

THE BEAVER RADICAL.

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THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

Our present method of nominating candidates does not work smoothly and fails to give satisfaction to the country districts.

There has been several efforts made to induce the County Committee to submit an Amendment to the Republicans, with a view of correcting the objectionable features of our system, and finally the Committee have carefully considered the matter, and, as a result of that consideration, the following amendment is proposed, viz: "That in case no one candidate receives a majority of all the votes cast, then the nomination for said office shall be made by the Convention." This Amendment, it will be observed, is a fundamental change, and, if carried, will necessitate a change of some of our rules. The objections urged against the present system are many, among the most important of which is the fact that the system is founded upon a wrong principle. Our government is one of majority. The doctrine of the rule of the majority lies at the very base of our institutions. With the instrumentalities of a free press, a free pulpit and free schools, we have proved that it is safe to trust to the will of majorities in both National and State affairs; but suppose the doctrine of plurality was substituted for that of majority, what security would there be for the future of our liberties? The great fault of our present system of nominating candidates is that it is a wide and radical departure from the fundamental principles of our Government, and, by adhering to it, we are teaching a wrong principle and setting a bad example. Our system is called a popular vote system, but it is not one in reality. It is a direct vote system of the people, and where there are only two candidates for the same office, the nomination is made by a majority, and might, so far, be called popular, but when there are more than two candidates, the nomination is made by a plurality, sometimes small, and it is inconsistent to say such a nomination is popular. It possibly may turn out to be so, but the vote does not prove it to be so. The best way of ascertaining the fact of popularity is by a majority vote. The proposed Amendment requires a majority of votes to elect in all cases and abandons entirely the plurality system. Again the present system practically concentrates too much power in the large boroughs, enabling them to control nominations. This is unfair, and has given rise to much complaint. When there are a large number of candidates for one office, a few votes are sufficient to nominate. These votes are more easily obtained by those residing in the large boroughs, where the number of votes is large than by those in the country districts, since it is considered a matter of courtesy to vote for one's own district candidate, and each district thus supports its own man, whether the best or not. The influence of sectionalism determines the result, and makes residence a matter of first importance to those aspiring to be candidates. We can not recall the name of any candidate from the country districts, who has been successful in obtaining any nomination of importance, for a number of years, except perhaps one, and he failed of an election.

The plurality system will give to the boroughs a monopoly of office-holding, for it enables them to control, in a large degree, all the nominations, and in this respect does great injustice to the country districts. The people, without regard to locality, should have an equal voice in making nominations, but under the present method, the idea of locality predominates and influences the result, and to such a degree that the fear is frequently expressed by residents in the country districts, that soon, unless the system is changed, candidates from the country will stand no show for any county office worth striving for. The fear is not groundless as experience has clearly shown. Again

any system is only means to an end, means by which to obtain the very best candidates, and it is far better, we should think, to take the judgment of the majority, than perhaps a small minority, in the selection of candidates. A party should support its best and most meritorious men, and to secure such, a majority vote, is the best plan yet tried. The plurality vote plan has tended to increase the number of candidates and make canvassing troublesome and annoying. If the proposed change, as is hoped, will diminish the number hereafter and partially do away with canvassing, it would be, if not a "sea change into something rich and strange," still a change devoutly to be wished. A knowledge that it required a majority of votes to elect would enable the voters to concentrate on two of the most prominent candidates, and either the weak ones would be induced, by their friends, to draw off or their support would be so small as not to prevent a nomination by the people. If either result happened, the nomination would be in accordance with the direct vote system with the improvement of a majority vote and less number of candidates. It might happen that no one candidate for an office would receive a majority of all the votes cast for said office and the nomination therefore be thrown into the Convention. The several districts would be equally represented according to their number of voters in the Convention, and the country districts could not be overborne by the boroughs, and their candidates would still stand a better chance than under the present system. This mixed system preserve all that is good in both the direct and delegate systems, and we believe is about as near perfect as we can hope to obtain. It is the system adopted by the Lawrence county Republicans with whom it is said to work well. It cannot certainly be worse than our present one, and it seems to us admirably adapted to meet the wishes of our people and to secure both a general interest in the nomination of candidates and a hearty support of them afterwards at the polls by the whole party strength.

HON. EDWARD KING.

Hon. Edward King, who died in Philadelphia, on Thursday of last week, in his eightieth year, was a native of Philadelphia, a lawyer by profession, and appointed President Judge in 1823 of the Court of Common Pleas of the city and county of Philadelphia. He served in this capacity for twenty-eight years, and then went on a trip to Europe, Egypt, Palestine and Arabia. He was one of the founders of Jefferson Medical College, being President of its board of trustees at the time of his death. He aided in revising the criminal code of this State, and was connected for two years with the Philadelphia Board of Trusts.

Judge King had few superiors in his knowledge of the common and criminal law and of the principles of equity. His decisions are a monument of his learning, ability and exhaustive comprehension, and they are models of terse, condensed and clear expression. He was ready, calm and always equal to any sudden emergency, and could lay down, at a moment's notice important and abstruse principles of law that would afterwards stand the closest examination. His famous charge on the duties of a grand jury, which was delivered without previous preparation and unexpectedly, is an instance of this kind. The Judge has lived a long and useful life, and has well earned the reward that remains for the faithful servant.

THE SALARY GRAB.

It is said that the extra pay refused by members of Congress reaches the sum of one hundred and eleven thousand dollars. It is an easy thing for Congressmen to vote money into their pockets, but when the motive of greed becomes apparent in the transaction, and public opinion everywhere condemns the vote as dishonest, and but little better than stealing, it is not so easy for them to consummate the law and draw out for their own use the money so appropriated. Members of Congress are sensitive and quick to detect the smallest signs of the

times, and we think very likely the fact that so many have refused to touch the money allotted to them will cause many of those who have taken their share to contrive, in some way, to rid themselves of the burden, and especially those, who have hung back and are waiting to see their way more clearly, will certainly conclude, in view of all the circumstances, that it is both prudent and discreet to act the part of honest men and refuse to profit by the retroactive salary grab.

This subject will never down at the bidding of any member, and those, who thought that it would soon blow over, will find themselves very much mistaken; it has been freely denounced by the press already, and is very unpopular with the people, and for a member of Congress, who is still ambitious, to breast this current of opposition, is more than one would naturally expect, and we should not be surprised to hear that nearly all the money appropriated by the law would find its way back into the United States Treasury where it rightfully belongs. Twenty-seven members have refused their money, seven have given theirs away to schools or charitable institutions, but we hope to know that many, more who have drawn their amount, have, on consideration, returned it, with a clearer understanding of the matter than they had.

The editor of the *Butler Eagle* has been requested by Josiah M. Thompson, to announce that the use of his name in connection with a candidacy for the Legislature was unauthorized and that he is not at present an aspirant for that position.

We presume that Messrs. Waldron and McKee, having rendered faithful service in the Legislature last winter, will be renominated, according to the usages of the party without substantial opposition.

SALMON P. CHASE.

The Hon. S. P. Chase, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, died at the residence of his daughter in New York on Wednesday morning of last week. He was stricken with paralysis on Tuesday morning, and, from that time until his death, was totally unconscious. Possessing at one time a robust constitution, a splendid and powerful frame, long years of excessive labors had enfeebled his health to such an extent that recently, at times, he had to abstain from all mental and physical exertion, and his sudden death has not been considered an improbable occurrence. He was one of the great men of our great epoch, a leader in the long and bitter anti-slavery contest, a wise counsellor during the rebellion, rendering valuable services by devising means of carrying on the war, and establishing our present system of National currency. The Chief Justice, although he adorned every position he filled, will yet chiefly be remembered in history for the part he took, in the rostrum, in Congress, and wherever he could make his influence felt, in the great war with slavery. The Republican party owes as much to him as any one man, for he did as much as any other to organize it and lead it to success, and his labors, in this respect, are a part of his anti-slavery record, which a grateful people will not willingly forget. When the war began, which he had apprehended and understood, he assumed the task of organizing the finances of the country, and how he succeeded all well know. By his masterly skill he saved the public credit from bankruptcy, and furnished a vast army with the "sinews of war," without which nothing could have been accomplished, and on which everything depended. Money moves an army, and the Chief Justice supplied the money in abundance.

Within a year death has removed many of our noted and great men, those moral heroes of the anti-slavery war. Seward, Greeley and Chase have gone, men whom the people will never forget, and whose names will be inscribed high up on the roll of fame. They were giants in intellect, of noble impulses, and their lives were devoted to the good of their fellow beings. Strongly individualized, each superior in

certain powers, it would be difficult to say which one of them deserves the most praise for the services which, in his way, each rendered to his country and humanity.

POLITICAL.

—Dr. B. F. Wagenseller, of Selinsgrove, Snyder county, is a Republican candidate for nomination for State Senator.

—The Democrats carried Lafayette, Ind., because the temperance men would insist upon running an independent ticket.

—The Philadelphia *Leader* advises the Democracy to nominate Judge Ludlow for the Supreme Bench, and speaks warmly in his praise.

—The Republican County Committee of Washington county will have a meeting on the 19th inst., to fix the time for holding the primary meetings.

—Why cannot the party (in Philadelphia) which in the day of agony was the party of loyalty and fidelity in political duty, purge itself? The *Press* wants to know.

—Republican candidates for nomination for Assembly in West moreland county as announced in the *Greensburg Tribune* and *Herald* are: C. C. Sherbondy, Esq., of South Huntingdon township, and James Hunter, of East Huntingdon.

—Ex-Senator Pomeroy still remains at Washington, but it is announced that he has not given up his intention to be a candidate for election to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Senator Caldwell.

—Gen. Boynton, the Washington correspondent of the *Cincinnati Gazette* and *Pittsburgh Commercial*, renews the old story that "Senator Cameron was placed at the head of the Committee on Foreign Relations only on condition that he resign immediately after his appointment, which he stubbornly refused to do."

—The *Cincinnati Commercial* says: "The State of Ohio is to enter the lobby at Washington with \$3,000 cash in hand to plead for the payment of the Morgan raid claims. The "raid" is to be transferred to Washington. It is a raid upon the Treasury. Morgan's raid was light amusement compared with this."

—Jere Cook, Esq., of Frankfort county, and editor of the *Repository*, in which position he has rendered valuable services to his party, is a candidate before the Republican nominating convention for County Treasurer of said county, and we presume he will be nominated without much opposition.

—The *State Journal* says: A rumor has been current for some time that Mr. Thomas V. Cooper, of Delaware county, has declined to be a candidate for State Senator, in order to enter on a canvass for Congress. Statements to this effect having appeared in the *Beaver Radical* and *Pittsburgh Commercial*, we have been authorized by well known friends of Mr. Cooper to say that he intends to be a candidate for Senate, and that he will be nominated and elected. While a member of the House, he made a splendid reputation, alike for his devotion to business, and the unimpeachable integrity, which marked all his acts.

—In looking around for an available Democratic candidate for State Treasurer, the *Doylestown (Bucks county) Democrat* suggests Gen. George W. Cass, of Pittsburgh, and says: "Accustomed to conduct large financial operations, of integrity, the strictest, of judgment the soundest, and not a politician in any sense of the word, he seems to us the fittest man for the position." As the General has undertaken a mammoth financial job in running the Northern Pacific Railroad, we do not think he would feel free to accept a nomination for State Treasurer, even if he had a chance of being elected.

—The *Bellfonte Republican* says. The Democratic county convention that met in this place last week deserves a leather medal for the passage of their resolution, to wit.

Resolved, "That our fellow citizen, Edward Perks, Esq., is eminently fitted by ability, integrity and business qualifications, to fill the office of State Treasurer, and that the delegate elected by this Convention to represent our county in the coming State Convention be instructed to present the name of Mr. Perks for the office, and to use all fair and honorable means to secure his nomination."

It was a brilliant conception! "Hon. Ed. Perks State Treasurer!" How it would sound. Bob Mackey would be proud of his successor, or if he wouldn't be, he can't appreciate Perks, that's all.

—The Chester County Convention for the purpose of electing delegates to the State Convention to meet in Harrisburg on the 18th of August next, assembled in the Odd Fellows' Hall, West Chester, on Monday at 11 o'clock. The meeting was organized by choosing Dr. John P. Edge, of Downingtown, president, and D. H. Barton and J. V. Edge, secretaries. The following named gentlemen were elected by a *viva voce* vote to represent the county in the State Convention as Representative delegates, viz: Major E. B. Moore, of West Chester, and Major J. M. Pomeroy, of Sadsbury. Hon. William B. Widdell was chosen Senatorial representative by acclamation. The delegation was unanimously instructed to support Hon. William Butler for Judge of the Supreme Court. The proceedings were characterized by the utmost harmony.

—The Democratic State Convention to nominate a candidate for State Treasurer met in Frankfort, Ky., on May 1st, and was the smallest State Convention ever held, there being only delegates from fifty-one counties in attendance, and quite a number of these were proxies. At ten o'clock the convention was called to order by the chairman of the State Central Committee, Hon. G. W. Craddock. Hon. G. G. Perkins, of Kenton county, was elected permanent President. Committees on Resolutions and Permanent Organization were appointed. The chairman announced that nominations for the offices of State Treasurer were in order, and Mr. James W. Tate, the present incumbent, was renominated by a unanimous vote to be the choice of the convention for that office. The present State Central Committee was continued with the addition of an Executive Committee of one from each Congressional District. After adopting the resolutions, the convention adjourned to meet on Thursday at 10 o'clock. The committee then adjourned sine die.

—The *Meadville Republican* says: At a meeting of the Republican County Committee, of Crawford county, Thursday, the 19th day of June, was fixed as the day for the primary elections. Jesse Smith, W. A. Rupert and John B. Compton were elected delegates to the State Convention. A resolution offered "that none but those fully in accord with the Republican party at the last Presidential election shall exercise the right of voting at the primary election this year," was unanimously laid on the table, after which it was resolved that Republican minors who will be entitled to a vote at the fall election be permitted to vote at the primary election. The following resolutions were then assented to:

Resolved, That in the election of John F. Hartranft as Governor of this Commonwealth the Republican party has done itself lasting credit. That in the discharge of his official duties he has met the just expectation of his friends, and commands the respect and esteem of his political enemies.

Resolved, That the Republican party have undiminished confidence in the administration of President Grant. That the overwhelming majority with which he was re-elected reflects the wisdom of the American people.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Republican party of Crawford county, are due to John B. Compton, chairman of the Republican County Committee, for his very able and efficient services in the campaign just closed with such gratifying results.

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Woman's National Suffrage Convention—A Philadelphia Lady's Description of the Notable New York Women—Trials of the Pennsylvania—Death of Hon. H. N. McAlister. Correspondence of the Radical.

PHILADELPHIA, May 11, 1873.

Absence in New York last week must be my excuse for delay in usual letter to THE RADICAL. The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Woman's National Suffrage Convention, being the cause thereof. Venturing to hope that THE RADICAL and its readers will be pleased to hear the whole modus of going to a convention, and taking an active part therein from an enthusiastic but rather inexperienced participant, your correspondent begs you to prepare to listen. Taking the morning train and crossing New Jersey we arrived at the foot of Courtland street at 10:15, took a street car, and through the combined efforts of two conductors reached Apollo-Hall in safety. On the outside of the building were to be seen numerous pictorial designs in gorgeous colors, representing ladies and gentlemen standing on one toe, and indeed on nothing at all, and going through all sorts of terpsichorean performances, which almost frightened us away, least in the advance of ideas this might be expected of us; but the reflections that Mrs. Stanton and Miss Anthony were not given to dancing, restored our courage, and we entered. Apollo Hall is a fine building at the corner of 28th and Broadway streets. Part of it is used as a Variety Theatre, the other part for a concert or lecture room. It would be most suitable for balls, since it has several beautiful dressing rooms attached to it. Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake, who had the management of the New York meeting, was at the door, where she came to welcome those ladies expected on the platform. She was dressed in a black silk dress, en train, blue striped over dress, very bouffant dolman sleeves, and hair in rolls. Mrs. Blake is a descendant of the old Jonathan Edwards, and in her opposition to the recent applications, made to the New York Legislature, to allow women to vote on a property qualification, showed that public virtue is hereditary, and that blood will tell. There is a large room back of the hall, handsomely furnished, where committees met, and through which we entered upon the platform: There were seated Miss Susan Anthony, Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mrs. Josephine Gage, Mrs. Morse, Miss Adeline Thompson, sister of Mr. Edgar Thompson, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Wright, and above all the venerable Lucretia Mott; a little later were added Mrs. Louisa Chandler and Mary Mott Davis. Mr. Edward M. Davis, of Philadelphia, was on the floor speaking at the time, making a powerful appeal in the cause of woman, which was listened to with deep attention. Mrs. Gage, Mrs. Stanton, and Mrs.

Blake spoke in the morning, and then Mrs. Mott, at the close of whose address a laural wreath was laid at her feet, sent all the way from Michigan by Madam Ancker, Mrs. Bladen, of Philadelphia, then gave an account of the Citizens' Suffrage Society and the Radical Club, of that place. The morning session adjourned at twelve. Nothing could exceed the kindness and hospitality of New York to the strangers present at the Conventions. Mrs. Haskell entertained a large party at lunch, and in the evening Madam Lozier had a grand reception. In fact we lunched out, dined out, and then out (at 12 P. M.) drove to the Park Hotel, where Stewart's to do a little shopping and took the 4 P. M. train back to Philadelphia. The papers were very funny about us, particularly the *World* and the *Graphic*, which dressed Miss Anthony in a fine style, much more gorgeously than she would have appeared had she looked in the glass, for she is always plain in attire, and of all honest, earnest and able souls she is on the highest plane. The ladies interested in this movement in New York belong to more fashionable circles than the sisterhood in Philadelphia, and have the most beautifully intelligent faces I have ever seen. Art and literature are their recreations; their domestic life is beautiful, their social life charming. They converse with the knowledge of men and the grace of women. With these women, striving after a wider and purer life, religion becomes the very poetry of morality. What a contrast this effect, produced by the enabling influence of a worthy motive, presents to the absurd conduct of Mrs. Anbery Smith, the daughter of Judge Grier, a lady who, by birth and education, ought to have had more sense and better taste, to say nothing of good feeling, than to threaten "to remand the colored women of Philadelphia back to Africa," if they did not acquiesce in her views. If I were not copying from the *Sunday Republic* I should fear I was exaggerating, the story seems so absurd. It is to be hoped for the credit of white womanhood that Mrs. Smith will come out and contradict this story. It is all about the Centennial. After inviting colored women to take part in collecting, they afterwards took their books away, upon the plea that they would not work among colored women alone.

The trial trip of the steamship "Pennsylvania" was most successful. Delicious repasts were provided, the best caterers in the city being engaged. For some reason the boudoirs and the French candies were not from "Pines," who prepares such things deliciously. His uncle, Mr. Knipple, who had the famous canary store on Eighth street, above Walnut, recently made a couple of hundred thousand dollars in coal oil, sold out his business to Mr. Pine, who is his nephew, and in the transfer Pine was doubtless overlooked, which was a great pity, as he has delicious confectionery.

Since I last wrote you Mr. McAlister's death has been a source of deep regret to the members of the Constitutional Convention. The Memorial Book to Mr. Hopkins is now out, the steel plate by Sartain is excellent. Five hundred copies were ordered, but the demand has been so great that it is impossible to get one.

This week has commenced with rain, as is proper during Hicksite friends meeting. Our Germantown non license people had twenty tavern keepers arrested for violating the law, but when the culprits were brought up it appeared they in turn had had the informer locked up for theft, so nothing can be done until he is acquitted. Next week I will tell you something about our taxes. EZZIE.

Funeral Service over the Remains of Chief Justice Chase.

New York, May 10.—The funeral services over the remains of the late Chief Justice Chase were held to-day in St. George's Episcopal Church, Stuyvesant square. At the conclusion of the services the congregation slowly dispersed, and subsequently the remains were conveyed to the Jersey City depot, when they were taken to Washington on the 9 P. M. train.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The remains of the late Chief Justice Chase arrived here early this morning, accompanied by relatives and pall bearers, and were conveyed to the Supreme Court room, where they were placed on a catafalque, the same on which the body of Lincoln reposed in the rotunda of the Capitol in April, 1865. Floral decorations, tastefully arranged in the form of crosses, wreaths, anchors, &c., were placed on the coffin and catafalque, most of them being from the Government Conservatory. Immediately in front of the draped seat, formerly occupied by the late Chief Justice, was a large floral cross, while inside the bar were boxes of choicest blooming flowers. A guard of policemen and servants of the court were in attendance. Several thousand persons visited the Supreme Court room in the course of the day, but were disappointed in not seeing the face of the deceased. The casket was opened by a physician for private inspection, but was again soon closed, for the reason, it is said, that the features had undergone a marked change. Therefore it was thought proper not to expose them. Funeral services will at noon to-morrow be conducted by Rev. Dr. Tiffany, in the Senate Chamber. All of the furniture, including carpets, was some time ago removed, but the chairs will be temporarily restored and the Vice President's seat, Secretary's desk, and other parts of the Chamber be draped in mourning.