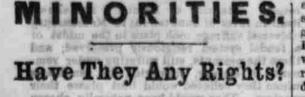
THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1870.



On the fourth of July there was a small gathering of prominent politicians from different sections of the State at the Girard House, in this city, which did not fail to attract the attention of the more thoughtful classes. The object of the assemblage was to discuss the necessity for such a reform in our political system as would concede to the voters belonging to the minority party in any given district, Congressional, legislative or municipal, some of the rights which are denied them by the mere circumstance of being in the minority.

The Rule of the Majority is the fundamental principle underlying our governmental polity. Where the people themselves are the fountain of power, and disagreements as to the merit and capacity of men, and the justice and expediency of measures, are not only natural but inevitable, the majority, must rule. When it comes down to the simple question as to whether Jones or Brown shall be Governor of a State, there is no conceivable method. of settling the dispute between the friends of Jones and Brown save the simple one of numbers, and if Jones can command a bare majority of one vote in a fair and honest poll of half a million, the only security in the enjoyment of their political rights that the entire half million voters can expect must spring from the peaceful and graceful acquiescence of the minority in the result.

But when the issue is shifted from the filling of an office the functions of which are to be exercised and can be exercised by one person alone at a time, to the selection of the members of a deliberative body composed of two persons or more, it assumes a different aspect. The fundamental, underlying principle is still the same -the majority must rule. But the question arises as to whether or not the minority are to be permitted the enjoyment of a voice in its deliberations which is proportionate to their numerical weight. Suppose, for example, that a newly-fledged city out on the plains starts out in its career with a voting population of 500. Of these 300 hundred are good, sound Republicaus, and the remaining 200 equally good and sound in their Democracy. The city council is to be made up of ten members. If each of the 500 voters proceeds to the polls and votes for the ten men of his choice, it is manifest that the city council will stand 10 Republicans to 0 Democrats, and, as far as matters of taxation. public improvements, police regulation, etc. are concerned, the 200 Democrats might as well be so many fence-posts. If the city council is made up according to the manifest equity of the case, it will consist of 6 Republicans to 4 Democrats-the Republicans still maintaining the ascendancy, but being unable to exercise their power in an arbitrary way and without the voice of the minority heardlin triendly counsel or carnest expostulation. The universal custom of the country is to avoid such a show of gross injustice as we have premised, by dividing the territory subject to the jurisdiction of the deliberative assemblage into two or more districts, each of which elects one or more members. By this means, as is familiar to every one, absolute unanimity in the assemblage is generally, although not invariably, avoided, as it rarely happens that the relative strength of partisan organizations exhibits a uniformity throughout a city, county, or State. One of the districts may stand 2 to 1 Republican, while in the adjoining district the proportions will be reversed; and, taken altogether, the districts are usually not so outrageously gerrymandered as to give the actual minority in the city, county, or State a round majority of members in the deliberative assemblage which is entrusted with its legislation. But, while this is usually the case, it sometimes happens that the actual minority on popular vote secures a majority in the the deliberative assemblage, and it is frequently the case that a mere working majority on the aggregate vote contrives to secure an overwhelming majority in the assemblage. In the State of Pennsylvania, for example, it is generally understood by those who have looked into the matter that the Democrats must carry the State by a majority of at least 20,000 on the aggregate vote, to give them a bare majority in both branches of the State Legislature. Just at present, it happens that this state of affairs is a good thing-so considered, at least-for the Republicans: but the time has been, and the time may come again, when the Democracy will have equal cause for rejoicing at the unfair distribution of the legislative districts.

But the defenders of the present system will insist that the 227,296 Democrats in the 18 Republican districts, and the 66,188 Republicans in the 6 Democratic districts, are represented, as a matter of fact, by the Congressmen of their own creed from the districts in which their respective parties are in the majority. This argument, however, is demolished by another grouping of the figures. If the entire Republican vote of the State, aggregating 329,403, is to be taken as fully represented by the 18 Republican members of the delegation, each of the 18 represents on the floor of the House au average constituency of 18,300 voters: and if the entire Democratic vote, footing up 321,459, is to be regarded as fully represented by the 6 Democratic members, each of the latter is burdened with an average constituency of 53,576 voters, or nearly three times the number allotted to the Republican representatives! As we have already remarked in reference to the Legislature, this state of affairs is a very consoling one for those who are anxious to see the supremacy of the Republican party preserved at all hazards, but there have been times in this State when the Democracy could console themselves after the same fashion. and such times may come again; while at the present moment there are States in the Union-Maryland and Kentucky, for example-in which the Democracy are thus unequally and unfairly represented.

The Minority Convention at Reading.

A political system which exhibits such glaring detects as are illustrated above certainly needs reformation, and with the view of developing some tangible method of bringing it about a convention is to be held at Reading, commencing at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning. This convention is the result of the original gather-ing at the Girard House in this city on the 4th of July, and like it is to be held under the auspices of prominent Republicans from the Democratic Congressional districts of the State, although the presence of persons from the Republican discricts, and of Democratic affiliations as well, is desired and anticipated. At least one influential Democrat, ex-Senator Charles R. Buckalew, is expected to be present, and the general attendance of delegates from the counties east of the Alleghenies especially promises to be good. Mr. Buckalew has given the subject of the rights and wrongs of minorities careful and thorough attention, and his presence at Reading will be of inestimable value. The convention is to be held-in pursuance of the follow

 A Representative Reform Cratic bio Androit Construction of the State and Construction of the clause therefore in those counties has not given the Laberals a representation up to their full party strength, but much beyond what the ordinary ma-

"Now to pass to the boroughs where the oranney in-"Now to pass to the boroughs where the clause has had any operation, f. a., where there has been a party contest. We find that in Liverpool, the Liberais being to the Conservatives in about the ratio of 15 to 16, the Liberals returned one member and the Con-scrvatives two; that in Manchester, the Liberals being to the Conservatives in the ratio of, say, 21 to 15, the Liberals returned two members and the Cou-servatives one; that in Leeds, the Liberals being to the Conservatives about 2 to I, the Liberals returned two members and the Censervatives one; that in Birmingham, the Liberals being to the Conservatives in about the ratio of 22 to 3, the Liberals returned all the three members; and that in Glasgow, the Liberals being to the Conservatives in about the ratio of 27 to 11, the Liberals returned all the 3 members -the result of which is that the minority clause gave the Liberals 14 to 5, or nearly 3 to 1, in constituen-cles where their strength, taken on the whole, was not quite 2 to 1. In other words, the minority repre-sentation, though it gave the Conservatives five borough members, where with the same number of seats to fight for they would only have had three without it. the three seats for they mould and three without it—the three seats for Liverpool—and though it diminished the Liberal strength from 16 (if there had been as many seats to obtain) to 14, really gave the Conservatives considerably less than the strength due to their proportion of voters, just as in the counties we have named it gave the Liberals less than the strength due to their pro-portion of voters. The conclusion is, that while the minority principle in both cases gives a portion of voters. The conclusion is, that while the minority principle in both cases gives a certain representation to the weaker party which it would not otherwise have, it gives a much less adequate one where the weaker party is very weak—as the Conservative party was in most of the great boroughs we have named—than where the weaker party is tolerably strong, as the Liberal party was in all the courties we have named. The minority principle has, in fact, given the Liberals in the three-cornered counties much more than it has given the Conservatives in the three-cornered bo-roughs, and for this reason—that in three out of the six three-cornered boroughs the Conservative party six three-cornered boroughs the Conservative party was practically insignificant, while in all the threecornered counties the power of the Liberals was substantial, though often very inferior to that of their rivals. Anyhow, the practical result has been not to weaken the working majority, but to strengthen it."

Defects of the "Minority Clause" System. The great defect of this system consists in the fact, as shown in the above extracts, that it is possible for the majority to override the minority in spite of the provisions of law which are designed to prevent it. In both Birmingham and Glasgow the Liberals secured all three of the seats by a judicious distribution of their strength. In Birmingham, where John Bright was a candidate, the Liberal committee prepared a number of cards equal to the number of Liberal voters, each card bearing the names of two of their candidates only, but the names of each of the three candidates being used an equal number of times. These cards were distributed among the Liberal voters

of the average voting constituency. In a State where as large a vote as in Pennsylvania is polled, it would require some nice figuring to ascertain the limits beyond which it would be unsafe for the minority to venture in distributing their votes, but the party leaders would be found equal to the task after a little experience, if not at the outset.

Ex-Senator Buckaleve's Advocacy of the "Cu-mulative Vote." Although the cumulative system has been before the public for some years, both in this country and in England, it is just beginning to attract general attention in the United States. Ex-Senator Buckalew has given the system careful study, and on more than one occasion, from the rostum as well as from his seat at Washington, has discussed and explained it in all its bearings and details. In a speech delivered in this city on the 19th of November, 1867, Mr. Buckalew illustrated the system and its workings as follows:-

its workings as follows:— "There are 60,000 voters in Vermont, of whom 40,000 are members of the Republican party and 20,000 of the Democratic party. I speak in round numbers. By law, that State is entitled to three Representatives in Congress, because her population, under the Constitution of the United States, author-izes the allotment of that number to her. Now, what ought to take place there? The majority should elect two Representatives, having 40,000 votes, and the minority should elect one, having 20,000 votes; but can that be so in point of fact at present? If the electors of that State vote for three Represen-tatives by general tloket the majority would elect tatives by general ticket the majority would elect the whole three. By cumulative voting, by authorizing the 20,600 minority electors of that State to give each three votes to one candidate, that candidate would reseive 60,000 votes, and the majority oannot defeat him. The majority voting for two Representatives can elect them, but they cannot elect the third. Suppose they attempt to vote for three candidates, they can only give each of them 40.000 votes and the minority condidate has hem 40,000 votes and the minority candidate has 60,600. If they attempt to vote for two, as they ought to do, that being the number they are entitled ought to do, that being the number they are entitled to, they can give them 60,000 votes each, the same number that the minority candidate has. If they attempted to vote for one, they would give that can-didate 120,000; but of course they would pot throw away their votes in that foolish manner. The prac-tical result would be that the 40,000 majority electors in that State would vote for two candidates and elect them, and the 20,000 minority electors would vote for one and elect him, and results analogous to this would occur all over the United States if this system were availed." system were applied. The "Cumulative Vote" to be tried in Illinois

Illinois is the first State to make the experiment of testing the merits of the "cumulative voting" system on an extensive scale. At the recent Constitutional Convention, a clause providing for the cumulative voting was adopted four to one, after mature deliberation and the discussion of numerous plans for insuring to minorities the rights of which they have been so long despoiled. This clause was submitted to a separate vote with the amended Constitution, and like it was adopted by an overwhelming majority. The experiment is restricted to the election of members of the lower house of the State Legislature, the Senate being chosen as heretofore. From each Senatorial district three representatives will be elected, and each qualified voter may distribute his three votes as he pleases among the candidates; one vote for each of three men, or three votes for one man, or one and a half votes for each of two. Heretofore the Republicans have secured almost the entire representation in the northern section of the State, while in the southern part the Democrats have been equally successful; but under the cumulative system a fair and equitable representation of both parties in each section is confidently anticipated. The experiment will be eagerly watched by thoughtful people throughout the country, and its results will have an important bearing upon the future politics of the whole country. The Experiment at Bloomsburg, In this State. But the cumulative vote has already had a trial on a small scale in this State, and the results were quite satisfactory. The last Legislature, in an act defining the boundaries and organizing the town of Bloomsburg, Montour county, in which ex-Senator Buckalew resides. incorporated a clause embodying the cumulative system. In this it was provided that in the selection of the six members of the Town Council, each voter might cast one vote for each of six persons, one vote and a half for each of four, three votes for each of two, or six votes for one, at his option. Unfortunately for the entire success of the experiment at the first election. which was held last April, the politics of Bloomsburg were slightly mixed. If party lines had been strictly drawn, the operation of the system would have been much more definite and satisfactory. Under the old system, as the voting population of Bloomsburg is usually Democratic by a fair majority, the Democracy would have carried their whole ticket, and the Republican voters of the town, although comprising nearly one-half of the whole number, would not have secured a single representative in the council. But under the cumulative system it was in their power to concentrate their force upon less than the full number of persons to be elected, and, if they chose to do so to any considerable extent, it became an absolute impossibility for the Democracy to keep them entirely unrepresented. So the Democrats placed but three candidates for the Council in nomination, thinking it better to be sure of onehalf of that body than to risk the election of two alone by attempting to secure the triumph of four. The opposition or citizens' ticket contained four names, two of them being Republicans and two Democrats, so that there were, all told, five Democrats and two Republicans running for the six seats in the town council, while both the candidates for President-for which position the voting was done in the ordinary way-were of Democratic proclivities. As the result of the election for members of the Council, the three regular Democratic candidates, the two Republicans on the opposition ticket, and one of the Democrats on the latter ticket, were elected. and the Republican minority in Bloomsburg is fairly represented, as it should be. We give below the names of the candidates, with the number of votes received by each, to illustrate the workings of the cumulative system on its first actual trial in the United States, the names marked thus (*) being those who were elected :-Opposition majority 11 For Members of Council. Charles G. Barkley (Opp. Dem.) William B. Koons (Reg. Dem.). 3983 John Sharpless (Opp. Rep.)..... Caleb Barton (Opp. Rep.)..... 992 364 Frederick C. Eyer (Reg. Dem.) stephen Knorr (Reg. Dem.)... 8. C. Shive (Opp. Dem.)... Dem.) 3621 297 260% 35% Scattering2584 Total votes A Proposed Application of the "Cumulative Vote," Colonel A. K. McClure has prepared a bill providing for a revision of the Constitution of the State, which will be submitted for action to the coming Legislature. This act proposes that a convention be held for this purpose, and that on the second Tuesday of June next a vote shall

general ticket; but each voter shall vote but fifteen ballets for said delegates at large, and said fifteen tallets may be cast all for one candidate, or divided among different candidates, in such propertions as each voter may prefer." It still further provides that

It still further provides that "Representative delegates to said proposed Con-vention ahall be elected by the several counties of this State, and by the several Senatorial districts of the city of Philadelphia. Each county shall elect at least one Representative delegate, and counties having a population in excess of thirty thousand, and the several Senatorial districts of the city of Philadelphia, shall each elect one Representative delegate for every thirty thousand population con-tained therein, and also one delegate for any fraction exceeding fifteen thousand population; the United States census of 1570 to be the basis for adjusting the number of delegates and the apportionment of Representative dele-gates, in accordance with the provisions of this act, and the census of 1570, within ten days after the passage of this act; and in said counties and Sena-torial districts where more than one delegate is to be chosen, the voters thereof may cast their ballots repectively all for one of the candidates, or divide their votes among the several candi-dates, as the electors may prefer; but no elector shall cast more votes than the number of delegates to be elected in his county or district." Colonel McClure, in submitting this bill to the people, accompanied it with a letter explanatory of its provisions. In his conclusion he savs:-

"By electing thirty delegates at large, and limit-ing each voter to fifteen ballots, both parties have an invitation to select their ablest men, which they cannot disregard; and by cumulative voting in the several counties and districts both parties must be fully represented, and bad nominations could not be forced upon the people by the party lash."

CITY ITEMS.

ENTIRE LINEN SUITS FOR FIVE DOLLARS.

ENTIRE LINEN SUITS FOR FIVE DOLLARS. ENTIRE LINEN SUITS FOR FIVE DOLLARS. ENTIRE LINEN SUITS FOR FIVE DOLLARS. All kinds of Summer Clothing better in Cut, Make, and Fit than any other Stock of Ready-made Cloth-ing in Philadelphia, and sold at prices GUARANTEED LOWER THAN ANY OTHER. Half way between Fifth and Sixtu streets.

ST. JAMES HOFEL, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS .-During the travelling season, if our patrons will kindly inform us, either by telegram or letter, of their intended arrival, we can be better prepared for their comfort.

In accordance with the reduction in the value of gold, the transien board at the St. James is reduced to Four Dollars per day.

PROPRIETOR ST. JAMES HOTEL. MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is the prescrip-

tion of one of the best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and has been used for thirty years with never-failing safety and success by millions of mothers for their children. It relieves the child from pain, corrects acidity of the stomach, relieves wind colle, and, by giving rest and health to the child, comforts the mother.

THE GRAND SURPRISE !- The grey-haired can hardly believe their eyes when they see their whitened locks restored to their pristine beauty by a clear and transparent fluid. PHALON'S VITALIA, OR SALVATION FOR THE HAIR, is the article in question and is free from any sediment.

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South Second street, has one of the largest and most attractive stocks of all kinds of Jewelry and Silverware in the city. He has also on hand a fine assortment of fine American Western Watches. Those who purchase at this store at the present time are certain to get the worth of their money.

EDUCATIONAL. RUGBY ACADEMY. FOR YOUNG MEN AND BOYS.

No. 1415 LOCUST Street.

EDWARD CLARENCE SMITH, A. M., Principie. This Select School will enter upon its sixth year completely reorganized. Rooms improved, and refitted with handsome fur-

piture.

1. Pupils prepared for business life. Thorongh course in the English Branches and Mathematics. 2. Pupils prepared for high standing in College. 3. Special instructors in French, German, Draw-ing, Penmanship, Elocution, Boos-keeping, Natural Science.

 Science.
A carefully organized Primary Department.
Special features—an unsurpassed locality, spaclous and well-ventilated rooms, with high cell-ings, a retired play ground.
Next session begins September 12. Circulars at No. 1415 LOCUST St. Applications received daily. Testimonial from Hon. William Strong, U. S. Sa-brome Court. preme Court. PHILADELºHIA, June 15, 1870.

During the last two years my son has been an at-tendant of the school of Mr. Edward Clarence Smith, knewn as Rugby Academy. I can unqualified; commend Mr. smith to those who have sons to be educated, as a superior instructor, devoted to his work, kind and firm in his management of his pupila, and in all respects qualified for success in his profession. 8 13

W. STRONG

H. V. LAUDERBACH'S H. ACADEMY FOR YOUNG MEN AND BOYS, ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS, No. 108 South TENTH Street. A Primary, Elementary, and Finishing School, Thorough preparation for Business or College. Special attention given to Commercial Arithmetic and all kinds of Business Calculations. French and German, Linear and Perspective Drawing, Elocution, English Composition, Naturat. Science.

Science. FIELD PRACTICE in Surveying and Civil Rag-neering, with the use of all requisite instruments, is given to the higher classes in Mathematics. A first-class Frimary Department.

The best ventilated, most lofty and spacious Class-

The best ventilitied, most forty and spacious chass-rooms in the city. Open for the reception of applicants daily from 19 A. M. to 4 P. M. Fall term will begin September 12. Circulars at Mr. Warburton's, No. 430 Chesnut at.

E DOBENILL, MERCHANTVILLE, N. J., WILL BE opened for SUMMER BOARDERS from July 1 to September 15, 1870.

The House is new and pleasantly located, with plenty of shade. Rooms large and airy, a number of them communicating, and with first-class board.

A few families can be accommodated by applying

For particulars call on or address REV. T. W. CATTRLL. Merchantville, N. J. 71

T1 HALLOWELL SELECT HIGH SCHOOL FOR Young Men and Boys, which has been re-moved from No. 110 N. Tenth street, will be opened moved from No. 110 N. Tenth street, will be opened on September 12 in the new and more commodious buildings Nos. 112 and 114 N. NINTH Street. Neither effort nor expense has been spared in fitting up the rooms, to make this a first-class school of the highest

A Preparatory Department is connected with the school. Parents and students are invited to call and examine the rooms and consult the Principals from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M. after August 16. GEORGE EASTBURN, A. B., JOHN G. MOORE, M. S., 817tf Principals.

AMILTON INSTITUTE FOR YOUNG LADIES, No. 2810 CHESNUT Street, West Philadel-phia. Day and Boarding School. This institution, having successfully completed its fourth year, has become one of the established schools of our city. Its course of study includes a thorough English and Classical Education, embracing Mental, Moral, and Physical culture.

Physical culture. Its ninth session will open on MONDAY, Septem-

EILDON SEMINARY.-MISS CARR'S SELECT Boarding School for Young Ladies will RE-OPEN SEPTEMBER 14, 1870. It is situated at the York Road Station of the

ber 12. For terms, etc., apply at the school. 8 29tf PHILIP A. OREGAR, Principal.

MR. WILLIAM W. CASSIDY, the jeweller at No. 8

THE OLD DOMINION SAUCE is made in wooden tanks, and is free from all metallic substances. It is a most wholesome condiment, and for steaks, chops, oysters, game, soups, etc., it has no equal.

Pennsylvania Railroad, seven miles from The Principal may be consulted personally at her residence during the summer, or by letter addressed to Shoemakertown Post Office, Montgomery county, Ps. Circulars can be obtained also at the office of JAY COOKE & CO., Bankers, Philadelphia. 88 CHESNUT STREET FEMALE SEMINARY, PHILADELPHIA. MISS BONNEY and MISS DILLAYE, Principals. The twenty-first year of this ENGLISH AND FRENCH BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL will open on WEDNESDAY, Sept. 14, at No. 1615 CHESNUT Street. Particulars from circulars. B 13 t 9 T THE SIXTEENTH ACADEMIC YEAR OF SPRING GARDEN ACADEMY, N. E. corner of EIGHTH and BUTTONWOOD Streets, begins Tues-day, September 6. Thorough preparation for Busi-ness or College. Applications received on and after Monday August 290 Monday, August 22. CHARLES A. WALTERS, A. M., 8181m Principal CENTRAL INSTITUTE, N. W. CORNER OF TENTH and SPRING GARDEN Streets, will reopen MONDAY, September 5. Parents are invited to call after August 29. Boys prepared for business or for college. JGHN P. LAMBERTON, A. M., September 2000, Septemb Principal. S 22 1m

The Wrongs of Minorities.

To show the actual workings of the system in vogue on a large scale, we will take the returns of the last Congressional election in our own State. The action of the House of Representatives in ousting two Democrats to make way for their Republican opponents disturbs the figures somewhat, but we have made the proper allowances for the illegal votes proved, and practically the result is unimpaired. Pennsylvania is entitled to 24 Representatives, and the present delegation stands 18 Republicans to 6 Democrats. An analysis of the vote at the election of 1868 shows the following:-

	263,215 227,296
Republican maj, in the 18 Repub, districts	.85,919
Republican vote in the 6 Democratic districts. Democratic vote in do. do	66,188 94,163
Democratic maj. in the 6 Dem. districts	27,975
	329,403 321,459
Republican majority in the entire State	7,944
A REAL PROPERTY IN THE PARTY OF	050 007

The average vote of the districts was therefore 27,120 each, the largest vote polled being in the Twentieth district (Republican), and reaching 34,346; and the smallest in the Eighth district (Democratic), which was but 21,210. The absolute majority of the Republican candidates in the State at large being but 7944, or 29 per cent. anly of the average vote to one Hopre-

ing call:-"A convention of delegates from the several coan

The soft he state of Pennsylvania of such persons only as are favorable to the movement to secure minority representation will be held at the city of Reading on Wednesday, the 31st day of August next, at 12 o'clock A. M. "The convention will consist of two delegates for

"The convention will consist of two decenters for each representative in the lower house of the State Legislature, provided that each county shall be re-presented by at least one delegate. By order of the committee. E. J. MORE, Chairman. Committee. E. J. Mon. "J. W. WOOD, Secretary. "ALLENTOWN, Pa., July 17, 1870."

In the address which accompanied this call

occurred the following pertinent passages: -

"The Republicans of Pennsylvania who live in counties in which they are in the minority number one hundred and twenty-five thousand voters, more than one-third of the whole Republican vote. They own and control very large and varied material interests, requiring the care and protection afforded by wise and salutary laws. That these people are wholy excluded from participation in the manage-ment and control of their respective county govern-ments does not in the least estrange their devotion to Republican principles or cause them to abate their efforts in behalf of the success of the Republican party. They have just cause of complaint, however, in the fact that, while their political brethren are and for many years have their political brethren are and for many years have been in the ascendancy in the State Legislature, they are entirely unrepresented, and by an unjust rule established by a Republican majority they are continually subjected to unjust and oppressive laws, while they are persistently denied such legislation as their material interests require. That so large a body of the people should find themselves unrepre-sented in the law-making power is evidence of a de-fective fundamental organization. According to the mode of representation as established by the Con-stitution and laws of Pennsylvania, more than one-third of her yoting and tax-maying citizens are exthird of her voting and tax-paying cluzens are ex-cluded from any voice or power in the law-making department of the State, and the same remark will hold true as to the General Government."

Projects of Reform.

As for the schemes which will come up for the consideration of the convention, there are but two which are in any degree practicable, and deserve attention. One of these is known as the cumulative vote; the other is yet without a distinctive and descriptive title, and, for want of such, must be known as

The "Minority Clause" System.

The last named has for some years been in operation in this city in the election of school directors. Public opinion so generally recognices the necessity of having all shades of sentiment represented in our school boards that the system has encountered no opposition, and been suffered to have a fair and impartial trial, with results of the most satisfactory character. It consists simply in each voter being restricted to casting ballots for two members of the school board, while the three highest on the list are held to be elected. By this means the general, although not inevitable, result is the election of one of the minority candidates. At the recent indicial election in New York State, a similar plan was pursued. A chief justice and six associate justices of the Court of Appeals were to be selected. By the provisions of the amended judiciary article of the State Constitution, each voter was permitted to cast ballots for a chief justice and four associate justices only, and the result was the election of two of the Republican candidates for the latter positions, although the aggregate Democratic majority was something over 90,000.

Working of the "Minority Clause" in England. It is in England, however, that the system has had a trial on the most extensive scale. Certain boroughs and divisions of counties are accorded three members of Parliament each. while the electors are restricted to voting for two members. From the Loudon Speciator of December 5, 1868, we take the following extracts, detailing the working of the system at the Parliamentary elections of that year .----

"In Hertfordshire the Liberals word to the Conser-vatives about in the relation of SI to S4, and by the operation of the minority clause there were returned in a Liberal's to gas Cynser (hitte, which, of goulas)

with great care and exactness, and if each elector had followed strictly his instructions by voting for the two candidates whose names were inscribed on the card presented to him, the three Liberal candidates would have been elected by equal votes. But many of the warmest admirers of Mr. Bright were afraid that others of his admirers whose cards did not bear his name would scratch one of the candidates for whom they were instructed to vote, and insert the name of the great popular champion. Inspired by this fear, many of his adherents who were instructed to vote for him substituted the name of one of the other candidates. and the result was that Mr. Bright, the most popular of the three Liberal candidates, stood lowest on the poll, by very reason of his paramount popularity.

But aside from the circumstance that it is possible to still override the minority under the operation of this system, in districts where it does not closely approach the majority in numerical strength, it has the greater defect of being entirely arbitrary. Thus, if the Congressional districts of Pennsylvania were thrown together in groups of three, and each voter restricted to casting a ballot for two Representatives, while the three highest candidates were to be declared elected, the relative strength of the two parties in one three-cornered constituency might be as 3 to 1, infanother as 4 to 1, and in another as 2 to 1, and inequalities in representation as great as exist under the present system would result. In fact, an equitable grouping of the districts would be almost impossible, and every reaction in public sentiment would render a rearrangement necessary, if a show of equality were to be preserved.

The System of "Cumulative Voting." Free from both these striking defects is the system which is known as the cumulative vote. The principle is very simple and comprehended at a glance. Pennsylvania being entitled to 24 Representatives in Congress, each voter has the privilege of dividing his 24 ballots among as many candidates as he sees proper. He can distribute them among 24, casting one for each; he can select 19 names, and cast two ballots for each: he can narrow down his list to 6, and cumulate four ballots on each; he can select any lower number, or he can heap the whole twentyfour votes to which he is entitled on a single candidate. It follows, therefore, that the minority can, by the proper concert of action render the success of a fair proportion of their candidates a moral certainty, the only limitation being that the minority shall be able to muster a fraction of the aggregate popular vote slightly in excess of the average constituency of the representatives. Thus, the aggregate vote of Pennsylvania being about 650,000, each of her 24 Representatives will have a constituency of about 27,000 voters. If, therefore, 28,000 voters of a certain political faith unite their 672,000 votes (28,000 multiplied by 24) on the candidate of their choice; his election is an absolute certainty. There are but 622,000 voters beside them, and if this overwhelming majority attempts to override the almost insignificant minority by distributing their votes among twenty-four candidates, no one of them will poll more than 622,000 votes. or 50,000 less than the one minority candidate: while if the votes of the majority are cumulated on less than twenty-four candidetes, although some of them may run far above the vote polled by the minority caudidate, the latter's election is still assured. Under the cumulative system, therefore, it is quite beyond the power of the majority to disfranchise the minority, unless, as we have already intimated, the minority fails I to muster a force equal to or slightly in process

tion. It also provides that "The qualified electors shall, at the sam election, choose thirty delegates at large to the proposed qualquality of the Revision of the Constitution, by

be taken on the question of holding a conveu-

DIED. BROWN. —On the 28th instant, EUGENE PEARSON BROWN, son of James L. and Susanna Brown, aged 3 years 4 months and 1 week. The relatives and friends of the family are respect-

fully invited to attend the funeral, from the resi-dence of his parents, No. 1009 Tasker street, on Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clook. To proceed to Wharton Street Church Vault.

ERNST .-- On the 29th instant, TheoDorg H. ERNST. in the 24th year of his age. The relatives and friends are respectfully invited

to attend the funeral, from St. Mark's Ev. Lutheran Church, Thirteenth and Spring Garden streets, on Thursday morning, September 1, at precisely 10 o'clock. GRILL .- On the 25th instant, MARY E. GRILL, in

The relatives and friends of the family are respect-fully invited to attend the funeral, from the resi-dence of her husband. No. 1237 N. Nineteenth street, on Wednesday, the 31st instant, at 10 o'clock in the morning. Interment at Laurel Hill Cemetery.

MESSIMER. On the morning of the 29th instant, HARRY, infant son of George and Mary S. Missimer,

aged 18 months. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his parents' residence, No. 125 Hermitage street, Manayunk, on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

1 8 7 0. WAR'S DOINGS.

Important to Dry Goods Buyers.

Owing to the unfortunate state of affairs on the Continent of Europe, there is a moral certainty of ALL EUROPEAN GOODS being advanced in price; in fact, already importers of SILKS are asking a large percentage over last season's prices, and goods are scarce at that. We have quite a good stock on head of hand of

Silks, Shawis, and Dress Goods,

Which we propose FOR THE PRESENT to sell at old prices, not putting on one cent advance. Also, FRENCH AND LLAMA LACES.

Which it will pay well to buy now at old prices, even

to keep for next summer. Also, BLACK CRAPES AND CRAPE VEILS, and BLACK ALPACAS, MOHAIRS, and DELAINES, and KID GLOVES, CORSETS, and LINEN GOODS.

We would advise our friends to lay in their sto of the above goods for family use. JOSEPH H. THORNLEY.

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Ladies' and Misses' Crape, Gimp, Hair Pamela and Straw Round and Pyramid Hats; Riubons, Satins, Silks, Velvets and Velveteens, Crapes, Feathers, Flowers, Frames, Sash Ribbons, Ornaments, Mournpg Millipery, Grape Vells, etc. 14

YOUNG MEN AND BOYS' ENGLISH CLASSI-CAL AND COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE, No. 1908 MOUNT VERNON Street, reopens September 5 Thorough preparation for Business or College, Has a Preparatory Department for small Boys. 8 ST Im Rev. J. G. SHINN, A. M., Principal.

STEVENSDALE INSTITUTE, A SELECT Sfamily Boarding-school for boys, will respen Sept. 12, 1870. For Circulars address J. H. WITHINGTON, A. M., Principal, South Amboy, N. J. 8 21uths261 OAKLAND FEMALE INSTITUTE, NORRIS-TOWN, Pa., will commence its Twenty-sixth Year September L. Terms, \$260. For circulars ad-dress, J. GRIER RALSTON. 861m*

TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR.-H. D. GREGORY, A. M., will reopen his Classical and English School, No. 1105 MARKET Street, on September 5. 8 22 1m THE CLASSICAL INSTITUTE, DEAN STREET above Spruce, will be re-opened September 5t 2 2m J. W. FAIRES, D. D., Principal. aber 50 22 2m

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

PHILADELPHIA MUSICAL ACADEMY.

Books are now open for the reception of pupils for the new quarter, beginning September 5. Those desiring to become students will please apply at the offlice, No. 1228 SPRUCE Street. INSTRUCTORS. DEPARTMENT D E P A R T M E N T FOR STUDY OF THE PIANO-FORTE, JOHN F. HIMMELSBACH, RICHARD ZECKWER, RUDOLPH HENNIG, EMIL GASTEL ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE_VIOLIN, VIOLON4 CELLO, ETC., WITH PIANO, WENZEL KOPTA AND RUDOLPH HENNIG, GRAND ORGAN, LIKEWISE PARLOR ORGAN, CABINET ORGAN AND MELODEON. AND MELODEON, RICHARD ZECKWER, VIOLIN, WENZEL KOPTA. VIOLONCELLO, VIOLONCELLO, RUDOLPH HENNIG. VOCAL MUSIC, EMIL GASTEL THRORY, JOHN F. HIMMELSBACH. PRIMARY DEPARTMENT FOR PIANO-FORTE, MISS NELLIE BYWATER, FLUTE, EDWARD ROCH. CORNET, CARL PLAGEMANN. Other Orchestral Instruments, Elocution, French Italian, and German taught by experienced instructors TERMS: Main Department, \$15 per quarter, payable in advance. Primary Department, \$7:50 per quarter, payable in advance. Circulars at the Music Stores. PROPRIETORS AND DIRECTORS: JOHN F. HIMMELSBACH, 1 St RUDOLPH HENNIG. 8 30 tuthi St

THURSDAY EXCURSIONS.-The spiendid Steamboat JOHN A. WARNER will make an Excursion every Thursday to Beverly, surlington, and Bristol,

Burlington, and Bristol, LEAVING CHESNUT STREET WHARF at 9% o'clock A. M. Heturning, leaves Bristol at 11% A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. A Band of Music will be in attendance. Fare for the Excursion, so cents, I so fund