Franklin Repository.

Wednesday, August 23, 1865.

UNION STATE TICKET.

FOR AUDITOR GENERAL,
GEN. JOHN F. HARTRANFT, of Montgomery

FOR SURVEYOR GENERAL,
COL. JACOB M. CAMPBELL, of Cambria.

UNION COUNTY TICKET.

FOR ASSEMBLY,
COL. F. S. STUMBAUGH, Chambersburg.

FOR SHERIFF,
CAPT. JOHN DŒBLER, Chambersburg.

FOR TREASURER,
MAJ. JOHN HASSLER, St. Thomas.

FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
COL. D. WATSON ROWE, Antrim.

FOR SURVEYOR,
EMANUEL KUHN, Chambersburg.

FOR COMMISSIONER,
DANIEL SKINNER, Fannett.

FOR DIRECTOR OF THE POOR,
JAMES H. CLAYTON, Washington.

FOR AUDITOR,
SAMUEL W. NEVIN, Southampton.

FOR CORONER,
DR. CHARLES T. MACLAY, Greg.

THE declaration of principles by the Union State Convention is the key to the successful solution of the perplexing problem presented in the government of the subjugated rebel States. It is plain, pointed, and practical; recognizing the principle that magnanimity fitly emblems alike the power and the policy of a great government, but terrible in its retribution upon the unrepentant as it is generous in accepting the sincere offerings of the victims of treason.

The resolutions will commend themselves to the intelligent patriot by the candor with which they grapple with the grave issues presented by a subdued but still treacherous people in the revolted States; and the remedy presented, harsh as it may be adjudged by those who have ever sympathized with traitors, falls short of the measure of justice to those who have made wanton, wicked war: who have shadowed the land with mourning and staggered a loyal people with debt. The voice of the loyal men of Pennsylvania goes forth declaring to the world, to present and future traitors, that treason shall make men strangers to their country, aliens to their homes, and that loyal sorrows shall be solaced by a just government, by increased pensions to the stricken and bereaved: by restitution to those whose homes have been desolated, and by the reduction of our enormous debt. When treason shall pay the just penalty of its own crime by the confiscation of the wealth wielded in murderous war upon the noblest and best of governments, the future will have no new traitors in store for the Republic, to demand rivers of blood and untold treasure as its sacrifice.

The grave charges made against the Democratic party are but a vindication of the truth of history, and the demand for a Protective tariff is but a recognition of the imperative wants of our languishing manufactures.

THE UNION CANDIDATES.

The Union State Convention, which met at Harrisburg on Thursday last, did a good day's work for the State and the Nation. It presented for the suffrages of the loyal people of Pennsylvania two of her noblest heroes, who have braved treason on the sanguinary field from its first deadly assault upon the government in 1861, until it yielded to discomfiture in 1865: and the faithful voters of the State will rally to their standard with an earnestness and zeal which cannot fail to command success.

Maj. Gen. John F. Hartranft, the nominee for Auditor General, is a native of Montgomery county. He graduated at Union College, New York, in 1853, and commenced life as a civil engineer. Subsequently he studied law and was engaged in the practice of his profession in Norristown when the war broke out in 1861. He raised the 4th regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers for the three months' service, and commanded it until the first day of the first Bull Run battle, when his regiment left the field because of the expiration of its term of service. Col. Hartranft refused to retire with his command, and volunteered to serve on Gen. Franklin's staff, in which capacity he acted, during the disastrous engagement and retreat, with matchless heroism. Immediately after M'Dowell's defeat, he raised a new regiment, the 51st, and joined the Army of the Potomac. He was assigned to Gen. Burnside, and served with him in his brilliant North Carolina campaign. After M'Clellan's retreat on the Peninsula, he rejoined the Army of the Potomac, and shared the bloody struggles of that army at the second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, when he was transferred with Burnside to Tennessee. In the successful resistance of the siege of Knoxville, Gen. Burnside acknowledged himself greatly indebted to the engineering of Col. Hartranft. In January, 1864, his regiment re-enlisted for three years, and he was again transferred with Gen. Burnside to the Army of the Potomac, where Gen. Grant assigned him the command of a brigade in the 3d division of his corps. He participated in all the battles from the Rapidan to the James in 1864, and was commissioned Brigadier General, to rank from May 12th, 1864, for gallant services from the Wilderness to Hatcher's Run. Early in April last the rebels assaulted and captured Fort Steadman, one of Gen. Grant's outer defences, and to Gen. Hartranft was assigned the duty of re-capturing the lost position. How nobly he did it is familiar to all, and he was breveted Major General for his heroism and skill as a commander. He was one of the few volunteer officers retained in the service when the army was disbanded, and when nominated on Thursday last he was on his way to Tennessee to assume the duties of his new command. Gen. Hartranft acted with the Democratic party until it arrayed itself against the cause of his imperiled country; but in 1863, when home on sick leave, he manfully espoused the Union cause, and gave his vote and influence to strengthen the principles for which he had drawn his sword. His county and immediate section were largely Democratic, and had he heeded the whispers of ambition he would have remained with his old political friends, with whom he was a favorite; but too honest to sustain those who were in sympathy with the murderous enemies of the government, he declared himself in favor of Gov. Curtin's re-election, and has since given his vote and influence in support of the Union party. He is just in the prime of life—hardly thirty-five, intelligent, energetic and of spotless integrity, and he is just the man to entrust with the responsible duties for which he has been nominated.

Col. Jacob M. Campbell, of Cambria, the nominee for Surveyor General, is also a gallant and battle-scarred soldier. Immediately after the battle of Bull Run in 1861, he raised the 54th Regiment, and joined the Army of the Potomac, where he and his command served with unfaltering heroism in nearly if not quite all the terrible battles against Lee. He is a devoted Union man, in principle as in practice, and was the Union candidate for Senator in Cambria county this fall. He is a gentleman of the highest character, of eminent qualifications for the position, and will command a large vote in his immediate section of the State.

—Loyal voters of Pennsylvania! such is the ticket presented for your suffrages. It is hated by the faithless and will be unscrupulously opposed by every man who still cherishes a lingering sympathy with discomfited treason; but the loyal hearts of the State have but to rally around their flag and give to their holy cause that fidelity it merits at their hands, and Hartranft and Campbell will be triumphantly elected with a Union legislature.

PROGRESS OF RECONSTRUCTION.

Our "erring brethren" and "wayward sisters" of the rebel States seem to take to the work of reconstruction something after the manner that the spider takes to the fly. They are willing to take the oath of allegiance, to resume possession of their property forfeited by their treason, to vote at elections, and to be obedient to the constitution and the laws as they understand them, or rather as they would make them if they had the power. That at the recent election in Norfolk they rallied to the standard of one of Lee's officers, elected him chief magistrate of the city, and smashed in a few heads of those who happened to differ with them by way of showing their regard for the laws and their respect for such men as had been devoted to the Union from the beginning of the rebellion. The city of Norfolk was thus re-constructed after the most approved style, and may now be considered in the Union and a law-abiding establishment. True, any man who was not heartily in sympathy with the rebels during the war is safe there only when in close proximity to a few Union bayonets; but the "erring brethren" have that way with them and those who have not been so fortunate as to err, must accept the consequences.

Another effort at re-construction was had recently in Richmond, where a clean-limbed rebel ticket was chosen from Mayor down, and the re-constructed local government would have been promptly under way but for the arbitrary exercise of military power, which so disregarded the rights of unrepentant traitors as to squelch the whole election with its victorious champions. Although all voters had taken the oath of allegiance, solemly swearing to maintain the constitution and the laws of the United States, they openly, defiantly, advocated and elected men, solely because of their notorious hostility to the government and their presumed readness to resist the national authority in every conceivable manner that does not lead straight way to hemp and a trap-door. But the arbitrary military power of the government struck out with its despotic arm and suppressed the perspiring voters and their full-fledged traitors who had boasted of their restoration to civil power, whereupon the whole army of coppery sore-heads of the North mourn the cruel fate of their sympathizing brethern of Richmond, and vigorously denounce the Administration for not allowing blood-stained traitors to re-inaugurate lawlessness and chaos in the already desolated Old Dominion. It is sad, indeed, that the shadows of Libby with its chilly, dreary dungeons, and Belle Island, with its unnumbered graves of martyred Union prisoners, must pass from the authority of traitors; but a loyal people have so decreed it, and such must be the record of history.

We know not where this system of reconstruction would end did not the administration demand some test of fidelity to the Union on the part of those who may be chosen to administer the laws in the subjugated States. In all probability Hangman Wise or thieving Billy Smith would be recalled to the gubernatorial chair. Gen Lee and Gen. Early, the hero who ordered the burning of Chambersburg, would doubtless be chosen United States Senators. The, guerrilla Moseby with Capt. Dick Turner, the famous keeper of Libby, and others of like heroism would be elected to the popular branch of Congress, and the lesser lights of treason could fill in as members of the Legislature, local Judges, Justices of the Peace, &c. Such a re-constructed government in the Old Dominion would have the merit of harmony in all its departments, and it would be uniform and consistent in its great aim to overthrow the Republic and make Virginia uninhabitable for Union men. This farce must stop sometime, and we think that the sooner the better. It is time that traitors should be made to understand that loyalty is one essential qualification in every State of the Union for any official trust, and if they will not learn it one way, they must learn it another. If they will elect only blood-stained, defiant rebels to important civil positions, they will hasten a solution of the great problem of reconstruction by subjecting the rebellious States to absolute military rule and the treatment of mere provinces of the United States.

WE are compelled to defer until next week an interesting Richmond letter from "Frater."

THE HORRORS OF ANDERSONVILLE.

We have before us a list issued by Surgeon Gen. Phillips of the brave sons of Pennsylvania who perished under the barbarous rebel treatment of prisoners at Andersonville. It is doubtless incomplete, as no official record was kept by the rebel authorities; but imperfect as it is we have a list of nearly two thousand of our heroic volunteers who were there doomed to worse than a thousand deaths by the studied inhumanity of the rebel officers. The entire list of victims at that one point numbers nearly twenty thousand and fully twenty-five hundred of them were our fathers, sons and brothers of Pennsylvania.

This damning record can not be justified or even paliated by any plea of necessity or retaliation. The rebel prisoners in our hands had plenty and to spare of wholesome, palitable food, and in many instances they saved from their rations sufficent money to purchase the luxuries of the market. There could, therefore, be no pretext of retaliation to shadow the monstrous barbarity of the rebel government in starving our unfortunate prisoners. Nor can they plead want of supplies. There were sections of the rebel States in which provisions were scarce, and their transportation was very imperfect; but there was no time during the war when they could not have found scores of places, safe from incursions by our armies, at which an abundance of wholesome food could have been procured. This fact was clearly established by the marches of Sherman, Stoneman, Wilson and others through the South with large armies, all of which subsisted themselves on the country most abundantly.

The unmingled atrocities practiced upon our prisoners, by which they were doomed to lingering and loathesome diseases and ultimate death, were the result of a studied, deliberate purpose of the Davis government. It was adopted as a part of their system of warfare. It was as much a part of the plan of exhausting the North into the recognition of their independence as any campaign or battle they ever planned. It was resolved upon to deter men from enlisting in our ranks: to frighten men into desertion: to make the people of the North clamorous for any sort of a peace in order to relieve their suffering and dying friends in rebel prisons, and to give the base treachery in the loyal States a pretext for misrepresenting and assailing the government. The sequal was the unfaltering fidelity of the loyal States; the brutal, barbarous murder of over twenty thousand prisoners and the utter overthrow of the monsters of inhumanity who inaugurated the horrors of Andersonville.

—Just now, as we are gathering up the records of the graves of our murdered heroes, the chief author of this revolting chapter in our history—this crowning crime of all treason's crimsoned crimes is a prisoner of State at Fortress Monroe, awaiting his trial for his countless wrongs against the most beneficent of Nations and the most faithful of people. We hear from sympathizing journals and orators of the Democratic faith that he is inhumanly confined; that he is deprived of intercourse with his family; that he is denied books, exercise and the luxuries of life; but from none of these do we hear the story of horrors that makes Andersonville and rebel inhumanity the most blistering record of modern history. The architect of this horrible hecatomb is Jefferson Davis, late President of the Confederate usurpation, and every dictate of justice to the martyred dead and of mercy to the living, demands that he shall answer at the bar of a competent tribunal for this nameless crime. If he is guilty, as all evidence seems clearly to demonstrate, he should die as the great monster of his race. We insist that he shall be thus impartially, patiently tried, before a tribunal that will command the confidence of the Nation and of the world, and if convicted, he should die as the only atonement he can make to mankind for the infamy in which "none but himself can be his parallel!"

HON. JOHN CESSNA, of Bedford, was temporary chairman of the Union State Convention, and was complimented by a unanimous election to the responsible position of Chairman of the State Committee. His speech delivered on taking the chair—which we give elsewhere in to-day's paper—is a most cogent, fearless and patriotic declaration of the true principles to be accepted and enforced in dealing with treason, and the Convention cordially reaffirmed his sentiments in the platform presented to the people of the State.

We congratulate the loyal cause on the selection of Mr. Cessna as Chairman of the Union State Committee. He will bring to the grave and delicate duties assigned him the clearest sagacity, tireless energy and unfaltering fidelity; and under his lead we cannot fail to attain that completeness of organization that must bring decisive success. He will not follow the sinuosities of imbecile ambition and then charge disaster upon others; but he will faithfully fight it out on the line adopted by the Convention, and attain success by eminently deserving it. He brings with him to his new position no spirit of faction—he has no friends to reward no enemies to punish, and he will be cordially supported by the entire loyal sentiment of the State.

IN April last, the Union garrison of Fort Steadman in an hour of supineness, was surprised and their work captured by the enemy. Gen. Grant, appreciating the qualities of the young commander, assigned to Gen. Hartranft the duty of recapturing the lost position. The sun went down shining on the stars and stripes waving over the re-captured fortification. In 1862 in the deep gloom and discouragement which shadowed loyal hearts, the faithless in Pennsylvania, the men who declared the war a failure, and denied the right to meet treason with the sword, surprised the Union party and filled the positions of Auditor General and Surveyor General with enemies of the government. The Union men have resolved that those positions shall be retaken, and to Gen. Hartranft has been assigned the task of leading the assaulting column. Will the man who faltered not before the fiery hail of Fort Steadman falter before the people of a loyal State? If any one doubts it, let him wait for the ides of October!

THE grand jury of Franklin county last week returned true bills to the Court against the late rebel officers General McCausland, Maj. Gilmore and Capt. Smith, for arson, and we learn that others are pending for high-way robbery, against Smith and Gilmore, and for robbery and murder against McCausland. Requisitions have been issued by Gov. Curtin upon Gov. Boreman of West Virginia for the rendition of McCausland, and upon Gov. Pierpont for the rendition of Smith. It is probable that the late rebel Gen. Jubal E. Early will also be indicted for murder, arson and high-way robbery, as his order was shown in Chambersburg directing the free-booter's tribute to be levied, and, in default of payment, the burning of the town. The leading thieves and vandals who rioted in Chambersburg on the 30th of July, 1864, will soon be brought in the midst of the desolation they wrought to answer the demands of justice, or they must be perpetual fugitives from home and country until death shall sheild them from the retribution of man.

HON. JOHN A. HEISTAND, of the Lancaster *Examiner*, deserved a better fate than to poll 38 votes for Auditor General. As he was hopelessly crippled before the war began he could not fight the battles of the Republic; but there are few men who fought the great battle of the soldier and the government with equal zeal, ability and fidelity at home. Wait till Gen. Hartranft re-captures the Auditor General's department, as he did Steadman, and the "good time coming" may be at hand for those who have proven that "peace hath her victories more renowned than war." About that time Jack will come in if he likes.

THE Union men of Franklin county have nominated tried and faithful soldiers for every position of profit within the gift of the people, and the State Convention has awarded its honors to sons of Pennsylvania who have engraved their names on the scroll of fame in the carnage of the field. How many such will the Democracy present as candidates? Can the *Spirit guess?*

THE Atlantic cable is a failure for the present. The cable parted near mid-ocean, in two miles depth of water, and after several fruitless attempts to recover it, the Great Eastern returned to England. We are not advised whether another attempt will be made to recover and lay the cable this fall, but we presume not.

THE first substantial victory of the Union army in 1865, was won by Gen. Hartranft before Petersburg. The next Union victory will be won by the same heroic commander at the polls in October next. Steady, "yets!" Pennsylvania will not be faithless to her heroes!

FREDERICK WATTS, Esq., President of the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania, has called the attention of county societies and others concerned to the importance of being represented at the annual meeting and election for officers of the College, to be held on the first Wednesday of September. Each county society is entitled to send three delegates. The object desired at this time is to secure the benefit of the grant of public lands assigned to this institution by the State Legislature. Other schools, not agricultural in their character, are now making efforts to secure these lands for their own purposes. Those who desire to see the lands and their proceeds devoted to the improvement of agriculture, as was the object of the grant by Congress, should attend to the matter at once.

THE National Teachers, Association assembled in Harrisburg last week. About five hundred delegates, including representatives from all the loyal States and Canada, were present. Governor Curtin welcomed the delegates to the capital of Pennsylvania. Governor Bradford, of Maryland, also briefly addressed the convention. Major General Geary was invited to a seat upon the President's platform, and was received with demonstrations of applause. At the afternoon session some valuable addresses were read. Rev. Dr. Hill, President of Harvard University, sent a letter which was highly complimentary to Pennsylvania and to the Union League of Philadelphia, *for their efforts during the rebellion.*

PHILADELPHIA.

Homeward—The Kelley-Cameron Affair—City Politics—A Racy Development—Dramatic Affairs—The Colored People.

Correspondence of the Franklin Repository.

PHILADELPHIA, August 21, 1865.

Homeward from the shores and mountains, where they have been rusticating during the "dog days," are coming the dense crowds of citified humanity, and our streets are once more becoming crowded and our business places thronged. This return, in conjunction with the political excitement now raging in our midst, combines to give our city its old busy look, and we may consider the dullness of summer as past, and the activity of autumn as begun.

The editorial in last week's REPOSITORY, on "Philadelphia Politics," was re-produced in the *Inquirer* of Friday, and has created a great deal of comment in political circles. Post Master Walborn and his satelites received it with unqualified disgust, while reasoning men on both sides of politics, applauded it as a calm and impartial view of the Kelley-Cameron controversy. Combined with Kelley's letter and Cameron's crushing defeat in the State Convention last week, it has considerably depressed the spirits of his adherents. Of the Republican city papers, the *Inquirer*, *Press* and *Bulletin* sustain Judge Kelley, while the *North American* and *Telegraph* are neutral. Wm. D. Kelley has always led the Republican party in Philadelphia, and has with him a *prestige* hard to overcome. Then he is cordially backed up by John W. Forney, the three other Congressmen and the leading newspapers. His letter was the most severe political attack of the decade.

The Democratic City Convention last week nominated Daniel M. Fox for Mayor of Philadelphia. He is a very respectable gentleman, but was overwhelmingly beaten for the same office three years ago, and will share the same fate in October. Ex-Congressman Charles J. Biddle, late Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, is their candidate for City Solicitor. On the Republican side the candidates are Brig. Gen. Joshua T. Owen, (the candidate of the extreme radicals), James Lynd, now President of the Select Council, Morton M'Michael, editor of the *North American*, and Andrew J. Flomerfelt. The first two ask the nomination on a strong negro-suffrage platform, and will be much weakened by the opposition of the combined Post Office and Custom House patronage. The Convention meets on Thursday next. The Democratic nominations for the Legislature and for City Councils are even below their usually poor standard, and if the Union Convention will display a little discretion, their candidates will be almost universally successful. Much enthusiasm has been engendered by the wise action of the State Convention last week, and we will give the Hero of Petersburg a rousing majority in October.

A rich story has just transpired accidently and I send it to you as a laughable instance of political trickery. I quote from a city newspaper:—"For some time past, a lively contest has been going on in Washington for the appointment of assessor of Internal Revenue for the 1st Congressional District of Pennsylvania. The present incumbent is Washington Keith and the opposing candidate was A. B. Sloanaker. The latter has been very active in producing a voluminous mass of testimonials, recommendations and documents of every size, description and character, to aid his case, but thus far without success.

On Monday last he requested permission of Mr. Orton, Commissioner of Internal Revenue to withdraw from his budjet of documents, two telegraphic despatches, purporting to have been sent by the Mayor of Philadelphia to the President urging Sloanaker's speedy appointment to the assessorship. As Mayor Henry had previously written a letter recommending Mr. Keith to be retained, the inconsistency of the two applications from the Mayor excited Mr. Orton's suspicions and before he gave the original despatches to Sloanaker he caused copies to be taken by his private Secretary. These copies were enclosed to Mayor Henry by Mr. Orton with a request to be informed if the original despatches had been sent by him."—The Mayor promptly replied in the negative, assuring the Commissioner that the despatches were forgeries and had never been sent by him. It is needless to say that Sloanaker's aspirations for that position were speedily quenched.

Philadelphia has sadly backslidden from its old Quaker tendencies. It is now one of the greatest centres of theatrical prosperity and everybody goes to the places of amusement. Everybody therefore is on the *qui vive* for the grand opening of the New Walnut St. Theatre on Saturday night next by Edwin Booth and John S. Clarke who have not previously, since the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, taken any part in theatrical affairs. Both however are known here as staunch Republicans and their advent on the stage will be most enthusiastically greeted. They have had their theatre beautifully arranged on the plan of Niblo's Garden, New York, and have gotten up an admirable stock company. Their leading lady is Philadelphia's great favorite, Miss Annie Graham, a young lady of thorough education and refinement, who never fails to delight a Philadelphia audience. Miss Effie Germon, Mr. Barton Hill, Mr E. L. Davenport all well-known actors, in addition to Messrs. Booth and Clarke, will constitute the other attractions. The *Chestnut* is still running Bourcicault's master-piece, the great Irish Sensational drama of *Arrah na Pogue*, which for six weeks has crowded the house to overflowing. The loss of Mr. Baker and Miss Graham will very much weaken this theatre, but Miss Josie Orton, of New York, will supersede Mrs. Kuhn as leading lady, a great improvement.—The Arch St. Theatre opens on Saturday week.—So much for the drama this week.

Our "American citizens of African descent" have effected a thorough organization and with a fund of $40,000 are about to vigorously agitate in favor of the bestowal upon themselves of the right of suffrage. They purpose issuing a series of pamphlets and are now circulating as the first of these documents, the late concert Hall speech of Hon. Wm. D. Kelley. There seems to be a strong feeling in their behalf but the result of their efforts, the future only can reveal. L.

WASHINGTON.

The Rush at the Executive Mansion—Dishonest Claim Agents—The Trial of Capt. Wirtz—More Troops to be Mustered Out—Counterfeit Treasury Notes—Lincoln Hospital Fired.

Correspondence of the Franklin Repository.

WASHINGTON CITY, August 19, 1865.

Some mode must be adopted by the President by which he can make "*flank movements*" on the importunate crowds which are daily making *raids* on him. A visit on any day to the Executive Mansion will satisfy any reasonable person that something should be done, some plan adopted to rid the President of the intolerable nuisance to which he is now subjected. The majority of these besiegers hail from the south—men and women seeking pardon. They wait in the halls, on the step or stairs, inside and outside, not by the dozen but by the hundred—and often packed in such close order as to render the air of the building very obnoxious, almost to suffocation. The strength of the President is being overtaxed, and yet the whole for naught. Nothing can be accomplished in such a crowd except useless hand shaking and introductions. These southerners think otherwise, think they have a right to be heard at once and at once pardoned. They show their old overbearing and haughty spirit. They think they have done nothing offensive to the government for which they should not at once be pardoned, restored to citizenship and their rights to all the property which they ever owned. The President has often to leave them standing alone in the midst of some insolent harangue.

The women, who generally are as numerous as the men—when admitted to an audience stick to the President like wax. Sometimes it is almost impossible to get rid of them without directly giving them a notice to quit.

The President is not dispensing pardons at the present time with that liberality with which he did some time back. No doubt like everybody else—he sees the evil effect which it is producing throughout the South.

The general run of claim agents are a public nuisance. Particularly is this the case in Washington. There are some very respectable honest agents, but the majority are a set of infernal swindling rogues. They lay in wait to wring from the soldier his hard earnings and are constantly on the watch for some claim of a poor old mother, widow or orphan to whom they will cling while a dollar of the claim remains out of their pockets, and then turn them loose without money and the claim gone. There are perhaps five hundred claim agents in this city and out of the whole lot there are not a hundred good honest men. The other four hundred would steal the shroud from their own dead mothers if they had an opportunity. They go round the Departments and pry out claims little and big—and a circular is at once sent the claimant—written in such golden flowery words as to deceive in most cases. Secretary Harlan has adopted a noble and wise course to help check this evil. He has issued an order forbidding any clerk giving any person whatever a statement in regard to any case pending in that Department, unless authorized to do so by himself or the heads of Bureaus. We hope the other Departments will follow Secretary Harlan's plan. Why people at a distance employ agents in Washington to do their business—get through a pension claim, or back pay or bounty, we never could see. There are always persons at home who will do the business for them, persons whom they know and who can from there do the business and get through a claim just as quick as they could if living here. We have been in a position when we daily saw the rascality of these sharks, and know exactly how far they can be trusted. We say to persons at home—trust none of them, choose some one at home to put your pension or bounty papers through. Any respectable person of common education can do it for you just as well and quickly as can the rogues living here.

On Monday the trial of Captain Wirtz the Andersonville *fiend* will commence. Gen. Lew Wallace is president of the Commission and General Holt Judge Advocate. The Commission is composed of able and intelligent officers. We find among the number Gen. Geary, Gen. Mott, Adjutant General L. Thomas, &c. The trial will take place in the room of the court of claims at the capital. It will be very lengthy and the witnesses now here, (more than a hundred) will narrate such scenes of cruelty, suffering and misery as will far surpass anything read of during the dark ages or the days of the inquisition. It is however stated that Captain Wirtz will turn states evidence and show that he only obeyed the orders of his superior officers. It is also said that he will make revelations which will directly implicate Jeff. Davis in issuing the orders under which our soldiers suffered so fearfully at Andersonville and other Southern prisons. Such being the fact, we may look for Davis being arraigned before the same intelligent Commission.

Secretary Stanton has issued orders for the immediate muster out of service 29,000 officers and men from the Middle, Washington, Kentucky, North Carolina and Mississippi Department.

Very dangerous one dollar counterfeit Treasury notes were yesterday detected by the Treasury Department. The defects can only be detected by close investigation and comparison with the genuine notes.

Some person set fire to Lincoln Hospital last night and a large portion of it was consumed. All the patients had been removed from the Hospital. This act shows that bad men, rebels still exist about this city. S. C.

UNION STATE CONVENTION.

The Union State Convention met in Harrisburg on Thursday of last week, and was organized by calling Hon. John Cessna to the chair. The following named delegates took their seats:

SENATORIAL DELEGATES.

1st, Jeremiah Nichols; 2d, Albert C. Roberts; 3d, Mahlon Dickerson; 4th, Thomas Dickinson; 5th, Chas. Kugler, Samuel B. Thomas; 6th, Richard Watson; 7th, Wm. H. Armstrong; 8th, G. W. Alexander Wm. M. Baird; 9th, Chas. W. Taylor; 10th, Wm. Libbey; 11th, E. B. Parsons; 12th, W. W. Ketchum; 13th, Lucius Rodgers; 14th, Jno. B. Linn; 15th, A. R. Fiske; 16th, Jacob G. Heilman; 17th, Thaddeus Stevens, R. W. Shenk; 18th, G. Edward Hersh; 19th P. D. W. Hankey.; 20th, M. Edgar King; 21st, R. H. Duncan, Hays Hamilton, 22d Col. J. M. Campbell; 23d, Henry Souther; 24th, Capt. Wm. B. Coulter; 25th, J. K. Moreheed, Jas. L. Graham; 26th, M. S. Quay; 27th, John M Thompson; 28th J. C. Brown; 29th E. H. Chase.

REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATES.

Philadelphia—Edward Cobb, Benj. Taylor, Kennedy McKaw, Wm. Elliott, Robert P. King, Chas. M. Carpenter, Jno. G. Butler, Jos. Ribblet, Allen A. Pancoast, M. Hall Stanton, John Krickbaum C. M. Hall, Capt. Isaac Creamer, Edward Shellmire, Enoch W. C. Green, James S. Allison, Benj. Swain, Frank S. Johnson.

Adams—David Willis.

Allegheny—R. B. Carnahan, C. W. Batchelor, Benj. Singerly, W. J. Gilmore, J. M. Brush, Wm. Peters.

Armstrong—Jno. L. Leech.

Berks—E. H. Rauch, H. S. Eckert, E. C. Kitchen.

Bucks—George Cunningham, Samuel C. Bradshaw.

Bradford and Sullivan—John Grant and S. W. Alvord.

Blair—Samuel McCamant.

Cambria—R. F. M'Coy.

Carbon and Monroe—Daniel Kalbfus.

Centre—Andrew Gregg.

Clarion and Jefferson—C. Myers.

Clearfield, Elk and Forest—S. B. Row.

Clinton, Cameron and McKean—H. T. Beardsley.

Chester—Wayne McVeagh, Stephen M. Meredith and Robert Park.

Crawford—H. C. Johnson, J. C. Sturdevant.

Columbia and Montour—Richard Stiles.

Cumberland—Lemuel Todd.

Dauphin—Henry Thomas, Col. J. Freeland.

Delaware—John K. Roland.

Erie—Isaac B. Gara, Jno. P. Vincent.

Fayette—G. W. K. Minor.

Green—Augustus Row.

Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata—Col. Wm. Butler, Alex. Port.

Indiana and Westmoreland—James Alexander, Jas. A. Logan and Capt. A. Shall.

Lancaster—George W. Mehaffey, S. W. P. Boyd, Day Wood, Jno. H. Zeller.

Lebanon—C. E. Hoffman.

Lyoming, Union and Snyder—J. B. Montgomery, Chas. H. Shriner, Wm. F. Wagonseller.

Lehigh—Samuel McHose, Jno. Hoffman.

Luzerne—Col. H. M. Hoyt, Oscar Gaines,Ario Pardee, Jr.

Mercer, Lawrence and Butler—Samuel H. Miller, J. H. Robinson, J. W. Blanchard, Chas. M'Candles, E. B. Moore.

Montgomery—George Bullock, W. W. Mintzer.

Northampton—Henry Bloss, Lewis Gordon.

Northumberland—Chas. J. Bruner.

Perry and Franklin—John R. Shuler, T. J. Nill.

Schuylkill—Wm. H. Kurlin, Linn Bartholomew, John R. Porter.

Somerset, Bedford and Fulton—John Cessna, E. K. Haines.

Susquehanna and Wyoming—G. A. Grow, Stephen Dana.

Tioga and Potter—John S. Mann, J. W. Guernsey.

Venango and Warren—Wm. Burgwin.

Washington and Beaver—John Hall, Wm. S. Moore, Jos. Ledlie.

Wayne and Pike—C. F. Rockwell.

York—Stephen Keefer, Alex. Frey.

A committee on organization was then appointed, of which Mr. Carnahan, of Allegheny, was chairman, and a committee on resolutions was appointed, of which Hon. Wayne M'Veagh was chairman. The Convention then adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M. At the appointed hour it re-assembled, and the following permanent officers were chosen:

President—H. C. Johnson.

Vice Presidents—Jeremiah Nichols, Jos. Ribblet, Rob't P. King, John Krickabum, Stephen Meredith, John J. Rowland, Geo. W. Cunningham, Samuel Mc. Hose, E. C. Kitchen, John L. Hammer, C. F. Rockwell, E. B. Parsons, N. W. Ketchum, H. T. Beardsley, W. F. Wagonseller, Charles J. Bruner, Col. Jas. Freeland, Day Wood, John H. Zellers, Lemuel Todd, David Wills, M. Edgar King, Hays Hamilton, R. H. Duncan, James Alexander, Christian Myers, G. W. K. Minor, Benj. Singerly, Wm. Peters, John Hall, John M. Thompson, Wm. H. Burgwin, L. B. Gara.

Secretaries—John R. Shuler, S. H. Miller, John G. Butler, Wm. J. Gilmer, Capt. Wood, Edward H. Roberts, Lewis Rogers, E. H. Rauch, Wm. H. Armstrong.

THE UNION PLATFORM.

The following declaration of principles was reported by Major McVeagh, and unanimously adopted:

The Union Party of Pennsylvania, in State Convention assembled, declare:

1. That as representatives of the loyal people of the Commonwealth we reverently desire to offer our gratitude to Almighty God, whose favor has vouchsafed victory to the national arms, enabled us to eradicate the crime of slavery from our land, and to render treason against the Republic impossible forevermore; and next to Him, our thanks are due and are hereby tendered to our brave soldiers and sailors, who, by their endurance, sacrifices, and illustrious heroism, have secured to their country Peace, and to the down-trodden everywhere an asylum of Liberty; who have shown that the war for the restoration of the Union is not a failure, and whose valor has proven for all time the fact that this Government of the People, by the People, for the People, is as invincible in its strength as it is beneficent in its operation.

2. That revering the memory of Abraham Lincoln, the great martyr of liberty, we cannot show greater honor to his name than by a generous support of his fellow patriot and successor, Andrew Johnson, the President of the United States, who has been called to complete the task which he left unfinished. His unbending patriotism in the past is a sure guarantee that in the momentous future the authority of the Government will be upheld, and the rights and liberties of all the citizens of the Republic secured.

3. That the mild and generous method of reconstruction offered by the President to the people lately in rebellion, in the judgment of this Convention, has not been accepted in the spirit of honest loyalty and gratitude, but with such evidence of defiance and hostility as to impel us to the conviction that they cannot safely be entrusted with the political rights which they forfeited by their treason, until they have proven their acceptance of the results of the war, but incorporating them in constitutional provisions and securing to all men within their borders their inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

4. That having conquered the rebellious States, they should be held in subjection, and the treatment they are to receive and the laws which are to govern them, should be referred to the lawmaking power of the nation to which it legitimately belongs.

5. That as the late rebellion was wantonly precipitated by the property holders of the South, it is but just that they should pay the expenses of the war, and Congress should declare as forfeited and vested in the Government the property of all rebels whose estates exceed the sum of $10,000, and that the proceeds of the property so confiscated should be applied to increase the pensions of those entitled thereto by the casualties of the war, to pay the damages done by the enemy to loyal citizens, and to reduce the burden of the national debt.

6. That it is the duty of Congress so to revise the revenue laws as to afford increased protection to American industry; to secure the development of the industrial wealth of the people; to render labor profitable and remunerative; to build up home markets for our agriculturists; to attract capital to the mineral fields of the country, and to provide revenue for the maintenance of the public credit; and this Convention recognizes the chief enemy to a policy of protection in that European power which, for four years, has furnished piratical vessels of war to the rebels, and thus endeavored to drive our commerce from the seas.

7. That any attempt by foreign nations to establish monarchial government on this continent is evidence of a design to destroy Republican institutions. Regard for our own safety and for the future security of the Republic demand that no such attempt should succeed.

8. That it is the duty of Congress to secure the full Federal bounty to all honorably discharged soldiers, irrespective of the date of their enlistment.

9. That we recognize in Edwin M. Stanton the fearless, honest and able head of the Department of War, a public servant who has deserved well of his country, and has borne himself so clear in his great office as to merit the earnest gratitude of all loyal men; and we tender to him, and to his distinguished colleagues in the Cabinet our thanks for their valuable services in the cause of liberty and law.

10. That the constant devotion of Governor Curtin to the best interests of the State and nation, during the last four years, and his indefatigable efforts on all occasions to pay the just debt of gratitude we owe our national defenders, not merely by words, but also by deeds, entitles him to the thanks of every loyal citizen of Pennsylvania.

11. That this Convention, representing the loyal people of Pennsylvania, recognizes the claims of our citizen soldiers on our confidence and gratitude; and that in nominations for offices especial regard should be paid to the claims of those who have faithfully served their country in the army or the navy in the suppression of the rebellion.

12. That the leaders of the Democratic party stand arraigned before the people of Pennsylvania for constantly obstructing the efforts of the constituted authorities to maintain the life of the Republic. They did this.

By inflaming the passions of their ignorant followers against the legally elected officers of the Federal Government, and refraining from all reproach against treason or armed traitors.

By procuring a decision from the Democratic judges of our supreme court, denying the right of the Government to the services of the citizens of this State for the defence of their imperilled country.

By discouraging men from volunteering into the armies of the Union: thus rendering it necessary to succumb to treason, or topay large bounties, and so burdening every ward, township and borough in the State with debt to fill the ranks of our armies.

By opposing the enlistment of negroes for our defence, although one white man less was required for every black one who could be enlisted, and this at the very moment when the battle of Gettysburg was raging on the soil of Pennsylvania, and the result of that decisive battle was uncertain.

By denying to our soldiers the right to vote while fighting for the flag of our fathers, on the plea that such rights were not allowed by our constitution, and by opposing an amendment which removed their objections, and relieved our brave soldiers from this disability.

By exaggerating the public indebtedness, denying the public credit, and teaching that the financial resources of the north were unequal to the suppression of the rebellion.

By a shameful opposition to measures for extending relief to the families of Union soldiers, and by a malignant effort by these means to secure the success of the rebels in the field, or such a protraction of the war as would exhaust the nation in its effort to subdue their friends.

By now heaping abuse upon the Government for punishing assassins and their accomplices; by demanding the release of leading traitors, by frowning down all attempts to bring to punishment the fiends who starved our soldiers, and by assuring rebels that neither in person or property shall they be punished for their crimes.

And if anything were wanting to complete their infamy, we have it in their determined opposition to free labor, and to a tariff which, while it would make labor profitable by protecting the workingmen of Pennsylvania from British competition, would largely increase the revenue essential to the maintainance of the public faith and credit.

NOMINATIONS FOR AUDITOR GENERAL

General nominations for Auditor General were then made, as follows:

Hon. John A. Heistand, of Lancaster.
Gen. J. F. Hartranft, of Montgomery.
Gen. R. B. M'Combs, of Lawrence.
Gen. Selfridge, of Northampton.
Gen. Albright, of Carbon.