

**The Columbian.**  
 O. E. BULLOCK, Editor.  
 J. E. BITTENBERGER, Publisher.  
**BLOOMSBURG, PA.**  
 Friday, March 19, 1880.

Auditor General Schell has presented us with a copy of his report for 1879, for which he has our thanks.

General Hancock appears to be growing in favor with the Democracy of this State, as a candidate for President.

**CENSUS SUPERVISOR.**  
 On Friday last, the name of C. P. Judwin of Scranton, who was nominated as Supervisor of the Census for the Fifth District, was rejected. Judwin is a Republican. It is likely that the name of Dr. Sturdevant of Wilkes-Barre, will next be sent in, and there is a probability that he will be confirmed. If not, it will likely be some other Republican. John M. Clark, who was first named for the office, is in every way qualified for it, a fact admitted by everybody. The district, it was understood, was to have a Democratic supervisor. If now we are to have a Republican to fill the place, we shall be indebted to Senator William A. Wallace for it. Clark could not have been confirmed without difficulty but for Wallace, and we are assured on good authority that Wallace promised that he would make no opposition. How he kept that promise we all know.

**A FEW MORE CONSIDERATIONS.**

"Why is it?" that the subscription list of the COLUMBIAN is constantly increasing and expressions of friendliness come to us from good Democrats from all parts of the county? It is because the Democrats know that we are not afraid to champion any man or principle which the party has endorsed, and which we do not feel to demand reform of evils whatever they exist. "Why is it?" that the Republican party is weaker to-day in the county in proportion to the population than it was some years ago? It is because that party has no organs or leaders in which they have any confidence, and never know when they will be betrayed for a "hit the public patronage."

Who fought the new jail job and did much to bring about the overthrow of the first contract? The COLUMBIAN. Who sat quietly and said not a word while a conspiracy was going on to rob the taxpayer? The Republican. What caused it to hold its tongue? About twelve dollars worth of job printing.

History shows that a centralization of power has always resulted in the overthrow of the liberties of the people. Since the Republican party has been in power, it has been constantly aiming at centralization. It has defied the constitution, ignored the rights of States, procured partial constructions of the laws from its judges, and accorded to the Executive far more authority than was ever contemplated by the founders of the government. They have but two more steps to take; first, to elect Grant to the Presidency for a third term, and then riding one of the most sacred of the unwritten laws of the land, and if they succeed in this, to declare him Emperor, thus securing to themselves continuous authority which will obviate the necessity of their running their programme has been fully disclosed, and the tour of Grant around the world, forcing himself upon the notice of crowned heads with the assistance of our foreign ministers who are parties to the scheme, is only a part of the deep-laid plot. Will free American citizens, regardless of party, allow themselves to be caught in such a net?

**DEATH OF HON. JOHN McREYNOLDS.**

John McReynolds was born in Northumberland county, near Watsonstown, April 3, 1788, and died in Bloomsburg, Columbia county, March 14, 1880.

He was a man of great probity and force of character, and was a politician of the elder type, when mere personal aggrandizement was not the main business of life. The political history of Columbia county for the last fifty years would be largely a history of John McReynolds. And yet he did not come, even locally prominent, until he was a man of some age. He was an ardent manager of men, so much so that his followers mostly believed that they were carrying out their own views and wishes.

He represented the County of Columbia in the Legislature of Pennsylvania, with Eli Thornton in 1824—with Christian Probst in 1825—with William McBride in 1826—with Christian Probst in 1827—with John Robinson in 1828. He was defeated in 1849 by Benjamin F. Fortner, but was elected in 1850 over C. B. Bowman.

He was the Democratic candidate for Congress, in the district composed of the counties of Columbia, Montour, Luzerne and Wyoming in the fall of 1858, but was beaten by George W. Scranton.

He was nominated and elected to the office of Associate Judge of Columbia county, and was commissioned November 23, 1861, for the term of five years, which office he filled with dignity to the satisfaction of his constituents for its full period.

He was a member of the Electoral college when Pearson was elected President, was Supervisor of the North Branch of the Pennsylvania canal under Governor Porter for two years, was afterwards collector for the same for three years at Berwick; revenue commissioner for two years, an office now abolished. Judge McReynolds is the last of a family of nine children, two of which were older than he. All lived to be over seventy years of age, except one sister, who died in infancy.

Thus at the age of 78 years, Hon John McReynolds, retired from active life. But retaining his faculties to the last, he has enjoyed constantly, the society of his friends, and the attention of his immediate family. If there were ever any political aspersions they have been long forgotten for his conferees have all gone before him, and the politicians of today were born when John McReynolds was in the prime of his power and his manhood.

It is a common expression, "There is a skeleton in every house." There are a few instances, however, where real human skeletons are found imbedded within the closet walls, as was the case the other day in Baltimore. An old mansion was recently purchased and a portion of the walls demolished. While making way with the material the skeletons of a woman and infant child were found entombed, evidently placed in domestic tragedy.

**WASHINGTON LETTER.**

Washington, D. C. March 15th, 1880.

During the past week, besides listening to the Fitz John Porter debate, the senate has done little beyond passing General Burnside's amusing bill to provide instruction in moral and social science in the schools of the District of Columbia under the direction of the Commissioner of Education.

In the House Mr. Wood has been permitted to explain the new Funding bill, and has received a sharp intimation that the inaction of his committee in regard to the tariff is not acceptable to a possible majority of the House. By far the most important action, however, has been the passage of a bill amendatory of the act of March 3, 1875, regulating the removal of cases from State to federal courts. Its effect is not only to restrict the facilities afforded by that act, but, as one of its general supporters admitted, to alter the Judiciary act of 1875, by limiting the original cognizance of the Circuit Courts in civil suits, whether at common law or in equity, so as to exclude those in which a State Corporation is a party except when arising under the patent of copyright laws. The vote to strike out this provision was yeas 95 nays 95. The tendency of the bill is still further illustrated by the fact that it was advocated at length by Mr. Townsend, of Illinois, who has a bill of his own pending to repeal utterly the law authorizing removals, and whose grievance is the encroachment of the Federal upon the state Judiciary.

Those who expect an adjournment before the 31st of July will probably be disappointed. All the heaviest of the appropriation bills are yet to be reported. Besides these bills the House has before it a vast amount of other business. There are in the Committee of the whole House 109 bills and other propositions, on the House calendar thirty-two bills, etc., and over 250 bills on the private calendar. There are on the table over 100 bills from the Senate. Some of these bills are of great importance, and members interested in them will make a fight for them even against the appropriation bills. Among the most important bills in Committee of the whole are the printing bill, the bill to repeal the taxes on leaf tobacco, in the hands of the producers, the bill to pension soldiers of the Mexican War, several bills relating to coinage, and a large number for the construction of public buildings in different parts of the country. On the House calendar the bill for the relief of Gen. Fitz John Porter, the bills regulating the inter-State commerce and other important measures. Besides this it is unlikely that in deference to sentiment of the House the Committee of Ways and Means will be compelled to reverse its action and report some tariff legislation, relating especially to paper, sugar, and salt. Under the rules, precedence must be given to committee to-day to make motions to suspend the rules.

**A STORY OF LINCOLN.**

J. S. Bishin gives the following to the Philadelphia Times:

One day not long after Mr. Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation, Mr. Wade came in, laughing all over his face and said:

"Well, Old Abe has just done the damnest thing you ever heard of. He has given us the small-pox to keep the politicians and office-seekers away from the White House."

The story ran thus: Mr. Wade went to the White House to see Mr. Lincoln, who had been ill. He found the President a little pale, but just as he could be.

"Sit down, Wade, I am glad to see you. Oh, I have the funniest thing to tell you; it will make you laugh. I never did such a thing before in my life, and never will again. Then the President laughed until the tears ran down his cheeks."

"Now, Wade," he said, "you are not to repeat this outside, for it would give offense, and it is by no means of meagre import with the dignity which is due to my position as a President about. The doctor put me to bed to-day, and I could not get up. It was so funny. You know I have been ill, and a great many people have wondered what ailed me, but none of them could find out. The truth is, I was worried to death and talked sick, pretty much by one man, the most overbearing bore you ever saw who wanted an office. I knew he would come again as soon as I was able to sit up, and the doctor put me to bed to get rid of him by saying I had the small-pox. I only got up yesterday, and small-pox, this morning he called on me. I had determined to let him alone, but he staved so long, the humor seized me, and I determined to send for the doctor. Giving him the wink, I held out my hand and inquired:

"Doctor, what marks are those on my hand?"

"That's varioloid, or mild small-pox," said the doctor."

"Well," said I, "it's all over me. It's contagious, is it not, doctor?"

"Very contagious, indeed," he replied, "and you should see no one."

"My visitor, who had been getting more and more nervous every moment, now could stand it no longer, and rising, said:

"Well, Mr. Lincoln, I can't stop any longer. I just called to see how you were," and then he started to hurry out.

"Stop a minute; I want to talk to you about that office."

"Excuse me, Mr. President. You are not well this morning, and I won't bother you," said he, moving toward the door.

"Never mind, said I; 'don't be in a hurry. It's all right, and if you are going to get the varioloid you will get it now anyway, so you might as well sit down."

"Thank you, sir, but I'll call again," he replied, fairly turning livid and executing a mastery retreat from the fearful contagion with which he supposed me to be afflicted.

"Now, said Uncle Abe," it will be all over the city in an hour that I have small-pox, and you can contradict the story, but I want you to promise that you will not repeat what I have just told you."

Wade laughed until he was weak and when he could get his breath sufficiently to speak he looked at the clock as his custom, and said:

"Now for a little business and then I will go."

"Don't go," cried Uncle Abe, and laying his hand on his forehead as if in front of him, he laughed until he shook all over. Presently raising up his face from between his hands he wiped his eyes and blew his nose until the room sounded like the winding of a horn. After another fit of laughter he said:

"Wade, you should have seen him, and how scared he was. I'll bet that fellow never came back here while I am President."

As might have been expected, hardly had Mr. Wade quitted the White House, when he heard the President had the small-pox and was very sick. Wade promptly contradicted the story, but that night it was telegraphed all over the country, and many people will yet remember the story of Mr. Lincoln's having the varioloid during the war.

Commenting on the report, Uncle Abe said to Wade: "Some people said they could not take my proclamation very well, but when I get the small-pox, Wade, I will then be happy to say I have something everybody can take."

**THE BEST I EVER KNEW OF.**

The Democratic committee of Dauphin county at its meeting on Saturday unanimously adopted a resolution deprecating and discountenancing all attempts to breed strife and discord in the Democratic ranks of Pennsylvania and especially assailing upon prominent Democrats in the interest of faction and to the detriment of the party, and declaring that "the time has come when it should be the duty of every true Democrat to throw down personal feuds and factional differences in the party that a united front may be presented to the common enemy."

This resolution breaks the true Democratic spirit and we most heartily and heavily reiterate our opposition to it and we have no interest to subscribe except that of their party and their country.—*Paulet*.

**PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.**

Wholesale prices at the close of trade on Tuesday.

Wheat per bushel	\$1.10 to 1.15
Barley	.75 to .85
Oats	.65 to .75
Corn	.40 to .45
Flour	20.00 to 25.00
Lard	10.00 to 12.00
Sugar	15.00 to 20.00
Butter	20.00 to 25.00
Eggs	10.00 to 12.00
Poultry	10.00 to 12.00
Chickens	10.00 to 12.00
Dressed	10.00 to 12.00

**FROM THE REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL.**

We glean the following from the report of the Auditor General, which was filed in the State Treasury by corporations, &c., in this county, during last year, tax on stock:

Bloomsburg Iron Company	\$900.00
Berwick Rolling Mill Company	21.00
Bloomsburg Gas Company	202.65
Espy Line & Cement Co.	63.00
Locest Mountain C. & Co.	1,500.00

**TAX ON LOANS.**

Columbia County..... \$119.70  
 Bloomsburg..... 47.03

**TAX ON BANK STOCK.**  
 First National Bank, Bloomsburg..... \$475.00  
 First National Bank, Berwick..... 712.50

**TAX ON NET EARNINGS.**

Bloomsburg Banking Company..... \$77.43  
 Jackson, Wood & Jackson..... 65.00

**TAX ON WRITS, WILLS AND DEEDS.**  
 R. F. Zarr, late Prothonotary..... \$55.55  
 W. K. Richards, Prothonotary..... 333.93  
 W. H. Jacoby, Register & Recorder..... 341.31

**TAX ON COLLATERAL INHERITANCE.**

W. H. Jacoby, Register & Recorder..... 700.06  
**RETAILERS' LICENSES.**  
 H. A. Swenpenhler, County Treasurer..... 1,943.43

**BONUS ON CHARTER.**  
 Bloomsburg Water Company..... 37.50

**REVENUE.**

There has been paid during the year in aid of pupils who declared their intention of becoming teachers in the common schools, to the Sixth district, \$2,115.00. To school districts in this county, \$2,478.82. Pensions and gratuities to persons in this county, \$450.00. The total receipts at the State Treasury from December 1st, 1878 to November 30th, 1879, was \$7,422,363.90. Payments during the same period were \$5,529,063.27.

**A FROUD RECORD.**

The Democracy are proud of Wm. P. Schell's administration of the office of Auditor General. It is such a plume in the party's cap as the Republican party has not once in the entire history of its domination in Pennsylvania entitled itself to wear. It has been honest as the day is long, and efficient as the tallest appreciation of its importance and the most intelligent and scrupulous application of the law could make it. Mr. Schell entered upon the duties of his office with the intention to enforce the law rigorously and with absolute impartiality, and to do no thing and permit the doing of no thing for which there was not the clearest warrant in the law; and to that intention he has lived constantly and without a iota of deviation. It will be remembered that a year or so ago it was charged against him that he had appointed, we think it was two of his sons, as special attorneys to prosecute claims of the State against delinquent corporations. This act, it was said, was an act of inexcusable nepotism.

The fact that the annual report of the Department just issued shows that these two Schell, jr., and thirteen others similarly employed, not by General Schell as alleged but by the Board of Public works which includes the Governor, the Auditor General and State Treasurer, have collected nearly half a million dollars of tax that were due and unpaid Dec. 1st 1878, and much of it due and unpaid years before that, justified the remark made at the time by some friend that it was a pity he had no more sons of the same sort for that kind of services.

The business of the Auditor General's department is to-day in better shape than it has been in any previous time in the State's history. Old and defaced records have been restored or carefully duplicated. Old accounts have been gathered in, and corporations have been given in, all the available points of the law relative to the assessment and collection of state taxes, and the payment and auditing of State expenses, Corporations and individuals who under previous administrations successfully shirked the payment of taxes legally due by them, have been hunted up and made to disgorge. The facilities for close collection in the hereafter have been greatly added. The books and records have been made to show more clearly the financial transactions and status of the state. Very many disgraceful and serious Treasury leaks have been effectually stopped up.

The current work has never at any time been allowed to accumulate, but has been industriously prosecuted as it came in to be done. Much valuable information has been collected and furnished the Legislature and has been made by it the basis of fresh and greatly better statutory regulations of the department, its business and generally of the tax laws and financial expenditures of the state. The report just issued is the most complete and comprehensive ever yet put out by the Auditor General's Department. In short, the business has been probed, honestly done, well done, and wholly done. If, as General Schell and Treasurer Noyes believe, the \$2,000,000 deficiency in the State Treasury, the result of the extremely extravagant Republican legislation shall be made up in two years, no small share of the credit will be due General Schell and the efficient and gentlemanly corps of clerks in his employ. Edward Herick, the chief of those subordinate, is a candidate for the position General Schell will vacate in May 1881. He has been a valuable lieutenant to his chief, and if nominated and elected, can be depended upon for an equally conscientious performance of his duties, and to still further improve the efficiency of the Department as the official supervisor of the receipts and expenses of this great state.—*Union Leader*.

**THE HARPETTE!**

It is an instrument which every man who wishes to do business in the world should have. It is a book which contains the full text of all the laws, regulations, and orders of the State, and is published by the State Printer. It is a book which is constantly being revised and updated, so that it is always up to date. It is a book which is sold at a very low price, and is a very valuable possession for every man who does business.

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