

The New York Republican Convention last week instructed its delegates to the Cincinnati convention, to support Senator Roscoe Conkling, of that State, for President.

We can understand why McClure—on the principle which regains fall out, &c.—performs a frantic war dance over Randall's grave, but why he should exult so savagely over the entombing of Democratic fossils, is a poser. What has Judge Black ever done to offend McClure?

Whether the Lancaster convention declared in favor of resumption or no, is what no fellow can exactly find out. Here is how that detectable body of honest and capable gentlemen straddled.

Resolved, That it is impossible to resume specie payments. Resolved, That Congress should take steps for the resumption of specie payments.

How we are to get on, here we go, my dear friend. Evidently Mr. McClure's melodies were not intended to some purpose, by our eminent Democratic Joseph and Wallace.

MR. AND MRS. MARSH have returned from Canada and have testified before the committee. Neither of them threw any new light upon the Belknap affair. Clymer extracted from Marshall the declaration that he "didn't see him away." No one ever said that he did. On the contrary it was charged that he was too dem'd polite to him, and assisted him out of the road, howling him at the door, promising to send his teeth after him, and wishing him bon voyage. "Scare whoddy? Not a bit of it. It was adieu my dear! You are dismissed. We don't want you any longer. Many thanks for the glorious send off you have given us. Now for New Hampshire! By bye Marshall! Don't trouble yourself about the little bit of pay coming to you. I'll send it after you. Adieu, adieu! Nothing more, thank you. Good bye Marshall! Now for New Hampshire! How jolly! Here's a go. Hurrah!

The drug-getting which the Democratic House at Washington spread over the country, has scarce answered its intended purpose, of furnishing the material to run the Presidential campaign. The various committees organized to investigate the doings of the Republican officials have already cost the country one hundred thousand dollars, and for this vast sum no results have been accomplished except the detection and exposure of a prominent Democratic candidate for President, and half a score of minor Democratic scoundrels. The unearthing of the Belknap inquiry is not the fruit of the investigation of any of these committees, but is the consequence of a private scandal or affair which Clymer's committee stumbled quite unexpectedly. Apart from this, these Democratic "smelling committees have nothing to show for the waste of time and immense outlay of money, except a multitude of scandalous rumors unsubstantiated by the slightest evidence, which the scavengers of the press have gleaned from the secret and ex parte examination of witnesses, and have scattered broadcast over the country to the utter disgust of all decent people. The fact is now patent to the most stolid intellect that the Democratic scandal mongers of the United States House of Representatives "went out on a shearing and have come home shorn."

The investigations of the committees at Washington are turning up queer things. Among other ways and prices of the lobbyists. It was but the other day that "Gentleman George" Pendleton, a Democratic candidate for President, swore that he pocketed \$80,000 for lobbying through a claim of \$148,000, and now another admirable specimen of the "high-priced" Democratic lobbyist has fallen into the hands of the committee on Postoffices. The gentleman is J. C. McKibbin, of California, described as well dressed, well educated, fine looking, suave and nonchalant. He frankly admitted his business is to influence legislation, and stated that when the Democratic minority of the Postoffice Committee made a report on the investigation of mail contract frauds, in 1872, he wrote their report for them. When he had stirred up an investigation he was attorney for the persons investigated; and he threw the weight of his influence, which seems to be considerable, on either side of any case, without partiality or conscience.—Brains, he thinks, are more than money, and when one firm of contractors paid him \$30,000 a year for "looking after their interests in Washington," he considered that he was only earning fair wages. Thanks, gentlemen of the committee! The people will soon begin to understand how so much crude legislation is obtained, and what a capital thing it is to be able to influence Democratic Congressmen.

In the reports of the proceedings of the Democracy of this State, at their convention held in Lancaster on Wednesday last, as telegraphed all over the country by the newspaper correspondents to be true, and the concurrent testimony of at least a score of reporters, goes to prove their truth, then it was as disgraceful an assembly, composed of petty and vicious politicians, as ever was congregated in the State. From the beginning to the end it was a scene of wire-pullings and squabbles, of petty jealousies and personal quarrels, and such as was only attained by such servility, and through the cooperative power suggested by a hope of public plunder.

The entire convention and its resulting appointments were controlled, manipulated, and made by, and as the result of the personal quarrel between Wallace and Randall, in which the mass of the delegates participated. The Wallace faction won. The officers of the convention were Wallace men, and the Wallace slate for delegates at large to the Presidential convention was put through with a rush. Wallace whipped Randall as thoroughly as Randall whipped him last year at Erie, and as a consequence the platform of principles announced last year as the cardinal faith of the Democracy of Pennsylvania, has undergone so radical a change that it will occupy all the spare time of the brethren for the next six months to learn the new confession of faith. The fellows that last year so fondly dandied the rag-baby, will now have to sit astride the fence with their mouths made up so as to laugh or to cry as the national convention may decide. During the session of the committee on credentials the room was invaded by a gang of Democratic ruffians from Philadelphia, and two of them had to be thrown by force down stairs, and afterwards a squad of police had to be obtained to guard the doors.—On the question of a Presidential candidate, the convention made no sign, save when a resolution recommending Judge Black for President was tabled by a large vote.

The delegation therefore will go to St. Louis unincumbered and uncommitted, and the rank and file can meanwhile get ready to throw up their hats and swear by the great unknown and undiscovered.

The Democratic Convention held at Lancaster last week, is glorified by the journals of that party as a gathering of reformers, and they predicate the assertion on the first resolution of the platform, which sets forth that "we believe that honesty, fidelity and capacity are the only tests of fitness for public station."

These be high sounding professions, my master! but we want acts, not words. By their works ye shall know them, and we naturally look to the antecedents of all professing reformers for evidence of the probable performance of their promises. "We believe, &c." is but a stereotyped formula. But do acts and professions tally? Is the matter of grave moment. A short retrospective glance at the past personal history of a few of these loud mouthed professors of honesty and fidelity may be instructive. The Magnos Apollo of the convention, who breathed the breath of honesty and reform into its nostrils, was Col. Alexander K. McClure, erstwhile the leader of reform in our State Legislature, and notably the engineer of the purchased repeal of the tonnage tax, the teeming parent of all subsequent legislative corruption. Then came Wallace with hands indelibly stained with the coffee color he procured to be imparted to forged naturalization papers. Next Sam Randall, with the extra salary, grabbed from the Federal Treasury, jingling in his pocket. Then, that pink of fidelity to the Union, Charles R. Buckalew, the commander-in-chief of the Fishing creek rebellion. Forth stalks the elegant Clymer, who also attested his fidelity to country by voting again and again, and twenty times again, against arming the State to resist invasion from Southern traitors, and who has been employed for the last month in investigating himself through a committee controlled by himself. Next follows William Dinick, who was compelled to resign his seat in the Legislature to avoid expulsion for blackmailing several banks. And then comes the redoubtable Victor E. Piolet, memorable for his unscrupulous implication with the McCook bribery case.—Looming up among his peers is F. A. Beamish, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Democratic House at Harrisburg, who is under indictment for embezzling \$10,000 from the school fund, and jostling these magnates of reform is seen A. Schöfeld, Alderman McMullen, Sam Joseph and a swarm of political vermin, shoulder-bitters, ruffians, and rowdies from the slums of Philadelphia.

These be thy reformers, oh Democracy! The flowers of the party, the blooming shrubs of honesty, the cultivated lilies of fidelity, who give tone and utterance, strength and majesty and wibal a flavor of high morality to the stately stappings of the party.

The Democratic House has authorized some of its members to appear and testify before the Grand Jury in the matter of the real estate pool.—What has become of their tenderness for the privileges of the House exhibited in the Belknap case? They insisted then, against the indignant protests of the Republicans, that such a course was an insult to the dignity of the House. Circumstances do, indeed, alter cases. It would have been inconvenient for the Democracy to have had a criminal court get to the real truth of the Belknap case.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL GOSBORN has issued notifications to all American exhibitors at the Centennial, to the effect that the space allotted to them is ready, and desiring that it be occupied at once. The delay on the part of the American exhibitors has been frequently alluded to. It is to be hoped that Mr. Gosborn's notification will result in bringing the home exhibitors to time, and that by an energetic use of the time yet remaining the American department may be speedily put in a state of forwardness which will banish all apprehensions of our display.

The Philadelphia *North American* gives among the reasons for the Republican triumph in New Hampshire that "it has never gone before the people begging them to let bygones

be bygones. It denies no portion of its record. It regrets some measures and condemns some administrative errors, but it does not ask the people to ignore anything. It goes before the people acknowledging that it is composed of fallible men, who have fallen into errors as all fallible men do; but it says, "There is no record; take it with all its sins, omissions and commissions, and with its great and grand achievements, and call it part and parcel of history. Perhaps we might have done better; but no party ever did so well." And the people have responded as frankly.

The Chicago *Tribune* says that "the cheekiest thing that has occurred since the first of January, 1876, was the vote of the Hon. (3) Schumacker, Democratic M. C., for the impeachment of Belknap. He had \$500,000 of Pacific Mail corporation filed in his pocket at the time. His party confederates have not troubled him about it. There is no resolution pending for his expulsion or impeachment.—Why is this?"

SENATOR BOGY, of Missouri, is now charged with corruption in having bought his way into the Senate. The report is that he paid \$500 apiece for some sixty Democratic members of the Missouri Legislature, and if the report is true, the "pewees" displayed great skill in making their candidate discharge. Bogy, it is understood, was very indignant at the corruption practices of Belknap.—Commercial.

Another Candidate Gone.—The Indiana copperhead, ex-Governor Hendricks, who, with Andy Curtin, as a tail, was expected to furnish one wing of the immaculate Democratic party, has lately come to a Presidential ticket, has lately come to an unexpected grief. The promise of the Confederate House at Washington, that it would probe corruption in high places, has exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the reformers, and it is now in the hands of the Missouri Legislature, and if the report is true, the "pewees" displayed great skill in making their candidate discharge. Bogy, it is understood, was very indignant at the corruption practices of Belknap.—Commercial.

Joint resolution providing for a special committee to make an investigation into the affairs of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The bill provides for a special committee, to be composed of members from each House to investigate said railroad as far as relates to its management, its combination with transportation companies and its unjust discriminations in the transportation of coal, grain, oil and other merchandise.—Commercial.

Mr. Jackson offered petitions against the repeal of the Iron Clad Liquor law of Mercer county. Mr. Christy asked leave to read the following bill in place, but, objections being made, it lies over for the next session.—Commercial.

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Mr. Foster offered a resolution that the House adjourn until six p. m. tomorrow (Tuesday) over Thursday morning next, at 10 o'clock, to allow the Democrats to attend the State Convention at Lancaster on Wednesday.—Commercial.

Harrisburg, March 21, 1876. SENATE. Mr. Anderson offered a resolution recalling from the Governor House bill No. 6. Agreed to.

An attempt to take up the Centennial Appropriation bill failed. The following resolutions finally: The regulation of international exhibitions held under the State government.

To authorize the Prothonotary of the Supreme Court of the Northern District to administer oaths. For the punishment of cruelty to animals.

To make the 10th day of May a legal holiday. Relative to the summoning of jurors to serve in the criminal courts. To make hospitals, schools and charitable institutions generally to purchase, receive and hold ground rents for investments.

Adjournd until Thursday morning. The House met at 11 A. M. An attempt to take up the bill for Mr. Lusk to fix the session of the House for Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.

The following were passed finally: House bill 66 (the coal miners' bill) by a vote of 132 yeas to eight nays.

Empowering Councils in the boroughs of this Commonwealth to be prescribed by ordinance the salary to be paid out of the borough treasury to the Burgess, in lieu of all fees, fines and other moneys, and to make, alter and amend the same.

Giving bounties on fox, wild cat and skunk scalps, and for the killing of hawks and owls. For the more convenient dispatch of public business in the courts. Agreed to. Thursday morning. Adjournd.

Harrisburg, March 16, 1876. SENATE. The Senate passed the following: Supplement to an act fixing the pay of Road Commissioners, road and bridge viewers and reviewers and commissioners to run roadways. Authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission to devise a plan or plans for the government of cities. Supplementary to the act regulating elections.

Authorizing the appointment of a commission to investigate the affairs of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The bills debated on second reading were principally usury laws. Bills on Second Reading—get to repeat the act to regulate the execution and transfer of notes given for present rights.

Act to prescribe the manner by which the Courts of Quarter Session may divide townships into election districts, was passed. Adjournd till Monday evening.

HOUSE. Mr. Irwin presented a petition asking for the passage of an act compelling railroads to run morning and evening trains to and from cities. The following bills were introduced: Mr. Reighard introduced a bill authorizing the Board of Public Charities to employ the managers of the Pennsylvania Reform School. Agreed to.

The Proposed Budget to Senator Cameron—His Late Declination. From the Commercial. WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—The following interesting correspondence of one Raymond, to be given in honor of the public services and seventy-ninth birthday of Hon. Simon Cameron, has been exchanged. The reply of the "venerable Senator," is an epitome of a long and useful life.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20, 1876. Hon. Simon Cameron. DEAR SIR:—It is with feelings of the most sincere and earnest character that we, the undersigned, on behalf of the college of the State of Pennsylvania in the Forty-fourth Congress, extend to you your affectionate congratulations upon your having entered, with all that vigor which your life has been so remarkably unimpaired, your seventy-eighth year.

Looking back over the many years during which our good old State has the advantage of your supervision and direction in its public affairs, we feel proud of the record of the successful and energetic administration which have marked your course.

Throughout your long, busy and useful public career, no man has deserved your friendship in vain, and no man has ever found in you an enemy or a competitor. We are proud to have you as our representative, and we are proud to have you as our friend.

We beg, therefore, that you will name an early day which will suit you, and we will be glad to have you dine with us as Representatives.

We are, dear General Cameron, very sincerely yours, JOHN W. WALLACE, SOBIESKI ROSS, CHAPMAN FREEMAN, ALAN WOOD, Committee.

SENATOR CAMERON'S REPLY. UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, D. C. March 22, 1876. Gentlemen: I acknowledge the invitation you send me to meet you at a banquet on such a day as may be indicated by myself, and the terms of which are to be arranged with profound pleasure. You are pleased to refer to my past life in words of approval and compliment, and to express the hope that my wealth and my position will be a thank offering to my country.

My aim through life has been to do my duty, and to do it as unostentatiously as possible, trusting to time to settle the controversies sure to arise concerning the methods and motives of any man who feels strongly and vigorously.

In this respect your letter shows me that I have been fortunate. After passing seventy years in the State that gave me birth, and sixty years of that long lifetime in active private pursuits and public duties, it is, beyond all expression, my greatest privilege to be called upon to represent the Pennsylvania express their satisfaction and approval. And this is enough. No entertainment that might be added, would be capable of increasing my gratification.

While acting my part in the national councils, I have always remembered with affection the great Commonwealth that has so often honored me, and I am now unconscious of any willful neglect of her mighty interests, or any inconsiderateness in her welfare has been in question. More than partisanship the good of Pennsylvania has held a place in my heart.

As a Democrat I was forced to oppose my party in the interests of the good of the whole. I have not sought to combine the brains and masses of that great organization in a solid force that was policy. And I now look back with an approving conscience on my course, in both the great political parties of that time, and in the course of my private life. Therefore it is that your approval of my course as a Pennsylvania senator is so gratifying to me.

But, gentlemen, a regard for the pleasure of my country is not the only thing that is set before me without parade, induces me to legislate in accepting my position. On full reflection, I feel forced to decline it, and I trust the reasons which control me in this decision will not only be appreciated by you and the gentlemen you represent, but that you will not be taking a measure of the kind which you have so generously and partially approved to my past life. If, on the completion of my present Senatorial term, the same desire to approve a finished course should exist, I will then meet you with pleasure and free from any restraint; for your work will have been done and a just estimate can then be made of how it was done.

I am, gentlemen, with sentiments of gratitude and esteem, your friend, [Signed] SIMON CAMERON. Hon. Wm. Wallace, Sobieski Ross, Chapman Freeman, Alan Wood, Committee.

A Terrible Explosion. Three men were killed and two seriously wounded, by the explosion of over 400 pounds of "Jupiter powder" in a mill in Washingtonville, a suburb of Mount Vernon, Westchester county, four years ago a large two-story iron building was erected on the banks of the Bronx river, close by the Harlem Railroad tracks, and about eighteen months ago it was leased to Mr. A. Huber of Morrisania, who made it a mill for the manufacturing of "Jupiter powder," a combination of nitro-glycerine and potassium chlorate, used for blasting, and used in blasting.

The large building was used for storage and for boarding rooms for the workmen. A small frame building, in which the ingredients were mixed, was set up about 200 feet distant, and a small packing house was built

at the close of the morning session. There was a discussion on several bills on second reading, the usury law being the principal one under discussion.

Harrisburg, March 17, 1876. SENATE. Bill No. 162, prescribing the manner by which the Courts of Quarter Session may divide townships into election districts, was passed. Adjournd till Monday evening.

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about 50 feet away, near the river. The mill has been nearly shored, and yesterday only a few men were at work. A large mass of the liquid ingredients had been taken to the packing house, and the wharves and boat-houses were destroyed, and the shipping is damaged.—The loss at Bay St. Louis, Pass Christian, Mississippi City, Biloxi, Ocean Springs and Passagoula will probably exceed \$500,000.

Fire at Charleston, S. C. No Water and the Wind Blowing a Gale. Hundreds of People Homeless. CHARLESTON, March 20.—A fire broke out at 3 o'clock this morning, at the corner of King street and Rogers alley. No water being in the neighborhood, and the wind blowing a gale from the south-east, the flames were soon out of control. The damage done to the mill is estimated at \$15,000. The cause of the explosion is not known.

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crowded for hours previously. The king, accompanied by ten Generals and fifty other officers, rode at the head of the procession.

Roller Explosion. LARIME CITY, March 23.—Early this morning a boiler in the Union Pacific Company's rolling mill here exploded, completely wrecking the south half of the mill. Four men were instantly killed and ten others wounded. Legs than twenty men were injured. The boiler was carried through the stone wall of the mill and out a quarter of a mile on the prairie. The following were killed: Richard Reilly, Harry Miner, James Powers and William Wardell; wounded seriously—James Graham, George Shady, Robert McLean and W. A. Thomas; four others were seriously wounded.

LATER.—One of the wounded men, Michael Buckley, has since died, and two others will probably die. Every one of the killed had families in Larime. The damage done to the mill is estimated at \$15,000. The cause of the explosion is not known.

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