The Republican.

Reader, if you want to know what is going on in the business world, just read our advertising columns, the special notices in particular.

COMMITTEE MEETING.

DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE OF PENN'A. }
WILKESBARRE, Dec. 1, 1776. }

The members of the Democratic State Committee are requested to meet at Behm's Hotel, Harrisburg, on Thursday the 20th day of January, 1876, at twelve o'clock, m., for the purpose of fixing a time and place for holding a Democratic State Convention, to elect delegates to the Democratic National Convention, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States.

HENDRICK B. WRIGHT, Chairman.

EDITORIAL MEETING.—The Pennsylvania editorial association will meet for the transaction of business in the Senate room, at Harrisburg, on Wednesday, January 19, at 10 o'clock, a.m. As this will be the day following the governor's inauguration, and the day before the meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee, there will doubtless be present a large representation of the journalists of the State.

OLIVER H. MOORE committed suicide at Cincinnati, on the 4th inst., by taking poison. He shot a man by accident a few days before.

QUEEN!—A Chicago paper speaks of Olive Logan Sykes as "Ol Sykes," and in another column mourns the degeneracy of the American press.

Ex-Congressman A. H. Coffroth, of Somerset, Pa., has purchased the Somerset Democrat, and mounted the editorial tripod with the beginning of the present year.

"TOPFER WAY."—The public debt increased during the present month by $1,915,062. And there have been some important State election at hand, the tune would have been set to another key.

The State debt on the 1st day of January, 1876, was twenty-three millions one hundred and twenty-three thousand one hundred and seventy-five dollars and forty-five cents ($23,196,175.45).

The newly elected Sheriff of Allegheny county, who was inducted into office on Monday, the 3d inst., had to perform the duty of hanging two men three days after donning the official robes, so to speak.

"County rings" disturb the "reform patriots"(?) exceedingly. Well, spend less time on the corners barking at your neighbors, go to work with your hands, and you will earn something too, if you don't squander it for naught.

Last week's issue of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper was accompanied by an excellent bird's-eye view of Philadelphia, from a hypothetical point over Camden. All the principal buildings and the Centennial grounds are shown in proper position.

THANKS.—We are indebted to Gov. Hartranft for an advance copy of his message in pamphlet form, and to Auditor General Temple for his annual report of the finances of the Commonwealth. Superintendent Wickersham also has our thanks for school reports.

In Congress, on Thursday last, Mr. Rea, of Missouri, offered a resolution declaring against a further contraction of the currency, and demanded the previous question. The previous question was refused—yeas 54, nays 122—and the resolution was referred to the committee on ways and means.

THE INAUGURATION.—John F. Hartranft will be duly inaugurated Governor of this State, on Tuesday next, the 18th inst. Quite a number of political clubs from Philadelphia will participate in the parade and ceremonies, and a large crowd of people will undoubtedly be drawn to Harrisburg on the occasion.

A POINT ON THEM.—Mr. Samuel Bowles, who says awfully cutting things sometimes, doesn't think the clergy who criticize the press are any better than that institution itself, and puts it in this way:

With all its imperfections on its head, there is this much at least to be said for the honest American newspaper, that it is tryined, with the best lights it has, to do its duty, and that it is never plundering profits. If its reverend critics can improve upon its methods or its work, the field is open; and example is always the best of all preaching.

Hit them again, Sam!

IT DON'T FIT.—Gov. Hartranft sententiously observes in his message:

That mechanics in the law which contains the fewest parts, and Government are not always the best in their operation.

The political party of which Gov. Hartranft is a leader reverses this simple rule and acts as if government could not be successful unless cumbered with all kinds of complicated machinery, except the control of the citizen. The Governor's recommendation of competency education, which would require an army of Constables to carry it into vigorous operation, shows that his precept is much better than his practice.

WEIGHTY LAMENTATIONS.—The heavy (316 pounds) weight of the Indiana Messenger weeps for his country in this way:

It is evidently a humiliating thing, but a thing of dark foreboding for every patriot, to glance at the composition of the present House of Representatives. Confederate Generals, Confederate Colonels, Confederate grumblers, and office holders are, when almost all of the late rebels who, boldly in the hideous war, while its memories of blood and toil and suffering are yet fresh, in its vigor and terror to the loyal people of the country the ban which shall open and compel them to vacate the seats of the ruling power.

We wonder if the man knows that Confederate Colonels, Generals, etc., have held seats in Grant's cabinet, and also hold other high positions. How about General Longstreet, Colonel Ackerman, and Colonel Mosby? It is confidentially stated that two-thirds of Mosby's guerrillas now alive are holding office under Grant. Is not the Radical howl humbug on this account. We hope that this sad of the loyalist in question will not suffer torment forever on account of these rebel Congressmen. "Blood and toil" is good from an exempt hero!

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

We did not have time to peruse Governor Hartranft's message until last Saturday. It is the soundest document that has emanated from that source for ten years. It is scholarly, and in the main Democratic, so much so that we concluded to lay it in full before our readers next week. This will make it a little late, but it will be good reading for three months after this, except his remarks on compulsory education.

His Excellency, under the head of education, says that "after mature and conscientious thought and investigation" he makes up his mind that there is no way to get all the children into the schools, except by a compulsory law—the arrest and fining of parents and guardians, who refuse to send their children to school. Such a system can never be carried out in a republic. It answers in Russia or Prussia, or in any other despotic Government, where the State owns the citizen as the farmer does his horse. Whenever our educators succeed in having this foreign anti-American feature incorporated into our school system, then farewell to liberty and personal freedom.

The Governor also wants the law repealed which imposes a tax on occupations, professions and trades, and a uniform poll tax imposed on every citizen. As the law now stands, this tax runs from ten cents to five dollars, according to the occupation and the ability of the taxpayer. This is equity and justice. A uniform tax—on all alike—is just like the premium on a wolf or fox scalp. We are aware that in all of the adjoining States they assess a "poll tax." In some of the States it is fifty cents, and in others as high as one dollar. We hold that this system is wrong in principle and should not be incorporated into our laws, which are based on equity and common sense. To assess all men alike, is just as sensible as when an Assessor rates all the horses in his township or borough at $50 or at $100. Nobody believes him, although he made his return on oath.

He wants the $300 exemption law changed, so that the debtor cannot give an exemption note to his creditor. He wants a waiver forbidden. Well, he might just as well ask the legislature to pass a law demanding that all children born in this Commonwealth after the close of the Centennial, must be endowed with industry, frugality, and temperate habits. Now, if the legislature can infuse something of that kind into the citizen, we need no exemption laws.

The Governor very appropriately refers to the deaths of ex-Chief Justice Woodward, Attorney General Dimmick, and the venerable Horace Binney.

CONSTITUTIONAL REUNION.—About forty members of the Pennsylvania Constitutional Association, composed of representatives to the late Constitutional Convention, met at the Girard House, in Philadelphia, on the evening of the 21st ult., and re-elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, ex-Gov. Wm. Bigler; Secretary, H. A. Lamberton, and Treasurer, M. Hall Stanton. They then partook of their second anniversary dinner. Speeches were made by ex-Gov. Curtin, Frank B. Gowen, Wayne MacVeigh, Thos. Struthers, James Boyd, and Attorney General Lear. An eloquent eulogy was pronounced upon the character of the members who have died since the last meeting, viz: Judge Woodward, John H. Walker and Attorney General Dimmick. A number of letters were read from those who could not be present.

GRANTISM.—When Bristow concurred the "crooked" whisky ring at St. Louis, Grant telegraphed to the prosecuting officer at that city these innocent words: "Let no guilty man escape." This put the aforesaid officer on his muscle, and he soon sent three of Grant's battles to the penitentiary and the grand jury found an indictment against Babcock, his private secretary. Then the Government sent the following telegram: "Be careful! See that you do not convict innocent persons!" How thoughtful! Nobody has been convicted since, but chief prosecuting officer has been removed, and another appointed and the man who has defrauded out of millions of dollars, will be carried on his bacchanal feasts during the war.

OUR JUSTIFICATION.—We have heretofore stated in substance that the '76 scheme, which was started by good men, with pure but mistaken motives, was now controlled by a ring of political vagrants, or words to that effect. This sentiment grated very heavily on the ears of the aforesaid impracticables. In justification of what we intimated, we now quote from the organ (with a tremendous name) of the Junior State of '76. The editor, in defining the policy of these REFORM PATRIOTS (?), says:

The Order is not, in the full sense, a political organization, the main feature of its principles being the exclusion of partisan politicians.

That is as true as Holy Writ. The leaders in this new political crusade are the most impracticable men to be found in the country. There is not a practical politician among them. As the world lags made out our case, we need not restate the fact, that the delegates from this county to the Tyrone affair were all "played out" sponges. There was not a practical politician in the gang. The exclusion was complete, and a success beyond cavil.

THE RIGHT PLACE.—Editors are being made at Washington to have both the National Democratic and Republican Conventions to meet at that city this Centennial year. It is a good idea. Thousands of persons could then make it suit to visit the Centennial grounds at Philadelphia, slip over and see the National Capital and attend the respective Conventions in a good spirit.

UP SHE GOES.—The Venango Spirit, of last week, says: "there was a family excitement in the oil market the past few days ago last week, when a car that never prices of crude January 3 was 97½ cents per barrel at Oil City. The corresponding day this year crude brought for immediate shipment, on cars, $1.80 to $1.94!"

THIP BOGUS REFORMERS.

A Miller and a Dunham sometime ago announced a State Convention of reformers at Tyrone, and further stated that Gen. John B. Gordon, of Georgia, and Hon. Wm. D. Kelley, of Philadelphia, would be present to address the multitude. The veracity of the plan said may be called in doubt about this matter by the gentleman named above, as they were never called upon to address "the meeting," much less consented to come.

The aforesaid assemblage was made up of about twenty-five broken-down, ring-bone and unprincipled political hacks from Centre and Clearfield counties who want office, but the voters in the communities from which these reformers hail have no confidence in these roosters to put them in position in the usual way; hence, they get up local meetings and organizations, in the bordough especially, in this and Centre county, and swear men to vote for them and nobody else, so that they may succeed in being manufactured into Squire, Constable, and other fat offices, through a secret oath-bound Order.

Freemen, such an organization is no place for you! Slavery has been abolished, and small demagogues command no higher price to-day than they have in the past.

Although the meeting had energy enough to announce to the world, by a telegram, that there were present one hundred and thirty-two delegates from this and other States, the hotel registers at Tyrone bore the names of only twenty-two "patriots," sixteen of whom were from Clearfield and Centre counties.

Reader, just contemplate the leaders in the Tyrone movement. What have they done for themselves, their neighbors, or the State? Had the Creator granted the laboring men the same privilege He has given to these drones would long since have been taken to the mouth of the hive and pitched overboard. But it is otherwise. The industrious, laboring parties must still support them, although they (the "patriots") do not furnish the hive with one drop of honey.

A "MOST RIGHTEOUS JUDGE."—We record with great pleasure, the gratifying fact, that on Saturday week, Judge Sterret, of Pittsburgh, set aside the exorbitant verdict of $10,000, rendered in June last, against James P. Barr, et. al. of the Pittsburgh Post, in the alleged libel case of ex W. D. Moore, and granted the defendant a new trial. The jury who awarded that unjust judgment, if any of them are yet about, ought to hide their faces in shame and quit business. The press of the country, and sensible people everywhere, will be pleased with Judge Sterret's righteous decision.

A STUPENDOUS EMBEZZLEMENT.—It seems as though the last fifteen years had produced the largest number of first-class scoundrels to be found at any period in our history. It seems that the "crooked" whisky rings is not all this Chicago. A dispatch from that city on the 6th inst. says:

The grand jury in the United States District Court to-day found true bill indictments against allie, of $327,000 of the money of the Mechanics' National Bank while they were respectively president and cashier of that bank, are bill applying it in the use of the Marine Company in January, 1874. The second indictment charges them with embezzling $47,000 from the Mechanics' National Bank, and with applying it to pay personal debts due to the Metropolitan Bank of New York, with intent to defraud the Mechanics' National Bank. Two separate indictments were also found against Reed, the first charging him with having loaned himself $88,000, the second charging that he made unlawful use of $20,000 more. It is understood that the indictments were found at the instance of a stockholder in the Mechanics' National Bank, who was dissatisfied with the manner in which that institution's business was settled up.

Scammon contributed $10,000 for Grant's reform, and so to maintain our currency system and to regain integrity in business or financial circles. He endowed a Young Men's Christian Association, gave largely to the building of churches, and to the spreading of the Gospel among the heathen (?), and whatever Scam. did Reed seconded the motion. Their record is financially given to the world. What an awful one it is! What stupendous thievery, knavery, hypocrisy, and loyalty (?) is here uncovered.

THE CAMPAIGN.—The political campaign of 1876 may be said to have opened on Wednesday of last week, the 5th inst., when the Republicans of New Hampshire held their State Convention and renominated Gov. Cheney. New Hampshire leads off in the spring elections, and the usual Republican majority is small enough to give the contest some interest. The Democrats of Texas also held a State Convention on the 5th inst., but they did things pretty much their own way, and are, besides, so far off that their declarations are not likely to convulse the country.

WE DON'T LIKE IT.—We don't like Mr. Thomas K. Cree's Barnum plan of keeping Moody and Sankey in the pulpit pit. P. T. Barnum never had a more zealous clerk in his employ to advertise his hippodrome, than the aforesaid Thomas. We notice columns of editorials in our exchanges lauding Messrs. Moody and Sankey. All these puffs are written and sent out to the press by their Secretary, Cree, who is as "smart as a whip." It this a strange that this patent effort was not discovered two thousand years ago.

USINO.—General John A. Dix on "Spot him on the shoot" notoriety, and late Governor of New York, made a speech in that city on the 4th inst., on "Some of the Political and Social Evils of Our Times." He did hit "the Government" some awful digs. He wants the elective judiciary system abolished, and the President elected for but one term of six years. If General Dix keeps on reforming his views, he will soon be as Democratic as he was before he turned renegade—to get office.

THE DISCOUNT.—The sale of the pews in Beecher's church, came off the other day. The cash result was about $7,000 less than last year. Still the author of "Norwood" appears to be as happy as Mrs. Tilton. Claflin, who was Chairman of the first Committee, and reported Henry all right, and who was well known publicly to have attained the present year to the almost incalculable sum of seventeen billions of dollars in the common school system, with a view of stirring up the Brazilians in an educational sense when they get back home.

A MODEL PRESIDENT.—Daily development of facts go to show that Gen. Grant has either designedly or ignorantly loaned his power and influence to a band of the most corrupt men for the past three years that now live outside of a penitentiary, and yet they talk about a model man. Buford him peach him, and sent his band of thieves to the penitentiary, and then we will have prosperity again.

The profits of Babbit, the great soap manufacturer, must be enormous. The discovery that just been made, by Charles R. Beckwith, Babbitt's confidential clerk, cashier and book-keeper, that over half of a million dollars by a series of frauds extending from 1865 to 1875, when Beckwith was discharged from the soap king's employ. He was arrested on the charge in New York a few days ago and committed to prison.

The Board of Pardons, at a meeting on Wednesday last, recommended the pardon of the Schuylkill County Commissioners, who were imprisoned for malfeasance in office, the pardon to take effect at the March meeting of the board. In the case of Barney of Lycoming county, who was sentenced to be hanged, the Board recommended that his sentence be commuted to imprisonment for life.

IN SESSION AGAIN.

Congress, after a fortnight's adjournment, reassembled at the National Capitol on the 5th inst., and at once proceeded to business vigorously. How long it will last we are not prepared to say at this time.

In the House some good resolutions were put on the boards and passed. Among them was the following:

By Mr. Douglass (Va.)—A resolution for the appointment of a select committee to investigate the affairs of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company and its several branches, the causes of its failure, the parties responsible therefore, etc., with the names and residences of all the debtors of the company.

That is good, and if put in force will show up the freedmen's bureau thieves, who have robbed the negroes of thousands and the Government of millions of dollars under the guise of philanthropy.

Mr. Morrison, of Illinois, offered a resolution, which was adopted, directing the several committees having in charge matters pertaining to Indian affairs, military affairs, naval affairs, postoffices, public lands, public buildings and grounds, claims and war claims to inquire into any abuse or frauds in the administration and execution of existing laws affecting those branches of public service, with a view to ascertain what changes and reformations can be made so as to promote integrity, economy and efficiency; also, instructing the committees on expenditure in the several departments to proceed at once, as required by the rules of the House, to examine into the state of the accounts and expenditures of the respective departments—whether all moneys have been disbursed in conformity with the appropriation laws, and what provisions are necessary to be adopted to provide more perfectly for the proper application of the public moneys and to secure the Government against claims of an unjust character too extravagant in amount.

NEWS ITEMS.

—Richmond, Va., with a population of 60,000 has 24,834 church members.

—Our immigration last year was one-half less than during the year before.

—The Pacific people are in a bad way about their surplus of silver.—Send a car load of it to us.

—California is happy over twenty inches of rain, which insures a good agricultural year for the Centennial.

—Europe is looking forward in anxious expectations of unusual shipments of from beef from this country at an early date.

—Ten million dollars' worth of new buildings were erected in Chicago last year, making a frontage of over ten miles.

—Want to get rid of your real estate? Somebody prophesies that a mighty earthquake will shortly swallow up this country.

—An Iowan named Twogood has just been married, and now all his old married friends puzzle him with, "Too, Twogood."

—Chicago was never surpassed by St. Louis if she could help it, and now the 100,000 Americans gave cheer upon cheer, as Americans only can cheer; the bands struck up "The Star Spangled Banner," rockets burst high in the air, soldiers began saluting like they knew it, pastors of all over the city bells were rung, and 20,000 skam whistles screeched shrill sounds of joy at the rising of the Centennial year. Christ church, St. Peter's and the different bells chimed their most joyous notes, and above all, the mighty bell in the steeple of Independence Hall rang out and loud its "glad tidings of great joy," that amidst peace and prosperity the nation passed the epoch of its first 100 years, and happy in our past history; happy in the hope of its coming prosperity; happy to our hopes for the future, and happy in our common confidence in the enlightened protection begun the second century of our national existence.

ASSOCIATED PRESS LETTER.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 10, 1876.

1875—1876.

We gave a loud good-bye to the departing year, and we scarcely miss the successor sober heartily than ever before. The centre of attraction on this day was at Independence Hall—the cradle of liberty. Over the doorway through which Washington, Hancock and the Sires so often passed, was a gigantic oval banner, on which was a beautiful portrait of Washington in the act of being crowned with a wreath of evergreen by the Goddess of Liberty—this portrait, the silver tablet, the flags, were festoons of red, white and blue, were arranged that the marble statue of the immortal Washington became for three nights, illuminating it with a halo of glory, grand, solemn and impressive in the highest degree.

Just as the big clock over Independence Hall was upon the verge of striking the hour of midnight, the Mayor of the city ran up an immense flag, a fac simile of the one hoisted by Washington, January 1st, 1776, at Cambridge. As the ensign reached the top of the flag staff, the clock struck twelve, and the 100,000 Americans gave cheer upon cheer, as Americans only can cheer; the bands struck up "The Star Spangled Banner," rockets burst high in the air, soldiers began saluting like they knew it, freed; all over the city bells were rung, and 20,000 skam whistles screeched shrill sounds of joy at the rising of the Centennial year. Christ church, St. Peter's and the different bells chimed their most joyous notes, and above all, the mighty bell in the steeple of Independence Hall rang out and loud its "glad tidings of great joy," that amidst peace and prosperity the nation passed the epoch of its first 100 years, and happy in our past history;

—A species of real granite has lately been discovered in Minnesota, and by competent judges to be superior to the famous Scotch granite of Aberdeen.

—The reveal members of "Hammond and Imily at Harrisburg, have resulted in the conversion of over five hundred persons in less than two weeks.

—Miss Maggie H. Davis, daughter of Jefferson Davis, and J. Addison Hayes, Cashier of the State National Bank at Memphis, were married on Saturday, January 1st.

—Somebody has discovered a chemical process by which worthless tobacco is transformed into fine-looking and fair-tasting cigars, and now there will be more puffery than ever.

—The identical stove at which Martin Luther, on his return from the Diet of Worms, warmed himself in the house of his friend Ulrich Von Hutten, has just been sold in Germany.

—Over 4,000 cattle that have depended upon the supply of mash from the seized Chicago distilleries for their daily food, will now be compelled to resort to a decent diet.

—The students of the Art College at Syracuse, N.Y., have prepared and framed a wreath of finely tinted autumn leaves to be sent as a present to the Crown Prince of Prussia.

—A citizen of Lebanon boasts that in the course of forty years he has been arraigned before the courts of justice twenty-one times, and yet has never been found guilty.

—Church singers won't permit any interference with the union of their new music. A New Jersey choir has just resigned because the minister rebuked them in a prayer against frivolous music.

—When Georgia planters want to attach burglar alarms to each separate chicken to prevent it from being taken off the roost at midnight the poultry must wonder what this country is coming to.

—Our jurymen are human, and so when on Friday afternoon a jury sitting upon a murder case, were taken to their room to be locked up until Monday, they modestly asked for two packs of cards to while away Saturday and Sunday, it was more than liberal in the Judge to grant their request.

—On and after February 1st, visitors will not be admitted to the Centennial grounds without a pass. Lately the management has been so great that the workmen have been very much retarded and interfered with.

—Gov. Wm. Gordon, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Pleasant Hill, Mo., was arrested at St. Louis, on the 5th inst., charged with seducing a young girl, named Harney, a member of his church. Gordon has a wife and six children.

—At Pennsville, Fayette county, last week, a store was robbed during the night of its entire stock of goods, and a paper watered to the front door bearing the cheerful information that no soon as you get a fresh stock of goods we will call and clean you out again."

—The combined capital of the Rothschilds is stated by Emile Barone, the well-known publicist, to have attained the present year to the almost incalculable sum of seventeen billions of dollars in currency, or $84,400,000,000, about equal to the whole funded debt of Great Britain.

—Our appropriate jars as been invented by which all the gas lamps in cities can be lighted or extinguished simultaneously, simply by the pressure of the gas from the supply tanks.

—The instrument has been thoroughly tested, and is pronounced by experts a perfect success.

—The Emperor and Empress of Brazil will arrive in New York in April. Their majesties intend to spend some time traveling through the United States incog, and will give especial attention to the common school system, with a view of stirring up the Brazilians in an educational sense when they get back home.

PICKINGS AND STEALINGS ABOUT THE CAPITOL.

WASHINGTON, December 27.—In the interval elapsing between the adjournment of Congress on the 6th of March last and the assembling of the Forty-fourth Congress, there seems to have been a more general straining out this canal of the furniture of the committee rooms. A clerk just appointed to one of the committees reports that on taking possession of his committee room he found that it had been stripped of nearly everything portable of value. Where should he go to look for the furniture of his committee is the question that day spread perplexing the body who are investigating the Republican House of Representatives.