The Centre Reporter.

JAS. D. KURTZ.....EDITOR.

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CENTRE HALL, Pa., Nov. 2, 1876.

TERMS.—$2 *per year, in advance,* 2,50 *when not paid in advance.*

Advertisements 20c *per line for three insertions, and for* 6 *and* 12 *months by special contract.*

FOR PRESIDENT:

SAMUEL J. TILDEN, of New York.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT:

THOS. A. HENDRICKS, of Indiana.

Congress—LEVI A. MACKEY.

Senator—S. R. PEALE.

ASSEMBLY:

JAMES F. WEAVER, Milesburg.
W. K. ALEXANDER, Penn.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES:

JOHN DIVENS, Walker,
MAJ. SAM'L FRANK, Miles.

JURY COMMISSIONER.

JOHN RISHEL, of Gregg.

ELECTORS.

The following is the correct democratic presidential electoral ticket:

Charles R. Buckalew.
Samuel B. Wilson.
Robert F. Stief,
George R. Berrell,
William H. Wright,
Thomas E. Gaskill,
John Moffet.
John A. Morrison,
Owen Jones,
William K. Haag,
Joel L. Lighner,
Henry T. Trumbower,
George H. Rowland,
John Nealon,
Joel B. McCamant,
Daniel D. Boas,
Joseph B. McCollum,
Franklin W. Knox,
John H. Uhl,
Thomas Bower,
David Small,
Sebastian Wimmer,
James J. Hazlett,
John B. Guthrie,
Robert M. Gibson,
David S. Morris,
Robert B. Brown,
Thomas W. Grayson,
Benjamin F. Morris.

CONFEDERATES IN OFFICE.

The charge that the Democratic party, if successful, would put Confederates in power comes with a very ill grace from the party that appointed Longstreet so soon after the surrender, and which Mosby leads in Virginia. It is quite evident that it is not the appointment of ex-Confederates that the Republicans object to, but the appointment of ex-Confederates who are now Democrats.

Let any one who served in the rebel army, regular or guerilla, general or private, declare himself a Republican, and he can rely on an office under the Federal Government as his immediate reward.

It is a little singular that at present the man of all others in the South most in the confidence of the Republican party should be Col. John S. Mosby, who was so bitterly denounced by the Republican press as a murderer, guerilla and highwayman.

For example, the New York Times of August 25, 1864, relates the massacre of Snickers Gap Road, where Mosby's men dressed in the uniform of United States soldiers, killed two sentinels belonging to the 5th Michigan Cavalry. The same paper contains a fuller account of a number of wanton murders of inoffensive people by Mosby's men, and of the hanging of two soldiers, named Brown and Reynolds, to the limb of a tree by Mosby's order, and says that after a fight our men were found with their throats cut by Mosby's command.

An engagement is also cited by the same paper, in which thirteen Union soldiers were killed and only five wounded, the enormous disproportion indicating wanton massacre.

On September the 8th, in the same year, Mosby hung 32 Union soldiers; on November 17, 1864, at Winchester, West Virginia, Colonel Mosby ordered the execution of several men of the Second New York Cavalry. His orders were executed by Lieutenant Smith of his command. Of the seven men, only one, Sergeant Marvin, of the Second New York Cavalry, escaped. These men were taken in war as regularly-enrolled soldiers, and the records of the papers published at the time contain no hint, excuse, or palliation for the murders.

The execution took place near Berryville, on the Winchester Pike. Three of the men were hung, and of the other three, after escaping the death of their comrades by hanging, as required by Mosby's order, received a soldier's death by the bullet, through the favor of his subordinate. This is a fair illustration of the sincerity of the Republican party cry against putting ex-Confederate soldiers on guard in public places.

There certainly could be no one in the whole Southern service more objectionable, than the ex-Guerrilla Mosby. However gallant he may have been, the nature of his service and the manner in which he performed it, were such as to entitle him only to the lowest rank among officers or gentlemen.

The partisan who fights in the uniform of the enemy, and habitually plays the part of a spy, may be useful in war but his place is not one ordinarily sought by men of honor, and when to hang gallant soldiers to the limbs of trees, and to murder defenseless citizens because they have business with the army, which was Mosby's constant practice to do, such men generally are content to sink into oblivion consoled by the usual reward of people in their branch of business.

But a guerilla is transformed into a butcher if he will but enter into the Republican political camp; while the most gallant and chivalrous soldier is a monster if he adheres to Democratic principles.

The whole cry about putting ex-rebels in power is mere sham, and the Republicans themselves don't believe in it.

Only the other day, Major Griswold, an officer of Mosby's command, was appointed to a position in the Treasury Department on Mosby's recommendation, and a Union soldier removed to make room for the ex-guerilla.

This Griswold was also connected with Libby prison, where so many Union soldiers, according to Republican authorities, were treated with terrible cruelty.

A thousand other instances might be given to show the insincerity of the Republican party on this subject, but it is scarcely necessary to do so, for all the world knows that what the Republicans admire and seek to promote is not loyalty to the Union but hatred to Re-union, Peace and Reform.

The democrats of Berks had a glorious buffalo roast at Reading last week. Three large buffalo were roasted. Gen. M'Clellan and other speakers were there. Berks is going 8000 on honest Samuel Tilden. Let Centre not have less than 1000 next Tuesday 7th.

SENATORIAL CONFERENCE.

The delegates from this—XXXIV—Senatorial district composed of the counties of Centre, Clearfield and Clinton, met at Bellefonte on the 12th of October. The following named gentlemen represented their respective counties.

Centre—C. G. Herlinger, Dr. W. P. Rothrock, J. P. Gephart.

Clearfield—Thos. Brockbank, Frank Fielding, E. A. Bigler.

Clinton—W. H. Brown, W. W. Rankin Geo. A. Aughinbaugh.

The Conference was organized by electing W. H. Brown, of Clinton, as President, and Frank Fielding, of Clearfield as Secretary.

The nomination of candidates for Senator being in order, the names of W. W. Betts, Clearfield, P. Gray Meek, of Centre and S. R. Peale, of Clinton were presented by their respective delegations. After several sessions and a number of ineffectual ballots, the Conference adjourned to meet at Tyrone on Thursday the 19th. Before the adjournment Mr. McQuiston, was substituted for Mr. Herlinger, a delegate from Centre county.

In pursuance of adjournment the delegates re-assembled at Tyrone on the 19th. D. W. Moore of Clearfield was admitted as a substitute for Mr. Fielding, and E. A. Bigler, was elected Secretary in the place of Mr. Fielding. The first business in order was the nomination of a Senator and the Conference at once proceeded to balloting. At the conclusion of the 23d ballot the following letter from Mr. Betts was read:

CLEARFIELD, PA. Oct. 20, 1876.

SIRS:—Having been honored by the Democracy of Clearfield County as the choice for the Senatorial nomination, you have placed my name before the Conferences of the XXXIVTH Senatorial district, impressed with the belief that this county was fairly entitled to the candidate. To secure a recognition of its claims you have labored earnestly and faithfully. Any further delay, however, in making a nomination can be productive of no good and might prove detrimental to the best interests of the party, as it is high time our ticket should be completed, and the party thoroughly organized for the great struggle which will soon be upon us. In order, therefore, to facilitate the action of the Conference and enable you to speedily terminate your labors, I, hereby authorize you to withdraw my name as a candidate, sincerely trusting that the work of the Conference may prove satisfactory to the entire District.

Thanking you for the faithful efforts you have made in my behalf, and with the assurance of my cordial endorsement of the action of the Conference,

I am truly yours, &c.

W. W. BETTS.

To Thomas Brockbank, E. A. Bigler, D. W. Moore, Conferees.

After the letter was read the 24th ballot was taken resulting in six votes for Mr. Peale, and three votes for Mr. Meek. On motion the nomination of Mr. Peale was made unanimous, and the Conference adjourned *sine dic.*

E. A. BIGLER. Secretary. W. H. BROWN, President.

THE PARTY OF CLAIMS.

The Republican party is decidedly a party of claims. Their entire efforts for the last four years seem to have been directed towards the realization of claims upon the public Treasury. The history of the famous cotton tax claims is well known throughout the country, but perhaps it is not sufficiently realized by voters that these claims, like all other war claims, were brought up by Rings centering in Washington, and having their headquarters in the immediate vicinity of the White House. The most audacious exploit of the party of claims through their Ring machinery is, however, the passage of what are called the "rebel claims." The Radical Washington Rings commenced buying up these claims at the beginning of the first session of the Forty-third Congress. They purchased all that were for sale in the States of Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia, at rates varying from 2 to 10 per cent. of their face value. The corresponding agent of the combination was Gen. Rice, who was so notorious in the post-tradership business, and according to his own testimony, made some $20,000 bonus, or rather stole it, out of his connection with these transactions. Rice's agency in the post-tradership business was limited to introducing people to the Secretary of War and his satellites, but his commission was a very large percentage upon the profits of the posts, which he bartered away. In the Southern claim business he figured more prominently. Most of the communications on the subject sent to people in the South were signed by him, and each inclosed an explanation of the scheme, which was forwarded only to persons whom the ring thought could be depended upon. Senator Spencer's set in Alabama bought up most of the claims in that State, and it is unnecessary to say that the Radical rings in Mississippi, South Carolina and other States, were not backward in taking their full share. The scheme worked well as long as the Radicals had full control of the Congress; so well that the committees of the House of the Forty-third Republican Congress reported favorably upon over

EIGHT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

of those claims, of which the amount of over six millions of dollars was passed by both Houses. When however, the Democrats obtained control of the House of Representatives, the conspirators were balked. The committees of the present Congress (the 44th), at the late session, refused to consider any claims which had been assigned, and which were now owned by other parties than the original losers, who were loyal, and presented them in good faith. From this rule of action established by the House of Representatives, in accordance with this general programme of retrenchment and reform, the total amount of claims for damages in the South during the war, which were passed by the House of Representatives at the last session, amounted to only $74,335. The Radical Southern Claim Ring, seeing no hope for their profit in any Democratic successes, have thrown this whole weight in favor of the election of the Republican ticket in November. Even if it be impossible for them to secure a Republican House, they rely on forcing their claims through by the aid of the Republican Senate and Executive. They hope in the improbable event of Radical success, to secure bills authorizing the payment of the balance of the claims they now hold. As a part of this scheme, they have raised the rebel war cry against the Democrats. It is merely the cry of "stop thief," and those who raise it are the thieves in the past, who want to be the thieves of the future, as is abundantly demonstrated by the figures alluded to, which are quoted from the official records from the 43d and 44th Congresses. The Southern people do not urge and do not desire the passage of these claims. The present pressure of taxation upon Southern land owners, and their experience of Radical taxation consequent upon Radical extravagance is too recent and too bitter to permit them to desire the successes of such claims. The Southern land-owners are now solely interested in availing themselves of opportunity to reap a reasonable and assured profit from their annual harvest. They want to build themselves up by the industry of the future, and not by trading upon the dead past. This sentiment is universal among all responsible men in the Southern country, and they are not particularly solicitous about lining the pockets of the carpet-baggers who have bought up their claims for a trifling per centage. The way to defeat a rebel war claim swindle is to elect Tilden and Hendricks and defeat Hayes and Wheeler, because the Democratic party is pledged and bound to reunion and retrenchment, which necessarily involve the defeat of all swindling claims upon the United States.

The testimony published in another column of the Reporter, taken at the Molly Maguire murder trials in Pottsville, proves what Mr. Gowen charged that the band of mollies was bought by the radicals to vote for Hartranft. Read the evidence. Election next Tuesday.

Read what the Lock Haven Republican, the organ of the Republicans of Clinton county, printed at the home of S. R. Peale, the democratic nominee for state senator, says of that gentleman:

SENATORIAL.—We can congratulate our people, both Democrats and Republicans, upon the fact that Hon. S. R. Peale, of this city, has received the Senatorial nomination in this district. After a closely contested fight, amicable throughout, the conference, which met in Tyrone on Friday last, made Mr. Peale the nominee, and we believe that he is the choice of the entire district. Although a political opponent, S. R. Peale is an honest man, and he will, if elected, represent this district with ability and fidelity.

Mr. Ziegler, one of the radical nominees for Assembly, is trying the game of "trade" to slip into the legislature over either Col. Weaver or Mr. Alexander. He will slip up on that however, as we do not think there is a disposition among the democracy to accept a life-long enemy of our party for men who have stood by the regular organization. Don't trade. Elect the regular nominees, and if Mr. Ziegler or Mr. M'Farlane would like to represent this county in the legislature it was their duty to belong to the democratic party, then there might have been some chance. As radicals they would *misrepresent* this county. Stand by the nominees, democrats!

Democrats of Haines, Miles, Penn, Gregg, Potter, Harris, College, and Ferguson, we can go over the mountains with at least 1000 majority, if you do your duty and see that the vote is brought out next Tuesday. Don't fail.

The Democratic ticket never was composed of better material than that from Samuel J. Tilden down to Col. Rishel. Next Tuesday, 7, is election day. Let every democrat be at his post, and victory is ours!

The nomination of S. R. Peale, for state senator, has created great delight among the common classes of Clinton county, where Mr. Peale has his home. Mr. Peale has always been their friend and the sympathies of the man have always been on the side of the working men. A few aristocrats and silk-stocking federalists turn up their noses, but what of that? they are in a hopeless minority, and the working classes will have their friend and favorite as their representative. It is time that people look a little more to the real character of the men they elect. What we must have are men who have some regard for the interests of the farmer, the machanic and the laboring man, and with these Mr. Peale is thoroughly identified, and hence he is their choice. He hails from that kind of honest stock. We know that he will be as true to their interests as was Mr. Mackey, our congressman.

Working men of old Centre, give Mr. Peale a big vote, and show that you will stand by the man who has stood by you.

Democrats of Centre, next Tuesday, Nov. 7, is election day. See that every democratic voter is brought to the polls. Victory is ours if we do our whole duty and get out the vote. Work, work, work!

Grant pardoned the caged whisky ringsters and Hartranft pardoned the Molly Maguires. Vote for Tilden, Reform and the entire democratic ticket next Tuesday.

Saml J. Tilden will keep the thieves in jail,—Hayes will let them out, a la Grant and Hartranft. Vote for Tilden the terror of thieves and smasher of rings.

We have received four additional copies of the Congressional Globe from Hon. L. A. Mackey, for which that gentleman has our thanks.

HOW THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT EMBARRASSES COMMERCE.

The operations of the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia have been greatly impeded by the absurd and impracticable red tape regulations of the Treasury Department. The Chief of the Bureau of Customs is W. F. Clark, who has lately been given the position in place of an old employee, displaced by Mr. Bristow.

At the opening of the Exhibition, Mr. Clark issued such complicated orders in relation to the entry and withdrawal of bonded goods there that the Collector of the Port of Philadelphia was obliged to declare them impracticable, and declined to carry them out. The consequence is, that all goods from foreign countries on exhibition at Philadelphia were entered there without any record whatever being taken. In the Philadelphia Custom House this naturally gives an advantage to the honest exhibitors as against the Treasury, and their dishonest confederates, and the result will be the loss of millions of dollars of revenue on goods sold during and at the close of the Exposition, and of corresponding profit to those foreigners who are not men of business integrity. To obviate this, a regulation has been made requiring all spaces of foreign exhibitors to be fenced off at the close of the Exposition. This will cause a long delay in the final closing of the establishment, and will prevent quick sales by auction, which is the only way that loss can be saved. The transfer of the buildings, the restoration of fairmount Park to its original condition, as required by law, and the sale of all the edifices, excepting Memorial Hall will be delayed by this great mistake of the Treasury. This clerk is a typical Radical official of the Treasury. His theory is, that all merchants are natural thieves, and that the payment of just refunds should always be refused by the Treasury and the officials required to go to the courts. He is one of the men who compel citizens to be dishonest in order to preserve their business chances, and his course in relation to the Centennial Exhibition is only a sample of that pursued by the Treasury Department in its relations with business men for the last eight years.

The whole effort of the Republican chiefs of Government since the war has been to multiply forms and create embarrassments in the way of the regular transaction of business, in order to keep up an apparent necessity for the largest possible number of officeholders. Under this system the officeholders have grown from 54,000 in 1869 to 98,000 in 1875, while the business requiring their attention has decreased in almost equal ratio, especially in the Internal Revenue service, in which the articles of taxation have decreased from 369 to 60.

BEWARE OF THE REBEL CLAIMS RING!

Beware of the Radical Ring which has bought up the Rebel claims. Its extensive conspiracy will be successful, if not promptly met and completely checkmated.

SIX MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WERE PAID TO THIS RING BY THE LAST REPUBLICAN CONGRESS.

Col. Mackey, our nominee for re-election to congress, we are sorry to inform the people of Centre county, is prevented by sickness from visiting our county during this campaign. He had an attack of fever, and his physicians advise him to remain at home. It was Mr. Mackey's intention to spend some time in this county, and see his many friends but the above reason prevents him, much to his regret. However, as he is thus prevented from laboring for their interests during the close of the campaign, his friends can feel assured that their interests will be faithfully attended to by him in Congress.

Election Tuesd., 7.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

New York, October, 24th, 1876.

Signs of the Times.

There is no longer any doubt about the result of the coming election. Tilden and Hendricks will be the next President and Vice-President of the United States in spite of every thing that is in the power of our opponents to do. They made their fight in Indiana, West Virginia and Ohio, and they have been beaten. It was a desperate struggle, for them a struggle for life or death, and they have lost. The moral effect of their defeat has been so great that it has already decided the contest in this state. Democrats have heretofore no doubt as to their ability to carry New York; but the Republicans up to the time of the October elections also expressed confidence of success. They do so no longer. The betting is now 2 to one in Tilden's favor, and the Republicans are many of them betting that way in the hope of hedging their losses on Indiana. A man must be in New York where the National Committees of both parties have their Headquarters to understand how completely is the breakdown in the Republican camp, and how certain the Democrats are of victory. One of the severest blows the Republicans have received is the failure to enlist the soldiers of the late war in a partisan movement in their interest. The Boys in Blue have been repudiated as representatives of the soldiers of the Union, and the Grand Army of the Republic has administered a rebuke to Gen. Dix that that aged warrior must find it hard to bear. He ought to have known that at least one half, if not more, of the soldiers of the late war are Democrats, favoring the election of Tilden and Hendricks, and that no men are more earnest in their desire for peace and tranquility in every section of the land than the men who fought our battles. The Union soldiers are the best friends the South has, and so far from lending themselves to any attempt to excite sectional amnesty, they may always be relied upon to rebuke those who use their names for such an end.

New York State will give Tilden and Hendricks 70,000 majority. We will carry New Jersey and Connecticut and the election of Hayes and Wheeler is impossible.

The Radical War Claims.

The greatest absurdity of this canvass is the cry raised by the Radicals about Southern claims. They own these claims themselves, the Washington and carpet-bag rings having bought them up through a combination formed in 1872, of which Gen. E. B. Rice, Belknap's jackall, was the representative. The Republican Forty-third Congress passed six millions of these claims, while the Democratic House rejected all that were presented except 74,000. The Radicals, who formed corrupt combinations which are the satellites of the solar system of the White House, are particularly anxious for the election of Hayes, in order to secure the passage and payment of the fraudulent claims. The fact is, the Democratic party is attacked because it rejected these claims, it is ludicrous to see the party pretending to embrace all the virtue and patriotism of the country, making war upon the Democracy because they refused to pass Rebel war claims. For every hundred dollars of these claims paid through the action of the Republican Forty-third Congress, only $1.40 was paid through the action of the Democratic House of this Congress. For Every hundred dollars of these claims considered by Republican committees only considered them to the amount of $2.50. The cry raised by the Radical claim ring is simply one of desperation, and their last expedient to try and retain their hold upon the Treasury.

"Bloody-Shirt to the End.

There is another evidence still that the Republican campaign is in the hands of its worst men and not of its best. As soon as the Democratic victories in two out of the three October States were announced, the most moderate and the most decent of the party organs sounded an alarm and called for a change in the plan of the campaign. They demanded that the false issue is the bloody shirt should be abandoned and that the issue of Civil Service Refrom and specie payment should be revived. The proposition was conceived in imbecility and born in foolishness. These were the two subjects on which the party was weakest, because of its failure to bring about specie payments and because of its gross and shameless corruptions. Nevertheless, the suggestion was sincerely made. How was it received? Blaine, who has been put in charge of the Republican canvass, brushes the doctrinaries to one side, and announces in his New York speech that he is going to go on with the bloody shirt. He is too shrewd a politician not to know that a change of the plan of campaign when his own forces are already running in fight would be fatal; but, like all politicians who are over shrewd, he underestimates the discernment and the decency of the people. The people of the east will vote down the bloody shirt just as the people of the West have done, but the Republicans know that, dark as their prospects are, they would be completely lost with a change of campaign. They will go on with the bloody shirt to end, and go on to their ruin.

That Income Tax.

We hear nothing now-a-days about the income tax of Governor Tilden since the disclosures of Gov. Hayes' tax record and of his "co-operation with Know Nothings nearly lost him the State of Ohio, and we hear less than we did about the suit which was to be brought against Gov. Tilden by "Decoy" Blun, and was to compel him to disgorge his ill-gotten gains plundered from the revenues. Nevertheless, a scheme so loudly announced can hardly be abandoned with consistency, and we shall doubtless have a formal suit brought just a few days before election—a last and desperate card played is a desperate game. But Gov. Tilden cannot be sued alone. These men know that to single him out as the sole object of a suit would turn public sentiment in favor of the persecuted man. Others must be sued likewise. What others, whom the Republicans officials suppose in their comprehensive ignorance, to have returned less than the income they received. A pretty drag-net this to send out more than ten years after! All those who made the deductions from their income allowed by law, and have mislaid their memoranda and books; all those whose papers have been burned by fires, lost in freshets or accidents, by sea, lake or land; all those who had witnesses that could have been of service, and that have died or migrated; in short, all those who have returned less income than the Republicans assume they ought to have returned and who may now have become unable, either through lack of distinct personal recollection, or the loss of witnesses or records, to prove their honesty—a thing not usually required of honest men—all these must be branded before the community as defrauders of the revenue. All this great series of outrages must be perpetrated in order to gratify a hellish political purpose, and to try to save a lost campaign.

Meanwhile, all access to Gov. Hayes' income tax returns is still refused to the Democratic press. This must mean that Gov. Hayes has been committing the very crime which his spokesmen have been trying to fasten on Gov. Tilden. Is Mr. Hayes to be sued too?

A RADICAL LIE ANSWERED.

MR. TILDEN DEFINES HIS POSITION ON THE PAYMENT OF CONFEDERATE WAR CLAIMS.

As President He will Execute and Enforce the Fourteenth Amendment.

New York, October 24, 1876.

To the Hon. Abram S. Hewitt.

SIR: I have received your letter informing me that Republicans high in authority are publicly representing that "Southern *desire,* not without hope," to obtain payment for losses by the late war and to have "provision made for the rebel debt and for the losses of slaves."

As the payment of such losses and claims was not deemed important enough to deserve the notice of either convention at the time it was held, you also ask me to state my views in regard to their recognition by the Government.

Though disposed myself to abide by the issue as made up already, I have no hesitation to comply with your request.

The fourteenth amendment of the Constitution expressly provides as follows:

"The validity of the public debt of the United States authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States, nor any State, shall *assume* or *pay* ANY *debt* or *obligation,* incurred *in aid of* insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any *claim* for the *loss* or *emancipation* of any *slave,* but ALL such *debts, obligations* and *claims,* shall be held *illegal and void.*"

This amendment has been repeatedly approved and agreed to by Democratic State conventions of the South. It was unanimously adopted as a part of the platform of the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis, on the 28th of June, and was declared by that platform to be "*universally accepted* as a *final settlement* of the controversies that engendered civil war."

My own position on this subject had been previously declared on many occasions, and particularly in my first annual message of January 5, 1875.

In that document I stated that the Southern people were "bound by the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth constitutional amendments; that they had lost ed at national conventions in the nomination of candidates and in the declaration of principles and purposes which form an authentic acceptance of the results of the war, embodied in the last three amendments to the organic law of the Federal Union, and that they had by the suffrages of all their voters at the last national election completed the proof that now they only seek to share with us and to maintain the common rights of American local self government in a fraternal union, under the old flag with "one Constitution and one destiny."

I declared at the same time:

"The questions settled by the war are never to be reopened. The adoption of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Federal Constitution closed one era in our politics. It marked the end forever of the system of human slavery and of the struggles that grew out of that system. These amendments have been conclusively adopted, and they have been accepted in good faith by all political organizations and the people of all sections. They close the chapter; they are and must be final; all parties hereafter must accept and stand upon them, and henceforth our politics are to turn upon questions of the present and the future and not upon those of the settled and final past."

Should I be elected President, the provisions of the fourteenth amendment will, so far as depends on me, be maintained, executed and enforced in perfect and absolute good faith. No rebel debt will be assumed or paid. No claim for the loss or emancipation of slaves will be allowed. No claim for any loss or damage incurred by disloyal persons arising from the late war, whether covered by the 14th amendment or not, will be recognised or paid. The cotton tax will not be refunded. I shall deem it my duty to veto every bill providing for the assumption or payment of any such debts, losses, damages, claims or for the refunding of any such tax.

The danger to the National Treasury is not from claims of persons who aided the rebellion, but from claims of persons residing in the Southern States or having property in those States who were, or pretended to be, or who for the sake of aiding claims now pretend to have been, loyal to the Government of the Union. Such claims, even of loyal persons, where they are from acts caused by the operations of war, have been disowned by the public law civilized nations, condemned by the jury's accusation: Before the Supreme Court of the United States, and only find any status by force of specific legislation of Congress. These claims have become stale and are often tainted with fraud. They are nearly always owned in whole or in part by claim agents, by speculators or lobbyists, who have no equity against the tax-payers or the public. They should, in all cases, be scrutinized with jealous care.

The calamities to individuals which were inflicted by the late war are, for the most part, irreparable. The Government cannot recall to life the million of our youth who went to untimely graves, nor compensate the sufferings or sorrow of their relatives or friends. It cannot readjust between individuals the burdens of taxation hitherto borne, or of debts incured to sustain the Government, which are yet to be paid. It cannot apportion anew among our citizens the damages or losses incident to military operations, or resulting in every variety of form from its measures for maintaining its own existence. It has no safe general rule but to let by-gones be by-gones, to turn from the dead past to a new and better future, and on that basis to assure peace, reconciliation and fraternity between all sections, classes and races of our people, to the end that all the springs of our productive industries may be quickened, and a new prosperity created, in which the evils of the past shall be forgotten. Very respectfully yours,

SAMUEL J. TILDEN.

GOV. TILDEN AND THE WAR CLAIMS.

HIS LETTER APPLAUDED IN WASHINGTON BY ALL OUTSIDE THE LOBBY.

[Special dispatch to the World.]

Washington, October 25.—Governor Tilden's letter on the Confederate war claims is warmly applauded here by everybody but the lobby of claim agents. The better class of agents approve it. Members of the lobby boast that Mr. Hayes will not put his hand against them, but will sustain them if he ever has the power just as a Republican House and Administration have done by passing bogus claims of the Sugg Fort and Witowsky order. The trial of two ex-republican members of congress for forgery in connection with these claims is about to begin in the criminal Court of this district, and furnishes proper commentary on the class of claims which Mr. Tilden speaks of as being stale or tainted with fraud, but which the Republicans have for years been paying.

Three Methodist ministers, while "riding circuit" in Pope county, Arkansas on Friday, were shot, and one of them mortally wounded, by two illicit distillers who were concealed in the brush by the roadside, and by whom they were mistaken for United States internal revenue officials.

THE MOLLIE MAGUIRES.

VOTES BOUGHT FOR HARTRANFT.

Testimony of John J. Slattery--He Tells the Terms of the Contract —Gen. Sigfried the Contractor—His Explanation.

Special Dispatch to the Times.

Pottsville, Oct. 22.—This town and county have been in a great state of excitement by the disclosures made by John J. Slattery, on the witness-stand in Mauch Chunk yesterday, during the progress of the trial of Yellow Jack Donahoe, for the murder of Morgan Powell. Powell was a mining boss, employed by the Lehigh Navigation and Coal Company. He was shot in the streets of Summit Hill, Carbon county, after dark on the 2nd of December, 1871. By the confessions of Charles Mulhearn and John J. Slattery, the Commonwealth is enabled to establish beyond doubt the following facts: Alexander Campbell, now under sentence of death for the murder of John H. Jones, was, in 1871, employed under the supervision of Powell, and desired to obtain from the boss a certain piece of work which Powell told him he was unfit for and could not have. At that time Thomas Fisher was county delegate of Carbon county and James McKenna was Body-master at Summit Hill. Campbell called on body-master McKenna to furnish men to avenge the insult he charged Powell with. McKenna consulted County Delegate Fisher, and through his influence three men from the Tuscarora division, in Schuylkill county, were obtained to do the job. These three men—Yellow Jack Donahoe, Mat Donahoe and Charles Mulhearn—went to Summit Hill and guided by Fisher and McKenna, were enabled to shoot down their victim and escape. All six men have been arrested.

Startling Revelations.

Two very startling revelations have thus far been made; first, that in order to pay the three men who came over from Tuscarora to kill Powell, an assessment of one dollar apiece was made on more than one hundred members of the Summit Hill Division of the Mollie Maguires. Only thirty dollars of this assessment however, was ever collected and paid over. But the most startling revelation was made when Slattery, under an offer to show the general criminal character of the Mollie Maguire organization, among other things gave his knowledge of the bargain made last fall whereby the vote of that organization was secured for Hartranft. Slattery's manner of testifying showed an earnest sincerity to tell the truth. His story of the arrangement to secure the Mollie vote for Hartranft last fall is as follows:

Politicians Bargaining with Murderers.

Pending the campaign last year Slattery and John Kehoe, county delegate of Schuylkill county, met Gen. J. K. Sigfried, a prominent Republican politician, holding the lucrative appointment of boiler inspector of this county, and James Ryon, ex-Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of this county, who was defeated for re-election by Judge Pershing, and they bargained with Kehoe and Slattery to pay them one thousand dollars apiece for procuring the votes of the Mollie Maguires for Hartranft. After the bargain was concluded Sigfried said he would go to Harrisburg to get the money, and if he succeeded he would communicate with Kehoe and Slattery by a cypher telegram agreed upon. The day following Slattery received a dispatch from Sigfried, which meant that the money had been raised and that Slattery and Kehoe should come to Sigfried's house in Pottsville the next day. They came, and there, in the presence of Judge Ryon and D. C. Hening, Esq., a prominent lawyer of this bar, Sigfried paid over to Slattery and Kehoe a thousand dollars a piece. At the same time an additional stipulation was made that if one-half of the republican county ticket was elected an additional thousand dollars should be paid them.

More Money for the Mollies,

Slattery further testified that John M. Delany, Governor Hartranft's messenger in the Executive Department, carried a fund of money to Luzerne county for the purpose of securing the Mollies' vote of that county for Hartranft, and that a much larger fund was sent to Pittsburg, the headquarters of the A. O. H. in Pennsylvania, to be used for the same purpose. A reference to the returns from the localities named would seem to corroborate Slattery's testimony. Prominent Republicans promised to use their influence with Governor Hartranft for that purpose after the election, and Slattery used this promise with the individual members of the Mollie organization and with those who sympathized with them to induce them to vote for Hartranft. As a matter of fact, shortly after the election the prison of Schuylkill county was emptied of all the Mollie convicts by means of pardons.

What is Thought at Pottsville.

Slattery's testimony fully vindicates Mr. Gowen's assertion in his speech on the trial of Thomas Munley for the murder of Uren and Sangor, in which he charged that persons holding high office in Pennsylvania had bargained with members of the Mollie Maguire organization to secure the votes of these outlaws for Republican candidates. When the news reached here the utmost consecration was created in the Republican camp, Mr. Hughes, who returned home from Mauch Chunk last night, has been besieged all day with anxious questioners. There seems to be little doubt but doubt but that Slattery has told the substantial truth. Mr. Nash is the only one of the persons implicated who has actually denied Slattery's sworn statement. Mr. Nash says that he never in his life directly or indirectly, lent his aid to put fraudulent naturalization papers in circulation; and that he has no recollection of ever having given Slattery any naturalization papers at all. Slattery said in the course of his examination that the national organization of the A. O. H., with its seat in New York city, was as wicked and corrupt as the organization in the anthracite coal regions. Kehoe and Slattery both exerted what influence they had outside of the county, by sending letters to bodymasters, especially in western Pennsylvania, calling on them them to vote and work for Hartranft, whose election would be conductive to the good of the order.

Sigfried and Hening's Statement.

General Sigfried and D. C. Hening make the following statement in regard to Slattery's accusation: Before the nomination of Pershing Slattery had declared that he would not support Pershing if nominated, and after the nomination, at the solicitation of Slattery, they had a meeting with Slattery at which Judge Ryon was present, and at which it was agreed that Kehoe and Slattery should have one thousand dollars apiece, to be used in paying their expenses in electioneering for Hartranft, but that it was distinctly understood and said that the money was not to be used for any purpose illegal or improper. A few days afterwards one thousand dollars was paid at General Sigfried's house, and at a later period, about a week before the election, the other thousand was paid at Slattery's house in Tuscaro. They further say that at the time the bargain was made or any time thereafter before the election, neither Sigfried nor Hening knew that Slattery or Kehoe were Mollie Maguires, both denying being connected with that order; that nothing was said or insinuate at any time during the negotiation about using influence to obtain pardons for convicted Mollies or any other persons after the election; that no additional thousand dollars was promised or spoken of as a reward for securing the election of one half of the republican county ticket, but that Kehoe and Slattery were to exert themselves to that end while working for Hartranft; General Sigfried did not go to Harrisburg for the money, nor did the money paid to Kehoe and Slattery come from there, and they did not request Slattery and Kehoe to write to body-masters outside of the county to secure their influence for Hartranft, nor was anything of the kind spoken of.

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