

The Columbian

Brooklyn & Belmont, Editors. BLOOMSBURG, PA. Friday, Sept. 20, 1878.

ORGANIZE! Members of the Democratic Standing Committee are requested to organize clubs in their respective districts throughout the county...

DAVID LOWENBERG, Chairman. A FLAT FAILURE.

The attempts of the Republican of this week to give names, as they threatened, is no more a support of the charge made by it against Dill's friends than it is a proof that the moon is made of green cheese.

It charged that the friends of Dill were offering railroad passes to secure votes for him, and said it could give names of those who had offered them, and those to whom they were being offered. We challenged the editors to give names, and they attempted to get out of it by passing over our challenge.

We then demanded the names, and this week in answer to that they published an article headed "Rev. J. C. Clarke and the Telegraph," in which it is alleged that "Rev. Wm. H. Dill will not deny that he offered a good Bro. a pass from Sunbury to Baltimore, Rev. McMurray will scarcely deny that he travels on a pass secured through the influence of Wm. H. Dill and advocates Dill's election on the ground that Methodism does not occupy the position it ought to and that Dill's election will give what is entitled to."

And this is all the proof of the fact that Andy Dill's friends are offering railroad passes in his behalf. Rev. Wm. H. Dill will have offered "a good Bro. a pass from Sunbury to Baltimore." It is a universal custom to allow ministers of the Gospel to travel on half fare or passes, and the offer may have been years ago. We are not informed as to that, but presume that if it was recently, the date would have been given. Rev. McMurray too may travel on a pass, and he may advocate the election of Dill for reasons of his own, but does that satisfy any reasonable man of the truth of the assertion of the Republicans? They make their assertion with a great show of importance, and put it in such shape as to carry the impression that the Democratic party were using passes freely to secure the election of one in the behalf of Mr. Dill.

Who ever heard of such frivolous arguments based only on inferences drawn from uncertain evidence, used against a candidate for any office?

We have to add in conclusion that the bluff game in this case did not scare, and the effort to sustain their charge has proved a flat failure.

OUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION. The following proceedings are pertinent to the pending Congressional contest in our District:

The Democratic Convention for the Luzerne Congressional District was held at Scranton on Monday afternoon, the 9th inst. The Chairman called the convention to order. Mr. B. Denning was chosen temporary Secretary. The temporary organization was continued, except that Mr. Edwin Shortz, of White Haven was chosen Secretary. The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, Representation in the Democratic Conference of the Eleventh Congressional District has always been placed upon a basis of three counties from each county within said district, and

WHEREAS, The erection of Lackawanna county since the meeting of the last Conference for this, the Eleventh Congressional district, has placed the portion of Luzerne county formerly embraced within the limits of Luzerne, in two separate and distinct counties and

WHEREAS, The portions of the district contained in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties have each a larger Democratic vote than any other county in the district, therefore, be it

Resolved, That a separate set of conferees be sent for Lackawanna and Luzerne counties, respectively, consisting of three conferees from each county.

Resolved, That the President and Secretary be each a conferee and that they are empowered to appoint four other conferees for both counties.

At the original Conference in 1874, after much discussion, and contrary to precedent, the representation of each County was fixed at three. Conferees each. The division of Luzerne created a new question. Shall Lackawanna have separate representation in the Eleventh and Twelfth Districts? This, of course is a matter for the Conference to decide, and we shall express no opinion on the subject at present. We are informed, however, that the election districts of the 11th Congressional district in Lackawanna county are as follows: Buck, Covington, Clifton, Goldensboro, Danmore, Hoar, Brook, 12th, 19th, and 20th and 11th wards of Scranton and Spring Brook.

We can come about about all these wards of Scranton, but assuming our correspondent to be right, the Lackawanna portion of our District, by the above resolutions claims separate representation for the election Districts above named on the ground that "the portions of the District embraced in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties have each a larger Democratic vote than any other county in the district." Let us see. The Lackawanna portion gave the following vote last year:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Votes. Buck 14, Covington 21, Clifton 21, Goldensboro 18, Danmore 29, Hoar 49, Spring Brook 12, Scranton, 11th W. 59, " 12th W. 1, " 19th W. 1, " 20th W. 8.

Total, 219. According to this 219 votes of Lackawanna is to give three Conferees. Why, East Bloomsburg alone polled 327 Democratic votes.

Of course equity will be done and all interests we trust will be harmonized when the time comes.

Democratic Duty.

A more despairing crowd than the Cameron ring has been up to this time has never been found in a political campaign in Pennsylvania. But in the last few days their leaders have set up a cry of confidence and it is to be sent all along the line. Like Swift's philosopher who extracted snuffboxes from numbers some of the Cameron leaders have sought to draw consolation and hope from the Maine election which resulted for the first and only time in twenty years in the loss of a republican governor and two members of congress. They know better than to fight with despairing troops if they can help it, and hence their extreme anxiety to create as large a degree of confidence as possible among their followers. But they have confidence in the power of the only element upon which they can depend for success—the power of money. They publicly boast of their success in having raised an immense sum from federal office holders of every degree. Their candidate for United States senator who is the reputed possessor of two or three millions is to contribute largely of his wealth to carry the legislature, and the chairman of the state committee is to come down liberally with a contribution from the fees of the office of recorder. So large is the sum raised that impetuous politicians, and county committees are everywhere being bold-faced to the effect that they will be supplied with the money they need, or all that may be profitably employed in corrupting voters and in manipulating the ballot box.

Let our democratic friends therefore be on the alert. They can only interpose personal effort and sleepless vigilance against the insidious power of money corruptly used. Watch the traitors, foremost among whom are volunteer candidates. Watch the men who start any cry of discord. Chairman Speer is doing all that human effort honestly and earnestly directed may be expected to accomplish, with the means at his disposal for strengthening the democratic lines, and he is struggling for victory with an energy and confidence that know no abatement. But the essential power of money for the necessary and legitimate purpose of distributing political information among the people is wanting. He has no source of supply to draw from, but must depend upon the generous contributions of private individuals.

For these reasons we appeal to democrats everywhere to buckle on their armor and prepare for a desperate struggle with the power of corruption. The utmost attention should be given to the payment of taxes on or before the 5th of October, so that no democrat be prevented from depositing his ballot by non-payment. This duty should be attended to at once. Success may depend upon efficiency at this point.

The democracy of Pennsylvania need not be warned in regard to the reckless and corrupt foe that confronts them. They need not be pointed to the means on which the Cameron ring must depend to retain their hold on power. No democrat will falter at the sight of the means at his disposal for strengthening the democratic lines, and he is struggling for victory with an energy and confidence that know no abatement. But the essential power of money for the necessary and legitimate purpose of distributing political information among the people is wanting. He has no source of supply to draw from, but must depend upon the generous contributions of private individuals.

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PARIS LETTER.

AN ERA OF SCIENTIFIC CONGRESSSES. A CONGRESS OF DEMOGRAPHY. THE ETHNOGRAPHIC COLLECTION IN THE PALACE OF THE TROCADERO, ETC., ETC.

PARIS, August 20th 1878. A few weeks ago there was published in a list of nearly a score of scientific congresses that were to be held in the Palace of the Trocadero: "A congress of Demography," Dr. Bertillon, a distinguished savant is the inventor of the science of Demography or at least of the name. His excellent maps enable one to take in rapidly the parts of France where legitimate prevail over illegitimate births, where irregular unions are most frequently "regularized," and natural children recognized by their fathers, where there are most drunkards; where crime is frequent and lawless and where it stalks; where primary instruction is most general; along what rivers cancer, or crup, or bronchitis, or typhoid fever, or pulmonary consumption prevail, the statistics of disease at river mouths and rivers' sources; the climates and soils most fatal to infants, to youths, and to young girls; for the geographical condition that suit the male organism in youth are often precocious to the female and vice versa. Two of the most moral departments, if morality is to be tested by the scarcity of illegitimate children and the frequency of marriages, are the Yonne and the Gers. The former is the wealthiest and a very bad department, and has for its chief town Argenon, into which, before it was annexed to France, the violent men of the south, flying from justice, used to congregate. Its population still savors of its origin. But apart from violence they are an essentially virtuous people in the chief town of the Department of Yonne.

Paris is a sink of corruption if judged by Dr. Bertillon's maps. Why it should be so requires some explanation. When a provincial girl meets with a fortune which causes her to be shunned by her neighbors she turns her face Parisward, and comes here to make a new departure. Other girls are attracted by the high wages given to domestic servants and the glamour of the dazzling city; while a vast number who desire to reap the wages of sin, and amuse themselves immensely in reaping them desert farms and workshops in small towns to join the army of vice. The largest proportion of recruits from this direction is furnished by Rheims and its environs. Why this is so is not explained by the statistics I have named. It is probably due to the poverty of the Champagne soil and the exciting nature of the wines of the Maone Valley. Poorly fed women have not vital energy enough to face bravely a life of hard work. Anemia follows on insufficient nutrition and laziness on anemia. The well fed robust Norman peasant girl is covetous and selfish, but it is not her way to seek a livelihood in vice when she comes to Paris. The high rents of lodgings in the department of the Seine is a serious impediment to marriage. A workman can live pleasantly in a garret where two would be miserable, and an infant could soon perish from the heat of the stove roof immediately overhead in summer or from the cold in winter. The Nord, take it all in all is the most vicious department in France. Factories, drunkenness, and gross appetites, render the towns pandemonium. Sunshine, fruit and olive oil, are great boons of heaven to the inhabitants of the southern provinces and conduce to health, contentment and longevity, when once the infantile diseases are surmounted. But the principle of natural selection operates severely there on young children.

In the right wing of the Trocadero there are fifteen small rooms devoted to a French ethnographic exhibition. It shows the progress of this nation towards civilization from the prehistoric period, when men lived entirely in caves and holes scooped out in hillsides, and carved rude images on the tusks of elephants which they roamed in the jungles of western Europe. Here skulls of a remote period may be seen, and there is but little difference to be found in the skull of the troglodyte of that time and the cranium of the better apes of the present. It proceeded from the lower to the higher, from the inferior to the superior quality of the brain. In the lacustrine period of progress toward civilization made a long stride. Living in habitations resembling those of beavers and defended from their natural enemies, thecarnivorous beasts, by the water that environed them, our ancestors took up sedentary habits and occupations. Their water huts, constructed on islands and dams, became to some extent workshops, and when the lacustrians quitted their water defended homes to live on terra firma they had acquired habits of sociability and mutual dependence. The food on which they lived amid the lakes and rivers was not better for the brain, scientists tell us, than the life of the deep forests of their foot, prints on the upward path towards civilization in the graves of their progenitors; by them implements of bronze were manufactured, the altar became the meeting place of the tribe; processions were organized, and in Druidical rites those glimmerings of science and philosophy which were casting light on the Galleic brain were brought into a focus. A literary element was brought in by the high civilization of Rome, which next came upon the scene. The church, as in the time of the Druids, was the synthesis of art, philosophy and science. As compared with pagan antiquity, Christianity was very benign under the Marstonian and Carolingian dynasties, but an inspection of this ethnographic museum will convince many that the darkness of that era has been overrated. In the 13th century the drama began to evolve itself in the "passion plays" and "mysteries." We find in this section seven scenes painted on one canvas. The actors placed themselves before each in succession to make time and place where until they had got to the end of their play. Those anxious to know the infancy of the modern drama should inspect the stage accessories of this exhibit.

Benjamin F. Butler was nominated for Governor of Massachusetts on Tuesday by the delegates instructed for him, after the convention had been adjourned by the chairman. Butler by some means captured a number of the delegates, and these took possession of a hall and after electing a chairman of their own gave this political trickster the nomination, he already having been nominated by the Greenback party. The Democratic State Committee refuse to stand by this action and have called another convention. We would suppose that the Greeley experiment was a lesson to the party not to be forgotten. The nomination of a man who has been its bitterest enemy cannot meet with success.

Curtin for Congress. BELLEFONTE, September 15.—The democratic primary election in this county were held last evening. The principal contest was between the supporters of ex-Governor Curtin and P. Gray Meek, of the Bellefonte faction, both of whom are candidates for congress in this district. The majority of delegates elected are for Curtin.

LATER.—The convention held at Bellefonte on the 17th nominated Curtin.

A Land Without a Printing Press.

A British consular report from Persia states that almost every child in that country is taught to read and write. The Koran is the text book. But as there are no books in the Persian character except manuscript books, the condition of popular intelligence is that of five centuries ago. When the Consul reports no books except manuscript, he probably overlooks the versions of the Bible printed in the Persian characters. That, however, is not printed in Persia, and would not be included among books in general circulation. Few new books are read, the cost of manuscript being too much for popular circulation, and few are written. The Persians adhere in chemistry to the old notion of four elements. In astronomy they are in accord with the colored Virginia teacher, who maintains that the sun moves