

## The Columbian.

J. E. BULL, Editor.  
J. E. BULL, Publisher.BLOOMSBURG, PA.  
Friday, Mar. 20, 1880.

## DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

The Democratic State committee met at the Masonic hall, Pittsburgh, on the 18th inst., and selected Harrisburg as the place and April 25th as the date for holding the State convention. A resolution was offered to instruct the chairman of the State committee to recognize the McGowan delegation from Philadelphia in making up the roll for a temporary organization of the State convention, and it was carried by a vote of 28 to 14. The committee was in session from 3 until nearly 5 p. m., and the discussions at times were both animated and protracted. Nothing of importance was presented to the committee.

Will the Republican editors inform the public why they failed to say one word in opposition to the riot bill while that measure was pending? Will they also state why it is that since the parties accused of attempting to influence the passage by corrupt solicitation have pleaded guilty, they have failed to say a single word condemning the action of the convicts. They have been mum on the subject, with the exception of a two-inch squiggle, simply announcing the fact that pleas of guilty had been entered. Evidently they did not get "a hundred dollar check" though one of them expressed his disappointment at his failure to have such an opportunity. While we denounced the bill from its very inception to the closing of the last act, and have denounced the guilty parties ever since, the Republican editors who talk about "principles" uttered not one word in opposition to it. Why? Because the ringleaders of the measure were the ringleaders of the Republican party. Kemble, the author of "addition, division and silence" was attempting to apply his arithmetic to this case, and his minions who dared not condemn any act that he favored, were compelled to hold their tongue. While that "hundred dollar check" was not issued, it required nothing of the kind to quiet our virtuous neighbors over the way, who dared not "champion a principle" when they saw their chief wipers engaged in a stupendous steal. Talk about principles. Bah!

## WILL THEY BE PARDONED?

William H. Kemble pleaded guilty to the charge of corrupt solicitation of members of the legislature to vote for the riot bill. He and others who entered the same plea, now ask the Board of Pardon to forgive them. His application is a model in its way. The first reason assigned for pardon winds up thus:

In the zeal and earnestness of the petitioner to accomplish what he believed was a laudable purpose, he may have gone beyond the boundaries of discretion, and as he subsequently learned, infringed upon the provisions of an act only recently placed upon the statute books, and which had not received a judicial interpretation.

The second begins as follows:

Our petitioners had no personal interest in the measure, but the measure was common to many of the best citizens of the State. The excitement referred to culminated in a committee of investigation before which he appeared, and he was not his participation in the matter. On consultation with his counsel he ascertained for the first time that his statements and facts as given in his examination before the committee rendered him guilty of a technical violation of the act of 1874, and subjected him to the charge of corrupt solicitation.

The simple substance of this plea is that he was ignorant of the law, and therefore ought to be excused. It is a maxim as old as the common law that ignorance of the law excuses no one. Why should not this principle be applied in the case of these conspirators as well as in other cases? When a poor man, unable to obtain counsel, steals a ham to keep his hungry children from starvation, he receives the full penalty of the law, and the Board of Pardon is applied to, promptly dismiss his request, and say that society must be protected against such men. But when Kemble and his associates knock at the door, and ask to be forgiven for the unintentional crime of attempting to defraud our law makers with money, striking at the very foundation of virtue and independence, a special day is fixed for their consideration before sentence has been imposed. The Board will meet at Harrisburg to day. We shall see what result the applications of several republican politicians will be.

## THE LIQUOR LAW.

It is a somewhat remarkable fact that no violations of the liquor laws have been returned to court by any of the constables of the county for a long time. This is in contrast to one of two things. True, either the liquor dealers are a law-abiding class of citizens, and do not sell without license, nor do minors, nor on Sundays, nor to habitual drunkards, or else the officers whose duty it is to make return of such violations, cannot discover them, or knowing them to exist, willfully refuse to make the facts known as required by law to do.

We believe that many of those who are licensed endeavor to meet the requirements of the law, but we do not believe that liquor is sold in this county from year to year without a single transgression of the statutes. Although constables are specially charged with the duty of looking after these matters, yet they are not supposed to ascertain everything that is occurring any more than other people. There is a responsibility resting upon all other citizens as well as upon the officers, and while constables must report to court all infractions of the law, it is necessary that they have the assistance and cooperation of the people in ascertaining when the law is violated. It is just as much the duty of good citizens to report such crimes to the constables, as it is for the latter to report to the court.

It is a well known fact that no man who is shown to be an improper person to hold a license, can obtain one in this county, and it is equally certain that any man now licensed who is shown to have disobeyed the law, will have his next application refused. People who withhold facts within their own knowledge from the officers and courts, ought to be punished, or at least to be held responsible for violating the law and if licenses are granted to improper persons. The law makes it the duty of the courts to grant licenses, and so long as this law remains, it must be executed. In order that it may be properly executed, the courts must have the assistance of the people in ascertaining facts which will assist them in enforcing the statutes.

## THE COMING CAMPAIGN.

A reporter of the Syracuse Courier has interviewed the Hon. Horatio Seymour and Ex-Governor Robinson on the Presidential question.

In answer to the question, "What do you think of the condition of the Republican party?" Ex-Governor Seymour said:

"The Republican party, both in this State and in the Union, is demoralized, and its quarrels are among young and active men."

"Do you think Grant will be nominated at Chicago?"

"I do not. I have no idea who will be nominated for President by the Republicans, but they will, in my opinion, nominate some new man, whose relationships are as yet unknown. The history of the Republican party has shown that its strong men have generally failed to receive the nomination for President. When Lincoln was first nominated for President he was comparatively unknown, and was accepted for the reason that no one knew what his views were. There was a bitter opposition to his nomination for the reason that his party knew him better. So with Grant. When he was nominated for President the first time no one knew what his policies or policy were. Now that both are known there is a bitter contest over him, and, in my opinion, he cannot succeed in securing the nomination. The cause of his state of affairs lies in the fact that the Republican party is made up of discordant elements, men who are wild theorists. They range in religion from Bishop Simpson down to Robert Ingersoll, and in business matters from the free commercial ideas of the business men of New York to the rigid high tariffs of Kelly, of Pennsylvania. In their political views of government they range from the opinions of Mr. Blaine, who wants to make this what he calls a sovereign nation, where the minority of people living in the small States with small populations can govern the majority by the power and patronage of the Senate, while another class of Republicans represented by journals like the New York Evening Post, which like our general government within its due limits. To satisfy such a party, made up of such discordant elements, it is necessary to take up men as they did in the case of Mr. Hayes and others mentioned, who are so little known that no section of the country can take offense.

"I do not think that any of the candidates for the Presidential nomination now prominent will be selected by the Republicans at Chicago. They are all too Republican for the Republican party. I know them all personally, and I have more kindly feelings towards them than large sections of their own party have, and I feel more respect for their characters than many of their political party express with regard to their morals, their times and their popularity."

"Governor Seymour have you an idea who will be nominated for President by the Democrats?"

"No one can yet forecast the action of the Democratic party, nor have those spoken of in connection with the nomination for the Presidency clearly made up their mind as to what they wish to be put upon the ticket. I know but little about the current of political events, as I live in a retired way, see but few people and read but few journals. My views are of little or no value, but it looks to me as if the action of the Democratic National Convention must in a great degree be shaped by the course of events, and particularly by the action of the Republican Convention, which will be held first. So far as the men are concerned who are spoken of in connection with the nomination for President by the Democrats, I feel kindly towards them all, and can give them all I have to give—my own vote, for the day has gone by when I can take an active part in a political canvass."

"What do you think of the condition of the Democratic party in the State?"

"With regard to the Democratic party in New York State, while there are unfortunate differences they are drifting into the past and are getting behind the party in its course in the future. On the other hand, the quarrels among the Republicans are breaking out along the pathways before them. Those who have been prominent in shaping the policy of the Democratic party are getting old and infirm and are dying out, and as I am the oldest I expect to lead off. The quarrels of the Democrats are over old men and it is the height of folly to continue them. The old men will pass away in two or three years at the most, and then the young and vigorous men who are left will find themselves embittered towards each other on account of men who are dead and gone and who were not worth anything over. I spent the early and best part of my life in expounding the cause of old men, and many were the bitter quarrels I had in their behalf. The wounds fretted rankle to this day and the animosities engendered, many of them have never been forgotten or allayed. I fought bitter fights over Clay, Cass, Van Buren and others, and before I knew it they were all dead. It is foolish for young men to waste their time in quarreling over or expounding the cause of old men. The Republican combatants are active men, in the vigor of life, and will continue to lead or mislead their friends for many years to come."

Hon. Lucius Robinson, ex-Governor, is at present stopping with his son, Col. D. C. Robinson, whose residence is pleasantly located on West 47th street in the city of Elmira. The interview was a pleasant one, and in it the Governor expressed the nature of a talk in which the Governor expressed himself freely and without reserve. He premised his statements with the remark that until now he had refused every request to be interviewed, and that this would be his first public utterance upon political topics since the election last fall. "As it is," said he, "I have few views to express. I have worked hard for the past few years and I now intend to take a good long rest without bothering myself much about politics."

Governor Robinson was by no means unduly flattered by your attention called to the proposition, emanating from Albany, to call a conference of leading Democrats in Syracuse or some other city, for the purpose of harmonizing the differences of the party, in this State. Are you in favor of such a plan?"

"I am not in favor of any conference of the Democrats of the State," replied the Governor. "The only way to harmonize the differences of the party is for the regular organization of the party to proceed on its way, performing its duty, and not swerving from that duty by a hair's breadth. The organization must let all who desire join it. When the regular Democratic organization of the State of New York abandons its labor and ceases to perform its functions the party in the State is broken up and demoralized and its usefulness is gone. The effect of all conventions or conferences, outside of those of the regular organization of the party for the purpose of harmonizing the differences of the party, would be simply to bring ruin to the party and satisfaction to its opponents. There is nothing exclusive, nothing personal, nothing selfish in the regular organization of the Democratic party in this country. As long as the case is tried in this way, Mr. Christianity has the advantage, being on the spot, where she can talk to the reporters."

Nothing could lay a better foundation for an understanding of the Russia of to-day than the acquaintance with its antecedents and its present state. The German House and C. A. Klein, Bloomberg, is a serial story in German. It is understood that the causes and beginnings of the Russian Revolution will be traced by Mr. Schuyler during the course of his narrative. The author's style has been pronounced admirably adapted to historical writing, and it is pleasant to note the response of interest which the publishers report.

## GREENBACK CONVENTION.

The State Greenback Labor convention met at Harrisburg on Tuesday, F. W. Hughes, of Potsville, was made permanent chairman. Hendrick B. Wright was chosen as candidate for President, F. W. Dwyer, of Schuylkill, was nominated for Supreme Judge, and A. S. Roberts, of Crawford, for Auditor General. Judge Hanley of Lackawanna was named for State Judge, and his rejection caused much dissatisfaction to delegates from Lackawanna and Luzerne. A platform was adopted in which the first plank favors making all money issued by the government a legal tender.

Second, Opposed to banks of issue, State or national.

Third, In favor of such legislation as will protect labor, and asking for the repeal of class legislation that oppresses labor.

Fourth, Extra session to workmen of California in their opposition to Chinese cheap labor.

Fifth, Favors eight hours for a day's work, reclamation of public lands for forest, and amendment of homestead laws.

Sixth, That full resolution should be made to soldiers for deprivation of money paid them, so as to put them on an equality with the bondholder.

Seventh, Favors regulation of inter-State commerce by Congress.

Eighth, Views with alarm the various attempts to limit the franchise.

Ninth, Opposed to wire order or track system, and demanding passage of an act to require payment to workmen in cash.

Tenth, Protests against pardon of riot bill offenders.

Eleventh, Favors maintenance of a tariff for protection of American industry.

Twelfth, Favors restriction of powers of private corporations.

## THE KERNS MATTER.

Many papers in the State have censured Senator Wallace for permitting the confirmation of Marshal Kerns. The facts do not seem to warrant this, as the correspondence published below shows:

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER  
WASHINGTON, March 18, 1880.  
HON. J. E. McDONALD and A. H. GARLAND, Sub-Committee of the Judiciary, Committee of U. S. Senate.

GENTLEMEN: I will thank you to furnish me with copies of my correspondence with your Committee on the subject of the confirmation of James N. Kerns as U. S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and if you feel at liberty to do so, with a statement of the reasons governing the Committee in reporting favorably upon my nomination.

Very respectfully yours,  
WILLIAM A. WALLACE.

REPLY OF SENATORS McDONALD AND GARLAND.  
HON. WILLIAM A. WALLACE, U. S. Senator.  
DEAR SIR: In reply to your inquiry as to the correspondence between yourself and the Judiciary Committee of the Senate touching the confirmation of James N. Kerns as U. S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, we herewith enclose you copies of your letters, sent to the Committee opposing Mr. Kerns.

The reasons which governed us as the Democratic members of the Sub-Committee in recommending Kern's confirmation, were substantially as follows:

The confirmation was opposed on political grounds alone. We made careful inquiry as to the personal character of Kerns, and found that it was good. We both had been members of the Investigating Committee before which Kerns appeared and testified, and where also present in Philadelphia when the examination of witnesses affecting his official action was held. This testimony was the ground of political opposition to him and had been sent by you to the Committee.

In a careful examination of it we found that Kerns' conduct, on election day, was not censurable. In view of the duties imposed upon him by law, and our judgment was that those duties were neither vindictively nor illegally performed.

He swore before our committee of investigation that deputy U. S. Marshals were not needed in Philadelphia, and that he had appointed them because the law compelled him to do so when applications were made by two citizens. He admitted he did not know many of the deputies, and took the endorsement of his political friends as to their character. In this respect he was culpable for the character of many of these deputies was very bad. This was the sole ground upon which we could sustain our rejection of Kerns, and in view of what he had testified, as well as of his personal character and behavior on election day, we did not feel justified in rejecting him, as we would run the risk of obtaining a man who would execute the law vindictively because he believed in it. These were the grounds upon which we acted.

Kerns came to see us personally while the nomination was in our hands, and we discussed the subject with him fully, and he reiterated the opinions he had previously sworn to. You did not at any time request or suggest his confirmation, nor, so far as we know, were there any intensions by you with the action of the Judiciary Committee, except as the letters herein attached show. It is not the practice of the committee to hear persons before it orally, but always in writing.

We are very respectfully yours,  
J. E. McDONALD,  
A. H. GARLAND.

COPY OF LETTERS TO CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE SENDING THE TESTIMONY.  
UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER,  
WASHINGTON, January 31, 1880.  
HON. A. G. THURMAN.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge to transmit to your committee testimony taken by a Committee of the Senate, in regard to the character and behavior of special deputy U. S. Marshals, appointed and sworn to in 1878 by Governor Kerns, and now re-appointed by Mr. Wallace. A copy of the testimony is now before your Committee for its consideration, and a copy of the Committee's report on the subject of the appointment.

Very truly yours,  
WILLIAM A. WALLACE,  
U. S. Senator.

COPY OF LETTERS TO SENATOR J. E. McDONALD, A MEMBER OF JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, WITH THE LETTERS.

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER,  
WASHINGTON, July 17, 1880.  
My Dear Senator:

I have not had an opportunity to talk with you in regard to the confirmation of Kerns as Marshal of our Eastern District, which is now before Judiciary Committee. I write to express my views on the subject. He is not a fit man for the place, as his appointments fully show, and he is a representative of the very worst elements of Philadelphia's republican politics. I shall feel that the Senate is faithful to itself if it can be confirmed.

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P. S.—I have seen Thurman and Garland and talked with them.

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UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER,  
WASHINGTON, July 2nd 1880.  
Dear Garland:

In re Kerns  
Sent to A. G. Thurnan's office for papers affecting him and his official character, and confided to R. R. Barrett, a U. S. Detective, Philadelphia, can ascertain you.

Yrs  
Wallace.

The National Prohibition Reform party will meet at Harrisburg on Tuesday, F. W. Hughes, of Potsville, was made permanent chairman. Hendrick B. Wright was chosen as candidate for President, F. W. Dwyer, of Schuylkill, was nominated for Supreme Judge, and A. S. Roberts, of Crawford, for Auditor General. Judge Hanley of Lackawanna was named for State Judge, and his rejection caused much dissatisfaction to delegates from Lackawanna and Luzerne. A platform was adopted in which the first plank favors making all money issued by the government a legal tender.

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## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.  
In pursuance of the order of the Court of Common Pleas of said county, it is hereby ordered that the estate of said deceased be sold at public sale on the 25th day of April, 1880, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the residence of the undersigned, to the highest bidder for cash.

BY THE COURT.  
In pursuance of the above order of the Court of Common Pleas of said county, it is hereby ordered that the estate of said deceased be sold at public sale on the 25th day of April, 1880, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the residence of the undersigned, to the highest bidder for cash.

CAUTION.  
All persons are hereby cautioned against receiving or holding any money or property belonging to the estate of said deceased, until after the sale of the same, and until the same has been paid over to the undersigned, who is the executor of the will of said deceased.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.  
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TO CONSUMPTIVES.  
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WE WILL SEND ONE CHICHESTER RIFLE TO EACH OF OUR CUSTOMERS WHO WILL ORDER ONE OF OUR RIFLES.

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## STRAWBRIDGE &amp; CLOTHIER.

HAVE IN STOCK THE  
SPRING BUSINESS OF 1880.

By placing on sale, in every department of the house, a line of goods, such as have never been equalled in Pennsylvania, nor elsewhere.

In making this announcement they would say to their old customers of Columbia county that they are better prepared to serve them to advantage this season than ever before. Anticipating the great advances which have occurred we placed last Summer and Autumn immense orders for staple fabrics at the very lowest point the market ever reached, and while this stock lasts, we propose to give our patrons the advantage of making all their purchases at old prices.

How great an advantage this will be more apparent three months from now.

Take the article of

## BLACK CASHMERES.

Which have already gone up in price about 25 per cent. in consequence of the advance in wool (50 per cent.) and the greatly increased demand.

These goods made expressly for us and guaranteed in every way at least unequaled, we shall sell for the present at last year's lowest prices, as the following list will show:

Letter 0. 31 inches wide  
No. 1. 31 inches wide  
Our Famous No. 1, full width  
No. 2.  
No. 3.  
No. 4.  
Our Famous No. 120.  
No. 125.  
Our Unequaled No. 140.

This article will appear throughout the entire stock. Later cards will speak of

## FANCY DRESS GOODS, SILKS &amp;c.

With which our store is overflowing with the choicest designs produced by the most renowned French makers.

## OUR MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT.

Extends to the most distant corners the opportunity of receiving their supplies at entire convenience and at the most economical rates.

## STRAWBRIDGE &amp; CLOTHIER.

Eighth and Market Streets,  
PHILADELPHIA.

## A BREECH-LOADING REPEATING RIFLE FOR \$6.50. THE IMPROVED "CHICHESTER."

Weight from 5 to 9 Pounds. Length of Barrel 22 inches.

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