The Press.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1860.

The Democratic State Convention.

We have long predicted that the disgraceful thraldom in which the Democracy of Pennsylvania have been held since JAMES BUCHANAN proved false to the pledges of 1856, and inaugurated a disgraceful era of proscription, would be destroyed; and the proceedings of the Convention which adjourned yesterday, while they are of a peculiar and somewhat inconsistent character, afford ample proof that there was a powerful under-current at work, which foiled most of the schemes of the Administration managers at Reading, and left them nearly powerless.

The Convention was an immense improvement upon the reckless and unprincipled convocations of 1858 and 1859, which blindly registered infamous Presidential decrees. It is true, that by dint of threats and promises, and a rigid application of the thumb-screws of official power, the Democracy of the State will be subjected to the misfortune of being misrepresented at Charleston by such raen as BIGLER and BAKER; but they have as their colleagues MONTGOMERY and DAWSON, who will, we presume, be disposed to fairly reflect the wishes of their constituents; and as the delegations of the various Congressional districts were selected by the delegates to the State Convention representing them, and as the efforts of the Administration to compel the delegation to vote as a unit were unsuccessful, there is a fair prospect that the real wishes of Pennsylvania may find a partial expression in the formation of a Presidential ticket and the platform of the campaign of 1860.

The nominee for Governor, Hon. HENRY D. FOSTER, is a citizen of Westmoreland county, which is one of the strongholds of Democracy and of anti-Lecomptonism in our State. He possesses a high character as a lawyer, and has taken an active part in politics as an advocate of the Democratic party. He was member of Congress from the Westmoreland district from 1848 to 1847, and a member of the State Legislature in 1855, 1856, and 1857. In 1858, he was a candidate for Congress, and, in consequence of his partial avowal of anti-Lecompton views and his personal popularity, received a much larger number of votes than the Democratic State ticket in his district. He possesses superior talents as a public speaker; and this fact, united with his extensive political experience, will doubtless render the present Gubernatorial campaign an exciting one, as the two opposing candidates--FOSTER and CURTIN--will find in each other "foemen worthy of their steel."

Our Relations with Mexico.

While Great Britain is being congratulated by the statesmen of the United States on account of the late treaty, said to have been arranged by Sir RICHARD COBDEN, with LOUIS NAPOLEON, a convention which promises to be so beneficial to both England and France as to put out of sight all the irritating questions threatening the disturbance of peaceful relations between the two countries, we are happy to see that the Administration of the General Government is pressing with all its energy the confirmation of the treaty concluded by the American minister in Mexico, Mr. MCLANE, with the liberal Government of that Republic.

Should this treaty be ratified, the experiment will be tried which has so frequently been suggested, whether the intervention of the United States in the affairs of Mexico (having now been invited by a Government recognised by our own) will be productive of any practical, permanent advantage. The terms of the treaty, as we understand them, cannot fail to be highly beneficial, not only to the commerce of the South, but to the manufactures of New England and Pennsylvania.

The New York *Courier and Enquirer*, a Republican paper strongly committed to the fortunes of Mr. SEWARD, has the following reference to it:

> "Our merchants are looking with some interest to the action of the United States Senate on the Mexican treaty. The provisions of the latter is such as, if adopted, to give a new and highly important impulse to the export of American manufactures to Mexico. The proviso to enter, free of duty, such articles as ploughs, salted and smoked provisions, lard, bacon in paper covers, plants, flour, lard, tallow, &c., will in itself give a stimulus to our trade with this country. Then, again, no concession is made on the part of the United States to which exception can be taken. We should endeavor to get over a part of the trade lost since 1840. Our exports to Mexico were in

10 years, 1831-40, only	$46,736,060
10 years, 1841-1850, only	18,275,000

> "But the most important feature of the treaty is the privilege of crossing the Isthmus--'the right of way by the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, from one ocean to the other, by any kind of roads now existing or hereafter constructed, in perpetuity.'
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> "Our capitalists are ready to enter upon this large field of enterprise, wherein the solemn contract, now so liberally considered, shall be confirmed. The Senate will, no doubt, consider this matter with a view to the good of the whole country. We hear no objections urged to the confirmation of the treaty--it is, in fact, one of the grand features of the age--individual projects. It may be the means by which the United States, as we urged a few days since, may,' commercially, her right arm stretching across the Pacific, sweep the steppes of Asia, while the left, resting on the Atlantic, play upon the keys of traffic in every mart of Europe. Encircling the globe in her embrace, she need know no boundaries, no limit.'"

Every day adds to the importance of this great question. Not only the anarchy that reigns supreme in Mexico itself, but the border warfare which has grown up within the last year, imperilling the peace of the State of Texas, and bathing the whole frontier with innocent blood, will demand either the armed intervention of our Government in the affairs of Mexico, under the terms of the treaty, or probably the maintenance of a permanent military force for the protection of our own territory and for the protection of the interests and rights of our people, engaged in peaceful enterprises in the interior of Mexico herself. It gives us great pleasure to express our satisfaction at the progress of the treaty, and to indulge the hope that it may be speedily ratified by the Senate.

News from Canada.

We have a private letter from Canada, (Toronto), giving a frightful account of the outrages committed in that Province by the Orangemen, whose evil spirit is rampant there. The Prince of Wales will certainly cross the Atlantic, in May, to lay *that* last stone on the *Victoria Bridge, on June 4th*, the birthday of his great-grandfather, GEORGE the Third.

It is expected that the Canadian Ministry will be defeated at an early day on the Seat-of-Government question, which is again to be revived by the Opposition.

The Hon. J. C. MORRISON, of Toronto, (who visited Philadelphia last year), has reentered public life, having been sworn in, a few days ago, as Solicitor-General. He was formerly Treasurer of the Province, and is an eloquent man, with a great deal of influence and information.

The three Canadian members of Parliament, supposed to have been lost in the *Hungarian*, are MESSRS. DAWSON, MCKELLAR, and MARCUS TALBOT. The latter is a son of the late Editor of the *Leinster Express*, (in Ireland), an élève of Trinity College, Dublin, and was just married to a daughter of the late Captain EGGLES, formerly of Dublin.

The Hon. Edward Bates.

As the Hon. Edward Bates, of Missouri, is among the eminent persons spoken of as likely to receive the nomination for President, no small curiosity exists as to what manner of man he is. Mr. Brady, the well-known photographer of New York and Washington, (his portrait galleries in both cities are exhibitions of very great interest and value,) has sent us a three-quarters portrait of Mr. Bates, which, we are assured on the authority of a friend who lately saw the original at St. Louis, is as accurate a likeness as scientific art could produce. It shows us a face, proportionably with more length than breadth; hair well off the forehead; brow rather square than high; eyes, well set in the head, and surmounted with full, straight eyebrows; nose, rather long; mouth, remarkably firm; and a grisly beard finishing all. Intelligence and firmness are the characteristics of this face.

The biographical notice of Mr. Bates, in Appleton's *New American Cyclopædia*, states that he was born in Virginia, about the year 1790 or 1791. Some men bear their years well, and this is the case with Mr. Bates, for he does not look more than sixty, if so much.

At an early age he emigrated to Missouri, where he became an eminent lawyer at a comparatively early age. He was a member of the Legislature of Missouri for many years, and finally represented that State in Congress. His first great demonstration in public life was in 1847, when he delivered a splendid speech in the Internal Improvement Convention, which met at Chicago.

Subsequently declined office in Missouri, and also in Mr. Fillmore's Cabinet. He was an adherent of Henry Clay in politics. In 1854 he opposed the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and has since been of the number of those declaring they will nominate, if possible, before dinner. The Committee on Resolutions has not yet had a meeting, but there is a probability that they will report definitely this afternoon.

The President declared the first business before the Convention to be the election of two Presidents at large for the electoral ticket.

Mr. Lawrence, of Philadelphia, nominated James F. Johnston, of Philadelphia.

The following gentlemen were also nominated: R. M. Fox, Geo. M. Keim, Edward George, Jacob Dillinger, George W. Woodward, and Edwin Dyer

At the request of Mr. James F. Johnston, his name was withdrawn.

The Convention proceeded to a ballot, with the following result:

Number of votes cast	131
Necessary to a choice	66
Richard Vaux	69
George M. Keim	102
Edward George	1
George W. Woodward	48
Fox	4
Henry D. Foster	4

Richard Vaux, of Philadelphia, and George M. Keim, of Berks, having received a majority of the votes cast, were declared to be chosen electors. The result was greeted with enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Cessna, of Bedford. Mr. Chairman. I now move you that we proceed to a ballot for a candidate for Governor.

The motion was agreed to.

The Chairman. Nominations are now in order for a candidate for the Gubernatorial chair of the State of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Cessna. I nominate William H. Witte, of Philadelphia. [Applause.]

Mr. Packer, of Northumberland. I nominate George Sanderson, of Lancaster.

Mr. Forney. I nominate Hon. John L. Dawson, of Fayette.

Mr. Gerhard. I nominate Hon. Jacob Fry, Jr., of Montgomery. [Applause.]

Mr. Fogel. I nominate Jeremiah Schnlled, of Lehigh.

Mr. Gilfillan. I nominate Hon. Nimrod Strickland, of Allegheny.

Mr. Montgomery, of Washington. I nominate Colonel Wm. Hopkins, of Washington.

Mr. Cessna. I nominate Hon. Hendrick B. Wright, of Luzerne.

Mr. Kelley. I nominate Hon. A. S. Wilson, of Mifflin.

Mr. Crawford. I nominate Hon. John Cresswell, of Blair.

Mr. Cessna. I move that the nominations now close.

The motion was agreed to.

The President. The object of this Convention to please in nomination Hon. Henry D. Foster, of Westmoreland. [Applause.] I would have done so before had I not been called upon by

The President. There being no objections, the gentleman from Graham, of Westmoreland. I desire to say that Mr. Foster will not, under any circumstances, be a candidate before the Convention. He has a home in the West, and the old ladies can have the privilege of delivering "Curtin" lectures [laughter and applause] to their husbands. I have voted for Mr. Witte because I saw he was the favorite of this Convention, an accident and an available man. [Cheers.] I have no personal feelings actuating Mr. Foster, or any other man presented to this Convention. Should he be chosen, I will go through every district of Pennsylvania, and address the people as loud as I can pronounce a funeral oration over the dead body of old Lecomptonism, [laughter and continued cheers,] and in the same grave I will bury Lecomptonism so deep that the hands of no political resurrectionist will ever dig them up! [Great applause.] Having performed these funeral services, we have nothing to do with Lecompton and anti-Lecompton as issues, but we are old-fashioned Democrats--Jefferson and Jackson Democrats.

Mr. Montgomery went on to show by an argument that the question of slavery in the Territories is a judicial question, and should be settled by the Supreme Court. The speaker then referred to Judge Douglas as having more than a legal difference between two judges, and the Supreme Court was the tribunal to decide the question. After alluding again to the flattering prospects of success, complimenting the Convention on their determination, and thanking them for his reception, he retired amid great applause.

After Mr. Montgomery had taken his seat, the band played "Auld Lang Syne," which elicited much applause.

The President introduced Mr. Bigler, who was warmly greeted. He said:

Members of the committee: The first thing that becomes me is to tender to the committee my warm thanks for the compliment which they have extended to me in selecting to me an authority on the part of the Democracy of this State to nominate a candidate for the Presidency of the United States. The honor I offer you my sincere thanks. I shall endeavor, so best I can, in the exercise of my feeble judgment, to carry out the trust reposed in me. I believe to regard as best calculated to promote the success of the Democratic party, and the success of which party I believe to be inseparably connected with the perpetuity and future greatness of this country. Fellow-citizens, I will not detain you by any remarks to a speech which took place in the hall, of which I have a freely published. You have to-day to select a man for the presidency. We have to-day to select a man for the presidency. We have to-day to select a man for the presidency. We