

IDAH0 is making strenuous efforts to secure admission to the Union. But the New York Telegram thinks that Idaho ought to be made wait a little longer.

A BRIDGE across the English Channel is not among the improbabilities of the future. The project is pronounced feasible by competent engineers, and a late number of the Scientific American contains the plans and estimates for such a structure, which were discussed at a meeting of the Iron and Steel Institute at Paris during the past year.

The last edition of the United States Official Register, or "Blue Book," contains a list of all the employees of the Government, with the exception of those in the general postal service, together with the officers of the army and navy, the total number of names amounting to 58,000.

THE UNITED STATES MILITIA.

The report of Adjutant General Skelton upon the militia force of the United States shows the strength of the militia of the States to consist of 7,697 commissioned officers, 91,373 enlisted men and 7,208,498 men not organized, but available for military duty.

THE NEW RULES.

The Republicans in the House of Representatives have acknowledged themselves beaten and have surrendered. "General parliamentary law," as interpreted by Mr. Reed, is to become part of history.

The Democrats have won in this contest. We call this fact to the attention of those who have admired the splendid genius who has been "standing in the breach until Republican reinforcements could be brought up"—who has displayed "the audacity of a born ruler of men."

By James White and Wiley. Some day—so many tearful eyes Are watching for the dawning light; So many faces toward the skies Are weary of the night!

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to limit and define the powers of the majority and of the speaker within the bounds of fairness and equity.

The present Congress has now been in session for two months, and in defiance of all precedent and all reason has thus far persisted in proceeding without any rules whatever. The reason why the Republicans do this is that they have only a bare majority of all the members elected, that they cannot always count on having a majority present, and that their only hope of crowding through certain proposed bills, such as a federal election law, and also of arbitrarily determining in their own favor enough of the numerous contested elections to Congress, to supply themselves with a working majority, lies in the absence of the usual rules, and in thus leaving in the hands of the speaker unlimited power to refuse to recognize members, to put motions, and to entertain appeals.

The Democrats, however, relying upon unbroken precedent and on the general principles of common justice, demand that the majority shall offer, and after giving the usual opportunity for debate and amendment, shall adopt a set of rules in the usual manner. As this entirely reasonable and proper demand has remained so long unheeded, they have at last refused to vote. The immediate result of this manœuvre is that the roll-call does not show the presence of a quorum for the transaction of business. And it is just at this point that the hottest fight has been waged. From the time of the first Congress down to the present, the answers to the roll-call have been held conclusive on the question of a member's presence or absence. But Speaker Keed has broken over all precedent, and noticing that as a matter of fact numerous Democrats are present, though silent, he counts them in, directs the clerk to record their presence, and thus makes up a quorum. Then the Republicans having a majority of that quorum, can transact business as they please. The fatal danger of the speaker's assumption of power is that it leaves it to one man to determine beyond appeal whether a quorum is present or not.

This is a question which, however determined prima facie, should always be, and has in Congress always been, determined finally by calling the roll. This leaves it to the House to say whether a quorum is present or not. Mr. Keed has also assumed the power to refuse to put motions to adjourn until to his own mind "the proper time" arrives, and to refuse appeal to the House from any and all of his rulings, and has actually exercised this despotic power. Naturally the Democrats have hotly resented his unwarrantable course.

When Mr. Blaine was Speaker, the same plan of "counting a quorum" was urged upon him by "Ben" Butler; but, against the wishes of his own party, he refused to accede, and stated that such a thing was unheard of and wholly unjustifiable and would, if enforced, bring Congress "to the very brink of a volcano."

In 1880, while this same Mr. Keed was an influential member of a Republican minority, he urged on a similar occasion that the "constitutional idea of a quorum is not the presence of a majority of the members of the House, but a majority of the members present and participating in the business of the House."

Mr. Garfield and other eminent Republicans have held the same views and expressed them repeatedly. If Mr. Keed persists in what he and the most eminent members of his own party have hitherto denounced as unconstitutional, the "volcano" will certainly be in eruption before long.

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REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

The Delegates Elected on Tuesday Nominating a City Ticket, Headed by Mr. Thomas F. Keedy, the Present Burgess of Millville Borough.

Prior to the meeting of the Convention proper a caucus was held, which resembled an executive session of the United States Senate in that none but members of the Convention were allowed admittance.

It leaked out, however, afterwards—as the members talked quite freely of what took place—that a committee composed of the delegates present from the Third ward—Messrs. Scott Dibert and Jacob Fockler—was appointed to wait on Mr. J. M. Shumaker, of the Third ward, to see whether he would accept the nomination for Mayor. In a short time the committee returned and reported that Mr. Shumaker positively declined running, notwithstanding the fact that the gentlemen of the committee used all their eloquent powers of persuasion to prevail upon him to do so.

This threw the assemblage into a quandary. The names of H. W. Storey, Irwin Horrell and C. T. Frazer were mentioned without arriving at a choice. Finally the caucus hit upon Mr. Dwight Roberts, whom they thought to be willing to take the chances of leading the Republican ticket to what now looks like defeat.

THE CONVENTION. The reporters and others not delegates who had applied for admission were then given places in the Convention.

Chairman Keedy called the Convention to order and named A. H. Walters and Chas. H. Wenn as Temporary Secretaries, after which the following delegates presented their credentials:

- First ward—A. H. Walters, Thomas E. Hamilton, Ben. W. Thomas. Second—F. W. Cox, John W. Harris, E. A. James. Third—J. M. Fockler, Scott Dibert, J. M. Shumaker. Fourth—C. G. Campbell, John Pendry, Jr., H. W. Slick. Fifth—H. W. Storey, Irvin Rutledge, George Fockler. Sixth—Harry M. Buchanan, P. R. Miller, B. F. Covert. Seventh—Theodore Judy, Dr. W. I. George, Charles H. Wenn. Eighth—Alex. Berkey, John Sell, H. F. Horner. Ninth—H. S. Aaron, S. S. Kinkead, H. P. Derrett. Tenth—No election. Eleventh—John Gruber, Richard Davis, P. M. Smith. Twelfth—William Gibson, Edward J. Miles, William R. Bailey. Thirteenth—Charles Brixner, S. S. Reed, W. C. Bland. Fourteenth—Samuel Rude, Uriah Marsh, Edward Markill. Fifteenth—No election. Sixteenth—Henry Bloch, August Hammer, Geo. Wagner—42 in all.

Mr. Scott Dibert then stated that the Convention was ready to choose a Permanent Chairman. H. W. Storey, Esq., was chosen for the position, and the Temporary Secretaries were retained as permanent.

The roll was then called, showing a few absences. It was then decided that where only two delegates were present they should cast a third vote.

Nominations for Mayor were then declared in order. H. W. Slick nominated Dwight Roberts, and Ben. W. Thomas nominated Thos. P. Keedy. The latter gentleman did not want his name used but his request to have it withdrawn was denied him.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot *vice voce*, resulting in 16 votes for Roberts and 26 for Keedy. The announcement of the result by the Chair declaring Mr. Keedy nominated was followed by applause.

Mr. Scott Dibert moved that the nomination of Mr. Keedy be made unanimous, which was agreed too, every member rising to his feet.

There were calls for Mr. Keedy, who spoke briefly as follows:

GENTLEMEN:—I feel that I must accept this nomination, so generously tendered me, although I do so with reluctance. Coming, as it does, without any solicitation on my part, I shall make the best fight I can for the office.

The Chairman then called for nominations for City Treasurer. Curt. Campbell nominated Jacob M. Caldwell, and F. W. Cox named S. M. Miller.

On the ballot which followed Caldwell had 3 votes and Miller 39. Mr. Campbell, one of the representatives from Mr. Caldwell's ward moved that Mr. Miller's nomination be made unanimous, which was agreed to.

For City Controller, E. T. Carswell had 42 votes—the whole vote of the convention.

For City Assessor Morgan Reese was named by Chas. Brixner, Chas. Brixner by S. S. Reed, Emery West by S. S. Kinkead, Messrs. James Quinn, Geo. Fockler, John W. James, Irvin Rutledge, August Hammer, and J. M. Wertz were also nominated.

On the first ballot Mr. West had 33 votes, Hammer 26, Frazer 10, Rutledge 18, Wertz 16, Reese 4, Quinn 5, James 6, Fockler 6, Brixner 3. Messrs. West and Hammer, having received a majority of the votes, were declared nominated.

A second ballot resulted in 3 votes for Reese, 2 for Brixner, 1 for Fockler, 8 for Quinn, 7 for James, 16 for Rutledge, and 6 for Wertz.

On motion the two lowest were dropped, after which a third ballot was taken, resulting in 11 votes for Reese, 10 for Quinn, 6 for Wertz, and 22 for Rutledge.

Mr. Rutledge having received a majority of the total vote, was declared nominated.

This completed the city ticket, after which the delegates from the different wards named the

Third, J. M. Shumaker, Fourth, John Pendry, Jr.; Fifth, John A. Leber; Sixth, H. M. Buchanan; Seventh, J. M. Wertz; Eighth, Alex. Berkey; Ninth, H. S. Aaron; Eleventh, P. M. Smith; Twelfth, W. R. Bailey; Thirteenth, S. S. Reed; Fourteenth, Uriah Marsh; Sixteenth, August Hammer.

On motion it was decided that the vacancies in the Tenth and Fifteenth wards be filled by the Committee.

On motion the Convention adjourned, after which the Committee held an executive session.

OBSERVATIONS. "It's queer isn't it," says some one, "that the caucus nominee should be laid out by one whose name had not before been mentioned." That of course is one of the ways of doing unexpected things.

When the convention had completed its work a delegate of generous impulses, but judicious foresight, made the remark that the day after Brother Keedy is elected he would set up the oysters for the crowd. This delegate, on inquiry, was found to be Squire Rutledge.

The plan of getting a man who would stand up against the odds was a pretty sharp one on the part of the managers. Quite a number of Republicans had been importuned to take the nomination. Upon searching the whole camp not one available stick of timber could be found. But the plan of putting the nomination upon some men without previously asking his consent, was hit upon. And how well it worked, too.

HASTINGS' MILITARY IDEAS.

He Delivers an Interesting Address at the National Guardsman Association Meeting.

At the National Guardsman Association meeting, which is being held at Washington, General D. H. Hastings delivered an address entitled, "The Relation of the Militia of the States and Territories to the Regular Army." It was evident that he had given considerable thought to his subject and was thoroughly familiar with it. He took the position that National Guards should pattern after the regular army as far as possible. The same system of tactics should be adopted and discipline while in active service should be based on the rules in vogue in the army.

General Hastings advocated the adoption of regular uniform, an idea which is followed closely in the Pennsylvania militia and which has earned for it a reputation as being the most business like of any of the National Guards in the States. General Hastings was frequently interrupted with applause during his address, following him came Generals Wiley, Gohin and Snowden, each of whom made short but interesting speeches on the subject under discussion.

Four Striking Features of the Pennsylvania Limited.

Of all the passenger trains of the world, none presents for the convenience and accommodation of its passengers so many original and novel features as the Pennsylvania Limited. This train offers four great features unique in the history of passenger travel. As it speeds across the continent there are flashed over the wires, to meet or overtake it, the fluctuations of the New York and Philadelphia stock markets, and there are also posted on its bulletins full reports of the doings in the foreign and domestic financial markets. Thus the wayfarer man reads as he runs.

In order that the traveler may dispatch any commission which these reports may suggest, or dispose of any current correspondence, a stenographer and typewriter is provided for the free use of the train's patrons. He will take the dictation of letters or telegrams, and see that they are forwarded from the train. Thus any business proceeding through the counting-room be many miles away.

So much for the men. Ladies could never before travel in such comfort. For their convenience a waiting-maid is assigned to each train, whose duty it is to serve as Ladies' maid in all that the term implies. Ladies without escort, ladies with children, and invalids are the peculiar objects of their care. So that one's own maid may be left at home, and yet the fair traveler may receive assistance from one well trained in the duties of her vocation. The fourth important feature also of interest to the ladies, is the observation car. This car is attached to the rear of the train. The latter half of it is a large open sitting room furnished with easy chairs. Broad plate windows admit a wide expanse of light, and the broad platform at the rear makes a pleasant open-air observatory in fair weather. This car is open to all passengers and forms a magnificent sitting room for ladies.

With these four prominent characteristics, in addition to the superior sleeping apartments, bath rooms for both sexes, a dining car unexcelled in service and cuisine, smoking and reading apartments and a barber saloon, the Pennsylvania Limited sustains its claim of being the most complete passenger train of the world.

The Wilmore Ticket Office Robbed.

On Thursday evening, shortly after 7 o'clock, the Pennsylvania Railroad Station at Wilmore, was robbed of about \$15 in money. The burglars broke a glass in the window, so as to be able to unfasten the sash lock. They then entered by the window and took the money drawer and its contents. The safe, which contained a considerable amount of money and which was unlocked, was not disturbed. It is supposed the rascals had not time to complete their work before the time for the return of the agent. There is no clue to the thief.

During the storm on Friday afternoon the roof was blown off the Pennsylvania railroad station at Loya Hanna.

WIND AND SLEET.

The New Glass Works at Blairsville Blown Down Yesterday.

Two Killed and Many Injured.

Manager Chas. E. Barr and Secretary John I. Berney the Victims—A Storm of Unequaled Severity—A Great State of Excitement.

Special to the Johnstown Democrat.

BLAIRSVILLE, Pa., February 7.—A fearful storm of wind and sleet, prevailed here this afternoon. The like was never before experienced in this locality. It was simply terrible. The sleet, driven by the wind, came down as if shot from a gun. No one could be out of doors. The new glass works were blown down killing Manager Charles E. Barr, of the glass company, and the Secretary, John I. Berney. Many others were badly hurt, some of them perhaps fatally. The town is in a state of great excitement. There were also many minor accidents.

THE FLOOD COMMISSION.

A Number of Timely Questions Asked—Why Don't the Commission Publish How They Have Distributed the Money.

Webster said in his reply to Hayne, I thank God if I have none of that spirit that lifts man up I have none of that other spirit that drags angels down.

What a difference between the above statement and the so called State Flood Commission who seem just now to be trying to direct the attention of the public from their own transactions by endeavoring to slander and besmirch others. Would it not look as well for them to publish the names and amounts each individual received from their own Committee? Would it not look a little more decent to publish the names of men in Johnstown to whom they gave five and six thousand dollars, men who lost no more than some of our people in South Fork, where the pitiable sum of \$5,000 was divided among forty-two individuals, including in this no companies in which there were more than from three to five men? Would the people not be more interested in a published list of the army of clerks and the amounts paid them by the Committee and kept there all summer? Will they please explain what particular items is meant by the many thousands of dollars included in distributions and expenditures in Johnstown? They deal only in vague generalities and meaningless expressions as to their own work. Gentlemen, it won't do, its to thin, imagine the broad demon like grin that would spread over the face of these self-righteous men if by their vile misrepresentations and falsifying of facts they could endanger some man's life. In the first place they know that there was not a dollar given to any corporation in South Fork. They also know that there was more than nine who received \$4,000 as that included all the donations in each town, but their object is to mislead. Just what the Committee did at South Fork will stand in the light of justice and right when was simply this, the distribution of one Johnstown Committee paper which was per capita made made when given out from \$20 to \$100 families. Clothing and food had been supplied in abundance and the immediate wants had been met. Our Committee therefore took the assessment list as a basis, putting a value on houses that were only damaged as best they could and paid just so many cents on the dollar. If a man's loss was \$100 he got \$18, if it was \$200 he got twice \$18 or \$36 and so on. Is there anything wrong about this, is it not just? If I lost but \$100 and another man \$1,000, could it be fair or just to give me as much as he who had lost \$1,000, we think not, nor do we believe for a moment that people who gave the money ever dreamed of such a thing. The above is the reason and substance of our distribution, the why and wherefores. If there is any fault in it we fail to see it. The so called State Committee so far as intelligence, ability and honesty is concerned is no better than the people of South Fork, who have been very shabbily treated by that committee. It is in order now for them to publish a list of names and the amounts they have given. It will show that they are getting \$5,000, but one man to many, getting even more than \$5,000. Are they made of better stuff than they are? So much more than we got? If this so called Governor's Commission had the same to see themselves as others see them, they would have less to say. A more intelligent and just one and every one would be raised among intelligent people.

DEATH OF A WELL KNOWN CITIZEN OF PORTAGE.

Sylvester McKenzie Dies There on Friday Night After a Long Illness.

On Friday night Mr. Sylvester McKenzie, a well known and much respected citizen of Portage, died at his residence in that place. His ailment was lung trouble, from which he had suffered long and severely. The deceased was born on the farm now occupied by Mr. John Hell in Portage township, in 1823. His father was John McKenzie, who was one of the earliest settlers in that region, and who was the father of a very large family, descendants of which are to be found in many different states of the Union. The subject of his sketch always resided in the neighborhood in which he was born, except for a few years subsequent to the late war, when he lived in Virginia. For the last several years he kept a store in Portage, where he did a thriving business. He was esteemed by all his acquaintances who always respected him as an honest man and kind neighbor.

Mr. McKenzie was married twice. His second wife and two children survive him. One of them, a daughter, is married and the other, Charles, a mute, resides at home. The funeral will take place this morning from the residence to St. Bartholomew's Church, Wilmore, where funeral services will be held. Interment will be made in the Cemetery belonging to the church.

SLEIGHING.

Our People Make Good Use of This Year's First Opportunity—An Accident.

The laddies and their lassies had an opportunity Friday evening to carry out some of their postponed plans for the earlier part of the season. The sleigh rides arranged for at Christmas, should there be snow, were first in the thoughts of many yesterday as the snow began to cover the ground. The snow had scarcely begun to fall rightly till the livermen had rigs engaged, and by evening they were making engagements a week ahead. Many of the swains were loth to be put off several days because there were others ahead of them.

In the evening the jingle of bells was almost constant, and the streets were more lively than they have yet been this winter. Many of the drivers made the best of their time, too, as their horses were by no means slightly warmed up. There was one mishap, however, to mar the pleasure of the occasion. The horse driven by Mr. Claude M. Johnson, of the Johnson Foundry, became unmanageable and took to running. Near the postoffice the sleigh upset, throwing Mr. Johnson out, but not hurting him. The horse broke away from him and ran toward the Franklin street bridge. Instead of keeping the street it took the sidewalk part of the way. There was almost a panic in that neighborhood, as the streets were full of people. The sleigh was wrecked, and several people narrowly escaped injury by being run over or struck by the flying sleigh. The horse ran down the road that leads to the river, just above the Franklin street bridge, where it slipped and fell. Some one caught it and held it till the owner, Mr. Johnson, came up and took away.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

The Following Have Been Granted Since Our Last Report.

- Charles Goughenour, Johnstown; Maggie Snaffer, Johnstown; Clem Beerscheider, Summit Hill twp; Ann Le Sma, Summer Hill twp; Albert Oris, Johnstown; Luella May Muehl, Johnstown; Alfred Bots, Dean twp; Phoebe Brown, Dean twp; Harry G. Cooper, Morrellville; Minnie Siders, Morrellville; Thomas J. Burkhardt, Morrellville; Mary J. Long, Morrellville; Anthony Klein, Elder twp; Mary Ann Huber, Elder twp; F. L. Cob uth, Johnstown; Minnie E. Jones, Johnstown; William Hochstein, Johnstown; Emma Kliss, Upper Yoder twp; George Stav A. Neilson, Lower Yoder twp; Emma M. Anderson, Pittsburgh; E. F. Kepple, Conemaugh; Annie L. Soughour, Moxhale; Sylvester Miller, Newry, Blair Co; Mary Hobart, St. Angus line; George Greene, Millville; Mary Reynolds, Millville; Michael Uhas, Cambria; Charles A. Wilson, Cambria; Charles K. Frazer, Johnstown; Edw. J. McCoy, Johnstown; William Gallagher, Washington twp; Sadie Mc Leer, Washington twp; Joseph Kitch, Cambria; Juliana Forsakie, Cambria; Edward Lawrence, Millville; Carrie Hess, Coopersdale; Albert Rager, Millville; Ella Brown, Millville; Charles A. Anderson, Gallitzin, Pa; Ellen Gertrude Wen zer, Gallitzin, Pa.

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Dress the Hair

With Ayer's Hair Vigor. Its cleanliness, beneficial effects on the scalp, and lasting perfume commend it for universal toilet use. It keeps the hair soft and silken, preserves its color, prevents it from falling, and, if the hair has become weak or thin, promotes a new growth.

"To restore the original color of my hair, which had turned prematurely gray, I used Ayer's Hair Vigor with entire success. I cheerfully testify to the efficacy of this preparation."—Mrs. P. H. Davidson, Alexandria, La.

"I was afflicted some three years with scalp disease. My hair was falling out and what remained turned gray. I was induced to try Ayer's Hair Vigor, and in a few weeks the disease in my scalp disappeared and my hair resumed its original color."—(Rev.) S. S. Sims, Pastor U. B. Church, St. Bernice, Ind.

"A few years ago I suffered the entire loss of my hair from the effects of tetter. I hoped that after a time nature would repair the loss, but I waited in vain. Many remedies were suggested, none, however, with such proof of merit as Ayer's Hair Vigor, and I began to use it. The result was all I could have desired. A growth of hair soon came out all over my head, and grew to be as soft and heavy as I ever had, and of a natural color, and firmly set."—J. H. Pratt, Spofford, Texas.

PREPARED BY Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by Druggists and Perfumers.

There have been exciting scenes in the House of Representative at Washington during the past couple of weeks. The contest arose as follows: It has been the invariable practice from the foundation of the Government, for Congress to adopt very shortly after its first assembling a set of rules for the orderly conduct of its business and for the protection of the rights of the minority. These rules are subject to debate and amendment before adoption, and though finally passed by the majority, they serve