

The Somerset Herald.

EDWARD SCULL, Editor and Proprietor



WEDNESDAY April 18, 1861

Ex-Senator HUFF carried off the Congressional plum at the Westmoreland primaries, Saturday.

There seems to be a general movement throughout the country to celebrate General Grant's birthday on the 27th of this month.

The appropriation asked for taking the next national census is \$6,000,000. This is about ten cents a head for every man, woman and child in the land.

The Louisiana State election takes place to-day, Tuesday. The chances are in favor of the election of Warmoth, the Republican candidate for Governor.

Taz Cambria county delegates to the State Convention favor the nomination of Gordon for Supreme Judge and the re-election of Cooper at the head of the State Committee.

It is estimated that the direct losses by the late strikes on the Q. & B. roads was fully \$3,000,000, independent of the consequential losses which there is no means of estimating.

Mr. C. D. SONES, Chairman of the Prohibition County Committee, has issued a call for a County Convention to meet at Shankville on April 29th. The Chairmen asks for a full turnout of the friends of prohibition without distinction of sex.

The Republicans of Cambria county held their convention at Ebensburg, Monday. Ex-Congressman Campbell and Foss Lloyd were elected delegates to the State Convention and George T. Swan, editor of the Johnstown *Tribune*, was endorsed as a delegate to the National Convention, with authority to select his own conferees.

HENRY GRAY is reported anxious to present the name of President Cleveland at the St. Louis convention. It would never do. Gray's energies belong to ex-Confederates, and it would be awkward for the Democrats to have Mr. Cleveland placed beside Jeff Davis, when for four years he has done so much dodging to keep out of the old man's way.

MASSACHUSETTS Independents and Republicans propose to resent the President's insult to civil service reform in displacing General Banks from the office of United States Marshal in Massachusetts by electing the General to Congress. The President has lost his hold on Massachusetts wangs just when he stands in need of his support.

The Bedford county Republicans held their county convention Thursday. A. M. McClure, Esq., and Hon. Eliz. M. Ashcom were elected delegates to the State Convention, and Hon. J. H. Longmeyer was endorsed as delegate to the National Convention from this congressional district. Mr. Ashcom received the nomination of Senator Cameron for President.

Mr. CONKLING's terrible illness has awakened the country to a realizing sense of the high rank of this eminent man. Republicans are only too apt to forget the debt they owe to men of genuine ability, statesmanship, and that higher instinct of morality which does not recognize the possibility of wrong doing. Now that his life is hanging in the balance Americans see that they cannot afford to lose him.

GOVERNOR FORAKER says that he will head the Ohio delegation at Chicago, and as between himself and Mr. Sherman, he does not see how he can go contrary to his wishes. He is enthusiastic in his support of Sherman, and says, if it were not for being considered boastful he should say that the Ohio Senator is sure to receive the nomination. After the Governor Foraker ought to give the credit for sincerity and loyalty to Ohio's choice, John Sherman.

The time and place of meeting of the distict conference to elect two delegates to represent the Republicans of this Congressional district in the National Convention, has not yet been named. For the position Bedford county has endorsed Hon. J. H. Longmeyer, Blair, Wm. S. Hammont, Esq., and Cambria, Mr. George T. Swan. Somerset County has no candidate for the position. The conference will probably be held prior to the meeting of the State Convention.

The Blair County Republican Convention for the nomination of candidates for Congress, State Senator and the election of delegates to the State and National Conventions met in Altoona, Monday. Hon. John A. Lemon was nominated for State Senator and Congressman Seall was declared the choice of the county for re-nomination, and was authorized to name his own conferees. T. W. Wiggins and George E. W. were elected delegates to the State Convention and W. S. Hammont was endorsed for delegate to the National Convention.

The deadlock in the House, over the bill refunding the Direct Tax collected from the states, for war purposes in 1861, was broken on Thursday last by an ignominious surrender of that portion of the Democratic members who had for eight days and nights voted with the Republicans in favor of the bill.

A more inglorious breakdown was never witnessed; a more vivid reminder of the *ante-bellum* days when the Northern dough-faced quailed at the threat of the slave-drivers, could not be devised; a more apt spectacle of political cowardice could not be exhibited.

The representatives of Northern Democracy groveled at the feet of Southern rebels, with "Proud good masters, have your will; we, thy servants, will not gainsay thee." What a commentary on the boasted consistency of the Northern Democracy! For eight mortal days and weary nights they stood for right, for justice, and for their honest convictions, and then, in the twinkling of an eye, at the dictate of a cossack, snared by the ery that if party unity was destroyed party power was endangered they threw conscience to the winds, betrayed the interests of their constituents and bowed their necks to the yoke of their old-time taskmasters. Open your Bibles, good friends, and cover over the ancient narrative of how Esau sold his birthright for a mess of pottage. Here history repeated itself, and if this sell-out does not prove to be a mess of the whitest pottage to the Northern Democracy, then will we lose faith in the generally accepted belief that mankind is controlled by its own best interests.

Never was there a baser surrender of right to expedience, never a more sneaking craven committed in the name of Democracy, never a more cringing abandonment of manhood at the crack of a master's whip. It cannot be justified, if it cannot be excused, it cannot even be palliated. It is proof, and proof positive,

Roscoe Conkling's Terrible Struggle with Death.

But for a surgical operation, in which good luck and great skill were joined in his behalf, Roscoe Conkling would be a dead man.

The cause of Mr. Conkling's illness is supposed to date from the blizzard. On the now celebrated Monday evening, March 12, he started to walk home, as was his wont, from his office in Wall street to his home in the Hoffman House. It was shortly after 6 o'clock, and the snow in some places was six feet and more deep. He was a tall, trying experience skier in winter, and easily made his way through the drifts without difficulty. He said that he had been walking for nearly two miles when I stood there, and I came as near giving right up and sinking down there as die a man could. Somewhere I got out and made my way along. When I reached the New York Club at twenty-fifth street I was covered all over with ice and packed snow, and they would scarcely believe that I had walked from Wall street. It took three hours to make the journey.

Mr. Conkling transacted business as usual for some days after this appearing, notwithstanding that the Southern Brigadiers were again in the city. But this is not all the political fate has in store for the Northern States. The fate of this bill marks the way as truly as a surveyor blazed his line through a forest, to a similar surrender on the graver question of protection to our home industries. Randall and his followers have been counted on to stand with the Republican minority in defense of Protection, but he and they all, save Sowden, of this state, are the men who abandoned their constituents and the interests of their constituents at the demand for party unity. Well, says the old legal maxim, "Falsus in one thing, false in all." Beyond all peradventure the trial will be delayed in the house of its pretended friends, was this bill. Indeed, Randall kicked and buffeted by the minnows of the Administration, its every tool and pawn-piece taking a shat at him; tramped on with both Presidential feet, denied, denounced, scoffed at and mocked, at every turn, crawling on his belly to the feet of his enemies and accepting their dictation for the sake of preserving the unity and harmony of the party that has spat upon him. Avanti! Randall! thy star hath fallen, and all confidence in thy professives have vanished.

The poor, pitiful pretext put forth to ease down the base surrender on the revenue bill, is the merest rot. Well, it know its betrayers that its postponement until the next session is a mere reprieve from certain death, when the election is over, it is sure of being vetoed. Had its pretended friends stood true, they had strength enough, as was shown by repeated votes, to have passed it over the President's head. Dr. Sands was a skilful surgeon, but he had not heard them distinctly. He complained, once, of a pain in his head and ear. He undoubtedly caught a severe chill in his walk home on March 12, but he was able to get out the next day, and is often the case robust constitutions, the cold grew worse, without his paying any attention to it at first. When the pains in his head and ear, however, became unbearable, Dr. Cornelius Agnew was summoned to attend him. This was on Friday, March 20. Dr. Agnew found a large abscess suppurating and abscess in the ear. The pain increased until meningitis was developed, and by Thursday of last week Mr. Conkling was delirious. Inflammation of the brain was feared.

It was agreed that the threatened inflammation resulted from the presence of a quantity of pus lock of the ear, and if this pus were not removed, worse inflammation and death would inevitably ensue.

The removal of the pus involved cutting through the skull and draining the matter away, an operation which attendant dangers were greatly enhanced by the probability of hemorrhage.

Dr. Sands was selected for the operation.

At 8 o'clock, many families were moving out, the water standing at 13 feet at the service gauge. This within one foot of the danger line and 3 feet higher than the highest point reached last year. The water is rising this afternoon at the rate of three-quarters of an inch per hour.

Danger from a flood on the flats west of Dakota avenue is also imminent. Farther up the river water has overflowed the banks, and at Reiter's brewery the current is flowing through the lower part of the building, necessitating the removal of all the stock and fixtures to the upper story. At Bell's street the water is gradually coming over the bank, and already several dwellings are in danger.

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