

# THE COLUMBIAN AND DEMOCRAT, BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA.

**The Columbian**

—AND—

**Bloomsburg Democrat**

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 22, 1868.

\* THE COLUMBIAN has the largest circulation in the State, and is also a much larger sheet than any of its contemporaries; and is therefore the best medium for advertising in this section of the State.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT.

The following named gentlemen have requested us to announce their names as Candidates for the office of County Superintendent:

CHARLES G. BARRELY,  
BLONK TOWNSHIP.

JOHN B. PATTON,  
PUNG TOWNSHIP.

WILLIAM H. SNYDER,  
GRANGE TOWNSHIP.

**The Appointment of Assessor.**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> Inst., at exactly 1 P.M., the records and papers of the office of Assessor of Internal Revenue for this Congressional District were handed over to Samuel Knorr, the new Assessor, and therupon he assumed the exercise of the duties of his office. We shall hope it will turn out to be an accommodating and faithful officer; just energetic, intelligent, sensible and careful. For he has committed to his hands important interests of the Government and People to the due management of which all these characteristics of official conduct are indispensable. The new Assessor is a member of the Bar of this county, and served in the recent war in the capacity of a Colonel of colored troops.

Upon the occasion of Mr. Clark's retiring from the Assessorship in consequence of the new appointment, it is an act of simple justice to state that he has been an officer of unusual merit, having discharged all his official duties with complete impartiality and signal ability. There were no reasons founded in public policy or interest for new appointment to this office at the present time, and it is made for political reasons alone. We believe there is now no office in this Congressional district, subject to Presidential appointment, which is not assigned to a Radical incumbent—in other words, a clean sweep has been made by the Administration of all the important offices of the district and good progress made toward seizing all the subordinate ones. The two most proscriptive Administrations in our political history to this date, will be known hereafter as those of Lincoln and Grant, although both were placed in power by a party which had loudly complained of Democratic proscription. This subject will admit of further observation in connection with recent official changes in our own section, and we shall recur to it hereafter.

**Senator Jackson.**

The term of this gentleman having expired, it gives us pleasure to refer to his course as a Representative. Though acting with a political minority, he has succeeded in all the local legislation demanded by the District, and this too, in some instances, in face of the most bitter opposition. His aid in securing the location of the Normal School at this place and in getting the usual appropriation, was timely and efficient. A severer task was in procuring an appropriation of \$100,000 for the Lunatic Asylum to be built at Danville, in opposition to that king of lobbyists, Peter Herdic, who spent time and money to defeat it. His success seemed doubtful in the face of such strong and well-organized opposition, but the result shows how indefatigably he labored.

He was also the author and champion of the movement to make an inquiry into the management of the Soldiers' Orphans' Schools, and in that particular was successful beyond expectation. His opposition was strong and peculiar, and his triumph therefore the more creditable.

Senator Jackson has been faithful to our interests, and will carry back to "Little Sullivan" the good wishes of all his constituents. We wish him success in the future, and assure him that the people of Columbia County will always hold his services in grateful remembrance.

**Representative Scott.**

The legislature having adjourned on Friday last, Mr. Scott has returned to his home at Catawissa. His record for the past session is made up, and we refer to it with pride. Other constituents have been sold and betrayed by their Representatives, but we have been more fortunate, and Mr. Scott's hands are clean of all the dirty jobs which were brought before the Legislature.—Undoubtedly the most corrupt ever convened. This, in these times, is a fair matter for congratulation.

Through Mr. Scott's efforts a large amount of local legislation was done, and his active co-operation with Senator Jackson is referred to our Normal School, the Insane Asylum at Danville, the Orangeville School, our Poor House &c., deserve mention. Of course there is a class of legislation local in its nature, where the interests of different sections conflict, and in which it is impossible to please all. Outside of this, Mr. Scott's course meets with general approval, and his own bitter opponents are willing to concede his ability, honesty, and his desire to faithfully carry out the wishes of his constituents.

**Mysterious.**—A human hand and part of the forearm was found lying in the alley by the old German Reformed graveyard, on Wednesday last. The flesh still remains upon the bones, and, although somewhat dried, shows no evidence of decay. About six inches of the forearm were attached to the hand, and the bone has been sawed or squared as if by a surgeon. The nails are over an inch in length. Where this remnant of humanity came from is a mystery, the solving of which would give some relief to the community.

It is reported that both troops and stores are in readiness for a move to Cuba, and that a prominent Western General will assume command. The whole sale sale inaugurated by the Spanish soldiery has not had a quieting effect upon the people of this country.

The legislative tax bill against which we protested last week, failed to pass the Senate.

## Representative Reform.

REFORM IN ENGLAND.  
On the 5th of July, 1867, Mr. Lowe (the present Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Gladstone administration) moved the following amendment to the reform bill in the House of Commons:

**POWER TO DISTRIBUTE Votes:**—At any contested election for a county or a borough represented by more than two members, and having more than one voter, every voter shall be entitled to a number of votes equal to the number of vacant seats, and may give all such votes to one candidate, or may distribute them among the candidates he thinks fit.

This amendment (which was for the free vote including the principle of cumulation and applicable generally to elections where more than one member was to be chosen) was debated on the day when offered and on the day following, and received the very handsome support of 173 votes—a large vote for a new proposition upon its first trial of strength. Mr. Lowe's amendment was identical in principle and almost identical in terms with the bill now reported by this committee. The English proposition applied to the election of members of Parliament, the American applies to the election of members of Congress, but in both a free vote, including the right of cumulation, is the essential idea, and the object in view more complete and just representation of the people.

On the 30th July, 1867, the reform bill being under consideration in the House of Lords, Lord Cairns moved to insert the following new clause, to come in after clause 8 of the bill:

At a contested election for any county or borough represented by three members no person shall vote for more than two candidates.

This amendment, after an elaborate debate, was adopted by a strong vote: contents, 142; not contents, 51; and an additional amendment was then also adopted without a division that "at a contested election for the city of London" (which is entitled to four members) "one person shall vote for more than three candidates."

The success of those amendments, which were concurred in by the House of Commons on the 8th of August, constituted an important event in the history of representative institutions, for they recognized and gave application to a principle of justice which will endure the test of trial and of time, a principle which will hereafter receive indefinite extension, and wherever extended will purify elections, insure contentment to constituents, and elevate the character and improve the action of free government.

Mr. Gladstone, speaking in the House of Commons, and confining his attention to his own country, declared that the proposition or principle contained in those amendments, if adopted at all, must be adopted with the certainty that it must offend and expand itself over the whole country and completely reconstruct the system of distribution of seats." And generally those who supported it in both houses of Parliament foretold and rejoiced in the prospect of its future expansion.

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