

THE DEMOCRAT.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

D. E. VAN VALKENBURGH.

Thursday, August 26, 1869.

TRE CORPORATION.

The Republican, and several papers outside of our county, seem considerably exercised over our "assaults" upon the Corporation authorities of our town. We are of course, duly sorry that we are compelled to disturb these gentle men, but nevertheless must discharge our duty as public journalist, otherwise our readers would consider them selves unfairly treated.

The present Corporation administration came into power with a grand flourish, and profuse promises of reforms, improvements, and retrenchment. That was all very good, and it will be still better if they make those promises good. So far they have signally failed in every respect, and we very properly complained of their failure. We anticipate a failure throughout their administration, and expect to note down their shortcomings, and write up the full record of them at the close of the year. We hope by this means to protect the interests of our people and to teach these loud and profuse talkers a little modesty or a little honesty, and perchance a little of both. We also expect to demonstrate that reforms are not made by repealing benevolent laws, nor improvements by enacting childishly illegal ordinances, nor is the increase of salaries and wasteful and useless expenditure of money for partisan purposes the true system of retrenchment.

Then perhaps we shall succeed in convincing them that they are neither wiser nor better than their neighbors. So vote it be.

THOSE LAWS.

The good people of Plymouth are no doubt well pleased with the great changes everywhere apparent, effected by the New Board of Trustees. Every thing in the town has already received its fair share of consideration from these wise lawgivers. Even the dogs have not been omitted from the sagacious scrutiny of the Fathers. The innocent canines who roam majestically through the streets need fear no more the baited meat, as the muzzles which the new law requires them to decorate their countenances with will effectually bar it from their rapacious maws, a consummation devoutly wished for by the dogs. Amongst the varied excellencies of these new laws, they are not unalike to those of the Medes and Persians, neither are they incomprehensible like the Roman Caligulas, much less are they inviolable like those of the Spartans. Lycurgus, above all they are said to be cheap, peculiarly, they are trifling, intrinsically they are beyond price, and if they do not serve the purposes for which they were designed, (the good government of our town,) the citizens are utterly incompetent to appreciate a good thing.

BARNACLE.

Elder Godfrey on the Republican Party.

Elder Godfrey, who is a Methodist Presiding Elder in this District, has his eyes opened to the corruption and rottenness of the Republican leaders in this State, and is opening out on them heavily. The Elder is a man of considerable ability, and earnest in his political and religious convictions. He is in the habit of saying whatever he thinks, and we are glad to find him showing up the deformities of Republicanism in their true light.

The Elder preached a sermon at Lebanon last Sunday evening, at the conclusion of which he alluded in scathing terms to the rottenness and corruption of the leading Radical politicians of Indiana, and charged the "wire manipulators" with hostility to the Methodist Church. He said that Lincoln turned Methodists out of office, and appointed none, and removed Joe Wright from Berlin because he was a Methodist. Grant had appointed no Methodists to office except his brother-in-law as Consul to a German State, (that is to say under a sublime affliction.) There are also twenty-four law ordinances to govern the five irascible gentlemen who compose the board, the Marshal and Clerk, not to mention the Attorney, who is a law unto himself, (that is to say under a sublime affliction.)

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Indiana at twenty thousand, which he said was a power in the State not to be underrated, and he cautioned the radicals to look out lest they lost that support, the spinal column of their party. The reverend gentleman pitched into "Court House cliques" generally, charging that those influences controlled nominations, and to that source he attributed much of the demoralization and immorality inside of the Republican party, which he, no doubt, thinks will cause its disintegration and overthrow. Mr. G. is an earnest and intense Radical in his political opinions, but we must infer, from the tenor of his remarks, that he has no confidence in the representative men of the party whom he thinks are bound to lead it to destruction. He is one of the prominent radicals, who believe that the radical party, under its present guidance, fails to accomplish its mission, and hence must be regenerated and purified, or else it must soon bite the dust. From a moral standpoint Mr. Godfrey rightly appreciates the corruption, dishonesty and rottenness of the radical party. And its political status, so far as the great economical questions of the day are concerned, is not less detrimental to the public good and welfare than its moral. — *La Fayette Dispatch.*

AN ELOPEMENT.—The usual staid, sober and steady town of Rochester, which lies about twenty miles south of Plymouth, a few days ago furnished the principals for an elopement, some of the particulars of which we have from the one who was left behind. It appears that a married man by the name of R., a cooper by trade, conceived the idea of changing his domestic state, and in furtherance of his designs, informed his wife that he had made arrangements to work at his trade in Plymouth, and that he would sell off most of his property, and go there. He did sell the property, and in company with another woman left for parts unknown. His wife and daughter, the latter about ten years old, came from Rochester on Tuesday evening to take a sleep, thinking the noise of the approaching train would awake him. It didn't—and he was killed.

—A novel marriage case recently occurred at Rockville, Parke county. A couple who lived unhappily together were divorced. The husband went away, remained about four weeks, returned, made love to his former wife, was accepted, and the two were reunited in the silken bonds of matrimony, all within a month or six weeks.

—The *Terre Haute Express* has the following speculations upon the population of that city: "The new city directory contains the names of 4,700 men. According to the usual mode of computing population, this would give this city a population of only 20,420."

—A tobacco stemmery, 40 by 100 feet and five stories high, is in course of erection in Rockport, Spencer county. A lot has just been bought for another, which will make six in all in the town.

—The state convention of Universalists will meet with the church at Logansport, from Sept. 1st to the 6th. At this meeting the question of location of a state denominational school will be definitely settled.

Logansport has raised a subscription of some \$23,000, and the board apparently fallen out with the Muncie people, hopes to secure the school.

—Last week, Mr. Joseph Ashbrook, living near Milford, had two twin children die. They were about eighteen months old, and during their entire sickness they seemed to be in complete union with each other. They must nurse at the same time, and the moment one commenced to cry the other did also; the operations of nature were at the same time; their disease was the same—and both died at precisely the same time.

—The hailstorm which occurred on Wednesday of last week is described as the most terrific that has visited Warren county for years. In the size of the stones that fell, there has never been an equal in old Warren. Stones fell as large as hulled walnuts, and some even larger. Much of the hail was of rough, jagged appearance and shape, as if a chunk of ice had been suddenly shattered, and the fragments sent down. Stacks of corn were knocked in two, and the small portion of oats harvest unfinished was ruined.

—Quite a stir was caused in town one day last week, by the settling of the lot on which is located Frank Armstrong's ice cream saloon. The lot is immediately over an old mine. No great damage was done to the property, the ground sinking but a few inches. The old shell of a building was warped and twisted slightly, but not materially injured. — *Brazil Mirror.*

—In Pike county, a few days ago, the wife of Moses Gates mercilessly, maliciously maltreated miserable Moses. Whereupon Belinda Gates, daughter of the aforesaid, pitched in to paternal rescue and flattened the nasal protuberance of the maternal female by a well aimed blow with an unmentionable piece of domestic crockery.

—Dr. Hoffman, Secretary of State of Indiana, is preparing a statistical report of the wealth and resources of Indiana, for distribution in foreign parts. It will make a document of about 200 pages, and will be ready for the press in November or December.

to the effect that in addition to the recent great eclipse, and the approach of the comet, we are, in a few years, to have another sensation which is nothing more nor less than a transit of Venus across, the sun's disc. It is periodic, but the periods are unequal. The first of them, during the present century, will take place in a few years, and will be visible wherever the sun is. It is an eclipse, also, in a certain way, for Venus gets between us and the sun, but being so far away from the earth, it intercepts less of the sun's light than if it was closer to our planet. Astronomers regard this transit as only second in importance to a total eclipse. The present is an age of celestial wonders.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—Hog cholera has just made its appearance in Ohio county.

—George Washington Franklin Brown's the name of a white man in Evansville who has just married a colored girl.

—There are now but 100 inmates in the house of refuge at Plainfield.

—Chas. Hanes, of New Albany,

was drowned in the Ohio river a few days ago:

—There are a great number of vacant dwelling-houses in Evansville, and rents are coming down.

—James King, of Randolph county, laid down on the track of the Bellefontaine railroad, near Indianapolis, on Saturday, to take a sleep, thinking the noise of the approaching train would awake him. It didn't—and he was killed.

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