

THE COLUMBIAN.

Q. B. Stewart, Editor. BLOOMSBURG, PA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1884.

The Democrats have turned the tables completely on John Sherman in his Danville investigation. They have provided by a cloud of witnesses that the Mahonites were the aggressors, and that no intimidation of votes was practiced except that employed by the Mahonites to prevent men from their race from voting the Democratic ticket.

The Republican state convention at Harrisburg on Wednesday, nominated Gen. E. S. Osborne of Luzerne county for congressman-at-large. Galusha A. Groves was the permanent chairman, and made a furious high tariff speech. As he is president of an association that seeks to make a free trade reciprocal treaty with Canada, this speech brought a smile to the face of the convention. The meeting was machine made all the way through.

The Morrison tariff bill was brought up in the House on Tuesday and its consideration was decided upon by a vote of 140 to 138. The affirmative vote was cast by 135 Democrats and 5 Republicans, and the negative by 99 Republicans and 39 Democrats. Our Representative, Mr. Storm, voted in the negative, as did the entire Democratic delegation from this state. From ten to twenty days will probably be occupied in the debate on this bill, which will be time wasted, as it cannot pass the Senate if it goes through the House, and even should it pass both branches, it would be vetoed by the President.

Philadelphia is greatly agitated over the problem as to whether Foreign and white elephants is a genuine article, or only a white-washed fraud. It is to be hoped that this momentous question will be settled in time so as not to distract the attention of the public from the Presidential election. As Congress has a white elephant on its hands in the shape of the Morrison tariff bill, it might appoint an investigating committee to determine the dispute between Foreign and Harman. This would be just as profitable for the country as the discussion of a bill that cannot by any possibility become a law.

A Gull that Must be Heeded.

The two pivotal States of the next Presidential election are Ohio and West Virginia. They are the only States which vote in October, and they will be likely to settle the Presidential question in November. If either party shall carry both Ohio and West Virginia in October, that party will surely elect the next President, and if Ohio shall vote Republican and West Virginia shall vote Democratic, the national battle will be practically adjourned until November, and the responsibility of the issue cast upon New York.

In the present aspect of political affairs, West Virginia and Ohio would be likely to vote for the same party in October. Ohio is naturally Republican as West Virginia is Democratic, but both would incline to vote Democratic for an able and conservative Presidential candidate in accord with the Ohio tariff platform, and both would certainly vote Republican in October with a Free Trade Democratic ticket.

Ohio and West Virginia are the pivotal States of the battle of 1884, and both have Democratic Governors. They have won their States and they are to be respected in counseling the path of Democratic safety. Both Governor Hoody, of Ohio, and Governor Jackson, of West Virginia, have just given their note of warning to the national Democracy, by open letters in the New York World, and both declare the Free Trade Morrison tariff theory to be suicidal. Both demand the Ohio tariff platform, as did the Pennsylvania Democrats with absolute unanimity, and when the leaders of the pivotal States present the issue involving success or defeat, only midsummer madness will refuse to take heed. Times.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The Supreme Court of the United States has rendered a decision in the insurance case of Emilie Moulton, plaintiff in error, against the American Life Insurance Company, in error to the circuit court of the United States for the eastern district of Pennsylvania. This was the suit upon a policy of life insurance which contained as a part of the contract a stipulation that "if the representations and answers made to the company in the application for a policy should be found to be untrue in any respect, the policy should be null and void." When insurance was obtained the assured was asked among other questions, whether he had ever had asthma, scrofula, or consumption. His answer was "No." In the trial of the case in the circuit court there was evidence to show that deceased had these diseases in an incipient form prior to his application for insurance but there was also evidence going to show that he was entirely unaware of it. The court instructed the jury that it made no difference whether the assured was aware of it or not; if, as a matter of fact he had had these diseases his answer to the company, although made honestly and in good faith, were none the less untrue and the contract was not bound by the policy. This ruling is here assigned for error. The court holds: First—That what the company required of the assured and what the latter agreed to as a condition precedent was that he should make full and honest answers to all questions without evasions, fraud or concealment.

Second—That the fact that he had certain diseases and said he had not had them did not necessarily invalidate the policy when there was evidence to show that the diseases were so latent that the assured was not conscious of them. Third—That it was an erroneous construction of the contract to hold as the court below did, that the company was released from liability if it appeared that the assured had been in fact affected with the diseases mentioned. The jury should have been instructed that the plaintiff was not precluded from the recovery on the policy unless it appeared that he knew or had reason to believe at the time of his application that he was or had been so affected. The judgment of the circuit below is therefore reversed with directions to set aside the verdict.

Shackles and Wallace on the Tariff Bill.

Ex-U. S. Senators Shackles and Wallace, both of whom were in Pointa Beach recently, were questioned by a reporter on the Democratic situation. "Of course the Morrison tariff bill can't pass," said Mr. Shackles, "and it should not pass. It is a piece of chivalry, a d-bate. Let Morrison be heard, but the valuable time of Congress should not be wasted in weeks of Tariff debate when legislation on the subject is impossible. The people are always willing to hear a man, and if I was in Congress I would vote to consider Morris's bill. Let him be heard in full; let Randall or Eaton or Converse answer him from the Democratic side; let any leading Republican be heard on either side, and then at once dispose of the measure finally by indefinite adjournment. The people understand the Tariff question better than the politicians suppose, and they want reduced taxes wherever possible, but they want it without injustice to our industry. I have no idea that the Tariff theory of Morrison will prevail in the Democratic National Convention. The party and the country are against it, and Chicago will settle the question. Randall," he added, "will be cordially supported by the Pennsylvania delegation and his position and the position taken by this State will make him an important factor in directing the Democratic line of battle for 1884."

WALLACE AGREES WITH BUCKALEW.

Senator Wallace was in the city looking in better health than usual and ready to go to the front in the Democratic line. "As to the Tariff in the House," said the Senator, "I would not prevent debate. Error can be much better met and vanquished by letting it show itself than by choking it. Protracted debate on the Tariff should not be allowed to the hindrance of the pressing public business, as it is known to all that no Tariff legislation is possible this session; but let the Democratic representative meet his salary give the Free Traders the floor through their best champion, and let him be answered, and the people will then understand the position of the party better than they do now. It is not Congress, but the National Convention, that makes the tariff reform, and it will not be for Free Trade. Randall will be very heartily and earnestly supported by the entire Pennsylvania delegation at Chicago, and his nomination will be made if it is within the range of possibility. The Pennsylvania Democracy never was better united in sentiment and purpose, and the influence of the State will be felt at Chicago."

COLUMBIAN ECHOES.

That was a funny letter by your correspondent who signed himself "last week." Of course the COLUMBIAN being an independent paper permits a full and free expression of opinion regarding the National Convention, and the expression of his correspondents met with its approval or otherwise, and this is just as it should be—a respectable newspaper should show fair play to every body—but it is to be questioned if such intemperate and abusive epithets as were directed against the correspondents in question can accomplish good either to the Democratic party or to its own party whatever it may be.

Spicen can in ordinary instances be removed by a good dose of liver invigorator and it is a cheaper remedy than the one suggested above and dirty ineffective. When a man cannot write to a newspaper without introducing such expressions as we find in his letter he would be wise to let newspaper writing alone. We quote the following choice selections: "brute," "swine," "allow in filth," "pest," "Hogs of Egypt," "damnable filth," "devilish plots," "satan himself," "fork full of dung," "hogs," "worms," "slimy worms." Is he personally troubled with this particular parasite? If Democrats or other good citizens wish to discuss local issues, cannot they do so without such scurrilous attacks? Gentlemen may differ in opinion but they need not cease to be gentlemen. Possibly from the nature of your correspondent's signature he has not much to risk—but we should think that with his classic attainments he could afford to get above stable illustrations. Your readers need not expect that the earth will cease to rotate or that chaos will come again because a refuses to communicate with an enlightened press.

Frank A. Witman, formerly of this place was elected Secretary of the town Council of Berwick on Monday. Only one vote was cast for his opponent Geo. A. Buckingham who was Secretary last year. This is certainly a compliment to a worthy young man. In justice to Mr. Buckingham it should be borne in mind, that the Berwick Town Council is almost entirely composed of employees of the J. & W. Co. 2nd, that these men are to a large extent under the control of a company in the application for a policy should be found to be untrue in any respect, the policy should be null and void. When insurance was obtained the assured was asked among other questions, whether he had ever had asthma, scrofula, or consumption. His answer was "No." In the trial of the case in the circuit court there was evidence to show that deceased had these diseases in an incipient form prior to his application for insurance but there was also evidence going to show that he was entirely unaware of it. The court instructed the jury that it made no difference whether the assured was aware of it or not; if, as a matter of fact he had had these diseases his answer to the company, although made honestly and in good faith, were none the less untrue and the contract was not bound by the policy. This ruling is here assigned for error. The court holds: First—That what the company required of the assured and what the latter agreed to as a condition precedent was that he should make full and honest answers to all questions without evasions, fraud or concealment. Second—That the fact that he had certain diseases and said he had not had them did not necessarily invalidate the policy when there was evidence to show that the diseases were so latent that the assured was not conscious of them. Third—That it was an erroneous construction of the contract to hold as the court below did, that the company was released from liability if it appeared that the assured had been in fact affected with the diseases mentioned. The jury should have been instructed that the plaintiff was not precluded from the recovery on the policy unless it appeared that he knew or had reason to believe at the time of his application that he was or had been so affected. The judgment of the circuit below is therefore reversed with directions to set aside the verdict.

The corpse of the Chinese cook of the ill-fated ship, Jeannette, was recently brought from the Loos River to New York, a distance of fifteen thousand miles, and will now be taken there about twenty miles farther, to China. We doubt whether in the history of the world the corpse of any other human being has traveled such a long distance to reach the land of its nativity—twenty-eight thousand miles in all.

A Skeleton in a Flue.

Orlando B. Fackelton had men engaged in tearing down the chimney and inner walls of an antiquated house at Springtown, Bucks county, on Saturday, to make some improvements. A human skeleton was found imbedded in a flue. It is rumored that it dark and bloody deeds were done in this house, which is built of lime stone two stories high, containing eleven large rooms. During the revolutionary war it was a noted resort, being once used as an inn. At close of the war of 1812 a number of soldiers, returning from the army, lodged there. They became involved in a fight, in which several were killed. In one of the rooms sword thrusts and bullet marks can be seen in the framework. In the immense chimneys and inner walls of the building that are about being removed, it is expected that other discoveries will be made.

Wages of Labor.

In many of the protected industries the reduction of wages is still going on, while it is observed that there is no corresponding reduction of the wages of skillful workmen who are indebted to the tariff for nothing but burdens. In a portion of the anthracite coal regions the wages have been cut down to what the miners describe as starvation rate. Since the beginning of the year the reduction of wages of factory hands in New England has varied from 10 to 15 per cent. Bradstreet's review, shows that in the manufacturing and steel works, and the nail factories of the East an almost general reduction has taken place in the rates of wages, while there has been a partial reduction of the wages in these industries in the West. Whilst there has been a large increase in the making capacity, a general strike against reduced wages prevails in the nail works of New England. In the window glass trade a reduction has been resumed after a long strike, and will continue until over production induces another reduction of wages or another strike. In other protected industries there has been little variation from the downward tendency on wages.

These reductions of wages, with strikes and loss of employment in many quarters, it need not be said, have been accompanied by much distress among working people. In connection with this condition in the field of protected industry it is noted that greater reduction of wages have taken place in the East than in the West. The manufacturers of the East are on the outer edge of the home market, while the tariff closes the foreign markets to them, and they are therefore the first to feel the effects of over-production. Cost of freight does not permit them to take their products far inland before they are met by the competition of the West, and the raw materials through the tariff will not let their products out. They are thus between two fires, and when the crisis of over production comes they must meet it with a reduction of wages. Hence a removal of the heavy taxes on the raw materials of the West, and a coming a crying necessity, with the manufacturers as well as the working men of the East, and all the sophistries of production will not be able to silence. With busy manufacturing plants the West is unable to supply some market, it is on the ocean from a blind legislative policy will not permit the tempting products of Eastern silk and other industry to reach the markets of the world.—Phila Record.

"Dr." Madden's Victim.

The sad story of Sadie McClenaghan's life and punishment. Dr. Winfield Scott Madden was arrested last Saturday at Scranton upon the charge of having kept Sadie McClenaghan, a handsome girl, chained in his office like a wild beast for nearly seven weeks, and there can be no doubt that had his victim been a man, he would have been lynched. Madden seemed to realize his position, and was in a state of mental terror most of the day, frequently requesting the prison authorities to double the guards, lest an attempt should be made upon the life of the girl. Miss McClenaghan was sent to the Susquehanna House and seemed much improved since she escaped from the influence of the monster who effected her ruin and made her his slave. Mrs. Carpenter, wife of the proprietor of the hotel, took a deep interest in the girl and was affected to tears while the latter related her bitter story.

THE INJURED GIRL'S APPEARANCE.

Sadie is tall and graceful, has large, expressive eyes, luxuriant jet black hair, and was evidently the possessor of great beauty before Madden's ill treatment. She was an artless country girl when he first met her, and a regular attendant at the Methodist Sunday School in Lewistown. She still speaks of the school and of her pastor, the Rev. Mr. McClanahan, with evident pleasure. There is certainly nothing vicious in her nature, and her disgrace and sorrow are due entirely to the great confidence reposed in Madden.

MADDEN AS A QUACK DOCTOR.

Madden became associated with a quack, named Gibson, and built up a large medical practice by employing certain mountebank methods. Gibson pretended to work miracles by means of what he called a "pneumatizer," of which he claimed to be the inventor, but he was convicted of an assault upon a farmer's wife, and fled to New York. He then advertised that he was dead, but was arrested last week in Pittsburg and brought back to Scranton, now occupying a cell next to Madden's. When Gibson went away Madden became more respectable and tried to build up a regular practice. All this time he feared that Miss McClenaghan, who was living at Lewistown with her sister, would be advised by her relatives and have him arrested.

HE WAS CONSTANTLY WRITING LETTERS,

begging that she should come to Scranton. She came on the 29th of February, and finding that he had not yet obtained his promised divorce, was about to return home. He insisted on her staying. She had \$5, but he took her money away from her and shortly afterwards began the fearful system of cruelty which resulted in her arrest Saturday. After chaining her ankles to the bed in his back room until the iron wore into the flesh, he had a large strap until she finally broke her captivity and fled to New York.

Upon hearing her story and com-

mitting Madden, in default of \$4800 bail, Mayor Beamish gave the girl \$5 to pay her fare home. Madden admits having chained the girl in his room and wrapped her up in straw; but says that she wanted to be restrained in that manner, which the girl, of course denies, saying that when Madden first bound her to the floor she feared he was going to kill her. His reason for locking her up in prison was that, he thought if she was free she would have him arrested and disgraced.

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