

CLARKSVILLE
WEEKLY CHRONICLE.

R. H. YANCEY, Editor.

THE LAND PURCHASE SCHEME.

Mr. Gladstone introduced his Irish land purchase bill into the House of Commons this week. It is supplementary to the home rule measure he before proposed and cannot be carried into effect unless the Irish parliament is established.

The measure, in substance, provides for the purchase of Irish estates owned by absentee landlords at the option of the owners by the government, and a re-sale of same to the tenants who occupy them. The purchase money is to become a debt of the Irish government and is to be paid back by the tenant purchasers in 20 years rents.

The bill is not meeting with favor among the Irish. They think it is too much in the interest of English landlords who are anxious to dispose of their unprofitable Irish estates on such good terms.

There is no doubt that this landlord absenteeism, is the chief cause of all of Ireland's woes. There can be no true home rule without its removal, but it is a deep seated cancer that cannot be removed without a vigorous application of the knife. The Irish are not willing to undergo the pain and temporary inconvenience that the operation will cost, for the ultimate cure and benefit that it will insure.

Gladstone is a far reaching statesman and the Irish are hardly capable of appreciating the great good he wishes to accomplish for them. They are a turbulent and impetuous people and care little for blessings that it will require patience and toil to obtain.

"A GOOD DEMOCRAT."

Gov. Bate said in selecting a Senator he would bestow the honor on a man who was a good Democrat with congressional experience. Now of course it was not to be presumed that the Governor would appoint any other but a Democrat and the use of the word "good" implied that there are different degrees of Democracy among Tennessee statesmen who profess the faith, in the Governor's estimation.

Two men prominently mentioned for the place were Hon. John F. House and Hon. W. C. Whitthorne; both had had Congressional experience. The only difference in the politics of the two men was indicated by the stand they took in the last state convention on the tariff question. Gen. Whitthorne showed a leaning toward the Ohio idea, while Col. House was strictly a Wattersonian, i. e., he favored a tariff for revenue only.

Now did Governor Bate in selecting Gen. Whitthorne mean to say that a man who favors the Ohio idea is a better Democrat than one who stands flat-footed on Wattersonian principles? In other words, does he think Whitthorne a better Democrat than House on account of the difference between them on the tariff question?

We really don't think the Governor ought to draw such an invidious distinction; it is not conducive of harmony. Colonel House is, no doubt, an unquestionably sound Democrat and ought not to be put on the other side to be shot at.

MR. WILLIS' DEFENCE.

Since the Courier-Journal, the Times and sundry Louisville democrats have cut off Congressman Willis' head and threatened to decapitate the President on account of the re-appointment of Mrs. Thompson to the charge of the Louisville post-office, it is well enough to hear what the Congressman has to say in his own defence. In a recent interview Mr. Willis said he found Mrs. Thompson indorsed by the leading democrats of Louisville, bankers, merchants and lawyers, democrats and republicans, by the chairman of the State democratic committee, by twenty-six out of thirty-six state senators and by Senator Beck. Mrs. Thompson, he says, is and has always been a Democrat. She was left a widow with four children just when the Democrats thought they had elected Tilden, and the Democrats of Louisville, knowing her to be a lady of worth, honor and fine executive ability, about that time indorsed her for the position she now holds, and intended to present her name to Mr. Tilden. Mr. Tilden, he says, was counted out and Mrs. Thompson substituted the name of Hayes for Tilden in the petition, and she was appointed by that gentleman. His action in the matter, Mr. Willis says, was influenced all the way through by a sense of duty and not by any personal consideration.

The New York World in announcing Gen. Whitthorne's appointment to the Senate, alludes to him as "Robeson's Great Enemy." It was in exposing the frauds of the naval department in which Gen. Whitthorne won a national reputation and his return to public life recalls the good work he did in that regard.

WHITTHORNE.

The appointment of Gen. Whitthorne to the vacant Senatorship, seems to have given very general satisfaction. His long congressional experience equips him for ready action and he is therefore suited for the short term he will serve. He is a man of fine ability and capable of reflecting credit on the State.

It has been surmised that he will be thoroughly in accord with Senator Harris in all questions now affecting national politics. This conclusion was probably arrived at from no better reason than that the two Senators have always been personally intimate and that Whitthorne served as Adjutant-General of Tennessee under Harris during the war.

The last political utterances of Gen. Whitthorne do not justify the conclusion. At the State convention in Nashville in '84 he offered a resolution embodying the Ohio idea on the tariff question not in accord with the majority resolution which Senator Harris favored and which his friends so strongly insisted upon.

It is on this question that Democrats have most differed and as the two Senators were not altogether harmonious two years ago, it is not probable that they are together now.

It is painful to find in a paper of so much importance and pretensions as the Memphis Appeal so palpable a blunder as the following:

In 1884 Gen. Whitthorne was a candidate for re-election to the seat he had so long and ably filled in the House of Representatives. While he was the strongest man in the nominating convention he was not able to secure the requisite two-thirds majority, and after several days balloting and an adjournment for two weeks the convention again convened and nominated the Hon. James D. Richardson of Rutherford county, and as a consequence Gen. Whitthorne has not been a member of Congress since the 4th of March, 1884.

The Appeal is big enough and old enough to know better. Gen. Whitthorne has not been a member of Congress since March 4, 1883. He lives in the Seventh district which is now represented by Mr. Ballentine. Mr. Richardson was elected to the present Congress from the Fifth district and succeeded Dick Warner.

JOHN RANDOLPH'S comparison of a contemporary statesman to "a dead mackerel that stinks and shines and shines and stinks on the beach in the moonlight," was considered a very fine piece of sarcasm in its day, but it didn't damage the statesman in his life time and don't attach to his reputation in history. The indecent remark Ingalls made about the Mugwumps is less pointed and not near so applicable as that of the bitter-tongued man of Roanoke and much less likely to live. Both are specimens of abuse that belong to the semi-savage oratory of the past. They lose force with the advance of civilization and are condemned to disappear.

THE President upon the urgent demand of Mr. Willis of the right to name the postmaster in his own town and also upon the recommendation of Senator Beck, re-appointed Mrs. Thompson to the control of the Louisville post-office. The Courier-Journal and the Times are disposed to raise sheel about the matter. They say Mrs. Thompson is a Republican and that her management of the office has been very inefficient. If this be true, we are bound to admit that they have good grounds to kick.

TENNESSEE has been under Democratic rule for a number of years. Let us have a change and see what Republican rule will do for the State.—Chattanooga Commercial.

Oh no! don't less. The thing is waging away pretty well as it is and then we tried Republican rule under the Brownlow regime and know all about what it is from observation of its workings in other Southern States—South Carolina for instance.

ONLY TWO of our Tennessee contemporaries have so far attempted to solve the problem put by the CHRONICLE, "Why does the Goddess of Liberty wear a cap." The Nashville Banner asks the counter question, what would the Goddess look like with a fashionable bonnet on, and the Obion Democrat says she is too sensible to try to keep up with the rapidly varying styles.

IF the Obion Democrat thinks Ingalls comparison of the Mugwumps to something abominably negative is correct, we invite it to consider the case of Henry Ward Beecher. There is not a more positive and virile character in the Union than the Brooklyn preacher. He don't command universal admiration but no one will accuse him of being negative in anything.

THE Knoxville Republicans have nominated Henri Gibson for Chancellor. Henri is a glib talker and made a pretty fair editor, but his success in the judges' chair is a problem. If he can't make a better decree than he can a party platform, it wouldn't be wise to elect him.

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Now Henri dear, don't worry so,
Be thoughtful and consider.
How could our Grover turn his back
Upon a charming widow?
(Copyright applied for.)

ONE of our weekly exchanges has dubbed Mr. Powderly "The Plumed Knight of Labor." We never before had occasion to suppose that the paper is an emissary of Jay Gould.

THE Louisville Democrats should not be too much irritated over the fact that Senator Beck signed Mrs. Thompson's petition. It will be remembered, as brought out in the Buck case, the Senator don't always mean it when he signs a petition.

THE Avalanche notes the fact that the machine men are raising an awful howl about the appointment of a woman to the post-office in Louisville, while they are silent over a similar place having been given to a corrupt ring politician in Cincinnati. That is the way with the spoilsmen.

WE believe that Grover Cleveland has always tried to do right regardless of the adverse criticism his action might bring forth, but in one or two instances he has missed the mark and departed completely from the principle that seems to guide him. The Cincinnati postmaster is one of those instances.

WHENEVER capital is able to employ a sufficient quantity of labor to conduct its business on terms repudiated by striking employees, then the strike is necessarily a failure. The newly employed laborers and the strikers have changed positions, and the former are entitled to all the sympathy claimed by the latter.

THE West Tennessee Whig publishes a number of "unsolicited compliments from the press," concerning Congressman Taylor. Each one of them commences something after this fashion: "By consulting our column of announcements it will be seen &c." When a candidate pays a country editor \$10 to announce him, it seems very much like he is soliciting a compliment. The average country editor construes it that way.

GREECE for some time has maintained a beligerent attitude towards Turkey and now the armies of the two countries are in such dangerous proximity that a war seems imminent. In the face of the fact that some of the great powers have declared that Greece shall not fight, the warlike demonstrations of the little principality seem plucky. It may be that Greece has assurance of aid from Russia if she attacks Turkey and England aids the Ottomans. Complications arising from the dismemberment of the Turkish empire, are apt at any time to bring on a general European war, and should a passage at arms occur between the Grecian and Turkish troops, it is not at all improbable that Russia, England and Austria may be plunged into the strife that ensues.

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