

BUTLER CITIZEN.

JOHN H. & W. C. NEBLEY, PROP'RS. Entered at the Postoffice at Butler as second-class matter.

FOR PRESIDENT, 1880. Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE, OF MAINE.

The choice of Pennsylvania, subject to the decision of the Republican National Convention. This (20th Pa.) district practically unanimous and instructed for him.

FOR JUDGE SUPREME COURT. Hon. Henry Green, OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

FOR AUDITOR GENERAL. Hon. John A. Lemon, OF BLAIR COUNTY.

REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES, SATURDAY, MAY 29th.

There is also trouble in the New York delegation to Chicago, a number of the delegates declaring their independence of the "Unit rule" and for Blaine. It begins to look serious for both Cameron and Conkling.

The "Unit Rule." The Republicans of New Hampshire at their State Convention last week passed the following resolution as to the so-called "unit rule":

Resolved, That any unit rule which seeks to compel a delegate to vote for a candidate not his choice, or for his constituents, is tyrannical and unconstitutional, and we request our delegates to Chicago to vote on all questions as to leave every delegate free to follow his unfettered and honest judgment.

Republican conventions in other States have passed resolutions similar in sentiment. In this State it will be recollected that the unit rule was put through, instructing all our delegates to vote for Gen. Grant at Chicago, and notwithstanding the fact that many of the district delegates refuse to be bound by it, and some have been compelled to come out and promise to represent their people and not Don Cameron's State Convention, yet Mr. Cameron says to this day that the "unit rule" is binding and that he expects every delegate to Chicago to obey it, and that the delegation therefore will be "solid" for Grant. This, as we intimated last week, is intended to bring about by getting a Grant organization of the Chicago Convention and ruling that in a State which favored the unit rule the chairman of that delegation will have the right to cast the whole vote according to such State action. Where then will be found our delegate, who says he wants to vote for Blaine? According to this he will get no vote. Did he understand this before writing his recent long letter that the County Committee meeting forced out?

Why the Change? The condition of the Eagle man of this place, Mr. Thomas Robinson, is most deplorable and sad. Something is wrong with him again, and last week he renews his wailings. He is such an honest, innocent person, that all pity him. The trouble now seems to be about his Congressional aspirations. The people have brought out a worthy and good man for Congress, Mr. McJunkin, and now Mr. Robinson sees his chances fade away in the distance. Hence he is again complaining. First, he says Mr. McJunkin's name was announced too soon. He was in favor of a "quiet campaign," he says. And he wanted all "fair and courteous." Everybody knows he is a "fair and courteous" man in politics—perfectly fair—and perfectly honest. He complains that we said a kind word for his competitor when mentioning all who had informed us that they would be candidates. He came out in his next paper, however, and made an unmanly and untruthful assault upon Mr. McJunkin's republicanism as soon as his name was mentioned, and then, before any answer could appear, he sends friends to us asking us to make no reply and take no notice of the matter. We complied with their request and let that pass, as we have hundreds of similar cases. He admits last week that the CITIZEN was quiet and did not respond when in fact it should. He seems to fear the CITIZEN, and now complains that we made any mention of the candidates. What are the facts? Simply, that at the time we done so, all the candidates who had to that time informed us they would or might be chosen, were mentioned. We made no choice among them, giving simply all the news heard from at that date. The seven for Assembly were given, and the three for District Attorney, and two or three for Associate Judge. He says we had favorites among them. How could we when we gave the names of all? No, the trouble is, his Mr. Robinson's name, was not mentioned. And the reason was, he was denying about here that he was a candidate. He may, as usual, have been a candidate, but in a "quiet and courteous" way, known only to those on the out skirts of the county. The simple explanation of the whole matter is that he was planning to steal an honor from the party and, like in other cases, was smoked out.

One other matter only in the long complaint in his paper last week. Do we think now worthy of notice. And that is, to say, that we edit our own paper and are alone responsible for all of a political nature appearing therein. In this respect we are unlike him, who edits a paper in and under cover of the name of another. We consult with Republican friends and are glad to

have their counsel, but on week days and in due season. In this respect we are also unlike him. At the present time it is known he is in close consultation and intrigue with certain Democrats of this place, even to the extent of visiting their houses on the Sabbath day. He seems to be watching our outgoings and incomings, or at least has pimps and spies upon our footsteps, to inform him of our whereabouts. This is in keeping with his character, as all know it, but in whose office he may have seen us as he states, or wherever he may have been told we were lately seen, one thing is certain, we have not been seen in "solemn counsel" with Democratic wire workers, and that on Sunday at their houses. And this is in answer to his criticism of last week. The idea of such a man crying for "fairness" or for "quiet" and peace, is simply deception and intended under deceptive words to again deceive the Republicans of this county.

What Does It Mean? Be on the Look Out.

The following appeared from Mr. Robinson in the Eagle of last week: Primary Election.

The Republicans of Butler county are requested to meet in their several election districts, as designated by the County Committee, on Saturday the 29th of May, between the hours of one o'clock P. M. and eight P. M. of said day, and vote by ballot for the following officers, viz: One person for Congress. One person for State Senate. One person for State Representative. One person for Associate Judge. One person for County Surveyor. One person for Return Judge.

A numerical list is to be kept of the voters and the tickets numbered. THOMAS ROBINSON, Chairman.

The above was sent to this office and we declined publishing it for two reasons. First, Mr. Robinson has no authority or right under any of our primary rules to put out such a paper. Nor was there any necessity for it even if any of our rules allowed it. The County Committee had met and done that work, fixed the primaries, etc., and the papers, both Eagle and CITIZEN, had standing in them for weeks a list of all the officers to be voted for, and thousands of tickets had already been printed with all the offices to nominate for named thereon. Why then this extra official, uncalled for notice? Why does he attempt to add to and supplement the work of the County Committee? The secret will be seen in the two closing lines, and to this, in the second place, we call the special attention of the Republicans of the county. It assumes to direct that "A numerical list is to be kept of the voters and the tickets numbered." Now what is "a numerical list?" Simply a list of figures or numbers, 1, 2, 3, 4, and so on. According to that unheard of innovation for holding our primaries a list may come in to the meeting of Return Judges on the 31st, inst., with nothing but the number of votes cast, without the names of those casting them. To illustrate, there may be, say fifty or a hundred Democratic votes cast at one of our polling places at the coming primary, duly numbered but without the names opposite the numbers. Who then could tell who they were, Democrats or Republicans? That is "a numerical list," and if objected to in Convention it could be answered in favor of its reception that the Chairman of the County Convention had so ordered it. If it means a list of voters why not say so? Our rule on the subject, and our only rule, requires a "list of voters" to be returned. This is our practice. But he further adds and orders that "the tickets be numbered." Where did he get that authority, and who ever heard of that before now? We have no such rule as requiring at our primaries "the tickets numbered." This, it is surmised by some old Republican friends who have brought it to our notice, is an attempt to pry into and ascertain how every man votes at our coming primary. The secrecy of his ballot would be thus destroyed. The party has never authorized all this change. Our rule in substance directs "a list of all voting to be kept, which list, with the tally papers, and the votes or ballots themselves, shall be sealed up by the Judge and clerks holding the election, and handed to the Return Judge and by him laid before the Convention," etc. Before there is any alteration of these rules it must be done by the party acting through its County Committee, and we think it will be a long time before such changes are made as are indicated in this unusual manner. We have called attention to the above at the request of some of the leading Republicans of the county. The present primaries will be held in the usual way and none but Republicans should be allowed to vote at them. Let all see to it that there is a fair primary.

The familiar name of J. D. McJunkin, of Butler, appears in our announcement column for Congress in the 24th district. Mr. McJunkin is a gentleman well known to hundreds of our readers as an upright, honest gentleman, a good lawyer, and one in whom the people have confidence; they knowing him to be above the law cunning of a wire working, pedagogue politician. The Republicans of Butler county are thoroughly aroused to the necessity of sending honest and efficient officials to represent them, and there is no doubt but great care and prudence will be exercised at the coming primary election, which will be held May 29th, 1880, from 1 to 8 o'clock P. M.—Parker Phoenix, April 30.

—Before raspberries begin to leaf out, the old dead stalks which fruited last year should be cleared away by breaking them off with the hand; do not allow the use of the hoe for this purpose, as it might bruise the young life stalks.

The Republican papers of the Twenty-sixth district having called out Mr. Thomas Robinson, one of the delegates to the Chicago Convention, and secured a Blaine pledge from him, are now after Mr. John I. Gordon, the other delegate. Mr. Gordon, however, declines to be forced into any exposure of his feelings, and he is performing the remarkable feat of editing a weekly newspaper in such a way as to keep his readers in ignorance of his views.

The Times must take that back. It is true that Mr. Gordon had been very reticent, but the last issue of his paper, the Mercer Dispatch fixes his position. He says in the Dispatch of the 7th inst., and we were glad to see it, that "four years ago the Dispatch favored the nomination of Blaine." He says that the choice of the Republicans of this county with almost the same unanimity that is to-day. While the Republicans of Mercer county will give a hearty support to the nominee of the Chicago Convention, we still hope that Senator Blaine will be nominated.

Thus both of the delegates from this Congressional district have finally expressed themselves for Blaine. The only remaining question is, will they get a chance to vote for him? Or will they be told the "unit rule" was adopted at our State Convention, at which they were present and that, by that rule the majority of the delegation, through its chairman, has the right to throw the vote of the whole delegation as said majority may determine? We will see.

THE BRIBERY PARDONS.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY HOLLINGER ON THE ACTION OF THE BOARD.—THE POSITION IN WHICH THE COMMONWEALTH IS PLACED BY THE HASTY ACTION OF THE BOARD—WHY THE PROSECUTION WAS NOT REPRESENTED.

HARRISBURG, May 4, 1880. The people of the State of Pennsylvania are led to believe by many of the newspapers that the prosecution in the bribery cases, as to the manner in which Kemble and his fellow-unfortunates were pardoned, as evidenced by the fact that the Commonwealth was not even represented before the board at the hearing. This might be a proper conclusion to draw but for the fact that the Board of Pardons voted at least two of their rules, and thereby prevented the Commonwealth from being heard or from even knowing what was to be heard. Rule third is as follows:

Notice of the application (for pardon) must be given to the Judge who tried the case and to the District Attorney or attorney who prosecuted the case, and the application will be made, and the grounds or reasons upon which the application is based, and no other grounds than those contained in such notice will be entertained by the board.

No portion of this rule was observed except that the District Attorney was notified, on the afternoon of the 29th of April, to appear before the board on the following day, the 10th of May, at 10 o'clock A. M. The board, however, engaged in the Quarter Sessions trying cases. The grounds upon which the application was made were not disclosed. Rule 6 concludes as follows:

And no application will be heard or considered unless the same and papers upon which it is based have been filed at least ten days before said session, and in no instance will this rule be relaxed.

This rule was relaxed. After so much relaxation we might conclude that the honorable Board of Pardons meant to treat the proceeding as a rehearing but for the following, rule, the seventh:

No application that has been refused by the board will be heard or reconsidered unless substantial grounds for reconsideration be formally presented to and approved by the board; and when submitted again the publication of notice respecting the case and the board's notice in newspaper and third (notice to district attorney, with grounds) must be made, and no other grounds than those stated in such notice will be considered by the board.

The Attorney General, from whom the board would naturally get the law of the case, was not even present to hear what the Commonwealth's counsel might have to say. Indeed, the recommendations for pardon made have been signed by him before; in violation of rule 11, which says: No application will be considered if presented to any individual member of the board. This wholesale disregard of the rights of the Commonwealth, as made by the petitioners, upon false suggestion, has led to the sentence of the Court of Quarter Sessions of Dauphin county, inasmuch as it condemned the petitioners to imprisonment at the penitentiary at hard labor, when in fact they were sentenced to separate confinement at labor, as directed and declared in regard to all persons punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary. There are very few crimes now mentioned in our statute books for which a person can be sentenced to hard labor. But it is said that these men could not be sentenced to the penitentiary at all, as the law does not so provide—it does provide for not exceeding two years' imprisonment, and does not say where, leaving that to the discretion of the Court. On looking over the penal code of 1860 we observe there ninety-three distinct offences, for which persons are daily sentenced in some of the courts of the Commonwealth to imprisonment in the penitentiary; said code does not make mention of that prison, this including perjury, falsifying deeds, sending challenges, sodomy, bigamy, incest, bribery, including members of the Legislature, for five years; bribery of voters, two years, lottery, common gamblers, gambling with public money, five years; embezzlement, five years; importing convicts, murder in second degree, manslaughter, and homicide, five years; rape, attempting to commit robbery, larceny, horse stealing, false pretense, three years; conspiracy, fraudulent insolvency, burglary, arson, forgery and many others might be cited. In very many of these offences there is no mention of separate confinement at labor, yet no Court ever hesitated to impose that sentence, for such is declared to be the penitentiary discipline in the statutes regulating that prison. It is said that this is imposing an infamous punishment; such it is; but the crime is infamous, so treated of in the Constitution of 1874. Let us now suppose that the Court that is in error in sentencing to the penitentiary, what was the legal remedy? At any time during the term the sentence could have been amended by Judges Pearson and Henderson, and surely would have been so done if the defendants could have satisfied the

Court, as they did the Board of Pardons, that there was error. Judge Pearson never hesitates to reverse himself when he is convinced of having made a mistake. If this point had failed there was an appeal to the Supreme Court, in which the principle obtains "The common law embodies in itself sufficient reason and common sense to reject the monstrous doctrine that a prisoner, whose guilt is established by a regular verdict is to escape punishment altogether because the court committed an error in passing the sentence."

If the Board of Pardons regarded it as proper they had the undoubted right to give relief in these cases, but it was done in a contrary way. It was not fair to the prosecution to have it done in a court; it was not fair to the court of Dauphin county—that which there is none purer in the Commonwealth—to have their construction of the law set aside without a hearing, and the people of the Commonwealth have a right to know exactly why their officers, in the performance of a public duty, act in a particular way. If, therefore, a substantial legal reason existed for the pardon they should have been revealed. Let each public servant bear his own burden. The court of Dauphin county will stand by her record.

ELIAS HOLLINGER, District Attorney of Dauphin county.

Communications.

HOW IS IT? EDITORS CITIZEN:—It is reported here that Mr. Thomas Robinson, one of the candidates for our nomination for Congress, while recently in one of the other counties of this district, was asked in comparison with the candidate of that county for Congress, and said to a gentleman who met him soon after, in very confidential terms, that that candidate of the other county, naming him, would be the district nominee. As we have heard it, Robinson, is running here in this county for the benefit of the candidate of another county. Can you give us any light on the subject?

PARKER TP. We cannot give more than what our correspondent appears to have. The same report has reached here and was recently told us by a gentleman in whom we can place entire confidence and therefore we believe it true, and the more so as it is known Mr. Robinson recently made a visit to one of the other counties of this Congressional district. However, we think it matters not, as the Republicans of this county have already made up their minds to vote for Mr. McJunkin for Congress at our coming primary, a man who they know will not sell them out.

A CARD.

BUTLER, Pa., May 10, 1880. Messrs. Editors Citizen:—A few weeks since, there was published in the Eagle, an article reflecting upon my loyalty to the Republican Party. I had intended to pay no attention to it, believing that my record was sufficiently known to the voters of the county, but at the instance of some friends, and because the indiscreet words of my rival have been making specific charges in the same direction, you will oblige me by inserting in your columns the following brief reference to some of my political acts.

I voted for Pres. Lincoln (my first vote) in 1860, and in 1864. I voted twice for Gen. Grant, in 1868 and 1872, and for Pres. Hayes in 1876. I expect to vote for the nominee of the Chicago Convention. I voted twice for Gov. Curtin, twice for Gov. Geary, twice for Gov. Hartranft and for Gov. Hoyt. During the years I resided in Venango county, I was three times elected to the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, serving in the sessions of 1870, '71, '72. I refer to my official acts and votes while there. My Republicanism has never been heretofore questioned. I might go on to the end, giving my votes for particular persons, but to answer two specific charges made against me, to wit: that I voted against our last two candidates for sheriff, Byrley and McCreary. I say I voted for both, and made speeches all over the county for the latter. I have no concealments about any vote I ever cast, and will answer to you on the end, giving my votes for particular persons, but to answer two specific charges made against me, to wit: that I voted against our last two candidates for sheriff, Byrley and McCreary. I say I voted for both, and made speeches all over the county for the latter. I have no concealments about any vote I ever cast, and will answer to you on the end, giving my votes for particular persons, but to answer two specific charges made against me, to wit: that I voted against our last two candidates for sheriff, Byrley and McCreary. I say I voted for both, and made speeches all over the county for the latter. I have no concealments about any vote I ever cast, and will answer to you on the end, giving my votes for particular persons, but to answer two specific charges made against me, to wit: that I voted against our last two candidates for sheriff, Byrley and McCreary. 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