



Retrenchment.

The spirit of reform and retrenchment has so taken hold of many of the members of the Legislature that their actions are marked by efforts to remodel almost every form of proceeding in the state government.

Here they rested, it being deemed advisable to lighten the load by giving up the sled to Sergeant Cone. He strapped on a light trunk and after adjusting the dogs started on his downward slide.

He struck, upon his head and shoulders, and when found by Private Murphy, who followed him, he was apparently dead from bruises and benumbed with the intense cold.

Further the reformers propose to save money by changing the circuit court districts, and by reducing the number of judges. In other words, they propose to make the districts so large and the terms so short that it will require five or ten years to get a verdict in a common law case.

Another scheme of re-adjustment. Mr. HENKEL yesterday presented two important bills—one to increase the taxes from 50 cents to \$1 on the hundred dollars worth, and the other authorizing temporary loans to the Commonwealth at the rate of 50 cents in greenbacks for \$1 in certificates—these last to be receivable in payment of taxes.

The Heroic Montegrins have made a record of valor and endurance in the Eastern war which has not been surpassed, if equaled, by any of the combatants. They have lately captured another Turkish fortified city and several islands in Lake Scutari, and are increasing in strength, and are hailed as liberators as they march on. It is to be hoped that, when the end arrives, they may secure not only autonomy, but liberty and independence.

The New York Post says that the banks in that city, or several of them, have since gold fell below 102, been buying large amounts of gold, thereby putting a part and in some cases the whole of their capital in gold.

On last Wednesday, the Legislature elected the following State Officers: Sup't of Public Instruction, Dr. W. H. Baffler; Auditor of Public Accounts, Wm. F. Taylor; Register of the Land Office, Major S. H. Boykin; Secretary of the Commonwealth, Col. Jas. McDonald; Sup't of Pub. Printing, Capton R. E. Frayser; Sup't of Penitentiary, Col. Samuel A. Swann; Storekeeper of the Penitentiary, N. C. Talfiafer; The only change made was in the office of Sup't of Public Printing.

A Bridgewater, Conn., young man, who is war correspondent for a London newspaper, writes that on entering a Turkish redoubt just captured, the first musket he picked up was marked "Tunton, Mass." and the second, "Providence, R. I., and it made him feel as though he was somewhere near home.

A Terrible Slide.

Readers of the weather bulletins in the daily papers seldom stop to realize the hardships to which the agents of the Signal Service Bureau are exposed at some of the posts occupied during the year.

The Louisiana returning board, which is to be tried for its wickedness, has petitioned the Superior Criminal Court at New Orleans to have its case removed to the United States Circuit Court, on the ground mainly that it will not be able to get a fair trial in the State court.

It is a well known fact that every man, in this country, who has made a large fortune by trade, has advertised his business extensively in the newspapers.

The House of Representatives by a vote of 154 yeas to 96 noes—two-thirds—rejected the resolution introduced by Mr. Southard, of Ohio, authorizing the payment of customs duties in legal tenders after January 1, 1879.

Dispatches from the burning mine at Wadesville, Pa., last evening say that groups of men are still working day and night, and they expect to be successful in heading off the fire by tonight.

Geo. Howard, a negro tramp, has been sentenced at Pittsfield, Pa., to life imprisonment for outrageous assault upon Mrs. Marcey, John Gilbert, a negro, was sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment for assaulting a white girl fifteen years of age.

Ex-Gov. Hendricks, in an interview published at Indianapolis, allights from the fence on the finance question, and declares himself on the side of remonetization of silver and anti-resumption of specie payments.

Thursday night three large stables and barns, one long row of stalls, 1,000 bushels of corn, 200 tons of hay, and about 2,500 bushels of grain were destroyed by fire on the stud farm of Col. David McDaniel, the turman, situated three miles from Princeton, N. J.

The following has been telegraphed: "To Hon. Chas. DeWitt, Attorney General, Washington, D. C.: Four persons, J. M. Wilson, Wells, Thomas C. Anderson, G. Casenave and L. M. Keener, who are under an information for felony under the laws of the State, have forfeited their recognizance, and have, I am informed, taken shelter in the custom-house of this city."

George P. Gordon, inventor of the celebrated Gordon printing press, died in Norfolk, last Sunday night, after a brief illness. He leaves a large estate to his relatives and friends. He owed a great deal of property, and was engaged in many important enterprises in Virginia and other States. His body will be taken to Brooklyn, N. Y., for interment.

THE MOFFETT REGISTER.—We learn from Mr. F. D. Johnson that he will probably commence an order for the State of Virginia for an additional two thousand registers in a few days. He has been informed by the Auditor that there are only a few hundred on hand, and he will soon need many more.

We learn from Senator Grimsley that he received a telegram from New Orleans Saturday night informing him that the Moffett register bill precisely as it is in Virginia was before the Legislature of Louisiana, and would certainly pass, and that the contract for their manufacture would be given to the factory in our town.—Culpeper Times.

By the recent decisions of the United States Supreme Court, two insurance companies have been defeated. In one case the loss on a fire policy was contested on the ground that the value of the property had been erroneously stated, but it did not appear that the correctness of the statement was a basis of the contract of insurance.

DESTRUCTION OF SHEEP BY DOGS.—We learn that one day last week several dogs in the vicinity raided on the flock of sheep belonging to Dr. Alexander Harris, at Jeffersonston, in this county. The flock consisted of some forty sheep. All were killed except some six or seven, which were seriously wounded.—Culpeper Times.

Gen. Miles, commanding the United States forces in the Northwest, reports that Sitting Bull continues at Wood's mountain, over the Canadian border, but he has lately been on this side. Additional reports are being made to his camp, which now numbers five hundred lodges, by descriptions from the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail agencies. Military preparations against a raid by Sitting Bull will be made.

LAZINESS.—A favorite topic of the New York Times is what it chooses to consider "Laziness at the South." Probably the non-producers and idlers at the South are a smaller per centage of its population than the same class at the North, in view of the immensely greater prevalence of tramps in the latter section. The South has gone to work since the war with an energy unsurpassed anywhere, and which has produced results of great prosperity.

The total value of the proper held by the churches in New York city is estimated at \$56,191,600, and their total liabilities is \$7,770,314. The only religious denomination in the city which has no debt is the Society of Friends, which owns property valued at more than a half million of dollars. If there is the same wealth of religion as there is of churches New York ought to be a good place in which to dwell.

In the United States District Court at Norfolk, Va. Henry Miller, formerly clerk in the custom-house, was found conspiring to defraud the government.

News Items.

Hon. Chas. S. Lewis, of Clarksburg, West Va., died Tuesday. He was formerly a member of Congress from Virginia.

Mrs. Matilda Stanley, whom the papers style the Queen of the Gypsies her authority being recognized by all the tribes in the United States and Canada, died in Vicksburg, Miss., a few days ago. Her remains have been taken to Dayton, Ohio, where her "family" owns much real estate.

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The Way of the Transgressors.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26.—The disappearance of the members of the returning board, after the issue of the order for their arrest on Friday by Judge Whitaker, of the Supreme Court, led to the suspicion that they were concealed in the custom-house. Sheriff Houston on Saturday proceeded to the main door of the custom-house, and informed the marshal and deputy collector that he had a writ to execute against J. Madison Wells and to execute against him had good reason to believe were confined in that office, and he desired admittance. This was refused, and the chief deputy marshal was summoned and ordered the sheriff, his posse and the crowd to disperse.

The sheriff refused to leave, stating he was determined to execute the writ of the court at any hazard, or be arrested in the attempt. Sheriff Houston then slightly availing, Deputy Marshal Wurzbarger laid hands upon him and claimed him and his deputies as prisoners. The sheriff and party submitted to arrest, and were taken before Judge Billings, sitting in the United States Circuit Court, but the latter said he had nothing to do with the matter, as the parties had not been arrested by virtue of any process from his court. Mr. Wurzbarger then took his prisoners before United States Commissioner Lane, who opened to Russian men of war. Bulgarian autonomy to be conceded.

This is to be done rather on the principal of the Lebanon than on the plan of the Constantinople conference, and Turkey is to nominate a Christian Governor for a long term of years, subject to ratification by the Powers.

Bulgaria is not understood to include Thrace, but only to extend to the line of the Balkans; part of the Russian army at embark at Constantinople for their return home and the final treaty of peace to be signed at Constantinople by the Grand Duke Nicholas.

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