

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 24, 1852.

The Intelligencer.

An interesting article in regard to "work and wages" will be found on the third page of this morning's paper.

The Washington special of yesterday's Cincinnati Commercial says that the assertion is made public in Washington that Governor Hendricks, of Indiana, "has been involved in some proceedings with General Love, in connection with a Gatling gun contract."

Also that Sam Randall "will be found by the investigation now making into ex-ante affairs, to be implicated in questionable transactions with John Ronch, in connection with the latter's government contracts."

In view of the possibility of this news being reliable, it might be well for the Democratic papers, especially those that are almost unable to contain their indignation over Belknap, to save themselves up a little for contingent family necessities.

As our friend, John Bishop, says, these are "luxurious times," and there is no telling where the lightning is going to strike. Blessed is the man that hath his house well protected with zinc-plated, spiral-twisted, steel-pointed lightning rods.

The Demands of Washington Society.

All the newspapers are just now prating up habits of economy in public men at Washington, that is, as far as any public men at Washington are known to have such habits. It is pointed out that Vice President Wilson lived economically and died only worth three or four thousand dollars.

It is also told that Secretary Boutwell's credit that he lived in hired rooms and never pretended to entertain. General Sherman left Washington because he couldn't live on his salary. It costs Secretary Fish \$70,000 a year to keep house, but he has an income of \$200,000.

A poor man has no business to keep house in Washington. All this is very nice talk just now, and sounds well in the newspapers. It will, however, like many other novelties, for a brief season, and then will commence the usual "society notes" again in which the magnificent entertainments of the rich, that, and the other public man's family will be lauded to the skies.

The fact is that a public man at Washington who boards, or who keeps house in a humble way, is very often the subject of slurs both in and out of the newspapers. A man who receives \$5,000 per annum is expected to be liberal, and not to try to save money out of his salary.

The theory is that his salary is given to him just as his mileage is, to be spent in the public service; that is, to entertain his constituents, procure favors for his political friends, and, in a general way, help along the party.

Of course this theory is radically defective, as are ever so many practices belonging to our politics, but there are very many public men who would rather leave Washington in debt, or get money in doubtful ways, than be called mean in their expenditures.

When E. M. Stanton was Secretary of War he labored like a Titan, and did more work than any man in the service of the government, and all for \$8,000 per year. He died so poor that a subscription of \$30,000 was made up by the public for the support of his family.

He felt obliged to spend all his salary, and did so, and yet, in so doing, he was wronging his family. But for the charity of his friends his family would now be paupers. As it is, they must feel as if they were pensioners on the subscribers who contributed to the fund that supports them.

No man, public or private, has a right to spend the price of his toil and health in such a way. His expenditures should be kept within his income as a religious duty to his family. And while the world honors, and should honor, Mr. Stanton's memory, because although millions upon millions passed under his hand, not a dollar ever stained his palms; and while still due them from the country he served well, yet it is nevertheless true that, as a man's duty is to decline any position in life that conflicts with his obligations to those dependent on him. The Scripture says that he who provides not for his own household is worse than an infidel. The public has no right to require service that it is not willing to pay for. If Cabinet officers cannot live on \$500 per annum they should receive more.

But, then, what would be the use of increasing salaries? To inflate salaries would simply be to stimulate new demands on the part of society. No salary could keep pace with these demands. It would be the old story of gathering the mana. They gathered little had enough, and they gathered much had nothing over. So they would be with salaries big or little, in Washington.

As everybody who has ever visited Washington knows, it is a thoroughly artificial life that people lead there. The scale of prices is a regular gouge from a cigar up to a week's board at the hotels. Nearly everything is poor in quality and high in price. The place is notorious for this characteristic. It is said that people can live in Baltimore and do business in Washington, and save money by going back and forward every day. This ought not to be the case, and at one time, on earlier days, it was not. There was a time when Tom Jefferson rode on his horse to the Capitol, took the oath of office before the Senate, and returned to the Executive Mansion as quietly and unostentatiously as he left. It has always been the pride and boast of Virginia that her Governors were never inaugurated

with a display, such as is common with other States, but that they went quietly before a Justice of the Peace, took the oath of office, and entered upon the discharge of their duties. This ought to be the boast of every State in the Union, which it supposes were in vogue at the National Capital, we should not be humiliated as a people by the finger of scorn that is now pointed at us from abroad. "Sweet are the uses of adversity." The adverse times that are now upon the country would work very good uses, indeed, if they would only bring us back to true republican simplicity of public life at Washington. It is to be hoped that the canvass this summer will develop a public sentiment so intense and inexorable on this subject that it will show its effect for years to come on official life in Washington.

From Our Traveling Correspondent.

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 4. Editors Intelligencer: So you have had a genuine Mardi Gras and a high old time I reckon, entertaining Kings, Dukes, Knights, Imps and Devils during the ancient fashion of the Mechanics. Your enterprising city has taken its place in the fore front of progress as measurably by the revival of the effete orgies of a semi-barbarous age.

But then you know it is said that history repeats itself, and as the Wise Man has said there is nothing new under the sun, your present orgies are only, after all, snatching the mask of centuries off of that which hath been and imagining that we have found something new.

POLICE EFFICIENCY.

I see too that in the matter of bold criminality you are also coming up to a metropolitan standard, as evidenced by the assault on our inoffensive old friend Mr. Moffat, the gate keeper. Also in the matter of numerous burglaries committed in the business center of the city. Your police I suppose are engaged as usual in the broad face which they designate an attempt to ferret out the perpetrators. The idea of the Wheeling police catching anybody or ferreting anything out, makes them and gamblers and every law breaker, and their like, shiver in their shoes. Wheeling will never have a police that will be a terror to evil doers until her citizens wake up to the necessity of selecting men rather for brains than for ponderosity. I must stop this, however, lest on my return home I be added to the long list of arrests that appear in your columns.

I see too, that poor boy Eccles is again in hot water. "I was ever thus etc." I hope our banks may be able to get their stamps back in full, as whatever is an absolute loss to them is in a manner a loss to the city.

THE IRON & COAL REGION.

Leaving the old district and its "richness," I struck the iron and coal region of the Mahoning Valley. In this district the hills were (10 days ago), making about half time, that is, a few work double time a few on single time and some are stopped. Wheatland and Middlesex are dead (funeral notice heretofore) Sharon quite sick and the iron and coal with a severe cold "stop" and from what the coke men tell me I think the case will be lingering.

At Pittsburgh things remain in statu quo, excepting that the "Sable and Atlas" have handed in their checks, or rather have failed to do so, and are going with a "time" to the Bradford Field, Saltburg, McKeesport and other mills and furnaces of that region are going on and I understand, successfully. The coal region around Mansfield gives evidence of returning life and all the mines are working again. Not so with the Young hills, however where they are out for 2 1/2 miles as asked.

WHERE COKE BUSINESS.

Connellsville coke works are nearly all on, but are making ten hour coke to keep down the supply and promote better prices. At late meeting of coke men at Bradford, some favored a stoppage for a while, not delecting the present prices, which they thought were yielding them on, while others thought the ten hour plan adequate to stiffen prices and make a better market.

THE SOUTHWEST ROAD.

has done the coke men an immense amount of good, giving a choice of roads as far as Dunbar, and the road will soon be finished to "La Monte," a new furnace about 10 miles from the place of the country but "God speed" to Tom Scott's plan of tapping that huge monopoly, the B. & O. Railroad. I notice that the greater part of the coke goes to this new road which shippers say is much more liberal than the B. & O., which here heretofore has been a heavy tax on coke.

The beneficial results are a reduction of 25 per cent on freights from the east; about this same on the passenger trail; with a prospect of still further reductions when the roads shall have been completed from Brownsville to Connellsville. The completion of the road will be of immense advantage to the former place, which of late years has rather gone backward, being the richness of the country considered, the slowest town on the "Slack Water."

WOOD COUNTY.

Falls City, Somerset, Berlin, Garrett &c., and found the whole region as far as business was concerned, perfectly flat; the only current being the road which little Maple Sugar they have made this year. In the mining district of George's Creek, and Savage, but little is doing, but the prospects are that all the mines will be operating in a month, when there will be the usual bustle characteristic of this region.

PIEDMONT.

appears to be a doomed town, but the inhabitants thereof say they can't see it, but they will see it sooner than they think, for the new town of Keyser is pushing ahead and will soon outstep the home of the smiling Senator, unless he (the Senator) utilizes some of his wealth in building a factory to supply the place of the B. & O. machine shop, recently moved to Keyser.

POLITICS.

At Keyser I met our mutual friend John Miller, formerly of Cameron, who has lately established himself as a merchant here. John is a good Republican but he says a few more developments in high places and he will have to join the French commune. Bad as that is, he is not so much as he is, but it is better than the Democratic party. Belknap has rather disgusted the rank and file of the Republican party, and unless he is promptly shoved out of office, he will have to join with all the other matters about the House generally straightened up I fear it will not be well with it.

CANDIDATES.

I have talked with a great many Republicans in my travels through considerable portions of Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia, and have been struck to strike most favorably the public sentiment. In some counties, especially the German counties of Pennsylvania Hartranft is the first choice and

Hayes second, while in others Blaine stands first and Hayes second. In Maryland the Republicans incline more to Hayes than to any other prospective candidate. Most of the Conkling have but few to advocate their claims in this section. Indeed I find there is a general disposition to discard old politicians and try some one less contaminated with the ungrateful odor of rings and a too long acquaintance with the corruption of the times. I met a few of the latter category not an untried man whose future would be a matter of faith alone, but a man who has gone through the ordeal of long public service in high places and come out without even the smell of fire in his garments. Therefore we throw up our hat for Hayes.

CUMBERLAND CITY.

The erection of a City Hall, Market House and Opera House combined, just completed and the Opera portion of which will be opened to the public on the 7th inst., with Dalley's great play of the "Big Bonanza," is the first indication of modern life and enterprise ever exhibited in this "Rip Van Winkle" town. At present, trade here is dull, awfully dull. Small-pox and excess of capital have done their work, and when a few first-class funerals occur, the town may assume the air of a healthy village, but you must not tell the newsmen this for he will not believe a word of it.

DEMAND OF THE PADDLERS.

A regular meeting of the paddlers' Union was held on Saturday afternoon, at their hall on Fifth Avenue, as a petition from that thoroughfare could have been told by the crowd of men near the post-office. The object of it was to decide upon a final proposition to be laid before the manufacturers at the conference this evening. The meeting was well attended. The paddlers have become wearied at the long existence of the unsettled and unsatisfactory question of their remuneration, and they would like the parties engaged to fix it to arrive at a final conclusion.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

The Register published an original matter in an article appeared in the Harbinger. The same article afterwards appeared in the INTELLIGENCER with the proper credit. This is the difference 'twixt twaddle dum and twiddle dee. Pull down your vest and try again, Lieutenant.

A telegram was sent from the White House to a gentleman whose name has not been mentioned outside of the cabinet, tendering him an appointment of Secretary of War. Acting in accordance with the rule of the President, no mention will be made of his intentions regarding this appointment until the party to whom it has been tendered signifies that he will accept the office.

By Godwin—Resolutions of the Kansas Legislature against any reduction of the army. By Rusk—To extend the time within which the Court of Claims shall hear and determine the claims of the officers and soldiers of the late war going out of the service. By Sherman—For the continuance of the railroad from Norfolk through Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas and the localities to the Pacific coast, and to incorporate the Atlantic, Oklahoma & Pacific Railway Company.

THE PERSONAL BILL.

By Hunter—To pension all soldiers of the Mexican war who are over 60 years of age and all under it upon as they arrive at that age. Mr. Morrison, chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, made a speech against the bill as having no free trade in it and no reciprocity in it, for much was given and little received.

Mr. Mills also opposed the bill. Mr. Bland (Hill) spoke in favor of the bill and Mr. Kelley against it.

Mr. Banning, chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, objected to the sentence in a speech made last Saturday by his colleague (Woodworth), to the effect that a bill which he had introduced on the 24th of January (Hill) was in favor of the discharge of soldiers who had enlisted for less than one year and who were killed or died in consequence of their service, and which had been referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, had been pigeon-holed and had been sent to "sleep" in the files of the House.

Mr. Banning said that he had introduced the bill, and that he had been told that it had been referred to the committee room he would have learned that within a week after it being printed it had been given to the subcommittee, which were two gentlemen who had served in the Confederate army, who were in favor of the measure, although it involved expenditures of more than \$20,000,000, he intimated that it was his colleague who had been asleep, and who had not been in the room when the bill was introduced, and that he had been told that it had been referred to the committee room he would have learned that within a week after it being printed it had been given to the subcommittee, which were two gentlemen who had served in the Confederate army, who were in favor of the measure, although it involved expenditures of more than \$20,000,000, he intimated that it was his colleague who had been asleep, and who had not been in the room when the bill was introduced, and that he had been told that 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