



J. B. STOLL, Editor and Proprietor.

LIGONIER, IND., DEC'R 2d, 1875.

LATEST disclosures in the whisky fraud investigation implicate President Grant's private secretary, Gen. Babcock.

CONGRESS convenes next Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> the Senate the Republicans now have but eleven majority, while the House is democratic by 176, against 102 Republicans, 6 Liberals, and 8 Independents.

GO. MOON, the internal revenue collector for this District, has had his "official circuit" greatly extended by the addition of the South Bend District. R. J. Chestnutwood, of South Bend, is thus relieved from the burdensome yet lucrative duty of collecting government taxes.

THE MENTION of Capt. Mitchell's name in connection with the Lieut. Governorship is received with marked favor by a number of democratic journals in various portions of the State. We reproduce a few of the notices in another column. If the Capt. will allow his name to go before the convention, as we trust he will, he may count upon an enthusiastic support.

SAMUEL BOWLES, in his Springfield Republican, says that Mr. Kerr's chief qualification for the Speakership is a personal and official probity not too common among our public men. He is as "ugly honest" as Mr. Tilden himself. Of all the gentlemen mentioned, he is the one whom the jobs and jokers most dread to see in the chair; he will never sit there, if they can possibly prevent it.

THE OFFICIAL RETURNS of the Wisconsin election give Ludington, Republican, a 20 majority over Governor Taylor, Democrat. The average majority of the rest of the democratic State ticket is 1,180. Thus the Milwaukee Sentinel, the leading republican organ of Wisconsin, confesses to be a defeat. Gov. Taylor's attitude toward railroad corporations is doubtless the cause of his running so largely behind his colleagues on the ticket.

FERNANDO WOOD has wisely concluded not to allow his name to go before the democratic congressional caucus as a candidate for Speaker. He is fully aware that his chances have at no time been worth estimating. The contest is now narrowed down to a fight between Kerr and Randall, with the chances decidedly in favor of the former. Gov. Hendricks, who is now at Washington, openly expresses the hope that Mr. Kerr may be chosen Speaker.

JON G. THOMPSON, the able and indefatigable chairman of the Ohio Democratic State Central Committee, is a candidate for Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives at Washington. Thompson is a very worthy gentleman, a staunch friend of Senator Thurman, a man of excellent judgment, and in every sense of the word qualified for the position. We therefore hope to see him elected. He had no part in laying that rag baby at Gov. Allen's door.

THE election to defeat of Hon. M. Kerr as Speaker of the lower House of Congress will have a very important bearing upon the next Presidential election. If elected, the action of the democratic congressional majority will be accepted as an evidence of democratic sincerity in the advocacy of reform measures; if defeated, and especially by such a man as salary-grabber Sam Randall, independent voters will have ground for declaring that profession is one thing and practice quite another.

THE REPUBLICANS of Indiana having voted upon the 22d of their State Convention, the Democrats will in all probability name a day only a few weeks later. This will again give us one of those long campaigns which so many good citizens fairly abhor. We were in hopes that both parties would be satisfied with a short and sharp campaign, but the republican leaders have decreed otherwise. The political pot is to be kept boiling from February to November—to the neglect of business and to the annoyance of men of sober judgment.

HON. B. G. CAULFIELD, democratic Congressman from the First Illinois District, in a recent interview with a reporter of the Chicago Tribune, declared his intention to vote for Hon. M. C. Kerr for Speaker. He also proposes to introduce a number of measures, among which will be an amendment limiting the Presidency to one term, a bill to reduce the President's salary to \$25,000, and resolutions on the currency declaring that Congress has no power to enlarge the present volume of legal-tender currency—also, that any contract would be unwise and injurious. He also desires to have the members of the Cabinet on the floor of the House compelled to answer questions, and with power to participate in debate.

W. B. ASTOR, son of the noted John Jacob Astor, who died in the city of New York on Wednesday of last week, was one of the wealthiest holders of real estate upon the continent, and was well known besides for his many gifts to New York and its charities. He leaves an estate valued at \$80,000,000. Having reached the eighty-fourth year of his age, his death was not altogether unexpected by the family, as his age led them to believe that death might occur at any time, although the old man appeared to be in robust health. During the recent remodeling of the Astor House he was very often in the building, inspecting the changes that were being made, and then seemed to be in good health, although his mind at times appeared to be slightly affected. He was at his office in the preceding Saturday. Mr. Astor leaves three sons and two daughters to mourn his death. His remains were buried from Trinity Chapel last Saturday.

## THE "TRIBUNE" PLAN FOR RESUMPTION.

AN EXCELLENT APPOINTMENT.

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We regard this as the most excellent appointment—the very best which the Governor could have made. Mr. English, according to the N. Y. World, is a native of New Haven, where he received a common school education, learned the trade of a carpenter and before he was twenty-one years old became a master builder. Turning his attention to the lumber trade, he acquired a fortune, which has been greatly enlarged by investments in real estate, in manufacturing enterprises and in the banking business, and has become one of the richest men in Connecticut. His wealth has aided in improving and beautifying the charming city in which he was born and bred. He has given largely to the educational, religious and charitable institutions of New Haven. His private charities have been very large. His manufacturing enterprises for years past have employed thousands of well-paid workmen. His public wealth has been in satisfaction of their debts, which they will have to pay if the currency remains at its present value. This, we readily concede, would be a real hardship, which ought to be in equity provided, if it can be done without injury to other classes and without delaying the great act of national justice. Our able Chicago contemporary therefore proposes the following:

Let Congress this winter enact:

1. That the bankers greenback their notes in proportion to the amount of gold in the Treasury Department, to be entitled to exchange therefor 4 or 3.65 per cent. gold bonds, of the denomination of \$50 or \$100, or any multiple of \$100.
2. That these bonds, having thirty years to run from the date of issue, be entitled to exchange for the payment of all debts and contracts made before, say the 4th of July, 1876.
3. That the legal-tender for all contracts made after that date shall be the coin of the United States, except when payment otherwise may be expressly stipulated.

A moment's reflection must convince the reader that the result of such legislation will be to put all new business on a specie basis, although the existing currency will continue to be used as its coin value, that is, it will no longer serve as a measure of values, but will then take its true position as by comparison with the masters of the world. The Tribune elucidates its plan in this comprehensive language:

For all purposes of payment of debts the greenbacks in their new form of bonds will be available. The bonds themselves will, at present prices of money, be worth about \$0 to \$5 cents on the dollar in coin. The Government's 5 per cent. bonds will be worth about \$0 to \$5 cents. They will continue to be bought and sold as the currency now is, for the purpose of making payments of debts, and will pass from hand to hand as currency in all transactions over \$50. For thirty years these bonds or the unfunded currency will be available. The bonds, however, are already contracted at that period will cover all existing liabilities of individuals, corporations, and municipal governments. No man or municipality will be called upon to pay debts in any other currency than in which they were contracted.

This, the Boston Journal says, will give the greenbacks throughout the Union very much the same position they have always held in California—in free use according to their gold value. Thus they would lose none of their purchasing power, while they would lose most of their liability to fluctuations. As gold, however, would become the measure of value,—all bank deposits being received at their value in gold, and payable on demand in gold value—the banks would have no difficulty in resuming specie payments without shock or effort. The functions and need of gold being increased, the metal would flow into and stay in the country in quantities to meet all necessary demands.

THE PROSPECTIVE POLICY of the Cincinnati Enquirer in its treatment of Democratic who have been and are still averse to the adoption of the shipshelter programme, encounters considerable opposition among the more moderate portion of the Ohio Democracy. The Cleveland Plain Dealer, which labored very zealously for Gov. Allen's re-election, a few days since delivered itself upon this subject in these words:

"Some of the Democratic papers of the country are talking about throwing this man, or that, out of the democratic organization, because of difference of opinion as to what the policy of the party should have been last fall. Let us assure them that the result in the election of Mr. Kerr's party policy to harmonize within our own ranks all conflicting elements. Let the battle of the future be fought with the Republicans. Let us antagonize Grant's Administration and his policy, and not turn our backs to insinuating our own party as disowning each other. If the Democratic success in the Presidential fight, they must quit the disposition to raise the 1<sup>st</sup> in their own ranks."

WITH characteristic impudence, Charles Murray of the Goshen Democrat pretenses to define our status as to Gov. Hendricks' candidacy for the Presidency. The superlative impudence of this performance is rendered all the more offensive by the fact that while this despicable tool of the corrupt old republican ring of this District exerted his vituperative powers to the utmost in denouncing Mr. Hendricks, the editor of THE BANNER has been the constant and steadfast friend, personally and politically, of that gentleman. All the "slobbering" of such degraded political prostitutes as Charles Murray can neither alienate us from our friends nor move us in the slightest degree in our preferences for presidential aspirants.

4. The equalization of the difference between gold and currency, in this; that the debtor is not obliged to liquidate his obligations in gold, but may discharge the same in currency of about the same value which it bore at the time such liability was contracted.

These are very important considerations. We commend these points to our readers in general and to our brethren in the press in particular, in the hope that the advocates of a sound credit will be able to stand upon.

CONTRARY to general expectation, the wounded South Bend editor, Mr. Charles T. Murray, has been getting along so finely as to warrant the statement that he may now almost to a certainty be pronounced out of danger. This gratifying news will bring gladness to the hearts of many friends and especially to his contemporaries of the press. Tuesday evening's South Bend Register thus reports the wounded man's condition: "Mr. Murray is said to have been the indentee which induced the young man to cast off his real name and assume that of Henry Wilson. Mr. Wilson had adopted young Colbath and was, therefore, his foster-father. A brother of the dead Vice President is in government employ at Washington, who still retains the family name, H. Colbath."

IT MAY be news to many of our readers to learn that the name of our late Vice President, Henry Wilson, was an assumed one, his proper patrician name being Jeremiah Colbath. The fact that his father was a common drunkard, is said to have been the incentive which induced the young man to cast off his real name and assume that of Henry Wilson. Mr. Wilson had adopted young Colbath and was, therefore, his foster-father. A brother of the dead Vice President is in government employ at Washington, who still retains the family name, H. Colbath.

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## THE SOUTH BEND SHOOTING.

(From the Inter-Dean of New York.)

AN EXCELLENT APPOINTMENT.

The shooting of the editor of the South Bend (Ind.) Herald Monday evening, again brings up the question of personalism in journalism, which the Inter-Ocean has discussed so often. The paper itself seems to possess certain newspaper qualities, and its papers just as offensive and just as personal as possible. We know nothing about the Herald at South Bend, save from report, but it seems to have been the aim of the unfortunate to do to the paper what personalism and personal enemies can do. There are many men who can do this with comparative impunity. They know just how far they can safely go. There are others who, in attempting to imitate, overstep all bounds, and are greatly enlarged by investments in real estate, in manufacturing enterprises and in the banking business, and has become one of the richest men in Connecticut. His wealth has aided in improving and beautifying the charming city in which he was born and bred. He has given largely to the educational, religious and charitable institutions of New Haven. His private charities have been very large. His manufacturing enterprises for years past have employed thousands of well-paid workmen. His public wealth has been in satisfaction of their debts, which they will have to pay if the currency remains at its present value. This, we readily concede, would be a real hardship, which ought to be in equity provided, if it can be done without injury to other classes and without delaying the great act of national justice. Our able Chicago contemporary therefore proposes the following:

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