

Cambria Freeman. HARRISBURG, PA. Saturday Morning, March 16, 1872.

Democratic State Convention.

Pursuant to a resolution of the Democratic State Executive Committee this day adopted, the Democratic State Convention in numbers equal to the representation in both houses of the Legislature, is hereby called to meet in Reading, Pa., on Thursday, May 29th, 1872, at 11 o'clock A. M., to nominate candidates for Governor and delegates at large to the Constitutional Convention, and also to form an electoral ticket and select senatorial and representative delegates to represent the State at the Democratic National Convention.

By order of the Executive Committee, WILLIAM A. WALLACE, Chairman. Attest - W. M. McLELLAN, Secretary. Harrisburg, Feb. 15, 1872.

At the election held in New Hampshire on last Tuesday, the radical candidate for Governor was elected by a majority of about fifteen hundred. When Grant ran for President he had a majority in the same State of seven thousand. In the face of these figures the result is anything but a radical victory. We think it is well that radicalism has succeeded by a meagre majority, for the reason that if the radical party had been defeated in that State, Grant would not have been renominated. Now he will be, and that is just what a majority of a million of the voters of the country wish, in order that they may record their solemn verdict against him.

The bill which passed the House prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors, wine or cider by hotel-keepers on the day of an election, and also prohibiting the giving of the same on said day by any person what ever, has passed the Senate with an amendment, striking out the giving away clause and confining the prohibition to persons keeping public houses or drinking saloons. In this shape the bill goes back to the House for concurrence, which will doubtless be done, thus leaving any freeman who may be so inclined the privilege of getting as drunk as Bacchus on election day, provided he has a friend or neighbor who will afford him the necessary facilities to bring about that result. This action on the part of the Senate was very kind and considerate.

GOVERNOR GEARY threw a large bomb-shell into the radical camp on last Tuesday, when he sent a message to the Senate informing that body that he had appointed C. D. Brigham, editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial, Auditor General—the appointment to take effect on the first Monday of next May, when the term of the present officer will expire. This action of the Governor is not easily understood in view of the fact that last week a bill passed the House authorizing Gen. Hartranft, the present Auditor General, to continue in office until his successor, to be elected under the provisions of the bill next October, shall have been qualified. Our own opinion is, that Geary has no power to make the appointment, but that it is purely a question to be disposed of by the Legislature. As one branch of that body had already disposed of the matter, this unexpected movement by Geary brings him in direct conflict with the law-making power, unless the Legislature yields and allows Geary's will to prevail. The nomination was referred to the Judiciary Committee, and when it makes a report the question of conflicting power must be definitely settled.

AFTER GRANT assumed the duties of the Presidency, it was very common for his most enthusiastic admirers to refer to him as the "Second Washington." Even now after his total unfitness for the high office he holds has been fully demonstrated, some of his thick and thin supporters occasionally repeat this libel upon the illustrious Virginian who was "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen." Instead of resembling the dignified, austere and high-minded Washington, Grant is only fit to be compared in the intensity of his avarice to another and a very different character in history, the Duke of Marlborough. Horace Greely, who understands the moral beauty and greatness of Washington's character, and who also knows a good deal about Grant, published an editorial in the Tribune on the 22nd of February on the character of Washington, from which we take the following extract. Its significance is very apparent and indicates the writer's meaning so clearly that he who runs may read: "We suggest that never before could the character of this man, so long foremost of all Americans, be studied by his countrymen with more profit. He had precisely those qualities which, either from climatic, or digestive or religious reasons, have grown exceedingly scarce among us. Of brilliant men we have had a fair share, but WASHINGTON was not brilliant; of nervous, headlong, desperate chiefs, who offered their lives and that of their men as freely as water; WASHINGTON knew the value of a private's sword and that of his own, and took care of both. We have had no lack of rulers who used the government as mere machinery to lift themselves into lasting notoriety, or who set like a populus in its cave stretching out its feelers on every side to draw food into its maw; WASHINGTON was not enriched one penny by the chances which his position gave him."

It is worth our while, therefore, to look back at this man, whose body was six feet two and sound in proportion to its size; who was sober, honest and pure in his everyday life; had common sense instead of genius; and who, in a plain, practical way, saved his country, and not himself, to the end."

A Suspected Governor.

Ever since John W. Geary in his last annual message undertook to defend the embezzlement of George O. Evans, a strong impression has been made on the popular mind that Geary himself knows all about the defalcation, and that he is in some way implicated in the dishonest transaction. That elaborate defence was so unusual, so unprecedented in an official State paper, that public opinion instinctively associated the Governor with the swindle. It was a sorry spectacle to see the Executive of a great Commonwealth thus stoop from his high position and become the open apologist of a man accused of having plundered the treasury of a large amount of the public funds. The business of an honest Governor is to aid and assist in exposing a fraud of such magnitude, and not attempt to conceal and cover it up by a studied effort to convince the people that the charge is without any solid foundation and that Evans is more sinned against than sinning.

After the committee of investigation was appointed, the question naturally suggests itself, why did not John W. Geary present himself before it and ask that he might, under the solemnity of an oath, be permitted to tell all he knew in reference to the matter? Such would be the course that any man, but especially if he were Governor, would promptly have taken in view of publicly expressed suspicion against him. But he saw proper, for reasons best known to himself, not to adopt this self evidently necessary course to vindicate his own personal integrity, and to-day there exists a strong and almost settled conviction throughout the State that her Governor is not, like Caesar's wife, pure, but even beyond suspicion. It is a humiliating thought, but his own conduct in the matter and all the circumstances connected with the fraud irresistibly point to that conclusion.

The testimony of William H. Kemble, who was State Treasurer at the time of Evans' appointment by Geary in 1867, was recently taken by the committee and is not at all calculated to relieve the Governor. Kemble swore that the appointment of any one to collect the amount due by the general government to the State, was a force—that there was no necessity for it—that he himself had adjusted and settled \$2,000,000 of the State claims with the Treasury department at Washington in 1866—that Geary had never communicated to him the fact that he had appointed Evans as the agent of the State in 1867, and that he did not therefore know and could not have known that Evans was required to make a report to him (Kemble) twice a year. All this looks dark and suspicious and is calculated to make the case against Geary much more serious.

We publish in another column an article from the Pittsburgh Gazette as an evidence of what are the views of a leading republican organ on the financial connection between John W. Geary and George O. Evans. They are plainly expressed and easily comprehended.

The Pittsburgh Dispatch (radical) has also discussed the Evans swindle at length, and on Wednesday of last week closed an article in its columns as follows: "Gentlemen of the Legislature, Gov. Geary should be promptly impeached. There is enough of suspicion attaching to him to warrant such action against him. This will put him on his defense in these matters. He has defied the Legislature, and suspected of criminal conduct as regards the use of State funds. You owe it to yourselves, to the tax payers, to the Commonwealth to impeach him. We are cool in our judgment, but decided. Geary should be impeached."

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE (of which Mr. Hewitt of Blair county is chairman) are appointed to apportion the State into Congressional districts, reported a bill last week for that purpose. In this instance the radical mountain, after having been in labor for two months, instead of bringing forth a ridiculous mouse, has produced a very long-tailed rat. In this bill the counties of Huntingdon, Blair, Cambria and Somerset compose a district. It is very evident, from a glance at the bill, that Hewitt blocked out his own district first, as a sine qua non, and having arranged it to his own entire satisfaction, proceeded to form the remaining districts as best he could, without any regard to political justice and with a supreme contempt for all the principles of honesty and fair dealing on which every apportionment bill ought to be based. We can only account for this unblushing gerrymander on the ground that its author is anxious to be sent to Congress—a species of political monomania which is said to prevail to an alarming extent among the radical members of the present able and intellectual House of Representatives. We do not propose to discuss this bill in detail and to point out its numerous abominations, as that would require too much time and space. One instance of its gross and manifest injustice will indicate the character of the entire bill. It divides Philadelphia into five districts in a way so peculiar as to render absolutely certain the election of four radicals and one democrat. We will admit, for the sake of the argu-

Meeting of the Democratic State Editorial Association.

Pursuant to the published call, a meeting of the Democratic State Editorial Association convened in the Democratic Central Club Room, at Harrisburg, Monday, March 4th, at three o'clock P. M.—The President, H. L. Dieffenbach, of the Lycoming Standard, in the chair.

After transaction of general business, on motion of Chas. B. Brockway of the Columbian and Frank J. Magee, of the Star, it was ordered that the chairman of the Executive Committee, of the Democratic State Association, J. W. Brown of the Patriot, in connection with H. G. Smith of the Intelligencer, President of State Editorial Association, be empowered to make such arrangements as they may deem necessary to insure a full attendance of all members of the Association at Erie, on the second Tuesday in June, and that the members of the Association and those desirous of becoming such, be informed, by circular, of the programme of the contemplated excursion, with instructions to notify the chairman of the Executive Committee whether or not it is their intention to be present, and if so over what Railroads they will pass.

Governor Geary.

Whether rightly or wrongly, we do not, at this time, pretend to guess, but somehow or other the name of John W. Geary has become connected, in the minds of the people of the State, with the defalcation of Evans, the late Agent. Whether he was an accomplice in the theft, an accessory either before or after the fact, the mass of the people, we reiterate, have come to believe that he is somehow or other mixed up in the matter, and is using his every power to prevent a full investigation. We admit even so much, with great reluctance and sorrow, as we deplore from the depth of our heart that anything should occur to impair the standing of the Executive of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Can it be possible that he whom we have twice elected to the highest office in our State, has "bent the pregnant hinges of the knee," and stained his hands and his heart by accepting a portion of money known to him to have been illegally withheld from the treasury of the State? Can it be possible? and yet the instincts of the general public seldom err. The citizens of the State have been slow to admit the thought, of the defilement of the Executive office; but sundry and divers curious and unlooked for movements of the Governor have greatly tended to excite the present suspicions which, unless soon dissipated, will grow until the finger of scorn will be pointed, and impenetrable must follow. Why did not Governor Geary ask to be called before the committee promptly? Once there, his evidence would have been accepted as truth, until controverted. He knows, just as well as George Evans, what his hands are clean and his heart pure. It does not require Evans' testimony to establish that. The Governor himself will be accepted as authority on these points, for, afterwards, any one doubts it, let him produce his proof. We all know that Evans kept a portion of the money of the State, which legally or equitably did not belong to him. He has told us that much, and defies us. His testimony therefore is of no use on that point, and all that he is wanted for, is to tell the people, whose faithful agent he was, who shared with him the three hundred thousand dollars of public plunder. This he ought to tell, for if his position is correct, viz: that the amount claimed by the State is properly his own, then he had a clear right to give it to whom he wished. But if he robbed the State, and divided the plunder among those who made such a division a condition of his obtaining the appointment, he ought still to make a clean breast of it; but he will not do it if he can help it. He has probably already sworn not to tell, and he will doubtless keep his word, for "honor among thieves" has passed into a proverb.

But his flight and his silence will not help the Governor; on the contrary, taken in connection with the other fact that the latter, supported by his attorney, refuses to bring him back, it will only heap coals of fire upon his head. The Governor, in self-defence, must take the stand, if he would check the belief in his own guilty connection with the flying robber. Let him, at least, tell what he knows about Evans and his labors, and if he be innocent of all complicity in the defalcation, and has not been a recipient of a portion of the money, let him say so. There are those who will believe him. The people of the State demand to know where this plunder went—who got it. The Republican party demand this, as the men who were placed in office by their votes are under suspicion. Let Mr. Graham's Committee call upon the Governor for his testimony; he must not refuse it; he will not, we trust. This is so time for punishment, the people have been trifled with, and every citizen high or low must respond. The State is plaintiff and her summons must be obeyed. He who hesitates will be suspected. No honest man will.—Pittsburgh Gazette.

THE GRAVEST ISSUE OF THE TIMES.—The great question of this day is that of official corruption. This moral pestilence stalks abroad unabashed throughout the land, and whether it appears in the Executive Department or the other high departments of the Government, or in rings in legislative halls, or in the municipal councils of cities, they must be crushed, or true Republicanism will perish. Great culprits must be brought to the bar of justice and punished as felons. High positions and great wealth must not shield the men who have amassed fortunes by stealing from the people. The power is with the people to correct this great and glaring evil of the time, and they must handle without gloves the miscreants, whether high or low, who use their official positions in order to rob the public.—Erie Observer.

It is a remarkable fact that on Monday the tenth Congressional investigation committee was appointed to inquire into the malversations of Grant maladministration. This time the Secretary of the Navy is to be investigated. The Custom house and arms investigations are proceeding, and the Seneca sand-stone inquiry has begun. Was there ever so much corruption under any administration before?

The Attack on the Queen.

Her Majesty of England has just been the subject of another sensation. While returning to Buckingham Palace, the other day, in her carriage, a poor boy named O'Connor, scarcely eighteen years old, and evidently warped in mind, approached her suddenly with something that looked like a pistol in one hand and a paper in the other. The foolish youth was captured very easily, and then turned out that the pistol was an old thing that a whole ton of powder would hardly induce to "go off," and that there was nothing in it, and the paper proved to be a pardon for the Fenian prisoners, which the Queen was to be compelled to sign, under the influence of the old pistol that could not do any one any harm. When the boy was captured, a feat due to the presence of mind of the celebrated John Brown (not him whose peripatetic soul is declared, in super-journal American doggerel, to be still marching on, but the Scotchman who, as her Majesty's favorite groom, has been not so very unconnected with certain royal scandals) he turned out to be a grandson of Fergus O'Connor, the well-remembered Chartist leader, who died in an insane asylum some eighteen years ago.

Of course the London press immediately raised a terrible hullabaloo over the freak of the young enthusiast, which freak was magnified into a most dastardly and infernal attempt to assassinate the Queen. And the press was not slow in drawing comparisons between this most dastardly, infernal, etc. attempt and the great demonstration of regard for Her Majesty which was made a few days before (by the ability in the Cathedral). But the poor boy really had no more thought of killing the Queen than he had of disputing royal claims with the Prince of Wales. Men with murder in their hearts do not usually approach their intended victims with empty and superannuated pistols. Fergus O'Connor probably thought he could frighten the Queen into signing the form of pardon which he held toward her, but he certainly could not have any purpose of doing her bodily harm. His act was most improper, of course, but so are the acts of simpletons, lunatics and enthusiasts generally. The boy did not realize what he was doing. He is simply an impetuous youth who fancied that he might immortalize himself by compelling the liberation of the political prisoners, the many petitions for whose release he had not even an acknowledgment from Victoria, to whom they were addressed. And now Mr. John Brown has a big feather in his Scotch cap for saving her Majesty from a dastardly young assassin who went up to her carriage with an empty old pistol that would not fire, and he indignantly rejected by the most disreputable junk dealer in London.

Queen Victoria has had an experience much like that of other rulers in respect of attempts upon her life. The first of these was made in 1840, by a crazy lad named John Oxford, who actually fired at her, but whose bullet missed his object. Oxford meant to kill, whereas the latest would be assassin? Oxford had no thought of killing. The second attempt was made two years later, by one John Francis, who was captured, tried and sentenced to be hanged, but whose sentence the Queen commuted to transportation for life. Only two months passed after the attempt of Francis when a third assassin, J. W. Bean, sought to put an end to her Majesty's life, but his pistol was struck down before he had a chance to fire. He was imprisoned for eighteen months, and had to undergo the process of whipping, which, according to act of Parliament, was then the penalty for the crime. It seems to be a regular contingency of royal rule, or political rule of any kind, that the ruler may become the victim of assassination at any time. William the Fourth, the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, and lately, according to reports, on those of President Thiers and Prince Bismarck. The latest was perhaps the most foolish and fantastic of all, for the whole proceeding partook of the character of a silly, boyish demonstration.

Yong O'Connor is of English birth, but it is said that he is the son of an Irish political prisoner who preyed upon his mind until he has become a sort of monomaniac. But there may be men of much sounder mind than his who would, for the same cause, go much further than he did in seeking revenge. It appears that some fifty persons are still held in custody by the English Government for acts connected with the Fenian movement. Petitions are being presented for the release of these prisoners, all of whom are treated with barbarous severity, have been addressed to the Queen, but she has not even deigned to notice them. Certainly it is not strange that the indifference of the Queen, coupled with the cruel harshness of the treatment to which the prisoners are subjected, has excited many who sympathize with the victims of English law, and led to at least one hot-headed young fellow to risk his own life for their liberation. Arthur O'Connor's act was a very foolish one, but the cause of it may be traced to the systematic injustice and outrage of which Ireland and Irishmen have long been victims at the hands of brow-beating England.—Metropolitan Record.

HORRIBLE MURDER IN OHIO.—Dayton, March 10.—A horrible murder was committed six miles northwest of this city, last night. A woman named Mary Marquardt, aged about thirty-five, and three children, aged respectively six and eight years and six months, are supposed to have been killed by the husband, Leonard Marquardt, who is a farmer, and who was found in bed naked and apparently strangled. The children were found on the bank of a creek some distance from the house. The two eldest had been drowned and the infant's head was crushed. An inquest will be held on Monday.

CINCINNATI, March 11.—Further particulars regarding the murder of a woman and three children, near Dayton, Saturday night, indicate that the murder was committed by the father, Leonard Marquardt, who is evidently insane from a spiritual cause. The story which the man himself tells is that a few days ago he read a chapter in his family from the Bible, and then, rising up, accused his wife of being a witch and using witchcraft. He says his eldest daughter confirmed him in his suspicions. He says also that on Saturday night he told his wife he wanted their children to leave; that both he and his wife stripped naked, and knelt down and prayed for fifteen minutes. They then stripped two of the children and took them out and drowned them, and laid them side by side on the bank of the stream. They then reached back to the infant and left it lying in the woods, after which they returned home and went to bed. After lying there for fifteen minutes he told his wife that he wanted to send her to heaven also, and immediately fell upon her and strangled her to death. After that he arose and prayed until three o'clock in the morning, when he went to the nearest neighbor and told him the whole story. Marquardt is a German farmer, and has been in this country about eighteen years. The murdered woman was his second wife.

THE SMALL-POX has so pauperized the people of South Chester, Pa., that public measures had to be taken for their relief.

News of the Week.

—An Iowa farmer employs nice elk in the cultivation of his fields.

—An Indiana Bluebird has married seven consecutive wives, all named Mary.

—There will be a general celebration of St. Patrick's Day this year throughout Pennsylvania.

—Pittsburgh now boasts of a coal trade amounting to three million five hundred tons annually.

—The Illinois river has continued frozen over since November, a fact almost unprecedented.

—The rumor has gone abroad that a newly-born infant, in Perry county, has a waterfall on the place where the hair ought to grow.

—Steam power will be extensively used for propelling boats on the Pennsylvania canal, the coming season, instead of horse or mule teams.

—A man named Meade shot himself accidentally in Portland, Oregon, on Sunday week, and driven frantic from pain, cut his throat and died on Friday.

—It is stated that sixteen families have decided to leave Bellefonte on account of the high rents. If true, that is a magnificent point for some enterprising builder.

—A farmer's child, near Biddeford, Maine, last week died of cold and starvation, but the parents were away during, and a famished hound mutilated the corpse.

—A colony of Pennsylvania farmers, about three hundred families, mostly from York, Cumberland, and Adams counties, will settle in Russell county, Kan., about April 1st.

—Straw, the republican candidate for governor at the New Hampshire election on Tuesday, employed over 4,000 men. These were the straws that made a favorable wind blow.

—Judge Barrett has granted a stay of proceedings in the case of Foster, the carhook murderer of A. C. Putnam, in New York. The case will be carried to the Court of Appeals.

—A shiftless fellow, shot and killed his wife at Greenbush, New York, during a quarrel, shot at, and missed, his daughter, aged 18, and then cut his throat, dying in a few minutes.

—Maria Mengel, aged 92 years, the oldest resident of Windsor township, Berks county, was married recently to agree to the mother of 9 children, and had 71 grandchildren and 146 great grandchildren.

—A farm is advertised for sale in Farmington, Conn., for no portion of which any deed was ever given, it having remained in the same family for two hundred and thirty-two years, ever since the original purchase from an Indian.

—There are now living in Fulton township, Lancaster county, three men and the same number of women whose united ages amount to 623 years, nearly five centuries and a quarter. The eldest is 97 and the youngest about 84.

—The State Senate passed a joint resolution extending the session of the Legislature to April 10th, but the House by a vote of 8 yeas and 73 nays refused to agree to the resolution. The time fixed for adjournment is the 28th instant.

—The Williamsport Sun says: A certain young lady in this city advised a gentleman friend not to take flannels to bed with him on cold nights, as they might warp his feet. The stupid fellow did not know enough to take the hint and propose a mammoth cave, the river, the Kanawha, tucky phenomenon, is reported in Grant county, Wis. It is said to contain oceans of water, and adventurous parties have roved in boats to a great distance within the cave. Considerable mineral wealth is also reported.

—A few days since the State Treasurer of Tennessee footed up his total receipts at \$1 in specie which moves or of temporary of the Louisville Courier Journal to say that this is one solitary dollar that the Radicals didn't steal during the reign of St. Wm. G. Brownlow.

—At Toledo, Ohio, on Sunday night, a driver named J. A. Miller, of Gosport, N. Y., was robbed of about \$12,000. Eight thousand of the amount was subsequently found in a saloon where it had been left by the thief, but the remainder, together with the robber, are still missing.

The Pennsylvania Central.

Nothing more distinguishes the management of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company than its quick and quiet conduct, to eminent people who come to take the other countries. Promptitude and steadiness may be cited among the virtues of this line. Operated by electricity and steam, it moves rapidly and without advertisement. As an illustration of this thought, the Philadelphia Press refers to the way in which the Pennsylvania Company anticipated the wants and provided for the comforts of the Grand Duke Alexis. His Imperial Highness resolved, and perhaps had been instructed, to make a continental tour of America. He had seen New York, Boston, Baltimore, Washington, but he or his advisers seemed to feel that the only way to see the whole country was through the spectacles of such a statesman as the president of the Pennsylvania Central. This fact known, it was determined that a gentleman should be selected to superintend the movements of the railroad train, &c., and to accompany the Grand Duke through the United States as the guest of the nation. The choice fell upon Frank Thomson, of the Pennsylvania and Erie Road, son of the late lamented Judge Thomson, of Franklin county, Pennsylvania. How well he discharged his trust may be understood, that a gentleman should be selected to superintend the movements of the railroad train, &c., and to accompany the Grand Duke through the United States as the guest of the nation. The choice fell upon Frank Thomson, of the Pennsylvania and Erie Road, son of the late lamented Judge Thomson, of Franklin county, Pennsylvania. How well he discharged his trust may be understood, that a gentleman should be selected to superintend the movements of the railroad train, &c., and to accompany the Grand Duke through the United States as the guest of the nation. 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