The Democrat,

HARVEY SICKLER, Editor.

TUNKHANNOCK, PA

Wednesday. Feb 6. 1867

Jakey Kennedy the Preacher and Legislator.

If any man in this district, be he Democrat or Republican, can look over the proceedings of our Legislature, and observe the course pursued by the Representative from this County, without a feeling of shame and mortification, such a man must have crude notions as to the proprieties of life, in both clerical and political position.—That the men who voted for jakey kennedy as their Representative, should feel themselves degraded at the spectacle he now presents in the halls of our Legislature is but natural, and shows that they are not all of them lost to all sense of shame. The truth forces itself upon their minds, that instead of a man fit for the position, they have put in the Legislature, from the County and District, a contemptible *thing*—a wheezing, pot bellied, consumptive and fool,—an inconsiderate, ignorant, fanatical thick-skinned, and thick-headed blasphemer. What a poor, weak-minded, silly, old granny he appears there, where the ding-long and clap trap with which he was wont to regale his audiences—when he could get one—here, comes to be sifted and weighed by men of sense and reason? We published a few weeks since, a notice by the Philadelphia *Age* of his opening prayer in the House of Representatives. We supposed—we hoped for decency's sake, that we should hear no more of Kennedy's political prayers. We supposed that the sharp rebuke then administered by one of the leading papers of the commonwealth, would at least teach him circumspection, if not decency. Not so,—His brother Legislators—those who meet with him from day, to day, and on beneath the droppings of his foul imprecations, are turned out of respect to themselves, and the body they belong to, to cast back in his teeth the foul execration of his muddled brain, and protest in the name of decency against his impious imprecations.

To show that we have not overdrawn the picture we quote below, brief allusions to this subject by two members of the House.

Mr. BUTLER while discussing the resolution on the subject of the nomination by the President of Edgar Cowan, as Minister to Austria, said:

"There is another matter, Mr. Speaker, which, I mention with some reluctance.—Shortly after we convened here a resolution was offered and passed without dissent on this side, requesting the member from Wyoming to open our daily sessions with prayer. We had a right to expect it, sir, from his calling, that in that exercise the members of this House should not be subjected to daily and outrageous insult. But every member here knows that until this morning and yesterday the prayers of the member from Wyoming have been of that character. They have been nothing less than personal indignities to every gentleman on this side of the chamber. Questions of a grossly partisan character have formed their staple and we have heard ourselves traduced and vilified as enemies of our country, women who claim civil and religious liberty for ourselves, and deny them to others. We have heard the Lord Jehovah patronizingly informed that the President of the United States had violated his pledges, and a prayer that he might be banished; that our Constitution required amendment, and was about to receive it; that a United States Senator was to be elected; that the Republican caucus had nominated Simon Cameron—the immaculate Simon—that his election was fixed;—and an earnest supplication that he might be intensely retired. I presume, sir, that no man having any sense of propriety approves such prayers. They do not hurt us—they will do us no harm—and we can bear them if gentlemen on the other side can. I mention the matter, sir, to mark our disapproval of the practice, and to let the House know we regard it."

Mr. JENKS, on the same subject, said:

I have nothing to say with regard to the chaplain as a man. I know nothing about his character. I know nothing about the man. But there is one thing I do know—one thing he ought to know—one thing every man ought to know—that he has no right to parade his passions before the Lord, and ask his blessing upon them. It does not take much theology to know that. When a man prays, "not Thy will but my will be done," it does not take much theology to determine the character of such a prayer.

When a man prays as he ought, he bows down, and asks God to be merciful, that not his will, but the will of the Almighty be done.

"Is the gentleman prepared to say the prayers offered in this House, containing the very essence of treason, are not an insult to God? Is he prepared to endorse that prayer which assumes that "I am right and all others wrong?" If he is, so, it is more than I am prepared to do. This, I think, is a very good rule. It will be well for the chaplain—for every man to remember it:

> "Let not this weak, unskilled hand
> Presume thy bolts to throw,
> And deal destruction viewless hand,
> On all I deem Thy foes,
> If I am right, Thy grace impart,
> Still in the right to stay.
> If I am wrong, O teach my heart
> To choose the better way."

How much more proper it would be to pray in that spirit! I want to hear no more of the prayers we have had thus far. Pray for the nation; pray for its success; pray for its triumph; pray that all men may be enlightened and instructed; pray that we may be convinced of our errors, and that our minds may be influenced for good! But let us have no such prayers as we have been accustomed to hear of late."

"Brick."

The following is the correspondence between Ben. Butler and Brick Pomeroy in regard to the libel suit, as we find it in the La Crosse Democrat of last week. If "Brick" ain't plucky, we don't know where you get 'em:—

BRIEF BUTLER AND HIS LIBEL SUIT.—The following correspondence explains itself. There are people who think Butler never commenced suit against us for libel, as first published in the Chicago Tribune, that Republican paper that is not always reliable. But to the point.

> NO 71 BROADWAY, N. Y. CITY, January 12, 1867.

M. M. POMEROY:

Editor Democrat, La Crosse, Wis:—Sir: When in Milwaukee last October I made all arrangements with parties there toward the prosecution of the suit I have brought against you for defamation of character, upon preliminary notification and summons. This was the principal object I had in visiting Wisconsin and my work was done well. On consultation with a few friends here decided to withdraw the suit if you will agree to stop your personal attacks on me as a man and officer which have appeared in your paper, the La Crosse Democrat. I have no particular desire or need to collect of you the amount claimed, ($100,000) but do wish to have your scurrilous attacks stopped, and if you do not accede to this proposition, the law must take its course.

B. F. BUTLER.

> REPLY.
> SANITARY OFFICE THE DEMOCRAT, La Crosse, Wis., Jan. 18, 1867.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, L. L. D.

SIR.—Your note "before me by to-day" mail, and noted. As at present constituted, with a natural lisper for thieves, robbers, turncoats, military blunderers, bank robbers, woman insulters, and evil hearted scoundrels generally, permit me in all kindness to say that I have no retraction to make to you, for I never said a word concerning you I did not believe true, and which you must know to be true as holy writ, if you are at all familiar with your dishonorable history as a public being, dignified by accident of birth with the name of man. I would not willingly injure your feelings, or depreciate you of your worth, WITH REPUTATION, so well earned in the service of Butler vs. honesty, patriotism and virtue. Nor do I wish you to die yet awhile, for your name, history, blunders, robberies, insults to women, and treason to your country, are valuable as warnings to the rising generation.

Believing you to be all I have ever charged you with being, confident in my full ability to prove every charge, you are politely privileged to let the law take its course, when the world will know more of your robberies, lechery, ambitions, etc., too numerous to mention.

The only favor I ask of you is this—if you conclude to go on with your suit, for libel and damages to the amount of $100,000, permit me to plead my own case in court and give me only time to put my spoons, silver ware, watches, jewelry, &c., &c., in some place of safety, outside of the court room, till the trial is over.

With the best wishes for your success, and warm reception in your future home, I am, Sir,

M. M. POMEROY,
Editor Democrat, La Crosse, Wis.

Murdered "Beaux Agents" Wanted.

The Richmond *Times* thus admirably caricatures the sensational howling of the Northern radical press about the depravity of the South:

A liberal reward will be paid by the reconstruction committee of Congress for "murdered agents of the freedmen's bureau," as well as for "troubled" school marms. As soon as Congress adjourns the demand for "atrocities" and "outrages" subsides; but it has been revived with a vengeance during the last ten days.

To meet this demand it is scarcely possible to take up a copy of the *Tribune* which does not contain a telegram announcing the massacre of some agent of the freedmen's bureau, at some point so remote, as Mrs. Malaprop would say, from the "seat of civilization," as to defy investigation. We suspect that murdered victims of rebel barbarity furnish themselves all these accounts of the deep damnation of their taking off, and find the business exceedingly profitable. Any agent of the bureau who will furnish the *Tribune* with a circumstantial account of how his head was chopped off and his body subsequently roasted by "a dozen merciless rebels," will be allowed the highest price which is paid to corresponding Munchausens.

Any "school marm" of ardent imagination, who will give a pathetic account of the "breaking of the windows of her school" will place the reconstruction committee under many obligations. If she is conscientious, and has been properly reared, and requires a small allowance of truth for her account, she can find a "truthful and intelligent freedman" to smash her windows and break her in the most dismal manner for five cents a night.

The demand now seems to be confined to murdered agents of the bureau and outraged school mistresses; but a "hallucinated freedman" would command a fair price if he was roasted alive before a slow fire, by a committee of ex-confederate generals.

Let Him be Known.

The Radical scheme for impeaching President Johnson was brought into prominence by J. M. Ashley, M. C., who is spoken of as follows by the Rochester *Union*:

The accuser of the President in the House of Representatives, and the man who figures as his chief prosecutor before the Judiciary Committee of that body, is J. M. Ashley, of Toledo, Ohio. Now, aside from any question as to the guilt or innocence of the President, it is of some little interest to the people to know the standing of those who arraign him for official misconduct. This man Ashley is doubtless one of the most unscrupulous knaves in Congress. Our attention was first called to him a few years ago, when it appeared in revelations made by the *Toledo Blade*, as to the operation of "Colonel" J. Stallion Klinck in the Quartermaster's Department, that he was the patron of that honest and patriotic individual, and secured his appointment in the loyal and better division of the army, and we have kept an eye on him since. Without further introduction we present below a series of letters from Ashley's own pen to "My Dear Case," a loyal patriot like himself, who panted for an opportunity to serve his country and put money in his purse, written five years ago:

> WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12, 1861.

—My Dear Case: I have made some progress to-day about the surveyorship of Colorado. In order to secure the Indiana delegation and ——— to operate on Smith, the Secretary of the Interior, I have promised that all the sub-appointments shall be made by us jointly, I giving them the first choice. You must write me a letter immediately, authorizing me to make that pledge for you. I want you to write immediately to all your friends, and let them write letters endorsing you as a practical and vigorous and otherwise, direct to the Secretary of the Interior, but to me in the envelope. I have written to ——— and ——— on the subject, to get you the endorsement of the L———. I have not yet got it. Please write them. Charley feels a delicacy in pressing your claims, lest he expects to be a candidate for clerk of the next House, and does not want to run across the track of any one. What you do, do quickly.

"So, Frank, this is the best office, in my judgment, in the gift of the President, and I would resign to-day if I were sure I could keep it four years. If you get it, I want to unite with you as a full partner in all your operations and investments. I have worked out nicely and hard for you, and hope to succeed. You will not stand as much chance for the appointment as you do to be struck by lightning, but Kingsbury is not much better—a little. Do so on the square.

"Truly yours, J. M. ASHLEY."

> WASHINGTON, D. C., March 18, 1861.

—My Dear Case—Everything hangs on a hair. You must use the telegraph to obtain letters, and have them forwarded to me at once. Let the writers send them to me instead of you.

"If I get this appointment it will be the first of such importance where the candidate has done nothing. I have promised all the subordinate places under you to get help, and you must write to me at once, authorizing me fully, under your own hand, to make this good. I ask for three of the places myself, and give the rest to other members who are helping me.

"This is considered the best appointment in all the territories, and is the best of all the territorial appointments. I want to have an interest with you, if I get the city and town lot speculation. The Pacific railroad will go through this territory, and will be a fortune to me if I succeed in ——— this promised to help me.

"Write immediately—make the letter plain and unopened as to the appointments I have promised, so I can show it, and on a separate piece of paper say what you think of my propositions for city and town lot speculation.

"I will probably be chairman of the Committee on Territories, if we can carry out the programme to elect Grow speaker and your brother, Charley Case, of Indiana, clerk, and then I will know all the proposed expenditures in the territories, and post you in advance. Write one letter for me and the other to show.

"Damn your business in the Williamsburg county court. Write and telegraph.

"Truly, J. M. ASHLEY."

> WASHINGTON CITY, March 19, 1861.

—My Dear Case: One matter is in better shape to-day. The President promised me that this appointment should not be made until next week, and I should have a fair hearing.

"I shall fear a defeat, however, if I do not get your written authority to guarantee that all your subordinate appointments shall be secured to the persons who helped me through this matter, and that you will fully authorize me to pledge you to perform the promise I have made, that the surveyors and sub-contractors to be employed by you are to be at the joint disposal of two other persons and myself. Please sign and send me at once the enclosed for that purpose.

"Now, one word as to ourselves. It is agreed that my brother Eli, is to be chief clerk, and my brother William, who is now in Colorado, shall have such a position as he can fill, he having always been a farmer. The other I shall select when I have more time. The surveying contracts, &c., we will fix after the appointment, by meeting at Toledo ———, by agreement with ——— and others.

"Now, if I get this I want to be a full partner with you in the purchase of all the real estate that you may make in that Territory. I have spent a good deal of time and some money to get this position, and if I do get it I hope you will certainly go with me. I have drawn up the enclosed agreement, which I wish you would sign and keep, and copy one just like it, sign it, and forward and return the other agreement.

"Let me hear from you by return mail, and hurry along any letters and telegrams from men who can have influence here.

"In haste, yours, truly,

J. M. ASHLEY."

Was there ever a more flagrant exhibit than this of the use of official position for private ends? The surveyorship of Colorado, "the best office in the gift of the President," was by Ashley made a matter of bargain and sale, equivalent to selling its legitimate patronage was turned out in advance to the point of obtaining it, and an arrangement was entered into by which the chief officer and the recipient were to corruptly use its patronage in city and town lot speculations. "I" said Mr. Ashley, "will go into the chairmanship of the Committee on Territories, and then I will know in advance all the proposed expenditures in the Territories, and post you. Write one letter for me, and the other to show." And Mr. Ashley was made chairman of the Committee on Territories in the last, as he is in the present Congress. Case was appointed surveyor general of Colorado; "my brother Eli" was made chief clerk, and "my brother William" was given a snug berth; the programme was carried out in all its details, and now it would be interesting to know how much plunder the unscrupulous Representative Ashley has pocketed from the corrupt and scandalous use of the power of his official position.—With these facts before them the people will very naturally conclude that however reasonable the President may be, it is not for such men as Mr. Representative Ashley to make this indictment, or such men as Simon Cameron to sit in judgment upon him.

Is J. Wilkes Booth Dead?

This question, which is shrouded in doubt, has received the following fresh airing:

> NEW YORK, January 10, 1867.

To the editor of the New York *Times*:

Since my arrival here, on the 6th instant I have been informed, in the form of a number of informations, in the city and elsewhere, that J. Wilkes Booth, the conspirator and assassin with which, and that the man who was shot in the barn by my parties, and who was supposed to be Booth, was a person who had been an accomplice in the conspiracy, and strongly resembled Booth.

This has reminded me of an incident which came under my notice in Calcutta, British India, while stopping there during the month of July, 1866.

Two gentlemen were discussing the merits of one of the leading conspirators in the assassination of our late lamented President. One of them, apparently a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and of decidedly strong Southern proclivities, was very eloquently defending J. Wilkes Booth, John H. Surratt, Payne, Atzerodt, Herold and others. His adversary, a gentleman from Boston, Massachusetts, and evidently a strong Union man, made use of some bitter sentiments when speaking of them—and said, among other things, that in his opinion, "not one calling himself a Southern man, who sympathized with Booth, deserved the same fate."

"The same fate," repeated the Southerner.

"I will lay a wager of $100 sterling that John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated President Lincoln, is alive and in good health at the present time, and agree to furnish proof of it within six months."

"Lacking the wager, was the opinion of the other party, and both being men of means, the money was soon forthcoming and deposited in the hands of the proprietor of the hotel to await the final decision.

Curiosity prompted me to enquire the name of the party whose strange offer had been so readily accepted, and I was informed that he was no other than the late lamented Captain, Lieutenant William Alexander Robert, of Alexandria notoriety, formerly of Troy, Ohio, but more recently of this city, and who is at present master of the ship Orient Bird.

What could have influenced him to lay five hundred pounds upon a thing so uncertain, and which he must eventually verify, has been a puzzle to me, and must be solved by a more fertile brain.

Respectfully, &c.
JAMES H. CAMPBELL.

Meeting of the National Democratic Association at Washington.

In response to a call from C. Mason, President of the National Democratic Association, for an "Important Emergent Meeting" of that organization, the members assembled at Temperance Hall, on Wednesday night. The meeting was held in one of the small rooms on the first floor. Among those present we noticed John M. McCalla, John Fry, R. D. Hoover, J. H. Callan, Captain, E. K. Robinson, and Hon. J. Biggins, of New Jersey.

The President stated the object of the meeting to be to consider the expediency of a National Convention, to be held at an early date. Messrs. Green, Thorn and John Thomas were appointed Secretaries.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, the sacred bequest of the greatest of human blessings to free Constitutional Government has imposed upon us the imperative duty of transmitting it unimpaired to our posterity;

And Whereas, the course of the majority in Congress has created a well grounded apprehension that, to preserve a portion of our rights, this precious heritage is about to be ruthlessly sacrificed by the overthrow of the just independence of the States, which are its vital foundations, and by grasping in the hands of one of the great constitutional branches of the Government all the powers which have been so wisely distributed among the three, and which therefore cannot be disturbed without the most imminent peril to the whole system;

And Whereas, the history of the past has fully demonstrated the great merit that the Democratic party, though sometimes erring, has nevertheless always, and still maintains the true theory of our political system of Government, and has never failed upon its return, when errors which have always resulted from a departure from the true fundamental principles on which that Government was founded;

And Whereas, the public mind seems to be prevailed by a general sentiment which has begun to be organized in one State as a manifest, well in proposition for a call for a Constitutional Convention, and in the four States of Kentucky, Ohio, Connecticut and New Hampshire, as to have produced a recommendation to hold a National Convention at early day to take into consideration the peculiar dangers which are now impending over us, and to endeavor to provide a remedy. Strong in the apprehension so justly excited, and encouraged in the views which have been, to some extent, already expressed, the National Democratic Association feels called upon to give expression to its own sense of public duty in the present emergency, therefore be it resolved:

1. That it is our opinion the present perilous condition of our national affairs calls for the interposition of that great power from which, under Heaven, we can alone look for the salvation of our republican institutions.

2. That we believe it expedient that a National Democratic Convention should assemble at an early day to take into consideration the peculiar perils which now surround us, and to take such steps as may be deemed necessary for the general safety.

3. That it is our judgment in general, in relation to such a conventional, we adhere to all those cardinal principles of previous political creeds which comprehend the bonds of Constitutional Government, and which tend to preserve to the States and the people, according to each of the States, the rights which are guaranteed to us by our great Federal compact.

4. That we recommend the city of ———, as the place, and the ——— day of ——— next, as the time for the meeting of such National Democratic Convention.

Local and Personal.

[illegible]

Married

[illegible]

Special Notices

[illegible]

Death and Fire

[illegible]