The Republican.

GEORGE B. GOODLANDER,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 12, 1874.

OFFICE REMOVED.

The office of the CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN will hereafter be in Fisher's Opera House, on Market street, between Second and Third. The business office will be found to the left of the main entrance, on the second floor, where all our old and new patrons are invited to call. The press and composing rooms are on the third floor.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

The Pittsburgh *Post* says: We have been requested to state that Delegates and others desiring to purchase excursion tickets over the Pennsylvania Railroad to attend the Democratic State Convention in this city on the 26th., can procure orders for the purchase of the same by addressing Wm. P. Furey, Secretary Democratic State Committee, 717 Sansom street, or Jno. C. Barr, Merchants Hotel, Philadelphia, free of charge.

No excursion ticket can be obtained without an order which must be presented to the agent at the station where the party proposes to get aboard the train, and no order for an excursion ticket will be recognized by conductors of trains, but full fare will be demanded.

WE RISE TO EXPLAIN.

Most of our readers no doubt noticed our article last week entitled "party etiquette." Some, at least, read it, as we infer from the fact that several gentlemen have interrogated us in this way: "Did you mean me?" says one while another remarked; "did you intend to hit me in your etiquette article last week?" We replied "no sir," to all inquirers. To put ourself right we will state that that article was written last February, and mislaid until about two weeks ago, when we found it among some papers, and came to the conclusion that its publication would hurt nobody.

This explanation should satisfy the most verdant that we had no one "in our eye" when we penned it, as politics and politicians are usually pretty dead about that season of the year. The article in question is general in its application, and we doubt if the principles embraced in it can be successfully controverted. More, when we wish to assail any one personally we are not in the habit of doing it by inuendo or in parables, but in such a way as not to be misunderstood. However, if in our innocent way we sometimes make a shoe that pinches some of our readers, let them keep quiet, and then nobody will find out that it hurts them.

AN ADDRESS.—We call the attention of our readers to the address of Wm. M. M'Cullough, Esq., Chairman of the Democratic County Committee, found in this issue. The document should be read by all and the facts therein related properly considered.

A LITTLE ROUGH.—It is said that Mr. Beecher, who is now daily accused and upbraided by the members of his congregation for scandal he has brought on them, turns upon his accusers when they get through and impales them by saying: "You that are without the same sin, cast the first stone," and they all walk away. A pretty congregation, indeed.

NOTICE.—Rev. Joseph T. Inman, station D. Bible House, New York. We have your card before us, with a request to publish it. This we cannot do, but we will assist in sending you to the Penitentiary where you belong. And the publishers of newspapers who insert your card for nothing and help you to rob their neighbors, should be sent West to conquer the Indians.—Those are our terms.

DIED SUDDENLY.—George Bergner, Esq., editor of the Harrisburg *Telegraph* and Postmaster of that city, died on last Wednesday evening, in the 57th year of his age. Mr. Bergner was a practical printer in his early days, and was well known throughout the State as an active and influential member of the Republican party. His specialty as an editor, however, was his blind devotion to the political fortunes of Simon Cameron.

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.—Our county having been assigned to new districts—Congressional and Senatorial—it behooves our party friends to fix at an early day the time and place for holding the respective conferences. We will therefore suggest that the Congressional conference meet at Lock Haven, and the Judicial and Senatorial at Bellefonte. Any time between the 15th and 25th of September will suit Clearfield. What say you, Democratic cotemporaries, in the district indicated.

BOGUS PHILANTHROPY.—How soon "chickens come home to roost." A few years ago Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe went into the grave of Lord Byron to find a subject for a social scandal, and now she has one nearer home in the person of a live brother. The towering reputations of this "moral" brother and sister is about as deep in the mud just now as it is possible to get. This pair of moral jackalls grew fat by exposing the sins of their neighbors, and now turn out to be the wickedest of the race.

A GREAT VICTORY.—The election at Vicksburg, Miss., on the 4th, resulted in an average majority of 350 for the taxpayers and white man's ticket—Huge efforts were made by the scallawags and negroes to have the city overrun by United States soldiers for a week previous to the election. This is the first square fight at the polls between the whites and the negroes in the South but it will not be the last. Give the African full charge of the business and politics of the Southern section of the Union for twenty years, and it will be as uninhabitable as Africa itself. And by throwing in a lot of scallawags and New England carpet-baggers, ten years will be sufficent to blast the country.

THE SENATOR QUESTION.

The time is approaching when the Democrats of this district will be called upon to select a standard bearer in the XXXIV Digtrict, composed of Clearfield, Centre and Clinton. As noticed last week, the latter county has already unanimously instructed for Hon. Wm. A. Wallace, and the Democrats of Clinton ask the Democrats of Clearfield county to second the motion.—"You bet" they will.

To show that a seemingly united effort is made throughout the State to have Mr. Wallace returned, we make some extracts from Democratic newspapers. The Clinton *Democrat*, in alluding to this question, says:"

"Unless in advance of the day when the Democracy of this district name their candidate for Senator, Hon. W. A. Wallace shall decline a candidacy, we are in favor of his nomination.—The claim of Clearfield county is as good as that of any other county in the district to the nominee, on the abstract ground usually urged for the distribution of offices. But the reasons for the selection of Senator Wallace are better grounded. He is a tried and true Democrat, a faithful and efficient representative, and a trained and practiced statesman.

We do not think we have any other Democrat in the district, be his abilities what they may, who can take Mr. Wallace's place in the next Legislature. At the last session it could not but be perceived his was the shaping mind that gave form to the most important legislation required by the new Constitution. With a hostile majority to contend against, the work was but half finished. It is to be hoped in the Legislature to be elected this winter men may be chosen who will aid in the task of embodying the Constitution in proper laws and enforcing it against the Republican State authorities, who openly disregard it or evade its requirements by default or indirection.

Long service, extensive acquaintance, intimate knowledge of the legislation and the resources of the State, and the most unremitting attention to his public duties, have made Senator Wallace one of the few men whose withdrawal from the public service is a public misfortune. We have seen newspaper edified to speak for him will second our motion by authoritatively announcing his name for a position which he has ever and over again earned by his late and early labors in behalf of the Democratic party.

The York Democratic *Press* copies the foregoing and remarks:

The above is a just tribute to Senator Wallace's eminent abilities and invaluable experience in public affairs. By his indefatigable industry, uncompromising Democracy, and practical statesmanship, he has honored the party of the entire State, and the highest interest of our people and organization demand his return to the Senate.—Although his constituents have done themselves great honor in the past, by frequently re-nominating, and re-electing him to the Senate, it seems to us, (and we mean no disparagement to any aspirant for the office in his district), their omission to do so now would be "worse than a blunder."—Without assuming to dictate, by all means let us have Senator Wallace in the Senate next winter. As there will be 18 new Senators elected next November, those of the eleven retiring ones who have not been found wanting, should be returned to insure the experiment of increased representation at this critical time a success. Above all, fellow Democrats of the 24th Senatorial district, give us, on our side of the Senate chamber, your and our distinguished fellow citizen, the tried, fearless and faithful champion of the people, and the Democracy, the Hon. William A. Wallace."

The editor of the Lewistown *Democrat* puts it in this way:

"As a general rule we are a notationist, in respect to the public officers in the gift of the people; but there are exceptions to all rules, and we are free to say, that the retirement of such a man as Mr. Wallace from the Senate would involve not only a loss to the interests of the State, and his immediate constituency, but, (being an accepted champion and leader,) also a serious loss to the Democratic party."

The Erie *Observer*, away out on the Lake, says:

"It has not been authoritatively announced yet whether Hon. W. A. Wallace, of the Clearfield district, will again consent to accept a re-election to the Senate next year. The Clinton *Democrat*, which is now in Mr. Wallace's district expresses the hope that he will consent to accept the nomination of the party. In this hope we join. The State can ill afford to dispense with his services at this time. In addition to his great ability he is one of the most industrious men in the State. Always at his post in the committee room—ready to debate—courteous to all, and firmly pledged to reform the abuse of the government at Harrisburg, Senator Wallace is just the man to take the lead in the first legislature elected under our new Constitution.

We might fill half a page of the REPUBLICAN with similar extracts, but deem it entirely sufficient to show that it is no particular section, but the Democrats in the eastern middle and western portion of the State, that ask his return to the Senate.

The Democrats of our county should be proud that a neighbor and resident citizen commands such visible respect abroad, and it therefore becomes almost a duty for the Democracy of Clearfield to give their delegates at the approaching primary election unanimous instructions for Mr. Wallace, and send him back to Harrisburg to fill out the half term assigned to our District.

A GOOD RESOLVE.—The Democrats of Clinton county last week adopted the resolution found below.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that Congress should so amend the present National Banking system as to require the banks organized under the same to substitute greenbacks in place of the national bank currency now issued by them and thereby save the people the payment of about $24,000,000 of gold interest annually.

To our mind it is nothing more nor less than public robbery to compel the people of this county annually to pay over *twenty million of dollars* for the purpose of making the National Bank notes good. Why not burn them up, cancel the Bonds and issue "greenbacks" in their stead, and in that way get rid of these millions of tribute we pay now. More, the people have already paid over *two hundred and forty millions of dollars* for the safety of this currency and yet it is no safer to-day than it was ten years ago.

If we are to have nothing but paper money, we say, cancel the "National" stuff, deliver up the bonds, and issue greenbacks. For "God' sake" stop the interest. That's what keeps us so poor and drives buiness men into bankruptcy. Let us bank upon gold and silver and strict integrity, and break up those panics, and "corners," and rings, and then prosperity will greet us all around.

WHY NOT "SEND HIM UP"?—Our readers no doubt remember that Col. John H. Stewart, Post Master at Pittsburgh, about a year ago was discovered to be a defaulter to the tune of $36,000, for which he was arrested and held to bail for his appearance at the next term of the United States Court. He was also indicted for perjury, for having kept the names of a number of persons on the pay roll as clerks, and swearing to the accounts, although no such persons were ever employed, and of course pocketed the money himself. Three terms of court have passed and this loyal robber has not been called yet. Who holds the hush money?—Has the Government Treasury been made whole? These are questions which should agitate reformers, of whom there appears to be many, yet these big cases seem to be overlooked.

THE CLINTON CONFERREES.—We notice by the proceedings of the Clinton county Democratic Convention that the following named gentlemen were selected as conferees to the several District conventions, viz., Congressional A. C. Noyes and W. H. Brown. Judiciary, C. S. McCormick and William Parsons, Jr. Senatorial, S. R. Peale and Cline Quigley. Delegate to State Convention, W. W. Rankin. It will be noticed that but two persons have been selected for each conference.—The universal practice in this county and north and west has been to select three delegates or conferees—always three. Let there be no misunderstanding on this point. Which shall it be, two or three?

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION.

An election for Congressmen, Governor and other State officers was held in this State on the 6th, which resulted in a glorious Democratic victory. The Democrats have swept the State by over 10,000 majority, electing *seven* out of the eight Congressmen, and adding about twenty-five more majority to their already large majority in the Legislature. Two years ago the Radicals elected their Governor by 2,000 majority and elected three of the eight Congressmen. The State was never so Democratic before. Grantism is doing effectual work for the Democrats throughout the South.

While North Carolina has not been as badly misruled as some of the other carpet-bag States, yet her people long ago became tired of their Radical oppressors, whom they were anxious to cast off. But until the present year it seems that they have not had the power to free themselves from their oppressors. But to all appearances the work has been fully accomplished this year, and henceforth the Old North State will be found journeying along the road to prosperity. While it is true that the Radical Ring has stolen a large sum of money from the taxpayers, the amount is far less than in some of the other States which have been plundered by a similar gang.—The people fully expect to be able, in a very few years to annihilate all traces of Radical spoliation. In the other Southern States desire to prosper they will have to rouse themselves and throw off their carpet-bag and scallawag rulers. Prosperity cannot come as long as they remain in power. In Tennessee, also, the election was a very decided Democratic and Conservative triumph.

THE STATE FUNDS.

An act was passed last winter requiring the State Treasurer to publish monthly statements of the amount of money in the State Treasury, and where deposited. The July statement shows that there was $453,000 in the State purse on the 1st of August, $5,000 of which was on deposit in the First National Bank of Clearfield. Of the safety of this amount there can be no question, and the State Treasurer is entitled to great credit if his depositories of the State cash are as safe as the deposit indicated. But what shall we say of the $50,000 deposited with that notorious legislative "rooster" and corruptionist, Jacob E. Ridgway, of Philadelphia? Besides, Ridgway's note for $100,000 has been lying in a pigeon hole in the Treasury Department for over seven years. Who cribs the interest—$6,000—annually?

Public opinion should compel the State Treasurer to abandon all such commercial buzzards as Ridgway. He sustains the same relations to the laws of trade and commerce that Beecher does to virtue and morality.

ALARMED.—The editor of the Williamsport *Bulletin*, whoever he may be, is evidently alarmed about the fate of the new Secretary of the Treasury, and gives the alarm in this way:

"Somebody is already endeavoring to ruin Secretary Bristow by starting him along for the Presidency. There are so many fools in this world that a public man don't have much chance to be useful."

Well we hope Bristow is an improvement on his predecessor. If Richardson was not a fool, he was mighty near being a knave, although he is a Judge now. Jayne, Sanborn & Co. could tell the people something, but it might injure "the government."

CONFEREES.—Julias Jones, O. B. Grant and G. C. Brandon, are the Elk county Congressional Conferees, with instructions to vote for L. A. Mackey for Congress. It looks now as though Mr. Mackey would have but little or no opposition in securing the nomination.

THE CONGRESSIONAL LOBBY.

This corruption ring is as wide spread as the Union, and annually, through the connivance of members of Congress, robs the United States Treasury of millions of dollars, and in many instances nominates and defeats members, just as the ring thinks it may, or may not, need them.

It is generally supposed that our State Capitol is infested with enough of this political vermin. But there is not one "rooster" in the Harrisburg "lobby" for fifty there are at Washington. It is no wonder so many of our Congressmen fall from grace, and so it will be while the people continue to elect such *small*, mercenary men as have filled the Hall of Congress for the past 15 years.

Congressman William Lawrence of Ohio, Chairman of the Committee on War Claims, has written a letter to the Cincinnati *Commercial*, in which he gives some interesting facts. He says the claims now pending before Congress reach about $20,000,000, many of which are test claims, which, if successful, will be followed by very many millions more. The judgments of the Court of Claims for the year 1873 amounted to $489,034. The claims paid under relief acts by Congress for the same year were $979,748. He could not state the amount paid on allowance of the departments, but it was immense, and included $1,960,679 for claims for captured and abandoned property. In concluding his letter Mr. Lawrence says: "On political questions the people and the press are vigilant. But they should be more vigilant in watching the non-political votes of members of Congress, or their failure to vote, than they are. If they were so, the "lobby" would be deprived of much of its power. I venture to say that the House Committee on War Claims at the last session of Congress did more work than the whole Supreme Court of some of our States in a whole year, and yet, as their work was not necessarily political, the people knew but little of it. One of the first claims reported against asked for nearly a million. Others but little less met the same fate. Not one man in a thousand is aware of the fact that claims most fraudulent in character and amount have been urged with immense power and influence. One member of the lobby declared his purpose to expend $3,000 to defeat the nomination of a certain member of Congress who was regarded as an obstacle in the way of some large claims."

A BACK DOWN.—Republicans all over the country wrote to Washington to prevent the Grand Jury of the district from bringing in a bill of indictment against Dana of the New York *Sun*, for libel against Boss Shepherd, under the late act of Congress, called the "Poland law." They fear the indignation of the people and that the law may be made an issue at the next elections for Congressmen. Well it ought to be. We would like to see the people of the United States called upon to vote on the question whether the public press should be gagged by a set of plundering scoundrels over in Washington city. The issue would be one of more than ordinary interest.

ADDRESS OF THE DEMOCRATIC CO. COMMITTEE.

To the Democracy of Clearfield Co.:

We deem it wise at this time to present to you a statement of the facts surrounding the political history of your party during the past two years. For many years prior to, and inclusive of, the nomination of a ticket in 1873, the Democratic party of Clearfield county was governed and made its nominations by popular vote, under what is known as the Crawford county system.

Up to and including the elections of 1872, the organization was a unit, working harmoniously, and in October, 1872, polled for Mr. Bucalew, the Democratic candidate for Governor, the largest majority it ever gave to a candidate for State office. J. Blake Walters, Esq., was the Chairman of the County Committee.

At the convention held June 11th, 1872, he tendered his resignation and David L. Krebs, Esq., then Secretary of the Committee, was elected to fill the vacancy. Mr. Krebs conducted the campaign of 1872. The entire Democratic county ticket was elected. On the 7th of May, 1873, he issued his call for the holding of the primary election on the 7th day of June. This was in the usual form; it contained the rules of the party and the names of the vigilance committees appointed to hold the elections in the different districts. The names of candidates were announced in the county newspaper, and the elections were held on the day fixed. Many of the offices were hotly contested, and more than three thousand votes were polled. The whole party acted in making the nominations. T. J. Boyer was nominated for the Legislature by a majority of 1,607 over J. W. Potter; W. Ross McPherson was nominated for Sheriff over James Savage, his principal opponent, by a majority of 267 votes, and Wm. W. Worrell was nominated for Treasurer over D. W. Wise, by a majority of 209 votes. All of the candidates shown to have the highest number of votes were declared nominated, and their names placed at the head of the Democratic county newspaper. No written charges or formal specifications of fraud or illegality in holding the elections were ever presented to the County Committee, and the mass of the organization settled down into acquiescence in the result. At the convention held June 10, 1873, for the reception of these returns, in accordance with the rules, Wm. M. McCullough was elected Chairman of the County Committee for 1874. His term of office commenced on the 1st of January, 1874.

On the 28th of August, 1873, a meeting of some forty persons, who had up to that date acted with the Democracy, met at the school house in Curwensville, and proceeded to organize themselves into a meeting and to pass resolutions looking to the correction of wrongs alleged to have been committed in the primary elections. No official connected with the organization of the Democracy had asked this meeting, nor did any such or any member of the County Committee, as such, take part in the proceedings. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions. They reported a preamble and resolutions, which were duly passed. In the preamble it was stated that the meeting was not for the purpose of discord or distraction, but that it had assembled in pursuance of the express wishes of hundreds who had signed the call; that the primary elections had been conducted in violation of the rules of the party, and that while they intended to act as Democrats they would not submit to dictation. The resolutions passed were six in number. The first asserted that *the nominations made were not binding, because the rules of the party were disregarded*. The second declared *that Republicans had been permitted to vote, and they would not agree that Republicans should make nominations for the Democracy*. The third declared *they would not be bound by nominations made by fraudulent returns*. The fourth recommended *the holding of a county convention to make Democratic nominations*.—The fifth embraced sound Democratic doctrine, disputed by no one, and the sixth declared *that acting under the circular signed by hundreds of Democrats, authorizing any twenty of the signers to call a convention, they authorized the call* for a convention to be held at Clearfield, on September 16, 1873, to nominate candidates for the support of the "*Democrats*" of the county.

We desire to comment upon these proceedings no further than to note, first: *they make no pretence of being authorized by or in obedience to the Democratic organization of Clearfield county*, and second, *the wrongs complained of related solely to the then recent primary elections*.

A change in the system of nominating was demanded by those who originated this movement, and all who joined united in the demand therefor. We fully concede that this had become a necessity to the party in Clearfield county, and this was the sentiment of the mass of the organization, for we find that at the very date of the Curwensville meeting a letter was signed by a large number of active Democrats, among whom were Gov. Bigler, Judge Leonard, Senator Wallace and many others, who had taken no part in that meeting, which letter was addressed to Mr. Krebs, the Chairman of the Democratic County Committee, and requested him to call together the County Committee to take into consideration the propriety of changing the mode of nominating candidates. The Committee met on the 9th of September for that purpose, and authorized a call for a convention to be held September 23, 1873; delegates were to be elected on September 20, and were distributed among the several districts upon the basis of population. At that meeting, D. L. Krebs, Esq., tendered his resignation as Chairman of the County Committee, and Wm. M. McCullough was elected by the Committee to fill his unexpired term. As Mr. McCullough had been elected Chairman for 1874, this gave him charge of the organization from September 9, 1873, to January 1, 1875. Delegates were elected in every district, and the convention met in the Court House in Clearfield, on September 23, and after full discussion *the system was changed by a vote of 54 to 19 from the Crawford county system to the convention system, and a full set of rules adopted, under which the party is now acting*. This ended the action of the Democratic organization, save at the polls.

The convention called by the Curwensville meeting met in the Court House at Clearfield, on September 16, 1873. It sat with closed doors, and nominated as candidates, for Assembly, J. W. Potter; for Sheriff, James Savage; for Treasurer, D. W. Wise, all of whom had been candidates at the primary election of the Democracy; for District Attorney, Auditor, Jury Commissioner and Coroner it adopted the men nominated by the Democratic organization, and selected F. Shoff as the candidate for County Commissioner. This convention also authorized the appointment of a county committee and elected Henry Kerns, of Curwensville, its chairman.

There were thus two tickets in the field, both of which was composed of men who, previous to the primary election of 1873, had acted with the Democratic party. It is asserted, and scarcely denied, that the labors of the Republican party were in sympathy with and advised the movement originated at Curwensville, and agreed to support the ticket formed by the convention of September 16. Accordingly we find that at the county meeting of the Republican organization, held at Clearfield on September 23, one week after the last named ticket was placed in the field, upon the recommendation of and after speeches by Messrs. Patton, Fulford and McEnally, the recognized leaders of the Republicans in Clearfield county, it was "*Resolved*, That it was unwise and inexpedient to put a Republican ticket in the field." *By this action the whole of that party was transferred to the support of the Independent movement.*

There was no Republican candidate for any county office in 1873 except Jury Commissioner, and the parties went to the polls on the second Tuesday of October with but the two tickets already named. *The Republicans disfranchised themselves by dropping the tickets for District Attorney, Auditor and Coroner*, and they voted almost solidly for the independent candidates for Assembly, Sheriff, Treasurer and Commissioner. The best test of party strength in that contest is the vote for State Treasurer. By it we find that there were 2,609 Democrats and 1,697 Republicans at the election, showing a Democratic majority of 912 upon a total vote of 4,306. Potter and Wise, the independent candidates for Assembly and Treasurer, were elected—Potter by a vote of 2,246 to 2,138 for Boyer, the Democratic nominee, a total vote of 4,384, showing that 471 Democrats voted for Potter and that 78 Democrats dropped the State ticket and voted for him. Wise was elected by a vote of 2,311 to 2,051 for Worrall, the Democratic nominee, a total vote of 4,362, showing that 558 Democrats voted for Wise and 56 Democrats dropped the State ticket and voted for him. McPherson and Brown, the Democratic nominees for Sheriff and Commissioner, were elected—McPherson by a vote of 2,253 to 2,097 for Savage, his opponent, a total vote of 4,350, showing that 356 Democrats voted for Savage and 44 dropped the State ticket and voted for him. Brown was elected by a vote of 2,177 to 2,067 for Shoff, his opponent, a total vote of 4,244, showing that 370 Democrats voted for Shoff and 62 dropped that ticket. These aggregates do not pretend to accuracy of detail in every case, for there are many cases in which Republicans who were disgusted with the action of their party voted the Democratic ticket, yet they are ample to show that the *average Democratic vote* cast for the independent candidates was about 500, and *that of the total vote received by these candidates about eighty per cent. were Republicans*. The figures also plainly show that in such a suicidal struggle principle and ideas are lost sight of and the general ticket seriously injured. This is also demonstrated by the large reduction in the aggregate vote of the Democracy from the vote of the preceding year. In October, 1872, the total vote polled for Governor was 5,427. Of these Mr. Buckalew received 3,432 and Gov. Hartranft 1,995, showing that in October 1873 there were 823 Democrats absent from the polls whilst 298 Republicans failed to report. This result is very largely due to the chagrin felt by Democratic voters at the distraction in the organization and to the hopes of the Republicans, stimulated by our quarrels. These figures also plainly show that if all of the vote had been at the polls and followed its former party action, our party majority would have been as great as in 1872, and all of our ticket elected by respectable majorities. Its failure to be there we attribute very largely to the want of a thorough and energetic canvass and of a full discussion in every locality of the issues involved. It shall be our duty, as we hope it will be your pleasure, to see that no such mistake again occurs.

The period elapsing between the holding of our nominating convention, as fixed by the rules of the party, and the election, as fixed by the law under the new Constitution, having been considered too long, we called a convention of the party to meet at Clearfield on March 17th, 1874, to take into consideration the propriety of changing the rules upon that subject. In the call therefor the Committee expressly invited *all who were willing to act with the organization in the future* to unite in the choice of delegates and take part in the party action, and many did so act who acted with the opposition in 1873. At that convention of delegates regularly chosen, the TIME FOR THE HOLDING OF THE DELEGATE ELECTIONS FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY WAS FIXED ON THE SATURDAY PRECEDING THE 3D TUESDAY OF SEPTEMBER IN EACH YEAR, and the convention meets at Clearfield on the third Tuesday of September. The delegate elections of the Democratic party, therefore, for this year, will be held on SATURDAY, THE 12TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER.

The gentlemen who acted with the Republicans in 1873 have violated their pledges to many of their followers. It was distinctly promised to many that the movement should go no further than the action of last year, against a ticket which they alleged was unfairly nominated, but, upon the call of Henry Kerns, of Curwensville, that movement was again initiated at Curwensville on the 7th day of July last, and a convention has been called and a ticket is again to be put in the field, which is again to be supported by Republicans and these discontented spirits. Concert of action is plainly apparent between the high contracting parties and vigorous efforts are to be made to disorganize and divide the Democracy.

We calmly appeal to Democrats as to the reason for any such action now. There is no ticket in the field; all are recognized as Democrats who are willing to act with the party in the future; no man will be or can be excluded from his just rights as a candidate or as a Democrat. Is it wiser to help the enemy or to act with those who think as you do upon all questions of governmental policy?

The campaign of 1874 is about to be opened. Grave issues are involved, financial difficulties and hard times oppress the people everywhere. These are due to the bad policy and evil measures of the Republican party. They can only be corrected by a change of rulers. A national Congress is to be elected; if it be Democratic, the door is opened to our triumph for the Presidency in 1876; if it be Republican, victory will be snatched from our grasp. The prospect for electing our State ticket never was better. A Supreme Judge, a Lieutenant Governor, Auditor General and Secretary of Internal Affairs are all to be elected. The first Legislature under the new Constitution will be powerful for the future control of the State, and it also elects a United States Senator. Shall we by our senseless bickerings and selfish aims disarm and disorganize ourselves? Is the high name and fair record of Clearfield county to be lost to the Democracy by division and distraction. Will you further aid the Republicans to weaken your forces and destroy your party at the very moment when unity of action, harmonious counsels and earnest work will restore your principles to the control of the government?

WM. M. MCCULLOUGH,
Chm. Dem. Co. Com.
CLEARFIELD, August 10, 1874.

A MIXED FAMILY.—Of course common report does not always speak truly; but we have it from tolerable good authority that there is a family in Lewistown, which was made up to this wise: A certain lady had a daughter, and the daughter married a man whose name, for short we will call Smith, (though that was *not* his name,) After having one child the wife died, and her husband then married her mother. Another period of time rolled by, when the husband disappeared, and *his* father then married the mother. Now, how many relationships subsist between the three persons surviving—the husband, wife, and granddaughter—that is the question? —*Lewistown Democrat.*

NEWS ITEMS.

Tilton was an office boy in the *Independent* when Beecher first knew him.

Another comet was discovered on the 26th of July last, by M. Stephen, of Paris.

Hon. L. A. Mackey is the first choice of the Democracy of Elk county for Congress.

The new Catholic church at Johnstown was dedicated on Sunday, the 2d instant.

The Altoona *Tribune* wild cat has been shipped to the Zoological Gardens at Philadelphia.

The citizens of Ohio vote on the new Constitution of that State next Tuesday, the 18th.

Thirteen foreign nations have accepted our invitation to attend the Centennial in 1876.

Three thousand acres of cotton have been planted in California this year. The crop looks well.

The Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias of Pennsylvania will assemble at Sunbury, on the 18th inst.

Hon. A. H. Dill has been elected Representative delegate to the Democratic State Convention from Union county.

Altoona is to have another paper—the *Living Age*—to be devoted to the cause of temperance. D. B. Ream will be the editor.

Henry Ward Beecher has three sons and one daughter living. The oldest is in his thirties, and the youngest is eighteen.

General Casey, a brother-in-law of General Grant, is a prominent candidate for United States Senator from Louisiana.

The Northampton county jail has fifty prisoners now confined in it—more than it can accommodate with comfort to the inmates.

Nearly three hundred dwellings and places of business were destroyed by fire in the town of Muskegon, Michigan, on Saturday, the 1st inst.

The foundry and machine shop of Brown, Son & Co., at Brookville, which were destroyed by fire on the 30th ult., will be rebuilt immediately.

A New York paper delicately suggests to the parties implicated in the Brooklyn scandal that the fare from New York to Liverpool is only $15.

The Pennsylvania State Fair will be held at Easton on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 29th and 30th, and October 1st and 2d.

From January 1st to July 25th, 149,560,689 feet of lumber have been shipped from Williamsport by rail and canal, an increase over the same period last year of 11,515,860 feet.

At the last term of Court in Blair county there were fourteen convictions of parties charged with violations of the liquor law. The fines in these cases reached the sum of $1,470.

Hon. E. S. Golden, the defeated candidate for the Democratic nomination for President Judge in Armstrong county, announces himself as an "independent" candidate for the position.

Col. S. C. Faulkner died at his home in Little Rock, Arkansas, on the 4th inst. He was the original of the "Arkansas Traveller," and composed the somewhat celebrated song of that name.

The liabilities of Col. Phillips, late President of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, amount to $713,742, besides two young men who claim to be his heirs. His assets have not been ascertained.

The Westmoreland County Agricultural Society will hold its third annual meeting on the same days that the State Fair will be held—the 29th and 30th of September, and the 1st and 2d of October.

Nellie Grant and her husband will return to this country in October to attend the wedding of General Sherman's daughter, and a fine suite of rooms is being prepared for them in the White House.

Eighteen clerks and employes of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, have been discharged, for the purpose of reducing the force. It is rumored that a still further reduction of the force will take place the present month.

The United States District Court will convene at Williamsport, on the third Monday of September, when all cases for which bills have been found at Erie, will be tried. Judge McCandless, of Pittsburgh, will preside.

Israel Menson, a well known resident of Paterson, N. J., died recently. Many years ago he received a wound in the temple from the horn of a cow, and a few weeks ago the wound developed into a cancer, which, reaching the brain, caused death.

Mr. J. W. Forney, Jr., sailed on Saturday, the 2d inst., in the "Acapulco," for China *via* San Francisco, as the special correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*. He will make the round of the Pacific Ocean, spending six months or more on the tour.

Prince Bismarck received upward of 1,000 telegrams congratulating him upon his escape from assassination. The priest Hanthaler, who was arrested on suspicion of being implicated with Kullman in the attempted assassination, has been discharged, having proved his entire innocence.

Beman Follett, of Saratoga, had a child stolen from him twelve years ago. The thief or abductor recently died in Bellevue Hospital, New York, but, before dying, made a confession, and the child, now a young man, is to be restored to his father, who has gone to New York to receive him.

The steamboat "Pat Rogers" was burned to the water's edge, on the morning of the 5th inst., at Laughrey's Island, a point in the Ohio river, three miles below Aurora, Ind., and about thirty miles below Cincinnati. About twenty lives were lost, the victims being principally ladies and children.

The ninth annual meeting of the Buffalo Park Association closed on the 7th inst. Goldsmith Maid beat her own time, trotting the mile in 2:15¼, the fastest time ever made. Red Cloud made the mile in 2:18. He is the only gelding, save Dexter, that has ever recorded that time. There were 20,000 people present to witness the trot.

The New York *Sun* says: "One man, at least, comes out of the Beecher-Tilton scandal with an unsullied reputation. His name is Horace Greeley. When Tilton urged him to call at his house during his absence, Mr. Greeley declined. He said he he did not think it a good habit to visit a wife while her husband was away. These were creditable words."

The law by which expiring United States patents may be extended by the Commissioners of Patents will expire on the 2d of March next, after which time the life of all patents will be limited to seventeen years. As notice of application is required to be published ninety days prior to a hearing, the time in which applications can be filed will consequently expire on the 2d of the present year.

Governor Kellogg, of Louisiana, has signed death warrants ordering the the execution on the 21st of August in the Parish of Assumption, of five men, who in April last murdered and robbed Elisha Eastwood, an old flatboatman in that parish, for his money. The names of the condemned are Anderson Perry, John Ross, Antoine Maurie, James Williams and James Robertson. One is a white man, two are so light as to pass for white, one is a mulatto and one a negro.

ASSOCIATED PRESS LETTER.

PHILADELPHIA, August 8, 1874.

BELGIAN VERSUS AMERICAN IRON.

A writer in the American Iron and Steel *Bulletin* of last week has found "an insult without precedent," perpetrated by the Public Building Commissioners in permitting the purchase of from one thousand to five thousand tons of Belgian iron beams to be used in the construction of the Public Buildings in this city. The Commissioners are threatened and the buildings are to be sunk if this thing continues. The usual incendiary appeal to unemployed workmen around rolling mills is made.

Fair play even in a free fight is a good thing and I rejoice that the Commissioners having knocked the chip off the iron men's hat, are likely to win in the contest. Railroad iron is quoted at $60 per ton. American beams which are used in places of flooring joists, are quoted at $132 per ton. Belgian beams, duty paid, are worth $100 per ton. With iron ore and coal within an hour's distance of Philadelphia, it does seem a sad commentary upon the system under which our natural resources are developed, our having iron brought a distance of nearly 4,000 miles, and with 11 cents per pound duty paid on it, furnished at 25 per cent. less than our own iron producers' rates. The tendency of the times is to lower prices, and for our iron manufacturers to understand this and act in accordance therewith is the surest and speediest method of driving the foreign production from our markets. I am clearly of opinion that Judge Kelly—even were he so inclined—will be powerless to add a fraction more to the tariff rates upon iron in the pig or rolled.

Nor will the malicious attempt to inflame the passions of workmen unemployed avail aught. The average American mechanic readily perceives how a combination that doubles the price of rolled iron may soon retire the capitalist in affluence, and, for the want of continued employment, return the workmen to abject poverty.

There are but four rolling mills in this country that manufacture iron beams, and while I do not say that they have combined to secure exorbitant rates, it is significant that while railroad iron is continually falling in price, and is now down to 3 cents per pound, these iron beams have gone up in value until now the quotation is 6¼ cts. a pound. The question is simply whether 'tis best for the beam to be in the eye of the iron producer or that of the tax-payer. Whether the people of Philadelphia shall have the benefit of $100,000 saved in the purchase of Belgian iron, or place that sum to the profit account of half a dozen iron manufacturers.

Nor is this the worst feature of this "uniformity of schedule rates for iron beams" agreed upon by these few iron manufacturers. There is now in course of erection, in this city, Exhibition Buildings designed for the Centennial Celebration of 1876, that will cover no less than 40 acres and require three hundred thousand tons of iron in their construction, and could these combination prices be maintained, the sad spectacle would probably be presented to the American people, of the representatives of the nations of the earth gathering here at Philadelphia to bear witness to the fact that the very buildings in which the American Commemorative Exhibition was held, were constructed of iron rolled in Europe, although an inexhaustible supply of iron and coal was within 100 miles of the Exhibition Buildings.

The question is now to be met whether the patriotic people of the nation, by whose liberal contributions these buildings are to be erected, are to be humiliated by Exhibition Buildings made of European iron, or their contributions recklessly squandered by paying to these four American Manufacturers a quarter of a million dollars more than the cost of the imported iron

If our iron men design the introduction of foreign iron to become general they have but to maintain their combination prices, but I infer they have not so designed, and that as a matter of national pride and shrewd business enterprise, they will combine to undersell manufacturers from abroad. The Centennial Board have a rather ugly subject to deal with but I take it they are equal to the occasion.

CHARLEY BREWSTER ROSS

The stolen child has not yet been returned to his parents, and probably will not turn up as long as the sharpers see a chance to realize a divvy. This child was spirited away on the first day of July; *three days thereafter* his father offered a reward of $300 for his return; within another week an anonymous writer in one of the city daily papers suggested the raising of a large sum of money by contributions for the ransom of the boy; about the 20th of July a reward of $20,000 was offered by the Mayor for the capture of the boy, the arrest and conviction of his abductors; a week after this reward was announced, the child's father permitted the lad's portrait to be given to the police, and this is the strangest part of this strange case that the likeness of the boy was kept from public view for 30 days after he was spirited away.

A study of this Ross mystery inclines me to the belief that the boy was not stolen by gipsies; that he was not abducted by professional thieves for the purpose of procuring a large ransom; but that he was taken in a spirit of avenge for some real or fancied wrong at the hands of the boy's father, who is of a firm that lately went through the bankruptcy court; or a mystery yet darker, deeper and more heartless enshrouds it. I am of opinion that as soon as the watchful eyes of the detectives and the public are diverted from this case the boy will be found in the streets of our city at night; in all probability dropped in the vicinity of his parent's residence. Why professional thieves would steal the child of a bankrupt for the purpose of obtaining a large ransom is a question yet unanswered.

THE CENTENNIAL.

On the 4th of July 1876 everybody is expected to come to Philadelphia to witness the Nation's Jubilee. It is certainly our duty to contribute whenever we can to the enjoyment of our visitors on that festal occasion. I suggest as one of the imposing events of that great day a convocation of the Masonic Order in which every grand lodge in the United States and throughout the world is represented. On that day the ceremonies might be of a public character in an appropriate place. Thereafter a session might be held in our Grand Temple for the purpose of re-establishing the land marks of Masonry from which we are drifting. The work of the craft should be uniform throughout the world and those representatives ought to come empowered to make it so. Will the grand lodge of Pennsylvania take hold of this matter.

AN UNUSUAL SPECTACLE.—Those who observed the funeral