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THE STATE CONVENTION.

ONE OF THE LARGEST GATHERINGS IN THE HISTORY OF THE PARTY.

Hon. Samuel J. Mestrezat, of Fayette Co., Nominated for Judge of the Supreme Court, and Charles J. Reilly, of Lycoming, Judge of the Superior Court—Hon. Wm. T. Creasy for State Treasurer—Sketch of the Nominees.

The Democratic State Convention, at Harrisburg, last week, was one of the largest in the history of the party. It was composed of prominent men from all over the State, lawyers and business men, and in intelligence and respectability was the equal of any convention of any party ever held in Pennsylvania.

The sessions began at 12 o'clock, noon, on Tuesday, and lasted until 6 o'clock Thursday afternoon. The contest was over the nomination of a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court, and as a nomination was equivalent to an election, there were twenty aspirants for the place. The delegates from this county—Messrs. Rangall, Turner, Dildine, Adams and Brennan—voted on the first ballot as follows: Two for Wolverson, two for Munson, and one for Lynch, and varied the vote among these three until towards the last, when they voted for Mestrezat. On the twenty-eighth ballot Hon. Samuel L. Mestrezat, President Judge of Fayette county, was nominated, and it was made unanimous. Charles J. Reilly, of Williamsport, chairman of the convention, was nominated for Judge of the Superior Court, and William T. Creasy, of Columbia county, was named for State Treasurer. His nomination was conceded from the first and he had no opposition.

Representative George R. Dixon, in a speech full of ginger, named Representative Creasy for State Treasurer, and the nomination was adopted by acclamation. Mr. Dixon in naming Creasy spoke in part as follows:

"Mr. Chairman:—The history of the State Treasury and its shameful control for more than thirty years, reads like a doleful tale of official corruption in the darkness of the decline, decay and downfall of the Roman Empire. The record is without a parallel in modern times, and causes every honest man in the State to blush with shame. It discloses the fact that the people have been forced to throw up their hands while gambling officials and political mountebanks have depleted the coffers of the State, and without warrant of law made use of the people's money for personal and political preferment. Its chapters are emphasized by wanton dereliction of duty and high-handed fraud; ruined reputations and blasted hopes; heart-breaking and bitter tears; incarceration, exile, suicide and premature graves.

"In the name of official honesty and common decency, in behalf of an outraged, though patient people, and for the fair fame of our beloved Commonwealth, shall we not this day do our plain duty and mark the beginning of the ending of the Treasury's awful history? It can be done. It must be done. It is our God-given duty to do it. The next State Treasurer shall be a Democrat, a man of the masses, independent, incorruptible and honest. He shall be no man's man; fresh from the honest yeomanry of the State, beholden to no boss, having the confidence of all men and of all parties. As the old Cynic philosopher, Diogenes, went about the streets of Athens with a lantern, looking for an honest man, so we today must find and nominate an honest man. Do you know such a man? An official, true, tested and tried, who never falters in the discharge of any duty?

"I know him, and to name and nominate him gives me the greatest pleasure of my political life.

"He is wanted by the more than 500,000 Democrats of the State because he is a Democrat—honest, capable, of no faction, and of him the party will unite. "His nomination should be and is desired by the independent Republican voters of the Commonwealth, because in him they see the manly courage needed to clean out the Augean stables on Capitol Hill. Nor indemnity bonds, nor political notes, nor political banks will ever secure loans or discounts at the State Treasury while he is in charge. "I nominate William T. Creasy."

The Philadelphia Press of Friday has the following to say about Mr. Creasy:

"Farmer Creasy, for State Treasurer, was everybody's choice. From the time his name was brought into the canvass until the nomination was made there was really no other candidate, and the selection is very pleasing to the Democrats generally. He was a conspicuous Democratic leader in the House at the last session of the Legislature and introduced and had passed what was known as the grangers' tax bill, a measure that was killed in the Senate. He was on the right side of those questions of legislation, which divided the machine and the reform elements, and is therefore regarded by the Democrats as just the candidate to present on a platform chiefly devoted to State questions upon which Creasy has made a record. There are some peculiarly sanguine Democrats who assume to believe that there is a chance for his election, but they are not many, and the most expected by the majority is that he will get the votes of Republican farmers who may want to express their resentment of the way some things have been done by the present State Administration—particularly the removal of Secretary Edge and the reduction in the common school appropriation."

JUDGE MESTREZAT'S CAREER.

Judge Mestrezat, who will shortly take his seat on the Supreme bench, is now the President Judge of the Fayette County Courts.

He was born on February 19, 1848 in Mapleton, near the Monongahela River, in Greene County, and is of Huguenot ancestry. He was graduated from Waynesburg College in 1869 and entered the law department of Washington and Lee University of Virginia, where he was graduated in 1871. The same year he was admitted to the bar of Greene county, and in December, 1872, was admitted to practice in Fayette county. In January, 1873, he entered upon the practice of law at Uniontown.

In the spring of 1893 Mr. Mestrezat was nominated by the Democracy of Fayette county for Judge of the Fourteenth Judicial District, then composed of Fayette and Greene counties. President Judge of the district James Inghram was nominated for the same position by the Democracy of Greene county. The conferees of the two candidates met in conference, but were unable to agree. Both gentlemen continued candidates and were voted for at the Fall election in 1893. The Republicans of Fayette county made a nomination, as did also the Republicans of Greene county. The conferees of these candidates failed to agree and both withdrew from the contest, leaving it between Judge Inghram and Mr. Mestrezat. At the November election in 1893 Mr. Mestrezat was elected by a large majority over his competitor.

In 1895 the Legislature made a separate district of Greene county, leaving Fayette county as the Fourteenth Judicial District, with two Law Judges. In January, 1898, the term of Nathaniel Ewing, President Judge of the district expired, and Judge Mestrezat became President Judge of the district, which position he now holds.

Before his election to the bench Judge Mestrezat was frequently chairman of the Democratic County Committee and delegate to Democratic State Conventions. In 1892 he was delegate from Pennsylvania to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago, and, with the majority of the State delegation, supported Grover Cleveland for President.

WILLIAM TRENTON CREASY.

William Trenton Creasy, Columbia County, was born in 1856 in Catawissa township, on the farm he now occupies; was educated in the common schools, Catawissa Academy, and graduated from the Bloomsburg State Normal School. He taught school at the age of 16 and followed it for 9 terms.

He is at present engaged in farming and fruit growing. He was a mercantile appraiser in 1893 and is serving his fifth term as School Director of his native township. He was a member of the House of Representatives, session of 1895, and re-elected in 1896-'98. In the last two sessions of the Legislature Mr. Creasy was the recognized leader of the Democrats and the nominee of his party for Speaker.

CHARLES J. REILLY.

Charles J. Reilly is a native of Philadelphia. He was born in the Twentieth Ward of that city and remained a resident of the Quaker City until his 18th year, when he removed to Williamsport. He attended the public schools of Philadelphia until his removal to Williamsport, where he went to engage as a shipping clerk for a large manufacturing concern. Later he attended a commercial college from which he graduated in 1876.

Later he devoted himself to the mercantile business, giving his spare time for a year and a half to the study of medicine. He abandoned the idea of medicine as a profession, and in 1882 entered the law office of Candor & Munson. He concluded his studies in the office of J. J. Metzgar, at present Judge of Lycoming County. He was also a member of Chautauqua College, class of 1890.

He entered upon the active practice of law upon his admission to the bar in 1884, and has devoted all of the time since that date to his profession. He was elected District Attorney of Lycoming county in 1889 by the largest majority ever given a candidate up to that time.

Mr. Reilly has been an active Democrat since his majority, and served his party as county chairman from 1884 to 1889. He was one of the electors on the Democratic ticket in 1896. He has been admitted to the circuit and district courts of the United States and the Supreme and Superior courts of Pennsylvania. He is one of the leaders of the Lycoming County bar and enjoys a large and lucrative practice throughout the West Branch Valley.

TOWN COUNCIL.

A SPECIAL MEETING HELD LAST THURSDAY NIGHT.

To Consider the Matter of Enlarging the Water Mains on Second Street, From Iron to Market Street.

A special meeting of the Bloomsburg Town Council called for the purpose of considering the matter of increasing the water main on Second street, was held in the council chamber of the Town Hall Thursday night. President of Council, W. O. Holmes, and members Demaree, Hartman, Cox, Cronin and Smith being present. A. Z. Schoch of the Water Company stated that the Fire and Water Committee had a few days previous appeared before and made known to the Water Company the wishes of the Council in regard to increasing the water main from Iron Street to Market.

The present main between these two streets is six inches. It is desired that it be increased in size to a ten or twelve inch main. This change, according to the Water Company, will occasion an expenditure of something like \$2,000. Mr. Schoch said the Water Company would make the desired change, provided the Council put in three additional plugs between Iron and Market Street, the same to cost \$20 per plug per annum. This would give the Company 3 per cent. on the outlay. After some consideration and discussion it was moved and seconded that the proposition be accepted. Carried. The council to make the after repairs to crossings which will be made necessary by reason of the tearing up of the street to lay the pipe.

Water Company will see to it that the plugs are flushed and kept in proper condition. Ordinance No. 103, in regard to cycle path read and adopted.

The new fire alarm system was considered and it was decided to increase the number of alarm boxes from six to seven. The location of same will be as follows: Corner of East and sixth; Fifth and Center; Sixth and West; Leonard Street; Second and West; Third and East, and another the location of which has not yet been decided on.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

Kesty-Breece Nuptials.

Charles E. Kesty, and Miss Dora Breece were married at the home of the bride on West Main street, this town, Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock by Rev. M. E. McLinn of the Lutheran church. Only the close relatives of the principals witnessed the ceremony. At its conclusion, the guests were invited to the dining room where a sumptuous repast was partaken of. The bride is a highly esteemed young lady of this town, who for many years has been one of our ablest instructors in the public schools, and a potent factor in the work of the church of her choice. Mr. Kesty is a young man well known in Bloomsburg having held the responsible position of Secretary of the local Young Men's Christian Association for several years, and his sterling ability was fully demonstrated by the success attained by the organization during his connection with it. A little more than a year ago, he resigned his position here to accept one of a like capacity at Steelton, near Harrisburg. The happy couple left on the Pennsylvania railroad for a short journey through the southern part of the State, and upon returning will establish themselves in a home prepared by the groom for their occupancy at Steelton.

William F. Halstead Resigns.

William F. Halstead, second vice president and general manager of the D. L. & W. Railroad Co., has tendered his resignation which has been accepted to take place on July 1. Mr. Halstead, who is more than sixty years old, has been in the service of the road since its organization, starting as a teamster and working through all grades to the high place which he has now held for a long period. It is rumored that Mr. Halstead is to take charge of the new coal road from Scranton to New York.

Invitations are out for the marriage of former Commissioners' Clerk D. Z. Mensch and Miss Bell MacBride, to take place in St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Thursday, June 29th.

DR. WILLIAM J. SCOTT DEAD.

Formerly a Member of Common Council in Philadelphia.

Ex-Councilman William J. Scott, M. D., of the Fourteenth ward, died Sunday afternoon at the summer residence of his brother, Representative John R. Scott, at Lynwyd.

Dr. William J. Scott was born in Bloomsburg, Columbia county, Pa., thirty-two years ago. He received his preliminary education at Blirstown Academy and the Bloomsburg State Normal School. After graduating from Bloomsburg he entered the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he graduated in 1886. In 1892 he graduated from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania.

After the death of Dr. Mattern, Dr. Scott served as Coroner's Physician until the appointment of Dr. Morton. He represented the Fourteenth ward in City Councils from 1897-1898. He was offered the nomination in 1899, but was compelled to decline it because of failing health.

Dr. Scott was active in Masonic circles. He was a member of Harmony Chapter, No. 82; Mount Moriah Commandery, No. 155, and St. Mary's Commandery, No. 36. He had been in ill health for some time past, and had been confined to his bed for a week.—Philadelphia Times.

Mr. Scott, with his mother, Mrs. Jane B. Scott, and three brothers, formerly resided in this town, and will be remembered by many of our readers. The family left Bloomsburg about eighteen years ago.

Where a Well-known Name Comes From

The country grew in wealth from the beginning, writes John Gilmer Speed in "Ainslee's Magazine," and the foundations for great fortunes, as has been said, were laid by those who held on to farms that were near the towns which in time became great cities. A New York instance will illustrate this. In the colonial time an Englishman named Rogers had a farm in the neighborhood of what is now Fourteenth street and the Hudson River. Rogers needed a farm hand, and so he employed a newly arrived German emigrant. What this German's name was I don't know, and the neighbors between Greenwich and Chelsea village did not seem to care. But he came from the Rhine country, and so they called the hired man the Rhinelander. In time the hired man married the daughter of Farmer Rogers, and also inherited the farm and began a family. The farm increased in value until now, when it is worth many millions of dollars. In the main, it has been kept in the Rhinelander's family, which is one of the richest in the country, though no member of the family ranks among the very rich persons of the country.

Some years ago a member of the Rhinelander family was a patient for several months at the Sanitarium under Dr. Shattuck. His wife was with him and they will be remembered by quite a number of our citizens.

Meeting of the School Board.

The Board of Directors of the Bloomsburg School District held a meeting at the High School building Thursday night, at which time the Treasurer's annual report was examined, Principal Sterner's report read and other business transacted. An adjournment was taken till Monday night.

MONDAY EVENING.

The School Board reassembled in the High School building Monday evening, with every member present. Treasurer C. A. Kleim and Secretary James C. Brown presented their statements. All the business pertaining to the past school year was transacted, after which the old board disbanded. The new board was then organized. Joseph Garrison was chosen President John C. Rutter Jr., secretary, and W. E. Rinker, Treasurer. The compensation of the secretary and treasurer to be the same as last year.

The President was vested with the authority to appoint the various committees.

The tax rate was fixed at 7½ mills, same as last year.

This concluded the business and the meeting adjourned to meet Friday evening, June 30th, at which time the teachers and janitors for the coming term will be elected.

The Bloomsburg Band will hold a festival in the Tabernacle on Market street, Friday and Saturday evenings of this week. All the delicacies of the season will be served.

—FOR—

Hot Weather

SEE OUR

SKELETON COATS,

In Blue Serge,

Alpaca and

Cecilion.

CRASH SUITS (None better made),

WHITE DUCK TROUSERS,

CRASH TROUSERS,

SERGE TROUSERS.

Children's Wash Suits (guaranteed).

SUMMER UNDERWEAR,

All Kinds.

NEGLIGEE SHIRTS,

In Silk and Madras,

From 50c. to \$1.50.

See our special line of summer suspenders, 19c.

BEN GIDDING,

Clothier,

Bloomsburg

The Leader Department Store.

WANT TO

GET HOT?

Buy flannel underwear, but if you want to be cool, use

CRASH

for your skirts. 20c. per yard.

CARPET BARGAINS.

Just received—500 sample lengths, 42 inches long. Cotton, 15c apiece, wool, 25c, tapestries, 50c apiece. MATTINGS.

All mattings 10 per cent. off, to close out what we have. Large assortment. No other dealer carries the stock we do. BRUSSELS.

We are still selling our best 10-wire Brussels for 75c. Others want 85c for same makes and patterns. ALL WOOL EXTRA SUPERS.

Anything we have in stock, to close out, 55c.

Ribbons.

No. 40 All-Silk Taffeta,

10 Cents.

Cheap, is it not? Special prices on ladies' neckwear. Large assortment belts and belt buckles.

Children's Hats.

Were 40c, now 25c.
Were \$1.00, now 75c.
Were 1.35, now 98c.
Were 1.50, now \$1.15.

SHIRT WAISTS.

Large assortment, to suit all tastes and pocketbooks. CRASH SKIRTS, 39c and 75c. LINEN SKIRTS, 99c. WRAPPERS.—Not only low in price, but neat and tasty in fit. HOSIERY.—Prices, 5c up. Best 1½ size thread underwear, 25c. Knee pants, for ladies, 25c.

UPSIDE DOWN.

PRICE HALF

lot of stamped linens that we could sell a drawer upside down and this week we turned it going through stock

For Fly Time.

Screen doors and windows. Good goods at low prices. These are in our grocery department.

The Leader Store Co., Ltd.