

The Intelligencer.

Back Again. Messrs. Price, Davis and Herford arrived in town again last evening. They found it impossible to stay at the post of duty in Washington as long as Mr. Faulkner remained behind. Had he followed them back they might have worried on the suspense, but with him burrowing in the Senatorial cheese here all by himself the thing was absolutely impossible. So they packed their carpet bags, and the Sergeant-at-Arms to be sure and not follow them up, but keep their pay going on normal, and out they put for Wheeling. They are now here to put every member of the Legislature on the head and kiss him on both cheeks. It is thus that these modern "reformers" believe in the dogma of Jefferson that the office should seek the man and not the man the office.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of West Va.

The Judiciary Committee yesterday reported to the House of Delegates a proposed amendment to the State Constitution that very essentially changes Art. VIII of the present Constitution relating to the Judiciary. The most important of these changes is the increase in the number of Circuit Judges from 9 to 16, and the abridgement of the powers and jurisdiction of the County Courts so as to make them boards of police and finance for their respective counties. Another feature is the enlargement of the jurisdiction of the county districts so as to extend to all actions at law for the recovery of money (except actions for libel, slander, criminal conversation, seduction, or breach of marriage promise), where the amount claimed by plaintiff, exclusive of interest, shall not exceed two hundred dollars, to actions for the recovery of personal property where the value thereof, as claimed by the plaintiff, does not exceed two hundred dollars, and to proceedings for the recovery of the possession of real estate unlawfully detained from the plaintiff.

Business Memoranda.

The loss at St. Clairsville by fire is estimated at \$12,000. The rate by both telegraph lines between Wheeling and Philadelphia has been reduced to 50 cents. Samuel J. Tilden is a director in the Cleveland & Pittsburgh Railroad Company, and owns \$100,000 of its stock. The Atlas Mill is putting in position a pair of shears for trimming railroad and other heavy iron. This is a new enterprise for the Atlas, but one much needed by its varied trade. We are thankful that the ice in the river has gone. It laid an embargo on business that was being left severely. Twenty-five or thirty days is a long time for people in the Ohio Valley to do without the river. -Martin's Ferry News.

By increasing the Circuit Judges to 16

it is intended to pretty much absorb the present jurisdiction of the County Courts. Ohio county is to constitute a circuit by itself, and is to be known as the First Circuit. Hancock, Brooke and Marshall compose the 2d Circuit; Marion, Wetzel, Tyler and Pleasants the 3d; Monongalia, Preston and Grant the 4th; Harrison, Doddridge and Taylor the 5th; Wood, Wirt and Ritchie the 6th; Gilmer, Lewis, Braxton and Webster the 7th; Barbour, Upshur, Randolph and Tucker the 8th; Mineral, Hampshire, Hardy and Pendleton the 9th; Jefferson, Berkeley and Morgan the 10th; Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Fayette, Nicholas and Clay the 11th; Summers, Monroe, Mercer and Raleigh the 12th; Wyoming, McDowell, Logan and Boone the 13th; Cabell, Lincoln and Wayne the 14th; Mason, Jackson, Boone, Kanawha and Putnam the 15th.

Salaries are fixed as follows:

Those of the Supreme Judges at \$3,233.23 per annum. Those of the Circuit Judges at \$2,600 per annum. Their mileage is to be the same as a member of the Legislature. Members of the County Court are to receive \$7 per day for services in court, but "no greater sum than \$20 shall be allowed or paid for the per diem of any member of the County Court, other than that at which the County Court is paid, and at such term not more than \$20 shall be allowed or paid for such term."

There are several other changes made

by the proposed amendment that we have not space to enumerate to-day, but which we may have occasion to refer to hereafter. If two thirds of all the members elected to each House of the Legislature shall concur in the passage of the amendment it will be submitted to the voters of the State at the next general election.

A Property Qualification for One

Branch of City Government. The Pittsburgh Leader remarks that the idea of a property representation in at least one of the departments of city governments is growing daily more and more into favor. It argues that experience, particularly of late years, has shown that it is not safe to leave the management of valuable interests in the hands of men who have no ownership in them.

"If it were—if the individuals, say of Pittsburgh, who voted a debt of millions on the property lying within its limits, had been the owners of the property encumbered by the debt—would they have contracted the debt? Not likely. They only incline to extravagant measures and wasteful expenditures, who know that they will not be called on to help pay the costs of them. But should the responsibility thus be compelled to bear the burdens heaped up and piled upon their shoulders by the irresponsible? This was the very tyrannical complaint of a hundred years ago, who were not to be persuaded and who could not be forced to submit to taxation without representation."

Pittsburgh is not the only place where

this idea of property qualification is being agitated. The Constitutional Convention of New Hampshire has reported an article making the property qualification an indispensable one to secure eligibility to the State Senate. The Mayor of the city of New York, still later, has come out with a recommendation to the same effect, said recommendation being that a fifth member of the board of apportionment be "elected by the taxpayers." The Municipal Society goes a step still further, and recommends the passage of a resolution to the effect that the Judiciary Committee be requested to prepare and promote, in the name of this society, the passage of a law, and, if need be, of a constitutional amendment, which shall enable, and provide for, the election by the taxpayers of cities and villages of a municipal body which shall have the authority of determining the amount of taxes

the salaries, and the expenditures in and for the local purposes of such cities and villages respectively.

A feature about this movement is that it is not a party one, being favored alike by Democrats (as in the case of the Mayor of New York) and by Republicans.

OVER THE RIVER NEWS.—The wagon

of the Stouvenville police have been reduced to \$1.75 per day.

At the teachers' examination held at Belmont on Saturday forty-one applicants were in attendance.

The resolution of Mr. Pennybacker, the member from Pendleton, for putting the militia of West Virginia on a war footing, is made the text for a humorous notice in the St. Clairsville Chronicle.

The St. Clairsville school building is insured for \$11,000 in the North American and Phoenix companies.

Jacob Heatherington, of Bellaire, was one third owner of the Calumet when built, but before her loss is understood to have disposed of his interest to John Caldwell, of Wheeling.

Mr. Walter S. Cowen, son of Judge Cowen, of St. Clairsville, was last week married to Miss Jane Fowler, daughter of the proprietor of the St. Clair Hotel of the above place.

Sixteen or more persons are charged before the Grand Jury of Belmont county this week, with penitentiary crimes.

A gentleman of Monroe county shipped 350 barrels of apples to Baltimore, some time since, which netted him ten cents per barrel, after all expenses were paid. He is a wiser but not richer man.

The Baron Luden Company of Bellaire, with a capital stock of \$25,000, last year made a net earning of \$17,000. A dividend of thirty-four per cent was declared.

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Three dollars per hundred pounds is the average price for tobacco in this country. At this rate the producers can not realize much above expense. -Woodhill Spirit.

The first mortgage \$300,000 bond of the Bellaire & St. Clairsville Narrow Gauge Railway Company are now ready, and can be had at the First National Bank of St. Clairsville.

The Ena Mills Company hold their annual election for directors tomorrow.

Hymns in a U. P. Church.

(Pittsburgh Leader of 17th.) At the Murphy temperance meeting in the Union Avenue U. P. church, Allegheny, last night, the question of discipline was brought to a terribly severe test by Mr. Murphy, who is no more than justified to say that he is not a member of the church. It is well known hymns are not sung in the U. P. churches. After the speeches had concluded, Mr. Murphy, his face shining with enthusiasm, stepped forward and shouted, "Come right up now and sing the pledge. The congregation will sing 'Hold the Fort.'"

The congregation being largely U. P., the announcement was not received with that enthusiasm that would have characterized audiences of impulsive M. E.'s or Baptists. Happily there were a number of young folks in the church, who on the impulse of the moment broke out, and the others most all joined with them. After getting through with this other hymns were sung, and the audience finally broke out in a grand chorus of the most valuable of feelings. "Thine One touch of Nature unites us all akin."

The Suffering Poor of Stouvenville.

(From the Gaiter.) There is a great many poor people in this city. A majority of their number are made ends meet by rigid economy. Then there is another class of whom it is our intention to speak. We have many destitute poor with us. These, too, when work can be obtained, keep themselves very comfortably. But the hard times have reduced them to poverty, and it matters how it affects their pride, and it breaks any one's spirit to be compelled to beg, they must look to the charity of others or starve. Not since the first and long shock of the panic has the destitution been so great as at the present time. Even able-bodied men are reduced to the level of the pauper, and are forced to depend upon the charity of their neighbors. Not because they can't work or refuse to toil, but because there is no work for them to do. Laborers are plenty but the harvest is not great.

A Bunting Attempt to Rob an Express Car.

CHICAGO, January 18.—Three masked men entered an outgoing express car on the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis railroad last night as the train stopped at Burlington crossing, within the city limits. They hastily overpowered the express messenger and baggage-master, went through the safe, which contained \$25,000 in valuables, but in their hurry did not work so long as they had left behind all except a package of Springfield, Ill., containing about \$143 and some drafts for collection. They left the train after it had gone about eight blocks, and have not been discovered.

Later.—Three men have just been

detected, charged with the robbery. Detectives had been on their track for some hours.

Railroad Tunnel Caved In.

CINCINNATI, January 18.—The Commercial Press says: The tunnel on the Marietta, Pittsburgh & Cleveland Railroad near New Comerstown, O., caved in near the mouth, as it was being bored, and up to 8 o'clock this evening have not been released, it is feared they have suffocated from foul air.

Losses in the Fisheries.

GLOUCESTER, MASS., January 18.—The local losses in the fishing fleet for the last week (lost up 212 lives and 27 vessels, valued at \$150,000, and insured for \$116,000.

BY TELEGRAPH.

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

TO THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER.

CONGRESS.

Interesting Proceedings in Both Branches.

Probable Solution of the Electoral Problem.

Report of the Special Committee on Counting the Electoral Vote.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, January 18.

A good deal of time was occupied this morning discussing the preliminary question as to whether the House should proceed to the consideration of the resolution reported last Friday from the Committee on Privileges and Duties of the House in counting the electoral vote, or to that of the compromise plan proposed, the Republicans favoring the latter and the Democrats the former. Finally the vote by yeas and nays was taken, and resulted in yeas 111 and nays 81 in favor of the House in regard to counting the electoral vote. Mr. Knott, Chairman of the Committee on Privileges, then rose.

In the course of his argument Mr. Knott declared that any attempt to interfere with the constitutional right of the House in regard to counting the electoral vote would be treason. He indulged in a little sarcasm at the expense of the President, and intimated that his construction of his duty in the premises was to strip the frontier and crowd the Capital with troops. In conclusion he said: Believing that this House has a high power and absolute duty to perform in regard to counting the electoral vote for President and Vice President, in my humble judgment, any attempt on the part of any man or set of men to obstruct the exercise of this executive legislative or ministerial, to coerce this House to count the vote, which in its judgment is invalid or void, or to coerce this House to throw out a vote which in its judgment is legal and valid, or to interfere in any manner whatever with the peaceful discharge of its constitutional functions in this high regard, would be an utter subversion of our Constitutional Government, and it accompanied by an armed force would be treason to the United States and America. [Applause on the Democratic side and in the galleries.]

Mr. Knott having concluded, Mr. Payne, chairman of the committee on counting the electoral vote, made a concise report of the two committees. The committee, offered on behalf of four Republican members of the committee, the following as a substitute for the resolutions by the committee:

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shall constitute a commission for the decision of all questions upon or in respect of such double return named in this section.

On Tuesday next preceding the first Thursday in February, A. D. 1877, or as soon thereafter as may be, the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, assigned to the First, Third, Eighth and Ninth Circuits, shall elect in such manner as a majority of them shall deem fit, another of the Associate Justices of said Court, which five persons shall be members of said commission, and the person chosen in commission of said five Justices shall be President of said commission. The members of said commission shall respectively take and subscribe the following oath: I do solemnly swear or affirm, as the case may be, that I will faithfully and impartially consider all questions submitted to the commission, of which I am a member, and a true judgment given thereon agreeable to the Constitution and laws, so help me God, which oath shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate.

When the commission shall have been so organized, it shall not be in the power of either house to dissolve the same or to withdraw any of its members, but if any such Senator or member shall die or become physically unable to perform the duties required by this act, or if such death or physical inability shall be, by said commission, before it shall proceed further, communicated to the Senate or House of Representatives, and a new one may be, which body shall immediately, and without delay, proceed, by a vote of yeas and nays, to fill the place vacated, and the person so appointed shall take and subscribe to the oath that is hereby prescribed, and be sworn in as a member of said commission. And if a member of said commission shall die or become physically incapable of performing the duties required by this act the other of said Justices, members of said commission, shall immediately appoint another to fill the place vacated, and be sworn in as a member of said commission, and in such appointment regard shall be had to impartiality and freedom from bias sought by the original appointments to said commission, who shall thereupon immediately take and subscribe the oath hereby prescribed, and be sworn in as a member of said commission, and in such appointment regard shall be had to impartiality and freedom from bias sought by the original appointments to said commission, who shall thereupon immediately take and subscribe the oath hereby prescribed, and be sworn in as a member of said commission, and in such appointment regard shall be had to impartiality and freedom from bias sought by the original appointments to said commission, who shall thereupon immediately take and 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