

The Democratic Watchman.

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BELLEFONTE, PA.

Friday Morning, February 17, 1871.

Democratic County Convention.

The delegates to the County Convention, which met in the Court House in Bellefonte on the 9th of August last, are hereby notified to re-assemble at Mechanics Hall, in Bellefonte, on

"Too Much Legislation."

Under the above head, the Erie Observer publishes an interesting article in reference to special legislation. It thinks the Legislature needs to be often and advocates frequent sessions, in view of various meetings.

No one looks forward to the commencement of the session with any interest. The only thing we look forward to is the adjournment.

This is a melancholy picture to look at, but for the sake of humanity, we trust it is a little overdrawn.

But now we begin to see some change for the better. The long rule of Radicalism has debauched the whole country, and it would have been better to have had Pennsylvania free than her sister States.

When it does come we will only enjoy it more, from having expected and waited for so many years.

But in continuation of the subject the Observer further remarks: So fruitful has the soil become that to reap some of the harvest has been all that is to be desired.

The whole remedy for this lies in the hands of the people. If they will select good men—men whom they know to be honest and capable—and send them to the Legislature, all complaints like the above would be done away with.

The Irish Patriots.

The Irish exiles, consisting of O'Donovan Rossa and his party, who were sentenced by the British Government, some to death and others to penal servitude for life or a term of years, had a grand reception in New York on the 10th instant.

These exiles, it will be remembered, were all Fenians, and were captured and tried by the British Government for their attempts to free Ireland from British domination.

English boasts of her liberty and the freedom of her people, yet she has kept her heel upon the neck of Ireland for nearly a hundred years.

Miss Anne Cary, the sweet poetess, whose beautiful songs have touched the hearts of the people for many years, died in New York on Sunday last.

From present appearances, the District of Columbia seems likely to be soon blessed with a territorial form of Government.

The Elections in France.

At this time, when military despotism and chaotic confusion hold sway throughout the French Empire, it is impossible to predict what political shape the recent elections will give to the future destiny of France.

Whatever the result may be, it is evident that it is not safe to expect of France to confide the reins of government to men like Gambetta, Rochefort and others of that ilk.

If the late elections are a true index of the will of the people, the republicans might as well yield without further resistance, for in the present spasmodic state of the country, a government which is not in harmony with the will and wishes of the people, is like a ship tossed about upon the angry billows, momentarily in danger of being engulfed beneath the waves of the deep.

A Fair Proposition.

If the constitution of Pennsylvania needs, revising—of the instrument under which our fathers and grandfathers lived, is not good enough for us to live under, then everybody will concede that the revision ought to be made without political partizanship.

That is a fair and honorable proposition, and we sincerely trust that it, or something like it, may be incorporated into whatever bill may be finally reported.

Newspaperial.

We are in receipt of the Christian Family Companion, published in Tyrone, Blair county, by H. R. Hostoga, &c.

The Mechanicsburg Valley Democrat is now numbered among the things that were, that office, with all that appertained to it, having been purchased from Mr. SINGSER by Messrs. R. H. THOMAS, A. H. BRISK and E. C. GRIFFITH, who have changed the name to Valley Independent.

The Philadelphia Day, is one of the best, spiciest and really able papers in the country. Its editorials are short, sharp, intelligent, comprehensive and vigorous.

The Weekly Leader is the name of a paper just started in Kennett Square, Pa., by H. M. WORTH & Co.

Gen. G. W. Custis Lee.

The person bearing the above name has assumed the mantle of his illustrious father, having been lately installed President of the Washington and Lee University of Virginia.

An Editor's Farewell.

J. R. EGGLESTON, Esq., in retiring from the editorial chair of the Mobile Tribune, gives his opinion of the business in the following racy and pointed style:

I am aware that I have often troated the newspaper of which I had control very much as a boy would a blow-gun. I have not been able to resist the temptation of firing it into any target that presented itself, and calling out to the crowd to see how the struck victim was rubbing the sore place.

Democratic Candidates.

The Erie Observer makes brief mention of the various candidates named for Auditor and Surveyor General, as follows:

The candidates thus far proposed for Auditor General, on the Democratic side, are Captain George W. Skinner, of Franklin county; Dr. A. D. Markley, of Bucks county; D. H. Neuman, Esq., of Northampton county; and Hon. S. T. Shugert, of Centre county.

The candidates named for Surveyor General are Captain J. H. Cooper, of Lawrence county; John Hodgson, Esq., of Chester; Hon. George Sanderson, of Lancaster; and W. T. H. Pauley, Esq., of Greene.

Behind the Scenes.

A writer in the Cincinnati Gazette tells of a recent visit behind the scenes in one of the theatres in that city, and relates the following incident.

I have only a word for the reader. Frown as unsparring as you will on vice and immorality whenever or wherever found, but I pray you, by all common humanity, to spare your month's charity be large enough to cover the stage as a whole, and believe that there, as everywhere else in life, are found earnest, devoted, ambitious men and women, among whom the average morality is certainly as high as elsewhere in the world.

—A Springfield lady left her little boy at home to amuse himself with matches, and when she returned she met him in the street crying.

—The Clinton county Agricultural Society has elected the following officers for the present year.

The Gardner Fraud.

The New York Herald, in commenting upon the Chopping fraud, in which John Cessna figured so conspicuously, gives the following sketch of Gardner and the celebrated fraud which he perpetrated:

Gardner—a young man of fine presence, talents and education—had lived many years in Mexico, and had traveled much over that country as a surgeon dentist. He had thus become thoroughly conversant with the language, customs, and manners of the country, and incidentally with its silver mining system, in all its details.

The Alabama Claims to be Adjusted at Once.

The reports which have prevailed in regard to the willingness of England to adjust the Alabama claims prove to be correct. Within the space of eight days all the preliminaries have been arranged for the meeting at Washington of a "high joint commission" to determine not only the Alabama claim, but the fishery quarrel and all other standing causes of dispute between our government and that of Great Britain.

The Commissioners appointed by the English Government are distinguished gentlemen. The following is the list: Earl de Grey, Prof. Montague Boyle, Sir Edward Thornton, Sir John McDonald and Sir John Rose.

The Income Tax.—The income tax will not be repealed by the present Congress. A motion to go into Committee of the Whole, in order to take up the bill, was negatived by a vote of 107 yeas to 103 nays.