THE REPUBLICAN.

JUDSON HOLCOMB, CHAS. L. TRACY, } PROPRIETORS.

JUDSON HOLCOMB, Editor.

"Reasonable taxes, honest expenditures; competent officers, and no stealing." — Harpers Weekly.

Entered in the Post Office at Towanda as SECOND CLASS MATTER.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1881.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FOR REGISTER AND RECORDER.

ALFRED BLACKWELL,

OF BURLINGTON, PA.

Subject to the decision of the Republican County Convention.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

BEDFORD, Pa., July 20, 1881.

A convention of the Republican party is hereby called to meet in the hall of the House of Representatives, in Harrisburg, on *Thursday, the 8th day of September, 1881,* at 12 o'clock m., of said day. Delegates, equal to the number of Senators and Representatives, to be chosen in the several districts of the Commonwealth. The convention, when assembled, shall nominate a candidate for the office of State Treasurer, and transact such other legitimate business as may be brought before it. By order of the Republican State Central Committee.

JOHN CESSNA, Chairman.

Attest: LUCIUS ROGERS, SAM'L F. BARR, C. MAGEE, JOHN M'CULLOCH, Secretaries.

Republican County Convention.

Pursuant to a resolution passed by the Republican County Committe in session Friday, June 24, 1881, the Convention of the Republican party for 1881 will convene at the COURT HOUSE in TOWANDA BOROUGH on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, at ONE O'CLOCK, P. M., to make the following nominations for county officers, to wit:

One person for Sheriff.

One person for Prothonotary, &c.

One person for Register and Recorder, &c.

One person for Treasurer.

Two persons for County Commissioners.

Two persons for County Auditors.

And for the transaction of any other business that may come before the convention.

The Committees of Vigilance of the several election districts will call primary meetings at the usual places of holding Delegate elections for their respective districts, for SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3D, 1881, to elect by BALLOT two delegates to represent each district in said county convention.

The delegate elections in the BOROUGHS will be organized at SIX O'CLOCK, P. M. *and be kept open continuously, to close at 8 o'clock, p. m.* In the districts of Barclay, North Towanda and Athens District No. 3, from FIVE O'CLOCK, P. M., *continuously until 7 o'clock p. m.*, at which time they shall close. And in all other townships from THREE O'CLOCK, P. M., continuously until FIVE O'CLOCK, P. M., at which time they shall close. The votes shall then be counted and of said Convention be the proper officers at once to the delegates elect.

The Committees of Vigilance are particularly requested to give at least three weeks' written or printed notice of the said primary elections, and to carefully observe the above rules in conducting the said primary meeting.

Only Republicans can participate in said meetings.

E. J. ANGLE,
Chairman Rep. Co. Com.

J. M. ELY, Secretary.

VIGILANCE COMMITTEES.

Alba—C. L. Crandall, Jefferson Loughhead, G. W. Carman.
Albany—W. L. Kinyon, O. W. Fawcett, Andrew Wickizer.
Armenia—Richmond Sweet, William Kinch, Eugene Dumond.
Asylum—Thomas Kinsley, Fred Cole, B. C. Chilson.
Athens Boro—1st Ward, S. C. Hall, F. K. Harris, E. W. Davis. 2nd Ward, E. Mercur Frost, Geo. A. Kinney, Fred H. Welsh.
Athens Twp—1st Dist., L. O. Snell, Frank E. Weller, Chauncy S. Wheaten. 2nd Dist., Axel Knaup, Benj. Middaugh, James Mustart. 3rd Dist., H. G. Spalding, John F. Ovenshire, R. M. Hovey.
Barclay—C. H. Johnson, C. W. Tidd, John H. Davis.
Burlington Twp—C. B. Wheeler, W. H. Austin, E. R. Sellock.
Burlington Boro—Clarence Ford, Gus Essenwine, John McKeeby.
Burlington West—W. D. McKean, Horace Rockwell, Delos Rockwell.
Canton Twp—A. J. Conklin, H. Cuttin, W. T. Lawrence.
Canton Boro—John S. Mix, E. J. Cleveland, E. H. Thomas.
Columbia—G. L. Gates, George Cornell, H. E. Young.
Franklin—O. L. Smily, J. E. Spalding, Merritt Gay.
Granville—H. W. Jennings, Hiram Foster, Adam Innes.
Herrick—C. L. Stewart, N. N. Barnes, T. A. Pye.
LeRaysville—G. W. Bailey, E. A. Carl, C. J. VanGeider.
Litchfield—Robt McKee, Wesley Wilcox, Leroy Holcomb.
Monroe Twp—J. W. Irvine, Wm. A. Kellogg, B. K. Benedict.
Monroe Boro—Dwight Dodge, Dr. Rockwell, D. J. Sweet.
New Albany—S. W. Wilcox, George Wilcox, J. C. Fowler.
Orwell—Oliver Gorham; J. O. Alger, A. G. Frisbie.
Overton—Orange Chase, Lewis Rhinebold, Manning Matthews.
Pike—E. S. Skeel, Jno. Elsworth, Morgan Thomas.
Ringebury—Geo. Miller, A. E. Stertton, Adelbert Griswold.
Rome Boro—Orson Rickey, C. H. Stone, M. L. Maynard.
Rome Twp—J. E. Gillett, Isaac Adams, gb McCabe.
Sheshequin—O. F. Ayers, W. S. Elsbree, T. M. Vought.
Smithfield—Diton Phelps, Henry Hamilton, O. B. Sumner.
South Creek—John F. Gillet, Cyrus Burke, Andrew Brink.
South Waverly—John Mahoney, Jno. B. Thompson, Wm. H. Plum.
Springfield—Wm. Brown, Lee Stacy, Perry Harkness.
Standing Stone—Peter Landmesser, Myron Kingsley, Wm. Stevens.
Sylvania—W. L. Scoutin, Landre Gregory, Heman Burritt.
Terry—C. P. Garrison, J. H. Schoonover, Geo. H. Terry.
Towanda Boro—1st Ward, Judson Holcomb, L. Harris, Daniel Savercool. 2nd Ward, Edward Frost, J. Andrew Witt, C. Manville Pratt. 3rd Ward, George S. Estell, W. F. Dittrich, James Hess.
Towanda North—Allen Simons, Bishop Horton, Addison Hicks.
Towanda Twp—H. M. Davidson, S. A. Bostley, Geo. Fox.
Troy Boro—B. B. Mitchell, Geo. O. Holcomb, W. E. Chilson.
Troy Twp—L. T. Weller, Alva Cooper, Charles Manley.
Tuscarora—Patrick Mathoney, A. J. Silvars, James Lewis.
Ulster—C. G. Rockwell, J. G. Bowie, Chas. Vincent.
Warren—Cyrus Bowen, D. A. Sleeper, John Morris.
Wells—Morris Shepard, Wm. Rolyea, Wm. Johnson.
Windham—G. S. Lawrence, Lott Shoemaker, Martin Wheaton.
Wilmot—Dr. Quick, Richard Arey, Daniel Eley.
Wyalusing—C. A. Stowell, N. A. Frazer, C. C. Smith.
Wysox—M. B. Caswell, Geo. Pool, S. J. Ross.

The Members of the Executive Committee of the County Standing Committee appointed by the Chairman, are:

E. M. TYLER	J. M. ELY.
I. M'PHERSON,	JAMES TERRY.
F. P. LYON,	W. S. KINNEY,
B. T. HALE,	JAMES MATHER.

A. K. LENT.

The Committee to take into consideration and report at the next County Convention whether any change be necessary in the representation at our county conventions, is:

JOHN N. CALLY,	J. H. SHAW.
GEORGE BROWN,	M. W. THOMAS,
N. W. WALDRON,	MILTON LOOMIS

C. L. SQUIRES.

Critical Condition of the President.

Alarming News from the White House.

Since Sunday night last the reports and official bulletins from the Executive Mansion show that the President's case has reached another painfully critical stage. He has suffered repeated attacks of nausea and vomiting and has been able to retain very little nourishment. His extremely rapid pulse, being at 130, attended with great prostration and depression of temperature, has justly excited great alarm and fears of a fatal termination of the case. We give below the most important reports of the President's condition since Sunday morning last, together with the official bulletins of the attending surgeons:

NOT QUITE AS ENCOURAGING.

12:45 A. M.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Mr. Rockwell is reported as saying to-night that the President had been troubled somewhat during the day with nausea, and vomited several times.

DISPATCH TO LOWELL.

The following was cabled Minister Lowell to-night: "The general condition of the President has not materially changed. The afternoon fever is about the same."

6:30 P. M. (Official).

The irritability of the President's stomach returned during the afternoon and he has vomited three times since one o'clock. Although the afternoon rise of temperature is less than it has been for several days, the pulse and respiration are more frequent, so that his condition is on the whole less satisfactory. His pulse is now 130, temperature 99.6, respiration 22.

[Signed.] BLISS, BARNES, WOODWARD, REYBURN, AGNEW.

GREATLY PROSTRATED.

The Brooklyn *Eagle's* Washington special says: "The medical profession agree that the failure of the President to enjoy a good rest last night is a terrible strain on his system. The stomachic irritability and vomiting are alarming symptoms, taken in connection with the high pulse and temperature of this morning, the period when the President should be free from extreme excitement, and the bad night cannot be attributed to want of careful dressing of the wound, as Dr. Bliss performed the operation with his usual care and thoroughness. At half-past twelve to-day the President was greatly prostrated."

DISCOURAGING DISPATCH TO HAYES.

The following was also sent to R. B. Hayes, at Fremont, O.: "Have reached another very serious point in the case. The conditions at this hour, (8 p. m.,) are of a character that causes great anxiety. We hope for better things in the morning.

[Signed.] H. C. CORBIN.

11:30 P. M.

WASHINGTON, August 15.—Although there has been a feeling of anxiety at the Executive Mansion all day, no alarm was felt regarding the President's condition until this afternoon. The fact that none of the attending surgeons have entered the business apartments of the Mansion during the day occasioned unfavorable suspicion, which the evening bulletin proved was warranted. Report at 10 o'clock from the room of Private Secretary Brown has been crowded all the evening. Among those first to arrive were James and McVeagh. Shortly after came Assistant Secretary of State Hitt, Windom, Kirkwood and Hunt, First Comptroller Lawrence, General Walker, Justice Harlan, General Sherman, General Drum and many more of prominence. Lincoln is in New York and Blaine in New Hampshire. Both have been communicated with concerning the serious condition of the President. Lincoln is expected here to-morrow.

One of the attendants upon the President said that at 10:30 p. m. he did not consider the President's condition necessarily alarming, although it certainly warranted anxiety. He had not vomited during the past six hours, and his sleep had been perfectly natural. In the opinion of this gentleman, every thing is being done for the patient that professional skill can suggest, and he feels quite sure that the morning will show an improvement.

The members of the Cabinet left the mansion for their homes about 11 o'clock, at which hour the patient was still sleeping naturally and quietly. Drs. Bliss and Reyburn remain at the Mansion during the night. Hitt deemed it adviseable at a late hour to-night to inform Mr. Blaine of the unfavorable change in the President's condition in order that he might return to Washington.

The anxiety here to-night is greater than at any time since the Sunday following the day the President was shot.

2:30 P. M.

WASHINGTON, August 16.—The last bulletin cast a gloom over the attaches of the Executive Mansion and the greatest anxiety prevails. The change which has occurred is even noticeable in the expression and conversation of Private Secretary Brown, who from the first has entertained the most sanguine opinion that the President would recover.

Mrs. Garfield is said to be cheerful as circumstances will allow, and she also entertains a strong belief that her husband will recover.

Dr. Agnew is quoted as having said this afternoon that the patient was no weaker than yesterday, and there was every reasonable chance of his rallying.

3:30 P. M.

Dr. Bliss says that in his opinion the President has yet more than an even chance to get well. He is retaining the nourishment which has been administered during the day and taking everything into consideration the case still looks hopeful.

4:15 P. M.

All the members of the Cabinet with the exception of Blaine are now in consultation in the Cabinet room.

5:10 P. M.

The consultation of the Cabinet was held for the purpose of hearing a statement as to the probable outcome of the present crisis from one of the attending surgeons. Dr. Bliss was summoned and explained the situation substantially in the same manner as he has before during the day. He reassured the Cabinet to such an extent, that the meeting had no official significance, and the members left about five o'clock apparently in better spirits.

6:30 P. M.

WASHINGTON, August 16.—As Dr. Bliss entered the White House this evening to attend the examination of the President, he said that everything was going on well, and he was perfectly satisfied up to the time he left the Mansion with the progress of the case. He had been absent but about an hour. There is much anxiety as to what the evening bulletins will show. Crowds are gathering around the bulletin boards.

7 P. M. (Official.)

The President's symptoms are still grave, yet he seems to have lost no ground during the day, and his condition on the whole is rather better than yesterday. He has vomited but once during the afternoon. Enemata are retained. At present his pulse is 120, temperature 98.9, respiration 19.

[Signed.] BLISS, BARNES, WOODWARD, REYBURN, AGNEW.

After the bulletin was issued Dr. Bliss remarked that it was a conservative statement of the case, and this generally speaking is an indication of improvement.

10:00 P. M.

To-day has undoubtedly been the most unsatisfactory of the President's illness, with few exceptions. The official bulletins have been referred to as answers to interrogations of callers at the White House. The attending surgeons have avoided conversation as much as possible, especially with members of the press, and the greatest difficulty has been experienced in supplying the demands of the public for the exact condition of affairs, at intervals throughout the day. An intimation was dropped during the afternoon that the

CABINET HAD BEEN CALLED

together and it was thought some official act was about to be promulgated, but this proved erroneous. The object of the meeting was simply to hear in a body the statement of the attending surgeons on the situation with a view of ascertaining the exact state of affairs. Dr. Bliss stated very explicitly the gravity of the situation, but was very hopeful, and maintained that the President had at least an even chance for recovery. His explanation was sufficiently clear to re-establish to a considerable extent the confidence of the Cabinet officers, and they expressed themselves as feeling more hopeful, after the conference. When it became known what had transpired, a decidedly better feeling prevailed throughout the Mansion, and although assurances of recovery were far from satisfactory, they were accepted with much gratification and soon changed the decided sadness which had prevailed all the afternoon into a general feeling of hopefulness. The most sanguine were forced to yield to the unfavorable indications during the early afternoon, but previus to the issue of the seven o'clock bulletin, the expressions of Dr. Bliss had become quite well known and their effect was very noticeable.

THERE ARE STILL GRAVE FEARS

that the morning will not bring much encouragement, owing to the extremely debilitated condition of the patient. It has been impossible to ascertain anything at all from the sick room since the evening bulletin was issued. This is considered an unfavorable indication as the surgeons usually have been quite communicative at least to Cabinet officers.

A member of the Cabinet just said: "Up to this hour nothing has been learned from the surgeons since the bulletin has been issued."

Mrs. Garfield, accompanied by her son James, went out to ride, remaining out about an hour. The lady looked quite cheerful, as much so in fact as could be expected under the circumstances. She continues to bear her troubles with great fortitude.

It is understood that Secretary Blaine is on his way here.

11:00 P. M.

The Mansion has just been closed for the night, and all visitors have dispersed.

Secretary Brown has just come from the surgeons' quarters, and reports that the President is sleeping quietly, also, that his pulse has grown less frequent within the last two hours and that no vomiting has occurred since about 4 p. m.

The Assistant Secretary of State cabled the following to Lowell: Since noon there has been a slight rise in the temperature of the President. He vomited but once during the afternoon. Nourishment by enemata is retained. His condition on the whole is rather [illegible] Mansion, and no indication of an unfavorable change in the President's condition. Dr. Hamilton was driven directly to MacVeagh's house and will not visit the Mansion until morning.

In accordance with our rules to allow all sides to be heard on questions of public importance, we publish this week several communications relating to county affairs. Our columns are open for any corrections, if misstatements are made, or any defense desired to be made to the charges contained. In connection with this subject, it is proper to suggest that the practice in vogue in this county of making up the tabular statement embodying the annual report of the County Auditors by aggregates of the expenditures under the various heads is not in strict conformity with the law, which contemplates an itemized statement of receipts and expenditures. Annual statements in such form would be more satisfactory to the tax-payers, and would leave no room for cavil. We are not sufficiently familiar with the details of county expenditures to say whether the inferences drawn from Mr. DeWitt's and Rex's articles are well founded or not. Our columns are open for any reply desired to be made.

The straight-out Republican State Convention of Virginia, which met at Lynchburg, August 11, failed to place a State ticket in the field. The Convention was divided, a majority being in favor of a coalition with the Re-adjusters, and refusing to support a straight-out ticket. The Convention divided, each faction meeting separately. The straight-outs nominated General Wickham for Governor and Major Yost for Lieutenant Governor. Both declined the nominations, and the Convention after adopting a platform declaring adherence to the principles of the Republican party adjourned. The failure of the Straight-outs to nominate, strengthens the chances of success for the Mahone Re-adjuster ticket.

The *North American Review* for September opens with a profoundly philosophical article on "The Church, the State, and the School," by Prof. William T. Harris. M. J. Savage treats of "Natural Ethics," showing that the principles of morality are rooted in man's nature, and are the products of evolution; consequently, that they are not affected by the vicissitudes of dogma or religious creeds. The Hon. John A. Kasson gives a history of the "Monroe Declaration," and proves that the credit of formulating that cardinal doctrine of American statesmanship is due to John Quincy Adams. The Rev. Edward Everett Hale writes of the Taxation of Church Property. He would have all churches taxed *in form*, but would exempt *in practice* those which by their charitable work help to lighten the public burdens. The other articles in this number of the *Review* are "Jewish Ostracism in America," by Nina Morais; "The Decay of New England Thought" by the Rev. Julius H. Ward; "Ghost Seeing," by Prof. F. H. Hedge; and "Facetious History," by Rossiter Johnson. The latter article is a scathing criticism of Jefferson Davis's recently published historical memoir. Fifty cents per copy. Five dollars per year. Address, "The North American *Review*, New York, N. Y."

County Nominations.

ASYLUM, August 9th, 1881.

EDITOR OF REPUBLICAN:—I understand that there is a strong effort now being made to nominate Keleon Packard as the Republican candidate for county Treasurer. There would be some propriety in making him the Democratic candidate by way of reward for political service, in view of his conduct in political affairs during the last ten years. He became known in our county politics, chiefly as a bolter, from purely mercenary motives. He was engaged in the Herdic movement to defeat the Hon. James H. Webb for the Legislature solely because he had proved to be an unpurchaseable member, and had successfully resisted the division of our county, to further the speculative schemes of Peter Herdic and a few others. Their opposition to Mr. Webb was, I think, the greatest compliment ever paid to him as a public servant, and will stand as a fact in his public career of which himself and friends have a right to be proud.

Keleon Packard aided in electing a Democrat to the office of Associate Judge of the county, for the term of five years. He afterwards helped to elect a Democrat to a seat in Congress for a term of two years, another to the State Senate, and also a member to the House of Representatives, each for the term of two years. The two last named misrepresented Bradford County by voting for W. A. Wallace for United States Senator. The Congressman helped to make up the first Democratic Congress since the Democratic party lost their majority by secession! One year thereafter he undertook to support Wm. R. Storrs for Sheriff, thus encouraging that gentleman to make that vigorous commercial campaign, in the hope that the same means and influences that had given his party success the year before, would enable him to pull through and reach an office of the highest importance financially, and in some hands a tremendous political engine. But Packard's character was fully understood by those on the other side. Somebody saw him a few days before the election, and yielding to the *powerful arguments* presented, he consented to betray the Democratic candidate under whose banner he had enlisted, and *secretly* transfer his voters to the Republican candidate.

Enraged by his treachery the Democratic leaders evidently quit trading with Keleon and the business of *selling out* became poor.

He signalized his return to the fold of the Republican party by modestly announcing himself as a candidate for Sheriff three years ago, thus putting himself in the way of the Republicans in his own part of the county, and hindering the success of better men than himself. Now he is content to take the office of County Treasurer, as it has unfortunately for the tax payers become a lucrative office, (I hope our next Board of County Commissioners will make it less so by lowering the Treasurer's percentage.)

I can see no propriety or fitness in allowing this disciple of Peter Herdic to become the custodian of our public moneys, unless he is wanted as kind of "Head Centre" of corruption and peculation in our county affairs. His well known mercenary character, warrants us in assuming that as County Treasurer he would be in favor of large expenditures. [illegible] His well known energy and capcity for intrigue, would naturally attract the worst elements in the county' such as believe in and practice the "rules of addition division and silence," and I should look for the organization of a ring for the purpose of public plunder after the Herdic or Tweed pattern; on a smaller scale of course as our Poor House and Bridge expenditures will not allow *unlimited* stealing.

With ten or twenty thousand dollars of county money on deposit Keleon would not go to sleep until he had thought of some plan, or concocted some job by which indirectly he could reach more than his legal share of the public funds.

In the name of political decency and honesty, I protest against the indorsement of this man by the Republican convention, whose political offences absolves every member of the party from any obligation to support him at the polls, and whose advancement and success would tend to discourage anything like honest political effort in the party.

No party can live and prosper that rewards treason with lucrative office, thus offering a premium for the defeat of its candidates; and degrading the worthy members of the party.

We have hundreds of men in the Republican party more worthy to receive this office than this chief of political knavery; and I do not believe that in any event he will be called upon to take the oath and give bonds for the faithful performance of the duties of County Treasurer.

One more word on the general question of our county affairs. Every taxpayer will feel the effect of good or bad management when the collector visits him with the duplicate of County and Poor taxes, whether he takes any part in the primary meetings or conventions or not. I exhort every citizen to give the matter of our county offices some attention. We want honesty and capacity in all those offices, and in none are we more interested than the election of three honest business men as County Commissioners. We should not allow these nominations to be made subordinate to any others. The power of taxation and expenditure, within certain legal limits are in the hands of the County Commissioners.

That office may be conducted carefully and economically, or carelessly and extravagantly. Like all other offices it was in theory, made for the public benefit and not for the reward or support of individuals. If the people see to the matter in their primary meetings they can fill the county offices as they should be, on business principles. If they leave these offices to be traded off in the County Convention they may be filled very unworthily.

In conclusion let me say I sign my name to this communication because I do not wish to have it suspected as coming from some one writing in the interest of another candidate for Treasurer. I depend upon the facts as I have given them and the force of the views presented, not upon the signature, for the effect upon Republican voters, and up to this time I have not settled in my own mind who can best save the party from the disgrace and humiliation of Packard's nomination by defeating him.

Yours truly,
B. LAPOINTE.

(Continued From Last Week.)

THE A. B. C. OF THE RAIL ROAD QUESTION.

RAILROAD OFFICIAL.—"Now, my friend, you are getting a little excited; Mr. Vanderbilt is not charging the people along the line of the Harlem Road as much as it cost them before the railroad was built, and yet you call him a free-booter; if you don't like the rates we charge, why don't you wagon your produce to market, or go to the legislature, and get it to reduce the rate of freight?"

CITIZEN.—"Well, there is some freight wagoned to market now, right alongside of the greatest invention for carrying freight cheaply and quickly that has ever been made, but I do not think it is right that any man or set of men should be allowed to monopolize all the benefits of that invention, especially when these benefits have been vouchsafed in a greater degree to the people of other sections, whose produce is carried to the market at much cheaper rates, and with which the people of my section have to compete. I do not think it right that Mr. Vanderbilt should abrogate the natural advantages of the contiguity of my property to this market by charging me higher proticnate rates of freight, and indeed, he has no business to charge me or my neighbors upon any other principle than the *cost of service* with *a fair profit added thereto*, and when I say a fair profit, I mean not more than ten per cent. upon the actual money Mr. Vanderbilt originally put into that road, and not upon watered stock, or stock issued to represent 'surplus earnings' (which is really the people's money) invested in extending or improving the road. Such betterments should be made with Mr. Vanderbilt's own money, or money actually subscribed for that purpose, and for which stock may be legitimately be issued; 'and as regards the second part of your question, 'Why the people do not go to the legislature and have the rates lowered,' I want to say to you that this is just what we propose to do. I say this with the full knowledge that you railroad men are sending money into districts all over the State (and other States as well), to influence nominations or elections; that the votes of individual citizens are bought and sold almost as freely as any other merchandize; that you send every member of the Legislature, before he takes his seat, a free pass, and that many influential politicians, editors and clergymen are shown the same 'attentions'; even coroners or tax assessors along your lines being thus remembered. I say it, knowing that the most eloquent advocates will appear at Albany to plead your cause; that men who are elected to the Legislature in your interest, while nominally representing that of the public, will secretly obstruct legislation and trade their votes to serve you; that your advertising patronage will be exerted upon newspapers, and that shippers will be provided with preferential rates to advocate a continuance of the present system, which over their neighbors, and that where all these fail you will resort to direct bribery to accomplish your ends. The task is a great one, but in time it will be accomplissed. I believe that laws defining the public rights will be passed by the Legislature of every State, and that the Congress of the United States will pass the Reagan bill, or some other honest bill for the regulation of the inter State commerce, and that executive bodies will be provided to supervise the operation of public highways, and see that the laws are executed. *Either this or the State will annul existing charters, and re-assume her function which she has (temporarily delegated) of furnishing highways.*

RAILROAD OFFICIAL.—"You would put politicians at work running railroads, would you, in the hopes of getting better and cheaper service than at present?"

CITIZEN.—"No, that is not necessary; the State could own the railroads and lease them, under proper restrictions, to associations to operate, as the State of Massachusetts has done, as the city of Cincinnati has done, and as the dominion of Canada and other governments have done, where roads were wholly or partly owned, and the control thus retained in the hands of the public."

RAILROAD OFFICIAL.—"Wouldn't you have a nice centralization of power in the hands of government?"

CITIZEN.—"Not so very much more than at present, and in the words of a United States Senate Committee, "It is more dangerous to have a centralization of power in the hands of a few men, who recognize no responsibility but to their stock-holders, and no principle of action but personal and corporate aggrandisement, than in adding somewhat to the power and patronage of a government directly responsible to the people and entirely under their control." While I respect the opinions of all good citizens who believe that the functions of governments should be as few as possible, yet I believe it has come to a point where we must choose the least of two evils, that we must offset the power of the people centralized in their State and National Government against a greater and more dangerous centralization of power in the hands of great corporations. Our postal system might perhaps be better managed under private control, but I doubt it, and the experiment of the government managing the telegraphs in Great Britain has resulted in the public receiving far cheaper service than before. The ownership and operation of railways by government in many of the English colonies, as well as other countries, compare favorably with those in private hands, and in my opinion, the cry of 'centralization of power' is chiefly raised by those who seek to unduly tax the masses of the people for what ought to be a public service. At any rate, the interest of the individual citizen cries loudly for protection from extortions by monopolies, whether gas, water, telegraph or railroad corporations, and if relief can come only through government ownership or revolution, it will sooner or later come. If the Republican party won't give it, perhaps the Democratic party will. If neither affords the relief a party will rise up which will afford it. The descendants of men who fought to establish free institutions in this country and found a government of the people, for the people, by the people, are not going to quietly submit to a government of corporations, for corporations, by corporations, when these institutions are the creation of the people, and exist by the grace of the people. It won't take many more years of stock watering and discriminations, and but a few more Vanderbilts, Goulds and Huntingtons, to wipe out all corporations, no mattter how beneficent or how well conducted. Modern improvements are good things in their way, but like fire they may be good servants and bad masters. Corporations controlling steam and electricity, are benificent institutions so long as they remain servants of the people, but when they seek to be masters, and decide not only what share of the profits of production and commerce the public shall receive, but what individuals shall receive it; when vast wealth is suddenly acquired by such means, and to perpetuate their power they corrupt our elections and legislation to an extent which endangers both the moral and political welfare of the nation, it is time that the people took measures to realize the benefits of steam and electricity without the intervention of corporations, and unless the relations to the public of railroad and other great corporations are soon to be readjusted upon a more equitable basis, the people will take such measures, and DON'T YOU FORGET IT!"

EDITOR OF REPUBLICAN:—I am not a newspaper correspondent, and would not now attempt writing had my attention not been attracted to a fabular statement of the County Commissioners, showing among other things what purports to be the actual indebtedness of the county. We will examine this statement for ourself and find if we can what the actual condition of the same is or may be at the close of the current year. Taking their statement as given in the Auditors Report of last winter, the amount of money on hand, no resources to fall back upon, the amount of tax levied this year, and at the end of the present year you will find that the tax-payers will have a county debt upon them of not less than seventy-five thousand dollars. Judging future by the financial management of the past the sum will be greater. For the facts, we find the ordinary current expenses of the county during the past two years, upon which report had been made under the management of our present Board of Commissioners, after deducting the amount disbursed upon the Poor House, Towanda Bridge, and under the sheep law in the shape of dog tax, to have been for the year 1879, nearly forty-four thousand dollars, and for the year 1880, over forty-one thousand dollars. We also find that they have levied a county tax this year of five mills on the dollar, which by this statement shows that it will raise five eighths of the amount shown by them which would be gross, less than thirty-six thousand dollars—the balance being poor tax and set apart for that purpose only, cannot be used for county purposes, we will dispose of it before we get through and show how much will probably be upon hand at the end of the year. Tions and percentage of collection, and you have left the sum of thirty-three thousand seven hundred dollars to be applied for county expenses, to this sum add the amount in Treasury at last settlement, we find the following to wit:—

Net amount county tax for 1881,	$33,700.00
In Treas. Jan. 1, 1881, county funds,	22,597.18
In Treas. Jan' 1, 1881, bal. of $40,000.00 borrowed,	959.30
Total amt. resources for 1881,	$57,256.48

What are the liabilities? We find the Poor House on the first of January but little more than the walls up and inclosed, the Insane Department not near as far advanced, little or no improvements made upon the farm, a large force of hands at work upon Poor House, many of them or others still there, and the work not yet completed, together with the amount of material necessary to be purchased, plumbing, furniture, and fixtures to put the buildings in the condition they are required. After taking into consideration all things important to be done and the expenditure of money they had already made up to the close of last year, we cannot estimate the additional expense at less than twenty-five thousand dollars. They may delay a portion of it, until next year, and perhaps will, as some of them are candidates for re-election, and there was only $959.30 of the forty thousand dollars left on Jan. 1, 1881. If this estimate is correct there is this amount of deficiency to be made up from the tax-payers. Let us recapitulate the probable liabilities of the county for the present year:

Amount necessary to complete and furnish Poor House, and Insane Department, say	$25,000.00
Current expenses of county for the year estimated by the last two years	42,000.00
Towanda Bridge and Expenses of litigation	24,000.00
Interest upon bonds	2,000.00
Treasurers Commission as per last year, from county	2,882.00
Amount of Bonds outstanding	40,000.00
State tax to be paid from county funds estimated	3,000.00
	$138,882.00
Deduct resources	57,256.48
Probable indebtedness of the county upon the first of January next	$80,625.52

We submit this statement to the careful consideration of the reader, compare it with former annual reports of this Board of Commissioners, the condition, on the first of January last and say if we are not substantialy correct.

Next comes the Poor tax. As we have said this is only for the support of the Poor, cannot be used for any other purpose. We find that this tax will net a little over nineteen thousand dollars. From this fund the poor are to be supported until July next before anything can be realized from next year's tax. There are now in the Poor House about one hundred persons. This fall and winter it must increase to one hundred and fifty or upwards. Let us estimate the number at an average of one hundred and twenty-five for the year, and the cost of support, board, clothing, fuel, lights etc., at one hundred dollars each, and we find in April next twelve thousand five hundred dollars of this fund used up, then you have the salary of the Superintendent and his assistant, salary of the physician, and the salary of the Superintendent of the Insane department, hired help and many other incidental expenses to be paid out of the balance and little, if any of this fund can or will be left in April next. Upon this condition of county affairs, we find at least two of the present Board of Commissioners, candidates for re-election, the third has been selected by the same element that now have the control of county matters, and the order goes forth they must be put through and elected. Not in this all. We are informed that a portion, if not all of the same Board of Auditors are to be re-elected also. We now ask both Republicans and Democrats, are you willing that this state of things shall continue, or will you take matters into your own hands and elect new men to those offices, men of ability to carefully and successfully manage the offices of the county, so that she may once more assume her financial standing with other independent counties in the Commonwealth. The question is submitted to you and must be decided at the coming Conventions, whether a few *political bosses* of each party must control and manage for you, or will you maintain your rights and insist upon having the best men for place or position.

August 16th, 1881. REX.

A Glance Backward.

A great country is the United States of America, great in territory, great in our prospective population, and great in our physical improvements. Whence came we by all this greatness? Go back fifty years. The most of our territory was an unexplored wilderness. Beyond the Ohio river was the impenetrable West. The rich lands of the Interior could not be given away, and the plains beyond the Mississippi were the undisputed domain of buffalo herds. Chicago and St. Louis were only little clearings where the cabins of a few hunters and trappers might be found. Travelers of to-day can sail a half dozen times around the globe easier than the overland emigrant could once penetrate the wilds of Nebraska. Our population to-day is 50,000,000, then it was 13,000,000 or about one quarter as great as now. Railroads were being talked of as a dim possibility. Telegraphy had not been heard of. We had no commerce on the ocean and only a few straggling steamboats on our inland waters.

Go back fifty years farther. The thirteen colonies formed a narrow strip along the Atlantic coast. Their united population, 3,000,000, was less than the present population of either Ohio or Illinois. Central New York was a wilderness. Philadelphia was a modest quaker town where patriot colonists came together to consult over a proposed American Republic. Enthusiasts thought that a bright future awaited the young nation if the jealous States could only be organized under a common charter, but prudent men shook their heads and pointed to former failures in representative government.

Go back a century and a half. The Pilgrims had just stepped from the Mayflower and stood shivering upon the shore of the New World. The smoke of other settlements might be seen on the James River, Manhattan Island, and at a few points along the coast. Some of these early emigrants were adventurers and soon returned, but by far the greater number were religious exiles and had come to stay. Political restraint was behind them,—a howling wilderness before them. Live or die they must not return. The tide of emigration did not cease until Old England had given much of their best blood to New England, and had peopled the Atlantic settlements with such a stock of men as the world had never seen.

Why are we able to show such great results within the first century of our national existence? The first answer must be: A favoring Providence has presided over us. God, the Universal Father, has had certain ends to secure in the growth of this country. He has directed us to the sources of our prosperity and His hand has been shaping our welfare. And next observe how solid were the foundations laid by the exiles who founded the early colonies, and by the patriots of the revolution. Our fathers no sooner took possession of these shores than they established churches and schools, and organized a government upon the basis of conscience and intelligence. Fear of God and justice among men were the foundations upon which they built. Any people has a rich inheritance that can point to such founders, and if we would continue to prosper as a nation we must not forget to acknowledge the overruling hand of God, nor must we allow the stirling character of our ancestry to pass into oblivion, while we sneer at their blunders and scoff at their simple habits. Blunders they people ever received from their forefathers so rich an inheritance as ours. Let us look at some particulars wherein we have been favored above other nations.

First let it be noted that this territory was mainly unoccupied. A few Indian tribes roamed here and there with only rude weapons of defence, and the land was open to the strangers by simply clearing up the wilderness. The massacres which some of the early settlers suffered might have been avoided, had all of them treated the Red men with the fairness which characterized the Quakers. God entrusted an almost helpless race to our keeping, and the misuse we have made of our opportunity must ever remain one of the greatest blots against us.

Not only by driving out the Indians, but by fortunate bargains with other nations, have we gained our vast territory. We purchased the Lousiana tract of the French in 1803 for $15,000,000. That purchase consisted not simply of our present State of Lousiana, but a territory lying along the Mississippi far to the north and west, of more than a million square miles, equal to more than twenty states like Pennsylvania. You could not buy any one of the main railways in Pennsylvania or New York for that sum of money. We bought Florida of Spain. Mexico sold us California. And a few years ago when Russia was tired of Alaska and put her on the market, our statesmen could not resist the temptation of adding that territory to our bloated possessions. We made a few settlements along the Atlantic coast and claimed all the land west of them for hundreds of miles into the interior. We drove the Red men from their hunting grounds and we improved every good chance to buy land when other nations would sell out their claims. We must have credit for much hard work in clearing up the wilderness, but no nation ever came into possession of its original soil so easily.

How came we by our population? We have more people than the British Islands, or Germany, but we have gained our population in large measure by emigration from foreign countries. During the last half century this emigration has been pouring in upon us like a flood. In one week recently 17000 emigrants are said to have landed in New York city. Half a million came over from the Old World last year, enough to make ten cities like Syracuse each of 50,000 inhabitants. Other countries are overrunning with citizens—enough have they and to spare, while the increased facilities of ocean travel, our cheap homesteads, and snuffs of free air, are beckoning on the emigrant. During the last half century Ireland and Germany have each furnished us with 3,000,000 people, while from all sources more than 10,000,000 foreigners have found homes among us.

How came we by our Independence? The original colonies which formed the basis of thirteen of these States were offshoots of Great Britain, and for a century and a half were treated as dependencies of that country. Had it not been for the blunders of Geo. III and his Parliament,—we might have been to-day in the same condition as Canada or Australia, tributary to a foreign power. But the old king was arbitrary, and England had not then learned the wisdom she has since learned in ruling her colonies. She taxed our Fathers to defray the expenses of government, but would not allow them any part in her legislation. The principle of taxation was not wrong, but it was unwisely managed, and our Fathers chafed under the arbitrary rulings of the mother country. They had hewn their homes out of the forest, and felt that they had some right to enjoy them unmolested, and to have a voice in that legislation which concerned their own interests. The king and his counselors thought differently and they provoked the colonists into revolution. "No taxation without representation" was the watchword. The officers sent to enforce the tax were mobbed. The tea was thrown overboard in Boston Harbor. Independence was declared, and the old bell in Philadelphia rang out the promise, "America shall be free." While we may honor our Fathers in their struggle against usurpation we must remember that they did not act wisely in all things. How soon they forgot to apply the principle which they claimed for themselves in their treatment of the Indian and African races. They founded this government by saying,—"All men are created equal,—endowed with certain inaliena ble rights such as life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," but they soon qualified that declaration by saying in practice, "All men are created equal except Red men and Negroes." B