

The Republican State Committee met in Harrisburg on the 22d inst. and, after a full conference, selected Wednesday, March 11th, as the time, and Philadelphia as the place, for holding the Republican State Convention to nominate candidates for Auditor General and Surveyor General, and to select four delegates at large to the National Republican Convention.

Over-Righteousness.

For a number of years past, a few persons, representing various religious societies of Western Pennsylvania, have annually met together to express their desire and advocate the propriety of having incorporated into the National Constitution a clause "acknowledging God as the source of all authority in civil government, the Lord Jesus Christ as the ruler among all nations, and His will revealed in the Holy Scriptures as of supreme authority." Similar meetings, we believe, are also held in other parts of the country.

With the motives of these men, we shall not deal. But the wisdom of the change advocated, we impugn. So far from holding it to be wise, we regard it as a folly and a crime. We do not suppose such a change will ever be made in our National Constitution, nor in that of any of the States, yet should it by any chance occur, it will be cause for deep lamentation among all lovers of religious freedom. Our fathers established the principles of our Constitution upon a very great truth, a truth that arises not from the nature of civil government, but from the genius and express teachings of the Christian religion. With the Jews, government was a theocracy. So, also, with the heathen. The same hand that upheld civil order and administered civil justice, upheld also the ecclesiastical structure and dispensed the rites of religion. With those religions, on the one hand spurious, and on the other merely preliminary, preparatory to the better religion that was to follow, the course pursued was doubtless the dictate of wisdom. Whether all religions are false or not, the fact is patent that no State has ever existed without the aid of religion, and with a religion too weak to be its own support it was better that it should be upheld by the State than that it should totter to its fall. But on the coming of the Christian faith, there dawned a new era. Then this alliance of Church with State was to end. Yet ever since, there have been men anxious to confound the two, who would have the Church wed the State, and the State the Church, in an unholy union as that which robbed heaven of one-third of its angels.

As to the present movement, the very first words used to express one of the aims sought, include a sophism. Paul said, "The powers that be are ordained of God," and hence we should render them obedience. But Paul used the words when under and surrounded by heathen civil government, whose people he was earnestly striving to turn to the true worship. These governments rejected and even spurned the true God, yet Paul said they were ordained of Him. Evidently, then, his entire meaning was that all civil government was by His sanction, His approval. Our own Declaration of Independence says the people are the source of all authority in civil government. Yet there is no contradiction. All governments should rule for the good of the people, and so ruling, are approved of heaven.

But this clause, if incorporated into our Constitution, would establish a faith, an act in direct repugnance to the Constitution. It would lay a deep and broad basis for persecution. Let us admit God to be the source of all authority in civil government. What of it? Is He not the source of all things? Why restrict the acknowledgment? What is our Constitution but a compact, and if we should make this acknowledgement in one compact, why not in all? If these men draw a bond or deed, or a lease of property, do they go to the trouble of making all these acknowledgments? If not, why not? The only difference is that the bond, deed, or lease would be a compact between two or three, while our Constitution is a compact between millions. Is not God, too, the authority in all matters of moral rectitude necessary to the execution of all pledges?

But these men would go further. They define the very God whom they would have thus recognized, and clearly designate the religion which they would incorporate into our institutions. A civil Constitution declaring that humble and over-forgiving Nazarene to be the ruler among nations and His scriptures as of supreme authority in civil government! But let us suppose this change made. Then he who denies the divine character

of the Bible, or that God is revealed in it, or the divinity of Jesus, violates the Constitution of his country and is deserving of fine, imprisonment, or even death! In common with our whole country, we prefer civil and religious freedom to any such fanaticism as this.

The Judiciary Question.

The law now before Congress proposing to require a two-thirds vote of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States elicits very general and animated discussion. It is matter of regret that much of this discussion is in a mere party spirit, and apparently more with reference to its possible or probable effect on a decision or two soon to be rendered than to its influence in the future. Such measures, as mere party measures, should never be resorted to. Aside from their bad influence in lessening the reverence of the people for the laws and customs of the country, they are very apt to re-act some time or other upon those with whom they originate. In this case, while circumstances might make the act at present somewhat disadvantageous to the Democratic party, their lease of power in the nation even for a single Congress might easily cause it to enure to their benefit. But advantages or disadvantages to parties, as such, are not worthy of consideration in cases of this kind.

That the present measure is constitutional, we do not regard as admitting successful denial. That instrument expressly enjoins on Congress the establishment of a Supreme Court, and authorizes it to form inferior jurisdictions. In discharging these duties, discretion must necessarily be used by Congress in many respects, such as the times of holding Courts, the number of circuits and the extent of each, and the number of judges to compose each court. No man doubts the authority and power of Congress for any of these purposes. Yet some vehemently deny that Congress may declare the number of judges necessary to overturn one of its laws. It is this point we wish more particularly to consider.

On the first institution of the Court, six judges were placed on the bench, of whom the law required that four should concur in pronouncing a decision overturning an act of Congress. It was only when the number of judges was increased that in point of fact the two-thirds rule was abolished. The requirement that two-thirds of a Court shall concur in upsetting a law is not an anomaly in our Constitution. In case of the impeachment of the President, the Senate sits as the highest Court in the land, the Chief Justice presiding. The trial is conducted according to the forms and rules of law. The Senate emphatically constitutes a Court of law. Yet neither the President nor any other officer impeached can be convicted unless two-thirds of the members present concur.

In every District and County Court in this State, two out of three judges are required to agree in pronouncing a decision. In case of juries, the verdict must be unanimous. It is argued by some that in case of a jury, the requirement of unanimity is as favorable to one as to another. But how so? The presence of one corrupt jurymen will set a clearly proven culprit loose upon the community. Or if a dishonest man obtains possession of another man's land or other species of property, one corrupt jurymen will enable him to retain it.

It is also argued that the proposed change is unconstitutional, by reason of the common law which requires but a majority decision. We venture to say the common law has no case analogous to this, or if analogous, is in its favor. The only measure of English law is whether or not it is part of the common law or an act of Parliament. If either of these, all the judges of England cannot overturn it. Where, then, is the analogy? An unanimity of the English judges dare not overturn a solemn act of the Legislature. Their whole business is to construe and to apply it. The authority of our judges to declare a law unconstitutional is not derived from English law, but from the peculiar nature of our own institutions.

We do not regard our Judges as generally partisan. Of course, there are some such, but we are prone to believe, not many. Yet in certain cases, it may be very nearly guessed beforehand what will be the decision of a Judge from a knowledge of his politics. But why? Because he is a partisan? No. The difference between the two great political parties, in some respects at least, is fundamental. A strict constructionist of the Constitution must ever differ in his views of many public measures from one who holds to opposite sentiments in reference to construing that great instrument. Yet, if such a man is elevated to the Bench, it is most reasonable that he follow his convictions.

GOLD is selling at 140.

A Democratic Speech.

On the 15th instant, a resolution was offered in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, by Mr. Kleckner, of Philadelphia, endorsing the action of the U. S. Senate in reinstating Hon. Edwin M. Stanton as Secretary of War. The resolution ultimately passed. During its progress through the House, a large number of members took advantage of the occasion to ventilate their oratory on subjects of National import. Among others who delivered themselves of speeches, was Cambria county's representative, Col. Linton, who deliberately, if not indignantly, placed himself on record as opposed to the resolution. Mr. Linton's speech in this connection is highly lauded by the Freeman as "a most scathing rebuke of," &c. We have carefully looked over the speech, and must confess that we are able to find nothing especially scathing in it—nothing wherein it essentially differs from the great volume of common-place Democratic oratory.

An analysis of Mr. Linton's effort gives about the following propositions:

1. The rebel General Lee was an able general, a courageous general, a masterly general.
2. The Democratic party are the only true and steadfast supporters of the Constitution.
3. The reinstatement of Mr. Stanton was unconstitutional.
4. Mr. Stanton was and is a poor patriot and a bad man.

That's the old, old story. During the war, we were told by the Democrats—

1. That General Lee was so able a general, he could not be overthrown.
2. That the Democratic party, even while affording treason all the aid and comfort in their power, were the only true and steadfast supporters of the Constitution.
3. That the prosecution of the war for the Union was unconstitutional.
4. That Mr. Stanton was the Jonah of the Republic, without whose immolation we would never have peace.

"History is not yet written," Mr. Linton takes care to impress upon his hearers and readers. But history is at least made, and when it comes to be written, it will be found that the record of the Democratic party will occupy the blackest page of the book. All the Democratic oratory of a century cannot affect that decree.

SUBJOINED is an extract from Senator Morton's great speech on reconstruction, delivered in the U. S. Senate on Friday last:—

"Mr. President, the column of reconstruction, as I before remarked, has risen slowly. It has not been hewn from a single stone. It is composed of many blocks, painfully laid up and put together, and cemented by the tears and blood of the nation. Sir, we have done nothing arbitrarily. We have done nothing for punishment—ay, too little for punishment. Justice has not had her demand. Not a man has yet been executed for this great treason. The arch fiend himself is now at liberty upon bail. No man is to be punished; and now, while punishment has gone by, as we all know, we are insisting only upon security for the future. We are simply asking that the evil spirits who brought this war upon us shall not again come into power during this generation, again to bring upon us rebellion and calamity. We are simply asking for those securities that we deem necessary for our peace and the peace of our posterity. Sir, there is one great difference between this Union party and the so-called Democratic party. Our principles are those of humanity; they are those of justice; they are those of equal rights; they are principles that appeal to the hearts and the consciences of men; while on the other side we hear appeals to the prejudice of race against race. The white man is overwhelmingly in the majority in this country, and that majority is yearly increased by half a million of white men from abroad, and that majority gaining in proportion from year to year until the colored men will finally be but a handful in this country; and yet we hear the prejudices of the white race appealed to to crush the other race, and to prevent it from rising to supremacy and power. Sir, there is nothing noble, there is nothing generous, there is nothing lovely, in that policy or that appeal. How does that principle compare with ours? We are standing upon the broad platform of the Declaration of Independence, that 'all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.' We say that these rights are not given by laws; are not given by the Constitution; but they are the gift of God to every man born into the world. Oh, Sir, how glorious is this great principle compared with the inhuman—I might say heathenish—appeal to the prejudice of race against race; the endeavor further to excite the strong against the weak; the endeavor further to deprive the weak of their rights of protection against the strong?"

FEBRUARY 24 has been fixed for the trial of Surratt. It will be remembered that when this case was previously attacked the jury were discharged on account of disagreement and sickness.

News Summary.

"THE Blue-Coats, and how they Lived, Fought and Died for the Union; with Scenes and Incidents in the Great Rebellion," is the title of a handsome volume, just issued by Jones Brothers & Co., Philad'a, Pa. There is a certain portion of the War that will never go into the regular histories, nor be embodied in romance or poetry, which is a very real part of it, and will, if preserved, convey to succeeding generations a better idea of the spirit of the conflict than many dry reports or careful narratives of events, and this part may be called the gossip, the fun, the pathos of the War. This illustrates the character of the leaders, the humor of the soldiers, the devotion of women, the bravery of men, the pluck of our heroes, the romance and hardships of the service. From the beginning of the war, the author has been engaged in collecting all the anecdotes connected with or illustrative of it, and classified them under appropriate heads, and in a very attractive form. The volume is profusely illustrated with over 100 fine engravings, by the first artists, and its contents include reminiscences of camp, picket, spy, scout, bivouac, siege, and battle-field, with thrilling feats of bravery, wit, drollery, comical and ludicrous adventures, etc., etc. Amusement as well as instruction may be found in every page, as graphic detail, brilliant wit, and authentic history, are skillfully interwoven in this work of literary art. It is just such a volume as will find numerous purchasers, and just such a one as persons seeking to act as book agents should add to their list.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR, the second son of John Jacob, the millionaire, died in New York on Friday morning, in the 65th year of his age. In early youth Mr. Astor gave much intellectual promise, but, at about the age of 17, he accidentally fell, striking on his head, and thus his mental faculties were impaired. His father, after vain efforts to effect his restoration, built on Fourteenth street, near the North River, a mansion for his accommodation. It occupies one entire block, and is surrounded by a high fence, to prevent prying and curious eyes from seeing the movements of the occupants. On the death of the father, one of the principal items in his will was a provision intrusting the younger John Jacob to the care of a physician in whom he placed implicit confidence, and settling a handsome income upon the Fourteenth street mansion.

SOME newspaper, says the New York Sun, has insinuated that General Grant failed to meet an appointment with Mr. Johnson relative to the recent War Office muddle, because he was hilarious, i. e. intoxicated. We never see such cowardly insinuations without thinking of an anecdote of Mr. Lincoln. After the victory of Pittsburg Landing, a furious raid was made on the President to cashier Grant on the charge that he was not sober during that terrible battle. A committee who had waited upon him to urge this course, were cowed into silence and shame as the President rose from his seat, and standing six feet four inches, said, "Gentlemen, I wish you would tell me where Grant buys his whisky. I would like to send a barrel of the same brand to each of our generals."

THE following appears in the Philadelphia Press: The accounts of Colonel Forney, Secretary of the Senate of the United States, have been fully adjusted by his financial officer, and any persons desirous of information on the subject can be gratified by calling on Hon. R. W. Taylor, First Comptroller of the Treasury. There has always been a large undrawn appropriation in the Treasury to the credit of the Secretary of the Senate, and the Government has never been in the slightest danger of losing a dollar.

THE house of Mr. John Benninghoff, near Petroleum Centre, was robbed by five men during last week. They entered the house disguised, presented pistols to the heads of the inmates, and threatened to shoot if they made any alarm. Mr. and Mrs. Benninghoff resisted, but were overpowered and tied. The key of a safe was taken out of Mr. B's pocket, and the safe rifled of the greater part of its contents, amounting to \$210,000. The thieves lieously helped themselves to what they wanted, and left.

WE notice in the proceedings of Congress that Mr. Morrill presented the petition of 162 citizens of the Seventeenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, praying for such legislation as will define the status of naturalized citizens and secure their rights in other countries.—Referred to the appropriate committee.

THE Hancock Courier says: A widower was married in this place a few days ago, at a church, making a "big splurge" with a brass band. After the interesting ceremony the band struck up that old and familiar air, "My wife's dead and I've got another one."

GEN. BEATTY, Republican, was on Monday elected to Congress, to fill a vacancy from the Eighth District in Ohio. His majority is not much under one thousand, which is a Republican gain of between seven and eight hundred.

ROBERT JOHNSON, son and Private Secretary of the President, has been placed in the lunatic asylum of the District of Columbia, to cure him, if possible, of periodical drunkenness, which in his case amounts to insanity.

A MAN in Wisconsin was recently buried in the earth for three days by the caving in of a well. When dug out, instead of being a corpse, as expected, he was quite alive and ravenously hungry.

THE new Reconstruction bill passed the House last week. Yeas 124, nays 45. Every Republican in the House voted for it, and every Democrat against it.

THE ubiquitous George Francis Train has been released from confinement by the British government.

Robison vs. Shugart.

It is generally known that Mr. Robison, Republican, is contesting the seat in the State Senate of Mr. Shugart, Democrat. The subjoined extract, from the Harrisburg correspondence of the Pittsburg Commercial, shows the ground upon which the contest is based, and also will give some idea of the purity of Democratic politics in the Twenty-first district:—

"The principal ground for contesting Mr. Shugart's seat is, that quite a number of Irishmen had voted on false naturalization papers, and others had been brought into the district and kept there ten days prior to the election, for the express purpose of voting. Mr. Shugart's majority was only twenty-two votes, and it was alleged that there were near one hundred illegal votes polled in one place in Centre county. It appears that there was a railroad being made from Phillipsburg, in Centre county, to Clearfield, and that there were last fall about forty rods of light work to be done near Phillipsburg, which could have been done by twenty men in five or six days. However, an arrangement was made with an Irishman, named O'Mara, a boss on that work, to bring about one hundred Irishmen on that part of the work, which was in Centre county, ten days before the election. This he did, and as soon as the election was over they were sent away. When it was ascertained that Shugart had only twenty-two majority, including the hundred illegal votes at Phillipsburg, and that Robison was going to contest his seat, the leaders of the Democratic party concluded that the Irish boss, O'Mara, who knew all about the importation of voters and the fraudulent papers upon which many of them voted, must be sent out of the State. For that purpose they employed a Catholic priest, known by the name of 'Father Tracey,' to induce O'Mara to leave.—Shortly before the Legislature met, Father Tracey visited O'Mara and stated to him that the Legislature would soon meet; that Shugart's seat would be contested; that his (O'Mara's) testimony would be very much against the Democratic party; that it would be best for him (O'Mara) to leave the State; that he (Tracey) had some money which he was authorized to give him (O'Mara) if he would go out of the limits of the State, &c., &c. O'Mara asked two thousand dollars for taking his family out of the State never to return. Father Tracey said he was not authorized to pay that much, and could not do so until he would write to Philadelphia. After several interviews between the priest and O'Mara, the former at last told the latter that William A. Wallace said that a hundred dollars per month was enough to pay for getting him to leave the State.' Father Tracey then struck a bargain with Mr. O'Mara to leave for five hundred dollars, which were paid over to him and afterwards counted by a young man in Clearfield, and he accordingly left, and took up his abode in Elmira, New York. But his whereabouts became known to the counsel for the contestant, and the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate was sent to Elmira a few days ago, where he found Mr. O'Mara, and brought him to this city. He was brought before the Committee last night, and upon his oath testified to the foregoing facts, and in addition, he stated that another boss on the work above referred to took the fraudulent naturalization papers and colored them with coffee, so as to make them appear old. Is not the foregoing, which is sworn to by an Irish Democratic railroad boss, a disgrace to any party, and, especially, does it not show what measures the rebel sympathizing Democratic party will adopt to carry elections and to ward the will of the majority of the bona fide citizens of the country?"

We have received the annual report of the Managers of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, from which we observe that one hundred and eighty-three persons are at present supported by the institution. Of this number, one hundred and fifty-seven are from Pennsylvania, twenty-one from New Jersey, two from Delaware, and three from other places. Thirty-two of this number support themselves wholly, or in part, as assistant teachers, or in the work department, five are paying pupils in full, eleven in part, and eight are day pupils. Goods to the amount of sixteen thousand eight hundred and sixty-five dollars and forty-one cents have been manufactured during the past year. The sales of goods in the past year have amounted to twenty thousand six hundred and sixty-two dollars and six cents. The goods on hand at the date of this report, amounted to five thousand six hundred and fifty-two dollars and thirty-eight cents; and the raw material on hand is estimated at two thousand nine hundred and sixty-three dollars and eight cents. The report is exceedingly interesting, and proves, beyond a doubt, that this useful charitable institution continues to be properly managed.

THE following is the trial list for the special week of the Cambria county Court, commencing Monday, 24th February: Broderline vs. Smith et al. Fenlon vs. Duncan. Burgoon vs. Noel. Truby vs. Noel et al. Krise vs. Noel et al. Morley vs. Noel et al. Calvin vs. Cooper. Altimus vs. Cooper. Litzinger vs. Davis & Litzinger. Bare vs. Cooper. Bendons vs. Bendons. Smith et al. vs. Adams.

THE President holds no official intercourse with Mr. Stanton, but uses all sorts of stratagem to obtain what information he requires from the War Department.

THE Fenians still continue on the rampage in England, and the British Lion is badly scared.

NEW CLOTHING STORE.

The subscriber begs leave to inform the public that he has just received from the Eastern cities and opened out at his Store on High street, three door east of Crawford Hotel, Ebensburg, a very large, very fine, and very cheap stock of

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

He has FALL AND WINTER CLOTHING of every style and quality—Fine Frock and Dress Coats, Business Coats, Overcoats, Coats of all sorts and styles, Cassimere and Doeskin Pantaloons, and Pantalons for every-day wear; Vests of any and every description.

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS. By odds the best assortment in town.

LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S TRAVELING BAGS! As well as Trunks, Valises, Carpet Sacks and traveling gear in general.

Not to go into details too deeply, suffice it to say that he keeps a FIRST CLASS CLOTHING STORE! where anything and everything pertaining to the decoration and comfort of the outer man can be obtained at easy prices.

Remember that this is the only regular, first-class Clothing Store in town. The public are requested to call and examine the stock. In extent, variety, and cheapness of price, they will find it unrivalled. J. A. MAGUIRE & CO.

AGENTS WANTED FOR

"THE BLUE-COATS," and How They Lived, Fought and Died for the Union, with Scenes and Incidents in the Great Rebellion. Comprising narratives of the most thrilling incidents, daring exploits, heroic deeds, wonderful escapes, life in the camp and hospital; adventures of Spies and Scouts, together with the songs, ballads, and splendidly illustrated with over 100 engravings and beautiful illustrations. There is a certain portion of the war that will never go into the regular histories, nor be embodied in romance or poetry, which is a very real part of it, and will, if preserved, convey to succeeding generations a better idea of the spirit of the conflict than many dry reports or careful narratives of events, and this part may be called the gossip, the fun, the pathos of the war. This illustrates the character of the leaders, the humor of the soldiers, the devotion of women, the bravery of men, the pluck of our heroes, the romance and hardships of the service.

The valiant and brave hearted, the picturesque and dramatic, the witty and marvelous, the tender and pathetic, and the whole panorama of the war are here thrillingly portrayed in a masterly manner, at once historical and romantic, rendering it the most complete, the most brilliant and readable book that the war has ever called forth. Amusement as well as instruction may be found in every page, as graphic detail, brilliant wit, and authentic history, are skillfully interwoven in this work of literary art. Send for circulars and see our terms at a full description of the work. Adams, JONES BROTHERS & CO., Philad., Pa.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

In the Orphans' Court of Cambria county. In the matter of the account of the Trustee appointed to make sale of the real estate of John Noel, dec'd. And now, Dec. 11, 1867, on motion of F. A. Shoemaker appointed Auditor to report distribution of the fund in the hands of the Trustee upon his second account. Extract from the Record. By the Court.

In pursuance of the above appointment, I will attend at the office, in Ebensburg, on THURSDAY, the 30th of JANUARY, 1868, at 2 o'clock, p. m., when and where all interested may attend. F. A. SHOEMAKER, Auditor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

The undersigned Auditor, appointed by the Orphans' Court of Cambria county, to report distribution of the funds in the hands of Sarah Duncan, Administratrix of James Duncan, dec'd., of the heirs and legal representatives of said deceased, hereby notifies all persons interested that he will attend to the duties of said appointment at his office, in Ebensburg, on THURSDAY, the 31st of FEBRUARY, 1868, at 2 o'clock, p. m., when and where they must present their claims, or be debared from coming in for a share of said fund. GEO. W. OATMAN, Auditor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

In the Orphans' Court of Cambria county. In the matter of the account of Neal Dagan, Administrator of the estate of Bernard Halligan, dec'd. And now, Dec. 11, 1867, on motion of F. A. Shoemaker appointed Auditor to report distribution of the funds in the hands of the accountant. Extract from the Record. By the Court.

In pursuance of the above appointment, I will attend at the office, in Ebensburg, on MONDAY, the 3d FEBRUARY, 1868, at 2 o'clock, p. m., when and where all interested may attend. F. A. SHOEMAKER, Auditor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

The undersigned Auditor, appointed by the Orphans' Court of Cambria county to report distribution of the money in the hands of Michael Noon, Executor of James Murphy, late of Alleghany township, deceased, hereby notifies all persons interested that he will attend to the duties of his appointment, at his office, in Ebensburg, on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, 1868, at 2 o'clock, p. m., when and where they must present their claims, or be debared from coming in for a share of said fund. GEO. W. OATMAN, Auditor.

WHO LOST A HORSE?

A small bay Mare, supposed to be from 12 to 15 years old, very thin in flesh, and maddling fast in gait, was left with me on the 18th of December last. She was left with me to keep for a few days, but the young man leaving her has not since returned to claim her, and I am fearful she was stolen. Any one interested in this statement will please call on or address JAMES WHEAT, Gallitzin, Pa.

O. K. CURTAIN FIXTURE.

Has no superior in the world! Is pronounced faultless by all who have seen it. It is predicted it will supersede all other Curtain Fixtures now in use. HUNTLEY, For sale by Ebensburg, Pa. mar21