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THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1870.

REFORM MUST BE FUNDAMENTAL. THE time is close at hand for the primary elections of the Republican party in this city, and while a large majority of the Republicans, including all of the better classes of the organization, earnestly desire substantial reform in the character and capacity of their candidates, the political tricksters are going on as usual to nominate themselves for all the important places. Their rings are being perfected, their candidates are making their combinations, and the honors and places of profit of the party are being apportioned, in many instances, amongst a class of men who would be unthought of if the masses of the party were voluntarily to express their preferences in the matter. Not only in this city is this the case, but in many sections of the State the same class of men apply the same machinery to defraud the party out of its honors and steadily weaken it by incompetency and dishonesty.

Each year the cry of reform goes up from the independent press, and its necessity is appreciated more profoundly by the masses of the people; but each year the same unscrupulous men manage nominations, the same class of incompetent and corrupt men manage to get nominations, and through the force of party discipline they have hitherto been only too successful in securing elections. Now, however, the time has come when the Republicans will not tolerate the continued reign of imbecility and venality. The great issues of the war are settled. Reconstruction, like the war, belongs to history. Civil rights are established in every section of the country, and impartial suffrage is part of our fundamental law. The national and State executives will be Republican until 1872; the Senate must be Republican for at least another decade; the Supreme Court is faithful to the great principles of liberty and justice won in the flame and blood of battle; all the logical harvests of the war are assured, and the full harvest gathered in the fullness of the triumph of freedom. Military and political "necessities" have passed away with the dark days which created them, and now the party that seeks to triumph at the polls must merit the confidence of the people. Its candidates must be honest and capable; they must fairly represent the masses of the party; they must be free from reasonable suspicion of venality and treachery, or the people will rise in their might and restore the party to integrity and ability in its candidates by the decisive defeat of all men who foist themselves upon the ticket by chicanery or fraud.

The time for a decisive movement for reform is at hand. The State Senators to be elected next fall will vote for a United States Senator in 1873 to take the place of Mr. Cameron, and the people should understand that pliable or corrupt men will be forced upon the Republicans whenever it is possible to do so, in view of the next Senatorial struggle. Just now the masses of the party are not thinking of this issue. But if they remain unsuspecting or indifferent, they may find to their surprise and humiliation, in the winter of 1873, that the Senators elected in the fall of 1870 have been nominated and elected solely with reference to the interests of some corrupt political pretender who seeks to climb into a seat in the United States Senate. Such has been the history of Pennsylvania for years past. The inflexible reign of mediocrity and mendacity has driven our best men from all hope of preferment, and the power and patronage of the party have been huckstered by small politicians like flocks in the market-places. In times of great peril good men have borne with this terrible and steadily growing perversion of power. They have closed their eyes and voted the ticket to save the Government in war and gain the full fruition of our victories after peace had been won, but they will no longer be sold like sheep in the shambles, or be betrayed to advance unprincipled pretenders. Let the people in every Senatorial district see that honest candidates are presented, and let them be men whose blameless lives shall be the best guarantee that the wishes of the people shall always be faithfully respected. If others be nominated—if corrupt or doubtful men, or men selected by those whose mean ambition is seeking advancement at the cost of the good name of the party—let them be defeated, regardless of consequences! Every honest Republican must now feel that defeat is preferable to continued corruption and dishonor.

If substantial reform is to be effected it must strike at the root of the evil. Reform in Pennsylvania must be fundamental. In no other way can corruptionists be hopelessly destroyed. Every Republican nominee for Senate and Assembly should be distinctly instructed to support a constitutional reform. The debauchery of our Legislature can be effectually cured by enlarging the Legislature and diminishing its power. If we had one hundred Senators and four or five hundred members they could not be sold and delivered for every scheme of ambition or plunder that offered, and if their powers were limited, as they should be, there would be no temptation for purchasable men to become members. If our Constitution should be amended to say that the Legislature shall not grant, revive, or revoke special privileges; that all corporate interests shall be governed by general laws; and that all enactments, ap-

propriations, etc., shall be so restricted as to close every avenue for debauchery, our legislative junk-shops would sink at once to their original nothingness, and reputable and intelligent men would again consent to become our law-makers. Let a convention be called to reform our manifold and palpable abuses by enlarging our law-making bodies and stripping them of all special powers; and hereafter ripe and honest statesmen will be called to our high positions of responsibility and trust.

THE FENIAN FIASCO. THE bravery of the Irish race has been attested on many a bloody battle-field, and they have given thousands of signal proofs of their deep devotion to their native land. In spite of their courage and patriotism, however, their best efforts to throw off the British yoke have proved unavailing, and they will never attain that object while they place themselves under the leadership of men as rash and reckless as those who conduct the present expedition against the New Dominion. Any person endowed with a grain of common sense could see from the outset that success was impossible, and the idea that a handful of poorly-organized men could contend against the British forces arrayed in Canada and the restraining power of the United States is one of the most absurd that ever entered into the head of a rational being. The whole scheme of the campaign is radically erroneous. General O'Neill, its acknowledged leader, began operations with the declaration that he would never recross the lines unless he was victorious or dead. His arrest by a civil officer before he had fairly entered the British territory, and when he was surrounded by his so-called troops, proves that he was totally unprepared and disqualified for the task he had assumed in this vainglorious spirit. History affords few more striking illustrations of the shortness of the step between the sublime and the ridiculous than that furnished by the contrast between the chivalric gallantry of his attitude on Wednesday night and the circumstances of his arrest on Thursday morning. In his brief speech to his soldiers as he was about marching to the line he termed them "the advance-guard of the Irish-American army for the liberation of Ireland from the yoke of the oppressor." The chances of materially assisting Ireland even by the success of his proposed movement are too remote to be worthy of serious consideration. Every tyro in statesmanship knows that if Great Britain loses or voluntarily surrenders the New Dominion she will clutch the Emerald Isle with a tighter grasp than ever, and that the success of the proposed Fenian operations on this side of the Atlantic would only have imposed new chains upon the people of their native land. The next sentence of General O'Neill's speech is at once absurd and an insult to the American Government. He said to his soldiers, "For your own country you now enter that of the enemy." What is "their own country?" They have come to the United States abjuring allegiance to Great Britain, seeking citizenship here, swearing that they would faithfully obey the laws and share our destiny, assuming all the privileges of men born on our soil, and going through all the forms that presumably convert them into bona fide Americans. If this conversion is so incomplete that Ireland is still their country in a legal or martial sense, they are practically aliens, and they have no right whatever to involve us in their peculiar quarrels or to make our soil a recruiting ground for their proposed war. If they want to fight for their native soil, let them go back to it and continue their struggles on its surface, ceasing at once and forever their attempts to treat the United States as a province or a dependency of their imaginary Irish republic. Their whole scheme is totally inadequate to accomplish any better object than to give this or that branch of their warring factions an ascendancy in partisan politics, or in the control of the funds of the organizations; but the leaders who aim at such ends should remember that while diverse theories have prevailed as to whether men can or cannot divest themselves of their native allegiance, nobody has seriously contended that a man can at the same moment be a genuine citizen of two countries; and it is high time that the Fenians made up their minds whether they were Irishmen or Americans.

If Ireland is ever to be freed by American aid, it must be at such times and under such conditions as our national exigencies shall impose. Irish valor and Irish love for the Emerald Isle could be made irresistible elements of strength under American direction, with the help of the American Government, if a war should break out between the United States and Great Britain. American citizens of Irish descent should wait, or, if they choose, work for this opportunity, and if, meanwhile, instead of advocating British interests, as the bulk of them do by supporting free trade, they turned their political batteries against British industry, they would improve a thousand-fold their chances of ultimate success. All the money and valor they expend on Fenian expeditions of the modern style are worse than wasted.

THE SALE OF CADETSHIPS. THE court-martial before which Commander Upshur was tried on the charge of paying a member of Congress the sum of \$1300 for procuring a naval cadetship for his son have found him guilty of paying the sum for this purpose, but not of corrupt intentions, and have sentenced him to a reprimand from the Secretary of the Navy. How Commander Upshur could be guilty at all of the charge and yet be innocent of corrupt intentions is something of a mystery, and the finding and sentence of the court-martial are apparently as much a burlesque of justice as were the proceedings of Congress on the same subject. During the investigation into the sale of cadetships instigated by the House of Representa-

tives, it was shown conclusively that the appointments to West Point and Annapolis were regularly bought and sold, and so common was the practice that many members had ceased to think of it as disgraceful, but considered any sums that might be realized in this manner as part of their legitimate perquisites. After making a great noise the entire investigation fizzled out, and the only member of the House whom the committee chose to find guilty, instead of being expelled and disgraced, was let off with a reprimand from the Speaker. Under these circumstances a heavy sentence could scarcely, in common decency, be imposed upon Commander Upshur, but that the House of Representatives and a court-martial composed of some of the highest officers of the navy should be willing to treat such a matter as if it were a trivial offense indicates a low moral tone in Congress and in the navy that bodes no good to the public service.

THE LIBERAL PARTY AT THE ROMAN COUNCIL.—The London Times recently published an interesting letter from a French Liberal bishop at Rome to a priest in France, describing in bitter terms the situation of the Liberal party in the council. "We found there," says the writer, "a system already in full force—the system of handouts. By way of satisfying our complaints they have looked us up still tighter, and we are now enjoying a revival of the old brocade suppressed by Louis XVI. To tell the truth, it must be confessed that our tormentors have done the thing with all imaginable grace. We found here a majority complete, compact, more than sufficient in number, perfectly disciplined, and equipped at need with instructions, injunctions, menaces, powers of imprisonment, bribes. The system of official candidatures has been let many miles behind. Speech is still permitted us; but on what conditions? Reply, discussion, explanation—albeit strictly forbidden. If you wish to speak, you must get your name put down, and the next day, or two days after, when the subject has got cold, you may come and bore the assembly with a speech. Even then to travel beyond the subjects of school-boy themes is forbidden (except to the gentlemen of the majority), and when one attempts to speak of liberty, of law, of the commissions, of acoustics, of decentralization, of distillation, of one witnesses recurrence of those unmentionable names which have silenced Cardinals Rauscher and Schwarzenberg, and the Bishops of Cologne, Bosnia, and Halifax, while Moulins and others are permitted to introduce by force the great questions relating to the priestly life. The poor little minority has to contend against insult and calumny, and is hemmed in by the *Civitas*, the *Univers*, the *Monde*, the *Union*, the *Observateur*, and the *Correspondant de Rome*. These journals are authorized and encouraged. They raise the clergy or our diocese against us, and the clergy is applauded. One of our body has ventured to attack his colleague, and he has received no official reproof. Behold our liberty! A cardinal summed up matters to me in these words, 'Mon cher, nous allons aux abimes.'"

WHO DISCOVERED AMERICA?—The *Cologne Gazette* says that a Californian savant named Hanley has created a great agitation in San Francisco by pointing out in a recent work that there were Chinese in the country a thousand years before the Spaniards. Several German papers have thereupon remarked that as long as five-and-twenty years ago Professor Neumann, of Munich, produced proofs from Chinese sources of the discovery of America by that people. Earlier still Desguignes affirmed that Chinese books spoke of a land in the east which can have been no other than America. Neumann even brings to light an account of the travels of a Chinese prince, the emperor's son, to the realm of Fusang. That Fusang must mean Mexico is evident from the details given by the monk respecting the geographical position and products of the country. Among these he mentions a tree of which the shoots were eaten, the bark made into cloth and paper, and the sap into an intoxicating drink. This is the Maquey, or great Chinese Aloe, which is still used for these purposes. The monk went to Mexico in A. D. 499, according to our reckoning, but not as the first missionary, for five monks were sent there to spread the doctrine of Buddha in 408. What Mr. Hanley further says respecting the similarity of certain customs among the Aztecs and Chinese, and the working of Buddhism upon the religion of the former, was also previously known. The list, however, is not what gives cognate Aztec and Chinese words.

GAYROU—The Arab of the Paris streets—may be seen putting politics to base uses behind the policeman's back in this wise: two spots are placed one on the other's forehead, and the eagle's beak kisses Caesar's head. A marble is then dropped on the coins, the prime desideratum being to obtain what is called "concord" between the two, that is to say, all Caesar or all bird of prey. The respective coins are called "Bonhomme" and "Meg;" the origin of the latter appellation is inscrutable. This ingenious means of disposing of Gayrou's limited means is popularly known as the game of *Piellette*. If the shock of the marble falling produces two eagles, which means France alone and independently of the Empire, this would denote the triumph of the Opposition; while two heads betoken, on the contrary, the supremacy of Emperor Napoleon. "Ou diable la politique va-t-elle se nicher?"

OBITUARY. John Henry Parker, F. S. A. John Henry Parker, F. S. A., an eminent English bookbinder and writer on architectural and archaeological subjects, died recently in London. He was born in 1808 and commenced business as a bookbinder in 1821 in London, and in 1838 he succeeded his uncle, Joseph Parker, who had a publishing establishment at Oxford. He compiled a "Glossary of Architecture," which was published in 1836, and in 1840 he published the first volume of "Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages," the second volume of which appeared in 1853, and the third volume in 1859. He edited the fifth edition of Rickman's "Gothic Architecture" in 1848, and was the author of a number of papers on architectural subjects that appeared in different magazines. He was the first publisher of the *Saturday Review*, and was Vice-President of the Oxford Architectural Society, a member of the Society of Antiquaries of Nottingham, and of the Societe Francaise pour la Conservation des Monuments.

NEW PUBLICATIONS. SECOND EDITION NOW READY. HANS BREITMANN'S BALLADS. New, Enlarged, and only Complete Edition. By CHARLES G. LELAND. BOUND IN CLOTH, GILT. PRICE \$3.00.

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SPECIAL NOTICES. For additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages. J. W. J. W.

FANCY GASSIMERE SUITS. JOHN WANAMAKER, 815 AND 820 CHESTNUT Street.

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PROF. BAIN HAS TWO PILGRIMS. They are alike. One will be shown in CONCERT HALL, this week, the other in BAIRD'S HALL, FRANK FORD. IN HONOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. HANDEL'S GRAND ORATORIO OF "THE MESSIAH," AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 31.

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MR. J. B. ROBERTS will give a full description of the incident, and read the Poem at 12 M. and 4 and 7 P. M., daily. Open from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. PIANOS! PIANOS!! PIANOS!!!

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OFFICE OF THE SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION COMPANY, No. 417 WALNUT Street. PHILADELPHIA, May 25, 1870. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special General Meeting of the Stockholders and Leaseholders of this Company will be held at this office on MONDAY, the 31st day of June, 1870, at 11 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of considering a proposition to lease the works, franchises, and property of the Schuylkill Navigation Company to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.

THE PILGRIM EVERY NIGHT THIS WEEK. CONCERT HALL. See Amusements. POLITICAL. FOR SHERIFF, 1870, F. T. WALTON, SUBJECT TO THE DECISION OF THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION. CLOTHING.

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LADIES' DRESS TRIMMINGS. Fringes, Gimps, and Buttons. Pearl Buttons, a good assortment. Embroidered Ribbons and Ornamental American Ribbon. Berlin Zephyr sold, full weight. 49 StuthStp 47, 95 N. W. cor. of EIGHTH and QUINCY STREETS.