

The Columbian

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

Friday, Sept. 6, 1872.

Another Nat for Hartranft.

The act of 1871 requires the Auditor General to report to the legislature a list of the accounts which remain unsettled, and the reason therefor.

In the Evans case we have seen that Hartranft openly disregarded this law by concealing from the Legislature for three years the fact that Evans had collected several thousand dollars belonging to the State.

But more conspicuous still is the fact that for six years he has allowed the corporations of this State to retain millions of dollars belonging to the commonwealth in the shape of taxes and never has reported the facts to the Legislature.

A committee at the last session of the Legislature, composed of three R. pub. and two Democrats, unanimously agreed upon a report in which it was demonstrated that the heaviest carrying companies are making no returns whatever of taxes due the State, and that the Auditor General's office had no information as to the amount due.

In one instance the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R., owed the State over \$20,000 as a tax on a dividend of \$1,000,000 in the Morris & Essex road, yet it was not known at the Auditor General's office that such tax was due, although the fact of the dividend having been declared was published in the Auditor General's report of the year before.

This amount was promptly paid by the company, the day after the committee called attention to the subject, with the excuse that the blank form for furnishing the report had not been supplied by the Auditor General, although it had been demanded.

The Auditor of the company testified that the amount stood to the credit of the State Treasury, and was ready to be paid at any time, and that the return of the tax due had regularly made to the State Treasury.

A few facts will illustrate the immense loss of revenue to the State from the tax on corporations, since Gen. Hartranft took possession of the Auditor General's office.

We quote from the report of the examined account of last winter, which examined this subject, and take the D. L. & W. B. R., as an example.

1865, Tax on capital stock..... \$198,951.12

1871, Tax on capital stock..... 61,681.11

Loss to the State..... 144,270.01

1866, Tax on gross receipts..... 3,728.72

1871, Tax on gross receipts..... 3,898.30

Loss to the State..... 2,030.83

This loss, too, occurred in the face of the fact that in 1866 the receipts of the company were \$8,252,416.73, whereas in 1871 they were \$11,709,146.97. In a word, the revenue of the company had increased three and a half millions of dollars, and the taxes of the State were decreased more than one half.

1867, (no report for 1866) Tonnage Tax..... \$8,177.90

1871, Tonnage Tax..... 1,688.84

Loss to the State..... 6,489.06

The above facts illustrate why the rig desire the continuance of Hartranft and Allen in office, and why Cameron & Co., are endeavoring to prevent a full and fair investigation. The people are being mercilessly robbed, and they now demand honest officers, and a full investigation of the books at Harrisburg.

New York settled the Tammany—it is time we commenced on ours.

Honest men should have no doubt as to which way they should decide.

The Senatorial Conference.

The Senatorial District is composed of the counties of Columbia, Montour, Lycoming and Sullivan. The candidates were Charles G. Barkley, Thomas Chalfant, Robert P. Allen, and George D. Jaimeson. The conference met at Williamsport on Thursday last week, and each county was given equal representation, contrary to the rule of our county convention, and the resolution of the Danville Conference of May last.

This and the action of the late conference to select delegates to the Constitutional Convention undoubtedly settles the question that a small county has a right to equal representation with a large one; that Sullivan with 1200 Democratic votes is equal to Lycoming with 4500.

The proceedings of the conference we give in another column. It will be seen that each county voted for its own candidate until the fourth ballot, when Montour voted for Chalfant, Lycoming for Allen, Columbia gave two to each, and Sullivan ended the contest by giving her four votes for Chalfant.

We are informed that the best of feeling prevailed, and that the defeated candidates cordially accept the situation.

The claims of Montour were undoubtedly stronger than those of Columbia and Sullivan, and having been thus recognized, we trust that all feeling of discord between us has been forever removed.

As to our nominee, he is so well known to our people that we can add but little. For three years he represented our county in the Legislature faithfully and with ability, gaining a reputation as an honest member, and the opponent of rings and corporations.

The Melis on board the passengers about one half of whom it is hoped are saved; but the details of the occurrence are yet imperfect.

Dr. Jewett, a well-educated and eccentric old gentleman, of North Haven, Me., committed suicide in his office on Friday last in a very extraordinary manner, by severing the femoral artery in both his thighs, and then setting fire to a canful of kerosene oil which he had poured over the floor of the room. He was found unbreathed, weltering in his blood in the midst of the fire, and died immediately.

There are reports from all portions of a A. A. of unparalleled destruction by the act of worms. The worms are said to have left the debris in a few of a foot, and the plowmen are in fear of bankruptcy.

The Republican Convention of Centre county met at Harrisburg August 28th and nominated ex-Governor Curtin for Congress by acclamation.

Sixteen attempts have been made by convicts to escape from the jail at Bloomsburg Island, above New York, within three days.

The steamship Havilland, which left New York for Aspinwall on August 24th, was burned at sea on the morning of the 31st.

It is stated that the Western Iron and Nail Association, at a meeting in Pottsville, on Friday, decided to advance the price of iron \$1, and of nails, 25 cents per keg.

Mr. Ely, the republican mayor of Newark, and Mr. Collin, republican mayor of Middletown, Connecticut, are both out for Greeley.

Grant carried West Virginia in 1862 by 5,000 majority. This year the Grant men dare not even nominate a State ticket.

Levin Peck, of Ontario county, New York, late United States Revenue Collector for that Congressional District, has declared for Greeley and Brown.

Colonel Milton Dunn, of Wilkesbarre, one of the delegates to the Cameron State Convention at Harrisburg, has declared for Greeley.

It is in evidence, sworn to by Hartranft himself, that he received \$75,000 from the only bank in Harrisburg, as a loan, which he did not repay to Evans until the public exposure of Evans' defalcation compelled him to do so.

W. M. Colburn, who in 1858 elected Attorney General of the State of Indiana on the Radical ticket, has written a letter strongly endorsing Greeley, and stating that he will support him in the coming contest.

The Monroe County Independent, a Republican paper, has declared for Greeley.

Circulars inviting democrats to attend the National Convention, to be held at Washington, are folded at the republican headquarters, and sent out in the name of the party.

William M. Coleman, republican attorney general of North Carolina, and a supporter of the Grant candidate for President, has written a letter to the State, in which he has written a letter declaring his intention to support Greeley and Brown.

A letter to the Chicago Tribune from St. Joseph, Mich., says: "Last night we had a very large meeting, and were held over for the next night. Out of that number 600 joined the club. This town is all Greeley; there is hardly a Grant man left."

Under the above heading the "Republican" of Chicago, in its issue of the 29th inst., has published an account of the Democratic County Convention of Columbia county of Tuesday before. I will not attempt to follow the record of the proceedings, as it is all so well known to the people of this county, that I should be wasting my time in repeating it. I will, however, say a few words in regard to the proceedings, as they are of some interest to the people of this county.

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New Advertisements.

CAUTION. Wherever you see this advertisement, it is a warning to you to be careful of your health.

POST. I have just received a large quantity of the best quality of goods.

ENTRANCE. I have just received a large quantity of the best quality of goods.

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