The Beaver Argus.

J. WEYAND, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Beaver, Pa., Jan. 31st, 1872.

MRS. WHARTON, the lady who has been on trial for some time past at Annapolis, Maryland, for the poisoning of her guest Gen. Ketchum was acquitted last week. Her innocence is now generally admitted.

A FURIOUS attack, made by some or the Titusville papers, upon United States District Attorney Swoope, has occupied the attention of the Pittsburgh dailies for a few days past. The angry passions of the respective combatants have now, however, subsided, and peace reigns once more within our borders.

A "LIBERAL REPUBLICAN" State Convention was held at Jefferson city, Missouri, on last Wednesday. The Convention was held in the Hall of the House of Representatives and is said to have been one of the "largest ever held in the State." Speeches were made by Governor Brown, and others, and amnesty and civil service reform resolutions were passed, among them one providing for the holding of a National Reform Republican Convention at Cincinnati, Ohio on the first Wednesday in May next.

THE war of the factions in Louisiana has ceased, so far at least that bloodshed is not now apprehended. The Carter wing, backed by the Custom house officials and the United States Marshal, made many, threats, organized a mob, and declared their purpose to take the State House by assault. When, however, the time for action arrived, they found Governor Warmouth prepared to resist them with a much stronger and better disciplined force, hence they concluded that discretion was the better part of valor, and gave up the job. As matters now stand the Governor and his party are evidently masters of the situation, and we presume they will remain so.

THE Indianapolis *Journal*, which avowedly favors the renomination of General Grant, has the following to say to those who assume to read everybody out of the Republican party who decline to dance to the Conkling fiddling: "Gentlemen who insist upon reading Trumbull, Schurz, Sumner, Logan, Tipton, Fenton, and Patterson out of the Republican party are in danger of overdoing the business. When these distinguished persons are driven out by the lash of party discipline, an accurate census of membership will develop the fact that the Senators expelled will have taken friends enough with them to render Republican success in a Presidential election exceedingly problematical. A spirit of toleration and conciliation at headquarters, and thereabouts, is very much needed at this juncture."

THE U. S. House of Representatives, in adopting an amendment of the Appropriation Committee, has placed an embargo on the wasteful drain of the public printing ordered by the respective Departments of the Government. Heretofore the printing has been unlimited, and last year it amounted to near a million of dollars. Hereafter each Department must submit regular estimates, and the public printer will not be allowed to exceed the amount appropriated. This is the first practical reform in the direction of reducing the immense volume of public printing.

The Government printing office is the largest in the world, employs over one thousand men and women, and uses printing ink enough to float the largest man-of-war in our navy, while its annual expense rises to the sum of $2,000,000. So said Mr. Garfield in the House, and he added: "A train of army wagons reaching three-fourths of the way between Washington and Baltimore, and loaded with one ton apiece, would not be able to hold and haul the mass of documents there yearly printed.

SOMEBODY over the signature of "A Veteran" writes a letter to the *Radical* from Washington, in which he says "The Civil Service bill is looked upon as a humbug, and a measure the dear people care nothing about," &c., and scouts the idea of making all applicants for official positions undergo a competitive examination. Of course we do not know who this scribbler is, but his writings go far toward establishing the belief that he is holding some little official position at Washington himself. If so, a little grinding of him in the competitive examination mill, might have the effect of inducing the appointing power at the capitol to dispence with *his* services and order him home; for it seems that he has not intelligence or memory enough to know that General Grant himself suggested the civil service scheme which "A Veteran" stigmatizes as "a humbug and a measure the dear people care nothing about." But here is just where this writer labors under a delusion, for the "dear people" do care about civil service reform, and were he to leave his nest at Washington for a little while, and go among them, that fact would soon impress itself upon his understanding. In that event too, he would perhaps make the additional discovery that in all questions pertaining to retrenchment and reform the "dear people" would prefer to see the office-holders in the rear and the taxpayers in front.

THE New York *Standard* says: Prince Bismarck has printed a notification to the effect that hereafter, in his communications with foreign powers, he will use the German language instead of the French. The inference that this change is intended for the humiliation of the French nation is unavoidable. It is true that for the past one hundred and fifty years French has been almost the exclusive language of diplomacy. But it does not seem necessary or desirable that it should continue to be so. It is the most natural and reasonable thing in the world that the framers of diplomatic dispatches should wish to use their own language instead of the French. It will be very long, however, before French will altogether cease to be used for diplomatic purposes. It possesses in this respect qualifications of its own, in which it is excelled by no other language. Bismarck, however, has begun a change which is important in itself, and which is apt to derive a factitious importance from the fact that it is under suspicion of being intended as a slur upon France.

THE Pittsburgh *Mail* still insists that to Col. Quay, and not to Col. A. K McClure, belongs the honor of originating the Constitutional Convention movement, and alleges that the former wrote and published in the *Radical* the *first* article in its favor. As that point is disputed it seems to us that the *Mail* can do no less now than obtain and publish in its columns the Quay article to which it *refers*, and giving the precise time at which it appeared in the *Radical*. There ought to be no trouble in accomplishing this, for the *Radical* office is quite convenient to Pittsburgh, and its files, we presume, are accessible to all.

HERE AND THERE.

—The Supreme Court of Kansas has suspended the execution of Dr. Medicott, who was to have been hung on Friday last for poisoning Dr. Ruth, until the 22d of March. The case was to be argued yesterday.

—The Supreme Court of Illinois has denied the application for a *supersedeas* in the case of Alderman Glade, of Chicago; recently convicted and sentenced for bribery, so that he will have to serve out his six months' term in jail and pay his fine.

—Robert Blakely, who killed John Donohoe, of Buffalo, N. Y., last May, about nine miles from Evansville, Ind., was acquitted yesterday by a jury at Princeton, Gibson county. He was tried once before and the jury disagreed. The verdict excites great indignation among those who know the circumstances.

—On Wednesday last Jno. McKenzie, a *miner*, working in the Kenosha coal mines, about three miles from La Salle, Illinois, was instantly crushed to death by the fall of an immense mass of rock upon him from the roof of the mine. His body could only be rescued after blasting the wreck. He was so badly crushed that his body had to be gathered in a sheet.

—Stephen Morgan, a young Baptist minister who has been preaching in a church in the suburbs of Cincinnati, was arrested on Friday last, for stealing theological and religious books from the Cincinnati public library. He confessed the crime, stating that he needed the books and had no money with which to buy them. He came from Wales two years ago.

—John Elege, a respectable German living two miles from *Jeffersonville*, Ind., committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart with a pistol. The cause of the tragedy was: A few weeks ago some neighboring boys waylaid Elege's little daughter and attempted to take improper liberties with her. The boys were arrested and held to answer, but the father brooded over the outrage until life became insupportable.

—There is a charming village in Schuylkill county called Mud Town. Its population is limited, but its gin mills are abundant. Last Sunday its citizens enjoyed seventeen fights and a shooting match for a barrel of beer. In the evening they closed the exercises with an illumination.—Two geese were covered with tar, set on fire and drawn through Mud Town's only street. This tar business was the highest pitch of civilization they were capable of reaching.

—A very romantic story has lately been set on foot, to the effect that Cochise, the terrible Apache chief, is a son of William Morgan, who has always been credited with being the victim of the indignation of the Free Masons for revealing the mysteries of the craft. According to this story Morgan escaped to Texas, where he was captured by the Apaches and soon became a favorite with them, marrying the daughter of their chief. In process of time his son, this same Cochise, of whom so much has been said of late, became chief of the tribe.

—A New York letter says of Stokes' lawyer: "John Graham is not a genius, but, as the slang is, he is thundering smart. He has studied up our jury system to a dot. He is no orator, has a harsh, grating voice, and is the most ill-tempered and vulgar man at the New York bar; but he just hits the nail on the head every time he wishes to impress his point upon the twelve 'intelligent' men before him. He worries witnesses, contriving to malign their characters without introducing a witness to asperse; then threatens to 'spank' opposing lawyers, and reads all kinds of ill-mannered lectures to the Judge upon the bench." This is just the kind of thing to impress a New York jury, selected according to medieval usage.

—Instead of one the modern Puck bids fair soon to be in a condition to put half a dozen girdles around the earth in forty minutes. A third ocean cable will, in all probability, soon be sunk between this country and Great Britain. Two cables are to be put down between England and Holland, and to link together the Bermudas, Azores and Portugal. In the California Legislature there is pending a proposition for franchises and privileges to a corporation desirous of laying an immense oceanic wire from the coast of the Golden State to the shores of China or Japan, or both. That progressive California will accede to the requests of the great Oriental cable company there is little doubt, and with telegraph wires across the Pacific, the utmost ends of the earth will be placed in instantaneous communication with each other.

—The New York *Herald* has telegraphic advices that its correspondent in search of Baker and Livingston had reached Korosko on the Nile, on the 16th of January, and was about to proceed across the desert to Aboo Ahmed, a distance of about 250 miles; while the course of the river between those points is nearly 600 miles. A rumor had reached the expedition that Sir Samuel Baker was alive, and that he had returned to Khartoum. Korosko is in latitude about 22½ degrees; Aboo Ahmed 19 degrees, and Khartoum 17 degrees; and it accordingly appears that if the expedition accomplishes successfully the present stage, it will be within easy reach of Sir Samuel Baker, in case the rumor is true which places him at Khartoum. The fifth and sixth cataracts are between Khartoum and Aboo Ahmed, and the navigation is not easy. The *Herald* curiously misprints the names of all these places. They may be readily found upon the map in Colton's atlas.

Forty-Second Congress.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE, Jan. 22.—A joint resolution was introduced authorizing the President to open negotiations with Spain for the cession of Cuba to the United States. There was a great deal of talk on many subjects, but no definite action had on anything.

HOUSE.—Many bills were introduced of a local character. Among those of public interest was one for the Construction of ten steam sloops of war; one to indemnify Kentucky and the other States for money expended in the war; and one to suppress polygamy and admit Utah as a State. A resolution was adopted instructing the Ways and Means Committee to report a bill fixing the amount of tax on manufactured tobacco. A bill was passed extending the time for presenting claims for additional bounty to the 30th of January 1873. A resolution was passed to investigate corrupt practices in the District of Columbia Board of Public Works. The committee appointed to investigate whether the Secretary of the Treasury had exceeded his powers in negotiating public loans of the syndicate, reported that he had not; a minority report is expected. A resolution was reported that the clerk of the House furnish funds to pay the Louisiana investigating Committee's expenses; upon which a lengthy debate arose—many wishing to retain the committee in Washington where the facts could be so smothered and whitewashed as to prevent the interference of government officials from becoming public. The resolution was finally adopted. In his remarks upon the bill Mr. Dawes said since the raising of the committee, it had been stated in newspapers that efforts had been made by the Executive and others to prevent it from going to New Orleans. He had to say that it was not true. It was not true that the Executive was opposed to the appointment of this committee or to its going to New Orleans, nor was it true that those people in New Orleans who were generally supposed to be adverse to the Executive were opposed to this investigation. It had been said by some, when the resolution was pending in the House, that it was best not to uncover the proceedings in New Orleans; that such a condition existed there that they had better not be brought to light. He did not belong to that class of men. He did not care for either side, only to bring to the surface, and let the world see what they were doing. He thought the House could not afford to stop the investigation. Adj.

SENATE, Jan. 23.—A number of petitions for a reduction of the tariff were presented from the Western States. The amended apportionment bill was reported. A bill was reported from the committee on public lands setting apart certain lands near the Headwaters of the Yellowstone River as a public park. The bill to admit certain machinery for experimenting in making French plate glass, passed. The amnesty bill was discussed.

HOUSE.—The entire day was spent in the discussion and consideration of the Appropriation bill in the committee of the whole; and without having got through with the details of the bill, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

SENATE, Jan. 24.—A bill was passed authorizing disbursing officers to pay duplicate checks. A bill was introduced appropriating $100,000 for Civil Service Reform. The President was requested to send to the Senate the amount of money received and disbursed by the Government since March, 1869, with the amount of embezzlements, with the amount remaining charged to the internal revenue officers, the number prosecuted, a statement of criminal prosecutions instituted under the revenue laws, the number of officers receiving pay from the Government who have been dispensed with since March, 1869, and the saving thereby; also the same information with reference to the last administration. Some discussion was had on the subject of final adjournament, but no time definitely settled. The bill for the relief of Chicago passed.

HOUSE.—The bill to establish an educational fund was laid over till to-morrow. Mr. Butler presented the petition of 35,000 women for the right of suffrage, and said the right would surely be accorded to the women citizens of the United States eventually. A resolution relative to commerce and travel between States of the Union and foreign nations, was adopted. The general civil appropriation bill was considered in Committee of the Whole, but without finishing it the committee rose, and the House adj.

SENATE, Jan. 25.—A resolution from the Legislature of South Carolina instructing their Senators and Members to vote for the supplementary civil rights bill was presented. A motion was made to reconsider the bill for the relief of Chicago, and after its discussion commenced, it was made to give way to the amnesty bill, after a lengthy debate it was postponed, and made the special order for Monday.

HOUSE.—Among the petitions presented was one from soldiers asking for the equalization of bounties, and the right of homesteads without the previous term of settlement and cultivation. A bill to regulate the duty on sugar and in favor of the 16 per cent. tobacco tax was introduced. The educational fund bill was discussed. Mr. Poland reported from the joint Committee on Southern Outrages. The report recommends the adoption of a resolution calling on the President for the information on which he acted in exercising in the State of South Carolina the powers conferred upon him in the act of April 20, 1871—the Ku-Klux act—with the names of persons arrested and imprisoned, with all particulars; also such other information as will convey a correct idea of the state of society and security of life and property in that State and in North Carolina, particularly as to Kentucky, Mississippi, Texas and Louisiana, including the recent legislative conflict there. After considerable debate the resolution was adopted. The naval appropriation bill was made the special order for Tuesday next. The general appropriation bill was then considered up to the time of adjournment.

SENATE, Jan. 26.—The credentials of Wm. B. Allison of Iowa, were presented. The joint resolution to adjourn on the 29th of May was discussed at great length, and finally passed. The apportionment bill was discussed and made the regular order for Monday.

HOUSE.—The Senate bill authorizing disbursing officers to pay duplicate checks was concurred in. The Legislative appropriation bill and the Pension appropriation bill were passed.

WASHINGTON, January 23.—The marriage of the Secretary of the Navy to Mrs. Mary B. Aulick, of this city, was celebrated at the church of Epiphany, at eleven o'clock this forenoon. The ceremony was attended by about fifty persons. The President and wife and several of the members of the Cabinet and their wives were present. The New Jersey delegation in Congress was represented by Senator Stockton and family, Senator Frelinghuysen and his wife, and Messrs. Halsey and Hill. Dr. Starkey officiated with one assistant. There were no bridesmaids or groomsmen. The bride was attended by her niece, Miss Ogden, who bore a basket of beautiful flowers. The bridegroom was supported by his brother, Mr. Wm. Robeson, of Camden, N. J. Hon. Montgomery Blair gave the bride away. Mrs. Aulick was modestly attired. The ceremony was very brief and happy. Mr. and Mrs. Robeson leave this evening for Camden, and thence to New York. The Secretary expects to return to Washington by or before Tuesday next.

An Act to Provide for Calling a Convention to Amend the Constitution.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, &c.*, That at an election to be held on Tuesday, the 14th day of May next, the qualified voters of this Commonwealth are hereby authorized to vote for delegates to attend a State Convention to revise and amend the Constitution of the State; the said Convention to consist of one hundred and thirty-two members, one hundred of the members to be apportioned among the several counties and to be elected in the same manner as the members of the House of Representatives are now by law apportioned and elected; the other thirty-two delegates to be apportioned at large to the State, and to be elected as follows: Each elector to vote for sixteen persons if he choose, and the thirty-two persons having the largest number of votes shall be declared duly elected.

SEC 2. That the said election shall be conducted in all respects according to the general election laws of this Commonwealth, and it shall be the duty of the return judges of the respective counties to make duplicate returns of the votes given for delegates, and to deposite one copy with the prothonotary of the proper county and seal and direct the other copy to the Secretary of the Commonwealth. *Provided*, That where two or more counties are united to form an Assembly district, the votes for delegates to the Convention shall be returned to the Secretary of the Commonwealth by districts, as the votes for members of the Assembly are now returned.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall, on the fourth Tuesday after the election, in the presence of the Governor and Attorney General and such other citizens as desire to be present, open and count the returns so made to him; and the Governor shall immediately thereafter issue his proclamation giving the names of the persons duly elected as delegates to the Convention, which shall entitle such persons to take their seats and be sworn in as delegates.—Any person desiring to contest the seat of any delegate so sworn in shall proceed as in the case of contesting the seat of a member of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the delegates elected as aforesaid to assemble at the State capitol at Harisburg on the —— Tuesday of ——1872, and to organise by electing one of their number as President, and such other officers as may be needed in the transaction of the business of the Convention; and after the Convention shall have organized, it shall have power to adjourn to any other place within the State if it is deemed advisable.

SEC. 5. Said convention, so elected, assembled and organized shall have power to propose to the citizens of this Commonwealth, for their approval or rejection, a new Constitution or amendments to the present one, or specific amendments to be voted separately, which shall be engrossed and signed by the President and chief clerks, and delivered to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, by whom and under whose direction it shall be entered on record in his office, and published once a week in at least two newspapers in each county where two papers are published, for four weeks next preceeding the day of election that shall be held for the adoption or rejection of the Constitution or amendments so submitted.

SEC. 6. For the purpose of ascertaining the sense of the citizens or the expediency of adopting the Constitution as prepared by the Convention, or of specific amendments which the Convention may deem proper to present separately to the consideration of the voters, it shall be the duty of said arately to the consideration of the voters, it shall be the duty of said Convention to order an election, and to issue a writ of election directed to the sheriff of each county of this Commonwealth, commanding notice to be given of the time of holding an election for said purpose; and it shall be the duty of said sheriffs respectively to give notice accordingly, and it shall be the duty of the inspectors and judges of elections throughout the State to hold an election in obedience to said convention in each of the election districts of the Commonwealth, at the legally appointed place of holding the general elections; and it shall be the duty of the said election officers to receive tickets, either written or printed, from the citizens qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, and to deposit them in a box, which tickets shall be labelled on the outside "New Constitution," or separate specific amendments, if any, naming the specific amendment on the inside "For the New Constitution", or "Against the New Constitution," or "for" or "against" any specific amendments which shall be presented for a separate vote.

SEC. 7. The election to decide for or against the adoption of the new Constitution or specific amendments shall be conducted as the general elections of this Commonwealth are now by law conducted; and it shall be the duty of the return judge of the respective counties, first having the number of votes given for or against the new Constitution or separate specific amendments, if any, shall have been summed up and ascertained, and the duplicate certificates thereof delivered to the proper officers, the Governor shall declare by proclamation the result of the election; and if a majority of the votes polled shall be for the new or revised Constitution, or for any separate specific amendments shall be henceforth the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

—The statement is made in a San Francisco paper that Laura Fair's counsel intend to move for stay of execution of her sentence on the ground of her pregnancy. It will be remembered that Mrs. Burdell Cunningham pretended to be *enciente* some fifteen years ago, when lying in prison, and that the story received immense currency and evoked many curious instances of a similar nature in the annals of criminal jurisprudence. In Shakspeare (King Henry VI., part 1, act V, scene IV.) Joan la Pucelle is made, when ordered to execution, to claim the privilege of the law, alleging that she was soon to become a mother. In the red pages of the English law, there is no sadder story than of the poor girl, who was condemned to death for shoplifting to the extent of sixty shillings, or about $15, whose execution was postponed for six months until her child should be born, and who on the scaffold suckled it, gave it with a last kiss to an attendant as it lay sleeping and satisfied, and went to her miserable death. Within the last five years another instance has occurred in America. A woman named Beausoleil (if the writer be not in error) was, with her paramour, condemned to death at Sortel, in Canada, for the murder of her husband. She claimed immunity from the immediate carrying out of her sentence, and "trial by a jury of matrons." This was in accordance with the provisions of the old French law, which still obtains in Lower Canada, and under which so many scandalous and disgusting divorce cases were tried in France from two to three centuries ago. This woman in Canada obtained a respite and finally had her sentence commuted, her child being born in prison, but dying soon after its birth. Such are a few of the romances of the condemned cell.

WOMEN AS JURORS.

In Wyoming Territory women can vote and serve as jurors. How the thing works is graphically described by a Cheyenne letter writer, and we invite attention to the following:

"The court convened on Monday morning, and the fluttering caused by the sprinkling of ladies in the court room was apparent on the outside. Men were curiously standing at the doors and windows of the court-room to get a glimpse of the jurors in gowns. Mrs. A., Mrs. P., Mrs. H., Mrs. R., Mrs. W., and Mrs. C. were seated inside the bar; these only of the married ladies of the town being at that time eligible to office. As the clerk called the roll, the ladies answered to their names and blushed. The docket was called and a murder case selected for trial. After a day spent in selecting, manœuvering, challenging and passing jurors for cause, a jury was finally completed, with three of these ladies in the lists. Counsel were too gallant to challenge the ladies from a jury; and their gallantry has since become court etiquette in Wyoming.

WOMEN AS JURORS.

Three days were occupied in taking testimony, and the evidence was nearly in when Mrs. H. was taken ill, and pronounced by her family physician too unwell to sit longer on the jury. Nature would assert itself, and Mrs. H. had to be excused, and another juror drawn in her stead.—The testimony was all retaken for the benefit of the new juror, and when completed a full week had been occupied in hearing this one case, at an expense to the county of over $1,000. As to the prisoner, serious fears were entertained that he would die on the jury's hands, rather than wait the verdict. It is still an open question whether these jurors are not liable to an indictment for inflicting upon a fellow-being "cruel and unusual punishment, contrary to the statute in such case made and provided." However, the prisoner survived a verdict of murder in the first degree. It was then for the first time discovered that one of these jurors was not a citizen of the United States. In their modesty the counsel for the prosecution did not presume to ask such an impertenent question. The only course now was for the court to order a new trial. But the prisoner voluntarily offered to plead guilty to murder in the second degree, and accept a sentence of imprisonment for life rather than endure another trial. This was accepted by the court, and Noyes went to prison for life rather than be tried a second time by a female jury. As to the husbands and children of these female jurors, their case was truly heart-rending. During an entire week they could neither speak to nor communicate with their loved and lost. At morning the doorway of the court-room was filled with disconsolate husbands and children waiting to catch a glimpse of their wives and mothers as the Sheriff brought the jury into court. At night they would linger to gaze at the retiring forms that once gladdened their homes and their hearts, as they were marched off by the Sheriff to the public hotel, to eat and spend the night together. One husband became uncontrolable, and asked the Judge to permit his wife to go home and see her children and spend the night once more. But the Judge was inexorable, and the poor husband returned alone to his desolate fireside to indite a withering review of the baneful results of Woman's Rights, which appeared in an evening paper on the following day. His argument was based upon the domestic impracticability of the system, and on the divine announcement that it is not good for man to be alone.

During the entire week the ladies and gentlemen of the jury ate, drank and slept under the guard of the Sheriff; the ladies all in one room and the gentlemen in another communicating. The day on which the court dismissed the jury was one of rejoicing on the part of the afflicted. But home had lost its charm for their wives and mothers, whose hearts had been turned by the flattery of counsel, and their heads filled with vain ambitions. The following week was spent by these exemplary women upon the street and in public places, telling what happened in the jury, and what they know about criminal law and the rules of evidence. They remind one of a school-boy with his first pair of red-topped boots, or Young America with his first cigar."

Is not that a commentary on the "Woman's Rights" movement?

A Fight With a Bishop.

In accordance with previous notice Father Stack, the now celebrated priest of the Church of the Annunciation in Williamsport, Pa., delivered a lecture in Elliott's Academy of Music in that place on Thursday evening last, to a large audience composed of many of the best citizens of various denominations, the Catholic largely predominating. His lecture had been advertised several days. The title of it was "What my controversy with Bishop O'Hara means." Father Stack made some severe criticisms on the report of a pretended interview with Father Kopper, the German Catholic priest of that city, as published in the New York *Herald*. His replies were both pithy and witty, and created much merriment. He discussed the question of the power of the Bishops over the property of the churches vested in them; passed briefly over the history of the case in Court, and severely criticized the Bishop's position. He (Stack) had placed himself outside the Church by his appeal to the civil Courts.

The authority relied on by the Bishop for his attempt at summary excommunication was an old bull of the Pope declaring that any officer of the Church, of whatever dignity, who for any cause whatever should appeal from ecclesiastical to civil law, did by such an act place himself outside the Church. Father Stack said the Bishop in quoting this authority and using it against a priest, had exceeded his intention and excommunicated himself; for the Bishop—because the Court of Lycoming county had decided against him—had appealed to the Supreme Court of the State. By this bull, if one was excommunicated both were. The Bishop could not escape. This point bro't a burst of applause from the audience as the logical sequence was plain to the comprehension of all.

Father Stack declared himself a firm adherent to the Catholic church. It commanded itself to his reason as well as to his faith. In its government it respects individual rights, and does not allow them to be arbitrarily interfered with. It was not a quarrel with the Church, but for the Church. It was a demand by the priests of the United States to be protected against the arbitrary power of the Bishops; and to have the protection of canon law here as in Europe. This was the whole controversy. He did not claim to be a Luther or a reformer outside of the Church, nor did he intend to create schism within it. He only asked that the laws of the Church be applied in this country. When the Bishops of this country wishing to retain power as long as possible, petitioned to the Pope to extend the time of their rule "twenty years perpetually," he refused showing thereby that he was not favorable to its long continuance, but he did extend it "for a time." He thought that "time" had expired and he had taken the means to contest it.

Father Stack had spoke about an hour in a plain, cool, deliberate manner, and was frequently interrupted by applause.

—A bill has been offered in the Utah Legislature, and referred to a committee, regulating marriage. It provides that males of fifteen years and females of twelve years may contract marriage with the consent of parents or guardians. No allusion is made to the plural system.

National Convention History.

The fixing of Philadelphia by the National Republican Committe as the place for holding our next National Convention, has called forth from the *Press*, of that city, an article reviewing history as to the places and times where and when political National Conventions were held, from which we extract the following:

It is noteworthy that the first Congressional caucus for the nomination of Presidential candidates, of which there is any record, is said to have been held here in 1800. Jefferson and Burr were then nominated. Again, the first political National Convention in the country met in this city in 1830. It was composed of Anti-Masons, but transacted no business beyond the adoption of a resolution providing for the convention of the same complexion, which met in Baltimore in September, 1831, and nominated William Wirt for President, and Amos Ellmaker, of Pennsylvania, for Vice President.

Philadelphia is also famous as the sitting place of the first Native American National Convention, held February 19, 1856, and of the First National Convention of the great Republican party which was destined utterly to crush the malevolent slave power, thereby saving the Union from destruction and forever abolishing human slavery within its boundaries. This convention assembled on the 17th of June, 1856, and nominated John C. Fremont and William L. Dayton. The convention called in 1866 to organize a new party in the interests of Andrew Johnson, also met in this city.

The only successful Presidential candidates of the old Whig party were nominated in Pennsylvania. Harrison was nominated at Harrisburg, December 4, 1839, and Taylor in Philadelphia, June 7, 1848.

Previous to 1831, the two parties—Federalist and Republican or Democratic—into which the nation was divided, left the selection of their candidates to Coagressional caucuses. In December of that year a National Republican or Federalist Convention assembled in Baltimore, and unanimously nominated Henry Clay and John Sergeant for President and Vice President respectively.

In the May following a Democratic National Convention met in the same city, and formally placed in nomination Jackson and Van Buren. In May, 1835, the Democrats nominated Van Buren and Johnson at Baltimore. The Whigs held no National Convention during that year. General Harrison, who was named by several State Conventions, received their votes in the Electoral College.

The year 1839 was signalized by the nomination of Harrison and Tyler at Harrisburg, December 4, by the Whigs, and of James G. Birney and F. J. LeMoyne by the abolitionists, November 13; at Warsaw, New York. The Democrats named Van Buren at a National Convention held at Baltimore, May 5, 1840, but expressed no choice for Vice President. In 1844 the Whigs led off by a convention which met at Baltimore, May 1, and placed in nomination Clay and Frelinghuysen. The Democrats, by a convention which assembled in the same city, May, 27, put forward as their standard bearers Polk and Dallas. In 1843, however, there was a National Convention of the Liberty Party at Buffalo on Aug. 30, which nominated James G. Birney and Thomas Morris.

The proceedings of the more recent conventions may be presumed to be familiar to most readers. In 1848 the Whig Convention met at Philadelphia, June 7; the Democratic, at Baltimore, May 22; the Free Soil Democratic Convention at Utica, N. Y., June 21, and again on the 10th of August following at Buffalo.

In 1852 the Whigs nominated at Baltimore, June 16; the Democrats, at the same place, June 1, and the Free Soil Democracy, at Pittsburgh, August 11.

In 1856, the First Republican National Convention met in Philadelphia, June 17; the American National Convention in the same city, February 19; the Democratic National Convention at Cincinnati, June 2; and the last Whig National Convention at Baltimore, September 17.

In 1860 the Democrats held a Convention at Charleston, April 23, which resulted in a split. The Convention assembled in Baltimore, June 18, and eventually each wing of the party placed candidates in nomination. The Republican Convention met at Chicago on the 16th of May.

In 1864 the Republican Convention was held in June at Baltimore and the Democratic at Chicago in August. In 1868 the Republicans nominated at Chicago in May and the Democrats in New York in June.

UTAH.

Question of Admission—Governor's Veto Message—Sensible Suggestions—Mormons on the Rampage.

SALT LAKE, January 27.—Governor Woods to-day returned to the Legislative Assembly the act for holding a convention to prepare a constitution for the admission of Utah without his approval. He suggests that the organic act of Utah contemplates only such matters as relate to the domestic concerns of the Territory, and no power is there given to abolish one form of government and adopt another. The power that created alone can destroy without special authority from Congress. The Territorial Legislature has no right to act upon the subject of admission. Further, Utah having less than the required population under the apportionment to one representative in Congress, he thinks it would be well to await the pleasure of the general Government.

The Governor, in conclusion, says: To become a State in the Union is not a right but a privilege. Good judgment would, therefore, require that before any convention should be called Utah should place herself in harmonious relations with the general Government. The first and highest duty of the citizen is obedience to law. All violations of the laws of Congress should cease. Poligamy should be abandoned, and the laws enacted by you should be in accord with the laws of Congress upon that subject. Until it is done the people of Utah cannot expect, nor should they ask, admission to the Union as a State.—Religious toleration in the United States is as broad as the wants of humanity, but the Government cannot tolerate church dogmas which set at naught its statutes. It is to be regretted that differences of opinion should arise in matters of legislation between the legislative and executive departments, but it is my duty to interpret the law as I understand it.

The Governor's veto message to the House created much excitement, and members expressed themselves with bitter invectives. Taylor, one of the Apostles, exclaimed: "Are we nonentities? are we serfs? Have we rendered ourselves criminal by putting the power into hands of the people to ask for admission into the Union? As to the polygamy clause in this message," said he: "I consider it an open insult to us. It is worn thread bare, and has become a stink in the nostrils of all respectable people. What laws have we violated? and if we have violated any, why are we not punished for it? Even murderers are brought to testify against us, and every means used to prove us guilty of polygamy. If contrary to the constitution and laws of the United States, why don't the Federal Judges prosecute us under the United States laws? Is this House to be insulted by such charges as are contained in the document from the Governor? I say, no! I throw it back in his face and tell him it is a falsehood." [Voices, "Hear, Hear." "We are American citizens, and demand the rights of such."]

James W. Young "didn't care a snap for the veto. He asked no odds of the Governor or any other man." Rockwood said they had been abused long enough. He would gladly die a martyr to the Mormon cause. If there were any blood of their forefathers of '76 in the Assembly they would at once resent the insults.

On motion of J. W. Young, a committee of three to confer with a similar committee from the council was appointed to draft a joint resolution for the purposes named in the vetoed act. The same committee were instructed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the House in regard to the offensive charges in the Governor's veto message.

THE STAR SIRIUS.—Many things combine to render this brilliant star an object of profound interest. We can gaze on its pure silvery radiance and reflect how many ages it has adorned the heavenly dome with its peerless lustre, and how many generations of mankind have rejoiced in it—and among them all the wise and the good and the great of history—without awe and admiration! In ancient Egypt it was an object of idolatrous worship. It was then a brilliant red color, but it is now a lustrous white; and the cause of this change of color, as well as the nature and the period of the revolution it denotes in the star itself, are wholly unknown. Its distance from our earth is not less than 1,300,000 times our distance from the sun; and its light must travel twenty-two years to reach us. Another circumstance of deep interest connected with it is that it has changed its position, during the life of the human family, by about the apparent diameter of the moon; and that astronomers, detecting some irregularities in its motion, have been convinced that it had a companion star—which they thought must be non-luminous, since their telescopes could not detect it. But Mr. Clark with his new and powerful acromatic telescope has found this neighbor of Sirius, hitherto invisible, and verified the conclusions to which astronomers had been led by reasoning on the facts they had ascertained.

—The members of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, under existing laws, receive $1,000 per annum. The subjoined figures show how this compares with rates paid by other States of the Union: Rhode Island $1 per diem, mileage 4 cents; Maine, $2 per diem, mileage 10 cents one way: Vermont $2 per diem, mileage 10 cents each way: New Hampshire $2.50 per diem, no mileage: New Jersey $3 for 40 days, after that $1.50, mileage 10 cents; Deleware $3 per diem, mileage 4 cents; Minnesota $3 per diem, mileage 5 cents; West Virginia, Michigan, Indiana, Kansas and Nebraska each $3 per diem, mileage ten cents: Oregon and New York $3 per diem, mileage 20 cents; Tennesee $4 per diem, mileage 10 cents; Missouri and Kentucky each $5 per diem, mileage 10 cents; Iowa $5 per diem, mileage 25 cents; North Carolina, Arkansas and Alabama each $6 per diem, mileage 10 cents; Virginia, South Carolina and California each $6 per diem, mileage 20 cents; Georgia and Mississippi $7 per diem, mileage 20 cents; Louisiana $8 per diem, mileage 10 cents; Texas $8 per diem, mileage 20 cents; Nevada $10 per diem no mileage; Wisconsin pays $350 per annum, mileage 10 cents; and Maryland $5 per diem, mileage 5 cents. In Illinois and Florida the rate of compensation is fixed each session.

Treasonable Utterances.

Friday last was the anniversary of the birth of Robert E. Lee and the occasion was "improved" by Jubal Early, who delivered a violent address before the students in the chapel of Washington and Lee University, at Lexington, Va. From the report of this address in the Richmond *Dispatch*, we make the following extract: "They tell us to forget dead issues. Can true issues ever be dead? We do believe that a people who forget their traditions are unworthy of the name of freemen. Ladies I have faith in you to instill into the rising generation memories of the past. Upon you, young friends, who are here in these walls preparing for life, rests the hope of your country. You have the example of Lee and Jackson more immediately before you; profit by them. Comrades, who on many fields have followed the great captain, I need not tell you to be true. If any be renegades, let them go with the brand of infamy upon them. We have a sacred duty to perform; the tomb of Lee must be cared for; a monument to him must be erected at the Confederate capital. We will do it, and show to the world that as we loved and honored him in life, we are true in death, and not unworthy to have been the followers of Robert E. Lee."

Laura D. Fair in a New Role.

The San Francisco *Chronicle*, of the 14th, says: A few months ago Dr. Trask, one of Laura D. Fair's physicians, brought suit against her to recover the amount of his fees. It was then discovered that she had assigned her money in trust to others, out of the reach of her creditors. Among these assignees her mother appeared as trustee for $16,600, and her daughter appeared for $8,000. Every thing has gone on smoothly since then, until within a few days since, when Mrs. Fair discovered that her mother had drawn the interest on the $8,000, which had been transferred to the child, and had deposited it in the Odd Fellows' Savings Bank. She also found that her mother intended to convert all to her own use. Last Thursday Mrs. Fair held an interview with her mother and demanded back the $16,000, which her mother positively refused to do. Mrs. Fair then threatened her with a law suit, which threat put her into a violent passion, causing a hysterical fit. Mrs Fair left her presence without accomplishing anything excepting the securing of the money in her little daughter's name from any interference by her mother. We understand that Mrs. Fair will immediately commence a suit for the recovery of the $16,000.

Curious Political Reminiscence.

The correspondent of the Xenia (Ohio) *Gazette*, writing from Columbus, the State Capital, gives an account of the recent election of United States Senator, and in this connection tells the following story respecting Senator Sherman and Vice President Colfax. "John Sherman's first appearance before the public, (and I have it from good authority,) was at the Philadelphia Convention that nominated General Taylor for President. It happened in this wise: He was a delegate to that Convention. When in the organization it came to the election of a secretary, Judge ——, also an Ohio delegate, arose in the Convention and said that the Ohio delegation has a young man in it whom he desired to nominate for that position, that if elected it would probably be the only official position he would ever hold, as he said he hailed from a hopelessly Democratic district. He was unanimously chosen. A delegate from Indiana nominated a young man from that delegation for assistant secretary, and made a similar speech concerning him, and he was chosen. Schuyler Colfax and John Sherman met each other and shook hands for the first time at the secretary's desk."

—A distinguished Admiral in our navy tells a good one of his ten year old lad, a very bright boy, who has been very carefully brought up in the Episcopal church. Coming home from school the other day he informed his mother that in common with all the boys in school, she had that day received twenty-five bad marks. For what, pray?" "Oh, because they asked us to repeat the second commandment, and none of us did it." "Why, my boy, you certainly knew that. Why did you not repeat it?" "Of course I know it, but do you suppose I was going to stand up there and repeat it and have all the boys think I was religious!"

NEWS SUMMARY.

—A special from Baltimore states that the fillibustering steamer Hornet arrived there on Friday.

—Edward Hammond, the last of the Dartmoor prisoners, died in Lynn, Mass., on Thursday, aged 76.

—The Public Library of Kentucky will be opened in a few days in Louisville, with nearly 20,000 volumes.

—A Havana letter says President Cespedes is suffering from an affection of the eyes. There is danger of blindness.

—It is said that officers at Versailles are threatening the faction opposed to Theirs, and the Republicans are growing bolder daily.

—Theodore Thorne was committed