Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1871.

### The Democratic Policy.

Some Democratic politicians, apparently greatly demoralized by the fact that our party has been beaten this fall by small majorities in the great States of New York and Pennsylvania, are urging the Democracy to promptly declare that they will make no Presidential nomination in the coming year, but will support the nominee who may be presented by the Republicans who are unwilling to support Grant for re-election. We are entirely unable to see why the Democracy should be called upon to make so complete a surrender. Our party is numerically stronger in the country than the Republican party as was shown by the agregate of the popular vote for the members of the present Congress. The total Democratic vote for Congressmen was 2,741,860; while the total Republican vote was 2,685,374; a Democratic majority of 56,486. Moreover, we have a larger number of electoral votes that we can certainly count upon than our opponents have. It is true that we need a small increase of strength in a few of the Northern States, to enable us to elect our candidate; but there is no reason to suppose that we have not an excellent chance of securing such an increase, as against a party which is foreordained to have for its standard bearer so weak and assailable a man as Grant; a party whose corruptions are daily being uncovered and whose lawlessness is disgusting all law-abiding men.

Even though we were weaker than we are, the opposition to President Grant which has developed itself in the Republican party, is not now such, as would warrant us in making a surrender to it. We who live in minority districts have a wide experience of the result of these plausible-looking political alliances with disaffected Republicans. They very generally fail of success; indeed they always do, unless the defection in the Republican ranks is very great.—Otherwise the Republican votes that are gained are balanced by the Democratic votes that are lost. For it is a fact which politicians are too apt to ignore, that the Democratic masses cannot be moved as the puppets in a show. Arguments of expediency are lost upon them. They care little for success, unless it carries with it the triumph of their principles; and they will *not* vote for any man who does not carry these emblazoned upon his standard. And they are right. They care not that their party leaders should be fed at the public crib; but it is of vital importance to them that their party principles should direct the government councils.

But while this is so, the Democracy are ready at any time to make common cause with all who stand fast by the Constitution as against those who disregard it; with all who desire purity in the conduct of the Government as against the corruption which pervades all departments of the present administration—in short they are ready and anxious to gather into one grand army all who are in favor of reforming abuses and giving to the people a Government worthy of this great Nation. They care not who may dispense offices, so the government be restored to its proper functions and the dangers which threaten in the shape of centralization and corruption be averted. To accomplish so desirable a result they will make any sacrifice which is not a sacrifice of principle; but we believe that the end desired can be best accomplished by holding the Democratic party together, and carrying it into the coming contest a solid political phalanx.

### The County and Our Fire Department.

The County of Lancaster has twice, within a few weeks past, been indebted to the Fire Department of the city for services rendered at the conflagration of the property belonging to the County. It was not possible, of course, for the firemen to save the Poor House barn from destruction, but they insured the safety of the adjacent buildings. They did, however, save from destruction our splendid Prison, which cost the County several hundred thousand dollars. The County has within the limits of the City, including the Jail and the Court House, more than a half-million dollars' worth of buildings which are untaxed and yield nothing to the revenues of the City, nor does the County, although having so large a property dependent for its security from destruction by fire upon the efficiency and exertions of the City Fire Department, pay anything towards its support, except, we believe, a small annual contribution of a hundred dollars or so to one company—the American.

We call the attention of the County Commissioners to this matter, and ask them whether their economy is prudent or just. There is no good reason why each of our Fire Companies should not receive an annual subsidy from the County Treasury, nor why its aid should be extended only to one. Our companies are now consolidated under one direction, and when in service must render mutual assistance to each other, and lend the use of their hose and other material where it can be most profitably used. Our safety from fire, therefore, depends upon the efficiency of each company, and the company most remote from the property fired, may be able to render as much assistance as that which is nearest.

The Commissioners should recollect that it is important for them to give our firemen no just cause of complaint against them. For, though they may always be relied upon to do their duty, they will naturally do it more cheerfully in behalf of those by whom they are sustained and encouraged. Moreover, the valuable Poor House buildings, the Commissioners will remember are outside the city limits, and our firemen were under no obligation to save them from burning. Yet they have never hesitated to lend their aid on the numerous occasions when fires have taken place at the Poor House, and they probably never will; but it is not right that the County should take advantage of their generosity and humanity, and reaping the benefit of their organization, refuse to contribute to its support. We trust the Commissioners will take this matter into serious consideration, and decide to make an annual subscription to each of our Fire Companies.

### Why Fish Sticks.

Mr. Fish would gladly abandon the position of Secretary of State. Twice, if not oftener, he has placed his formal letter of resignation in the hands of the President, but each time he has been induced to withdraw it. He is not restrained against his will because Grant feels any great love for him, but because the politicians cannot agree as to who shall take up the abandoned portfolio. The latest successful effort to induce Mr. Fish to remain in the Cabinet grows out of the dissatisfaction of Senator Conkling at the proposed appointment of Judge Pierrepont. He it was who induced a large number of Radical Senators to sign a letter requesting Secretary Fish to continue in office. If Grant will find a man who will prove acceptable to Roscoe Conkling and his friends, no more letters will be written requesting Mr. Fish to remain at the head of the State Department.

A FEW days ago we published what purported to be an interview between Senator Trumbull and a correspondent of a Louisville newspaper. The Washington *Patriot*, which ought to be good authority, says that Senator Trumbull declares that he knows nothing about the alleged interview with him on the Presidential question, that nothing of the kind, according to his recollection, ever took place.

### Progressive Radicalism.

Among the ultra of the Radicals and the teachers of Radicalism—of those far-fetched ideas of political absurdities enunciated by its leaders of the Wendell Phillips and Theodore Parker school, and its still more absurd social teachings *a la* Woodhull and Cady Stanton—there is a persistent effort toward legal enforcement of that which could never, for a single hour, be tolerated by popular sanction. Senator Sumner, it is said, is to introduce a bill into the Senate compelling a recognition of all the social rights claimed by the negroes and their ultra friends. With all the "Fifteenth Amendments" have gained in this direction, already, by judicial decisions in recognition of their rights to occupy places in passenger cars, at steamboat tables, &c., there is but a short step to the attainment of full-fledged negro supremacy—at least equality.

Mr. Sumner may *think* he is sincere in the advocacy of his advanced absurdities, *but he is not*. His natural antipathy to the negro is as strong as that of Jeff. Davis or Bob Toombs, for he is, *par excellence* an aristocrat, and would as naturally shrink from social contact with a greasy darkey, as he would from a skunk. He is, however, a demagogue—a political trickster, and an aspirant for distinction in the new social movement, just as he was for martyrdom to South Carolina Brook's cane. Practical sympathy and love for the negro, when thoroughly tested, is a far different thing from the mere abstract professions and buncombe utterances of Radical freedom-shriekers.

A few illustrations of recent occurrence, and to the point, may serve our present purpose.

A few days ago, in the trial of a Philadelphia murder case, Judge Allison, in response to a point made as to the right of the witness to carry arms, ruled that the occurrences on election-day was a sufficient justification for any colored man to carry arms, and declared that he should so instruct the jury. It was further elicited as a fact, boldly avowed, that the District-Attorney had advised the negroes to go armed, and that in his official capacity! Had the witness been a *white* man and a *Democrat* found to be armed in defiance of the law, and the District-Attorney who thus counseled him, other than a Radical, both would have been indicted and convicted under the sanction and instruction of the Court. When Judges upon the bench give this advice to the negroes, we can expect nothing but violence and bloodshed.

There is one feature however, of this Radical love of the negro, that is somewhat peculiar, and brands it with the most shameless and transparent hypocrisy. It is only in a *political* sense that the negro is esteemed; *socially*, he is ignored by the most blatant advocates of what are ridiculously termed his *rights*. He is an essential element to Radical success; and, in so far as he can be wielded for Radical purposes, he is flattered and cajoled. But just here the darkey's importance ceases, and his mission is at an end. Take a case in point. Thomas Chester, who is announced as "a colored lawyer and distinguished citizen of Harrisburg," was refused the privilege of purchasing a ticket to the Philadelphia Grand Duke's ball, on account of his color. Mr. Chester, we are told, studied law in London, and was admitted to practice in the English Courts. He also visited St. Petersburg, was cordially received by the Czar, and welcomed to the Court of St. Petersburg as an American citizen and representative of his race.

The parties who received the Grand Duke and who *chaperoned* him, were principally of that political school which affects love for the negro and his social as well as political rights; and this snubbing of a colored man was in perfect keeping with their hypocritical professions. Mr. Chester, in accordance with the spirit of District-Attorney Mann's advice, and Judge Allison's instructions, should have *gone armed*, have *demanded* his right to admission, and if refused, have *clubbed his way in*.

No wonder the darkies in the "City of Brotherly Love," where they are so numerous, and contributed mainly to Radical success, should become indignant, and give utterances to their contempt of the wily demagogues by whom they have been so often snubbed and deceived.

### Grant's Finger in the Pie.

The New York *Sun* has a correspondent, who gives a detailed history of the Emma Mine, and the Utah Ring, from which it appears that Grant and Ben. Butler were engaged in a most unrighteous crusade against the Mormons, for the purpose of getting possession of the vast silver and other mineral wealth of Utah. The Ring, formed at Washington for this purpose, undertook litigation when all efforts at inducing the Mormons to emigrate failed. Arbitration, and final compromise at length made them the possessors of the Emma Mine, which is said to be rich beyond all anticipation; the happy thought was suggested of organizing a company, and to sell its shares in Europe. To this end Schenck was presented with shares to the amount of fifty or a hundred thousand dollars, and Grant, who was at the tail of the affair, whose principal business was to obey orders and pocket the proceeds, made Schenck Minister to England, and he and the Hon. Ed. Cook, Governor of Montana, went to Europe to bull the stock of the Emma Company; and this the correspondent says, is what they are now at, with the sanction of the President, who cannot see why a Minister Plenipotentiary may not hold stock in a silver mine and bull the same in Europe, any more than he, as President, can hold stock in the Seneca Stone Quarry.

A pretty kettle of fish, truly.

### Yankee Tyranny.

In a lecture delivered by Wendell Phillips, in Philadelphia, a few nights since, he said he could take any one of the audience into a counting room, whose name and location he could give, where the partners of the concern sat down the day after election, and, taking a list of four hundred employees, sifted out the name of every man who had not voted the ticket they wanted. Every man who had not shown a willingness to hold his political opinions in subservience to his employers was unceremoniously thrown out of work at the beginning of Winter. "And this," exclaimed Mr. Phillips, "is christian civilization!" This is Massachusetts! Yankee monopolists and manufacturers make the harshest task-masters. They are ready to grind their workmen down to the lowest cent of wages, and insist upon making them their slaves in more senses of the word than one. While Radical Congressmen from New England are passing laws, making it a grave crime for a Southern planter to attempt to influence the votes of negroes in his employ, the capitalists of Yankee-land make the bread of their employees depend upon the ticket they vote. Thus is the Radical majority in Congress kept up, and by such means has a tariff, which robs every consumer, been perpetuated.

### Hadn't Time.

One of the remarkable features of the Message is the announcement in the concluding paragraph, that it was "hastily summed up." It would be a satisfaction to the people to know why and wherefore a document of so much importance should be sent to Congress without having been well and wisely considered. It was surely not for want of time on the part of the President, unless junkettings and dissipations, extending over fully six months, are to be regarded as of paramount importance to the affairs of State.

### Party Substituted for Country.

Radical assumption of power is a subject which should be constantly kept before the American people, in order that its rapid inroads upon Constitutional guarantees may be checked ere it be too late. Radicals have, for the last ten or twelve years, had such complete possession of the Federal Government, that they have come to think and act as if it belongs to them. "I am the State," said a French despot. "I am the Government" says Grant, and every petty official basking in the sunshine of Executive favor, chimes in an affirmative bray. This identification of themselves by Radicals with the government, has led to many practical evils and abuses—to many tyrannies and much political persecution. This has naturally led to another assumption—that opposition to them is opposition to the institutions of the country, to the Constitution and laws, to the sovereign authority, and is, therefore, rebellion. This has led to habitual interference in local elections, to the employment of troops, for the purpose of putting down opposition, and to a transfer of the jurisdiction of the State to Federal Courts.

The definition of "rebel" has been changed. It formerly meant one in revolt against the Government. It now means, according to Radical interpretation, one who is bold enough to dispute the authority and supremacy of the Radical party. The idea is even carried further than that. Personal government has made such rapid progress, under the present administration, that actually a member of the Republican party who dares to avow himself an opponent to President Grant, is regarded as contumacious; while, so far as Democrats are concerned, they are looked upon as case-hardened rebels, and the Southern people who oppose Grant, are regarded as fit subjects for outlawry. What is to become of the country and its institutions—of freedom of opinion—of untrammeled suffrage—of the liberties of the people—if this thing is to continue. The creature who happens, for the time, to be the head of the Radical party, and the President of the United States, will become a greater despot than any of the crowned heads of Europe. To substitute party for country, and to make the support of that party the test of loyalty, and opposition to it the evidence of rebellion, is to subvert the whole theory of the Government, and to endanger every right of the citizen.

Against this growing usurpation of power it is the duty of every freeman to interpose a most determined and formidable front.

### Let The Revenue Bureau be Abolished.

Senator Sumner has introduced into Congress a bill for abolishing the Internal Revenue Bureau. It provides that after the 1st day of June next all taxes shall cease, except those upon distilled spirits, fermented liquors and tobacco in its various forms, and that these taxes shall henceforth be collected by stamps. In presenting this bill, which will free the country from the burthen of supporting an immense army of officials, Mr. Sumner professes to be only following up the suggestions made by President Grant, when, in his annual Message, he recommends that the number of articles from which Internal Revenue is to be collected be reduced to three or four. This is taking the President at his word in a manner which he never contemplated. Grant never thought of recommending the cutting up by the roots, of a system which gives to him his chief support in the struggle for a renomination. He is too completely dependent upon the good will of the office-holders in the Internal Revenue Department, to think of recommending a measure which would turn them away from the public crib and force them to depend upon honest labor for a living. But the people, the taxpayers, would be glad to see this army of drones driven out of the snug places they occupy. That the revenue derived from the articles named, would be more honestly and perfectly collected by a proper system of stamp duties than it now is, must be generally conceded without hesitation. Should Mr. Sumner's bill become a law, the vast amount which it annually costs to pay an army of officials would be saved. Mr. Sumner also thinks that the country would be the gainer in being relieved from the efforts of these gentlemen to control local and national politics. On the first of next September, the Revenue Bureau will have existed just ten years. The people have endured a Trojan siege of ten years from the Internal Revenue system, and they would be delighted to see it come to an end. Let Mr. Sumner push his bill vigorously, and let us see who will dare to vote for the continuance of a costly and odious system which can be dispensed with without detriment to the interest of the Government.

### Ingratitude to Butler.

Notwithstanding the danger of such an experiment—for Ben was never known to forgive an injury—the champion of Essex has been snubbed, by being placed second on the Judiciary Committee of the House, and first only on so insignificant a Committee as that for the Revision of the Laws of the United States. This is supposed to be the revenge which the regular Republicans choose to take upon him for his guerilla raid on the Governorship in Massachusetts last Fall. It is about as small a trick as they could play, and it is also a very impolitic, as well as ungrateful one, especially on the part of Speaker Blaine, who was the avowed choice of Butler for the Vice-Presidency. The hero of Fort Fisher is a strong friend and a bitter enemy. It would have been better for Blaine and all his friendly instigators had they forgiven Butler all his sins and invited him into full fellowship and brotherly communion; for, as they have declared war, they may rest assured he will wage it with them, even "to the knife, and the knife to the hilt." When he chooses, he can make it more uncomfortable for his foes, and at the same time attract more sympathy from his constituents than any other man in the House.

We shall watch the progress of this little family muddle with especial interest.

### Another one Found Guilty.

In the case of City Treasurer Joseph F. Marcer the jury rendered a verdict of guilty on five counts of the indictment, charging that he unlawfully loaned the City's money, that he took and converted to his own use $300,000 of the City's money, that being charged with the safe-keeping of a large amount of money belonging to the City, he took and converted it to his own use, and that being charged with the safe keeping of the City's money, he was a defaulter. Notice of a motion for a new trial was given, and Mr. Marcer renewed his bail in $100,000. The motions for a new trial in this case and that of Mr. Yerkes will be argued.

### Another Defalcation.

Frederick A. Marden, chief of division of accounts in the United States Treasurer's office, has been arrested, charged with having embezzled and converted to his use $15,000, which was in his possession, for safe-keeping, transfer and disbursement. He is a Massachusetts man, and has been in the Department for the past nine years.—The matter is still undergoing investigation at the Department, and it is said to-day that the whole amount of the defalcation so far discovered is thought to be about $51,000, accomplices of Marden inside or outside of the Department having bagged $36,000 or more.

A VETERAN STRAIGHT-OUT.—Montgomery county has a Democrat 95 years old, who has voted a straight ticket 74 years.

### "Time at Last Makes All Things Even."

Grant has sustained a most terrible defeat in Louisiana, even at the hands of his whilom friends. His unwarranted interference in the political affairs of that State had so incensed Gov. Warmouth and his factional adherents, that protests of the most determined character were frequently made against it.—Warmouth is, like Grant, himself an Illinois adventurer—a former impecunious and unimportant personage in Wabash county; and with no more promise of official distinction than had the Galena tanner amid his vats and unsavory hides. His military reputation was of about the same standard; yet, as he followed in the wake of the invading Federal forces, and snuffed the chances of personal aggrandizement, as does the jackall on the trail of the hunter; and being, for convenience, a truly devout and loyal Radical, he in time gained a stepping-stone to official promotion in Louisiana, and was finally made Governor, with a re-election last Fall, on the most Radical issues.—Oscar Dunn, the negro Lieutenant-Governor, whose death we recently announced, and elected upon the same ticket, did not chime in very well with Warmouth's ideas; and in connection with Grant's brother-in-law, Collector Casey, undertook to run the Radical Convention at New Orleans in opposition to the Governor, and especially in the interests of Grant. Warmouth had, however, enlisted as his friends, a large proportion of the party, and among them many leading negro officials, of whom Senator Pinchbeck was the most prominent. It was this doughty Senatorial friend of Warmouth who was a leading member of the Committee which waited upon President Grant at Long Branch, last Summer, to protest against Casey's interference in their local affairs by means of Gatlin guns, and to demand his removal. It was upon this memorable occasion, and at the interview, that Grant became so much affected at the impudent and disloyal request, (or from some other cause, both oblivious and unsteady,) that he fell back upon the piano and dismissed the Committee in the most rude and insulting manner—not even deigning a respectful reply to their request. As Senator Pinchbeck left the presence of the oblivious Ulysses, he was heard to exclaim, in a low tone, "We will be even with him yet!"

Lieut.-Gov. Dunn died, and Pinchbeck was been elected President of the Senate, and virtually Lieutenant-Governor, giving the Warmouth faction the political sway in Louisiana, and striking Grant's administration a blow which effectually destroys its power in the State. Pinchbeck, like most of his race, is somewhat revengeful; and if there is ever afforded an opportunity of turning the political tables against the man who so insulted him, he will not be slow in availing himself of it, especially as both he and Warmouth must feel that Radical rule in that section is about at an end. How truly and exultingly, in view of the changes which have taken place, may the snubbed darkey Senator exclaim, with the once enslaved, but afterward triumphant Mazeppa—

"For time at last sets all things even—
And if we do but watch the hour
There never yet was human power,
Which could evade, if long pursued,
The patient search and vigils long,
Of him who treasures up a wrong.

### Pleasant Reading for Alexander.

The various newspaper accounts of receptions of the Grand Duke, and the honors paid to the Czar through his son, and which will, no doubt, be promptly forwarded by some of his *suite*, cannot fail to be interesting reading for the mighty potentate of all the Russias. He will, of course, weigh them well, and cannot fail to understand them. He will separate what is official and formal from what is spontaneous, voluntary, and the effect of feeling and natural impulse. They will enable him to feel the true strength of the feeling existing between the American people and the Government and people of Russia, and to understand the character of our countrymen more intimately than by any other process, except a personal visit.—The manner of the Grand Duke's reception cannot but be gratifying to the Czar and his subjects, although he may think our hospitality is a little overdone, and become somewhat nauseated by much that is said and done, as it is evidently in bad taste. Still the visit of Alexis, with all the pomp and cost of the royal surroundings, cannot fail to be pleasing to that great monarch, and to tend to cement still more closely the friendship which has always existed between two great nations.

### Payment of the State Debt.

Governor Geary has issued a proclamation with regard to the payment of the State Debt, the Sinking Fund, &c., in which he states that the amount of the debt redeemed and held by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, from the 1st of December, 1870, to 30th November, 1871, was $2,113,228.63, made as follows:

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|---|---|
| Five per cent. loan redeemed... | $ 391,043.63 |
| Six per cent. loan redeemed..... | 1,719,150.00 |
| Relief notes cancelled..... | 35.00 |
| | $1,113,228.63 |

In addition to this, the State Treasurer has redeemed, during the year, of the overdue loans, $18,368.54, making the aggregate redemption of $2,131,597.17, during the last fiscal year.

A SENSATIONAL despatch appeared in the New York *Herald* on Saturday, which stated that the impeachment of President Grant was seriously contemplated. We marked it down as a silly canard at once. There was a day in this Republic when no President could have acted as Grant has done without being impeached; but that was in better and purer times, in the days not so far distant, when Americans loved liberty for its own sake, when the Constitution was the rule for official conduct, and when any man who made merchandize of the Chief Magistracy would not have dared to show his face in any public place.

### A Political Dodge.

Under the pretext of making an excursion to Florida, for which free passes have been extensively distributed, Gen. Butler, Senator Wilson and other Radicals go to Georgia to stump the State in the approaching Gubernatorial canvass. The dodge won't win, and a larger Democratic majority than ever will be cast, if Grant does not interpose his Gatling guns.

HON. JAMES BLACKMORE, the newly-elected Mayor of Pittsburgh, has been a life-long Democrat, and is a most worthy gentleman. The Pittsburgh *Gazette*, the leading Republican paper of the city, says, as the worst thing which can be urged against him, that "his even temper and general good nature, while good qualities in the private gentleman, are not desirable in the character of the Mayor of a great city.

### One Oversight.

Secretary Robeson's report fails to inform us how many United States frigates are at present maintaining a protectorate over Ben Wade's "d—d old chicken-thief" Baez, as also whether the orders still are to make war upon Hayti, in case that power seems likely to push the Dominicans to the wall.

SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATION.—The Democrats of Northampton county have recently adopted the following system of representation in nominating convention: Each district is to be entitled to one delegate for every fifty democratic votes, but no district is to have less than two nor more than five delegates.

WENDELL PHILLIPS lectured at Steinway Hall, New York, on Wednesday night, in the course of which, alluding to Grant's message, he said "it read like an almanac of 1830, about forty years old. It might do for the time of Monroe, but now it has "an ancient and fish-like smell."

### Political Gossip.

Stimulated with hope by the success of the Pittsburgh election, they have started a Citizens' Ticket in Allegheny City. Radical Rings in their Western strongholds are likely to fare as badly as did the Tammanyites in New York.

An Indiana Democrat of the passive school, wants the old name abandoned, and the title of the "Continental Party" given to the fusion of all political elements opposed to the Administration.

A "Political Protoxyd" with 80 per cent. of Democracy, and 20 per cent. of Republicanism—the latter not only forming the base, but absorbing all the properties and peculiarities of the 80 per cent.—is the latest suggestion of the political discontents.

Speaking of Speaker Blaine's Vice-Presidential aspirations, the *State Journal* says Pennsylvania owes it to herself to retaliate his treatment of the State, in cruelly betraying her great laboring interests, and basely insulting her delegation in Congress, by defeating his aspirations at all hazards.

"What can the matter be" with our Republican neighbors of the *State Journal?* Is it going to sour on its party, and devote its acknowledged ability and sprightliness in opposition to Grant? The indications are very much like it. It don't like Fish, nor the puerile effort being made to make a great man of him. It don't see why he and Akerman are not permitted to resign, when the people want them to, and when they seem so anxious. It is down on Congress for its neglect of the business of the nation and devoting its time to the settlement of the Presidential nominations. It pours a continuous fire of grape and canister into Blaine, and don't seem to be in a very amiable mood with the party generally.

Senator Sumner is said to have refused to sign a letter requesting Mr. Fish to remain in the Cabinet, while another story is that the letter was not presented to him for prudential reasons.

Senator Sumner is somewhat spunky as well as revengeful. Senator Wilson says he has tried to bring about a reconciliation between him and General Grant, but without success. The Senator, too, feeling himself snubbed in Committee appointments, formally declines the Chairmanship of the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

A rumor, started a few days ago, that the Conservative Republicans had resolved on a National Convention to nominate Greeley and Groesbeck, as Presidential candidates, created considerable flutter in Congressional circles.—Like most such *on dits*, the rumor could be traced to no reliable source.

### Latest News.

Judge M'Candless, of the United States Supreme Court, is seriously ill with neuralgia.

George F. Merry, Citizens' candidate, was elected Mayor of Worcester, Mass., yesterday, by 2,000 majority.

Rev. Edward T. Higbee, minister of Trinity Chapel, New York, died suddenly on Sunday.

Cargoes of produce, valued in the aggregate at $200,000, are frozen up at Prince Edward's Island.

Negotiations are progressing for a commercial treaty between the United States and Spain, and will soon be concluded.

Thomas Durgan "pounded" his wife to death, near Rondout, N. Y., on Saturday night. He was drunk at the time.

There has been a sudden revival of the small-pox in New York within a day or two. The disease is also increasing in Brooklyn.

Gov. Caldwell, of North Carolina, shows the increase of the State debt under Radical management to be $24,500,000.

The next Lebanon Conference of the Lutheran Church will meet in Pinegrove, Schuylkill county, on the first Monday in March.

The steamship Nina, from New York for Cardiff, has been abandoned at sea. Her crew were saved by the steamship Aleppo, from Boston, and landed at Liverpool.

A sensation was created in Berlin by the Czar's speech at the Georgenfest, which is regarded as putting an end to French hopes, and the guarantee of peace in Europe.

The steam tugs Highlander and Hercules were burned at Kingston, Ontario, on Friday night. Loss, $50,000. A man named Charles Kelly was burned to death.

Over fifty cases of violations of the revenue laws, in the illicit distillation of "apple jack" and whiskey, will be tried in the United States Circuit Court at Alexandria, at the January term.

The schooner H. M. Fisher, from Cape Haytien for Boston, went ashore last Thursday night at Cuttyhunk, and bilged. The crew, six in number, were saved by some of the islanders at the risk of their own lives.

At Memphis, several women have registered for the purpose of voting at the next Municipal election, under a clause in the City Charter, allowing all property holders, resident or non-resident, to vote.

Pembina advices state that three French half-breeds have been tried at Fort Garry on the charge of having taken active part in the recent Fenian invasion, and that one of them has been convicted and sentenced to death.

A conductor, named Henry Brown, was crushed to death on the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railroad on Saturday afternoon by being caught between the platforms while attempting to couple the cars.

There were 470 deaths in Philadelphia last week—23 less than during the previous week. Small-pox caused 190 deaths, 71 of its victims being adults and 128 minors. The small-pox deaths show a decrease of 34 from the week preceding.

In the Woman Suffrage Convention at Washington, on Saturday, speeches were made by Mr. Blackwell, Mrs Howe, Mrs. Churchill, Mrs. Livermore, Lucy Stone, Mrs. Celia Burleigh, and others. Resolutions demanding woman suffrage were introduced.

The Pennsylvania Railroad has proposed to lease the Memphis and Charleston Railroad for forty-five years, guaranteeing three per cent. annual interest for the first five years, and then six per cent. The question of the lease is to be submitted to the stockholders.

Five passenger trains of the Union Pacific Railroad, from the West, were snow bound at Laramie station on Monday night. The trains from the east had arrived at Cheyenne, but the road was blocked up on the summit between Laramie and Cheyenne.

At Lawrence, Kansas, a motion for a new trial in the case of Dr. Medlicott was over-ruled on Saturday, and Medlicott was sentenced to be hanged on January 26th. The prisoner's counsel filed a bill of exceptions, which will take the case to the Supreme Court. The lawyers think the Supreme Court will grant a new trial.

In reply to a letter from the Secretary of War, Attorney-General Akerman decides that a railroad which has been aided in its construction by donations of public lands, is a public highway for its whole length for the use of the Government of the United States, and the Government is not subject to charge for the transportation of troops and public property on such a road.

In the U. S. Court at Columbia, S. C., on Saturday, a *nolle prosequi* was entered in the first indictment against Bratton and others of the Ku-Klux, and a new indictment was presented charging them with murder. Objections made by the defence to the new indictment were over-ruled, but time was given until Monday to examine the new indictment.

Hon. William Gaston, Democrat, was yesterday re-elected Mayor of Boston. This endorsement was due him for an able, prompt and efficient discharge of all the duties of his responsible position. His hearty advocacy of all measures calculated to advance the interests of Boston have secured for him the esteem and confidence of the better class of citizens, who gave evidence of their confidence by voting for him yesterday for a second term.

### Ku-Klux Capital in North Carolina... Holden Intermeddling.

Resolutions having been adopted at several meetings of colored men in North Carolina charging members of the State Senate with being members of "Ku-Klux" organizations; the whole matter has been under investigation, and the result, as stated by a correspondent of the New York *Herald*, is that the authorship of said resolutions has been traced to ex-Governor Holden, at Washington, who still meddles in the political and internal affairs of the State. The resolutions were all mailed from Washington under a government frank, to radical leaders in the different counties, all of whom called meetings to have them passed in accordanance with the instructions that accompanied them.

### THE LANCASTER SCHOOLS.

**Our City Common Schools Vindicated.**

*Messrs. Editors;* Please indulge me in a few remarks in addition to what has already been said, in reply to the letter of Hon. J. P. Wickersham, published in the INTELLIGENCER of Wednesday last, and re-published in the *Express* on Saturday, in which he attempts to justify his criticism at the late Teacher's Institute, by referring to the maxim which says, "our best friends are those who tell us of our faults, and teach us how to correct them." Now the *spirit* of that maxim is first to be sure we have faults, and what they are; then, instead of publishing them to the world from house-top, to admonish us of them privately. He says, however, that our faults are, first, "the number of children not in attendance at the Public Schools; and second, the inferior school accommodations provided," and volunteers to teach us how to correct them by pointing to the example, for our emulation, of a large number of places where they have very costly school-buildings and high taxes, and happen to have a somewhat larger per centage of their population enrolled in their Public Schools, but far less average attendance than we have, as the *modus operandi* by which to secure that desirable result. I am not in the habit of accepting the teachings of any man, however high the source, without first satisfying myself, at least, of their truth; as we are told to "prove all things and hold fast that which is good."

If it is better to have a large per centage of the population *enrolled* than to have a *larger* per centage in daily *attendance* at school, then we are a little below some places; if not, we are above most others, as has already been clearly shown in the table published in the INTELLIGENCER on Monday evening. We have not only a much larger average attendance, but are also educating a greater per centage of our population at far less expense, than most of the places named, notwithstanding their boasted superiority in school accommodations.

Prof. Wickersham, however, admits that in average attendance, we measure up to our sister cities; but objects to this comparison, and thinks a large percentage of population *enrolled*, is better than a high average *attendance*. In order to illustrate the *force* of his criticisms, I will give a few examples, by extending a little farther the comparisons in the table published on Monday. Erie has a population of 19,646, and has enrolled in her Public Schools 2,623 pupils, with an average attendance of 1,367—or 52 per cent of the number enrolled, and 7 per cent. of her population. Erie has $177,600 worth of school-property; the interest on which, at 6 per cent., is $10,656, or $8 a year for each pupil in attendance.—Scranton has a population of 35,092. Number enrolled, 3,691; average attendance 1,604, or less than 5 per cent. of population. Scranton has $194,500 worth of school-property; the interest on which is $11,670, or $7.25 for each pupil in attendance. Allentown has a population of 13,884. Number enrolled 2,894; average attendance 1,625—11 per cent. of her population. Allentown has $380,000 worth of school property. The interest on which is $22,800, or $14 for each pupil in attendance. And so on, with few exceptions, to the end of the list. Lancaster has a population of 20,233. Number enrolled 2,698; average attendance 2,332, or 86½ per cent. of the number enrolled, and 11½ per cent. of her population. Lancaster has $46,000 worth of school-property; the interest of which is $2,760, or $1.18 a year for each pupil in attendance.

These figures need no comments. Those interested can draw their own inferences; and, although it is said our *invention* by which these results are obtained, needs no patent, as no other town of any size in the United States of America, has used it, I, nevertheless, respectfully commend it to the people of Erie, Scranton and Allentown, as showing the difference in results, in proportion to the means used. By financiers, that enterprise which yields the greatest return on the smallest investment, is considered most successful. So in school-matters. We think that plan or system, by which the largest results are obtained at the least expense, is the wisest and most successful administration of the Common School Law.

I am, however, in favor of improvement and progress, whenever I am convinced of the direction in which it can be made. It is said that our Male High School has been forced into a building that illy comports with the character of such a school, and may be one of the reasons why more do not attend. As has already been shown, the erection of costly school-buildings, in other places has failed to produce more favorable results than our own. In Harrisburg, for instance, (a centre of wealth and intelligence) where they have $229,000 worth of school-buildings, the City Superintendent in regard to the Boys' High School, says: "A serious and apparently *unsurmountable* drawback to its prosperity, is the fact that so few boys remain long enough to take anything like a course which such a school could recognize by the award of a diploma." The City Superintendent of Altoona, says: "Tardiness, truancy and irregularity of attendance, are still great hinderances to the proper progress of our schools." In Allentown, the emporium of school-buildings, where they have $380,000 worth of school-property, their average attendance was 56 per cent. of the number enrolled, and their City Superintendent says: "The past year has afforded very little that is *new* in the operation of our schools. We can point to no astonishing growth in that direction."

Prof. Wickersham also says our private schools are a bad symptom—of our delinquency, I suppose—worse than any other. I am not so sure of this—with those attending private schools we have nothing to do. And, inasmuch as they are being *educated*, both morally and intellectually, and their parents, uncomplainingly pay their school tax besides, no one has the right to complain. And that they are going to private schools is not owing to their "aristocracy," as the majority are the children of the poorer classes; nor to the superior facilities and accommodations afforded, for they are on the whole greatly inferior to those enjoyed by the children in the Public Schools; but from motives which exist in a greater or less degree in most cities—the principal one of which is to secure for their children more moral and religious instruction than they receive in the Public Schools. Certainly not a very alarming symptom to

A DIRECTOR.

**Mr Wickersham Presses His Case.**

Hearty thanks to the Board of Directors for the action taken at its meeting last Thursday evening, on the subject of a school census of the city. Let the work be done carefully and systematically, and, unless all the usual indications are deceptive, it will reveal the ugly fact that there are some hundreds of children growing up to manhood in this city, with little or no education—growing up, many of them, to become a curse instead of a blessing to the community in which they live. And, in addition, it will appear that there are some hundreds more attending private schools, whose parents would gladly send them to the public schools, if these were provided with more commodious buildings, and more attractive surroundings, and the teaching in them was better done. I may be over-sanguine, but I look upon the step referred to, taken by the Board of Directors last Thursday, as the commencement of a new era in the school affairs of our city. It will lead almost certainly to other much needed improvements, and, in the end, I trust, our conservative, old city will find herself under the quickening influence of that spirit which now stirs almost every part of the Commonwealth up to the purpose of giving every boy and girl, rich and poor, high and low, within its limits, the best education possible. Among all the interests of a town or a State, that of a right education of its children stands highest, is the most important; and a glad day it will be for Lancaster, when this truth shall be practically realized by her people.

And, now, at this seemingly auspicious moment, will the members of the Board of Directors and the citizens generally be patient and good-humored with me while I tell them in two or three short articles, the plain truth about their schools? I am rather disposed to do it in any event; but I do not wish to incur the ill-will of a people among whom I live and upon whom I would gladly confer any favor in my power, if it can be avoided without violating a sense of duty.

First, then, our school-buildings are not only of small value, as heretofore shown, in comparison with those of other cities and towns in the State; but any man of taste will acknowledge that they are cheap structures without architectural symmetry or beauty, they are not pleasant to look upon, and, as a whole, they are ill-suited to the vigorous working of a live system of public schools. Such a system requires a compact body of interacting higher and lower agencies. Our primary schools have little more connection with one another and with the schools above them than they might have if located one hundred miles apart.—There is no common bond of sympathy among them—no common life that stirs them to action. They exist only in fragments, and such schools are always more than half-dead.

But "A Director," in his communication which appeared in the INTELLIGENCER of December 6th, in vindication of the Lancaster schools, with an air of triumph, points to the fact that inasmuch as our school-houses cost as little, we have but a small amount of interest to pay on the investment. Erie, he says, pays, at 6 per cent., $10,656 interest on her $177,600 worth of school-property, or $8 for each pupil; Scranton, $11,670 on her $194,500 worth of school-property, or $7.25 for each pupil; Allentown, $22,800 on her $380,000 worth of school-property, or $14 for each pupil; while Lancaster pays only $2,760 on her $46,000 worth of school-property, or $1.18 for each pupil. This statement shows, of course, that we do not invest much money for school-buildings in Lancaster; but it does not follow that it would be wiser to invest more. It may not be the best kind of economy to save our money and stint our children. The huts of an Indian village cost little; but, is it better on that account to live in huts than in the neat, tasteful dwellings of a Pennsylvania village? Lancaster has not a single school-house that a citizen can show a stranger with any degree of pride, and yet there are men here who desire this state of things to continue, because it enables us to hoard up a little more money. Has not our system of schools been crippled long enough by having cheap school-houses, cheap teachers, and cheap supervision? Shall we not soon abandon this short-sighted, narrow-gauge, penny-wise-and-pound-foolish policy of managing our school affairs? Besides, there is not a shrewd business man in the cities named by "A Director," who does not hold that a good school-house pays back to the people who erect it, both principal and interest. The only school-houses that are a tax on the people are poor ones, said a citizen of Titusville to me, a few weeks since, concerning the beautiful, new school-house recently erected in that flourishing town, "it is a good investment;" and this gentleman is worth three or four hundred thousand dollars, and pays a school-tax of *several thousand dollars* a year, the tax for school-purposes in Titusville being 50 mills on the dollar. With a school-tax like that at Titusville, some of the rich men of Lancaster