

County Committee Meeting.

The Republican County Committee will meet in the Court House, at Huntington, on TUESDAY, the 12th day of January, 1872, (second week of court), at 10 o'clock, p. m.

GRANT AS A SOLDIER, AND AS A PRESIDENT.

No President of the United States has ever escaped the keen edge of criticism. President Grant is no exception. But it would be difficult in scanning the pages of history, from the days of Washington down to the present time, to name any of our public men whose acts have been more free from mistakes than those of U. S. Grant, either as the General of our armies, or as Chief Magistrate of the Nation.

General McClellan was called to the command of the army, he reviewed the troops in front of Washington; and in the presence of Abraham Lincoln and the army, he stood in his carriage and proclaimed, without qualification, that henceforward, "There shall be no more defeats; we shall have no more retreats."

When General Grant was placed in command he made no promises, beyond the declaration that "We shall fight it out on this line if it takes all summer." Steadily he persevered through the summer, and the winter, and down into the months of spring, when he whipped his foe, and closed the war. There was no "defeat," no "retreat," until Lee laid down his arms and surrendered his army.

The brief correspondence which passed between those two great Generals on that memorable occasion is credible alike to both. The language of the conqueror to the vanquished General is plain and pointed, but at the same time entirely free from a semblance of anything that could offend or wound the feelings of Lee or his army.

On the same day Gen. Lee's reply was received, in which he said, "I do not think the emergency has arisen to call for the surrender of this army," and proposed a meeting at ten a. m., April 9th, "to negotiate terms of peace."

Gen. Lee replied, April 7th, asking for terms. Gen. Grant, April 8th, submitted as the terms, "That the men surrendered shall be disqualified from taking up arms against the United States until properly exchanged."

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With peace restored, the name of Grant was freely used in connection with the Presidency, and in due time he was nominated for that important position. On being officially informed of this, he addressed a note of acceptance to Gen. Joseph R. Hawley, President of the National Union Republican Convention, in which he used these words: "If elected to the office of President of the United States, it will be my endeavor to administer all the laws in good faith, with economy, and with the view of giving peace, quiet and protection everywhere."

There is no boasting or circumlocution here, but the candid expression of a fervent purpose to serve his country faithfully, as its Chief Executive, as he had done when a soldier.

He was elected. Nearly three years of his term of office have passed into history, and what is his record? A unintermitted series of years of successful administration, in every department of the Government, resulting, under God's blessing, in unprecedented prosperity to the various great, as well as to the more minute industries, and in the general national development. The laws have all been administered in good faith; economy of expenditure has been the ruling policy, and peace, quiet, and protection have prevailed, excepting, perhaps, among a few vicious spirits in limited sections of the South; and even these have been made glad to yield to the supremacy of the law, and sue for pardon.

It is a significant fact in his Generalship, so in the discharge of his important duties as Chief Magistrate, U. S. Grant cannot be charged with a solitary blunder. Those who have attempted to attribute to him official errors have been forced to change their tactics, or abandon their opposition. Even in the San Domingo affair, his victory over his accusers is as complete as that at Appomattox Court House. The revival of the old story of the one term rule for the Presidency is no more applicable to that office than it would be to that of United States Senators, in which honorable body Charles Sumner has faithfully filled a seat for twenty years in succession, with distinguished credit to himself, his constituents, and his country.

If we ask for retrenchment do not the annual reports prove incontrovertibly that expenses have been cut down in every department of the Government? The liberal pensions to soldiers and sailors, or to their families, can be reduced only by the lapse of time. The Indian Bureau has been remodeled, and is now a success.

The cost of collecting the revenue has been largely reduced; and the revenue reform has brought the internal taxes down from three hundred and ten million dollars, per annum, to one hundred and forty millions, with a prospective reduction to one hundred millions, or a trifle over. Can our Revenue Reformers ask for more than this? Then the duties on imports were reduced twenty-five million last year; while a still further reduction will take place during the present Congress.

In conclusion, it may be said without fear of contradiction, that at no time within the history of the Nation have the public affairs been in a more satisfactory condition than they are now, at the opening of the new year, 1872. The Government itself is stronger than ever before. We are at peace with all the world. The public credit has been restored, and placed on a firm and favorable basis. Our industries, under the fostering influences of a judicious protective tariff, are prospering as they never have before; and peace, remunerative employment and protection prevail throughout the Union.

"Let us have Peace," said Grant, after the close of the war. That peace, with its offspring, prosperity, we have ever since enjoyed. And, basing our conclusions, not upon the man merely, but upon his acts in the past, it is safe to say that the re-nomination and election of U. S. Grant to the Presidency, is probably the best guarantee we can have, for the continuation of these great blessings in the future.

OUR MINISTERS' MINING OPERATIONS.

Minister Schenk has not asked to be recalled, but telegrams of ten days ago inform us that he has withdrawn from the directorship of the "Emma Silver Mines."

There can be no objection, of a tangible nature, to Mr. Schenck or any other officer of the American Government owning stock in a mine, provided he came into possession of it by honest and legitimate means. Mr. Schenck's ownership in these mines was obtained prior to his appointment to England; but when the stock was offered to him, he was not at that time in England; and he was not at that time in England; and he was not at that time in England.

Who would object to Minister Thornton becoming the owner of a mine in our western country, or in any other part of the world? or of stock in a railway, or in a steamship company, if it was his pleasure so to invest his earnings? The charges against Catanzar were not of this nature at all. He made himself obnoxious by unnecessary interference in our own public affairs; by dictating articles for the newspapers derogatory to our President and other public officers, and then complaining to the Secretary of State of their publication, and denying to him that he had any thing to do with their authorship; and by speaking disrespectfully, on public occasions, of prominent officials. He might have invested a fortune in American enterprise and we would all have thanked him for such a manifestation of public spirit; so also our Minister to England may do, without detriment to his official standing; but it seems that Royalty could not view the matter in that light, or tolerate, gracefully, any Minister near the Court of St. James who condescended to earn an honest penny outside of his official income.

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MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature, of this State, met at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, of last week, and the House proceeded to organize by the election of Hon. William Elliott, Republican, of Philadelphia, as Speaker, by a vote of 61 to a vote of 37 for Adam Woolever, Democrat. James L. Schrifge was elected Chief Clerk, Capt. Hugh Morrison, Assistant and John A. Small, resident clerks. On motion of Mr. Fieger the following gentlemen were elected to fill the several respective offices, viz:

For Messenger—C. W. Ray, Mercer county.

First Assistant Messenger—John T. Toy, Chester county.

Second Assistant Messenger—Joseph M. Donald, Philadelphia.

Third Assistant Messenger—Joseph E. Zueler, Venango county.

Doorkeeper of Rotunda—M. Dague, Washington county.

Superintendent of Folding Department—David Martin, Philadelphia.

Assistant—Isaac Marsh, Bradford county.

Pasters and Folders—Morris Stringfield, Philadelphia; J. Craig, do.; Philip Schaeffer, do.; P. H. Jones, Allegheny county; J. F. Stephens, Crawford county; Charles Pickering, Bucks county; Henry Raymond, Lancaster county; A. Jackson Bowens, do.; Anthony M. Mann, Delaware county; A. B. Baker, Indiana county.

For Transcribing Clerks—Isaac Morehead, Erie; R. V. Thompson, Lawrence county; A. R. McCarthy, Huntingdon county; Richard Williams, Jr., Luzerne county; C. M. Sanner, Schuylker county; W. A. Stone, Tioga county.

Postmaster—William Coates, Allegheny county.

Assistant—A. J. Monks, Jefferson county.

Sergeant-at-Arms—John F. Shemer, Philadelphia.

Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms—Robert H. Newton, Philadelphia; John Humphries, do.; Russell H. Griffin, Blair county; Myron M. Mott, Susquehanna county.

Doorkeeper—Christian Hock, Allegheny county.

Assistants—Samuel Kephart, Philadelphia; Ed. Milligan, Allegheny county; and James Tate, Philadelphia.

The death of Hon. J. W. Dickerson, of Bedford, was announced and a warrant for a special election was issued by the Speaker. A committee was appointed in the Warren county contested case which reported in favor of the Republican being entitled to the seat on the prima facie.

In the Senate nothing was done on Tuesday. The Speaker announced that satisfactory evidence having reached him of the death of Senator Conell he would issue his warrant for a special election in the Fourth district. On Wednesday efforts were made to compromise without accomplishing anything. On Thursday the Democrats, after several ineffectual ballots, instructed Mr. Buckalew to vote for the Republican candidate for Speaker, and Mr. Ratan, of Beaver, was elected.

His address upon taking the chair was a very modest and prudent one. Chief Clerk, Zeigler, then tendered his resignation and a number of ballots were had for Chief Clerk without any favorable result. The Republicans voted sixteen votes for Geo. W. Hammersley and the Democrats voting a like number of votes for their candidate. Thus things stood up to Friday, when both branches adjourned over until yesterday (Tuesday).

The Democrats, in the Bedford and Fulton district, took of placing John G. Fisher, Esq., of Bedford, in nomination for the position in the House made vacant by the death of Hon. J. W. Dickerson. On the other hand, the Republicans have scarcely indicated who will be their choice. While in Bedford, last week, we heard John Alsip, Esq., spoken of, and if he should receive the nomination we predict a shaking among the dry bones of Democracy. We also heard our friend, D. S. Elliott, Esq., of the Press, spoken of, and presume that Hon. S. P. Wishart, the late representative, will also be a candidate.

Elsewhere we publish the material portion of the Governor's Message. It is a very satisfactory document as our readers will learn by reading the portions published. The financial exhibits are very good. If the Legislature does its part as well, the Old Keystone will sail away, very smoothly, for the next twelve months.

By reference to the list of officers elected by the House of Representatives, of this State, for the present session, it will be seen that Dr. A. R. McCarthy, of Dudley, has been elected a transcribing clerk. We congratulate our friend upon his good fortune, and hope that his stay, at Harrisburg, during the winter, may be both pleasant and profitable.

Hon. J. P. Wickersham, Superintendent of the Common and Soldiers' Orphan Schools, of Pennsylvania, will accept our thanks for advance copies of his Reports. The exhibits are very satisfactory, and give assurances, that in the hands of the present efficient chief, our schools will occupy the front rank in the great march of popular education.

In another column a communication will be found recommending Hon. P. Frazier Smith, our present worthy and able State Reporter, for the Supreme Judgeship. There is not another man in the State, unconnected with the Bench, so intimately acquainted with the duties of a Supreme Judge or so thoroughly posted in the decisions of the Court as Mr. Smith.

We take up almost the entire outside of our paper, this week, with an official copy of the Alabama Treaty. This document should be read by every citizen in the United States. It is one of the most important documents since the promulgation of the Declaration of Independence.

Col. Jacob M. Campbell, Surveyor General, of Pennsylvania, has our thanks for a copy of his Report for the year ending November 30, 1871. The receipts of his office, from all sources, during the year, were \$51,127.41. This indicates that our people are not neglecting their title.

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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

The Opposition to Grant—Stanner, Schurz, Trumbull, Eaton, Tipton and Logan, his Republican Opponents—A Newspaper Libel Suit—Grant in Philadelphia—Halleck, Sickles, Cameron, Fish.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8, 1872. THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Republican press-heads of the U. S. Senate will leave no stone unturned to accomplish the defeat of General Grant's re-nomination for the Presidency. There are half a dozen of them, all told, and prominent in the group is Charles Sumner. His disaffection dates back to the time that he delivered his great speech on the Alabama question. The Senator took high ground when the Administration sustained in the main, but they could not endorse the more extreme views presented by Mr. Sumner. Soon after Mr. Motley was commissioned Minister to England, Mr. Sumner gave him certain instructions, which Mr. Motley preferred to follow in preference to those received from the State Department. In consequence of this the President recalled Mr. Motley. The Massachusetts Senator took offence, and manifested his opposition by his efforts to defeat the annexation of San Domingo and bring the President under censure on the charge of an improper use of the Navy, and other abuses of his office in that connection. Then Sumner was deprived of the Chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, which he claims was done through Executive influence. Thus the breach between Sumner and the President has become irreparable. But it has been most conclusively shown that Motley forfeited all claims to his official position, by a disregard to instructions. It has also been demonstrated that the acts of the President in reference to the San Domingo affair were strictly within the line of duty, up to the hour that he turned the question over to Congress and the people for their disposal. The removal of Sumner from the Chairmanship of the Foreign Committee was purely the act of the Senate. But Sumner will not be consoled, and he has joined in the imprudent movement to defeat the re-nomination of Gen. Grant.

Senator Trumbull is another of the sore-heads. It will be remembered that he was one of the seven Republicans who voted against the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, and he is the last one of the seven left in the Senate. His time, too, will soon expire, and he cannot possibly be returned. He knows this; but he is tenacious of political life. His only hope is to break up the Republican party, and under a new organization come up in the lead, and with new power. For this end he is laboring with unfinching energy, and scruples at no means that may tend to secure the end. Mr. Schurz is busy in the opposition. Carl professes to a high code of pure political morals; but his past career does not indicate that he is entitled to the claim, or to much consideration from the people. It will be remembered that he stumped the West in 1860 in favor of Mr. Lincoln's election. But he was paid, and paid liberally for his speech delivered, and day spent in the work. He would not work without a fee; and he received his pay in full. But he was not satisfied. He came to Washington after the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln, and demanded a foreign mission. He was sent Minister to Spain—The war broke out. After some little time Mr. Schurz returned to Washington and demanded a brigadier-generalship. Gen. Grant was contented to enter the army as a captain, and work up upon his own merits. Schurz preferred a shorter route to fame, and demanded and obtained a general's command to start upon, in which he never distinguished himself, or afforded evidence that he was worthy of the position he held. Afterwards he went to Missouri, was sent a Senator to Washington, returned to his State where he succeeded in splitting the Republican party, and sending Blair to the Senate; and encouraged by his course a Ku Klux organization sprung up in the State, which, in some sections of the State, have become a terror to peaceable citizens. Schurz wants to be President, and if he is successful in his present project of defeating the re-nomination of Grant, and breaking up the Republican party, he will make an effort to secure an amendment to the Constitution, by which foreigners will be made eligible to the office of President of the United States. Such is the Schurz programme.

Fenton's opposition is the result of his own imprudence. On coming to the Senate he undertook, in a not very creditable way, to control the State patronage, and because he was checked in his purpose, he manifested an opposition to the President, which has since controlled all his movements.

Tipton, of Nebraska, claims that he has not received a fair share of the patronage of his State, and he too, from no other cause, has thrown his little influence with those who propose to defeat the President.

Logan is a Democrat at heart, though elected under the garb of a good, honest Republican. He has, by his action in the Senate, disappointed his State, and has become extremely unpopular during the last few months.

These are the men who have combined to defeat the President, and if possible, break up the party now in power. They are working into the hands of the democracy with an earnestness worthy of a better cause. But as the country can do without them better than it can without Grant, they will accomplish their own defeat in this manifestation of personal opposition and extreme folly.

SUIT FOR LIBEL.

The proprietors of the Washington Daily Republic have sued the proprietor of the Daily Republican of this city for libel. Damages \$20,000.

John M. Morris, of the Chronicle, came here from Charleston, S. C., and purchased the paper from J. W. Forney. The Republican charges that Parker, State Treasurer of South Carolina, is one of the proprietors of the Chronicle, and furnished the funds with which the paper was purchased. Parker and the Governor of South Carolina, it is said, have made an issue of State Bonds of over six million dollars, and there is no show in the State Treasury for the bonds or the funds.

The Republicans say that a portion of the proceeds from the sale of these bonds was used in the purchase of the Chronicle. Hence the libel suit.

PERSONAL.

President Grant and family were in Philadelphia from Friday evening, Jan. 4, until Monday. They were entertained by Col. J. W. Forney.

Gen. Sickles and his handsome young Spanish wife were in Washington during the past week.

Major Gen. Halleck is reported dangerously ill.

It is announced in Washington that Senator Cameron proposes to retire from public life after the expiration of his present Senatorial term.

Secretary Fish, contrary to a previous announcement, is about to take a house, and continue his residence for the winter, in Washington.

Speech of Hon. John Scott on the Removal of Political Disabilities.

Delivered in the United States Senate, December 20, 1871.

MR. SCOTT. Mr. President, I am not willing to be classed among the opponents of this bill because I rise to discuss it. It is because I have heretofore been unwilling to support a measure of this character that I now say anything. I have never been able to look at this question in the light in which many of the Senators who have spoken seem to view it.

Mr. ALCOCK. Will the Senator allow me one word at this point?

MR. SCOTT. Certainly.

Mr. ALCOCK. I desire to say that I labored under embarrassment when I spoke, for in truth I did not rise to make a speech; and I wish you to state distinctly that which I supposed I had made plain, but which it seems I did not. In the State of Mississippi the election occurred in November. The officers, under our constitution, qualify on the Tuesday after the first Monday in January. The Legislature also meets at that time. Several persons who have been elected to the Legislature are under disabilities. I have upon my table petitions signed by all the officers of the State of Mississippi, asking that their disabilities be removed, and some of them we regard as the most influential and qualified to perform the duties of their office. It is not possible to pass now, if the bill should not pass now, it will be too late for cases that I speak of, and those men will be excluded and men less competent, men who are not the choice of the people, men who are obnoxious to the people, will occupy the places, and the persons elected will go back with a brand upon their brow that the Government has discriminated against them.

Such a man goes back with no sympathy of the people, and with no feeling that there has been justice on the part of the Government. I thank the Senator from Pennsylvania for his kindness.

MR. SCOTT. Mr. President—

MR. POMEROY. Will the Senator yield for a motion to proceed to the consideration of the proposed business?

MR. SCOTT. Yes, Mr. President. I have not been able to view this measure in the light in which some other Senators have spoken of it, as one of justice to the people of the South. I have not been able to view it as one of personal feeling, to be decided by the feelings which we have entertained either during or since the war. It is simply a question of the highest political wisdom, and not of political wisdom in a party sense, but in the broader sense as it affects national and State prosperity.

I do not intend, Mr. President, to occupy any considerable time in discussing the operation of the disabilities of the fourteenth amendment; but I have been placed in a position where that operation has been forced upon my attention, and it is because that operation has been forced upon my attention that I at this time say anything.

There are two views of the operation of the disabilities of the fourteenth amendment, and there is but one of them that is likely to attract much of our attention in this body or in the House of Representatives; and that is, as it bears upon national interests. Men are disqualified for holding office by the operation of the law, liberty, and property, the members of those conspiracies have been brought before the legal tribunals, and made in a legal manner to submit to the penalty of the law.

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MR. POMEROY. Will the Senator yield for a motion to proceed to the consideration of the proposed business?

MR. SCOTT. Yes, Mr. President. I have not been able to view this measure in the light in which some other Senators have spoken of it, as one of justice to the people of the South. I have not been able to view it as one of personal feeling, to be decided by the feelings which we have entertained either during or since the war. It is simply a question of the highest political wisdom, and not of political wisdom in a party sense, but in the broader sense as it affects national and State prosperity.

I do not intend, Mr. President, to occupy any considerable time in discussing the operation of the disabilities of the fourteenth amendment; but I have been placed in a position where that operation has been forced upon my attention, and it is because that operation has been forced upon my attention that I at this time say anything.

There are two views of the operation of the disabilities of the fourteenth amendment, and there is but one of them that is likely to attract much of our attention in this body or in the House of Representatives; and that is, as it bears upon national interests. Men are disqualified for