

The Beaver Argus.

W. W. WARD, Editor and Proprietor.
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GOLD is now quoted at a premium of 10 per cent. on the dollar. This is lower than it has been for many years past, and a sign that our currency is resting on a sound basis. We will wake up some of these mornings and make the discovery that a paper dollar is worth just as much as a gold one, and this will come about too, in a gradual way and without any congressional legislation.

THE Pittsburgh Mail of the 28th of December informs its readers that to Col. Quay of this place belongs the honor of bringing forward the Constitutional Reform movement. This is news to Col. Quay's immediate neighbors. Will the Mail be kind enough, therefore, to point out anything Col. Quay said in his paper in favor of Constitutional Reform, until long after the movement has become a success? The Whigs and the Republican party to which Col. Quay belongs was for many months looked upon as hostile to the reform movement, and it was only when he found it could not be successfully resisted that they yielded the point and assented to the proposition. To Col. A. K. McClure of Philadelphia belongs the honor of originating the movement, and pushing it forward to a success.

A TERRIBLE tragedy occurred in New York on last Saturday, which resulted in the death of Col. James Fisk, Jr., at the hands of Edward S. Stokes. It appears that at the close of the examination of the late Col. Fisk's estate, that afternoon, Stokes left the court room and proceeded in a carriage to the neighborhood of the Grand Opera House, in twenty-third street, where he remained a short time. Shortly after three o'clock Mr. Fisk left the Erie railroad office, in the opera house building, entering a carriage. Stokes did not follow him, but immediately drove to the Grand Opera House, where he was seen to enter a carriage with three or four ladies. Fisk's carriage arrived at ten minutes past four o'clock, and the Colonel alighted at the ladies entrance, to pay a visit to a Miss Morse. He was ascending the stairs leisurely when he discovered Stokes standing at the head of the stairs with a pistol in his hand. The doorkeeper states that almost instantly two shots were fired, and that Fisk fell against the wall and said, "I am shot. He fled, and the next day he expired.

It would, perhaps, be well for those who are just now engaged in "reading" certain persons out of the little into our country, to remember that Whigs elected General Taylor by an overwhelming majority. In fact the majority was decisive enough to induce the leaders of the party to conclude that they were to be the administrators of the Government for unnumbered years to come. Hence, when Whig politicians of lesser note and a goodly number of the rank and file were unceremoniously "read out" of the party," and informed that they "must go to the Democracy, where they belonged." This shorn the Whig party went into the succeeding Presidential contest, and with-tand that had the country's greatest military chieftain for a leader, it had only strength enough to carry four out of the thirty States, thus composing the Union. That was the experience of the Whig party in declining to allow a little free thinking within its organization.

In 1856 the Democrats elected Mr. Buchanan by a large majority of the electors. The leading men in that organization thought that the result rendered implied a perpetual loss of power to them, and that no contest of things could arise to divert the Democracy of the control of the Government. When, therefore the Democratic controversy came up the Democratic leaders ejected everybody from the Democratic door who refused to think as they did or act as they prescribed. Douglas, Broderick, and many others were all "read out" of the party at the time. In the next Presidential struggle the Democracy were too weak to carry the election, and in fact from that time to the present they have remained rivend and powerless in the country.

Our point in referring to these scraps in the political history of the country is this: It is only a month or so ago that it was found necessary to count on the bonds and money of the Treasury at Washington to see whether the two clerks who had been detected as defaulters the previous week were the only ones. A short time before that another clerk had been found out getting a knavish Congressman to get payment for the sham claims of sham soldiers.

At a time before that it was found that the Government had made away with \$500,000; almost at the same time it was found out that an assistant postmaster had stolen \$150,000. Since then a man whose business it is to keep the Government and the public informed of the condition of the National Banks is found to have been silent when he ought to have reported the "sinking fund" of the Government. Hence a week or two after Congress convened, on the 1st of December, Senator Sumner, Trumbull, Schurz, Tipton, and a number of other prominent Republicans, insisted upon an investigation of alleged abuses. This was resisted by the Conkings and Chancellors in the Senate, but finally carried, and a Committee was then at work to ferret out the wrongdoing in our party who have some of the most important official positions in the Government. The appointment of the Committee was then ended the wrong, but it has not; and the Conkings and Chancellors, and all that brood of politicians who live and feed on public treasures, are now engaged in "reading" Trumbull, Sumner, Schurz, Greeley, and every other Whig and Republican, who have not been willing to blink at Republican rascals, or magnanimous enough to detect and unpunished. The Whigs are now upon knowing which are dishonest, and the right to express a choice among the two parties is the same, as it was "read out" of the party, and the organization will be about as the Whigs were in 1852, or the Democrats in 1860.

MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN:—You have, for a second year, separated yourselves from private business and personal interests, and come from different sections of the State clothed with the powers of men, to deliberate on the affairs of our State, and to determine upon public affairs, in this manner, it is hoped, as may be done with freedom, honesty, and the confidence of men. It is becoming, therefore, to advance to these duties with minds untroubled with party animosity, and to follow with disinterested motives, and with fervent aspirations of praise and gratitude to the Great Preserver of nations, states and cities, for the opportunity of a humble and devout suppliant for His guidance and approbation in the accomplishment of the task assigned.

The following statement is submitted: FINANCES.—After thorough examination of the reports from the accounting department, the following statement is submitted:

Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1870, \$1,200,000 00	
Receipts during the year ending Nov. 30, 1871, 1,000,000 00	
Total, \$2,200,000 00	
Disbursements during the year ending Nov. 30, 1871, 1,000,000 00	
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War Claims.—In my message of January seventh, 1871, I informed the Legislature that the State had a liability of \$1,000,000 for direct tax levied in the several counties for purposes, and for cash in all to nearly two millions of dollars, has been settled in full by the State, and the liability for extraordinary expenses incurred during the year, in consequence of the lapse of time since the remaining claims have been paid, and the sufficient vouchers and findings prepared, some of them being dead, by the settlement of the claims, and in many instances doubtful, the accomplishment of which, however, will be left to the Legislature.

any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be to the credit of the Commonwealth, and to be used by the State for the purposes of the act of August 5, 1861, entitled "An Act to provide increased revenue from imports by the payment of a direct tax on the National Government stand thus: Am't of claims paid before, \$1,712,128 13

From these results it will be seen that the present condition of affairs against the National Government stand thus: Am't of claims paid before, \$1,712,128 13

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