

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS. GEORGE SCOTT, Columbia Co. JACOB FRY, Jr., Montgomery Co. TIMOTHY IVES, Potter Co.

Topics of the Week.

The Zebra Convention. The Fusion Convention which assembled at Harrisburg last week, and put in nomination a State ticket, has been very appropriately named as above, because, like the colors of the Zebra, it exhibited a variety of political stripes quite as numerous, if not quite as brilliant as its namesake. Like the Zebra, these political stripes all terminated at the back bone—and that back bone was opposition to the Democratic party.

Legislative.

We have but few items of interest from Harrisburg, either of a local or general character. Among the former we notice that a bill has been introduced which provides for the sale of the Main Line of the Public Works from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, including the tax on tonnage payable on the Pennsylvania Railroad, to the Sunbury and Erie Company for seven and a half millions of dollars, the whole amount to be secured by a first mortgage on the whole line of the road of the said Company, with interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. Other single guards are said to be provided for the security of the State, and the terms of payment are fixed at such periods as will be easy and advantageous for the Company. Had this bill been introduced early in the session, there might be some good reason to hope for its passage; as it is, we do not think the prospect is flattering. We hope, however, we are mistaken.

Another item of local interest is the following:

Mr. Whelan has introduced a bill to incorporate the Erie, Bradford, and State Line Railroad Company, and to dispose of the Railroad from Erie to the New York State Line.

Both Houses of the Legislature, through a Committee of Conference, have agreed upon a new License Bill, which, if its provisions are faithfully carried out, will undoubtedly meet the approbation of a majority of the people. It authorizes the Courts to license hotels, inns, taverns, and eating houses, under certain protective restrictions. Not more than one license to every 100 taxable males may be licensed in the cities, nor more than one to every 150 taxable males in the country, to be apportioned among the wards of the cities, and boroughs and townships of the counties, as the convenience and necessities of the public may require. The minimum rate of hotel licenses in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, is fixed at \$75; in country towns and boroughs of over 200 taxable males, \$60; in the country, \$25. One eating house to every four hotels may be licensed in city and country, with the

THE CANASOON CONVENTION.

If any of our readers have been asked to attend the Canasoon Convention, we have only to reply that our opponents have chosen to make it the issue, and are striving to misrepresent, not only the position of the Democratic party, but also the state of facts upon which we are in common with our party, claim that Whitefish, and not Hoeller, is the legally elected delegate from that territory. In this view of the case, it is both proper and right that we should have nothing to say upon the question, we should communicate it to our readers, so that they may form an opinion intelligently in the premises. In a recent number of the Journal of Commerce, a paper by no means partisan in character, we find a calm review of the question in its connection with the duties of the Committee of Investigation recently appointed by Congress, and now on route for the scene of its labors in Canasoon. After saying that the members of this Committee "differ widely from each other in their opinions and prejudices," and that a majority and minority report will hence be inevitable, the article proceeds to say that: "Upon one point, however, we apprehend they will be agreed, namely, that Mr. Whitefish was duly elected, on the day and in the manner prescribed by the law, to sit in the Congress of the United States as delegate from the Territory of Canasoon. Doubtless they will find that some of those who claim their votes at this election were illegally obtained, and that some were unaccountably withheld from exercising their rights of franchise. Yet, as it is not an indisputable fact that great numbers of persons voted who were legally entitled to do so, and who exercised their privilege unimpeded by threats of violence on any side, and so Mr. Whitefish was the only person voted for, even if those votes which may be found to have been illegal, were struck off the list, it still remains true that Mr. Whitefish was the person who received 'the highest number of legal votes.' To invalidate this election, it would be necessary to declare null and void every vote under which the election was held; and this cannot be done without seeking to overturn the plainest and simplest elements of justice and truth.

When the law passed for the organization of the Territory, and when in compliance with its provisions the proper administrative officers, a Governor, Secretary, Judges, &c. were named by the President, and their appointments ratified by the Senate of the United States, these officials entered immediately upon the discharge of their respective functions. The same Act provided for the election of a Territorial Legislature, and the enactment of laws. The law was elected, and Governor Read, who that day it was to see that this body was legally constituted, or else to refuse to sanction it, officially certified its legality, and the laws which it passed have in due course been promulgated, acknowledged and acted upon, by the Judiciary of the Territory, and the laws have been enforced, or had, just or unjust, it is the duty of the inhabitants of Canasoon to abide by them, until the time arrives for the election of a new Legislature, in whose power it will be to abrogate any law, or to amend any law which their predecessors may have committed. Unless, therefore, it be proved that the laws enacted in conformity with the organic law of the Territory, are not in fact the laws of the Territory, unless it be proved that they were appointed by law for such election, some other person obtained a greater number of legal votes than Mr. Whitefish, we hold it to be impossible to invalidate the election without calling in question the right of the national government to dispose of the Territory, and from which all the laws enumerated take force and effect. If the people of Canasoon are dissatisfied with their delegate or with their representatives in the local Legislature, they can elect others when the appointed time arrives, and if the latter have exceeded their powers, and passed any measures which are unconstitutional, the proper tribunals of appeal are open to them, where their grievances and wrongs, if well founded, are sure of redress. Had they been left to themselves, there is no doubt but they would have been of this opinion, and would have kept within the law, and not proceeded to acts of open violence and rebellion, for which even the insufficient excuse of necessity cannot be truthfully alleged. That they should have pursued this course dictated by reason and calm good sense, and yielded a partial obedience to the law-making power, would not have been the duty of a political party outside the Territory, who were freely sought at this opportunity to excite and feed the flame of rebellion for their own base and selfish purposes. Leading a too ready ear to these evil counsels, a portion of the inhabitants of the Territory were insane enough to rise in opposition to the government, to the laws enacted by the Federal Executive, and to trample on the laws. When the day named by the legally constituted authorities for the election of a delegate arrived, they refused to attend, and assuming to themselves powers beyond the law, without a single vestige of justification either in law or precedent, they proceeded to call for a new election, nominated their officers and sent forth another delegate, who pretends that this form election, by a parcel of men not only clothed with no legal rights or power, but acting in direct contravention of a distinct enactment of the law, and in the face of the laws of the State, to the exclusion of him who was the legitimate and duly chosen representative of the law of the land. Not content with this, they push their rebellion further, and casting off all submission to the Supreme Government, choose another legislative body, ignore the existence of the Government, and his officials, name a day and place to meet in convention to draw up a constitution, and on their own unassisted authority, to vote themselves admission into the Union as a State.

In this condition of things, with two rival political parties within the Territory, the one of which is in the possession of the law, and the other of which is in the possession of the law, the President in his executive capacity, interpreted his authority, decided which was the government to which the people were to submit, and which he was determined to uphold; and in this decision, pronounced with the calm impartiality of a Judge, and with the dignity which ever characterizes the exercise of supreme authority, our respected Chief Magistrate has been sustained by the warm approbation of the people, law-abiding citizens of all parties and denominations throughout the land. To this decision and to the firm and energetic measures employed to carry it into effect, we are undoubtedly indebted for the present—we sincerely hope indefinite—postponement of the threatened conflict within the Territory, and for the announced abandonment by the self-dubbed Governor Robinson and his co-southern friends, of their revolutionary and treasonable proceedings. They have come to a wise conclusion, in which they will have the good sense to persist, in refusing to proceed to overt acts of treason.

To the Farmers of the United States.

Chicago, Ill. Feb. 26, 1856. The decision of the Illinois Circuit Court, delivered by Justice McLean, that Manny's machine does not infringe my patents, having been telegraphed throughout the country in a form calculated to create an erroneous impression on the public mind, I deem it necessary to say a few words on that subject, in order that all the purchasers of reapers respectively may be informed of their rights in the premises. In a similar case (re Seymour and Morgan) the decisions and rulings of Justice Nelson and the verdict of two New York juries were in my favor, and three makers of Manny reapers, not riding a defense, took license under my patents. Said decisions and rulings have also been approved by the Supreme Court, which high tribunal will, I doubt not, sustain the same with my claims next winter, when this case with Manny will be before it for hearing; thus bringing all Manny's machines into the same category as those which were before it last winter, and which were sustained by the Supreme Court.

Arrival of the Atlantic.

The Atlantic has arrived at this port, bringing Liverpool dates to March 19th. Peace is considered as virtually concluded, and the arrival of the British Plenipotentiary at Paris was also announced by the telegraph.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

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