

The Hammononton Item.

Devoted to the Interests of Hammononton.

VOL. III.—NO. 10.

HAMMONTON, N. J., SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1874

\$2.00 PER

Our Washington Letter:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12, 1874.

The funeral and memorial services in honor of Senator Sumner have monopolized the attention of all classes here since his sudden demise. The ceremony of exhuming the body to the public gaze in the rotunda of the Capitol occupied most of yesterday, and it was quite late when the funeral cortege, occupying a special train draped throughout, left this city on its way to Boston. An invitation to the friends of the dead Senator from the authorities of Philadelphia that the remains be in state in Independence Hall in that city, before proceeding to its destination, was declined; and there was good reason, no doubt, why the body should be hurried forward to Boston as rapidly as possible. The colored people of the city were almost crazed with the loss of their great protector, and the ardor of their demonstrations in his memory was shown regardless of the convenience of the great mass of all colors who assembled at the Capitol. The colored schools were closed, a committee of colored people was appointed to attend the funeral, and all of the colored race who were capable of calling attention to his consistent efforts in their favor did so with a heartiness that betokened their sincerity of love and gratitude for him. He certainly deserved much as their special advocate, and they are not disposed to stint any honor that they can bestow upon his memory.

The New Hampshire election appears to have been decided in favor of the Democracy. There is no U. S. Senator to elect, and therefore the change of a few votes, together with the running of a Temperance ticket, has produced this result, which had already been anticipated. There can be little significance in a change like this, and which has taken place repeatedly in the last few years, as it was always considered an uncertain State. Democracy will howl and be jubilant, and it will do them good to make the most of it.

Senator Stewart, of Nevada, having been made Chairman of the Joint Committee for investigating the District Government, owing to the sickness and consequent resignation of Senator Boutwell, the Committee will proceed promptly with the examination of testimony. So far as the examination has extended, viz: to the disposition of the school fund, there has been nothing found against the District authorities, as is generally admitted on all hands.

The vacant seat of Senator Sumner is already the town talk here, as it is to some extent in Massachusetts. The present Governor and General Butler are expected to run another tilt. This time there will be no chance for two different winners. For the present unexpired term Gov. Washburne will probably have the inside track, but at the next session of the Massachusetts Legislature the six years term will be hardly indicated without doubt.

The lecture of Col. Bondisot, an educated and able Cherokee Indian, from Indian Territory, was well received here on last Thursday evening. He advocated the organization of the Indian Territory by act of Congress; the division of land in 160 acre allotments among the Indians, and their equal civil and political rights with all the other people in the United States. He demanded for his race those equal rights before the law which the white and black men enjoy alike all over the country, and referred to Senator Sumner as a statesman mourned by the world for what he had done in the same direction for another race in trouble. There is no doubt that the citizenship of the red race is the next measure of reform and progress which is to follow the peaceful steps of civilizing and educating it. The Cherokee now print the town newspaper in their own language, and have attained a condition of comparative civilization within a very few years of protection from white settlers.

The war on the Government Printing Office is going on here with great vigor. The Chronicle makes fresh charges every day, and the House has ordered an investigation. It is alleged that the pilfering for Congress, which in the matter of

speeches conflicts with the interests of the newspaper and job offices of the District, has been cut down below cost, while it is more than made up by overcharging the Executive Departments, for which no limit is set. The war is made personal by the Government Printer attributing to the Chronicle malicious and corrupt motives, in a letter sent to the Senate. Mr. Clapp will have his hands full for some time to come in sustaining himself against opposition inside as well as outside of his party.

The committees of Congress are hard at work, but the body itself has been doing little this week on account of the death of Fillmore and of Sumner, two of our greatest men, whose taking off has demoralized not only Congress, but, to some extent also, the clerical force of the Departments, most of whom have had two holidays in consequence.

The report of the Senate Committee on routes of transportation between the different sections of the country is looked for with much interest. Many think that, if any short line water route between the waters of the Atlantic and those of the Mississippi valley is specially recommended, it will then have a fair chance to receive an appropriation at the present session. It certainly is a live question here.

The third number of the second volume of the *Republic Magazine* has just been issued from the office of that excellent monthly. It is the only periodical which is devoted exclusively to politics as a science now published in this country. While the Secretary of the National Republican Congressional Committee is the President of the Republic Publication Company, by which it is issued, the contents are of the solid text book order, and not merely partisan in their tone and substance. The new number contains a great variety of carefully prepared matter, which should reach the hands of every citizen who is interested in good government and true statesmanship.

The recent failures of Savings Banks in Philadelphia, and Richmond, Va., and in which numerous working men have lost their savings, is again reviving the chances of establishing the proposed Postal Savings Banks as recommended by the Postmaster General and the President. A bill for this purpose has been referred, and the more it is examined and discussed the more it recommends itself to the wants of the times. Encouragement to save and accumulate by the industrious classes is among the best moral agencies in the country, and it is constantly demonstrated that without some national authority, as in England, cormorant corporations will prove a continual discouragement to the savings of the industrious poor. The advantages of absolute protection by the Government, which is furnished by the Postal Savings Banks of England would be found far more important in this country, where the savings of the working classes are so much greater in amount.

The veto by the new Governor of Virginia, of a law passed by the Democratic portion of the Legislature of that State has made a great stir here. The law legislated out of office the duly elected Republican authorities of Petersburg, and insured that city Democratic officials. The hungry office hunters have just burned Komper in effigy, but when the veto was taken for passing the bill over the Governor's veto, the Governor was sustained nearly two to one. Hatred and rebellion here and throughout Virginia are especially rampant at the firm course of the friends of progress. They insist upon civil reform among Republicans, but they demand, with terrible threats of consequences, all the offices that they can in any way secure for their own friends, no caring who may sink, so that they may swim.

St. Patrick's Day was very generally observed, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather. The display in Philadelphia is said to have been very large and grand, some fifteen thousand persons being in the procession, which was composed almost exclusively of temperance and mutual aid societies, and societies devoted to intellectual pursuits. In New York 20,000 persons were on parade. In Baltimore 5000 paraded, including two colored societies.

PET DOGS.

The frightful death by hydrophobia, a few days since, of a lady well known in the dramatic profession, brings vividly to mind the danger which lurks unthought of and unheeded in many households at this moment. The chance of getting hydrophobia is perhaps not much greater in general than the chance of being struck by lightning. According to one authority not more than one in twenty-five of those who are bitten by dogs are infected by this dreaded disease, and probably not more than one in a thousand is ever bitten. But just as the chance of being struck by lightning would be incalculably increased for a person who went about in a thunderstorm with a patent conductor rigged to his hat, so the chances of hydrophobia are multiplied by habitual association with dogs. They are still further increased by habitual association with dogs of a kind most liable to infection.

Hydrophobia is a disease as mysterious as it is appalling. All the efforts of science have done little to elucidate its pathology, and still less to discover its antidote. Experience, however, has shown certain facts which it is prudent to recognize and follow. Male dogs are attacked more frequently than females, and mongrels oftener than thoroughbreds. The genuine Skye terrier, it is said, never goes mad. But mongrels ought on no account to be allowed in the household, especially where there are children. Their temper is usually uncertain and treacherous. They snap on any or no provocation, and an unregarded bite may, perhaps, instigate the fatal venom. The dog which gave to the lady we spoke of her death-wound had been a family pet for years, and was hardly suspected to be sick at the time of its attack. The indications of rabies are, indeed, almost always obscure, and often deceptive, and the mischief is sometimes done before the warning is given.

It is, of course, difficult to persuade people that household pets so engaging as dogs often get to be a possible source of danger and death in its most agonizing shape. It is consistent with human nature for each man to believe that the dog of his neighbor may go mad, but never his own. Yet the possibility of hydrophobia, however slight, is so terrible, and the peril incurred so entirely disproportionate to the pleasure derivable from the companionship of any beast, that too much care can hardly be exercised in selecting dogs for household companionship. Animals of pure breed ought in every case to be preferred, and mongrels resolutely tabooed. As we have said, the whole thing is a question of chances—infinitesimal, perhaps, for people who do not keep dogs about them; a trifle greater for those who have dogs of pure breed, still more pronounced for such as surround themselves with "mongrels and curs of low degree." Parents, we trust, will not be slow to observe the distinction.—*N. York Times.*

How SOIL WAS MADE.—Professor Agassiz says that all the materials on which agricultural progress depends are decomposed rocks, and not so much those that underlie the soil, but those on the surface, and ground to powder by the glaciers. Ice all over the continent is the agent that has ground out more soil than all other agencies put together. The penetration of water into the rocks, forests, running water and baking suns have done something, but the glaciers more. In a former age the United States was covered with ice several thousand feet thick; and the ice moving from north to south by the attraction of the tropical warmth or pressing weight of the snow and ice behind, ground the rocks over—which was called soil. These masses of ice can be tracked by the hunter. He has made a study of them in this country as far south as Alabama, but has observed the same phenomenon in Europe, particularly in Italy, where among the Alps glaciers are now in progress. The stones and rock-ground and polished by the glaciers can easily be distinguished from those which have been scratched by running water. The angular boulders found in meadows and the terraces of rivers not reached by running water can be accounted for only in this way.

PRESIDENT GRANT'S SOCIAL HABITS.—Chicquippie, in the Syracuse Journal, says: From observation it is easy to perceive that, though the President is not fondness for display, yet personally he has no fondness for display; and he occasionally avails himself of his liberty as a citizen to lay aside ceremony. While his coupe goes dashing down the avenue with its driver and footman, and perhaps no person inside, the President, after the fatiguing routine of calls is over for the day, mounts an open buggy and with his old friend Gen. Ranney by his side, drives his black ponies in his own way. On New Year's day, after receiving and shaking hands three hours, he quietly stepped out of his official character and went around and called on his neighbors, as any gentleman would. If his pastor is to receive a donation, he not only sends his gift, but contributes his presence to promote the hilarity of the occasion. If you take a ride in the suburbs you may probably notice an ordinary carriage, and the President on the front seat, driving with Miss Nellie by his side and Mrs. Grant and sister in the back seat, all looking like a well-to-do farmer's family evidently enjoying the freedom from restraint. In utter disregard of the "high mightiness" that has been supposed to pertain to his position he occasionally avails himself of the appetizing influence of change of surroundings, and china and table-cloths, and the magnetism of friendly faces, and accepts an invitation to dine in a quiet way.

The most powerful argument against the specialization of the labor of woman, and the marking out for them of an individual career is the disastrous influence, such a course, according to its legitimate conclusions, would have upon our homes, and upon the lives of young men and young women. In the present and for the future, women are the natural makers, helpers, and educators of men, who still, in the objective world, stand as their representatives. This is the broad fact, immovable, in its general features and principles as the everlasting hills. Conventions cannot alter it, resolutions cannot move it, exceptions cannot change it, and the sooner women generally accept the position, and prepare to do their duty in it, the better.

There was a time when I desired, above all things, that women should achieve fame, and honor, and glory and power, and reputation, and money for themselves—when I experienced a sense of indignation against self-forgetting and self-sacrificing women—the Caroline Herschels and Caroline Bowles of the past—who had devoted their lives and genius to work with which men were credited. This self-abnegation, instead of being praiseworthy, seemed a weakness, the result of which was not only injustice to themselves, but to their entire sex.

But how differently do they appear to me now! How noble does such pure womanhood seem beside the petty striving for personal distinction which is the curse of women to-day; not the desire for the real superiority which comes from broader aims, a truer culture, a higher ideal of life, but the striving for individual place and power, the false assumptions, the efforts to clothe poverty of brain in high-sounding language, to make words stand for ideas, and use the meanest arts, slander, and trickery, to acquire personal influence. All these are the natural result of individual aims, and therefore are women cursed who pursue them. They may start with a nobler intent but the selfishness of the aim must in time get the better of it.—*From Democrat's Monthly for March.*

Some of the Massachusetts papers, the Boston Advertiser among them, are advocating Charles Francis Adams as successor to Charles Sumner in the United States Senate. Others speak of Dawes, and others favor Judge Hoar. Each has his friends and advocates. For a high-toned man, Adams would fill the card. For an honest, hard working Senator, who would meet the needs of the times, and do honor to his constituents and the country Judge Hoar is the very best man. The Springfield Republican will undoubtedly push the claims, if any claims there be, of Dawes.

The City Election in Camden, on Tuesday, resulted in the election of J. H. Jones, the Editor of the Democrat, as Mayor, by a majority of 41. The Recorder, Paul C. Hild, is a Republican, and the Receiver, A. O. Jackson, a Democrat. James R. Hines, Republican, was elected Mayor of Gloucester.

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