

The Columbian.

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THE COLUMBIAN, Bloomsburg, Pa.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1897.

PARTY RULES.

(Communicated.)

As the Rules of the Democratic party in this county remain unchanged, (except in a single particular) by the failure of the late convention to act upon the proposed changes, there will be plenty of time to consider those changes before any future action upon them can be demanded.

But inasmuch as it is absurdly and falsely claimed that the new rules were in some way adopted without any convention vote thereon, it will be timely to point out the plain facts which settle that question beyond honest dispute.

The Standing Committee in March last appointed a committee of five to prepare amendments to the rules, and were authorized to report to the next annual County Convention their amendments, for adoption or rejection, by that body.

The committee prepared such amendments, concluding their sittings on the 17th of July, but withheld their amendments for publication in the Democratic newspapers until Thursday of the week before the delegate election, thus rendering impossible any discussion or examination of them or opposition to them through the same newspapers, before Thursday and Friday of the following week, or only one or two days before the delegate election was held. Besides, the committee made no report of their new rules to the convention, according to the terms of their appointment, nor were they read in convention, or actually presented to it, in any regular form.

But at the delegate election the regular slip ticket of candidates appeared with an addition to the bottom, without any apparent authority therefor, inviting an expression of preference by voters upon a single alternative question, to wit: nomination of candidates by delegates, or by the highest popular vote. There is no reason to doubt that this invited expression of choice or preference was intended to influence votes in convention when the new rules came under consideration, but it was neither in form nor in substance, a binding instruction; that is, a command or order to the delegates how they should vote, and confined as it was to one question, it could have no relation or concern with the many other questions raised by the new rules for the consideration and decision of the convention by a two-thirds vote. The judgment and discretion of the convention in the amendment of rules expressly and clearly conferred upon it by the rules themselves, was not, therefore, not infringed upon, or intended to be, by this preference vote. It simply conveyed information of views held by those who voted, upon an abstract question, which might be involved in convention debate.

All this appears clearly enough from the call for the delegate election and convention, by the accomplished chairman of the standing committee, who, after referring to the action of the amendment committee, and a consideration of the subject of amendment at the time of choosing delegates, clearly stated a party law of the case as follows, to wit: "For these rules to go into effect it requires a two-thirds vote of the delegates of the convention, and if endorsed by the convention they will then govern the primary election of 1898 for the first trial."

Under this declaration the Democratic people of the county had a right to understand, and did understand, that the power of amendment vested in the members of the convention would be fully exercised by them, if thought necessary, by formal votes, and under the two-thirds rule, with due respect to the views of their constituents, and in view of the best interests of the party. They had no conception that a chairman would be chosen in convention (as the Sentinel informs us) "to command the situation," and ultimately prevent a convention vote.

It will be seen that when Mr. Daniel McHenry, as a friend of change, moved in convention for a vote on the new rules, that he did what was expected, and his motion was appropriate to convention business. After debate on his motion, a

vote thereon was a matter of course, and a regular, valid and binding decision by the convention reached.

Why was the question not put and a vote had? Because the men who controlled the chair had learned that the necessary two-thirds vote to carry the new rules could not be obtained from the convention.

So the chair was made to say that the new rules had been already carried by the preferential voting at the delegate elections above referred to, and were established thereby! This baseless statement was promptly challenged by Mr. Buckalew, seconded by several members, in demanding the yeas and nays upon the McHenry motion under the plain rule that "any two members may demand the yeas and nays upon any question pending." The demand was refused and the floor promptly given to a member to move the completion of the Associate Judge nomination.

This concludes the narrative of material facts, showing that the proposed new rules have not been adopted.

Certainly, the convention did not adopt them, or even vote upon them, although their approval, by a vote of two-thirds of the members (as explained to the people by the chairman of the standing committee) was absolutely necessary to their success.

A. B. HERRING'S NOMINATION.

The comments in last week's Sentinel upon A. B. Herring's nomination for Associate Judge are not reasonable or just. Nor should a nominee of the party be assailed without a prior opportunity for defence.

The assertion that he received over 200 fraudulent votes is not borne out by any evidence before the public, nor charged nor hinted at even, before the convention where it should have been made, if true. Besides, the known character of the nominee precludes the idea that he would be a party to any fraud upon the election laws, or the rights of rival candidates.

As to the complaint that Dr. Redeker was not nominated by the convention, that is a matter of opinion upon which men may honestly differ according to their predilections. Upon the face of the election Redeker had 3 1/2 instructed convention votes, Herring 29, and 2 1/2 instructed votes as second choice. As those second choice votes were given on Campbell ballots, when Campbell was dropped the instructed vote between the two highest candidates would stand: Redeker 3 1/2, Herring 3 1/2 or a tie vote, leaving the Croop delegates the duty and power of deciding the nomination. The result was, 53 to 39 in favor of Herring, and his nomination was duly announced.

In short, more of the Campbell and Croop delegates voted for Herring than for Redeker. We see no reason to complain of this or to impute to the delegates bad motives.

It was a fair consideration for them, that as Bloomsburg had already the President Judge, it would be reasonable to place the associate nomination elsewhere, and Mr. Herring may have had also the advantage of a longer residence in the county. Whatever may have prompted them, it is certain that Mr. Herring was fairly and regularly nominated under the party rules as they have been for many years, and he is entitled to the support of the Democratic voters.

Dun's report of business last week says:

"Every city reporting this week notes increase in trade, and nearly all bright crop prospects. The great change in business is emphasized by the presence of a multitude of buyers from all parts of the country, by their statements of the situation at their homes, and more forcibly yet by the heavy purchases they are making. But the customary signs of prosperity are not lacking. The strong rise in stocks, the growth of bank clearings and railroad earnings, the heavy speculation in many products, but most of all in wheat, have made the week one of surpassing interest even to those who best remember the upward rush in 1879. At the principal clearing houses throughout the country payments in July were for the first time slightly larger than in 1892, and 11.0 per cent. larger than last year; in the first week of August 7.7 per cent. larger than in 1892 and 28.4 per cent. larger than last year, and in the second week of August they are 17.9 per cent. larger than in 1892, and 38.1 per cent. larger than last year."

A strong fight is going on throughout the state against the re-election of William F. Harry as Democratic National Committeeman for Pennsylvania. He was not in sympathy with the Bryan campaign, and is said to have voted the Palmer ticket, and for this reason is being opposed. Nearly every Democratic county convention held thus far, has endorsed the Chicago platform, and it looks as though the party will get in line under that banner.

GLAD TIDINGS OF JOY

FACTS THAT POINT UNERRINGLY TO PROSPERITY.

Millions Flow to Farmers for Their Wheat Crop—Their Prosperity Quickens Every Avenue of the Business World—The Problem of Transportation.

It is perfectly natural that after the long and disastrous period of business depression through which the country has passed, that there should be serious fears lest the signs of a return of prosperity may prove delusive, as they have so many times before, and that business men should halt before embarking in large enterprises, which involve the outlay of enormous capital and long waiting for returns. But if we make full allowance for the natural timidity of capital, we shall still be assured and reassured that such a degree of prosperity has already arrived, and such unmistakable promises of the future are clearly discernible, that there can no longer be a reasonable doubt of the fact that we have already entered upon an era of great and long to be continued prosperity.

The most pessimistic, can not shut



Nebraska's Wheat Yield.

their eyes to the facts respecting the conditions which must in the very nature of things produce widespread prosperity. These facts to which we refer, are entirely apart from the relations of the tariff legislation to general business conditions, except only as the settlement of the question removes from business the uncertainties which have weighed it down during the past two or three years.

The first important fact is that the storerooms of the manufacturers are unfilled. There has been reduced consumption and reduced production. But the reduction in production has been greater even than the reduced consumption, and the surplus in store-houses and jobbers hands has been drawn down to a point lower than at any previous date in our history, considering our population. The visible supply of manufactured goods now ready for consumption was advanced somewhat by the abundant importations during May and June, in anticipation of the increased duties imposed by the new law, but even these importations have not raised the supply to a very high point.

The first condition of prosperity must be a restoration to the people of their normal purchasing power. The farmers, mechanics, transportation men and laborers, are the people who put in circulation the great volume of money which sustains business and makes prosperity for all. The business men and especially the capitalists are but small factors in prosperity-making.

If then we discover unmistakable evidences that the classes above referred to, are to be in a condition to purchase and consume the products of nature and mechanical skill, we shall behold a condition which reveals the happy harbinger of better days.

Are there then any such indications as to furnish a solid foundation upon which to build a reasonable conviction that business prosperity is at hand? There certainly are! Look first at the enormous wheat crop now being harvested. The acreage is greater, and indications are that the yield will be larger than in any previous year. But we had an enormous wheat crop in 1885, and it did not materially affect business. The reason of this is found in the fact that the crop was marketed at such a ridiculously low price that it left the farmers poorer than when they began the year. Their labors of the year blessed with the abundant harvest added practically nothing to their purchasing power in the markets of the world. They bought neither ad-

ditional shelter nor clothing, and could not restore the wear and tear upon their farming implements nor pay the interest upon their mortgages. This year's wheat crop will be marketed at an advance of from 33 to 40 per cent. more than that of the past two years has been, and this means that interest long due will be paid, that farming implements will be renewed and that clothing and shelter will be purchased in greater quantities than they have been in many years before. All this means in turn that the producers of these products will feel the demand and in meeting it every artery of the business world will begin to pulsate with new life and energy. The stock market in New York and London is a perfect barometer of the World's business, and this market had already sent the sweet perfume of prosperity, and is preparing for it in earnest. The best informed believe that during the past four months, more than \$75,000,000 of hitherto idle money has found its way into permanent investments in stocks dealt in by the Stock Exchange in New York, and that \$30,000,000 more is floating in the same direction. This is a conservative estimate and it does not take account of the millions that have been invested in enterprises not represented in Wall street, and to which many of the conservative business men look with most favor.

Already the influences of these activities have been felt in the starting up of mills, factories and foundries long idle, and the increased orders received by those which have been struggling along on short time. In the woolen industries there is the most marked improvement, and the demand is approaching the ability of the mills to supply it, and many new spindles are being contracted for. Iron and steel is also in excellent demand, especially for structural beams, and every week sees these indispensable facts point to an early resumption of the normal purchasing power of the great masses of people. The disbursement of whose wages make the great movement and exchange of money upon which business feeds itself.

Of course the first effects of this quickening of the channels of trade are felt in the West, and Southwest. California is some weeks in advance of the more northern states in the harvesting of its wheat crop, and this is being shipped from San Francisco to South American ports in enormous quantities. Every available car, has been pressed into service to transport the wheat to the seaboard, and the farmers reaping the substantial fruits of their toil are gladdening their homes by the purchase of articles of comfort and necessity for which they have long waited.

The Eastern mechanic will pay a little more for a sack of flour which he takes to his home, but if he finds himself engaged for the full hours of labor at remunerative wages, this will not concern him much, and the slight advance which he pays amounts to all the difference between prosperity and adversity to thousands and thousands of people.

This review of the industrial situation, shows how intimately associated are the real interests of this great people, and it shows also that all our prosperity must spring from and be dependent upon the 30,000,000 and more of people who are engaged in, or intimately associated with agricultural pursuits. If this great body of our population is reasonably prosperous, the influence of it is felt in every avenue of commerce and manufactures, and if they are struggling with short crops and low prices, the blight of their depression permeates to every village and hamlet in the realm.

The statesmanship which grasps the truth of these experiences through which we have passed, and builds broadly and intelligently thereon, is the statesmanship which will find its rewards and triumphs abundant and enduring.

Primarily then, we must find a profitable market for our surplus farm products. We can not consume them, and if we did the country would not grow in wealth as when we bring into it from foreign lands millions upon millions of money for our crops, to be immediately distributed among the producers of manufactured goods. But we can not always rely upon abundant harvests, nor upon a shortness of crops abroad, to raise prices to the paying point. The opening up of Southern Siberia, by the great trans-continental railroad, will in five or ten years furnish transportation for the rich grain harvests of that marvelous country to the centers of European demand and consumption, and put our Western farmers in direct competition with the richest grain fields of the world.

How Yankee indignity will meet and overcome this competition is one of the problems for the future to solve. We can transport from our Eastern seaboard to European centers for less money than the Siberian railroad must demand for its operating expenses; but we can not transport from our grain fields, unless we utilize a water-way from Deluth. But some one says, the ship canal will solve the problem and enable us to hold this commerce.

JOHN R. TOWNSEND,

Merchant TAILOR,



AND Hatter.

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In times like these it is only the unusual bargain that don't go a begging. Values, and big ones at that, alone possess the power to interest. Most anything may be braved to get your rightful share of what we offer this week.

Read the Record and then Run the Risk.

Black Dress Goods

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All wool 50 in. wide Serge, extra fine quality, 50c the yd. Can't replace at less than 75c.

All wool Henrietta, 46 in. wide, at 50 and 80c the yard. We lay special stress on the 80c quality. It can't be matched anywhere else at \$1.00.

Suitings.

We are offering while they last, all wool Suitings, 36 in. wide, at 23c the yard.

Summer Dress Goods.

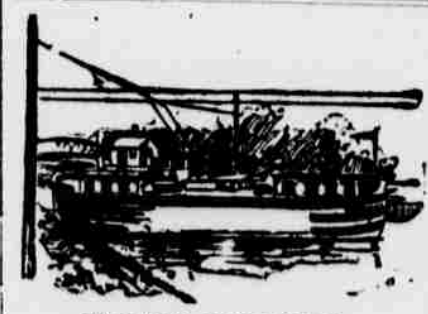
What we have left in this line, Organdies, Lawns, etc., you can have at your own price.

Shoes.

We offer Ladies a rare bargain in Shoes this week that it will pay them to investigate.

Pursel & Harman,

BLOOMSBURG, PA.



Electricity on the Canal.

Ultimate attainment of the desired end. And yet, there are thousands of intelligent men and scores of newspapers advocating a ship canal from the Great Lakes to the Hudson River, and the deepening of that river to permit the passage of ocean steamers.

The men who advocate the ship canal as an economic measure, are those who have given the subject but a superficial examination, and they have never considered either the difficulties which environ it, or the enormous expense which it would involve for construction and maintenance. The true solution of the great problem, the solving of which is of such vital importance to all the people who hope for continued prosperity will probably be found in an enlargement of the Erie canal, so as to admit of barges sufficiently large and seaworthy as to be capable of navigating the lakes, and then the application of electricity to the propulsion of these barges through the enlarged canal.

The canal mule, the steam-canal boat and the lake steamer discharging its cargo at Buffalo, are all doomed. In their place must be and there will be, a staunch steel barge, which will load with wheat at Deluth and not break bulk until it lays along side of the ocean steamer in New York harbor.

Such a freighter utilizing the already harnessed power of Niagara for propulsion through the canal, will profitably transport the world's supply of wheat at one half the present cost and compel the Russian Bear to sit on his haunches and growl with envy. In the perfection of this system of transportation, we rob the threatened Siberian competition of all its terrors and insure to our Western farmers the markets of the world, and to the country, every prospect of permanent prosperity.

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Another thing: Every advertisement of Hood's Sarsaparilla is true, is honest.

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Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

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Try the COLUMBIAN a year.