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Constitutional Convention.

From the meagre reports which reach us of the doings of the Constitutional Convention, we are prevented from giving our readers any tangible information of the workings of the Convention. Committees make reports, but no sooner are they reported than some of the wise sages spring up to oppose or amend the report, which gives them a chance to let off some pent up passion, whether germane to the subject or not, makes no difference with them—talk they will, and talk they must, reminding us of Dean Simple's saying that "the noisiest Devil in the army is the drummer." The contest now going on in the Convention is on the floor-pot of biennial and annual elections and meetings of the senators and representatives. We agree much can be said pro and con, on this subject. The friends of biennial sessions of the legislature insist that if the legislature meets but once in two years, it will break up the 3rd house of lobbyists, prevent fraud, peculation, bribery, &c. If it would have this effect, it would do some good. But is this not a superficial view of the case? Who is to prevent the legislative borer and corruptionist of special legislation from visiting the members elated at their homes and arranging matters before they meet at Harrisburg? They could do so more secretly and with better effect than in the lobby of the legislative hall. Besides two years is too long to have an unworthy member fixed upon, without any redress for two years. We have our doubts of any salutary benefit or advantage, that is to be served to the interest annual legislative acts, so much required by the citizens of this great and progressive commonwealth, by having the legislature meet biennially. We admit that if the Convention can prevent corruption, fraud and bribery in the legislature, so much needed, it is their duty to do so by every effective plan.

Connected with this biennial and annual elections, &c., is the rights of majority and minority parties. Shall this be adjusted by the cumulative plan of voting? We believe that one of the most common errors prevailing among the people, is, that a majority has in all cases a right to govern. As a Democrat, we contend that it is said more appropriately by President Jefferson in his first message, to Congress in this subject, viz: "All, too, will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will be rightful must be reasonable, that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal laws must protect, and to violate would be oppression."

It will be manifest to any reflecting mind, that there exists no natural right in any set of men, to decide upon the rights of another set. If any right at all exists, it must be a conventional right, that is, a right conferred by an agreement or compact between all the parties. If three men accidentally fall in company together, who would pretend that any two of them had a right to make the other submit to any regulation they would impose upon him, because they were a majority—no one would pretend this. If, however, three men should unite on an agreement, stipulating that the decision of two of them should be obligatory on the third, in that case the minority would be bound to submit—but this right in the majority to rule, is clear, would result from the compact or agreement. Thus in societies, clubs, associations for useful, beneficial and charitable objects, when it is said in their constitutions that two-thirds shall be required to admit new members, or to expel a member, or to draw funds from the treasury, or to accomplish some other particular object, in all these cases it is manifest that the majority does not govern, seeing that the agreement has expressly declared otherwise. It is the compact that settles it, and until that is altered, there is no remedy. Here in our own state we find that less than a majority of all the qualified voters can choose the governor, a plurality of votes being sufficient to elect, as was the case when Wolf, Muhlenberg, and Ritter were the gubernatorial candidates. Ritter was elected, having but a plurality of votes, and not a majority of votes cast; so that if we had six candidates, a governor might be elected constitutionally by a single vote more than one-sixth of the whole body of voters. Nor are the members of the Penna's legislature, strictly speaking, elected by a majority of the qualified voters in each election district; it is sufficient to determine the choice, and besides this, the very principle of voting by election districts, and not by a general ticket, may completely give a minority of the people a majority in the legislature, which has often happened by unjust and partisan districting the state.

When power is therefore given at all, it must of necessity be given to a majority of the body that exercises it; but still, in such cases we find that so jealous of power were our ancestors in the formation of the federal and state governments, that they interposed many restrictions upon the majority. Witness the Bill of Rights and proprietary clauses in most of our state constitutions. The veto has been given

Judgment Day.

Arrangement and Defense of the Credit Mobilier.
WASHINGTON Feb. 25.—House. The credit in attendance was immense. Nothing has equalled it since the inauguration of General Grant. An arrangement was made whereby the doors of the house galleries were not opened until half past ten o'clock, half an hour before the meeting of the house. But as early as nine o'clock there was a perfect jam, choking all the entrances to the hall of house.

As soon as the doors were opened there was a terrific rush for the galleries, many falling down in their attempt to get seats. After every aisle was open in the galleries had been filled to overflowing, the floor of the house was thrown open to ladies. In a short time it was crowded, many members surrendering their seats to ladies.

The reading of the journal of the speaker of the day at the presentation of the budget of executive duties occupied nearly three quarters of an hour. At a quarter to twelve the speaker announced the special order of business, to wit: the report of the Poland committee for the expulsion of Oakes Ames and James Brooks.

Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, as if unprepared, moved that the house go into committee of the whole on the legislative appropriation bill, on which Mr. Garfield, of the committee on appropriations, intimated to Mr. Butler that it would be just as well for him to attend to his own business and leave the committee on appropriations to manage their own affairs, a rebuff which brought the laugh against Mr. Butler.

Mr. Poland then moved a recess till 7:30 p. m., with a statement that he would not call for a vote to-night, but that the session would be for debate on the pending resolution.

Mr. W. R. Roberts moved an adjournment. Lost amid a good deal of confusion and a variety of propositions and suggestions.

The house at five o'clock took a recess till 7:30 p. m., the evening session being for debate only and no business whatever to be transacted.

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