

The Conspiracy for the Formation of a North-western Confederacy.

St. Louis, July 28.—The Democrat publishes a long article of the conspiracy for the erection of the Northwestern Confederacy, referred to a few days since. The organization engaged in this conspiracy is known as the Order of American Knights, and its objects are to overthrow the Government in the event of the war, and overthrow the Government if necessary for the supremacy of the order. Its professions and purposes are different in different States. It proclaims a war policy in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and the Eastern States, while in the West it is for peace. The order is a Southern organization being erected on the ruins of the Knights of the Golden Circle, and General Stirling Price is supreme commander. Vallandigham while in Richmond was made supreme commander of the Northern section of the order, and the Rebel authorities to divide the East and West, and then aid the Southern rebellion. Vallandigham's time in Canada was principally spent in furthering this scheme. He had a conference with some of the leading spirits of the order after his arrival in Canada, and arranged for the establishment of the order throughout the loyal States.

The names of all who visited him at the Clifton House are known to the Government, among them Wm. B. Reed, of Philadelphia; J. Foster, of New York; Ohio, Kribbon, of St. Louis; Storey and Merrick, of Chicago, are published. The results of this conference are also known to the Government. About the first of January Vallandigham issued an address to the loyal States, in which he called upon the members to prepare for the coming of the day which is fast approaching which will test their sincerity. That the prosecution of the war is a violation of the rights of the States, and that President Lincoln is a usurper. A meeting of the grand commanders of the different States was held in New York on the 22d of February, for the purpose of organizing an outbreak on the 10th of March, the day fixed for the draft, but no definite plan was resolved on. The names of these conspirators are also known. The same commanders had a Windsor, Canada, early in April, for a general consultation. Among those in attendance were McMaster, New York; Chas. L. Hunt, St. Louis; Lafayette Devlin, Indiana. The programme adopted at these meetings was that the grand commanders should be called to Ohio for the Democratic National Convention, and there proclaim the doctrine of their order, viz:—to pronounce the existing administration of the Government a power usurped, which the people had a right to expel by force if necessary; in fact, usurpation resulting in the North, in which he was to be supported by the order of each grand commander, and was to have an armed body guard at the Convention for the defence of Vallandigham. This, it was thought, would precipitate the people of the free States into armed conflict, and would be the signal for the members of the order to unite against lawful authorities, kill, capture the civil and military authorities, seize arsenals, arms, and public property of all kinds, and proclaim the Government overthrown.

There is most convincing evidence of the truthfulness of this statement. A conversation with the author, returned to Ohio was the fear of Vallandigham as a delegate to Chicago, and it was by his presence his election was secured. The numerical strength of this order is said to be considerable over half a million. One hundred and fifty thousand are organized. The order in New York is called the "Cliffside Minut Men." The grand commander in Missouri is Chas. L. Hunt, nephew of J. H. Lucas, and many years Belgian Consul; deputy grand commander, Chas. E. Dunn, city officer of St. Louis. A long list of the names of members of the order in different States, together with full information of the order, the whole scheme, is in the hands of the authorities at Washington, and will probably be given to the public in a short time.

The Bird of Battle.

The New Albany (Indiana) Ledger tells this story: "We printed a few days ago, from an Atlanta paper, an account of a mocking bird, which, at the battle of Resaca, perched itself on the top of a tree, and during the fight imitated the whistling of the bullets and other noises incident to a battle. Another and a more touching incident of a similar character was yesterday related to us by Capt. George Babbitt, of General Gresham's staff, and one of which he was himself a witness. During the fierce cannonading at Nickajack, a small bird came and perched upon the shoulder of an artilleryman, the man designated, we believe, as 'No. 1'; whose duty it is to ram down the charge after the ammunition is put in the gun. The piece was a Napoleon, which makes a very loud report. The bird, as we have stated, perched upon the man's shoulder, and when the report was given, it immediately resumed its place on the shoulder of the smoke-begrimed gunner. The scene was witnessed by a large number of officers and men. It may be a subject of curious inquiry, what induced the bird to do this for itself. Possibly frightened at the violent commotion caused by the battle, and not knowing how to escape or where to go some instinct led it to throw itself upon the gun as a protector. But, whatever the cause, the incident was a most beautiful and pleasing one to all who witnessed it."

PROCLAMATION FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION.

TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1864. IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ANDREW G. CURTIN, Governor of the said Commonwealth.

To JOHN ALDSTADY, Esq., Sheriff of the County of Bedford.—Sends Greeting: Whereas a joint resolution proposing certain amendments to the Constitution of this Commonwealth, which are as follows, viz:

And Whereas, it is provided in the tenth article of said Constitution, that any amendment so agreed upon, shall be submitted to the people in such manner, and at such time, as the Legislature shall prescribe: such submission to be in such manner and form, that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately and distinctly: Therefore,

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of the people on the amendments in regard to the amendments proposed in said amendments, or either of them, the Governor of this Commonwealth shall issue a writ of election, directed to each and every Sheriff of this Commonwealth, commanding them to give notice in the usual manner, in not less than two newspapers in each city and county: Provided, That no newspaper published therein, and by at least two printed handbills in each election district, of every city and county wherein no newspaper is published, that an election will be held in each city and county, on the first Tuesday of August,

Section 2. There shall be two additional sections to the eleventh article of the Constitution, to be designated as sections three and four, as follows: "Sec. 3. Whenever any of the qualified electors of this Commonwealth shall be in any actual military service, under a requisition from the President of the United States, or by the authority of the President of the United States, he shall be entitled to vote in person, or by proxy, and shall exercise the right of suffrage in all elections by the citizens, under such regulations as are, or shall be prescribed by law, as fully as if they were present at their usual place of election."

Section 4. No bill shall be passed by the Legislature containing more than one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in the title, except appropriation bills.

Section 5. No bill shall be passed by the Legislature granting any powers, or privileges, in any case, where the authority to grant such powers, or privileges, has been, or may hereafter be conferred upon the courts of this Commonwealth.

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January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and the second session commencing on the first Tuesday in January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, the following amendments to the Constitution, which are as follows, were proposed, and it is provided in the tenth article of the Constitution, that any amendment so agreed upon, shall be submitted to the people in such manner, and at such time, as the Legislature shall prescribe: such submission to be in such manner and form, that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately and distinctly: Therefore,

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Also, that where a Judge by sickness or unavoidable accident, is unable to attend such meeting of Judges, then the certificate or return aforesaid shall be taken charge of by one of the Inspectors or Clerks of the election of said district, who shall do and perform the duties required of said Judges unable to attend.

Given under my hand, in my Office, the eighth day of July, A. D. 1864. JOHN ALDSTADY, Sheriff of Bedford County.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE FARMERS.

THE following kinds of Threshing Machines, CONSTANTLY ON HAND AT THE MACHINE SHOP OF Peter H. Shires, Bedford, Pa.

The Celebrated RAILWAY, or TRIP-POWER Threshing Machines with all the latest and best improvements. ONE AND TWO-HORSE POWERS.

The Two-horse Machine with two horses and four hands will thresh from 100 to 125 bushels of wheat or rye, and twice as much oats per day.

ONE-HORSE MACHINES with three hands, will thresh from 50 to 75 bush. per day.

Two and four-horse TUMBLING SHARP MACHINES, also, four-horse STRAP MACHINES, STRAW SHAKERS, &c. of the most approved kind attached to all Machines.

ALL MACHINES WARRANTED. REPAIRING. Of all kinds of Machines done on the shortest notice.

HORSES, PIG METAL, GRAIN and LUMBER taken in payment.

Farmers' wanting Machines, will do well to give me a call. PETER H. SHIRES, Proprietor and Manufacturer.

ALSO, FOR SALE, THE BRYANT STRATTON & CO'S CHAIN OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL COLLEGES.

Established in the following cities: PHILADELPHIA, S. E. Corner of Seventh and Chestnut Streets, New York, Broadway, Albany, Troy, Providence, Portland, Hartford, Burlington, Newark, Rochester, Buffalo, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis.

Through theoretical and practical instruction in all the sciences of the most approved kind, together with the most perfect system of practical training ever devised has been put in operation, and is successfully carried out, affording to students advantages such as have hitherto been considered possible only in connection with the counting house. After becoming proficient in the science of Accounts, Penmanship, Commercial Calculations and Commercial Law, the student is advanced to the Practical Department, where he becomes an actual Book-keeper, and manages the affairs of business with system and dispatch.

Scholarships are awarded to those who fulfill the prescribed course of study, and pass the requisite examination. For further information send for a circular. Address: BRYANT, STRATTON & CO., Philadelphia.

Jan. 29, 1864—BRYANT.

Iron City College.

Hen. Wilson McCandless, Judge U. S. Circuit Court, Pittsburg, Pa., Corner Penn and St. Clair streets.

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