

Stanton Spectator.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4th 1891.

The Wise Course for the Democratic Party.

The Democratic should not be so unwise as to allow any issue of minor importance to create any division in their ranks. There are questions which have not been adopted as party questions, and about which Democrats differ, and should be allowed to differ.

The Report of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

The report of the Auditor of Public Accounts shows that Virginia last year paid out \$116,190 in pensions under the act of March 5, 1888.

This Commonwealth received into her Treasury for the year ending October, 1890.

The sum of \$2,887,327.35 and expended \$2,695,659.06.

The State paid out during the last fiscal year on account of her insane asylums.

The following sums: Central Asylum, \$1,011,410; Eastern, \$80,105.18; Southwestern, \$43,918.97; and Western, \$99,970—a total of \$1,235,405.13.

INVENTOR OF THE TURBINE WHEEL.

KILLED.—Thomas Hall, the inventor of the turbine water wheel and a prominent resident of Rahway, N. J., was instantly killed Tuesday morning, Feb. 24th, by an Erie Railroad train. Mr. Hall, who was about seventy years old, was walking on the railroad track near his home.

GOVERNOR HILL, OF NEW YORK, IS SECURING THE OPINIONS OF HIS FRIENDS WHETHER HE SHOULD HOLD ON TO THE GOVERNORSHIP UNTIL DECEMBER NEXT OR RESIGN AND TAKE HIS SEAT IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

J. H. Rockefeller, of the Standard Oil Company, purchased at the Seney sale of pictures, in New York, Miller's painting "Waiting," paying \$40,000 for the work.

THE OUTCOME OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN, WHICH ADJOURNED IN WASHINGTON THURSDAY, WILL BE THE FORMATION OF A CONFEDERATION OF SOCIETIES AFTER THE PLAN OF GERMANY.

COMMENCEMENT ORATIONS AT WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY.—It is announced that Senator George Gray, of Delaware, has consented to deliver the oration before the Literary Societies at the Commencement in June, and Senator Alfred H. Colquitt, of Georgia, to deliver the address before the Young Men's Christian Association at the same time.

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How, Mr. Editor, will Cleveland and Polk, or Cleveland and Peffer stand upon the above platform? If not, we want the men who sell. The people have come down to hard pan and want the more theoretical candidates. Top Paul is going to be the next president—whatever name fills the chair.

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A GROUND HOG CHILD.

ONE OF NATURE'S MOST SINGULAR FRAGS EXISTING IN TENNESSEE.

A Chattanooga letter to the Philadelphia Times says: One of the queerest and most wonderful freaks known in the world was seen in Chattanooga yesterday by the Times correspondent.

Only five like it have ever been born according to the best medical authorities and they are only one that has ever lived. The freak is known as Jack Lacey, "the ground hog child." At first sight it looks like a small, round, pinkish animal which the child keeps up as it stands on its feet; also with the two bow shaped hockery twigs about four inches long which it plays with and balances on its peculiar stub-like hands.

The wonderful monstrosity was born in the wilds of Sand Mountain, DeKalb county, Alabama, on Washington's birthday in the year 1874. Consequently on the 22nd of this month the freak will be sixteen years old. The boy stands three feet seven inches tall, weighs twelve inches, and his height is taken up by his abnormally shaped head. He has no neck bones, but he possesses one more bone in every limb than a normal child. His eyes are twice the size of those of ordinary persons and a prominent Chattanooga physician who examined him says it resembles a human being. At night it can see just as well as any wild animal. His feet and hands are solid bone with no joints. The fingers and toes are webbed together and the run out to points, and are covered with one broad nail.

The birth of the freak is accounted for as follows: His mother, seven months before his birth was soundly sleeping one night when some mischievous and thoughtless fellow, who was drunk, got up and lit a pipe. He lit the woman and frightened her so terribly, and left his impression upon her unborn babe.

Dr. Lacey, the mother of the freak, says that the monstrosity was her eleventh child and that she was forty-two years old at his birth. Her other ten children are all grown up and strong and healthy. She is a native of Jackson county, Ala.

One of the greatest peculiarities of the freak is his method of feeding. His mother, who never allows to get farther than two feet from him, chews up all his food and places it in his right hand and he takes it with his left hand. He then uses his hands in again putting the food in his mouth. The mother says that he is very fond of doing a delicate piece of work. The curious animal being will not wear shoes, and has never chewed or spoken a word. The only sound he utters is a low murmur as those of a ground hog.

POTATO TESTS.

We have received from the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College Experiment Station Bulletin No. 8 which treats of Potato Tests by Prof. Wm. B. Alwood, Botanist and Entomologist. It is an interesting and instructive pamphlet of 28 pages, but we have space only to publish the following summary:

1. Of the early varieties we recommend the following: Early Rose (Earl Beauregard), Sunrise (Early Sunrise), Early Ohio and Chas. Downing. The latter has most excellent characteristics, but may not be suitable in all situations. (See discussion.)

2. Of the second early sorts we recommend Alexander, Beauty, Cream, Seedling No. 2, and business associates. These are all college and professional schools that have not yet before us an open door. Each local council will have power to confer the same on the members of its own State council, or in special instances, of the national council if its own influence does not suffice. The same may be carried out in time for the next national council, in 1893.

3. Size of seed is of relative importance according to what the grower may wish to accomplish. A good seed is a seed that will be carried to the size of a hen's egg and upward, as proper seed.

4. Smaller seed is not to be commended, but may be used in special cases.

5. Cutting seed is of much importance, both as to economy of seed and even uniform growth of crop. "Two eyes" pieces are the best, and should be used. We do not want an improved style of dress, and from lawmaking bodies we desire better protection for the property of women. These things are not to be carried out in time for the next national council, in 1893.

6. Small whole seed may, under some circumstances, be properly used, but large whole seed cannot be used with profit.

7. For all soil and regulation, whole seed will force the crop several days ahead of small cuttings, but the tubers cut in half cross the soil and are not so profitable.

8. Fresh culture, with the seed drilled one piece about a foot apart in the row, is better than surface or hill culture.

9. There is but one regulation of potatoes requires a thoroughly prepared fertile soil.

10. Barley manure, which will undergo fermentation, should not be used on potatoes. It is better to use the full amount and thoroughly worked into the soil.

CONGRESS.

In the United States Senate, Tuesday, Feb. 26th, the bill to establish land grants was passed with a substitute, and a disagreement was reported on the District of Columbia appropriation bill and a new conference was ordered.

The Senate, Thursday, passed the civil sundry appropriation bill, with a number of amendments, including one appropriating \$30,000 for a public building at Annapolis, Md.

The House was engaged in general debate on the shipping bill. At the evening session the House further considered the bill, and the deficiency appropriation bill.

In the Senate, Friday, Mr. Sherman announced that the Nicaragua canal bill would be taken up on Monday.

The Senate passed the Legislative appropriation bill, and then took up the Indian appropriation bill.

In the Senate, Saturday, House amendments to the tariff bill were considered, and the bill now goes to the President.

The Senate passed a bill granting the widow of Admiral Porter a pension of \$3,500. The House also passed the Indian appropriation bill.

In the House the democrats successfully opposed a motion to legislate under a suspension of the rules on a bill to amend the law relating to the postal service.

The House passed a large number of bills, including one for a new mint in Pinalia, Arizona, and another for a new custom house in New York. Also, Senate bill giving the widow of Admiral Porter a pension of \$3,500.

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