

HEADQUARTERS (REPUBLICAN STATE) COMMITTEE, HARRISBURG, Feb. 1, 1876.)
 In pursuance of a resolution of the Republican State Committee, adopted at a meeting held in Harrisburg this day, a Republican State Convention, to be composed of delegates from each Senatorial and Representative district, to the number to which such district is entitled in the Legislature, is hereby called to meet in the city of Harrisburg, at twelve o'clock, noon, on Wednesday, March 29, 1876, for the purpose of nominating an Electoral ticket and of electing Senatorial and Representative delegates to represent the State in the Republican National Convention, to be held at Cincinnati, on the 14th day of June, 1876.

By order of the Committee, HENRY M. HOYT, Chairman, A. WILSON NORRIS, Secretary.

—Wm. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, heretofore held in high esteem by the people generally has fallen, and is to-day a self-confessed criminal. The facts in the case are about these: In 1870 the post tradership at Fort Sill, Indian Tl., was about to become vacant. The wife of Secretary Belknap proposed to Caleb P. Marsh, a friend of the family, that he apply for the position, which he did. Belknap tells him that Evans, the present trader at the post, was an applicant for re-appointment, and that he (Marsh) had better see him, as it would be unjust to appoint another without his knowledge,—as he would incur a great loss on his merchandise and buildings, —and arrange for a purchase of the property. Evans proposed to retain the appointment and to pay Marsh a bonus of \$12,000 per year on the business, which was agreed to; the bonus was paid quarterly. The first installment was paid to Marsh in Nov., 1870, who forwarded one-half thereof to Mrs. Belknap, as a "present" for her influence in the matter. After the death of Mrs. Belknap, which occurred soon after this, the money was sent to the Secretary who has continued to receive it until the present time, amounting in all to about \$20,000.

The Committee of the House appointed for that purpose has impeached Belknap at the bar of the Senate; the latter body ordered the appointment of a committee of five to take order in the premises.
 President Grant has also asked the Attorney General to take immediate steps to proceed with criminal charges against General Belknap, C. P. Marsh, and all others shown by any evidence of complicity in the above transactions.

Our Washington Letter.
 Special to the REPUBLICAN.
 WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 4, 76.
 The democrats have once more put Mr. Bon Hill to the front. This time it was to say that secession did not originate at the south, but had its beginning at the Hartford convention during the war of 1812. Mr. Hill, in his remarks, showed himself to be very ignorant of the history of that convention or utterly reckless of the truth. Mr. Hoar of Massachusetts very properly and promptly rebuked Mr. Hill and his confederate associates. He said "He was tired of being lectured by men who a few years ago were engaged in an effort to destroy their country, and who now being in Congress by the grace of the men who had remained loyal and saved the country, were lecturing them upon the manner of administering the affairs. He thought a little more modesty in department would seem well from men who were so lately rebels." Sam Cox got a share of Mr. Hoar's scolding, for the manner in which he spoke to Mr. Blaine during the amnesty debate. Of course Sammie was on his feet, and the Speaker always recognizes him; responded with some of his feeble efforts at wit, but even the democrats are tiring of his continual "Jack in the box" like jumping up and down and abortive attempts to say something smart.

Two days during the week the house has adjourned before two o'clock, and this at the end of three months of the session, because the committees have not the bills ready to report, and there is no business ready. Such a state of affairs has never been seen before, and it is to be hoped never will be again. Not one of the principal appropriation bills has yet been reported. The economists spent two days in refusing to allow any money for the band at West Point. The band costs \$12,000, and each day's

session costs \$12,000, so the tax-payers can see how much the reformers are saving to them. The opinion is prevalent among well informed circles, that the delay in reporting the appropriation bills is part of a political scheme. They are to be held back to so late a day as to force the Senate to concur in every mad attempt that is made to reduce the expenditures, and also to prevent the consideration of any financial measures. The leading democrats hold that discussion of the finance question can only injure them, and are using every effort to stave it off. All hope has departed of agreement upon any measure that will unite the party, and the effort is now being made to ignore finances altogether, not only in Congress, but in the National Convention. This the leaders say will enable them to battle for hard money in some States, and for soft money in others, with a hope of success, when if the platform or Congress decides in favor of either, the loss of one or the other is certain. This is very convenient and as the only principle upon which all the members unite, is success, this plan may be adopted. Senator Alcorn on Wednesday made a most eloquent speech in favor of the admission of Pinchback. The action of the Louisiana legislature in impeaching Kellogg and violating the Wheeler compromise has helped Pinchback and he will probably be seated.

The grand sensation of this year was reached when on Thursday the charges against Belknap were made public. The democrats are rejoicing over having discovered a republican official in such high place, guilty of corruption. The republicans are naturally indignant and horrified at the baseness of a man who has been so highly honored, having betrayed the trust committed to his care, and the confidence of his too confiding friend President Grant. The universal demand is that the sternest justice be meted out to the miscreant who not only violated public trust but like a coward allowed the odium to rest on a dead and living wife instead of boldly assuming it, and then doing the only decent thing left for him to do, by blowing out his brains. It is said that even worse acts than selling post traderships, will be found against Belknap. Very few men have had so great a fall as has the ex-Secretary. He stood high even in democrats' estimation and the discovery of his turpitude is a shock to the moral sense of the nation. It is difficult to compute the damage done by such actions. I mean to the general public. They destroy confidence to such an extent that we can not tell whom to trust. As for the political effect, that will amount to nothing. The Republican party is no more responsible for the misdeeds of a Belknap, than the democrats of New York are for those of Tweed. Several names are mentioned as the probable successors of Belknap and the President is consulting with his friends on the subject. As nothing reliable is known I shall not trouble you with conjectures.

The friends of the various candidates for Presidential nominations are working steadily. It would seem that of all the republicans Mr. Blaine is either the most popular, or his friends are the best workers, for his name is kept most prominently in the front. I shall venture no assertions as to who will be successful, for among so many good names it is difficult to choose the best. The democrats have added a new name to their list. That of Colonel James O. Broadhead of St. Louis. He was a war democrat and a great friend of President Lincoln's.

When Greek Meets Greek.
 The Washington Republican of Feb. 10th has the following: The Blood mentioned is Kennedy L. Blood, of Brookville, who, by the intercession of Mr. Jenks, got a position under Fitzhugh: "People who frequent the Capitol and mingle much with the employees there have lately become in the habit of calling Fitzhugh's subordinates the "Happy Family." It is a happy one. So full of harmony, so rich in the feelings of fraternal concord, so beaming with the radiance of good will that it is a wonder some stranger does not mistake them for a section-piece of eternal bliss. Yesterday it was Blood, of folding-room, who displayed the beautiful qualities of his disciplined spirit. Blood slings paste now, but years ago he was wearing the towering dignity of a State Senator, and he was not come down enough to fill his present position with that modesty of deportment which we all so much like to see. By some mysterious clashing of the bad and wicked qualities in human nature Blood and Fitzhugh met in personal strife. Blood had been a Northern rebel ever since the name was born, and although he has fluctuated between one party and the other, at heart he is a rebel still. Fitzhugh ordered Blood to perform some duty. Blood was once a Senator, Fitzhugh

never was. It was not compatible with his slumbering dignity to be commanded and ordered about. He rebelled. He climbed upon his ear and shook his fist in the face of his superior. Then Fitzhugh flung his flipper back. The ball was now aimed. It was growing warm. Blood cried for blood, and Fitzhugh said he was blooded, and asked him to come and get it. "You can't command me, you scesah blatherkite," cried the ex-Senator of the paste-pot persuasion; "you can't bound me around like a slave you whistle-headed Confederate cockney, you." There was something so weighty about this expression that it impressed Fitzhugh with the necessity of amending it by modifying the end of Blood's nose. But this resolution was broken by a motion on the part of Blood to put a double "clear" on the physiognomy of the doorkeeper for the purpose of scratching out all the "eyes" and "noes" on the premises. There was an objection, however, on the part of Captain Jenks, who demurred to the proceedings, and took Blood away from the scene of strife, thus saving, perhaps, several useless lives.

It may be well enough to state that Kennedy immediately packed his toolbox and started for home, where he has been ever since, talking Republicanism. We rather admire his pluck.

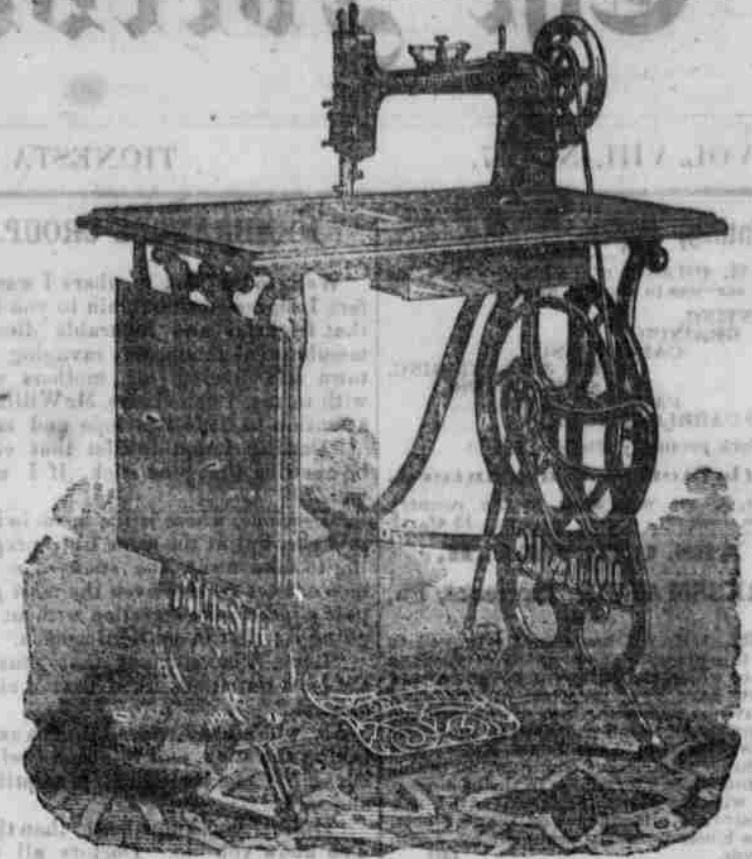
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