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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

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SIGNS OF DISINTEGRATION.

WE give some space today to an account of the proceedings of the "Liberal" conference. Taking them as a whole and speaking without prejudice, they present very strong symptoms of early dissolution of the party. This result will come independently of the final action of the conference. As a matter of effect following a cause, the demise of the organization seems inevitable. The symptoms point in that direction.

To our thinking the matter of putting a candidate in the field for delegate to Congress does not affect the question to any great extent. It seems this way: If a candidate for Congressional delegate should not be selected, the party practically acknowledges that it is useless any longer to maintain the fight, and the organization goes to pieces. On the other hand, should a candidate for the delegateship be placed in the field, the "Liberal" vote would, according to the most potent indications, be so comparatively insignificant that the result would be precisely the same. This question of selection or otherwise of a candidate for representative in Congress, no matter which determination may be reached, will also render useless any future effort to capture local offices.

Any symptoms in the conference that do not seem to agree with the views herein expressed are only ostensible—not real. They consist mainly of hoisterous yells of the more ignorant portion of the audience, and serve to give color to the allegations of some of the speakers to the effect that the meeting had been stuffed with Tuscarora eloquence. The proceedings as a whole show that the intelligent, thinking—and certainly the more disinterested—of the leaders, judging from the speeches, are in favor of division on national party lines. The radical assertions to the contrary of "Liberal" office-holders, such as Mayor Backin and O. E. Allen, have necessarily but little force. Mr. Allen especially naturally has no hope of being elected to office by either of the national parties, because it is notorious that his present official position does not properly belong to him. This fact was proved in the Courts. It is not likely that either of the great parties would trust him after such an exhibit. Hence his only hope for office necessarily lies in the prolonged existence of the party which enabled him to secure an office which rightfully belongs to another.

Recent events show clearly that the "Liberal" party is now confronted by forces that are too formidable for it to even hope to successfully cope with.

They are as follow: The flat of both the great national parties; the alienation from the organization of its most capable, influential and clear-headed adherents; the sharply defined political situation of the Territory as a whole; the dissolution into thin air of the anti-"Mormon" bugaboo.

This is a plain and dispassionate view of the situation, scanned from a non-partisan standpoint.

THE STATE STREET PAVING.

YESTERDAY the NEWS published a portion of the proceedings of a "star chamber" session of the City Council. The subject discussed with closed doors was the unsatisfactory character of the paving work done on State street. The chief engineer denounced the job in strong terms and threatened to resign rather than accept the work referred to.

This state of affairs demonstrates the correctness of our position as to the uselessness of inspectors who are understood to receive their appointments as rewards for "Liberal" partisan work at elections. They are placed in position without the slightest reference to their fitness.

The engineer and other officials sometime since protested vigorously against the retention of Mr. Gus Woods, a radical Tuscarora, as inspector on State street. The ground of objection was that nobody familiar with his methods could correctly accuse him of a proper understanding of the duties of his position. He was said to be spotlessly innocent of such knowledge. But he was retained at a salary of \$100 a month. It is now proved, as we asserted some time ago would be the case, that this was to much of the people's money worse than thrown away.

A morning local cotemporary, not noted any more for consistency than is Mr. Woods for inspectorial capacity, to judge of the quality of street paving, does not seem pleased about the NEWS giving publicity to the subject treated by the Council in the alleged secret session. It accuses, without a shadow of foundation, Councilman Rich of having given the information contained in the NEWS article to a reporter of this journal. The fact is that our reporter obtained the points from the minutes of the meeting, which were on file in the City Recorder's office. We considered the information due to the public, the people being interested in regard to the subject of squandering their money for the payment of officials that are a great deal worse than useless.

GEORGE WASHINGTON ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

THE greatness of Washington was conspicuously exhibited by his repugnance to anything in the shape of interference with religious freedom and the rights of conscience. A Seventh-Day Baptist Society solicited his views on this subject. The request was made by letter, in which the great patriot and statesman was asked whether he, as President of the convention that framed the Constitution of the United States, understood that

instrument to warrant any such interference as the kind referred to. The society, it appears, had had their rights interfered with at the instigation of their religious opponents. The answer is dated August 4th, 1789, and reads as follows:

"If I had had the least idea of any difficulty resulting from the Constitution adopted by the convention of which I had the honor to be president, when it was formed, so as to endanger the rights of any religious denomination, then I never should have attached my name to that instrument. If I had any idea that the general government was so administered that liberty of conscience was endangered, I pray you be assured that no man would be more willing than myself to revise and alter that part of it, so as to avoid religious persecution. You can, without doubt, remember that I have often expressed my opinion that every man who conducts himself as a good citizen is accountable alone to God for his religious faith, and should be protected in worshipping God according to the dictates of his own conscience.

GEORGE WASHINGTON."

HOW A YOUNG MAN SUCCEEDED.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Worcester Press tells an interesting, almost romantic, story about the manner in which a young Boston newspaper man achieved success in England. He is a graduate of Harvard University and was a useful member of the staff of the Journal on which he was employed.

An occasion arose for sending the young gentleman to Montreal for a piece of newspaper work. He went there and registered at the St. Lawrence Hotel. He had been there but a few hours when he noticed that he was closely watched by a gentleman other than himself, who seemed to be staying in the hotel. Before his first evening was passed he was surprised to receive a card bearing his own name from a gentleman who waited for an interview below. The gentleman was asked to come to his room, and proved to be the same one who had watched the young man in the office of the hotel. He at once explained his reason for calling. He said he was a member of the English Parliament on a visit to Canada. He had lost a son by death to whom the young man from Boston bore a striking resemblance, and his interest in him had been increased by finding their names to be identical. He inquired concerning the young man's family and all about him. The result was that he gave the Boston boy an urgent invitation to visit England as his guest, at the same time expressing a desire to make the acquaintance of his parents. He at once accepted an invitation to visit Waltham and meet them.

So pressing was his request that the young man should return with him to London that it was complied with at the earliest possible moment. Taking with him letters of introduction to a number of literary men in England, the young editor called for that country, and in the space of a few weeks found himself possessed of a valuable acquaintance among some of the most important people of the old country. Among others whom he met were the Walter family, the prin-