cases of forcible entry and detainer.

Suicide of a Lancaster County Farmer.

Benjamin Neff, aged between fifty and sixty years, a farmer in well-to-do circumstances, committed suicide on Sunday evening at his home, two and a half miles from Mountville, by blowing his brains out with a revolver on the second floor of his corn shed. He committed the rash act after having eaten his supper on Sunday evening. His absence was noticed and upon search being made for him, he was found as above stated. The bullet entered the left temple and came out on the right side of the head. Deputy Coroner W. E. Seiple, of Washington borough, held an inquest over the body, the jury rendering a verdict of "suicide while laboring under a fit of mental aberration." A correspondent writing from the neighborhood in which the suicide occurred to the *New Era*, says:

"It seems for some years past he has been subject of fits of melancholy, during the continuance of which he would wander off and hide, often giving his family great trouble in finding him. At one time he was found in a hollow tree, again under a corn shock eating the raw corn; he quite frequently buried himself in the hay mow, going away down in the hay and making the task of getting him out very difficult. At all times he was very harmless. Last fall these spells began to come on more frequently, and thinking some good might result thereby, he was sent to the Harrisburg insane asylum, from which place he was taken to his home on the 23rd of April last, very much restored in mind and body."

Another Mysterious Affair.

About 9 o'clock last night a woman named Alberta Specketer, residing at No. 318 North Eighth street, came to her death a mysterious manner. It seems Mrs. Specketer was pregnant, and complained to her husband early yesterday morning of feeling unwell, and expressed her determination to consult a physician other than the regular one. So she left the house in the morning with the intention of consulting Dr. D. B. Bittkamp, residing at No. 608 Wood street. She returned home in a short time and informed her husband that Bittkamp was engaged at the time she called, but he had instructed her to call after eight o'clock in the evening.

This Mrs. Specketer did, and as she did not return within a reasonable time, her husband became alarmed and started to the Doctor's office, and upon entering found his wife lying on a lounge, with her shoes and stockings off, and the Doctor and a female attendant applying a galvanic battery. Mrs. Specketer's rigid features and labored respiration gave every appearance of approaching dissolution, and her husband at once became much excited, but the Doctor calmed him, and told him to remain while he went to procure the assistance of another physician. Hardly had the door closed on the retreating figure when Mrs. Specketer breathed her last in her husband's arms. Mr. Specketer immediately went out and called in Sergeant Smith, of the Eighth district. In a few moments Dr. Bittkamp returned and was taken into custody, and the house was left in charge of an officer. Mrs. Specketer was childless, and about 35 years of age. The coroner was notified and the case will be carefully investigated to-day.—*Philadelphia Press* of the 3rd inst.

A Perilous Position.

A Chicago paper gives these details, from a passenger, of a recent thrilling escape of a fast express train on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad. The train consisted of a baggage-car, two coaches, a smoking-car, two Pullman sleepers, the "Aurora" and the "Detroit," and a private car containing a party of tourists from the Pacific coast. There were about one hundred passengers in the cars. The people in the sleeping-cars had not yet arisen, and the passengers in the coaches were very drowsy. The rate of speed was

something over twenty miles an hour.

At the station called Rome, a place containing only a few houses, the road crosses a deep ravine, which is bridged with a trestle structure about one hundred and fifty feet long and thirty-five feet high. As the train came upon the bridge the forward wheels of the locomotive left the rails, and at the same instant the engineer felt the structure sinking. The cars, one after another, were derailed, the wheels sinking into the flooring of the bridge, and some of the trucks running in a zigzag line the whole length of the structure. By the time the engine had reached land the first span at the west end of the bridge had sagged down to the centre several feet. The two sleeping-cars had stopped in the sag, their platforms lapping each other. The private car, which was the last in the train, halted at the end of the bridge. None of the trainmen nor passengers were injured, and the damage to the coaches is slight.—When the wheels commenced to travel over the bridge timbers the sleepers in the Pullman berths and the snoozers in the seats in the coaches began turning out in something of a hurry.

The fall of the bridge with the train on top of it was momentarily expected. The suspense of the passengers while making their way through the cars and off the tottering structure can better be imagined than described. The ladies in the sleepers did not tarry to complete their toilets. The people in the rear cars got off at the west end of the bridge, and those in the forward coaches at the east end.

The whole train was allowed to remain on the bridge in the position in which it was when the engineer brought it to a halt. It was feared that to attempt to move the cars would cause the bridge and train to go down together.

A Convict's Devotion.

Two years ago Mollie McClennan, a mulattress, was sentenced at New Orleans to serve two years in the penitentiary. A year and a half of her punishment had passed when Jerry Beals was sentenced to six months for hog stealing. The two convicts met for a few moments every day in prison, and Jerry fell in love with the mulattress to the full extent of his brute nature. It was no animal passion, for it manifested itself in Jerry's anxious solicitude for Mollie's comfort; he could not do too much for her, and he became as patient and docile as a lamb. Mollie, however, had a cordial contempt for her slave, and her greatest grudge against him seemed to be that he had stooped so low as to steal a hog. When they were discharged from prison, Jerry followed the girl like a dog for many weeks without manifesting impatience, until one day the limit was reached, and he fatally wounded Mollie with a sharp stone. She died a week later, and this is New Orleans' latest sensation.

Another Boiler Explosion.

PHILADELPHIA, June 27.—The explosion of a boiler this morning at Wilt's extensive planing mill, Front and Brown streets, has caused great consternation and panic, and, it is feared, the loss of several lives. The engine house and a portion of the mill were blown in all directions, the flying bricks and iron doing much damage to the surrounding property. Several dwelling houses in the vicinity are also in ruins. The boiler came down in the second story of a dwelling near by, occupied by a family named Long. Claude Long, eight years old, was killed and his sister Stella, eleven years old, badly hurt. Their mother and a Mrs. Ann M'Avoy are missing, and it is believed they are buried in the ruins.

Speedy Justice.

At Philadelphia on Sunday evening a colored man named Abner Allison was arrested for a most aggravated and felonious assault upon a young white girl in Alaska street. He was brought before the Grand Jury next day, a true bill found against him, and the District Attorney had him brought into court where he was tried, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor five years and a fine of \$1,000.

Somewhat Volcanic.

The Northern Tier "Reporter" says an oil well near Tarport, Pa., exhibited an unusual freak a few days ago. The tubing had been removed for the purpose of torpedoing, when those standing near were startled by a sharp hissing sound proceeding from the hole, and immediately several stones were shot up, and ashes, dust and smoke filled the air around. After several minutes this was followed by a copious flow of oil.

NEWBURGH, N. Y., July 3.—Mrs. Henry Laroe, wife of the ticket agent at Negleytown, on the Montgomery and Erie railroad, together with her sister, Lizzie Clark, aged 17 years, of Turner's, jumped from an Erie train at the latter place this morning. Mrs. Laroe, aged 22 years, a bride of five weeks, was in-

stantly killed, and Miss Clark seriously injured. The young ladies had forgotten to leave the cars at Turner's, and did not realize the speed of the train when they jumped off after passing the station.

LONDON, July 3.—Another terrible explosion occurred in the High Blantyre pit, near Glasgow, at 6 o'clock this morning. Thirty-one men were down at the time, all of whom are believed to have been killed. Four were burned to death. Twenty-one bodies have been recovered.

A Disquieted 'Squire.

Down in Evesboro', Burlington county, 'Squire Lishman was called upon to marry a colored couple some time since. Quite a crowd of his neighbors came in to witness the ceremony, and after it had been performed the happy pair hung around and seemed loth to leave.

"What's the trouble?" said the 'Squire. "You are married all right, and you can go if you want to."

"But," said the groom, "we isn't a gwine to leave 'fore you salute de bride—it's got to be did legal."

The 'Squire protested that it wasn't necessary; that it was only a form and did not amount to anything, but the groom insisted that he wouldn't leave until it had been performed, and the 'Squire reluctantly complied to go through the motions amid the laughter and "gags" from the bridal pair.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 2, 1879.

The old Congressional *Globe*, filled as it was with acts of Congress, and the speeches of law-makers, had at its head the words—"The world is governed too much." It was a great truth, whether or not it was fittingly put at the head of such a paper. There seems to be now in the public mind an idea that we, the people of the United States, are governed too much. Several of the wisest Senators and Representatives were often in consultation during the session just closed, with a view to devising some means by which the laws might be simplified and special legislation checked. Senator Carpenter, than whom no clearer-headed man ever sat in Congress, takes a deep interest in the matter, and as his term of six years has but commenced, he will have a chance to be heard.

The extra session closed at 5 P. M., last (Tuesday) evening, having lasted from the 18th of March. Only one appropriation bill finally failed, and that was rather a fraction of a bill than a bill. It provided, with a reservation for the payment of U. S. marshals. The President very sensibly declined to call another session. The following are the acts and resolutions of importance, besides the appropriation bills, which were passed:

To prevent the introduction of contagious diseases; to contract for the constructing of a refrigerating ship for the disinfection of vessels and cargoes; extending the pension of General James Shields to his widow and children, and granting a special pension to the widow of Colonel Fletcher Webster; exempting from registry, enrollment or license, vessels not propelled by sail or internal motive power of their own; joint resolution relating to the National Board of Health; to provide for a Mississippi River Commission; completion of the foundation of the Washington monument; directing a monument to be erected to mark the birth-place of Washington; to put quinine on the free list, and the bill to allow the exchange of small silver coin for legal tenders to the amount of twenty dollars.

That creating a Mississippi River Commission is one of the most important measures that ever passed Congress. In terms it mentions only the one river, but ultimately not only that river, but its great tributaries will be embraced in the work of the Commission. A population greater than that now in the country will yet live in the territory directly effected by the improvements contemplated.

OLIVE.

Miscellaneous News Items.

At a dance at Ida Grove, Ia., the other night Mr. Beeman Murray, who had remarked to several that he had never enjoyed himself better, was in the act of swinging his partner, his wife, when he fell back dead.

Mrs. Frances D. Ross, a wealthy lady, was sitting in her carriage in front of her residence, No. 28 West Twenty-third street, N. Y., Tuesday, when she suddenly dropped dead. She was sixty-four years old. The cause of her death will be investigated.

It is estimated that the yield of wheat in Bucks this year will not be more than 65 per cent., counting last year's the average. The hay crop will be light, not more than 50 per cent of last year's. Corn has not been so backward for fifteen years. The potato crop will be large. There will be a fair yield of small fruit. Apples and cherries are failures.

The Bangor, Me., Whig says: A farmer in Holden informed us that, being much annoyed with crows pulling up his corn, he placed a large umbrella in his field in order to frighten them away. Imagines his surprise one wet day in finding a good flock seeking shelter under it from

the rain. The umbrella is now used for another purpose.

ELMIRA, N. Y., July 1.—At Wyalusing Pa., on Monday, a well caved in, burying a man named Chambers who was working in it. A party of men were digging all night, but had not reached Chambers at last accounts. The well is thirty-six feet deep, and is situated near the railroad track. It is thought the caving was caused by the passage of a freight train. Chambers leaves a wife and three children.

A peasant named Bandalben, living near Konigsburg, sold a cow and received as part of the purchase money a hundred-mark bank note. His little son pulled the note from his pocket, and in playing with it tore it into pieces. The enraged father dragged the child to a chopping-block and cut its head off with an axe. Then he returned to the house and told his wife what he had done. The woman, who was bathing a younger child, fell down in a faint, dropping the infant into the bath tub, where it was drowned.

ATLANTIC CITY, July 1.—Charles Herman and Thomas Welsh were arrested here to-day for the murder of William Martin, real estate broker, who was mysteriously beaten to death in his office in Philadelphia some time ago. The charge is made by a woman claiming to be Herman's wife. Her testimony was taken by the mayor this afternoon, but the officials are very reticent concerning the affair and no particulars can be obtained at present.

The Russian army near the Caspian Sea are tormented by the common black house flies. The commander of the cavalry told the correspondent (who wrote the tale in a tent of gauze, within which there was little light, owing to the countless flies clinging to its exterior) that he had known horses to fall dead, exhausted by the incessant persecutions of these diminutive tormentors.

David Schrack, a thirteen year old son of Wm. Schrack, of Norristown, was killed by falling from a cherry tree on Thursday afternoon. There is something strange in his death in that he fell fifteen feet, on soft, yielding grass, without breaking a limb or making a bruise. His feet struck on the ground first, when he fell over and stretched himself out as though asleep.—He was unconscious, and before a physician could get to him he was dead.

A brief account of the arrest and escape of Homager, the desperado, burglar, and jail breaker, at Pottstown, on Saturday, show his captors in a ludicrous light. Known to be a desperate and ugly customer, he was handcuffed as soon as arrested, and fairly surrounded by policemen, was on his way to the jail, when he broke loose and dashed down the street, pursued by a large mob. The policemen at once brought their revolvers into use, and in another moment a perfect din was created by the crying children and shrieking women who were dodging the whistling bullets. The trees along the road were plugged with shot, and one or two accidentally hit the fugitive, who, in spite of his wounds, mangled hands and many pursuers, escaped.

The residence of Robert S. Williams, in Milwaukee, was broken into and robbed recently during the temporary absence of the family, and the servant girl was found lying on the floor in a most painful position, gagged and bound hand and foot. No clue could be found to the robbery, and the girl has to thank her own stupidity for her ultimate detection. She excited suspicion by her lavish expenditure of money and was arrested. Then she was frightened into a confession, and made to show how she had planned and executed the whole robbery herself. After all the stolen goods had been removed out of the house to a place of hiding, she returned and deliberately scratched her own face until the blood ran, tore great rents in her clothes, thrust a gag into her mouth, bound her feet, and finally, by means of a slip-knot, actually tied her hands so tightly that she could not move. Then she threw herself on the floor, and was in a fainting condition when the family returned.

Ben Rosencranz rode into Boise City, Idaho Territory, on Wednesday two weeks ago and whispered to his bar-room friends a queer story. Ben said that as he and Len Lewis were passing along near Glenn's Ferry, on Snake river, they had come across an old canvas blouse half hidden in the grass. Len had punched the blouse with his whip, when out rolled several bright, glittering gold eagles. Quickly dismounting the treasure trove was counted. There were in the blouse \$1,200 in gold. Lewis took \$800 because he had first punched the blouse, and gave Rosencranz \$400. When Ben had told his story and exhibited his coin the Boise City men recalled that on June 1, 1879, the bodies of John Bascom, Robert Ferguson and a stranger had been found near Glenn's Ferry, on the Snake. As the hostile Baunocks had just crossed the Snake, it was at the time believed that the three men were murdered by Indians. Yet when Ben told his story and exhibited his coin the Boise City men arrested him, and Len Lewis as well, and they will be held to answer for the triple murder. There is nothing against Ben and Len except the finding of the gold, and the *Statesman*, of Boise, is inclined to regard them as innocent of the crime.