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FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Improvements—Constitutional Convention—Lectures—Complementary Excursion—Personals.
 Correspondence of the Radical.

PHILADELPHIA, June 17, 1873.

Hot, hotter, hotter, to-day being the superlative decidedly. Down street, up street, and across the street, we have nothing but bricks and mortar, dust and cobbles. There is scarcely a thoroughfare in our city where a culvert is not being constructed, while the alleys stand up piece-meal. If the character of the improvements correspond at all to the improvements they will be fine. The Union Line have their cars running on Market street, but we have not heard of the anticipated collision with draymen and others employed by the Market street merchants as was expected.

The members of the Constitutional Convention, stimulated by the heat and the desire to move off to verdant fields and sparkling brooks, are working vigorously to bring their labors to a close. Yesterday we had an address from Mr. George M. Dallas, in favor of manhood suffrage for the press. An amusing speech from Col. Boyd, a few words from Mr. Bartholomew, and an argument from Mr. Darlington, all in reference to juries. Many of these gentlemen contending that the majority ought to be compelled to find a verdict. To-day the question was again of "God in the Constitution," but the rather complex question that was offered was spontaneously rejected. The members of the Convention have been very liberal with their talk allowing the use of it to various honorable and benevolent objects. On the Tuesday Dr. Wilson C. Swanwick, President of the Philadelphia Fountain Society, and had been requested by a number of ladies to deliver an address on the reminiscences of Sarah Liss, for the benefit of the Fountain Society. As, however, the Doctor did not want take up a collection, Mr. E. K. Price spoke at some length on the subject of Water, giving some geological facts of great value. The result of all this was that a number of gentlemen, delegates to the Convention, have resolved to subscribe fifty dollars, and thus raise a fund of three thousand dollars for the purpose of building a fountain in Independence Square, and dedicating it to the city. A beautiful book has already been prepared for the photographs of the subscribers, which volume is subsequently to be deposited in the Library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The names of the donors are to be inscribed on the monument to greatness. We saw the names of Governor Curtin and Gen. William Lilly on the pages of the album yesterday, and presume at this writing Mr. MacVeigh, Col. Boyd, Mr. Ball—and many others are already inscribed.

The Prison Discipline people have secured this Hall for to-morrow night, to enable Miss Mary Carpenter to ventilate her views on that subject. It is a positive fact that the unhappy natives of Philadelphia had never heard of Miss Carpenter, before, although the circulars found by the Prison people tell us, "She has been the companion of kings and queens," and must, therefore, be thoroughly conversed with the best methods of reforming abandoned youth. I heard to-day in a newspaper office, where

they are supposed to know everything, that Miss Mary Carpenter and the celebrated Spiritualist lecturer, Mrs. Emma Hardinge Britain were one, and the same person. Mrs. Hardinge has, it is said, been recently divorced, and thus changed her name. Whether this is true or not I cannot pretend to say, but if so the address will be a treat, for Mrs. Hardinge is said to be the finest female speaker a-going. Doubtless there will be a full house on Thursday, as one of the members jocularly expressed it, he wanted them to get the prisons all improved by the time he got there.

Everyday at three o'clock the Convention adjourns, and a long procession of black coats, intermixed with white dusters, may be seen moving along Spruce street to Sixth, and up Sixth to Washington Square, where a leafy passage shades the weary delegates from the heat of the sun. Our squares are not as attractive now as in the days when we had squirrels there. Their successors, the sparrows, have demolished the worms, for which purpose they were brought to us, but they have an objectionable habit of early rising, and with their incessant chattering make sleep almost impossible after day break.

On Saturday last about one hundred members of the Constitutional Convention went down to Cape May in a special train, by the arrangement of Mr. Knight, who received them on the Market street ferry boat with tickets ready for a complimentary excursion. Most of the party stayed at Congress Hall, the Stockton House not being opened until this coming Saturday. Others went to the Atlantic and the Center Houses, the only hotels open during the winter. The season at Cape May is not fairly under way. Many of the cottages are already occupied. Your correspondent went down also, with a view to locating summer quarters. After a varied experience she must confess there is no better place to be found as a resort in warm weather. The bathing is unequalled, the surrounding country fertile and well cultivated, and every variety of accommodation to be found from the modest cottage to the grand hotel. The express train that left Camden at four o'clock reached the Island at six thirty. Think of a distance of eighty miles being traversed in two hours and a half.

The *Sunday Republic*, of Philadelphia, has seen fit to take great exception to that portion of my last letter to *THE RADICAL*, in which I said the Chief Clerk of the Convention, Mr. Imbrie, had grown thin from work. It will be soothing to the political editor of the *Sunday Republic* to learn that Mr. Imbrie is actually fattening up again, but the interests of truth oblige us to say, on the part of the *Republic*, it is rather the consequence of the advent of strawberries and cream, than any diminution of labor. It is really wonderful how the officers, who must keep the train of thought always moving, can survive being driven wild by the noise and confusion around them. When a member gets up to speak it is generally a signal for everybody to enter into conversation. If a new man says anything, or Mr. Bartholomew, or Mr. Lawrence, of Monongahela, or Col. Boyd, there is nearly always silence; but, as a rule, the remaining members have an opportunity of practicing literary, as did Demosthenes, amid a sea of confusion. Mr. Lawrence is looked upon as a very influential man here. His name is mentioned in connection with the next gubernatorial contest, and certainly his appearance and bearing would do honor to the office. He has been absent from the Convention for a few days. General Harry White, of Indiana, and Gen. William Lilly, of Mauch Chunk, are also referred to in the same connection. All three have many qualifications for the office, but not yet having ascertained their views on Woman's Rights I cannot give my support to either.

EIZZIL.

—The *Pittsburgh Commercial* says: The "Liberal" leaders of New York have been sending out "private and confidential" circulars, calling for a conference at Sharon at the end of this month, to determine whether they shall maintain an independent organization, or affiliate with the other great parties. The joke of the thing lies in this baker's dozen of sore-heads classing themselves with the "other great parties." It is not expected that the railroads will have to put on extra trains to accommodate the rush to the Sharon conference.

Josh Billings says: "Fuss works hard all day, and don't do enny thing; goes to bed tired at night, then gets up next morning and begins where she left off."

FROM KANSAS.

BROOKDALE, RICE CO., KAN.,
 June 10th, 1873.

I feel like moralizing this morning, but will refrain, and thus become entitled to your everlasting gratitude. You who dwell in staid Old Beaver can scarce be made to realize the stirring times we have on the western frontier. Elmwood and all the surrounding country has been submerged again. I say again, for this is the second season. The first inundation occurred about the middle of May. The water then subsided rapidly. The creek began to rise again on the first day of June. About midnight the whole valley was submerged, and the water some inches higher than before. It receded then slowly until Wednesday the 4th, when it came up with alarming rapidity, that night at two o'clock it began to recede, but the fall was so slow as not to be perceptible except by marking. We lost our entire crop, both garden and fields. We have but two onions and three beets left. *Nihil Desperandum* is one of our mottoes, and if you visit Elmwood next September you will find grain and vegetables that will astonish you. Some six or ten of our prairie farmers have sent us word that they will be here the 16th inst., with their teams and planters, and plant our corn for the third time. And now as fast as a spot dries off we put in a plant or seed in our garden. The water did not reach our house, but many of our neighbors were compelled to move at midnight. Almost all the cellars and wells on the creek were destroyed. For three days and nights we were prisoners, and like the Modocs, no one could reach us. The flood has caused a great deal of loss along the valley, and strange to say, our county paper has never alluded to it. Many have, like us, lost their whole crop, who had nothing else to depend upon. So the greatest distress for them is in the future. Land is being taken up in this county rapidly. We often hear of twenty claims being entered on one day. The Salina, Atlanta and Raymond Railroad is completed to Lindsay, and we will see the cars flitting by, before the year expires. Since my January letter, *Albion* has become the home of two editors, two doctors and three lawyers, and we hear of more coming. Enough of this for the present, but one dry-goods merchant with three thousand dollars capital could make it pay by coming at once. Mosquito bars are in demand.

SIDE.

THE "OLD CARCASS" OF THE DEMOCRACY.

The whereabouts and condition of the Democratic party is a subject of grave doubt and animated discussion. The *Chicago Times* persists in calling it an "old carcass," with nothing left of it but such old bones as may be found in National, State and County Committees; while the New York *World* contends that it is only an inanimate body, that may be warmed into new life by sounding into its moribund ears the new bugle call of "free trade and farmers' rights." This, for instance, is the preachment of the *World*: "The Baltimore Convention, in endorsing the Cincinnati remittal of free trade to the Congressional districts, did so for last November's election only, and for the obvious reason that, having adopted such a preposterous candidate as Greeley, it was necessary to keep his platform from flying in his face. The *Times*' inference is needless, to say the least, that the planks of that platform must remain the Democratic party's stamping ground till the day of judgment. An issue was waived for one election. That is all. "We still hope to have the concurrence of the *Times* in demanding that that issue shall never be waived again. We hope to have the concurrence of every free-trader, at least of every man who has a vigorous appreciation of the fertility of that political principle for all our present needs, and of its filiation upon the central truth of Democracy, in demanding that the Democratic party shall fly the free-trade flag and join battle upon the free-trade issue. We are not blind to the startling fact that 'free-trade and farmers' rights' is a legend which our party may inscribe upon victorious banners."

The *Times* responds that the *World* has somehow got hold of the idea that what the people desire to get to is free-trade, and adds: "The *World* proposes that that singularly accommodating old organization of time-serving political dead beats called the Democratic party shall execute another comersault and manifest an 'appreciation of the fertility of that principle for its present needs' or what is the same thing, for the needs of the ancient political acrobats who are starving for

the same. Why does the *World* demand the banner of free-trade shall be de-livered to the old stench called the 'Democratic party'? Is it because the *World* and the offensive old 'party leaders' for whom it speaks desire to incorporate the free-trade principle in the laws and the platform of government? The *World* will answer us think so. No; the *World* will have the old stench called the 'Democratic party,' which last year de-livered its best efforts against free-trade, and did its best to keep at the head of the government the spirit of the monopoly system, as its object was to 'succeed,' turn its other side out, and proclaim its object to be its object, because the old stench leaders 'are not blind to the fact that free-trade and farmers' rights (a democratic catch phrase) is a legend which our party may inscribe on successful banners."

Whether by the 'Democratic party' people are to understand the 38,000 committeemen who constitute its organization, or those committeemen plus an indefinite number of 'leading politicians' and the persons whose votes they can 'control' is really not material. Either way, no candid man can entertain a reasonable doubt that the *World's* very deep party would hoist the banner of free-trade, or the banner of protectionism, or any other conceivable banner, if only the 'leading politicians' could be made to believe that under such banner they could get 'faint power.' Just as that very deep party once insisted on carrying two banners, one emblematic of hostility to and the other emblematic of friendship for the principle of liberty, because its 'leaders' thought this straddling of a principle to be the expedient needful to the attainment of their personal aims; just as for the same reason, in 1864, it declared a contest for the liberty principle, and a failure; just as, in 1868, it declared a repudiation of the public debt, and failed in paying the public debt; just as, in 1872, it 'relegated' free-trade, and for its standard-bearer the most reliable champion of the monopoly system, and now declares either 'free-trade and farmers' rights,' or 'protectionism, or Christianity, or paganism, or honesty, or dishonesty, or economy, or anarchy, or anything else; or both for and against any of these, or all of these, in whole or in part, or any other way, it only the 'leaders' should 'appreciate the fertility' of such a course 'for their present needs.' To think of the possibility of the 'Democratic party' not being ready to do so would be to think of that party as something other than itself. But the suggestion is without any particular use. For, excepting the old professional party 'leaders,' who want to know 'who's going to run this thing?' there are few people in the country who think of the ancient prejudice called the 'Democratic party,' at all save as a thing that is dead, and that smells bad when it is stirred."

This is very interesting reading, and one cannot but admire the plainness of speech with which the *Chicago* man lays bare the hypocrisy of the New York Demagogue. In the meantime Senator Thurman, of Ohio, is proceeding to practical measures, and has induced the Democracy of Allen county, in that State, to lead off in a movement for the formation of a new party. At their late county meeting they passed resolutions declaring that "both political parties have demonstrated that they are powerless to check or control the existing tendency towards the utter demoralization of the politics of the country," and inviting the people to meet at Columbus at an early day and organize an entirely new party. They have no right to speak for our party; but we accept their own democratic judgment that their own party is powerless and hopelessly corrupt. As to the new party they propose, it will be like an old silk dress, turned and made up anew. It will be the same old material, with but a slightly changed look.

The *Enquirer*, of Cincinnati, is somewhat in trouble over this movement. It does not know exactly where the lightning is going to strike, though it recognizes the "clap of thunder from a clear sky in Allen county." It confesses, however, that it was pre-arranged, and admits that "the true import and meaning of this, that a new party is to be formed," says, "a new departure is to be made in earnest," hails the movement by saying that "we—the Democracy—are not far from the millennium so devoutly prayed for by the men who are trying to get away from Bourbonism," yet is a little shy and declares "for our own part we are not fully persuaded as to the course to be pursued," admits that "it has been well understood for some time that the active Democratic leaders at Columbus

have been considering the propriety of a decided advance in the direction of the formation of a new political party. Gen. Ewing and a number of active men, prominent in the Democratic organization have given the movement their endorsement. Senator Thurman, who is a conservative gentleman and a candidate for re-election, has not made up his mind as to the proper thing to be done."

POLITICAL.

—Dr. J. P. Sterrett, of Juniata county, is a Republican candidate for nomination for Senate.

—There is but one Democratic candidate for Judge in Greene now, David Crawford, Esq. Mr. Furman is off the track.

—The Democratic Lawrence county Executive Committee meets in New Castle on the 28th inst.

—At a meeting of the Republican County Committee, Columbiana county, on Saturday the 14th, D. A. Beckley was unanimously elected as a delegate to the Republican State Convention.

—John M. Greer and B. F. Garvin, of Butler county, were elected by the Republican County Convention, Representative Delegates to the State Convention with power to select their own alternates.

—Candidates for nomination for Assembly in Mercer county on the Republican ticket: J. W. Barker, of Sandy Lake township; Dr. B. F. Gordon, of Springfield township; H. S. Blatt, of Sandy Lake township; Dr. G. G. Brush, of Sheakleyville; E. W. Jackson, of Mercer.

—The Tioga county primary meetings will be held on August the 16th, and Convention on the 19th. Henry Allen was elected by County Committee Representative delegate and Hugh Young re-nominated as Senatorial to the State Convention.

—At a meeting of the Republican County Convention, of Lawrence county, on the 16th inst., Mr. John H. Porter offered a resolution to the effect that the convention recommend that the County Executive Committee abolish the Crawford county system of making nominations and adopt the system formerly in vogue in that county, which was adopted by a vote of 10 to 7.

—The Democrats of Butler county met in Convention in Butler, on Monday, of last week, and nominated the following ticket: Assembly—Dr. J. S. Lusk and William S. Ziegler, Esq.; Treasurer—Lewis Roth, Esq.; County Commissioner—John Whitmire, Esq.; Jury Commissioner—John M. McCandless, Esq.; Auditor—John Martin. The ticket is a respectable one, but will have to undergo, this fall, the usual fact of being beaten.

—The following is the Lawrence county Republican ticket: Assembly—E. S. N. Morgan; Treasurer—Forbes Holton; Sheriff—James McWilliams; Register and Recorder—James Crowl; Commissioner—Robert Mehard; Auditor—Lafayette Baldwin; Jury Commissioner—James Moffat; Coroner—Dr. James K. Pollock; Senatorial Del.—G. W. McCracken; Representative Del.—D. H. Wallace.

—The Berks and Schuylkill *Journals* says: The Republicans of Lancaster county talk of abandoning the Crawford county system of making local nominations. Experience has shown that in the hands of able manipulators it is a fraud upon the people of the worst sort. In every case the party adopting it gets into trouble and is sure to lose ground.

—The Harrisburg *State Journal* says: The lively canvass of the different candidates for Governor of Maine has continued unabated since the ball was set in motion three or four weeks ago by the presentation of Judge Kent's name. The aspect of the contest, however, has somewhat changed. When Judge Kent's name was first mentioned and another prominent candidate withdrew his favor, it appeared probable that he would carry the convention without much opposition. But this impression arose from the fact that up to that time the canvass in other directions had been carried on quietly. Meanwhile the Democrats are quiet and apparently hopeless. They make a great deal of noise about the prospect of a "Republican split," and a consequent chance to step in and carry off the offices; but there is little ground for this prediction for the Republicans of Maine have always been well organized, and Speaker Blaine is still at the head of the State directory, where he has been for many years. The prospect rather is that the Democrats will make a weaker fight than ever before if the Republicans, like those of Ohio, speak out in denunciation of the "salary grab" and kindred evils.

—The Green county Republicans have nominated the following ticket: Assembly—Jacob Rush; Sheriff—Jacob Pennington; Treasurer—Samuel Harvey; Commissioner—Elias Flenniken; Jury Commissioner—Isaac Teagarden; Auditor—Barzilla Stephens; Poor House Director—J. Harvey Braddock; Coroner—John Lantz.

Hon. J. B. Donley and John C. Flenniken were appointed, respectively, Senatorial and Representative Delegates to the Republican State Convention. Dr. W. G. Rodgers, Dr. Samuel Colver, and S. W. Scott, were appointed Judicial Commissioners.

The following resolutions were adopted: Resolved, That the administration of President Grant merits our unabated confidence for its wise, patriotic and economical management of National affairs.

Resolved, That the conduct of Governor Hartranft unmistakably proves that our suffrages were worthily bestowed in October last; especially do we commend his fearless use of the veto power, in checking the pernicious evil of special legislation.

Resolved, That the members of Congress who voted or shared in the late Congressional "raise" are entitled to our condemnation; and we hereby denounce that and all other kindred legislation.

—At a meeting of the Maine Republican Convention 1,246 delegates were present. The balloting for Governor resulted as follows: Whole number of votes 1,208; Nelson Dingley, Sr., 816; James M. Stone, 211; Edward Kent, 170; scattering, 6. Dingley was declared nominated.

Resolutions were adopted reaffirming the principles of the Republican party as expressed in the National and State Convention. It has so met the vital issues of the past twelve years as to gain the title of the true reform party. They protest against granting another acre of the public domain to canal and railroad companies, as tending to prodigality and corruption; applaud the action of Congress in ferreting out corruption, and declaring that the party will interpose no shield for men who have proved faithless to their trusts; and demanding all Credit Mobilier transactions of whatever form, demand that the growing evil of private legislation shall be uprooted. The resolution on the Congressional salary grab is as follows:

Resolved, That the Republicans of Maine denounce the recent action of Congress, known as the salary grab, increasing the salaries of its members, and especially its retroactive feature, by which nearly \$5,000 was voted for each member for services already paid for, as a gross violation of the pledges of the last National Convention, and demand the immediate and unconditional repeal of an act so disgraceful to Congress and so odious to the people.

—The Philadelphia *Press*, replying to the New York *Sun*, in vindication of William H. Kemble, says: We have noticed with sincere regret the persistent assaults of several of our influential contemporaries upon the Hon. William H. Kemble, president of the People's Bank, of this city, and largely identified with a number of important enterprises. Mr. Kemble is one of the remarkable men of the times—active, daring, original and persevering. It has been our misfortune to differ from him more than once, and to day we do not agree upon certain questions of public and party policy. But this does not close our eyes to that which is meritorious in his character; and if those who assail him for what perhaps may be the errors of impulse, could know, as we know, his capacities and readiness for doing good, his prompt generosity in all charitable enterprises, his willingness to relieve the unfortunate and distressed, the number of young men he has assisted forward in life, and the steadiness with which he stands by the interests of Pennsylvania, they would, we think, reconsider and modify their criticisms. It is precisely to such men as Mr. Kemble, with their large resources and active connection with the Republican organization, that we must look for an improved management in our municipal affairs and for a higher and purer representation in the State Legislature. These men naturally look beyond the mere acquisition of money. They must have loftier hopes and better ambitions; and we think we do not misunderstand Mr. Kemble's character when we predict that he will counsel his friends to respect that resolute purpose in the Republican party which demands candidates on our ticket who will make it worthy of the championship of the press and the suffrages of the people.

—Gen. W. Allen is the republican candidate for Assembly in Warren county.