

Wednesday, July 19, 1865.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

At the last formal meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee, it was resolved that the State Convention should be called to meet at Harrisburg on Wednesday, the 21st day of June inst.

But, having since learned from a majority of the Committee, and been advised by many other leading Democrats of the State, that a postponement to a later day would, on many accounts, be acceptable, and is generally desired, I hereby give notice that the next Democratic State Convention of Pennsylvania will convene at the Hall of the House of Representatives, in the city of Harrisburg, on THURSDAY, THE 24TH DAY OF AUGUST NEXT, at one o'clock P. M.

C. L. WARD, Chairman, Towanda, June 18, 1865.

The Democratic papers of the State respectfully requested to copy.

THE BEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENT FOR THE FAMILY.—"The piano-forte," says the American Baptist, "extensively as it is used, is not so well adapted to all the purposes of sacred and secular music as another instrument which is now justly claiming a large share of public attention, and which has already been extensively introduced into schools, churches, and families, and received the endorsement of the chief organists, musicians, and artists of America—we mean the Mason and Hamlin Cabinet Organ."

Ford's Theatre. The Young Men's Christian Association failed to raise funds sufficient to warrant them in making the first payment on the contract for the purchase of Ford's Theatre.

PROBABLE ACQUITTAL OF MARY HARRIS.—The trial of Mary Harris for the killing of A. J. Burroughs, a clerk in the Treasury Department, is drawing to a close.

Mrs. Swishelm on Mrs. Surratt. Mrs. Jane Swishelm, in a letter to the Pittsburg Commercial, defends the late Mrs. Surratt, in tones like these: I know those who have known her as the belle and beauty of her country, the petted spoiled favorite of friends, the idol of parents, husband and children.

Another section was left in the shape of an elongated triangle, and not unlike the steeple of a church. In a few moments this sunk slowly down, the point still remaining upright and in position until the whole section disappeared. It did not appear to fall, but apparently sunk into the earth.

At about a quarter to one o'clock the heat became so intense that it set the easterly front of St. Paul's Church on fire. Several fire companies turned their streams upon the building, and continued to play upon the edifices until the Museum and the other buildings fronting on Broadway had been consumed.

GREAT FIRE IN NEW YORK.

Barnum's Museum and Eleven Other Buildings Burned.

Loss One Million Dollars.

[From the New York Evening Post, second edition.] Shortly after noon to-day a terrible fire occurred in the American Museum, extending rapidly to the adjacent buildings on Broadway, Ann street and Fulton street.

At the moment of putting this edition to press the fire is still unsubdued, but a strong force of firemen is at work, and there is a prospect of checking the progress of the flames without further serious damage.

At thirty five minutes past twelve a fire caught beneath Groot's restaurant in Ann street, at the corner of the Museum building. In about two minutes, the flames burst out in Jones' shoe store, Nos. 10 and 12 Ann St. with every indication of an extensive conflagration.

The fire companies were immediately on the ground and promptly set to work, with apparent success; but the smoke was blinding, and for some minutes the whole Museum building was completely out of sight.

At 12 1/2 o'clock the flames burst out in the second story of the Museum, just over the restaurant, and spread with amazing rapidity, fed by the light and combustible material.

In a moment the fire mounted to the third story, and at forty minutes past twelve burst out of every window on the Ann street side of the Museum. It gave way apparently on the two lower floors, but raged furiously in the two upper stories. Part of the roof fell in five minutes later, and the neighboring buildings on Ann street were attacked.

The firemen railed in great force, but the flames were fanned by a strong breeze which swept them over the roofs of the adjoining buildings on Broadway, and in a few minutes the fire had gained a hold in the three upper stories of No. 214 Broadway.

The building was occupied by Rogers & Raymond, clothiers, and by the billiard room of Wallace & Reeves. It was entirely destroyed, except the walls, which were still standing at two o'clock.

The scene at this moment was fearfully grand. Vast volumes of smoke poured out of the windows on the Broadway and Ann streets, and every other place which commanded a view of the scene; while twenty steam and hand fire engines poured incessant streams of water upon the flaming mass.

So far as can now be ascertained, none of the visitors in the Museum, nor persons employed by Mr. Barnum, were injured. The alarm caused by the discovery of the fire in the restaurant on Ann street, was the signal for a general flight, and it is believed that everybody escaped safely before the Museum caught.

It was very fortunate that the fire occurred at mid day. Had it taken place in the evening, when the Museum is crowded with visitors, and the theatre crammed with spectators, the limited means of egress would have proved lamentably insufficient.

The sudden leap of the flames from floor to floor made it impossible to remove many of the curiosities contained in the Museum, and the living animals on exhibition were speedily destroyed.

Another section was left in the shape of an elongated triangle, and not unlike the steeple of a church. In a few moments this sunk slowly down, the point still remaining upright and in position until the whole section disappeared. It did not appear to fall, but apparently sunk into the earth.

The section of the front wall facing on Park Row, and at a slight deviation from the parallel of Broadway, still remained, and all eyes were turned in its direction. It was a very large, high portion, reaching to the uppermost story.

At about a quarter to one o'clock the heat became so intense that it set the easterly front of St. Paul's Church on fire. Several fire companies turned their streams upon the building, and continued to play upon the edifices until the Museum and the other buildings fronting on Broadway had been consumed.

The pillars of the church are slightly flaked by the intense heat, but no further damage has been done to this venerable and historical church edifice.

THE SCENE FROM ANN STREET.

It is now definitely ascertained that the fire proceeded from the boiler-room, in the northeastern corner of the Museum building, immediately under Groot's restaurant, on Ann street. At 12.35 P. M. the alarm was given.

The smoke at this moment was issuing from the shoe store of Jones & Kenwood, Nos. 10 and 12 Ann street. It appeared but trivial, and for a few moments everybody predicted that it would be subdued with trifling loss.

The fire companies now came tumbling along the street and took position around the Museum. The fat woman was seen hurrying out, and was conducted to a place of safety by a policeman. The other persons in the Museum escaped. It was impossible to rescue the animals or save anything valuable.

The fire in less than five minutes had mounted to the second story, leaving the shoe store and restaurant as though they were too small game for its operations.

Quitting the second story the flame darted upward and burst out at every window on the northern side of the Museum on the third and fourth stories. The whole upper part of the edifice was speedily enveloped in fire and smoke.

The crowd that thronged Ann street were driven half way to Nassau. The buildings on Park Row gave signs of yielding to the heat when the firemen began to play on them, and for a long time were successful in preventing them from taking fire.

The steam from the heated buildings and the dense smoke darkened the air.

The roof of the Museum had now fallen, and the interior of the building was like the crater of a volcano.

A stream of heated air issued from the top and was borne eastward by the breeze directly over the block, carrying with it light articles, pieces of burning wood, shingles, &c. One man on Ann street, not far from Nassau, was struck on the head by a shingle and knocked down. Others were in much danger by the pieces of burning material falling on their heads and clothing.

This served to clear the street, so that the firemen were left masters of the situation. At half-past one a crash resounding like the explosion of a powder magazine. The whole wall on the Ann street side had fallen.

The fire next communicated to the roof of Swift's book-binding, No. 14, and also No. 16, the publishing house of Dick and Fitzgerald, and gutted them completely.

At fifteen minutes before two another crash was heard. The Broadway front had fallen; and it was now a clear view over the burning mass into Broadway.

There were several minor panics during the fire. The sound of an explosion was heard about half past one o'clock, and immediately at least a thousand people scampered out of the way.

A report was started at one time that an escaped lion from the Museum was rushing down Broadway; and the result was the sudden flight of a few nervous people, who, imparting their terror to others, brought about quite a stampede.

At ten minutes to three o'clock the rear walls on Fulton street fell, making a loud noise. The crowd, believing an explosion had occurred, fled in the utmost terror.

The only curiosities reported to have been saved beside the fat woman (who was taken in charge by a policeman) were the live seal and a case of rare coins.

Mr. Barnum is in Hartford to-day. A telegram was sent to him this afternoon, and he will probably arrive here to night.

A Trial by Jury.

Extract from the speech of Hon. Charles J. Biddle delivered at Harrisburg, at the Democratic Celebration on the 4th inst. We regret that our space will not permit us to publish the whole of this able, eloquent and patriotic Address. We can only, however, give our readers the following brief extracts, and we call their attention to the sound principles so boldly and forcibly set forth by the honorable speaker.

"One of the great charges which the Declaration of Independence brought against George III, was, 'his effect to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.' This pretension revised in our days, and reaching even to the total suppression of the civil power, in all its relations to civil liberty, is the great political heresy that has prevailed at the North, as secession at the South. Both deserve the eternal condemnation of the people. The absolute sway, exercised by officials in the Northern States, was, in nearly every instance, their useless, wanton, irritating usurpation of functions that the Constitution and the laws have wisely vested in the civil tribunals of our country. Do not charge it upon Congress; no act of Congress ever authorized a military court to try a citizen not connected with the military service. Every act passed during this war; carefully sent all such cases to the civil courts. Even the conscript act provided that those accused of resisting it, if arrested by the military, should be 'forthwith delivered over to the civil authorities,' for trial. Yet here, in Pennsylvania, citizens accused of this very act, were, in open contempt of the law, imprisoned in the guard house at Camp Curtin, tried and sentenced by 'military commission.' Do not charge on the military power the base acts done in its name.

The military power of our country has its spheres, and it has filled it grandly; it needs no triumph over the civil institutions of our country. The gallant soldiers of the war are soiled with no complicity in the acts of petty despotism done by Secretaries of War politicians in civil office. You men of Harrisburg have seen the guard house of the neighboring camp tenanted, not by disorderly soldiers or rebel prisoners, but by editors and farmers and men in every walk of life, 'robbed of their civil rights, and subjected to the "lynch law" that is administered by military commissions. For all this there could be urged no plea of "military necessity," such as may leave a commander in the field of war no limit but his own will in the exertion of his own power. The plea of "military necessity" could not, with truth or decency, be urged in Pennsylvania, where no civil court was closed by armed rebellion, nor the due course of law, obstructed, save by those who made that plea the pretext for their acts. These acts were done from no "necessity," civil or military. They were prompted by that bad principle in human nature which the laws and constitutions of free governments are meant to curb. Shakespeare describes it when he says: 'Man proud man Drest in a little prof authority Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven As Make the angels weep.'

Your highest interests and the interests of your children demand that these acts shall not pass uncondemned, that be treated hereafter as precedents. The highest duty, now, of the people of this commonwealth is to vindicate the majesty of the law. To vindicate it at the ballot-box and in the courts of justice, so that never again upon the soils of Pennsylvania, her citizens shall be wantonly stripped of the rights that are their birth-right by titles older than the Constitution, older than the Declaration of Independence.

The Irrepressible Conflict—Great Riot in Charleston by Whites and Blacks—The Blacks Driven off by the Military (Charleston Mercury, July 10)

On Saturday evening, a very serious disturbance took place in the market, causing a great deal of excitement, and resulting in the killing of one man (colored) and wounding of three others, a Zouave and two colored men. The particulars, as reported, are as follows:

A small squad of Zouaves had been ordered on police duty at the market. One of them, while patrolling the middle market came into collision with a party consisting, it is said, of a number of the Twenty first U. S. C. T. and the fifty fourth Massachusetts Volunteers (colored), in addition to a number of outsiders. The Zouaves sent for assistance, when the squad came up and afterward the whole company on police duty arrived from their quarters at the Pavilion Hotel, when the market was cleared.

The melee which occurred previous to the arrival of the company, the colored soldiers fired a volley among the crowd, killing a well known respectable colored man named James B. B. badly wounding in the head Corporal Bietry of the Zouaves and severely wounding two other colored men. In the fight, stones and bricks, were liberally used.

The unfortunate deceased, at the time he was shot, was at his stand, engaged in selling eggs. The Zouaves, after the volley, made a charge, dispersing the colored troops. It is reported that the corporal of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, who marched his squad to the market without orders, was intoxicated, and has been put under arrest. He claims that he went there to quell the disturbance. During Saturday night several disturbances occurred in other portions of the city. On Saturday afternoon one of the Zouaves, it is stated, was imprisoned in a store on King street. A party of his comrades hearing of it, started to release him, and, on reaching the place, broke open the door. This led to another excitement, and another collision was threatened. It fortunately passed off, however, with no other demonstration than one shot, fired by a Zouave at a colored man the ball passing directly over the latter's head. The imprisoned comrade had been released before their arrival. General Hatch who was riding by at the time of the disturbance, was very active in dispersing the crowds and preventing any large gatherings.

On Saturday, about 9 o'clock P. M., a row occurred in the vicinity of Hempsteads. Mill among some white lads and negroes, which ended in the firing of pistols, &c. One man got slightly wounded by a pistol, when the offending parties made their escape.

Additional Disturbance by Negroes at Charleston.

[Charleston Courier, July 11.] We are again called upon to report a number of more rows of a disgraceful and outrageous character. Mr. F. W. Bliss, one of our most quiet and unoffending citizens, while on his way to the Post Office, was struck three times Sunday evening by a slung shot in the hands of a colored man wearing the United States uniform. It is believed that the ruffian was not really a soldier. Mr. Bliss now lies in a critical condition. Several other cases are reported to have occurred Sunday night, of which, however, we have received no definite intelligence. About 11 o'clock Monday morning, a Zouave while proceeding through the market, was assaulted by first a number of colored boys, who were afterward joined by a number of colored men. Bricks and stones were hurled in rapid succession at the Zouave, who retreated into an opposite store and escaped. A guard of the Forty seventh Pennsylvania were sent to arrest the rioters, and succeeded in taking between thirty or forty, who were carried off and lodged in jail.

Another row is said to have occurred on East Bay yesterday afternoon, but we were unable to get the particulars. We are glad to learn that the military authorities have taken the most efficient steps to put a stop to these proceedings, and inflict summary punishment upon all violators of the law.

Policy of the President.

A Washington correspondent of the N. Y. News makes the following observations on the present policy of the President, by which it would seem that a thorough radical change in the form and administration of the affairs the government has been decided upon.

WASHINGTON, July 15, 1865.

The editorial articles which have appeared in the News during the last three or four days, in relation to the alleged change in the form of the Government, and the substitution of military authority for the ordinary forms of judicial procedure, have attracted great attention here, and particularly the attention of the members of the Administration. The Administration of President Johnson does not expect to avoid criticism, and even censure, even from the organs of the Republican party, and does expect both criticism and censure, for some of its acts, and on account of some features of its policy, from the fearless and independent organs of the Democratic party. I do not think, from what I have been able to learn, that the Administration is disposed to resent such criticism, provided it be kept within bounds, and be couched in temperate and respectful language.

The suppression of the Richmond Whig, indeed, is an example of what the Administration has power to do, either in the South, or in the North. The minute and systematic arrangement of the five grand Military Divisions, and the eighteen Military Departments, into which the whole territory of the United States is now divided, is simply an indication of the purpose of the Administration to make its power felt, acknowledged, and respected, in all parts of the country alike. I am satisfied that if the objectionable article in the Richmond Whig, or an article couched in similar language, had appeared in any New York or Philadelphia paper, either the paper itself would have been suppressed, or the principal editor arrested, and confined in Fort Lafayette, beyond the reach of the habeas corpus.

The existing state of affairs in relation to Ford's Theatre is, perhaps the strongest illustration that could be afforded of the fact that the form of the Government has been changed in some particulars. The building was closed last Monday by order of the War Department. Mr. Ford thereupon applied to the Secretary of War, and earnestly requested that the order might be rescinded, and that he might be allowed to reopen the building and put it to its most legitimate use. After the matter had been discussed at a meeting of the Cabinet, Mr. Ford again made his request to the Secretary. He is now informed, courteously, but firmly, that he will not be permitted to open his theatre at all, or ever again to use it for dramatic purposes. The Government does not propose to confiscate the property, nor have they made any overtures to Mr. Ford for the purchase of the same. One of the departments of the Government has simply virtually taken possession of the property, and deprive Mr. Ford of the uses and revenues of it precisely as any other species of property might be seized, and the owner thereof deprived of the lucrative use of the same. No justification of the act has been attempted. It was done by military authority, but without military necessity.

Mr. Stanton probably intends that Congress shall be asked to make an appropriation to purchase the property, and reimburse Mr. Ford for the loss that he is now sustaining through the order of the Government. Certainly, if something of that kind is not done, Mr. Ford stands a fair chance to be ruined. In the mean time, those people here who think that the theatre ought to be kept closed out of respect to the memory of the late President, are gratifying their wishes at Mr. Ford's expense—and an enormously heavy expense it is, too—without a thought of reimbursing him.

Ayer's Cathartic Pills

ARE the most perfect purgative which we are able to produce, or which we think has abundantly shown to the community how much they excel the ordinary medicines in use. They are safe and pleasant to take, but powerful to cure. Their penetrating properties stimulate vital activities of the body, remove the obstructions of its organs, purify the blood, and expel disease. They purge out the foul humors which breed and grow distemper, stimulate sluggish or disordered organs into their natural action, and impart a healthy tone with strength to the whole system. Not only do they cure the every-day complaints of every-body, but also formidable and dangerous diseases. While they produce powerful effects, they are at the same time, unobnoxious, the safest and best physic that can be employed for children. Being sugar coated, they are pleasant to take; and, being purely vegetable are free from any risk of harm. Cures have been made which surpass belief, were they not substantiated by men of such exalted position and character, as to forbid the supposition of quackery. Many eminent clergymen and physicians have lent their names to certify to the public the reliability of remedies, while others have sent us the assurance of their conviction that, our Preparations contribute immensely to the relief of our afflicted, suffering fellow men.

The Agent below named is pleased to furnish gratis our American Almanac, containing directions for the use and certificates of their cures, of the following complaints: Bilious Complaints, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Headache arising from foul stomach, Nausea, Indigestion, Morbid Inaction of the Bowels and Pain arising therefrom, Flatulency, Loss of Appetite, all Diseases which require an evacuant medicine. They also, by purifying the blood and stimulating the system, cure many complaints which it would not be supposed they could reach, such as Deafness, Partial Blindness, Neuralgia and Nervous Irritability, Derangement of the Liver and Kidneys, Gout, and other kindred complaints arising from a low state of the body, or obstruction of its functions.

Do not be put off by unprincipled dealers with other preparations which they make more profit on than our own. Demand AYER'S and take no others. The sick want the best aid there is for them, and they would have it. Prepared by J. C. AYER & Co., Lowell Mass and sold by Saml. Stark Tunkhannock, and all dealers in medicine everywhere.

Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons indebted to me on book account, note, or otherwise for goods purchased, or business done at my grocery in the Brick Store formerly occupied by Henry Stark, in Tunkhannock Borough, Wyoming County Pa., to make payment to, and settle the same with me, and with no other person, else the same will not be recognized as valid. f. B. WALL. Tunkhannock, Pa., June 13, 1865.

Local and Personal.

New Advertisements—Gleason Lumber Co. Advertiser removal of Grocery and Provision store. John Plummerfelt Adm'r. Orphan's Court sale of land.

Card to the suffering by James L. Butler. SHERIFF GAY Advertiser, small farm, in Tunkhannock Tp. and two house lots in the Borough for sale.

For Sale, at Manufacturers lowest cost price—a first-class Sewing Machine. For particulars apply at this office.

Soda Fountain—Mr. Leighton, has put up at his new place of business in the building lately occupied by C. M. Cook, a Soda Fountain. Those who desire a cool and delicious drink for these warm days, should call and try the virtues of this fountain.

The Canal repairs a r being pushed on with a determination to complete them as soon as possible. We are informed that they will be done and the water let in for boating on or about the 1st of September.

Henry Barnum, who has been so long connected with the clothing store of C. P. Miller has opened a Tailor shop on the corner opposite Baldwin's Hotel. His well deserved reputation as the best cutter and 1st class maker in the vicinity, makes it unnecessary for us to warn those who would avoid fits, against visiting his establishment. See business card next week.

Ice Cream.—Frank M. Buck, having now received a man moth freezer, will hereafter, when the altitude of the mercury in the Thermometer, warrants it, furnish his old and young friends with Ice Cream in any quantities desired. Frank knows the value of advertising—of letting his light shine.—He has therefore procured a large letter, upon three sides of which are, in finely painted letters, the words "ICE CREAM" When this hangs out, you may always find a rich and cool dish within. Try it.

The Surgeon's reports show that our armies have suffered greatly from chills and fever which is induced by the miasm and change of climate to which they are exposed. They also find Ayer's Ague Cure an effectual remedy for this distemper and are urging the government to adopt it within the regulations. The Surgeon-General hesitates, because it is put up in a proprietary form, however great that convenience to the public, he prefers the physicians of the army should give their own directions for the doses. Whatever professional pride may dictate, he knows as well as we do, that Dr. Ayer's "Cure" is an almost perfect antidote for the Ague, and that the soldiers should have the benefit of it, as well as the people. [Washington Correspondent, D. C.]

The Lady's Friend.—This favorite of the ladies laid off in its August number with a beautiful steel engraving called "GRANDMA'S DRESS"—the face of the old man, with its deep, thoughtful eyes, strikes us as particularly fine. Among the engravings of the colored "Fashion" Plate, we notice a Bridal Dress, very elegant and pretty. The other engravings of this number are, "The Children and the Rain-drops," "Jackie's Bandoaux" (front and back view)," "Bonnet," "Gentleman's Shirt," "Grecian Waist with Brocade" (front and back view)," "Gimp Ornament," "Watteau Shirt Supporter," &c. &c. The Music for this number is the fine piece, "Rest, Noble Chiefstain!" The literary contribution are, "What I Looked for, and What I Saw," by Francis Lee; "Ghently Ghiesies," by Miss Donnelly; "My Dilemma," by L. H. Walter, &c. &c.

Price \$2.50 a year, 2 copies \$4.00. To those desirous of making up clubs, six copies—members will send for 15 cts. Wheeler & Willits' celebrated Sewing Machines are furnished at Premiums—Address Deacon & Peterson, 315, Walnut street Philadelphia.

Married.

HITCHCOCK—KASSON.—In York, July 24, by A. P. Burgess Esq., Mr. Chapman Hitchcock to Miss Catherine Kasson, both of Forkston, Wyoming Co., Pa.

Special Notices.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

The undersigned an auditor appointed by the Court of Common Pleas of Wyoming Co. to distribute the fund arising from the Orphan's Court sale of the real estate of Ambrose Garey Deane, will attend to the duties of his appointment at his office in the Borough of Tunkhannock on Thursday August 24, 1865 at which time and place, all persons interested therein are notified to attend and be heard or debarred from coming in upon said fund. July 12th, 1865, HARVEY SICKLER, Auditor.

v4-647-4w

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310 CHESTNUT STREET Mrs. C. T. Marsh and D. A. Bardwell, Ag'ts in Tunkhannock, v4-648

ORPHAN'S COURT SALE

In pursuance of an order of the Orphan's Court of Wyoming County, I will expose to public sale at the premises hereinafter described, on Saturday, the 20th day of August, 1865, at One o'clock P. M. the equitable estate owned in his life time by Jacob Plummerfelt, late of Meshoppen Township, Dec'd, in all that certain farm or lot of land, with the appurtenances, situate in Meshoppen Township, and bounded on the North by land of George Paiker and Jacob Arast, East by land of James Jenning, South by land of Andrew Bush and Jacob Decker, and West by land of Robert Clayton and George Arast, containing about One Hundred and seven acres more or less improved. To be sold to the highest bidder for cash; one fourth down, and the balance to be secured by judgment note payable in six months after confirmation of sale. JOHN FLUMMERFELT, Dec'd of JACOB FLUMMERFELT, v4-648 3wks.