

PUBLICHESS ANNOUNCEMENT.

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THE JOURNAL.

M. H. NELSON, Editor.
M. H. NELSON, Business Manager.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES VERSUS CONVENTIONS.

There seems to be an unusual controversy this year about the duty of Executive committees to call conventions. In this State it is the Republican party that has the trouble, and in New York it is the Democratic party that has the trouble.

Executive committees are creatures of conventions for the purpose indicated by the name, that is, to execute and carry on the affairs of the party during the term between conventions.

Any work done in the interest of the party carrying out the expressed will of the party's delegates in convention assemblies is unquestioned, but

the moment that the authority is doubtless in all cases should be exercised with great care. As a rule,

nothing more fitting to call the party together in convention when

the plan of organization

is well established, no demands.

Committees should

oversee the action of the conventions, because conventions represent the party. But the party

may, and often does, distract committees, especially when exercising powers not specifically conferred.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

The Mount Airy News has the following to say about the present system of county government:

"We have no doubt but in the coming political canvass the Republican candidates will, as they have done heretofore, attack the present system of county government upon the ground that it is not Democratic."

"Our candidates usually meet the charge by showing the great good that has been accomplished in those eastern counties where the negroes were largely in the majority and had used their power in a very reckless and extravagant manner. The present system admits a contention that the negroes are incorrigible and a pest; but we want to show that it deserves to be retained not only because of the good that has been done from its establishment, but also the additional reason that it is the proper way with good, simple, honest people."

"In one form of government the governing of law-making power resides in the people. What people, the people of the United States, the people of a city, town or county? No. The law-making power is in the people of the State. The State is the unit—the aggregate sovereignty."

"For the convenience of the citizens in the administration of justice, and in conducting the matters of mere local police, such as levying taxes, administering the school funds, directing the public charity, laying out roads, building bridges, etc., the people of the State have divided the territory into counties. The county is a mere municipal corporation and has no inherent sovereignty. It may be changed, divided or abolished whenever the General Assembly thinks proper to do so. It follows, then, that it is the duty of the State to provide for the administration of the police affairs in each county so as to promote the welfare of all the citizens of the country, and the charge that the present system of county government is not Democratic only shows the ignorance of those who make the charge."

This is the ring of true metal. If our contemporaries who feel an interest in the system, and we believe all do, would devote a little

argument to show the propriety as well as the expediency of the system established by the convention of 1877, or rather by the Legislature under authority from that body, we should soon hear less of the subject. The people have prospered under it, and are to a large extent satisfied with it.

—H. H. A. TEAR MORE.

—Another year must I go to school another year?" cried Lilly, clutching her shoulders. "Oh, I am too old, mamma, too old! A year more! Why, I shall be eighteen, and you know you told me you were married at seventeen yourself!"

"People married earlier some years ago," said mamma; "and that was nothing to do with it, Lilly."

"Oh, no, of course not. I never to go into society," said Lilly.

"You need not be kept from pleasant company because you are finishing your education," said the mother. "You will graduate next year, if you are in earnest. Your mama is willing to go to great expense for your sake, and you really should be more grateful."

"Oh, of course, I know that it's kind of papa," said Lilly, "but you know a girl has feelings and fancies of her own. Algebra and music can't fill her whole thoughts; and Miss Trimmer is so stern and particular, and Signor Ballini groans so if you make the least mistake, but, of course, if you insist, mamma—"

Mamma insisted, and Lilly Thorne went back to her school again, with the hope of "an end to it all some time." She worked hard, and at the end of the year graduated with honors. She really had acquired a good education, and was an accomplished musician. She drew well, and painted prettily. That "year more" had done more than one could have expected from a twelvemonth. However, the girl herself was chiefly delighted with the prospect of the gay life before her. She was to have her first ball that winter, to wear a full train, instead of a demi-train; to have her grandmother Thorne's diamonds; and to taste all the pleasures of a rich woman's life. Often, afterwards, she remembered those few months; as one would remember a gay dream.

It was on the eve of that delightful ball. She stood before her mirror, and fastened her diamonds in her ears. Behind her stood her maid, looping her lace over-dress with rosebuds. She saw the beautiful reflection of her face and figure, and felt glad, that she was fair.

The air was delightfully warm, heavy with the perfume of flowers, softly lighted, glittering with pretty objects of art. Never had Lilly been happier, when suddenly upon the sweet stillness of the scene broke a terrible cry—another, and another—and as the girls, maid and mistress, hurried toward the door it burst open, and Mrs. Thorne rushed in, and fell fainting at her daughter's side.

A terrible tragedy had been enacted in that splendid house while the young belle surveyed herself in the mirror. Mr. Thorne had destroyed himself. For months he had concealed the condition of his circumstances from his wife and daughter, but they had long been desperate. That day had failed, and the mind which had been upon the stretch so long had probably given way. He had returned to his room to dress for the ball, and though he looked somewhat pale, no one guessed that anything was wrong.

Mrs. Thorne had no idea that her husband's business was not in the best condition, or that he was anxious about it; yet, as now he lay dead upon the floor in the room above, and a little note told her all. She was a widow, Lilly.

Lilly, however, in a little while they would be homeless. Nothing remained to them of the money they had spent on her. A small sum that might possibly keep them from starving for six months.

For this this was forgotten in their grief for the dead; but at last the two girls sat alone, the grass growing over the grave of their protector, and asked each other what they should do.

"I can teach," said Lilly, "and I will." And then the girl bravely began preparation for a career.

It proved hard work. For one place twenty applicants offered themselves. Of these, only five persons were chosen; and one day Lilly and her mother found themselves with five dollars remaining to them, and as yet no way of earning another penny. Indeed, delicate Mrs. Thorne could do very little.

That day, however, Lilly learnt that a teacher was needed at — Academy, and set out upon what seemed an almost hopeless errand.

More hopeless still it seemed when the principal of the academy looked kindly at her, and said:

"You are very young in appearance, Miss Thorne, and I cannot give you much encouragement.

Forty ladies have applied for admission. However, I will ask you a few questions. I confess I am not yet suited. Most girls leave school so early, and ladies, generally, only teach when circumstances force them to do so, and do not think of teaching while at school."

Then Lilly, seating herself at the desk he pointed out, went through the ordeal of examination very bravely.

"Her last school year's hard work came to her assistance, and she had neither fear nor hesitation.

At last the principal arose, and signed that she desired no more.

"I am well satisfied that I can have no better teacher," Miss Thorne said. "That you had graduated was not much, for there are numerous seminaries where the pupil graduates when her parents desire that she should. But I am told nothing to do with it, Lilly."

"Oh, no, of course not. I never to go into society," said Lilly.

"You need not be kept from pleasant company because you are finishing your education," said the mother.

"You will graduate next year, if you are in earnest. Your mama is willing to go to great expense for your sake, and you really should be more grateful."

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