

The Democratic Watchman.

BY P. CHAY BEEK.

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Friday Morning, July 16, 1869.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR, ASA PACKER, OF CARBON COUNTY. FOR SUPREME JUDGE, CYRUS L. PERSHING, OF CAMBRIA COUNTY.

COURT CONVENTION.—The Democratic voters of the several Boroughs and Townships in Centre county, will meet at the usual place of holding elections in their respective districts, on the afternoon of Saturday, August 21, 1869, and elect delegates to represent said Boroughs and Townships in a County Convention, to be held at the Democratic Club Rooms, in Bellefonte, on Tuesday, August 23, at 10 o'clock, P. M., which Convention will put in nomination...

- One candidate for Assembly - Howard
One candidate for Sheriff - Hill
One candidate for Prothonotary - Hill
One candidate for Register and Clerk of the Orphans' Court - Hill
One candidate for Recorder - Hill
One candidate for Treasurer - Hill
One candidate for Commissioner - Hill
One candidate for Coroner - Hill
One candidate for Auditor - Hill

Hon. Asa Packer Nominated for Governor.

By telegraph from Harrisburg on Wednesday we had the cheering intelligence that Hon. ASA PACKER, of Carbon county, had been nominated for Governor by the Democratic State Convention. This result, we are glad to say, gives general satisfaction to the party, and will, we trust, lead to the final and complete redemption of the Keystone State from the thralldom of Radical rule.

Judge PACKER is an old time Democrat, and one of the purest and best men in the Commonwealth. His record is without a stain, and he has no political sin to answer for. He will go into the canvass unburdened by damaging antecedents, and will make the contest on our part purely an offensive one.

One of Judge PACKER's peculiar qualifications for the office of Governor of Pennsylvania, is his eminent financial ability. He is one of the greatest financiers of the age, and, by the judicious exercise of his great talent in this direction, has realized for himself an immense fortune. His wealth is estimated at about twenty millions of dollars, and he pays annually, in the shape of taxes, about one hundred and thirty thousand dollars. All this great wealth has been honestly obtained by Judge PACKER through the exercise of his cool, discreet judgment, guided by the most eminent financial ability, and what he has done for himself, he can do for the Commonwealth, which just now is really in need of the services of a first class financier.

Judge PACKER is a gentleman of the olden school, a man of varied and extensive information, and a statesman of much more than ordinary ability. He is a friend of education, and only a few years since gave the immense sum of five hundred thousand dollars to endow the Lehigh University. He is a live man, and has been more or less associated with all the internal improvements of our State. He is peculiarly a man of the people, and, although he has at different times been honored with their confidence in a public way, has never been what so many public men are, a chronic politician. In short, he is just the man we want for Governor, and his selection shows that the people understand their own necessities. He will undoubtedly be elected over (heavy by a large majority.

Hon. Cyrus L. Pershing.

Hon. Cyrus L. PERSHING, of Cambria county, is the Democratic nominee for Supreme Judge. He is one of the most distinguished lawyers in the State, and a man of very great ability. He represented the Cambria district in the State Senate for a long time, and is considered by the legal fraternity to be one of its brightest ornaments. His

nomination is a most excellent one, and his presence on the Supreme Bench will add both ability and dignity to that high tribunal.

Our Candidate and Duty.

The news from Harrisburg, of what was done there by the Democratic convention on Wednesday last, ought to, and will cause great rejoicing through out the whole State. The nomination of Hon. ASA PACKER is one of the very best and wisest selections that could have been made, and is the first step toward the complete and final overthrow of radicalism in Pennsylvania. The representatives of the people, assembled in convention last Wednesday at the State Capitol, seem to have been possessed of great wisdom and governed by the most unselfish considerations. Personal prejudices were swallowed up in the desire to do a great deed for a great party, and to give to the Democracy a standard bearer of whom they might have no reason to be ashamed.

We must confess that we are entirely satisfied with the result. The selection of Judge PACKER is eminently a proper one, and will awaken the most intense enthusiasm among the masses. His name itself is an arm of strength, sufficient to pull down the pillars of the Philistine temple, where our Radical enemies have ensconced themselves to make sport of the groans and troubles of the people; and, as the campaign progresses, he will gather around him a host of strong hearts who will follow him into the very heart of the Radical camp, and win for the Democracy of the Keystone State a most glorious and signal victory.

It behooves us, therefore, to enter upon the campaign wisely, vigorously, earnestly. Not our actions be characterized by the same wisdom that has given us so noble a candidate, so that we may not, by any folly of ours, lose the fruit which has budged for us so promisingly. Let us be calm, cool and determined, always remembering that our cause is a just one and that the days of evil are well nigh numbered.

We have no doubt as to the result of the contest. The rule of the Radical party has become so intolerant, so beastly, so corrupt and so utterly subversive of republican institutions and popular rights, as to be no longer bearable, and in the councils of the people it has been decreed that the misgiving-monger shall perish. The Democracy have every cause to be hopeful, for on their side the weapons of war are holy, sanctified, as they are, by the blessings of that Providence in whose hands the scales of truth and justice have weighed the Radical party and found it wanting.

Let the Democracy, then, go to work immediately, and organize thoroughly. The first gun has been fired, and the armies approach each other. See to it, Democrats, that your centre is firm and your flanks well protected. Don't allow yourselves to be enripied, but always be active, vigilant and brave. Begin well and begin now. The work well begun is half done, and so may our past reverses teach us future wisdom.

Who is Responsible?

We often hear the question asked, "What causes such hard times?" We reply, the hard times are caused by the policy and actions of the Radical party, and we will now proceed to prove it.

First, then, the Democratic party are out of power, and have nothing to do with the Government of the country, which is "run" by the Radicals to suit themselves. The Democracy, having no say in the administration of affairs, are, of course, not responsible for anything that goes wrong. They are at present merely "lookers on in Venice," and utterly without influence in the councils of the administration. Consequently, we think it cannot be disputed that they are not the cause of the hard times. Hard times are generally caused by financial mismanagement in official circles, and as the Democracy are not now known in official circles, there can be no mismanagement of the finances by them.

Secondly, the Almighty has done His state to make the times good. There is no famine in the land. On the contrary, the labors of the husbandmen have been blessed with a vast yield of grains, fruits, and vegetables, and the present crop will be enormous. All over the country there is abundance of good things of this life, and the earth seems with plenty for man and beast. Therefore, the charge of hard times cannot be laid upon the Great Author of the universe, for He, in His abundant and merciful goodness, has given us "enough and to spare." These reasons, then, but one reason why the times are not good, and that reason may be found in the course pursued by the Radical party, which has

impaired the public credit and put such enormous burdens upon the people that even though they were possessed of Golconda's wealth they would be unable to bear such mighty taxation. It may be well for the people to reflect that as God has blessed the country with abundant harvests and the Democratic party is not in power, there can be no other reason under heaven for the pressing, grinding hardness of the times we are now experiencing, except the wasteful extravagance, unwise legislation, and wholesale robberies of the Radical party. Think of it.

The Ohio Democracy have nominated Major General W. S. ROSECRANS as their candidate for Governor. Gen. ROSECRANS is familiarly known to the "Boys in Blue," and, in fact, to the whole country, as "old Rosy," and was one of the ablest and most successful generals of the late war. His nomination would seem to indicate that the Democrats of Ohio tend to fight the Radicals with their own weapons, and appropriate to their own use some of the thunder which that party has so often effectually used against them. Gen. ROSECRANS was Minister to Mexico under Mr. JOHNSON, and has just returned from that country. With him on the ticket the Democracy will sweep Ohio like a whirlwind. His nomination is equivalent to the death of Radicalism in the Buckeye State.

THE LANCASTER INTELLIGENCER.—With all her errors, her fanaticism and her folly, Lancaster county can boast of no good, true and reliable democrats and democratic journals as any county in the State. Among the papers of the State possessing superior merits, and deserving a large share of public patronage, the Lancaster Intelligencer stands among the first. It is not only vigorous and determined in its opposition to the iniquity and wrongs of radicalism, but able and fearless. No truer Democrat than its editor, H. G. SMITH, lives, and if the readers of the WATCHMAN desire another good Democratic paper, they can get it by paying two dollars per year for the Lancaster Intelligencer. Club rates very low.

Democratic State Convention!

Great Harmony And Intense Enthusiasm!

Hon. ASA PACKER Nominated for Governor!

Hon. CYRUS L. PERSHING Nominated for Supreme Judge!

The Death-Blow to Radicalism!

The Democratic State Convention met in the hall of the House of Representatives, Wednesday morning at about half past ten o'clock, and was called to order by Hon. Wm. A. WALLACE, Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee.

Colonel CARRIGAN, JOHN C. BARR and DAVID CALDWELL, Esqrs., acted as temporary secretaries.

Col. CARRIGAN read the list of delegates, after which Hon. WILLIAM A. WALLACE, Chairman of the State Committee, addressed the convention. [We omit all speeches this week for want of space and time.—Ed.]

Hon. WILLIAM HOPKINS, of Washington county, was then made temporary chairman, who, on taking the chair, made a very happy speech.

A committee on permanent organization were then appointed, who, in the afternoon, reported Hon. CHARLES R. BUCKLEW for permanent President of the Convention. On taking the chair Mr. BUCKLEW made an able and eloquent address, which we will publish hereafter. The permanent secretaries were W. A. STUTON, Wm. H. MAGLE, JACOB ZIEGLER, GEORGE H. ARMSTRONG, J. G. BURLINGHAM.

The following resolution was read and passed: Resolved, That this Convention has learned, with the deepest sorrow, of the death of Hon. Arnold Pinney, late of Venango county, who was elected a delegate to this body, and that in all the relations of life, public and private, he was a model citizen, worthy of the admiration of all who survive him.

The Committee on Resolutions then made the following report:

The Democracy of Pennsylvania in convention met, do unanimously declare— 1. That the federal government is limited in power to the grants contained in the Federal Constitution; that the exercise of doubtful Constitutional powers is dangerous to the stability of the government and the safety of the people; and the Democratic party will never consent that the State of Pennsylvania shall surrender her great right of local self-government. 2. That the attempted ratification of the proposed Amendment to the Federal Constitution by the late legislature, and their refusal to submit the same to a vote of the people, was a deliberate breach of their official duty and an outrage against every citizen of the State, and that the ratification of such a measure should be promptly rejected and the amendment submitted to the

people at the polls for acceptance or rejection. 3. That the Democratic party of Pennsylvania is opposed to conferring upon the negro the right to vote and to elect members of Congress or otherwise to impose negro suffrage upon the people of this State in opposition to their will. 4. That reform in the administration of the federal and State governments, and in the management of their financial affairs is imperatively demanded. 5. That the movement now being made for the amendment of the Constitution of the United States, and the legislation of the late republican Congress "outside of the Constitution," the disregard of the majority therein of the will of the people and sanctity of the ballot box, in the election from those seats in Congress of representatives clearly elected, the establishment of military governments in States in the Union and the overthrow of all civil governments and that tend directly to the destruction of all republican government and the creation of the worst forms of despotism. 6. That our soldiers and sailors, who carried the flag of our country to victory must be gratefully remembered, and all the guarantees given in their favor must be faithfully carried into execution. 7. Equal rights and protection for naturalized and native-born citizens at home and abroad; the assertion of American nationality which shall command the respect of foreign powers and inspire all our citizens with a sense of people struggling for national integrity, constitutional liberty and individual rights. 8. That the present internal revenue and taxing system of the general government is grossly unjust, and means ought at once to be adopted to cause a modification thereof. The report was accepted and unanimously adopted.

The convention then proceeded to make nominations, when Mr. PETERIKEN nominated GEORGE W. CARR. Mr. DELAHUNTY nominated DANIEL M. FOX. Mr. GEORGE D. JACKSON nominated ASA PACKER. Mr. J. C. CASSIDAY nominated Gen. Wm. McCandless. Mr. STUTON nominated CHARLES ROGERS. Mr. ANCONA nominated Gen W. S. HANCOCK. Mr. WALLACE said:

I deem it my duty before proceeding to a ballot, in behalf of an honored name, in behalf of one whom I know the people of Pennsylvania will all delight to honor, to present an expression of his sentiments before he is placed before the public for the office of Governor of his native State. I have in my possession a letter from General Winfield S. Hancock, dated on the 21st of last May in which he explicitly and distinctly declares that he will not permit his name to be used as a candidate, and that is without reservation. I send that letter to the Chair, and I beg to read in the hearing of this Convention. [Applause.] I trust, Mr. President, that we will not do this great and honored name injustice—do this an act wrong by perpetrating a wrong, and in fact, an outrage upon him—and blot him upon the people of his native State and country in a position in which he does not wish to be placed.

The letter was then by Col. CARRIGAN, as follows: SAINT PAUL, May 21st, 1869. DEAR SIR, I had the pleasure to receive your favor of May first last, just before leaving Washington for the West. My occupation and duties prevented me from promptly replying to your communication: I am extremely sorry to regret that I was as well prepared to express to you my views then as now—and by having promptly done so I could have avoided the appearance of hesitation. My views on the subject, concerning which you have addressed me, have never changed, and I have fully expressed them to all persons who have in any way communicated with me. I am adverse to intruding myself upon the public, and have therefore never avoided writing anything for publication, although I have addressed my correspondents to make any other proper use of my sentiments. I feel highly honored by the preference shown by my friends in old Northampton, expressed in that letter, and I am sorry and without reservation, that under existing circumstances I cannot permit the use of my name in the convention shortly to be assembled. Were I in civil life, no objection would be greater to me than to be Governor of Pennsylvania. I have followed the profession of arms since boyhood, and now, having acquired considerable rank do not wish to abandon the service. Besides, I do not wish to enter upon a life in which I know I have had no experience or education. There are those who could serve your interests best who are not in my position, and I would prefer to be pleased to honor, and would render more efficient service to the people of Pennsylvania than myself. I am truly your obedient servant, WINFIELD SCOTT HANCOCK.

Mr. DELAHUNTY, on leave given, withdrew the name of DANIEL M. FOX.

The name of CHARLES ROGERS was also withdrawn. The convention then proceeded to ballot, with the following result: Packer..... 58 Hancock..... 47 McCandless..... 44 Fox..... 39 Mr. CASSIDAY withdrew the name of General McCandless. A second ballot was then taken, which resulted as follows: Packer..... 63 Hancock..... 47 McCandless..... 39

Hon. ASA PACKER was then declared the nominee of the convention amid the greatest enthusiasm. Hon. CYRUS L. PERSHING was then nominated for Supreme Judge. These nominations were received on the streets with the wildest enthusiasm, the people appearing half crazy with delight.

Judge PACKER was nominated for Governor by the Democratic convention amid the greatest harmony. This argues well for our success.

Three cheers for our noble nominee! He will carry Pennsylvania by thirty thousand!

THE TWO P'S.—Our ticket is significant: PACKER and PERSHING and PROSPERITY.

A young lady out West married a "black looking man," who had been a hawker in her mother's house only forty-five hours, and whom she had never seen or heard of prior to his taking up his abode under the roof of her parents. The day following the marriage the "black looking man" departed, whether, nobody concerned for the young lady has since discovered. A great deal of unnecessary walling is made upon the subject of this young lady's misfortune. We think her punishment is not any more severe than is deserved. A girl, who would marry a man under such circumstances must be possessed of very such ideas of social propriety, and entertain strange notions of the responsibilities of the married state.

ANOTHER PAGE FROM THE HISTORY OF RADICALISM.

Statement of Spangler, one of the victims of the Lincoln Assassination plot—Treatment of an innocent man—Inhuman Conduct of Radical Officials—Military Justice in 1865—Tortures at the Dry Tortugas—Fiendish Conduct of Army Officers.

None of our readers have forgotten the trial and sentence of the seven or eight persons charged with the assassination of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, on the night of the 14th of April, 1865. The justice that was meted out—the opportunity given the prisoners to prove their innocence—the fairness and equity of military tribunals, and the humane (?) manner radicalism has of treating its victims, need not be guessed at after reading the following statement of EDMAN SPANGLER, who was one of the convicted at that time. SPANGLER has just returned from his terrible imprisonment at the Dry Tortugas, from which he was pardoned by President JOHNSON. At the time of his trial almost everybody believed him innocent and the military commission doubted his guilt by sentencing him to six years at the Dry Tortugas, and giving the others a life term. The military commission was organized to convict, and it convicted. Abundant testimony is now at hand to show the vast amount of perjury on that trial—perjury exacted by fear and dictated by malice. SPANGLER's allusion to the witness WEICHMAN being in the abduction plot is important. WEICHMAN's testimony, it will be remembered, hung Mrs. SERRATT.

The horrible atrocities perpetrated upon the prisoners at the Dry Tortugas are enough to appal the stoutest heart. They show the miserable tyranny of the petty puppets stationed there in the pay of the government, who all deserve to be hung as high as Haman, and should be met with the scorn and contempt of every virtuous and humane citizen. The officers spoken of by Mr. SPANGLER, namely, Gen. HILL, Major MCCONNELL, Capt. RITTERHOUSE, Capt. PEBBLE, Capt. CRAIG and Lieutenants ROBINSON and PIKE, Sergeant GLEASON and the store-keeper JACKSON, and all those other dirty villains, whose existence is a libel upon the human race, should be arrested and punished for their cruelty towards helpless men, but we suppose nothing will be done with them until they find their merited deserts in the boiling caldrons of hell. In their conduct can be seen the animus of the vindictive, murderous party which they serve, and of which they are most fitting representatives. Will not the blood of every honest freeman boil with indignation at the thought that such barbarous crimes are tolerated in this country? The following is Mr. SPANGLER's statement, sworn and subscribed to:

STATEMENT OF EDMAN SPANGLER.

I have deemed it due to truth to prepare for publication the following statement—at a time when I hope the temper of the people will give me a patient hearing—of my arrest, trial and imprisonment for alleged complicity in the plot to assassinate the late President Lincoln. I have suffered much, but I solemnly assert now, as I always have since I was arraigned for trial at the Washington Arsenal, that I am entirely innocent of any fore or after knowledge of the crime which John Wilkes Booth committed—save what I knew in common with everybody after it took place. I further solemnly assert that John Wilkes Booth or any other person, never mentioned to me any plot, or intimation of a plot, for the abduction or assassination of President Lincoln, that I did not know, when Booth leaped from the box to the stage at the theatre, that he had shot Mr. Lincoln; and that I did not, in any way, so help me God, assist in his escape; and I further declare that I am entirely innocent of any and all charges made against me in that connection. I never knew either SERRATT, PAYNE, ATZEROTT, ARNOLD or HARROLD, or any of the so-called conspirators, nor did I ever see any of them until they appeared in custody. While imprisoned with Atzerott, Payne and Harrold, and after they were allowed a few minutes exercise in the prison yard I heard the three unite in asserting Mrs. Surratt's entire innocence, and acknowledging their own guilt, confining the crime, as they did, entirely to themselves, but implicating the witness Weichman in knowledge of the original plot to abduct and with furnishing information from the Commissary of Prisoners' Department, where Weichman was a clerk. I was arrested on the morning of the 15th of April, 1865, and with Ritterspau (also a scene-shifter) taken to the police station on East street, and questioned me closely, and two policemen came to search for Peanut John (the name of the boy who held Booth's horse the night before), and made to accompany us to the headquarters of the police on Tenth street, where John and I were locked up, and Ritterspau was released. After four hours' confinement I was released and brought before Judge Olin and Bingham, and told them of Booth bringing his horse to the theatre on the afternoon of the 14th of April, 1865. After this investigation I said: "What is to be done with me?" and they replied: "We know where to find you when you are wanted," and ordered my release. I returned to the theatre, where I remained until Saturday, when the soldiers took possession of it; but as the officer of the guard gave an attorney and myself a pass to sleep there, we left at 10 p. m., and at 1 a. m. a guard was placed over me, who remained un-

til 9 a. m. on Sunday morning, when I was released. I did not leave the theatre until Sunday evening, and on our return this attorney (Carland by name) and myself were arrested by Detective Lanier. Instead of taking us to the guard-house, he said he would accompany us home to sleep there, but we all went to the police headquarters on Tenth Street, and when Carland asked if we were wanted, an officer answered "No." I returned to the theatre that night, and remained the next day till I went to dinner, corner of South and G streets. That over, I remained a few minutes, when Ritterspau (who worked at the theatre with me) came, and meeting me, said: "I have given my evidence, and would like now to get some of the reward."

I walked out with Ritterspau for half an hour, and on returning to lie down left word that if any person called for me to tell them that I was lying down. Two hours after I was called down stairs to see two gentlemen who had called for me. They said I was wanted down street. On reaching the sidewalk they placed me in a hack and drove rapidly to Carroll prison, where I was confined a week. Three days afterwards Detective, or Colonel Baker came to my room, and questioned me about the sale of a horse and buggy (which belonged to Booth), and I told him all about it freely and readily. On the following I was called into the office of the prison in order to be recognized by Sergeant Dye, who modify added his head as I entered and then left. (Dye subsequently stated that he was sitting on the steps of the theatre just before Booth fired the shot, and seeing mysterious persons about.) I was allowed on the fourth day of my imprisonment to walk the prison yard, but from that evening I was closely confined and guarded until the next Saturday at midnight, when I was again taken to the office to see a Detective, who said: "Come Spangler, I have some jewelry for you." He hand-cuffed me with my hands behind my back, and guarding me to a hack, I was placed in it and driven to the Navy Yard, where my legs were manacled and a pair of little hand-cuffs placed on my wrists. I was put in a boat and rowed to a monitor, where I was taken on board and thrown into a small dirty room, between two water closets, and on a bed of filthy life preservers and blankets, with two soldiers guarding the door. I was kept three days. I had thus been confined three days on the vessel when Captain Monroe came to me and said: "Spangler, I've something that must be told, but you must not be frightened. We have orders from the Secretary of War, who must be obeyed, to put a bag on your head." Then two men came and tied up my head so securely that I could not see daylight. I had plenty of food, but could not eat with my head so tied up. True, there was a small hole in the bag near my mouth, but I could not reach that, as my hands were well tied down by the iron. At last, two kind hearted soldiers took compassion on us, and while one watched the other fed us. On Saturday night, a man came to me and after drawing the bag so tight as to nearly suffocate me, said to the guard: "Don't let him go to sleep, as we will carry him out to hang him directly." I heard them go out on the deck, where there was a great rattling of chains and other noises, and while I was trying to imagine what was going on, and what they intended to do, I was dragged out by two men, who pulled me at times in opposite directions. We however reached a boat, in which I was placed, and were rowed a short distance. I could not say then where we stopped, for my face was then still covered. After leaving the boat, I was forced to walk some distance, with the heavy iron still on my legs. I was then suddenly stopped, and made to ascend three or four flights of stairs; and as I stood at the top waiting, some one struck me a severe blow on the top of the head, which stunned and half threw me over, when I was pushed into a small room, where I remained in an unconscious condition for several hours. The next morning some one came with bread and coffee. I remained here several days, suffering torture from the bag or padded hood over my face. It was on Sunday when it was removed and I was shaven. I was then replaced. Some hours after General Hartranft came and read several charges; that I was engaged in a plot to assassinate the President, and the day following I was carried into a military court and still hooded before its members. I remained but a short time, when I was returned to my cell for another night and day, and then again presented in the court. Mr. Bingham, assistant Judge Advocate, read the charges against me, and as if I had any objection to the court, and I replied "No," and made my plea "not guilty." They then wished to know if I desired counsel, and when I answered affirmatively, General Ritter, the president of the court, insisted that I should not be allowed counsel. He was, however, overruled, but it was several days before I was permitted to get out, the court in the mean while taking evidence with closed doors, on every adjournment of the court, if only for an hour, I was returned to my cell, and the closely-fitting hood placed over my head. This continued till June 10, 1865, when I was relieved from the torture of the bag, but my hands and limbs remained heavily manacled.

On one Sunday, while I was confined at this place (the Washington Arsenal) I was visited by a gentleman of middle stature, rather stout, with full beard and gold framed spectacles. He noticed my manacles and padded hood. I afterwards learned that he was Mr. Stanton, the Secretary of War. It is proper to state that when the hood was placed on me, Captain Monroe said it was by order of the Secretary of War. My first thought was that I was to be hung with out trial, and the hood was preparatory to that act. The first time I ever saw Mrs. Surratt was in the Carroll prison yard, Capitol Hill. I did not see her again until we were taken into the court the first day at the Arsenal. My cell was on the same corridor with hers, and I had to pass it every time I was taken into court. I frequently looked into her cell, which was about four feet wide by seven feet long. The only thing in her cell was an old mattress laid on the bricks and an army blanket. I could see the front on her feet as she was generally lying

on her feet as she was generally lying