

# The Democrat

Bloomsburg, May 9, 1857.

LEVI L. TATE, EDITOR.

Democratic State Nominations.

FOR GOVERNOR.

GEN. W. M. F. PACKER,

Of Lycoming County.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER.

NIMROD STRICKLAND,

Of Chester county.

## Reassembling of the State Democratic Convention of 1857.

In pursuance of a resolution adopted by the Democratic State Committee of Pennsylvania, the Delegates to the State Convention of March 2d, 1857, are requested to assemble at the Capitol, at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, the 9th day of June, 1857, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of nominating Candidates to complete the State Ticket, and transacting all other business pertaining to the original authority of the Convention.

CHARLES R. BUCKALEW.

Chairman.

J. N. HUTCHINSON, Secretary.

R. J. HALDEMAN, Secretary.

Should the Main Line pass into the hands of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company what will become of the numerous forwarding establishments from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh? They will necessarily be "crushed out," for it will be idle for individual enterprise to attempt a competition with that overgrown monopoly, whose forwarding houses will, in a very short time, be erected at every available point from one end of the line to the other.—

Not so, but that company will also erect their own hotels at all the principal points, and thus monopolize the whole trade and business to the exclusion of everybody else. And in addition to all this, they will, in a few years, be able to control, not only the politics of the State, but also its legislation to their own benefit and behoof.—

It will, in short, be establishing an *empire in imperio*, a sovereignty within a sovereignty, which will soon be too strong for the people, and bind the great State of Pennsylvania with adamantine chains which never can be broken.

## Mr. Collector Baker.

COL. J. B. BAKER, the newly appointed Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, who has been lying sick of the National Hotel disease, for several weeks at the Gap, in Lancaster county, has so far recovered as to be pronounced by his attending Physician, comparatively out of danger. It is believed that not less than seven hundred persons have been seriously and dangerously affected by the National Hotel poison at Washington; and some thirty or forty deaths have occurred in consequence.—

Among others, Hon. ROBERT J. WALKER is not entirely recovered from his severe attack. Senator HALE, of New Hampshire, has become a thin, lean man, under his ravages. It is now the opinion of many persons that there was a deliberate purpose to poison Mr. BUCHANAN; and that the diabolical scoundrel hazarded the lives of the following particulars:

## TRIAL OF MCKIM.

A correspondent from Hollidaysburg, where the trial of McKim for the wilful and deliberate murder of Samuel T. Norcross, is taken place, after giving an account of the commencement of the case, furnishes the following particulars:

Valentine Diller testified to the finding of the body, its removal to Altoona, and the blood found on various parts of the track he identified all the articles except the coat. His cross-examination elicited nothing worthy of note.

John McCharters sworn—Kept the Eagle Hotel in Pittsburgh; identified Fox Lake Bank bill as one he had given in change to a man named Norcross in payment of his bill. [Hotel register of the Eagle Hotel produced.] Norcross came to my house on the 14th, had his name registered, and, also, as he said, that of his friend, David McKinney, of Philadelphia; saw Norcross in company frequently; when former paid the bill, saw a twenty dollar gold piece in his possession, and other money.

Samuel M Masters, clerk of the Hotel, testified to first seeing Norcross and defendant at the hotel in the morning, after coming out from breakfast. That McKim leaned over the counter and told him, confidentially, that he had great trouble with Norcross; that he was subject to fits, and at times it would take two or three men to hold him; that the night previous he, Norcross, had slipped out of bed, and awoke him—the defendant—by attempting to beat his brains out against the wall.—

Witness was further informed by defendant that he was taking Norcross from the West to his friends in the East, and that he had great trouble with him, as he made every endeavor to commit suicide while laboring under one of those fits.

The circumstantial evidence that will be brought to bear against McKim, may be summed up as follows: His departure from Dunleith with Norcross—apparently having charge of him at the Eagle Hotel, in Pittsburgh, and the story he told the landlord about Norcross' insanity; the departure from the hotel in company; the testimony of a railroad employee of seeing two men get off the train at Altoona, and go up the track on the morning of the murder; the non-appearance of McKim in Philadelphia to claim his baggage; his subsequent appearance in Pittsville with two lewd women; his reckless squandering of money, and subsequent disappearance when suspicion was aroused.

The notes of the New Castle Bank are now selling at \$0 a day, on the dollar, and the *Laurence Journal* is of opinion that they will soon be at par.

We give elsewhere, in this paper, a lengthy report of the *McKin Trial*, but on going to Press, are unable to announce the result.

Col. W. M. F. SMALL, who has been confined, during the last year, in the Moymensing Prison, for contempt of Court, was last Tuesday released by an Act of Assembly.

Col. J. M. B. PETTSKIN, the Member of the Legislature from Lycoming, is dangerously ill at Harrisburg.

## Proceedings of Court.

Notwithstanding the storm, there was quite a turn out to court on Monday morning last.

At the usual hour, Court met. Present Hon. Warren J. Woodward and Associates; Isaac Dewitt, Esq., of Greenwood, was appointed foreman of the Grand Jury.

Moses Gummer was indicted for the larceny of a gun from Mr. Clark, in Cattswiss township. It was proved that the property was found in his possession. A plea of Not Guilty had been entered, but after hearing the evidence on the part of the prosecution, a plea of Guilty was substituted. Sentence deferred. Little for Com., Wirt and Stewart for Def.

After the District Attorney had concluded his opening remarks, the first witness, John Callahan, was called.

John Callahan sworn—I live in Logan township, two and a half miles above Altoona; on the morning of the 16th of January last, as I was going to work about seven o'clock, when I got into this cut, I saw a man in the ditch on his knees; he was on his two knees, wavering back and forward with his back to Altoona; before I reached him I thought it might be our watchman, when I got close I found his cap off his head; it was a kind of skin cap; he was uttering some words, but I do not know what he meant to say; I saw, as he was raising his head, the cur across his throat; I passed but few remarks; it was a pretty large cut, pretty near clear around the throat; under his ear, about his jaw there were cuts, but I do not know whether one or two; I did not remark which side of the head they were on; Mr. McKenna and his men informed of what I had seen, and my foreman and his men came up; a locomotive came along, and we took the body to Altoona, and a party of us remained at the scene; one of them found a razor and a club, upon the ground; after the razor was found they wanted me to go to Altoona and take the razor; I did so, and gave it to some one; there was a travelling bag found also upon the ground; it looked like a fiddle with a green cover on it; I do not know what else was found. [The razor found by Norcross' body was shown witness, and he remarked that it looked like the one he had seen.] The club, a stick about two inches in thickness and four feet in length, the witness also thought was the same. The carpet bag and fiddle bag, to the best of his opinion, he thought the same; also a shawl that had been around Norcross.

Cross-examined.—No one went with me to Altoona with the razor. It was between one and two hours after I saw the body that the razor was found. I cannot say that is the club.

CHARLOTTE MCKENNA, sworn.—In January last I was staying at the house of Miss Susan Emmons, No. 1 Walnut street, and I saw the prisoner there on either the 21st or 22d—he came there on Thursday noon—I heard Miss Emmons call him Bragg—he left there on Monday morning next, and I saw him at different times before—I asked him if he wouldn't go to Pottsville—he said he'd put us to house-keeping, and I expected of course a private house—we went first to the Pottsville House, and put up—we bought furniture from Mr. Kline, household furniture—the furniture was taken to Mr. Womelad's house, in Callowhill street—Bragg was the manager—he remained with us a week, and then said he was going to Philadelphia to return in a day or two—I next saw him here recently—he had given Miss Nagle, money on the morrow that he left, and we never saw him afterward—we had everything in the house that we wanted to eat—there was no peculiarity about his habits—he never made any lascivious approaches to me.

IN THE BLOOMSBURG JAIL.

Samuel Mano, sworn—I next saw him at Bloomsburg, Columbia county—a day or two days after he was taken there—I recognized him, and after three or four questions, he said that he did recollect having stepped with the party at my house—"I am," said he, "an innocent man"—he told me then that he had got his friends to know where he was, it was all right—I asked him what made him leave Pottsville so mysteriously—he said he did not feel disposed to answer—I told him I did not come to ask any questions to convict him, only to recognize him—he said he thought that if he had the money for the furniture it would do him good—he said he had walked away from Pottsville, he told me that he had not been in a railroad car from the time that he arrived at Pottsville—he said he had travelled with Norcross—I do not know whether he was before or after saying that I did not come to convict him that I asked him the previous question—I have held out no inducements to him further than I have stated—he told me he had left Norcross in company with a man, named Robison—I asked him why he had kept the checks about him, and he said "What checks?"—he asked me who told me that he had checks—I told him them who had seen them—he colored up in the face at the time—I started to go away, and he called me back, saying that he wanted to ask me something in private, and asked me if I knew what had become of the women who were at Pottsville—I told him they had gone to Philadelphia.

Doubt at an End.

THE DECISION OF THE PEOPLE.

It is one of the noblest characteristics of an era that the people think and judge for themselves. The mental training received at our Common Schools and Free Academies, fit them for this task. They are taught to investigate, to analyze, to take

dignity in Chester. He was attired in a neat black suit, and looked very well.

The prisoner has engaged Messrs. Hufnagel, Banks and Jolly to defend him.—These men will do their best for their client, Mr. Hammond, the District Attorney, will be assisted in the prosecution by W. A. Stokes, Esq.

The atrocity of the crime invested the trial with great interest, and many lawyers and others from neighboring towns are in the place.

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about a quarter of an hour, he called for brandy, but did not get up stairs; I saw him again at eight o'clock in the evening; he made himself known to me by saying that he had known me when quite a child; he staid all night and went up stairs with me and remained until morning; I had conversation with him; he told me that he had been engaged in keeping a house of ill-fame in Philadelphia, and that his wife had been dead about fourteen months; he said that he lived in Philadelphia, in Tenth, above Poplar; this house in Reading was the same kind that he said he had kept in Philadelphia; he staid at the house until afternoon, and then went out and bought this watch and chain and a pair of ear-rings, (watch and chain identified;) he returned before dark with these articles, and made a present of them—I never saw the man in my life before until the day of this occurrence—he told me that he had plenty of money, and I never should want for anything—he proposed to take care of me, as I was in bad health, and that after I got well he would take me out West to my people—he proposed to marry me, and I wouldn't do it, for I thought that I would like to get a little better acquainted—he stayed in the house all night again, in the same room, and the next morning I think that he left at an early hour—that same day, at 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon, he called—the presents were made on Friday, but the interview just named he said he wanted to take myself and Charlotte here, anywhere, and she said to Pottsville—this proposal came first from the prisoner, but he did not say what he wanted with us—the next day, (Sunday,) at 4 o'clock, he sent for Charlotte McKenzie and myself to go sleigh riding—we went, and McKim and Charlotte talked about getting ready to g' away next morning.

CROSS-EXAMINED.—I do not know whether it is customary for people of that character to take false names or not—I never did so—I cannot read much, and do not know figures, but I know a five dollar note, and that's all—the Sheriff got the watch—I don't feel at all disappointed that McKim did not carry out his promises—I would rather he had not done it, but I think that he treated me badly.

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