The Wheeling Daily Intelligencer.

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The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

Oil was boomed up to $1 20 at Pittsburgh and other Pennsylvania oil centers on Saturday. The dealings were immense and the excitement terrific.

There are an unusual number of empty houses down at St. Mary's, Pleasants county, just now. No wonder they are anxious for the coming of the river railroad.

The Clarksburg *News* brings forward *John J. Davis*, of that place, as a candidate for the United States Senate. Mr. Davis is an able and accomplished lawyer, and a man of good character, but nevertheless a very peculiar sort of a politician. He was a *Union* man early in the war—a devoted follower of John S. Carlile—but when that gentleman fell away and grew cold, Mr. Davis followed suit, and at last he turned up as a rampant disciple of Calhoun, and the advocate of all of his extreme States rights notions. He is hard to place on party lines. Some times he is a Democrat and sometimes he is an Independent. He is not unwilling to kick out of the party traces and run against the regular Democratic nominee once in a while, and then go back to the fold and wait developments. Under such circumstances he is not likely to rally round him a very large Democratic support.

The disposition of the public who have access to city libraries is to read a great deal of fiction—much of it the merest trash. We presume that the record of the public library in Wheeling would not show a record much different from that exhibited by the Cleveland library for the month of October, which is as follows:

Travel	5.50
Social science and special history	1.00
Fiction	48.50
Essays	1.45
Wit and anecdote	1.00
Rebellion records	.70
Natural History	.30
Juvenile	12.50
Politics and law	.40
Botany	.30
Biography	4.00
History	3.60
Theology	.80
Games and sports	.50
Poetry	1.40
Architecture, music and art	1.10
Physical Geography	.10
German	2.00
Education	1.50
Astronomy	.70
Natural Philosophy	.40
General science and useful arts	.65
Physiology	1.00
Education	1.50
Mental and moral philosophy	.40

It will be seen that novels and what is called juvenile literature make up 61 per cent of the whole number of books taken out. Even entertaining and instructive works like travels were patronized to the extent of only 5½ per cent, while history shows less than 4 per cent.

NOT AT ALL DESPERATE.

The Way the New York Situation Looks at Present.

Washington, November 4.—Secretary Folger was at the department all day, and if he was worrying much over the probable outcome of the New York election he did not show it by neglecting his duties. He was besieged by a score of visitors throughout the day, but kept his temper well, notwithstanding one correspondent had the temerity to ask him when he was going to New York. "That's my business," was the reply. Judge Folger, during the evening, drove out to the Soldiers' Home and had a talk with the President.

The New York Republican politicians do not regard the situation in New York desperate at all. It is understood that the President brought good news for Mr. Folger. It is remarked there that the change in the sentiment regarding the New York and Pennsylvania elections within the past week has all been in favor of the Republicans, and a good many that always manage to attach themselves to the winning side have turned about and gone over to the Republican camp.

The Ohio election unsettled them for a time. This flurry did not last long, however, and they did not hesitate to select the Republicans as the winners in the coming contest. The reports coming in from South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, are very encouraging to the Republicans. In Texas the Republicans are confident of electing three or four Congressmen.

THE REGISTRATION FRAUDS.

Twelve Additional Indictments Presented—Hearing Some of the Cases.

New York, November 5.—The grand jury yesterday presented twelve additional indictments in election cases. These indictments were against nineteen persons, most of them in the Eighth Assembly district. The reports of the detectives, on which the indictments were found, as made public by Henry C. Allen, of the District Attorney's office, contains the name of Bernard O'Rourke, of No. 35 Forsyth street, P. K. Hickey, of Forsyth and Rivington streets, Kinsing, of No. 124 Canal street, Thos. Gully, Thos. F. Geary, said to be a deputy collector of internal revenue, John McDonald, Thomas Sullivan, Thomas Burns, Edward Burns and Daniel Gilvey. Recorder Smith thanked the jury for the manner in which they had performed their duties and discharged them.

Henry Morton, who registered under that name at one polling place, and under that of H. Meyer at another, was then arraigned before the Recorder. The prisoner said that he was drunk on the day of registration, and was ready to plead guilty, but the Court assigned him counsel and a plea of not guilty was entered. *Charles Rabb*, the Inspector of Election, who was tried but not convicted in the Court of General Sessions, was at the District Attorney's office yesterday, and gave bonds in $1,500 to appear for trial on the second indictment found against him for violation of election laws.

Congressmen and the Faro Banks.

Washington, November 4.—A local paper has the following: After Congress convenes it is rather a dangerous matter for the police to raid faro and other gambling establishments. In many of these places Congressmen are frequently to be found while the game is going. The Congressmen object to be raided for fear the fact of their presence there may be learned by their constituents. Some Congressmen who have been caught during the raids on gambling establishments seem never to forget it, and endeavor to get even by opposing the bills making appropriations for the pay of the police when they come up for consideration. The raids, therefore, have to be made before Congress meets, if at all. The proprietor of one of the principal faro banks has been indicted for the same offense, as it is no secret that several of the houses on E street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth, "Rum Row," have been publicly running their games for some time. There has been evidence tending to show this heard by the grand jury during the past week.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

AN APPEAL FOR REFORMATION.

The Address of the National Civil Service Reform League to the Voters of the Country—A Thorough Purification of the System Very Urgently Demanded.

New York, November 5.—Following is the address of the National Civil-Service Reform League to the voters of this country: The dangers to free institutions that lurk in the power of patronage are familiar and they are as insidious as they are fatal. The corrupt use of patronage was the strongest weapon of the English crown in the long contest with the English people. By such corruption King George III endeavored to undo the work of the revolution of 1688, and it was by the same corruption that he prolonged the effort to subdue the American colonies. The danger is inherent; and the nature of the evil was not changed nor its consequences removed by the substitution of republican for monarchical government.

The legitimate and healthy contest of parties in a republic is not to be deprecated. They are the agencies by which in a free government legislation is controlled and national policies are enforced. The subjugation of this legitimate party action by patronage is the overthrow of liberty under the forms of law. This is the peril which now threatens the country. The vast multitude of subordinate places in the civil service are public trusts to be filled solely for the general benefit. But a practice is now firmly entrenched in party tradition, which assumes that such places constitute a vast scheme of prizes to be distributed by successful politicians to their followers. The enormous power of the patronage which directly controls hundreds of thousands of places and many millions of dollars in annual emoluments, is thus prostituted to party and personal service with only an incidental regard to the public welfare.

This is not a new abuse except in its rapidly increasing extent, its powerful organization, and its immediate menace. At the beginning of the century it had mastered the State governments of New York and Pennsylvania, and sought control of the National administration. As the National patronage enlarged the endeavor to divert it to mere partisan and personal ends became more and more aggressive, until about fifty years ago the National civil service was abandoned unreservedly to the evil practice, and with the vast extension of patronage since the civil war the abuse has developed into a serious peril. The greatest American statesmen of all parties, Adams, Clay, Calhoun, Webster, have solemnly warned the country of the inevitable consequences. The executive has sometimes vainly endeavored to stay the current of dangerous tendency. But the public mind has been languid and indifferent, until at last, the accumulated and flagrant evidence of the perversion to personal ends of the fundamental power of the Government, namely, the votes of the people—a perversion accomplished by the corruption of patronage—has thoroughly aroused the attention of all patriotic citizens.

Unable personally to know those whom he must nominate to the offices of which the incumbents appoint the vast body of minor employes, the President is compelled to depend for information upon Senators and Representatives, upon whom also the success of his administration depends. The executive and legislative authority, although carefully separated by the Constitution, become hopelessly and dangerously confused. Representatives demand the patronage of their districts, and Senators politically usurp the power of nomination. From the system of mutual executive and legislative traffic in places arises a huge office-holding hierarchy ascending in regular gradation from the lowest employes to the highest officers, each dependent upon the other, and all united in a common purpose to control general and local politics for their personal advantage. A political class independent of the great body of the people thus practically absorbs the authority of the people. By assessing the wages of their subordinates the leaders of this class levy a tax upon the public treasury for the benefit of a party. By mercenary control of caucuses and conventions they hold the gate to political preferment and public employment, and the condition of such preferment and employment is implicit obedience to their will. The voters of the party submit because the only alternative seems to be the success of the opposition. Under the fatal spell of the system party ceases to be an association to shape public policy and becomes an agency to promote private gain. Politics become mere place-hunting. Self-respecting men withdraw more and more from participation in public affairs. Honorable ambition disappears. Rings take the place of real parties, and "bosses" of statesmen. The young American is taught that the qualifications for public employment are not integrity, intelligence and industry, but sycophancy and servility, cheating and bribing to swell the party vote, and every kind of unmanly political trickery. When personal favor has thrown him a place he learns that he can retain it not by official merit, but by personal service, that he must pay part of his wages in order to keep the rest—in a word, that he must be a parasite instead of a man. The evil system thus tends to make loss of self respect the condition of public employment. It multiplies enormously and unnecessarily places and salaries; it stimulates reckless extravagance in public expenditure; it controls the vast contracts of the government; it transforms the highest administrative officers into brokers of petty places; it subsidizes the press, defiles the American name and debauches the national character until, under its degrading mastery, the power of the government passes into the hands of a venal oligarchy, and a general election is no longer a contest of differing policies determined by the free argument before the people, but a fierce and desperate struggle for the vast emoluments of minor place.

This is a plain statement of familiar facts. They are not denied by intelligent and patriotic citizens, and they show that the question of reform is a question of the continued existence of free institutions in the country. But the spoils system, from which the evils spring, is defended as essential to party government. On the contrary, it destroys the essential significance of party. A political party is a voluntary association of citizens who hold similar views of the nature of government and who desire a certain policy of administration. That policy is secured by the election of legislative and executive officers who make and execute the laws, and in these two great branches of the government, the legislative and the executive, the convictions and purposes of the people are represented. Party organization is designed to facilitate and make effective the expression of the popular will, and whatever tends to prevent an election from showing that will, by bribery or by the introduction of confusing issues, tends to destroy the very object of party organization. Such confusing issues are necessarily introduced by the spoils system, which, instead of submitting questions of public policy to public judgment at an election, appeals to the worst and most dangerous passions by inviting furious contests for every petty place in the whole civil service. The result of such a contest is not the verdict of the people upon a public policy.

Another defense is attempted by the assertion that to make effective a change in the public conviction and purpose, as expressed in an election, there must be not only a change in legislative and executive officers, but in the whole civil service. This is no more necessary than a corresponding change in the army and navy. Changes in the policy of administration do not affect in the least degree the duties of subordinate and clerical officers. Whatever the policy of the government may be, whether a protective tariff or a revenue tariff, whether a currency of coin or paper, whether a lavish or a restricted system of internal improvement, whether an agressive or a pacific foreign policy, a civil or a military Indian bureau, cheap postage or dear postage, the duties of Postmasters and collectors, of marshals, clerks and messengers, of all subordinate employes of every kind and degree are wholly unaffected. Elections change political officers in order that the policy approved by the people may be enforced. But rotation in office, as a maxim applied to the great body of public employes, is as absurd in public as in private business. It is not the purpose of the civil service to provide a living for all citizens in turn at the public expense, but to secure the transaction of the public business by those who are best fitted for its duties. Nobody has a right to any place except so far as he proves his fitness upon fair and equal trial, and the legitimate public interest in the civil service is only that its duties be well done.

Reform of the civil service, therefore, is not merely a question of the more economical and efficient conduct of the public business, important as that question is, but involves the very substance of popular government. It proposes the restoration of political parties to their legitimate function as organized agencies of the popular will; the overthrow of government by patronage; the emancipation of the suffrage and of the press from a corrupt personal servility; the elevation of the standards of public character and service, and it proposes to accomplish these results by means which will place the transaction of the public business upon a business basis; open the public service to all the people; restore the self-respect of the public agents, and promote, as nothing else can promote, the cause of popular education.

Such results will not be accomplished by general denunciation of evils, however necessary, eloquent and vigorous such denunciations may be. Nor can action be delayed until every possible doubt has been removed, every captious objection answered, and every foolish falsehood exposed. The abuses which have alarmed the public mind proceed from one general source, and that is appointment by personal interest and influence instead of proved merit. The spoils system is a vast scheme of personal favoritism. To destroy that favoritism is to relieve the service of its worst abuses and the country of the peril that springs from them. The practical method of preventing favoritism, a method which has been amply justified by experience, is the selection of the non-political employes of the Government by a wise system of competition and probation. This method would not only secure the most intelligent public agents and those best fitted for the especial duty required, but it would at once deprive leading politicians, of high and low degree, of the means of their ignoble traffic. It would prevent arbitrary removals because the object of such removals, which is to substitute one particular person for another, would disappear. It would stop political assessments by leaving employes equal liberty with all other citizens to give or to withhold, a liberty which is both illogical and impossible under the spoils system. It would tend to correct the sycophancy, terror, suffering and demoralization within the service, and the public extravagance, corruption and danger bred by the present system, by striking at its source.

Proper security of tenure is essential to the efficiency of any office, but what is called fixity of tenure, whether for long or for short terms, is undesirable because the power of prompt removal is indispensable to the proper discipline and effectiveness of any service, public or private. Undoubtedly such authority is liable to abuse. But the true remedy for abuse lies in removing reasons for the illegitimate exercise of the authority. With the power of removal thus protected from abuse, no harmful life tenure could be established, because, as in private business, dishonesty, inefficiency and negligence would lead to summary dismissal. There need be no fear, under such a system, of an office-holding aristocracy, because an aristocracy is a privileged class. But no privilege would be conferred by a competition open to all citizens to obtain an employment which bestows no right except that of doing a prescribed duty, and from which prompt removal would follow dishonesty or incompetency. Such employes would constitute only such an aristocracy as already exists in every well-regulated private business in the United States. Equally groundless is the alleged fear of fanciful examinations and of a civil service of pedants. Final appointment would not depend upon examination but upon probation or a term of actual discharge of the duties required; and if by pedants and "broken-down schoolmasters" be meant educated men who are also unfit and incompetent officers, the service would not be filled with them because they could not enter it. But there is no reason to suppose that education breeds incompetency. Young men from the public schools are quite as likely to make good public servants as the "runners" for politicians. Sixty per cent of the successful applicants who have been appointed under the reform system at the New York Custom House were educated in the public schools, and six and one-half per cent in colleges. It will not be the least of the good results of reform that it will promote that education in the free schools, which is the great bulwark of Republican liberty.

There is no question before the country of more commanding importance than that of the reform of the civil service, because it touches the very fundamental principle of the government, freedom of the suffrage. It is the question whether elections shall honestly represent the popular will. It seems to us, therefore, that good citizens can render no better service to the country in the coming Congressional elections than by supporting only those candidates who will actively favor in Congress the passage of the bills now pending in both houses, or bills founded upon the same general principle, establishing non-partisan and open competition and probation for subordinate appointments in the civil service. Such legislation would not only open public employment to all citizens upon just and equal terms; it would not only secure greater independence to the executive and legislative officers of the Government, greater economy in public expenditure, and greater fidelity, efficiency and self-respect in the civil service, but it would abolish the most dangerous survival of royal privilege in the country, restore political parties to their legitimate functions, emancipate elections from dangerous corruption, purify American politics and wipe a disgraceful stain from the American name.

George William Curtis,
Sherman S. Rogers,
Charles Theodore Russell,
Henry Hitchcock,
Charles J. Bonaparte,
} Committee National Civil Service Reform League.

Killed on the Track.

Cleveland, O., November 5.—Wm. Gibbs, while walking on the Lake Shore track going home, about 2 o'clock this morning, was struck by the flying express and killed. The engineer saw him and whistled. Gibbs started as if to get off the track, but stumbled and before he recovered himself was struck by the locomotive. He leaves a wife and three children.

ASHLAND TRAGEDY.

A GLOOMY GRIEF-STRICKEN CITY.

Funeral of Another of the Victims—Heroic Conduct of a Wounded Boy—More Deaths Expected—The Coroner's Inquiry—Witnesses Think the Firing Needless.

Ashland, Ky., November 4.—Another day of gloom. Flags are still at half-mast and the city heavily draped. Alex. Harris' funeral services were held to-day at the Presbyterian Church. He died yesterday morning. His death-bed scene was most touching, calling his friends about him, bidding them farewell, and cheering his grief-stricken wife to the last. A tremendous crowd gathered at the church to-day, and, after the most solemn and impressive ceremonies, followed the body to the last resting place. Mr. Harris was a young man, about thirty years of age, leaving a young wife and one child to mourn his loss.

For the last twenty-four hours the parents and friends of little Willie Terrie, fourteen years of age, who was wounded in the knee, have been trying to induce him to permit the doctors to amputate his leg, but the heroic little fellow says he is not afraid to die, and prefers death to being a cripple for life. Poor boy, little does he know that death is so near, for while the doctors were endeavoring to prepare his system for the operation, gangrene has set in, and his case is hopeless.

Another case that excites much sympathy in many kind hearts, who administer to his wants, is that of Robert Lawther, who suffers intense pain, and whose death is expected at any moment.

Mrs. Terrie, wounded in the breast, is the next worse case. She is nursing an infant, and her recovery is thought to be doubtful.

The balance of the wounded, so far as we have been able to learn, are doing well, though doctors inform us that a serious change for the worse may take place at any moment in the condition of several of the patients.

The Coroner's jury convened at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The evidence of several witnesses on the stand seem to shed some light upon the infamous conduct of the soldiers. Captain Kirker, of the Granite State, being placed under oath testified as follows:

Several shots were fired from the train between Ashland and Catlettsburg at the steamer, but they fell short; that when approaching Ashland he saw a large crowd of men, women and children gathered on the bank, and that he could see no arms of any kind, or any demonstration whatever towards harming the boat; that when about opposite the wharf he noticed the ferryboat putting out into the stream, and not until then did he apprehend an attack being made, nor would he, had the troops been under his command, have thought an order to fire justifiable. He states, according to his best judgment, that the crowd on the ferryboat did not exceed twenty or twenty-five. He says that after the first volley from the troops their firing should have ceased, and that he did all in his power to make them desist, and he knew that they were destroying the lives of innocent people. He does not know the exact number of shots fired by the soldiers, but overheard three of the men saying one had shot four, one six and another seven. He says the soldiers on the way down were laughing and singing in a boisterous manner, and that he rebuked them for acting so after such wanton destruction of human life.

The next witness was Mr. I. C. Nelson, Express Messenger of the Granite State. He testified that the mob on the ferryboat did not exceed twenty-five, nor did he at any time apprehend any danger from their attack calling forth an order to fire by the soldiers; that he, with others, hunted over the boat for bullet holes, and six were all he could find, two of which were evidently caused by shots from the soldiers. The only wounded he saw was a soldier who had a shot under the scalp, which was easily picked out, and a drummer boy who had one of his drum-sticks broken in his hand, from which he received a scratch, but no injury from the bullet. He, like Captain Kirker, thinks that after the first volley, the balance of the shooting was uncalled for. He saw no shots from the shore or the crowd on the bank.

Ham. Davisson, proprietor of the Ashland and Ironton hack line, was next sworn. He was waiting on the Ohio side for his regular hour to start with his hack to Ironton, and noticed a large crowd of men, women and children on the Kentucky shore. He saw the Granite State come in sight, and noticed the ferryboat leave her landing with a number of men and boys which he considered would be a good hackload. He heard two shots fired, but couldn't tell whether from the ferryboat or wharfboat. A volley from the soldiers followed immediately. He saw steam rushing from the ferryboat, and thought her to be on fire. His horses took fright and having to quiet them, he failed to see anything else, except that a soldier, after the firing had ceased, stepped out of the pilot house and fired a shot in the direction of the town; didn't see any shooting from the Ohio shore, nor arms in the hands of any one standing around.

John Koons, Sheriff of Boyd county, sworn. He said he did not consider the troops necessary to protect the prisoners. He had selected his men to accompany him to bring them back, when orders were given him to request the guards.

Several other witnesses were sworn, giving testimony of minor importance.

The jury adjourned at 5 P. M., indefinitely, as important witnesses are yet to be heard from.

As for the mysterious "Citizen" who furnishes the Lexington correspondent in today's issue with such startling revelations, and who fears to divulge his name for fear of personal violence, and who states he was drawn by curiosity to accompany the crowd from Catlettsburg to Ashland, claiming to be an eye witness, we will simply say the citizens of Ashland are not so badly frightened but that they have sense enough left to know that the State provides suitable places for lunatics and idiots.

Judge Brown at Frankfort.

Louisville, Ky., November 4.—Judge George N. Brown, who granted the change of venue in the cases of Neal and Craft, at Catlettsburg, the day before the affair with the mob at Ashland, is at Frankfort, having left his home to avoid the fury of the mob, which his friends feared would be directed against him. Citizens of Catlettsburg offered their services to protect him, but Judge Brown deemed it best to absent himself until the excitement subsided, as he feared that this very offer of protection might lead to a collision between the mob and the law-abiding citizens, which he desired to avert. Prominent citizens of Ashland have telegraphed Judge Brown that the situation has changed and is very quiet. He will return to his home in Catlettsburg to-morrow.

A Question of Veracity.

Lexington, Ky., November 4.—Mr. A. C. Campbell, of Ashland, having denied that he laid his hand on Captain Johnson's arm and used the expression attributed to him, Captain Johnson says he did do so. No man in Lexington is more truthful and honorable than Vertner Johnson. He could have no motive in misrepresenting Mr. Campbell or anybody else. He is too honorable for that.

Lieutenant James Robinson, of the Lexington Home Guards, says: "On Wednesday morning, while our company was coming from breakfast, Captain Johnson said to me: 'Take command of the company, while I go back to the hotel, to get my gum coat.' He soon returned to the Guards and related to me that he had met Campbell, in company with another man whom he did not know. Mat. Campbell laid his hand on his arm. 'Oh, why can't we take them out and hang them?' He preceded the statement by the remark: 'Let me show you what a law-abiding citizen Campbell is.'"

STEUBENVILLE.

Serious Accident—The City Infested with a Gang of Thieves.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

Steubenville, November 5.—Last evening a son of ex-Sheriff Moore, aged sixteen, while attempting to jump on a passenger train at Skelley's Station, fell under the wheels and had one leg so badly injured that amputation proved necessary. The operation was performed last night by Drs. Shane and Elliot, of this city.

The residence of Richard White was entered last night and a quantity of ladies' wearing apparel and bed clothing stolen; also twenty dollars in money. The burglars entered through a second story window where a young lady was sleeping. She was awakened, but they drew a revolver upon her and demanded silence until they accomplished their purpose. There is strong talk of organizing a vigilance committee, as the city is infested with a gang of thieves of the most depraved character.

AN OLD EXPRESS ROBBERY.

A Thief's Confession as An Accomplice in the Crime.

Dennison, Ohio, November 4.—On September 18, 1881, the Adams Express office on the Pan Handle Railroad at Newcomerstown, fifteen miles west of here, was robbed of over $600 in cash. A few days after Charles A. Bassett, a former railroader of this place, and a one-armed man, was arrested, charged with the theft, but on a preliminary trial was released for want of evidence. Shortly after his release he was again arrested on the same charge, and it was alleged he had an accomplice, one Barney Tewey, a railroader of this place, whose evidence it was thought would fasten the guilt upon Bassett. After another trial, in which a woman from this place who keeps a boarding-house, testified to her belief in Bassett's guilt, he was released the second time. The Express Company has been following up the case ever since, and Detective Larry Hazen, of Cincinnati, who has been diligently at work ferreting out the guilty parties, passed through here yesterday, and from what has leaked out, it now seems a foregone conclusion that Bassett will be convicted of the robbery.

About two months ago Detective Hazen, who has probably had his eye on Bassett and Barney Tewey ever since the robbery, found that Tewey was serving a term in the Ohio Penitentiary, and by interviewing him found he probably knew all about the robbery. A short time ago Tewey showed a disposition to tell the whole story, and it is as follows:

He claims that Bassett took the express package containing the money from the safe, and they then both came to this place together, where they hid the money, some $600, under a stone in the foundation of a barn. They then separated, and, as before mentioned, Bassett was shortly after arrested. After his release he repaired to the spot where the money was hid and found it was gone, as Tewey had been there before him and secured the spoil. Bassett is now in the County Jail here serving out a sentence for assault and battery on his uncle, Lewis Whitmore, a jeweler, and as the grand jury is now in session he will probably be indicted for the express robbery, as Tewey has been sent from the Columbus penitentiary and is willing to testify against Bassett. As mentioned before, Bassett was formerly a railroader here and has had quite a checkered career. He had an arm taken off at St. Louis some four years ago, and was for some time on the police force of the St. Louis Bridge Company. Last February he was arrested at Wheeling, W. Va., on the charge of stealing valuable jewelry and money from a lady at a hotel there, but the lady soon after died and the case against him was not prosecuted. For the past two years he has run many foot races, and has beaten some of the champion runners in the United States, and his photograph has more than once graced the pages of the *Police Gazette*, as the winner in important contests. He is only about twenty-five years old.

Engineer Melville Defended.

Washington, November 4.—A naval officer, a friend of Engineer Melville, says: "Melville feels that he is the victim of slander. When he landed in New York he did not know that he had been posing before the world as a hero. He simply supposed that, being strong and well, he had gone in search of his lost comrades, as he would expected any of them under like circumstances to have gone for him. His experience at home has been a painful one. The sad interview with the crazy wife, and the assaults which have been made upon him by jealousy on the part of the line of the navy, have wounded him, and this last statement from the brother of Collins greatly affects him. The truth about Collins is this: He was a very uncomfortable man to be with on board ship. He declined to subject himself to the discipline which was necessary to the maintenance of order on the ship, and which, at times, was absolutely indispensable for the safety of all. He was opinionated, arrogant and domineering. He imagined that he was the agent of James Gordon Bennett, and, as such, the representative of that gentleman, and that he was not responsible to the naval officers who had charge of the expedition, and not bound to adopt their suggestions, or, if need be, to obey their orders, and therefore he did not. At a time of great danger, when they were in the floe, he insisted on going hunting, although forbidden, and he was at once arrested. The statement of Collins that Melville heartlessly played at cards when he might have been helping to rescue his comrades is as absurd as it is cruel. The truth is, Melville does not know how to play a single game. It is one of his peculiarities, and all of his shipmates will tell you so, that in all his cruises he has never been able to learn a game. He doesn't know whist and could not play it.

The testimony from now on before the Board of Inquiry will doubtless drift into a quarrel which seems to be imminent between the Line and Staff on account of this expedition. The associates in the Line of Lieutenant Danenhower can scarcely forgive him for having permitted himself to be saved by an engineer. Danenhower, after he was rescued and left at Irkutsk by Melville, came back again under the old traditions of the Line in which he was educated, and his course toward Melville since has certainly not been grateful.

A Fatal Blast.

Alderson, November 4.—Yesterday, at Rockland, three miles east of Fort Spring depot, Mr. D. G. Huddleston fired off a blast in his limestone quarry and one of the fragments of the rock struck Mr. Wm. McMann, who was loading lumber on a car near the quarry, killing him instantly.

CRIMSON CRIMES.

BLOODY AND DIABOLICAL DEEDS.

A Fiend Deliberately Shoots His Wife, who was Suing for Divorce—Cool Behavior of the Criminal—A Son Discovers his Mother and Sister with their Throats Cut.

Cleveland, O., November 5.—Late last night word was received here of an atrocious murder committed at Bellevue. Mrs. Annie Radford had left her husband, John, because of his cruelty, applied for a divorce and procured an injunction to prevent his disposing of the property. Radford went to Fremont, the county seat, in the forenoon, and while there the papers in the suit were served on him. He went back to Bellevue in the afternoon, and proceeding to the house of his wife's parents, knocked at the door. Not being promptly admitted, he began kicking in the panels, whereupon his wife appeared. He seized her and threw down, and placing a revolver at her head fired. She attempted to strike the pistol away and received a bullet in the right arm. He then put the pistol to her right temple, the pistol being held so close that the powder burned her hair, and fired the fatal shot; after which he walked out in the yard, stopped a moment to see if he had killed her, deliberately picked out the empty shells of his revolver, put the pistol in his pocket and ran across lots until he reached the railway track, along which he fled westward. The news of the murder spread rapidly, and a large number of citizens went in pursuit of Radford. He was captured by a constable four miles from Bellevue, and subsequently lodged in jail at Fremont. After his arrest he asked if his wife was dead, and receiving an affirmative reply said, "I thought so, I gave her two good ones, and I am glad of it."

Fremont, O., November 5.—Radford, the wife murderer, to-day denies the shooting, and claims he is not the John Radford wanted.

New Orleans, November 5.—Charles McCarthy, colored, went to his mother's room on Rangart street, at 5 o'clock this morning, and found her unable to speak, with a deep cut across her neck. He went to inform his sister Ellen on Morrow street, and on entering her room he found his sister dead with her throat cut. Mrs. McCarthy is not expected to recover. She was able to state that she was cut by Johnson, *alias* "Dago Pete," who lives with her daughter. It is believed that he also cut Ellen's throat.

Indianapolis, November 5.—A young man named McCra, son of former Commissioner McCra, of this city, was found on the railroad track this morning, terribly mangled. It is not known whether he was killed by the train or murdered and placed on the track.

Brantford, Ont., November 5.—Eva Woods went to the farm of Wentworth Day, at Jerseyville, and shot him. Day will die. The cause of the trouble is not stated.

CONFLAGRATIONS.

Coal Chute Burned—A Destructive Fire at Red Bank, N. J.

Columbus, O., November 5.—A Carbon Hill special says: T. Longstreet's coal chute, trestle, &c., burned this afternoon; loss about $20,000, insurance unknown. This throws 180 men out of employment. The residence of E. A. Peck, Delaware, burned last night, incendiary. Loss $10,000; insured for $5,000.

Red Bank, November 5.—A fire broke out about 7 P. M. in the business portion of this town, just opposite to where the two last fires occurred, in the stable belonging to J. W. Childs, a baker, and at the present moment, 9:30 P. M., destroyed the entire business block, including the Western Union Telegraph and Central express offices, and extending into Broad street, and including the Methodist church and Christian church, First National Bank. The buildings destroyed are Vandergrift's millinery shop, Chadwick, drugs; N. J. Standard, J. R. Bergens, boats and shoes; I. Sickers, groceries; J. H. Peters & Co., hardware; Wardell, cigars, Jos. Childs, bakery; J. W. Childs, stationery; Schroder & Co., drugs; Curtis, furnishing goods. Spinning & Patterson's large brick building stayed the fire on Front street, where were burned Atlarics' butcher shop, Ennis, millinery; Sabath, stoves; Davis, flour and feed; Edgar, butcher.

Value of the National Buildings.

Washington, November 4.—From the figures of the local official assessment it appears that the Capitol Building is assessed at $15,099,056 and the grounds $7,007,595. The White House is put down at $753,580 and the Executive stables at $28,500. The Treasury Department building and grounds are assessed at $7,008,451. The State, War and Navy Department buildings at $6,211,161; the Agricultural Department building, $361,825, and the grounds $689,086. The Smithsonian $192,651, and National Museum $250,000; and the grounds $2,553,378. The National Monument grounds $1,815,781, and the Washington Monument $300,000. When completed it will be worth probably $100,000. The Naval Observatory grounds $125,861, and the building $255,264; the Patent Office building and grounds $4,754,883; the Arsenal building $235,324, and grounds $1,421,937, the Marine Barracks ground $31,235, and buildings $329,637, and the Navy Hospital $7,198,128; Bureau of Engraving and Printing, grounds $27,612, building $323,537; Warden's building, used by Engineer's Bureau of the army $214,367; United States Medical Museum $96,280; General Postoffice ground $312,195, building $2,124,500; Government Printing office, $236,000; Judiciary Square and City Hall, $1,399,713; United States Jail, $525,550; U. S. Navy Yard ground, $1,413,500; buildings and wharves, $3,615,808; Botanical Gardens, grounds, $1,462,251; building, 556,676; hot-houses, $58,508. The aqueduct is valued at $3,847,547, and water pipes and plugs $172,276. The intersection of streets, circles and spaces are put down at $4,684,942. The Department of Justice ground $150,000. The figures do not represent what has been expended on the buildings, but what they are actually worth. The Corcoran Art Gallery building is assessed at $140,000 and the ground at $40,191. The Young men's Christian Association building, Lincoln Hall, is valued at $91,800; the residence of the British Minister, which is exempt from taxation, $80,415; the Government Insane Asylum, $1,349,775; the Reform School, $221,056; the Soldiers' Home grounds, $333,917; buildings, $350,000; naval magazine, $95,000; the Georgetown Post office and Custom House, $63,767.

A Monument that Never Was Built.

Washington, November 4.—A local paper has the following:

"An official of the Treasury department, in speaking of the funds now being raised to build a Garfield Memorial Hospital and a Garfield Memorial Monument, said recently: 'There was, some years ago, a movement to erect a Lincoln memorial monument in this city. Subscriptions were asked and freely given. There were fairs given and other means used to gather the money. I never knew exactly how large the fund got to be, but it was variously estimated at from $15,000 to $20,000. After awhile the ardor of those prominent in the movement cooled down, and it was not very long before the whole thing passed out of mind. I never knew much of the details, but I know there has never been any memorial monument erected yet. What became of the money, you ask? Oh, I don't know. It was everybody's business to look after it. Treasurer Spinner was made treasurer of the fund. When the money finally reached his hands it had dwindled down to about $1,500. Mr. Spinner invested the money in bonds and locked them up in the Treasury vaults. Mr. Wyman, the present Assistant U. S. Treasurer, is now custodian of the fund. It has increased by interest to about $2,500, but there is no talk of a Lincoln memorial monument any more.'"

HOYT AND QUAY.

Double Sensation Over the Flop of One, and the Resignation of the Other.

Philadelphia, November 4.—Col. Matthew S. Quay, Secretary of the commonwealth, has resigned his position, owing, it is understood, to the position Governor Hoyt has taken in joining Stewart. It is stated that some vigorous correspondence has passed between Quay and the Governor.

Philadelphia, November 4.—The resignation of M. S. Quay, as secretary of the commonwealth, is the talk of to-night in political circles. Although his resignation was sent to Governor Hoyt yesterday, it did not leak out until about four o'clock to-day. When the rumor started, however, it flew like wild fire and gave rise to all sorts of comments, few of which had any foundation; in fact Quay was sought on all sides, but could not be found. It was ascertained, however, that he was very angry when he learned yesterday evening that Hoyt intended to declare for the Independents and immediately sat down and telegraphed his resignation to the Governor in no very sweet terms. To-day he sent the following dispatch:

Philadelphia, Pa., November 4.—To B. F. Chandler, office of the Secretary of State: Governor Hoyt received my resignation by telegraph at 6:30 yesterday evening and I am no longer secretary of commonwealth. I presume he will consult Stewart and Pattison and appoint a successor shortly, who will attend to unsigned commissions.

[Signed] M. S. Quay.

The letter of Hoyt declaring for the Independents was like a thunderbolt to the Republican leaders here. They had not the least idea he would declare that way. They knew he was slipping and wavering, but he had made them a direct promise that he would at length declare for Beaver. On last Friday night, at a reception at the Union League club-house, he distinctly told Chairman Cooper, when your correspondent was standing near by, that he intended to come out straight for Beaver and the whole Republican ticket. Chairman Cooper told me shortly afterward what Hoyt had said, and a well known gentleman who was standing by at the time, immediately went forward and congratulated Hoyt on his determination. What has caused him to flop over to the Independents I do not know, unless, as it is charged, it was the severe remarks of certain Republican papers in regard to his timid and uncertain position, politically. One very shrewd politician who very often hits close to the mark in what he says, remarked to-night, significantly, that Hoyt's letter was "never written by a drunken man, but it might have been signed by one."

Harrisburg, Pa., November 4.—Governor Hoyt was asked to-night whether he had received any information relative to the resignation of Quay, ex-Secretary of the Commonwealth. He replied that he had received nothing officially. It is said, however, that Quay telegraphed his letter resigning his position. The Stalwarts indorse Quay's act, in view of the relations he sustains to the Republican State Committee, which is trying to further the election of a man whom Hoyt opposes. Self-respect, they say, impelled Quay to the course pursued.

Harrisburg, November 5.—In reply to a question, to-day, as to whether he had received Col. Quay's resignation as Secretary Gov. Hoyt said: Mr. Quay's resignation has been received and accepted. I part with him with sincere regret. I have appointed as his successor Colonel Francis Jordan, of this city, who has accepted and will go on duty as Secretary to morrow morning. Col. Quay's telegram was simply a tender of his resignation and stated he would be here next week to settle up.

HOYT'S TRADUCERS.

He Replies to the Recent Charges Concerning His Honesty.

Harrisburg, Pa., November 5.—Gov. Hoyt has made the following statement in reference to the charges against him, made at the Republican meeting last evening, that he had used the State's funds in connection with others for private speculative purposes, and to avoid disgrace he had appealed to Senator Cameron to come to his assistance, which the latter did, he says: I was never a member of any pool engaged in stock speculation. I desire to state emphatically and without qualification that I have never requested in person or by agent of Mr. Cameron any financial assistance either for myself or anybody; that he has never advanced me one dollar in my behalf or on my account in any transaction, and that I have never had any relations or connection in business with any party or combination or pool to whom he may have advanced money directly or indirectly. So far I have not been compelled to draw on the intellectual, moral, political, or financial resources of that gentleman. This attack is doubtless part of their discipline of extermination to which I am to be subjected in common with a large number of other citizens of the commonwealth. We accept situation.

A SPURT IN OIL.

The Price Jumps Over a Dollar—Exciting Scenes on 'Change.

Pittsburgh, November 4.—To-day was the most exciting one in the history of the oil Exchange. The market opened with sales at one dollar and ten, and then declined to a dollar and eight and a-half, but quickly recovered and advanced steadily until the close of the morning session, when one dollar and fifteen was asked. All morning the wildest scenes were enacted and blocks of many thousand barrels of oil changed hands.

At the afternoon session the scenes of the morning were repeated, and were, if possible, more exciting. The opening sales were made