

The Columbian.

VOL 28

BLOOMSBURG, PA., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1893.

NO 40

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

THOMPSON FOR SUPREME JUDGE. OSBURN FOR STATE TREASURER.

The Democratic State Convention was held at Harrisburg Tuesday, September 19th. The Convention was called to order by State Chairman Wright. When the Convention quieted down for business Secretary B. M. Nead read the call issued by the State Committee and then called a roll by counties.

The following temporary officers were then placed in nomination: Temporary chairman, James L. Lenahan, Luzerne; secretaries, Benjamin M. Nead, John D. Worman, George H. Hoffman, Joseph Hunter, Captain George R. Guss; sergeant-at-arms, Dallas Dillinger, Allentown; door-keeper, James Jackson, Philadelphia; stenographer, E. G. VanBaman; assistant sergeant-at-arms, C. F. Ebel, McCormick McCall, J. McQuade, James Clark, Joseph Bailey; assistant doorkeepers, C. S. Popel, Thomas Doran, Michael Lawler, Dennis Sullivan, Jere McCarty, William Carlin, John T. Gerber, R. Swarz; page, Joseph G. Brown.

The officers were elected by acclamation. Mr. Lenahan was presented to the convention by Chairman Wright.

Mr. Lenahan made a brief address to the convention and then proceeded at once with the business. The various committees were appointed and retired to prepare their reports. When the convention re-assembled, the committee on permanent organizations reported the name of E. P. Gillespie, of Mercer. The report was adopted. Mr. Gillespie was escorted to the chair by Dr. G. H. Kinsman of Luzerne and Samuel Josephs of Philadelphia. The committee on rules and platform made this report, which after some discussion was adopted.

The convention then received nominations for State Treasurer: Walter W. Patrick, of Pittsburg, was named by Squire Cornelius O'Donnell, of that city, and Frank C. Osburn by Tim O'Leary. The nomination of Patrick was seconded by an eloquent young delegate from Westmoreland, and that of Osburn by a half dozen or more delegates from various parts of the state.

On call of roll Osburn received 411 votes and Patrick 37. Upon motion of County Chairman Brennan the nomination was made unanimous.

Judge Thompson's name was placed in nomination for the supreme bench by Attorney General Hensel and seconded by James M. Beck, of Philadelphia. There being no other candidates named, the nomination was made by acclamation. Mr. Osburn was introduced to the convention by Chairman Gillespie. He made a brief speech, returning his thanks for the honor conferred upon him and pledging himself to make an aggressive canvass.

The chair appointed Messrs. Hensel, of Lancaster; Beck and Wilhere, of Philadelphia; James L. Lenahan, of Wilkesbarre; and John J. Fahey, of Scranton, a committee to inform Justice Thompson of his nomination. There being no further business before the convention it was declared adjourned sine die.

THE PLATFORM.

The following is a full text of the platform as adopted by the convention:

We, the representatives of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, in convention assembled, declare our unflinching faith in the principles and leadership which gave victory to the Democratic party in 1892, control of both houses of congress, and made Grover Cleveland president for the second time.

First. We declare anew our devotion to the fundamental principles of sound Democracy—taxation only for the purposes of government economically administered, honest money, the gold and silver coinage of the constitution, and an upright discharge of official duty.

Second. A Democratic administration left \$1,000,000,000 surplus in the federal treasury. A Republican successor, in four years, converted this into a deficit of \$30,000,000,000. We declare that the disturbed financial condition of the country has followed Republican administration, and that business depression has resulted from vicious legislation for which the Republican party is solely responsible. To correct and relieve these, a Democratic president and a Democratic congress are pledged, and their efforts in that direction are entitled to the support of patriotic citizens regardless of party.

Third. We heartily endorse the administration of President Cleveland and his cabinet. We approve his recommendation to congress of the repeal of the silver purchase clause of the Sherman act; and we hail with satisfaction his assurance that the vital cause of tariff reform is not to be abandoned, nor its consummation to be long postponed. A deficiency of nearly \$40,000,000 in the annual revenues of the federal government is the direct result of the McKinley tariff act, and renders a prompt revision of the tariff absolutely necessary.

Fourth. We approve the action of the

house of representatives in voting so decisively in favor of the repeal of the silver purchase law; and we call upon the United States senators from Pennsylvania to give their support to such legislation as may insure the prompt and unconditional repeal of that vicious law.

Fifth. We denounce the declaration made by the Republican state convention in favor of an enormous expansion of the currency as unwise, imprudent and calculated to produce dangerous inflation of values, reckless speculation and disastrous consequences. We favor a currency of gold and silver coin, treasury and bank notes sufficient for the business needs of the country; but we insist that it shall at all times be kept at a parity of value.

Sixth. We rejoice in the generous beneficence of a grateful republic to the soldiers and sailors who imperiled their lives for its defense. The pension roll should be a roll of honor, and it should be speedily purged of all unworthy names placed upon it in violation of law or in derogation of the rights of these heroic patriots to the people's bounty; and we cordially approve the efforts of the federal administration to that end.

Seventh. We cordially approve and endorse the administration of Governor Pattison and his constitutional advisers. It has justified the public confidence manifested by his election. His recommendations of salutary legislation, though largely ignored by a Republican legislature, have had the support and favor of the people of the Commonwealth. His continued and fearless exercise of the veto power to defeat unconstitutional, ill-considered and reckless legislation merits our unqualified commendation.

Eighth. We arraign and condemn the last Republican legislature for its profligacy; for its defiance and disregard of the constitution; and for its shameless neglect and refusal to enact wholesome laws demanded for the public welfare. It refused to repeal the statutes requiring the useless advertising of the mercantile appraisements at an enormous expense to the state. It failed to make congressional, senatorial, representative and judicial appointments, as commanded by the constitution. It refused to pass the legislation necessary to protect the public from unjust discriminations by corporations. It neglected to equalize taxation in response to the demands of overburdened labor and of the agricultural interests of the Commonwealth. It persistently refused to adopt any method by which the enormous deposit of state moneys now scattered among favored institutions should be made amply secure and remunerative to the Commonwealth. It failed to prescribe amendments to the ballot laws necessary to promote greater purity, secrecy and freedom of the franchise.

Ninth. Upon the issues thus made by the fidelity of the executive department of the state government and the recency of the Republican legislature, we appeal to the people of Pennsylvania; and we present the standard bearers this day nominated as fit and true representatives respectively of the highest dignity of the judicial office and of reform in the management of the state treasury.

Tenth. We invite the consideration of the people of the state of Pennsylvania to the importance of a non-partisan judiciary. The spirit, if not the letter, of the constitution contemplates that the courts, especially the supreme court, shall contain, in equitable proportions, representatives of the great political parties within the Commonwealth. Courts so constituted are more likely to possess and deserve the entire confidence of the people. The undue proportion of the representatives of one great political party in the supreme court of Pennsylvania may be corrected at the coming election. We have sufficient confidence in the people of the Commonwealth to expect that will be so corrected.

Eleventh. In accordance with the recommendation of the Democratic state, county and city organizations of Pennsylvania are advised and directed to further by every means in their power the institution of regular Democratic societies in every election district and the union of such societies in the Democratic society of the state and the national association of Democratic clubs.

Resolved, That we heartily commend the effective and successful work of the Democratic national committee in the campaign of 1892; and we recall with particular satisfaction and admiration the fidelity, skill and ability displayed by William F. Harris, who was selected by the Democracy of the country for the difficult and responsible duties of the chairmanship. He deserves and possesses the confidence of the Democrats of the country, especially of Pennsylvania; and we but discharge our duty by giving expression to the appreciation and gratitude we feel because of the highly efficient services rendered by him.

Jeremiah S. Yohe died suddenly at his home, Mifflinville, early Tuesday morning. He always had the appearance of good health, but for the last few years, was afflicted with dropsy. Monday evening he retired early, feeling very cheerful. At about midnight Mrs. Yohe awoke and gave him some medicine, then she lay down again. Soon afterwards, he made a peculiar noise in breathing, and she arose again, lighted a lamp, and found him just about expiring.

Mr. Yohe was about 48 years of age, and the only remaining son of the late Benjamin Yohe. He had long been a member of the M. E. Church, and one of the substantial citizens of the town. Funeral services were held ten o'clock Thursday morning, conducted by Rev. A. S. Metzler of Beaver Meadows, a former pastor and friend.

The most severe storm of the season was experienced Friday of last week. The rain fell in torrents filling the gutters to overflowing, and washing debris of all kinds over the crossings. Several sharp flashes of lightning, with heavy peals of thunder but no damage done. Bloomsburg is fortunate in the midst of storms.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

A special meeting of Council was held Wednesday evening Sept. 13th. All members present.

Building permit granted to Mr. Ratti provided he erects a culvert so far as the run reaches along his property.

It was directed that the ordinance relating to the grading of West street be changed so as to allow a drop of a foot at the alley in the rear of Sterner's property.

The Solicitor handed in an opinion relating to the taxation of the property situated on corner of Iron and Third streets owned by the Catholic church. At a former meeting of the Council it was requested that this property be exonerated from taxation because it was church property, and in the future would be used for parochial school. The Council refused, because it is now drawing rent, and hence should pay tax. The solicitor concurred in this opinion.

The committee on Highways gave the following report: "We recommend that Mr. Brower raise his pavement to grade at Penn St. and the Commissioner of Highways be instructed to put in open gutters across Penn St. and grade same to suit Second St., and that Penn St. be cut down 18 inches at the alley; this work not to be done until the Normal School finish their grading on said St."

Grant Herring Esq. appeared and asked for the opening of East Third Street north of East, and give the property owners an opportunity to enjoy the rights and privileges others enjoy. The question was raised in regard to the assessment of damages and stated that damages must be paid as soon as the street is opened. A motion was then made that East Third Street be opened immediately, and the sewer extended up said street. Complaint was made in regard to the sewer at the carpet mill. The Superintendent of sewer and street commissioner were directed to examine the inlets to the sewer at the carpet mill.

A special meeting of Council was held Saturday evening, September 16th, to hear the opinion of the Solicitor in reference to the right of the president to remove Thomas Gorry from the committee on highways and appoint another. The Solicitor in giving his opinion took the assumption that the President of the Town Council had the power to appoint Mr. Gorry to the position he did.

"After a somewhat lengthy search I have been unable to find a precedent exactly in point, and I doubt if the books contain a case on all fours with the present one. Therefore we must depend, for the solution of this question upon general principles; and I believe that throughout the entire history of municipal government in this state it has been generally conceded that the power of appointment carries with it the power of removal, except where such removal is expressly restricted."

He quoted from the present Constitution of our state as follows: "Appointed officers, other than Judges of the Courts of Record and the Supt. of Public Instruction, may be removed at the pleasure of the power by which they shall have been appointed." In *Luckalew* on the Constitution the learned Author commenting on this section, says, "There can be no question that the second division of this section (above quoted) has introduced into the constitution a most important change relating to removal from office. Except as to a few offices mentioned therein, a power to remove will hereafter be inseparable from the power to appoint. The power will extend to officers appointed for fixed, statutory terms, as well as to others, and may be exercised by an inferior appointing power as well as by the Governor of the Commonwealth."*

After quoting many other cases all bearing upon appointing powers having a right to remove appointees he said: "If the power to appoint has the power to remove, we are then confronted by the question—had the President of the Town Council the power to appoint Mr. Gorry."

I am of the opinion that he had, not by reason of anything contained in our Town Charter; not by virtue of any ordinance or enactment of the Council, but by common consent, by the uninterrupted custom of your body. It has always been the practice, I am informed, for the President to appoint the standing committees, and the Council proper has acknowledged, acquiesced in and affirmed such a course. They have recognized this committee, have accepted its reports and have acted upon the recommendation of its Chairman and members. In other words, by common consent they have "permitted" the President to exercise this power. I use the

word "permitted" advisedly, for I am of the opinion that the power to appoint the standing committees originally lies inherent in the body itself, and as I have said, it is only by its permission that the President exercises such a privilege. Nothing in the charter or bylaws gives him such authority, as is the case in our state House of Representatives, where the rules provide that all standing committees shall be appointed by the Speaker. Indeed, if the Council saw fit, no standing committees at all would need to be appointed. Therefore, in my opinion, the Council as a body may at any time avail itself of the power it now delegates to the President, and by resolution or otherwise, name the committees and the members who shall compose them.

After further arguing the question he said: I have arrived at this conclusion:

FIRST:—That the President, by virtue of the power granted to him by custom and the common consent and permission of the Council, could properly appoint and remove Mr. Gorry.

SECOND:—That the Council may at any time assume control of the several standing committees and name the members thereof.

Respectfully submitted,
FRED IKELER,
Sept. 16th, 1893. Town Solicitor.

The following resolution was then offered by Peacock, seconded by Holmes and agreed to. Yeas—Peacock, Holmes, Housel and Gorrey; nays—Drinker, Swentzel not voting:

WHEREAS, A dispute has arisen concerning the authority of President to remove Gorrey from chairmanship of Committee on Highways and

WHEREAS, An opinion has been filed by the Solicitor deciding that the authority to appoint committees is in the Council itself if it chooses to assume such authority therefore be it

Resolved, That from and after the filing of this opinion the Committee on Highways as well as all committees shall be appointed by the Council and that the Committee of Highways for the remainder of this year shall be as follows: Messrs. Gorrey, Swentzel and Holmes and that all other committees be and remain as now constituted.

Thomas Gorrey also presented and had read an opinion from his attorney, Grant Herring Esq., on the subject: Mr. Herring quoted from the Laws, Ordinances and By-Laws of the Town of Bloomsburg, pages 12 to 14, Act of April 3d, 1851, section 2 as follows:

"The powers of the corporation shall be vested in the corporate officers designated in the Charter. They shall have power * * * [Article 22] to appoint and remove such officers, prescribe their duties and allow them such compensation as they may deem necessary to secure the peace, order and well being of the inhabitants and to enforce the ordinances and regulations of the Borough."

The Charter of the Town of Bloomsburg which is the Act of March 4, 1870, and its Supplements, in Section 2 of that Act, designates as the corporate officers of the said Town "A Town Council to consist of a President, and six members who shall severally hold their offices for the term of one year and the said Council and the President therefore shall respectively possess all the powers conferred upon them by this Act."

An Amendment found on page 95 of the Laws etc., of Bloomsburg and passed Oct. 29, 1891, provides:

"The Commissioner of Highways shall be subject at all times in the performance of his duties to the direction of the President of the Council and the Committee on Highways."

Article 10 of the By-Laws provides as follows:

"Any officer appointed by the Council may be removed from office for reasonable cause at the discretion of the Council pending his term of service, but such removal shall be upon hearing of the matter of complaint and by the concurrence of at least five votes in Council."

Article 4 of the By-Laws page 92 says:

"Four members in Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of ordinary business, but no appointment to any office * * * shall be made or passed by less than four votes in Council."

After discussing the question at issue at some length he concludes as follows:

"Up to this time, no one has ever questioned the right of the President to appoint and remove officers, but now that that question has been raised the burden is upon the President to show some lawful authority for his

conduct. Failing to do this, it cannot be sustained, of course. The authorities clearly point to his inability to make these appointments and remove them. The spirit and letter of our charter place these powers in the Council beyond question. That being so it follows as night follows day that he had neither the right to appoint or remove.

MR. SAMUEL H. HARMAN'S PARTY.

A BRILLIANT GATHERING AT THE EXCHANGE HOTEL.

It was during the month of August that our popular young townsman, Mr. Samuel H. Harman, arrived at the age of twenty one years, and he determined to celebrate this important event in his life by inviting his friends to spend an evening with him. Two weeks in advance of the time, handsomely engraved invitations were sent out to about one hundred and fifty persons to attend a party at the Exchange Hotel on the night of September 15th, at which time nearly one hundred guests responded with their presence. It was a brilliant gathering, and one of the most delightful parties ever given in Bloomsburg. The guests were received in the lower parlor by Mr. Harman, his sister Miss Helen Harman, and his cousins Mrs. Geo. E. Elwell, Mrs. William Leverett, and Mrs. Chas. Watson McKelvy.

The parlor was beautifully decorated with ferns and plants from Dillon's greenhouse, and the floor of the dining room was covered with grass. The dance programmes were engraved, and besides the dances, contained the names of the music and the composer of each selection. There were twenty numbers. The music was furnished by Chas. P. Elwell's orchestra of eight pieces, and everybody pronounced it the best that has ever been heard at the Exchange Hotel. Orchestras from Williamsport, Wilkesbarre, Allentown, Scranton, Drifton, Sunbury, and other places have been brought here on different occasions, but the Bloomsburg boys are equal to any of them. Much of the music was encored, and the orchestra very obligingly repeated the pieces.

At twelve o'clock tables were arranged in the dining room, and delicious refreshments were served.

A number of strangers were present, among them being Miss Helen Harman of Bridgeport; Mr. and Mrs. W. Leverett, Mr. Fred Weeks, Wilkesbarre; Miss Carrie Brown, Miss Woolly and Mr. Art. Woolly, Danville; Miss Dove, the Misses Diemer, Messrs. Horace Otto, William Showers, William Slate, Williamsport; Misses Moody, Packer and Mann, Sunbury; Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Montgomery, W. C. Sloan, Philadelphia; Miss Nellie Monroe, Rupert; Mr. John Bucher, Lewisburg; Mr. T. Forest, New York.

The ladies with their charming gowns, and still more charming faces, the gentlemen in full evening suits, the floral decorations, under the brilliant electric lights, combined to make it a most attractive and pleasant scene. Mr. Harman is to be congratulated upon attaining his majority and also on having given a party that will live long in the memory of those whose privilege it was to be numbered among the guests.

All the arrangements about the hotel were perfect, and Mr. McCloskey and his efficient aids have demonstrated the fact that they know just what to do on such an occasion. It was five o'clock in the morning before the musicians folded up their racks and the guests departed.

Law Regarding Steam Threshers.

As it is now a very common thing to meet the traction engine in our roads day and night it is well to remind owners and those having charge of them of the law governing them on the public roads. "Every engine propelled by steam must have a man at least three hundred yards ahead of his engine to warn persons riding or driving upon any public road, of the fact that the engine is coming, and also to 'assist' in the 'management' of any horse or horses that may require his assistance to control." It also requires the engine to be run as far as practicable to the sides of the road and remain stationary until said horses have passed to a safe distance, in the meantime making as little noise as possible with the steam. The penalty for failing to comply with the law is a fine of ten dollars and costs; and the law further requires him to have a printed copy posted on his engine under the fine not less than ten dollars.

The new Pension Board consisting of Drs. Rutter, Redeker and McReynolds, met last week Wednesday and organized. The Board will meet every Wednesday at Dr. Rutter's office.

BRIEF MENTION.

About People You Know.

W. S. Moyer and family returned from Chicago on Saturday.

F. P. Davis, postmaster at Canby, was in town on business Saturday.

John Aikman and sister May started for the World's Fair Monday.

Geo. C. Roan, foreman of this office is confined to the house by sickness.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Everett spent last week in Philadelphia and New York.

County Treasurer Kline and Wm. H. Snyder caught two fine coons one night last week down at the pinnacle along Roaring creek.

J. K. Lockard and wife and daughter Jennie, Maude Runyon, I. D. White and wife, will start for the World's Fair next Monday.

B. D. Cole and daughter of Jamison City came in town a few hours Monday. They took the 10.49 train via Scranton for the World's Fair.

Mr. J. V. Buck who has been butchering for G. A. Herring for some time, has moved his family from Hughesville to Bloomsburg.

Robert Vanderslice and wife and Mrs. L. N. Moyer started for Niagara Falls Monday. From thence they will go the World's Fair, returning in about two weeks.

J. S. Blue and wife returned last Saturday from their trip to the World's Fair. On Monday his partner, P. E. Heddens, with his wife started for Chicago to be absent about ten days.

E. C. Bundy has been missed from his regular attendance at our markets this week. He was in attendance at the exhibition of the Patrons of Husbandry, at Centre Hall, Pa.

John Lex is visiting his uncle C. H. Reice. Mr. Lex is in the employ of the Pennsylvania railroad, Broad street, Philadelphia, where he has been employed many years.

C. C. Trench and wife started Monday for the World's Fair. After taking in some of the sights Mr. Trench will go farther West, visiting at Colorado and from thence across the continent to California.

The following persons from Bloomsburg went to the World's Fair Monday via Scranton: L. N. Moyer, C. C. Peacock, Mrs. Geo. Hassert and daughter Annie; Ida Heist, and Mary Heist.

DEATH FROM A FALL.

Joseph Miles Ohl, son of Geo. Ohl, met with an accident Wednesday morning, at about eight o'clock, while working at the Magee store building, which resulted in his death at a little before six o'clock in the evening. He was a carpenter by trade, and for the past fifteen years worked at the Bloomsburg Car Co. About six years ago he built a home on Fifth street opposite the public school building and moved from Hemlock township. About eleven years ago he married Miss Dora Robbins, a niece of Dr. Honors Robbins, who with an adopted young child survives. On Tuesday morning he began work at the Magee store building. Wednesday morning he was on a scaffold about seven feet high on the second floor railing ceiling boards, and stepping backwards, a board of the scaffold tipped and he turning a half somersault landed on the door sill on his head and shoulder; after the fall his body pitched forward and he almost went out of the door from the second floor. He was picked up, no bones supposed to be broken, but he complained of sickness about the stomach and pain in the head. A wagon was secured and Dr. Willits called in. He was taken home and seemed to be doing well, although complaining of the pain in his head. After consultation morphine was injected into his arm. He remained conscious until about ten o'clock when he went into a deep sleep from which he did not recover. His mother and relatives were summoned about dinner time. He was about 37 years of age. His sudden death recalls a strange coincidence. His young brother John who was buried just five weeks previous was also a workman (stone mason) at the Magee building, and worked only a day and a half when he was suddenly taken sick on a Saturday and died the following Monday. Three brothers, Boyd, Michael and Elmer survive. The remains of Miles will be buried in Rosemont cemetery, Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.