



C. D. MURRAY, Editor. D. C. ZAHM, Publisher.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1859.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

The Democratic State Convention will assemble at Harrisburg on the 16th inst. The result of its deliberations will be waited for by the Democracy of the State with feelings of intense anxiety...

Our neighbor seems to think that we did not last week return a satisfactory answer to his important interrogatories; of course he has a perfect right to think so. We think that we did return a perfectly satisfactory answer. We furthermore beg leave to assure our amiable neighbor...

As our neighbor seems at a loss for a subject on which to discourse to the public, through the editorial columns of his paper, we will pardon us for recommending the "Hoop pole question," as a subject worthy of his pen. Or suppose he furnishes us with a series of articles on the following subject: "Is the moon made of green cheese?"

We have been told within the last week that an effort will be made to procure the passage of a resolution by the State Convention declaring Stephen A. Douglas to be the first choice of the Democracy of Pennsylvania for the Presidency in 1860.

It is of course the interest of the enemies of our party to promote dissensions in our ranks. But unless we are struck by "judicial blindness," we will not allow their efforts to be crowned by success.

We regret that our correspondent Observer devoted such a large amount of note paper, nice, delicate, gold-edged note paper, in a hopeless cause. The "material" he wasted would have been sufficient for at least five nice little sentimental love letters, and we feel confident our correspondent has a taste for that kind of composition.

A National Sunday School Convention was held in Philadelphia last week. The Philadelphia Enquirer states that a large amount of important business was transacted. We believe Cambria County was not represented.

Mr. Ely, will open a Select School in the Union Building in this Borough, on Monday the 7th inst.

Coming events cast their shadows before.—Billy, a bachelor friend of ours, received the other day a valentine in the shape of a tastefully made garment of the kind that all of us wear during the first year of our existence.

Yesterday, the first day of March, was as clear, balmy and pleasant as a May day. The old saying that "March comes in like a lion," did not hold good this year. Since March has made his bow with a smiling face, let us all give him a friendly greeting in the genial language of Bryant—

"Though passing few are they who speak, Wild stormy month, in praise of thee, And though thy winds are loud and bleak, Thou art a welcome month to me. For thou to northern climes again, The glad and glorious sun dost bring, And thou hast joined the gentle Spring, And wrested the gentle name of Spring."

"BLESSED ARE THE MEEK."

Our neighbor of the Mountaineer doubtless had the old saying "that an open confession is good for the soul," in his "mind's eye," while indicating the leader, in his "last number of his paper. He acknowledges that his readers were perfectly right, in regarding the editorial articles in his paper during the last two or three weeks, as very great bores. A very exalted compliment certainly to the good sense of the readers of the Mountaineer; but a very doubtful one to the ability of its Editor.

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SENATORIAL CONFERENCE.

The perusal of the proceedings of the Senatorial Conference, which we publish in another column, will doubtless surprise many of our readers. Mr. Thomas Collins the delegate appointed is our neighbor, and we know him to be a very amiable man, but we also know that a large majority of the Democracy of the district are opposed to his political course during the last year, and that if the matter had been left to them, he would not have been selected as their delegate to the State Convention.

We are astonished at the course pursued by a majority of the Conferees from this County. They knew well that the County Convention which appointed them, adopted unanimously, resolutions endorsing in unqualified terms, the Administration of James Buchanan, and that the Convention did not contain a corporal's guard of the enemies of the President.

We have heard several of Mr. Collins' friends claim his appointment by the Conference as an Anti-Disunion trifle. A triumph obtained by such means is certainly not a matter to boast about. We have also been told that Mr. Collins intended entering the Convention as the special friend of Senator Douglas, and that he will endeavor to procure the passage of a resolution declaring the "Little Giant" as his friends call him, to be the first choice of the Democracy of this State for President in 1860.

We see it stated in a number of our exchanges, that a grandson of Robert Burns, is now living in Dumfries Scotland, where the poet died. He is very poor, and though the town of Dumfries celebrated the Centenary Anniversary of the birth of the Poet in a very spirited manner, the neglected son of the "bard peasant" was not invited to participate in the festivities of the occasion.

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MURDER IN WASHINGTON CITY.

Our Pittsburgh exchanges yesterday, contained the particulars of a horrible murder which occurred in Washington City on last Sunday. Philip B. Key United States District Attorney was shot dead on one of the Public streets of the city, by Hon. Daniel Sickles, of New York. Mr. Sickles is well known as one of the most prominent politicians of the state of New York. The telegraphic dispatch gives the following particulars:

According to the report, Mr. Sickles becoming convinced of the truth of certain scandalous rumors involving his wife, resolved to redress his wrongs about two o'clock this afternoon. Proceeding from his residence near the President's house, to the southeast corner of Lafayette square, in the same neighborhood where Key was engaged in conversation with Mr. Butterworth, of New York, he charged Key with dishonoring him and destroying his domestic peace, and immediately shot him with a revolver.

The body was taken into the National Club House. The Coroner immediately summoned a jury, and the inquest was continued several days. A verdict was rendered merely stating that the death was caused from the effects of pistol shots, as above stated, fired by Hon. B. Sickles. Crowds of persons gathered in the vicinity of the Club House during the day, anxiously inquiring into all the circumstances of the event.

Mr. Sickles confesses her guilt. If the facts are as stated, Mr. Sickles will command the sympathy of the entire nation. Who would blame him for the rash act, under the circumstances?

WASHINGTON AFFAIRS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The rumor that all the available naval force, including the United States ship Vengeance, has been ordered to the Gulf, seems strengthened by a remark made by the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means to-day, that this American Sea, as he termed it, belongs to us and that we will and must exercise control over it.

The next arrival from Mexico will, it is anticipated, bring highly important intelligence in connection with the French and English fleets, and requiring a larger American naval force than heretofore. In that quarter, the Pennsylvania and other members representing different parties voted with three favorable to the revival of the tariff of 1846. Mr. Hughes' influential motion to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a bill for that purpose. Some, while opposed to the bill, thought that it would afford a basis for a different measure.

The Special Committee appointed to investigate the charges of corruption against Mr. Sevier have made a report. As it was immediately sent to the Printer, there was no opportunity to examine its contents, but on authority of the statement of a member of the Committee, it appears that while the Committee unanimously concur in opinion, that the testimony does not exculpate him, they think it insufficient to warrant his expulsion. The House will be called on to-morrow to decide upon the subject, as proposed by the Committee. It is further said that Mr. Sevier has fled a statement of his own, to rebut the testimony against him.

BY OVERLAND MAIL.

St. Louis, Feb. 22.—The Overland Mail, with dates to the 28th has arrived. A fight had occurred between a party of volunteers under Captain Mesick, and a large body of Indians, in the Humboldt country. Twenty Indians were killed and a number taken prisoners.

A card, published in the San Francisco Herald, coloring the course and address of John Nugent, caused considerable excitement at Victoria. Several counter cards appeared. The bark Penguin and clipper Boston had arrived with eight Hong Kong passengers. They state that heavy rains had fallen in California. There was considerable emigration from Texas to the Gila gold mines.

Capt. Johnson, a passenger from Fort Belknap, on route for Washington, was robbed as he stepped from the train at the Pacific railroad depot, of one thousand dollars in money, and several hundred dollars worth of treasury drafts.

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LATER FROM UTAH.

As we intimated in our last letter, the United States District Court for the Territory had adjourned sine die, pending the consideration of business going under the laws of the Territory. The present case is a case for the consideration of the expenses of the court while sitting Territorial jurisdiction, and the amount of more weight and consequence, the majority in this Territory being a system of oppression and knavery.

The Oregon Indians were quiet, but the Indians in Southern California had become troublesome. General Clark was about to proceed with 500 men to chastise them. The California Legislature, by a vote of fifty to one, had adopted a resolution requesting U. S. Senator Broderick to resign.

The Jackson Mississippi well and truth fully says—"Every crisis in the affairs of the country, and every important national question which has arisen for the adjustment of Congress since the foundation of our Government, has produced, to a greater or less extent, new political combinations and changes in the construction of parties.

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NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 22.

The Tehuantepec company's steamship, Quaker City, Capt. Steinfeld, from Minatitlan, arrived here to-day, with San Francisco, dated to the 5th inst., and 103 passengers. The Pacific mail steamer Stephens sailed from San Francisco on the 5th with \$1,400,000 in treasure, including \$1,036,000 for New York, and 250 passengers, via Panama.

Business at San Francisco had revived and was brisk while money was easy. Coffee had advanced, and Rio sold at 20 1/2. Domestic liquors were advancing. Heavy rains had fallen. The mining prospects continued favorable.

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