The Free Press.

GEO. W. & G. G. BENEDICT.
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

FRIDAY MORNING AUGUST 24, 1866.

The Charges of Corruption.

After it had become fully understood that Hon. Portus Baxter was passing his claims for a fourth election to Congress from this District, the Free Press, of July 21st, gave its reasons to the public why he ought not to be nominated; and why we could not in any apprehended contingency support him. The reasons given were that as asserted by responsible gentlemen, "frauds in the district for the last few years, have been disposed of for the personal and pecuniary gain of those who have had the chief control of government appointments in the district, and that contributions on the salaries of subordinate officials have been levied in the name of Mr. Baxter and paid for his use and benefit."

This charge was spread before the public by being copied in nearly all the newspapers in the District, and was not denied either without or with Mr. Baxter or any authorized friend.

Again, at the Convention at Hydepark on the 15th inst., on the night and morning previous to the organization, the friends of Mr. Baxter were plainly notified that these charges would be publicly made before the Convention, and that the proof offered, and the friends of Mr. Baxter in great numbers were open and loud in their proclamations, that Mr. Baxter would and should publicly before the Convention brand these charges as false, and challenge the proof. His son, Capt. Baxter, was one whose zeal and confidence in his father was thus manifested.

The Convention organized, and there in the face of three thousand people, the charges were recited, and it was announced that the proofs were ready, if Mr. Baxter would simply deny them and allow the proof to be made, which was in part in the keeping of gentlemen, who without such denial, felt unwilling to appear as volunteers. Loud calls were made for Mr. Baxter—by his honest friends, who expected and were confident of his denial; by others, not his friends, who knew that he would shrink from the ordeal. But no Mr. Baxter appeared, and no friend of his authorized to speak for him, so much as peeped. Why not? It is said, that he was not in the crowd, but was at the Hotel across the way. But why not present in the crowd? Or why not sent for by some one of his many retainers? It is said, that he had a cold and could not make a speech. But no speech was required, it was only for him to say, and he might have whispered it never so softly, "I deny these charges and challenge the proof, and release gentlemen from all confidential obligations to me to keep back any evidence in their possession," and by such declaration he would have set himself right before the people, and his accusers if they had then failed to make good their charges, would have been put to open shame and pilloried in the contempt of honest men. It was *not* the cold of Mr. Baxter that restrained his speech. It is said too, that the place and occasion were not convenient for the investigation of such charges. But it was as convenient for the one side as the other, and it was as easy to make the denial before that crowd as it was to make the charge. If a committee had been desired to hear and report the proofs, a committee could have been had—any way to please Mr. Baxter. But let us have done with humbugs. Mr. Baxter well knew, or apprehended, *as the truth was*, that witnesses were at the moment gathered at the President's stand ready to be produced, and documents ready to speak for themselves.

But it is said by some, that these charges were too general to claim denial and should have been more specific. It was so easy for Mr. Baxter, by a simple denial, to have forced as either to abandon the charge or else to specify the acts embraced by it, that we cannot concede the soundness of this suggestion. Nevertheless, earnestly desirous to hear from Mr. Baxter, we waive formalities, and proceed to produce for to-day a single *specimen* instance (and such instances are daily multiplying) of the way he has managed matters in this District, which falls under the general charge of disposing of offices "for personal and pecuniary considerations."

In 1861, D. S. Storrs, now an attorney at law at Island Pond, Town clerk of Brighton, and Republican candidate for the State's Attorneyship of Essex county, was living at Hydepark. He had studied law with Messrs. Benton & Child, and was just starting in life, poor and in debt for his education, and having relations dependent upon him for support. Three of his friends thereupon interested themselves in his behalf to procure for him the place of Deputy Collector and Inspector in the Custom House. They made application for him to Mr. Baxter the fountain of patronage, when Mr. Baxter gave assurances that Mr. Storrs could have the place, the salary of which should be $750 a year, but that $150 a year of the salary must be paid to him so long as Mr. Storrs should retain the office, and that they must see the arrangement carried out. This proposition was communicated to Mr. Storrs, and astonishing as it was to all parties, it was assented to by Storrs, and he took the office under the appointment of Mr. Clapp, the Collector. Mr. Storrs remained in the office at Island Pond for nearly three years, performing his duties faithfully and without complaint on the part of Mr. Clapp, or known cause of complaint; but he had found himself unable, from pressure of previous debts and other causes, to make good his pledge to Mr. Baxter. By and by he noticed indications that he was in peril of removal, and thereupon consulted with the chief and confidential deputy of Mr. Clapp at Island Pond, now a Special Agent of the Treasury Department, and enquired of him what he had better do. The reply was, that if he (Storrs) would pay up pretty well he could keep his place. Storrs refused to pay the sum named and was removed. Soon after, in conversation with Mr. Clapp, Storrs referred to the arrangement about the payment from his salary, apologized for his neglect in making the payments, by reason of his poverty, but, willing to redeem his pledge as far as he was able, handed Mr. Clapp $100, which Mr. Clapp put in his pocket.

During and after this time, Mr. Baxter made frequent calls upon one of the three friends of Mr. Storrs above named, for payment of the sum promised him. Apologies were made for Mr. Storrs on the ground of his poverty. But the demands were renewed and pressed, until one of the parties denounced it as an outrage, and the demand has not of late been renewed. The evidence of these demands exists in the hand writing of Mr. Baxter.

And now, we inquire sincerely of the friends of Mr. Baxter, whether the above specification is not sufficiently minute and particular?

The champions of Mr. Baxter at the Hydepark Convention were Mr. "Bill" Harmon and Mr. Bradley Barlow; and the best they could say for their candidate when openly dared to challenge an investigation of the corrupt practices charged to him, was that the charges were vague and general. Now it strikes us that a charge against a Congressman, that he has disposed of the patronage under his control for his personal pecuniary advantage, and that contributions have been levied on the salaries of subordinate officials in his name and for his benefit, is tolerably specific one. But why not give us the proof of these things? say some. To this it might be enough to reply, "What need, when their truth is practically confessed by the silence of the accused?" Again, it must be plain to every one who stops to consider, that transactions like those on which such charges rest, do not commonly take place in the open street. They are not as a general rule be confined to very few parties, and it is not every man who wishes his name published as offering money for an office, or as holding it by virtue of an annual fee to the controller of patronage. Men will reveal such transactions commonly only under a pledge of confidence, and without some strong occasion they prefer that the facts should not be made public. Most therefore there to whose knowledge such facts come, keep silent as to the character of the man chiefly implicated by them, when he presents himself as a candidate for the suffrages of an honest people.

Can they be held guiltless, if they say nothing, while an unworthy candidate crowds himself upon the people and thus perpetuates the reign of corruption and demoralization which he inaugurated? Of course not. It was therefore, a perfectly straight-forward and defensible course, under the circumstances, for Mr. Baxter's accusers to do as they did—state the charges against him, upon information and belief: challenge a denial; and offer, upon release from confidential obligations, to present some of the facts on which the charges rested. And Mr. Baxter's failure to face such an investigation, must, with straight-forward men, be taken for a confession of guilt.

A Desperate Game.

Mr. Baxter's attempt to carry the Hydepark Convention was a desperate effort. He threatened in the streets of Burlington that he would go to Congress again, "if it cost him every cent he was worth, by G—," and he spared neither money nor labor on the Convention, for he knew that it was one thing to buy a majority in the *Convention*, and quite another thing to buy a majority in the *District*. We are informed by parties well situated to judge, that he spent not less than three thousand dollars in Orleans Co. His delegation from this County probably cost him an equal sum. How much more he spent on the other four counties, we have no idea; but can readily believe that *ten thousand dollars* will not cover his total outlay to secure the nomination, which he did not get. The greater portion of this was spent in more open and shameless bribery of men to go and vote and shout for Baxter, than we have ever known in Vermont. Hundreds of men were offered, and paid, three and four dollars a day, spices, and their expenses, with liquor and cigars thrown in. Many of these, when the liquor was in, let out the shameful bargain. Nor did it make any difference what they were personally or politically. Aliens, democrats, non voters, *any thing*, was fish for the Baxter net. The Railroad shops were almost silent in St. Albans, on Wednesday, on account of the numbers of the workmen, in great proportion democrats and aliens, who, marshalled by Major Tenney, a notorious democrat, were rushed en masse to Hydepark and into the Convention. Eight or nine democrats, were thrown out by the tellers, in the Chittenden County Convention, every one of them a Baxter man. Even department clerks who owed their places to Mr. Baxter, were brought up from Washington to blow and vote for him. To only tantalize this statement we offer the following affidavits by a couple of soldier boys, who like the mass of the soldiers in the district, believe in square dealing, and think that Portus Baxter has had office enough for the good of the district:

I, Roswell Wait, of Westford, in the County of Chittenden and State of Vermont, being duly sworn, depose, testify and say that on Tuesday, August 14th, 1866, I was at Cambridgeboro, on my way to attend the Republican District Convention at Hydepark. While going there my companion A. J. Chase, also of Westford, found suspended across the street a United States flag upon which was affixed the following label—

"For Member of Congress, Portus Baxter."

Mr. Chase and I both preferred not to pass under said flag so labelled, and we drove around it. Upon arriving at the hotel, kept by H. S. Brewster, I saw two of Portus Baxter's clerks, who reside in Washington. I had seen them in Washington while I was in the United States service and since, and with one of them was partially acquainted. He asked Mr. Chase with some arrogance why he did not drive under the flag. Mr. Chase said he did not sail in that company. I asked him what great things Mr. Baxter had done for the soldiers, and enquired why he did not stand out of the way of other candidates as he had agreed. The other clerk said they were Mr. Baxter's clerks from Washington. My reply was that I had seen them in Washington and knew that they were some of Baxter's bootblacks at Washington. He then said, I will tell you what Baxter has done for my companion here and for me: "We laid at the Alexandria barracks and we could not get away to the front, and Mr. Baxter came to Alexandria with some of his friends and got us away and we went to the front." Then said I, "You are then soldiers, are you?" "Yes," said they. They said they were able bodied men who laid there and could not get away to the front. I said I know better—that neither Baxter nor any one else was obliged to go to the Alexandria barracks to get *able bodied* men to go to the front. I was told by them I knew nothing about it; my reply was that if they were there as they said, they must belong to the "Dysentery Corps." One of them then said "that chap ought to have his face slapped." Mr. D. W. Turner of Cambridge, was there and overheard this talk and told me not to run or back down. I told him I did not intend to run or back down.

These clerks were in attendance at the Hydepark Convention and went up to vote for Mr. Baxter as they said, and one of them told me that he intended to return to Washington on Monday following the interview I have related.

This is substantially a full and correct statement of this interview, and I give this affidavit, upon request, that all may see in what manner the contest in the Third Congressional District of Vermont is carried on by Mr. Baxter's friends, and who and what persons participated in the *deliberations of the Hydepark Convention*; and I further say not.

ROSWELL WAIT.

Subscribed and sworn to this 16th day of August, 1866, before me.

CHARLES SOULE,
Master in Chancery.

I have read the foregoing affidavit, and depose and say that it is true, and further say not.

A. J. CHASE.

Subscribed and sworn to this 16th day of August, 1866, before me.

CHARLES SOULE,
Master in Chancery.

What say the Republicans of the Third District? Do they wish to be represented in Congress by a man who would overwhelm their honest choice by the votes of democrats, aliens and Washington slaves?

A Marked Man.

Mr. Portus Baxter left the Hydepark Convention a disgraced man. With specific charges of personal corruption preferred against him by respectable gentlemen, who dared him to challenge the proof of them in open convention, he was silent as the grave. It will take him many a year to wipe out the mark thus scored upon him.

ANOTHER INSTANCE OF THE CONVENTION.—At a meeting held at Hydepark, after the close of the Convention, Geo. N. Dale, Esq., formerly State's Attorney of Lamoille County, and subsequently Deputy Collector of Customs at Island Pond, made a short speech, in the course of which he explained why he resigned that profitable government office. His reasons were in substance as we understood them, that the corrupt transactions going on under the rule of Baxter, Clapp & Co., and coming to his knowledge, were becoming too numerous and gross to be countenanced by any man and retain decent self-respect. He must winked them or leave, and he preferred to leave. Mr. Dale mentioned two cases. One was where a somewhat influential democrat, well-known in this county, whose opposition Mr. Baxter feared in the canvass for his last renomination, was promised an office by Mr. Baxter, in writing, if he would remain silent. He waited a while for his appointment but it did not come. He then telegraphed Mr. Baxter, asking: "How about that appointment? I wish to know at once that I may govern myself accordingly." This threat brought the Congressman to his aide. Mr. Baxter replied by telegraph: "The office is yours,"—and the appointment (that of paymaster in the army) was made.

Mr. Dale stated that at another time an applicant for an office, whose appointment hung fire, put *one hundred dollars* into an envelope, which he handed to Mr. Dale to hand to Mr. Baxter, and he did so. Did Mr. Baxter, as some worthy friend of his may suppose, at once and indignantly spurn the bribe? *Not at all.* He took it, counted the money, and turning to Mr. Dale with a smile, asked "Shall I take it?" "You know your own business," was the reply, and Mr. Baxter's rejoinder was "I guess you had better hand it to Clapp." Mr. Dale accordingly took it to Mr. Clapp, who pocketed it without scruple—and the applicant received his office. "*These matters,*" added Mr. Dale, significantly, "*were not confidential* so far as I was concerned,"—leaving upon his hearers the very distinct and doubtless correct impression, that there was enough more of the same sort that he might tell if released from obligations of secrecy.

Is there any possible explanation of such transactions as these, consistent with the integrity of the Congressman? If there is, we should be glad to hear it.

LIES.

The corruption candidate's friends and fellow-workers, do not spare falsehood any more than money in their work. It is asserted by them that Romeo H. Hoyt is a copperhead, that he only joined the Republican party last May, that he is a Roman Catholic, and a relative of the editor of the *Sentinel*. Not one of these assertions is true.

Mr. Hoyt left the Democratic party *ten years ago*; has never been anything but a truly loyal man, and has sent to the army his son and five other men; has no relationship to W. H. Hoyt, Esq., editor of the *Sentinel*, and *is not* a Roman Catholic. His position as a square and sound republican is before the public in an outspoken and manly letter.

Where Mr. Hoyt is known such lies do not spread; but in some towns we hear they are current. Let them be fully contradicted.

THE BURLINGTON POST OFFICE.—As some allusion has been made to the Burlington Post office, we may say that the whole business of the last change in that office, revealed most strikingly not only Mr. Portus Baxter's treachery and duplicity; but the corrupt practices in vogue in reference to the disposition of public patronage in this district. Mr. Benedict had good reason to believe that if he would pay for his retention in the office he could keep it, and when those who claimed control of the appointment found out that he would not "bleed" the office was in effect offered to three other men in succession, for sums varying from $600 to $1200.

We understand that a similar performance took place in reference to the St. Albans Post office, concerning which we may have more to say hereafter.

The Whiskey Candidate.

The following letter comes to us, with an accompanying note from a responsible gentleman of our personal acquaintance, vouching for the truth of its statements:

NEWPORT, Aug. 16, 1866.

Messrs. Editors of the Free Press:

DEAR SIRS—I have been stopping a short time at the pleasant village of Newport, and to-day I witnessed a sight such I never saw before and hope never to again in the loyal State of Vermont. I have traveled considerable, and have had more or less to do with political matters for twenty-five years, and never until to-day did I see a man out electioneering with a *twelve quart pail full of whiskey*, treating the crowd in a public street.

I came down from my room this afternoon, and as I went off the veranda of the hotel, I passed a small knot of men who were much excited, talking quite loud about the convention they had been attending. Among them I saw the Hon. PORTUS BAXTER and one Drew, who resides in this village, and has much to do with the staging business here. I have known Mr. Baxter by sight, and by reputation as a political trickster, for three or four years, and from the length of his face and his remarks, I concluded he had not succeeded in controlling the convention. The man Drew, who appeared to be a very warm friend of Mr. Baxter, (and I concluded from Mr. Baxter's remarks and gestures he thought much of Drew,) after having a short conversation with Mr. Baxter and his friends started off for the hotel. Soon after I saw Drew coming up the street with a pail in one hand and a pitcher and tumbler in the other, and as he passed Mr. Baxter and his friends, he said he was going to treat them, which seemed to please Mr. Baxter, if I can judge from a man's smiles and gestures.

Presently two coaches drove up loaded with men who had been to the convention for Mr. Baxter. The man Drew proceeded to discharge his duty of gratuitary by treating the Baxter brigade of twenty five or thirty men to whiskey, which is a very persuasive argument with such men as usually attend more conventions for him. After which the gratuitary proposed three cheers for Baxter, which were given. By the way, there is nothing that will make such men cheer for any body or anything like whiskey.

Now, Mr. Editor, I do not like such proceedings. I'm not a member of Congress nor a candidate for nomination, stand fair and consistent such proceedings is enough to disgust any moral or temperance man. It is high time the freemen of Vermont should rise in their might and put an end to manipulating conventions by money and whiskey, and say to all candidates, "we want men in Congress who will not procure their election by feeding potent liquor to their constituents."

Our congressional aspirants have too many here in them who lack all moral and religious principle and care nothing for their constituents if they can get their election and secure federal patronage, by whose to procure number. If Mr. Baxter cannot get nominated to Congress without resorting to such means and the feeding of rum puncheons (which I am told was the case) to attend the convention, I think it would be better to retire to private life.

A TEETOTALER REPUBLICAN.

FRANKLIN COUNTY AT HYDEPARK.—At the request of several worthy citizens of Franklin County, we now lay before the Free Press the following communication from Franklin County in the Baxter Convention, in full:

After the Convention had been made ready to vote, the Franklin County delegation from Franklin County, in consequence of a protest against admitting a number of persons who had been added to the delegation since the county convention had met and passed the resolutions instructing their delegates, to go out upon the common, and hold the convention there, and it filled up the delegation could not get within the room in the Court House. Some of Mr. Hoyt's friends insisted on having a chairman elected before adjourning.—Finally, Henry F. Seymour, a Hoyt man, was proposed for chairman by Mr. Bailey, a Baxter man; it was suggested that he should retire, and the part of the delegation present proceeded to the place designated, and organized by unanimous consent, and joined the Franklin County men already assembled there. Mr. Seymour proceeded to act as chairman of the convention of Franklin county delegates, in accordance with the previous agreement, he chosen unanimously, and without a dissenting voice, and so acted without protest during the whole proceedings.

Prior to this, it had been agreed between several prominent men on both sides, that no votes should be taken; that if the Hoyt men in the Franklin delegation were more numerous than the Baxter men, then the candidate selected by them should be the nominating candidate for this district; and that if the Baxter men in the Franklin county delegation were the majority, the candidate of that selecting should be the Franklin county nominating candidate.

[The rule of taking the votes by passing the name from chair to chair, is the one generally, voluntarily, adopted by delegates in our conventions.]

Soon after the votes were both near the pot, and heard for the first time a complaint by the friends of Mr. Hoyt that men were coming back into the enclosure who had once been counted, and that some were endeavoring to pass tellers twice. At this time no new Hoyt men were had once been counted swarming back into the enclosure, as they could easily do, as it was really accessible from the lane, and we also saw a few and but a few Baxter men come back, who had once passed the tellers. It is undoubtedly true that several men attempted to pass themselves by the tellers twice. But it is fully to suppose there was any fraud perpetrated, for the gate was earnestly watched by both Hoyt and Baxter men from all parts of the county, who could detect any attempts of counters easily.

In proof of this, we refer to the fact that a Hoyt man from Bakersfield, who was once from town representative, a Hoyt man from the town of Fairfax, and three Hoyt men from Lamoille county, were detected in the attempt to vote twice or to vote unlawfully; and Dr. Pomeroy, formerly of Highgate, but now a resident of the West, passed and was counted, and the matter was rectified by substituting another Hoyt man for him.

After the Hoyt men had evidently all passed through, ten minutes time was given by agreement, to enable those who might be in attendance to come up and be counted. Then the remaining Baxter men, who had not passed off and passed the gate, were passed through and counted, this occupied twenty-five minutes. Now there was a discussion as to the manner in the count which had been made the majority in favor of Mr Baxter was twenty-two, and the Baxter ticket for nominating candidate was read, was elected. He then stated that it was objected against the election that votes had been turned in the count, against the mutual agreement entered into, and that some of them had been counted twice, than once, and further, that no quorum had been elected, and he declared the election therefore fraudulent and void.

Mr. A. M. Clark, one of the tellers on the part of Mr. Hoyt, then declared the election fair, and that though a Hoyt man, he believed his side was fairly beaten. Mr. Seymour, at the demand of Mr. Bailey, against the fact of the Baxter nominating committee, (with his initials, however,) and it proved to be him. Mr. Seymour, then went before the convention, and made statements more elaborately, containing substantially what we have stated he said, there.

The above account, first, establishes the fact that Mr. Seymour was by mutual consent recognized as the temporary chairman of the Franklin County convention.

Second, it asserts that it was agreed between "the warm friends of both" that no votes should determine who should be chairman and who committee. As no time other than of the "several prominent men" of Franklin Co., whom we have talked with, usually represented any such agreement as to the appointment of a committee, and about this it referred to a chairman alone, the question what right, in any case, had "several men" to bind the convention. Some nine hundred men from Franklin County were there to attend to such matters for themselves, and to assume that all were bound by a hasty bargain, if there was one, between three or four men in the crowd, without sanction of the case, nomination of any committee, or vote upon the matter, seems extremely absurd.

Third, it asserts fraud on the part of the Hoyt men, as well as on the part of the Baxter men, in the count—additional proof, if more, of the nullity of the proceeding.

Fourth, it acknowledges that Mr. Seymour, the chairman by mutual consent and the only officer of the convention, pronounced the count, for reasons stated, "FRAUDULENT AND VOID." Of course he could not have stated that the Baxter committee was elected. Nor did he so state to the District convention. He stated in fact just the opposite of that.

The rest is of little consequence. We must be allowed to doubt that Mr. A. M. Clark admitted that the election was fair.—We have understood Mr. Clark to fully corroborate Mr. Seymour's statement. Nor would his admission alter the statement of the case. What particular consequence Mr. Seymour's initials could add to a ticket for a committee, which was never even mentioned to the convention, much less voted on, we also fail to see.

As to the main facts, then, this statement confirms our own account, and here we are content to leave the subject. The Hydepark convention is past and gone, and we can give no more space to discussions of its action.—The question now is, shall ROMEO H. HOYT or PORTUS BAXTER represent this District in Congress, and to that we propose to address ourselves hereafter.

The Convention at Hydepark was called to nominate a member of Congress and to appoint a District Committee. To transact the business of the Convention, we now learn from the statement of Mr. Seymour, in our paper to-day, that the nominating committee at Hydepark, after the adjournment of the convention, "nominated and elected" the old District Committee. This is entirely of a piece with the other astonishing assumptions of the powers of the general convention, by that committee.

A nominating committee has no right to organize and do its business after the convention has ordered a report of the proceedings of the committee, and before such report has been half completed. It cannot as members six individuals who never have been mentioned in either District or County convention, and who never were elected without credentials. It has no right to make a protracted examination, upon the very question, (as to the result in Franklin County) on which depends the question of result, is under the control of the committee. And then, after the committee had reported and adjourned without day, and dispersed, after the committee, if it had been fully organized, was dissolved, Dana Foster, who was no longer even a member of the committee, assumes to call together the committee, to assume a power that the committee, for the Convention itself, never, for a single moment, dreamed of exercising, and to do a thing like this can never, never be tolerated.

BRATTLEBORO, Aug. 21, 1866.

Messrs. Editors of the Free Press:

Gentlemen:—Have the people of this State, or any portion of them, any reason to expect that the Convention at Hydepark will nominate a man who will represent the principles of the Republican party, or be a fair representative of the people of this district? Or, is it, as the Times quotes from the Free Press, and grant it to be true, "The majority of the people shall have the fruits of the Hydepark Convention, without argument on my part." I therefore simply desire to state what I have in my communication, very briefly, stated, that with reasonable men of all Republican principles, were made upon the adjournment of the convention could be. After the second nomination of Mr. Baxter, it was stated to me by members who were present when the Chairman of the Convention, that the nomination of Baxter would not be made unanimous. I do not know that the statement was authorized, but I know that it was made, and that it was believed by those who heard it. I know that the Chairman of the Convention, a gentleman of high character, was not a party to it. Knowing the Baltimore platform, I ask, New York Times, believes the true sentiment, and that the great body of the Republicans are of the present policy of the party, which, I believe, Maine, Iowa, The great body of loyal people of the nation, both North and South, know better, and they will act accordingly.

The Conventions in the Districts.

Political Meetings will be held, and addressed by Hon. Roscoe B. Hoyt, J. S. Adams, Hon. Dorus Ellsworth, and others, at Stockbridge, Monday, Aug. 27th, at 2 p. m. South Troy, Tuesday, Aug. 28th, at 1 p. m. W. Albany, Wednesday, Aug. 29th, 2 p. m. Greenbush, Thursday, Aug. 30th at 2 p. m. Berlin, Friday, Aug. 31st, 2 p. m. Newport, Saturday, Sept. 1st, 1 p. m.

We trust these meetings, announced to be addressed, will be largely attended by the people of their respective neighborhoods.

SETTLED.—The Hydepark Convention settled one thing at any rate, that there will never be another Maine Convention called in this District.

HIS OWN TOWN.—Portus Baxter is of course best known in his own town at Derby Line. That intelligent borough sent a strong delegation *opposed to Mr. Baxter*, to the convention. The Custom House officer, the postmaster, and two or three family friends were the sum total of his supporters. Eight or ten soldiers reeking at Derby Line attended the convention and voted as a body against Mr. Baxter, and the only soldier's vote he received from that quarter was that of his son, Capt. Baxter.

The nominating committee of the Hydepark Convention if it had ever organized, would have consisted of *twenty-two* members. Twelve votes were consequently necessary to a choice. The results in the different County rule-conventions were as follows:

	Hoyt.	Baxter.
Essex Co.	2	
Lamoille Co.	2	
Grand Isle "	2	
Chittenden "		6
Orleans "		4
Franklin "	undecided.	

A fair show in Franklin County would have added her six votes to the Hoyt column and given Mr. Hoyt the nomination.

PRETTY GOOD.—"Warrington" writes to the Springfield *Republican*:

"I hear of a good thing said by Gen. Butler within a day or two. A Johnsonite was making congratulatory observations to him on the touching scene at Philadelphia, and remarked that "extremes meet." "Yes," said Butler, "so they do when a dog chases his own tail, but both extremes belong to the same dog!"

REPUBLICANS TO CIVIL LAW IN TEXAS.—A proclamation under date of Aug. 20, appears from our President, declaring the insurrection in Texas at an end, and civil law restored. After recapitulating the several proclamations heretofore made at sundry times, recognizing the existence of insurrection in the United States and its cessation in all other States, and further that we, in good faith, did not intend to give away to adequate provision for its enforcement by military force, he concludes the proclamation with as follows:

Now, therefore, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the insurrection which heretofore existed in the State of Texas is at an end, and that in all the United States to all intents and purposes and purposes, and that peace, order, tranquillity, and civil law prevail in the said State of Texas as much as in the other States of the United States.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this 20th day of August, in the year of our Lord, 1866, and of the Independence of the United States of America the ninety-first.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Sec. of State.

Our Contributors.

[illegible]

Mad Watches Wanted.

[illegible]

The French Chimney and the Hair Trade.

It is hardly possible that the mysteries of the hair trade are now fully understood by all the wearers of coils and waterfalls. For the benefit of such, we cut from the Boston *Journal* an account of some of the most interesting processes through which these "beautiful" coils and tresses have passed, in order to fit them for the market:

The chimneys will not, as a general rule, buy the hair of dead or sick persons, which they can detect instantly, as it is brittle and worthless. A great deal of hair has of late years been furnished by the convents, where it is the custom for the nuns to cut off their locks. The demand for this singular article of commerce, however, exceeds the supply, and every source likely to furnish the commodity has been explored. Even the streets are searched and thousands of pounds are gathered by the rag pickers. There is no woman who does not every day bring several hairs from her head by the use of the comb, and they are thrown into the dust basket or street.—The rag picker collects and sells them to the lower class of hair dressers. These people clean them of all the filth they have caught in the street, and sort them one by one. It is a labor as fatiguing as it is nauseating. The odor is horrible; they must be taken hair by hair, their color ascertained, the root discovered, (which is done by thrusting them through the eye of a needle,) and they must be washed in several chemical preparations. This hair is not esteemed; if it was not diseased or dead the comb would not uproot it. The loss during these various manipulations is enormous; it is rarely more than one-fifth one-sixth of the whole quantity that is merchantable. It is reckoned 28,000 pounds of hair are obtained from this source.—As only one-fifth or one-sixth of the rag picker's collection is good, the rag pickers must annually collect 140,000 or 168,000 pounds of hair in the streets.

The hair gathered by chimneys is sold by the brokers to the wholesale dealers, whose warehouses reek with the stench arising from it. The merchant can tell whence the various lots come by their separate and peculiar odors. In these warehouses the hair is prepared for sale by being carefully assorted according to color, length, &c., sprinkled with flour to remove the grease, and carded two or three times.

Lastly, tresses are formed by mixing together in given proportions hair of various lengths—each tress contains on an average hair from thirty different heads. These tresses are the fashionable "waterfalls." Hair of doubtful or disagreeable color is dyed blue black. Hair too short to be used in tresses or "waterfalls," is used in other ways. These various manipulations increase the price of hair in a wonderful proportion. Hair which, purchased as "raw material," at $5 to $20 the pound, (prices range in this great scale,) cost, manufactured, $100 and $150 the pound. The loss during these manipulations is never less than 18 per cent., and may exceed 20 per cent. Prices have advanced enormously of late years. When a tress has been manufactured and has received the "last touches" for a hair dresser, it really has no market price. A blonde tress has been sold for as much as $1,200. Blonde tresses are higher than black or chestnut or red tresses, because they cannot be colored by artificial means. Beautiful black hair and curly hair of all colors are the next most expensive. Baldhead of all the hair manufactured in France is exported to England and America.

The Mexican Blockade of no Effect as Against the United States.

By the President of the United States.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas a war is existing in the Republic of Mexico, aggravated by foreign military intervention. And whereas the United States, in accordance with their settled habits and policy, are a neutral power in regard to the war which thus afflicts the Republic of Mexico. And whereas it has become known that one of the belligerents in the said war, namely, the Prince Maximilian, who asserts himself to be Emperor of Mexico, has issued a decree in regard to the port of Matamoras and other Mexican ports which are in the occupation and possession of military of the said belligerents, namely, the United States of Mexico, which decree is in the following words:

"The port of Matamoras and all those of the southern frontier which have withdrawn from their allegiance to the government are closed to foreign and coasting traffic during such time as the law of the Empire shall not be therein restored.

"Given at Mexico, the 9th day of July, 1866."

And whereas the decree thus recited, by declaring a blockade, unsupported by competent military or naval force, is in violation of the rights of the United States as defined by the law of nations as well as the treaties existing between the United States of America and the aforesaid United States of Mexico.

Now, therefore, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the aforesaid decree is held and will be held by the United States to be absolutely null and void as against the government and citizens of the United States, and that any attempt which shall be made to enforce the same against the government or citizens of the United States will be disallowed.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this 17th day of August, in the year of our Lord, 1866, and of the Independence of the United States of America the ninety-first.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Sec. of State.

We copy the following notice of Prof. Angell's accession to the Presidency of the University and State Agricultural College, from the Providence papers:

[From the Providence Journal.]

It has already been announced that James B. Angell has accepted the unanimous call of the trustees of the University of Vermont to become the President of that institution. A wider choice could not have been made by that most respective and venerable University, to which Prof. Angell will carry a mind of uncommon natural parts, cultivated and enriched by careful study, with manner and address admirably calculated to attract the confidence of young persons, and with a conscientious devotion to whatever responsibilities he may assume. The college, with the elements of success, has yet lacked just what Prof. Angell will supply, an efficient, vigorous head, old enough to have had experience in teaching and in organizing, young enough to share the prosperity of the institution the ambition of his life. We anticipate for it a new career of usefulness and honor.

Prof. Angell will carry with him the good wishes of troops of friends in his native State, many of whom have been made such during his connection with the Journal, a connection that has extended over more than six years, undisturbed by any collision, unclouded by any distrust or suspicion, on either side; and among all his well wishers none are more sincere or more hearty than those who have been associated with him in the arduous labors that he exchanges for more congenial pursuits.

[From the Prov. Post.]

"We learn that Professor Angell has accepted the Presidency of the University of Vermont, and has not for some weeks occupied the chair Editorial of the *Journal*. If, as we take it for granted is the case, President Angell has secured an easier life, and a higher recompense for his intellectual exertions, we congratulate him.

In learning, in courtesy, in social excellencies, and in all the christian virtues, Mr. Angell has few equals and no superior. We shall miss his genial smile and friendly salutation; but shall console ourselves, not wholly without a twinge of envy perhaps, with the thought that *he*, in external modes, is independent of politics, copy, and the (printer's) devil."

Mr. B. W. Undine of La Crosse, Wis., having quarrelled with his lady love, because she had another "fellow," sued her for goods presented to her, his bill being $33.50 for ring, fur, kids and confectionery, to court she offset his bill with her own for $13.75, viz., "for kerosene oil, seven months, $2; rent of a parlor for sparking, $10.50; confectionery eaten by plaintiff, 25 cents." A mayor, an ex-mayor, a judge and a general were witnesses to prove the cost of kerosene, &c. The judge allowed the offset, and Mr. Undine had to pay 25 cents, the difference between the bills, and also $13.62 for the costs of the suit.

"My Convention," is the head which the Rochester *Democrat* puts to its accounts of the Philadelphia gathering.

Personal.

Rev. Samuel Worcester, D. D., died at Salem, Mass., Thursday morning. He had been a prominent Theologian for many years, distinguished for ability and learning. The cause of his death we have not learned.

The following Vermonters appear on different committees at the Philadelphia Convention: B. B. Smalley, Executive Com.; R. W. Chase and D. Tilden, Com. on Finance; C. N. Davenport and J. H. Williams, com. on Resolutions. Myron Clark was one of the vice-presidents, and Geo. H. Simmons one of the Secretaries.

S. H. H. Parsons, Esq., has been appointed Postmaster of Albany, N. Y., in place of Mr. Dawson, resigned. Mr. Parsons has been, for many years, one of the Police Justices of the city and is a popular man.

A. T. Stewart, the dry-goods millionaire of New York, pays a yearly income tax on $4,071,256. Bennett, of the *Herald*, has an income of $158,638, and Senator E. D. Morgan an income on $154,400.

The Brattleboro *Record* announces its intention to publish a full, authentic and connected history of the part performed by Vermont in the suppression of the Slaveholders Rebellion. Gen. P. T. Washburn has consented to prepare the opening chapters. No other man in Vermont is so well qualified for this great work as Gen. Washburn, and no man has a higher appreciation of its historical importance.

Mr. Hoyt's politics are bad—very bad. But his qualifications as a man and a gentleman, entitle him to as high honors as his party can confer upon him.—*Burlington Sentinel.*

Maj. Henry Smith, for many years Probate judge of probate, and postmaster at Brattleboro died on Tuesday of last week. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and was buried with Masonic honors.

Representative P. E. Woodbridge of Vergennes will follow the actions of the Burlington county cattle show in September.

Mrs. Jeff. Davis writes to a friend in Charleston that her husband suffers severely wasting away, and seems at times nothing beyond opium can relieve him. Sherry is Madeira Wine.

During the absence of Secretary Seward and his son, Attorney General Stanbery, the appointment of the President had charge of the State Department.

The collection is still in operation at Henry C. Brown, of the New York Independent, has been removed from the Collectorship of Internal Revenue in the Third district of N. Y.

Gilman Henry, late Provost Marshal of the Second Congressional District, has been appointed Assistant Assessor at Woodstock, in place C. D. of Anderson.

Gen. SHERMAN'S DISPATCHES.—A Washington dispatch to the Philadelphia Ledger says:

"I am informed, on undoubted authority, that Gen. Sherman forwarded his resignation to the President immediately on receipt of order to obey the Attorney General of Louisiana. It was received on Friday, and was discussed at the Cabinet meeting, and there it was decided to refuse its acceptance. It is said that the General will persist unless the objectionable order is rescinded, and his dispatches publicly ungarbled."

We have inadvertently omitted to notice the recent appointment of Sec. John H. Skinner, formerly of Plattsburgh, as Assistant Post Master General in place of N. Randall. Gen. Skinner entered the Post Office Department over twenty years ago under a Democratic Administration, and has retained his position as Chief Clerk to all appointment have since made, under Administrations of every varying shade of politics. He has long been authority on all questions of detail in the department, and his elevation to the position of chief is a proper recognition of services so long and faithfully rendered that they have now become well nigh indispensable.

Col. Jos. C. Breck, Brevet Brigadier General and Assistant Quartermaster of Volunteers, has been assigned to duty as Chief Quartermaster, Department of Virginia, on temporary duty, pay, and emoluments of Colonel of Quartermaster's Department.

We notice that Norman Williams, of Chicago, has been elected a member of the Illinois Republican State Central Committee.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AT VERGENNES.—The Centennial Celebration of Hiram Vergennes, takes place on Tuesday, Sept. 4th. Hon. Fred. E. Woodbridge delivers the address. A Lyceum will be held in the evening at which the Burlington Quadrille Band will furnish the music.

ARREST.—Three Indians named Sabattis were arrested Monday for an assault upon John Hastings, a man employed by L. Barron & Co. Hastings's head was badly cut by their clubs and another man named Hodges, who interfered had his wrist cut by a knife aimed at Hastings.

SACCHARINE ARRESTED.—Lovell and Wm. Mooney and John Beak of Richford, Vt., were arrested at the Howard House on Monday, on Wednes