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THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED KURTZ, -- EDITOR

The elections held in 1888, thus far, north and south, augur no good for the Republicans.

The bosses, Cameron and Quay, from the showings of last week's state convention, pulled in different directions with Quay proving the bigger boss.

James G. Blaine, just at this time, is a Pandora's box among Republican presidential candidates. A double declination is wished for, by the aspirants, a declination as a candidate (already given) and a decline in health.

Queen Victoria has returned home again from her visit to Berlin. The Germans gave the old lady a grand reception and she went home pleased.

Vic and old Bis had a private confab. Vic can talk Dutch better than any of us Pennsylvania folks, only its of a higher grade.

The senate committee on education and labor decided to authorize favorable reports on the proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of liquor in the United States; the house bill for the organization of an executive department of labor.

The New York legislature last week passed a high license bill.

The general license fee is fixed at from \$300 \$1000; and the malt liquor license from \$100 to \$400. It applies to the entire state, the local excise boards to fix rates within these limits. There is no question but what the bill will be vetoed by Governor Hill.

The Democrats of this county will enter the coming presidential campaign without any local bickerings. There is a unanimity of feeling in favor of Cleveland. There is a determination to bring the county back to her ancient moorings, and to her old Democratic majorities. There will be no more playing into the hands of the enemy and unity will be the watch word, with tariff reform for our platform.

Tariff will be the subject before the House during the whole week if the operation of the resolution under which the House is acting shall not be suspended. The general impression is that it will not be suspended, but that every day will be devoted to tariff discussion. Should a break occur at any time the River and Harbor bill will have the right of way, but the manager of that measure disclaims any intention of desire to interfere in the most remote way with the continued consideration of the Mills bill.

The Postmaster General completed arrangements with postmaster general of Canada establishing a uniform rate of 1 cent per ounce on all merchandise, including grain, seed, cuttings, bulbs, scions and all greeds and 1 cent per 2 ounces of printed matter in the mails exchanged between the two countries and now known as the third class matter in the domestic mails of this country. This arrangement goes into effect May 1 and removes the objections to the recent mail convention with Canada which went into effect March 1.

In Philadelphia it was proven before the courts during the examination of the applicants for license, that whisky purchased at \$3 per gallon can be retailed at five cents a drink and a profit of \$10 made on a gallon. This must be the kind of whisky that is said to impart a warmth like unto a torch-light procession as it goes down a man's throat, and, like the liquor that is sold in Australia, three drinks of it will make a man stone his grandmother. It is comforting to know that the courts are weeding out the five cent doggeries under the high license act.

The Republican division on the tax question has become so clear that the attempt to unite the minority party in the House of Representatives on a tariff policy, says the New York Star, is substantially abandoned. The debates of last week revealed the radical divergence between Eastern and Western Republican members. Mr. Brown, of Indiana, took a view opposite to that of Judge Kelley, of this state, regarding internal tax legislation as well as respecting the duties on lumber, salt and copper ore. Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, endeavored to adopt a middle course, but antagonized most of Mr. Kelley's propositions. There is no such broad and distinct antagonism between the Democratic members who constitute the great majority of the party and Mr. Randall and his few followers as there is between the Republicans of the Eastern and Western wings. It is far more likely that every Democrat in the House will vote for the Mills bill than that every Republican will vote against it.

THE CAMERON-QUAY-MAGEE AGREEMENT WITH SHERMAN.

The story has found its way into public talk by way of the National Capitol that Senators Quay and Cameron and Chris Magee, of Pittsburg, have agreed to have the Pennsylvania delegation vote for Senator Sherman on the early balloting at Chicago. The statement is given more than the usual coloring of truth to be found in popular rumors by the fact that it has been brought here by at least half a dozen men of prominence in party affairs, each of whom quotes close friends of the Ohio Senators authority. It is also known that Mr. Magee was in Washington last week and spent several hours in conference with Mr. Sherman. The alleged agreement with the two senators dates, however, from a few days after Senator Quay's return from Florida, and it is said to include a promise to vote for the admission of the Mahonee delegation from Virginia as against the men sent there from the various districts of the State. Senator Mahone, of course, would cast the vote of the delegation as a unit for the Ohio candidate, and his admission would mean just that many more votes in Senator Sherman's favor.

With the backing of the 60 men from the Keystone State Sherman's candidacy would undoubtedly assume more formidable proportions than even his friends have hoped for in the early stages of the convention. Even if the delegation should not vote together for him he is more than likely to come within a hundred votes of the nomination on the first or second ballots. This steady gain in strength shows that the man who made up the recent estimate of 312 Sherman assured votes made his reckoning after a careful canvass of the situation. At any rate there is no longer any doubt that his early vote will be double that of any other candidate, and that the remaining 483 votes will be scattered among so many men that they are not going to count for much for any one of them. Chauncey Depew, of course, may be an exception to this, for he is more than likely to get the solid vote of New York, with several dozen from other sources. Those who have studied the situation closely and who have had experience in convention politics believe that there will be few changes in the first three or four ballots, but that with a vote close and widely scattered each candidate will cling tenaciously to his following until it is clearly demonstrated that he is out of the race. The three names that are regarded here as dangerous possibilities are Harrison, Alger and Allison, in the order in which they are named.

The situation of affairs in France has undergone no material change during the week. The Bonapartist agitation has in no way abated, and the indications are that the General has increased in popularity from day to day. No further important move will probably be made until the Chamber of Deputies meets again. What will be done then is a question that no one can now answer, unless it is General Boulanger himself. He professes to be a firm friend of the Republic, and if he carries out the programme which he has partially outlined, it will undoubtedly prove the best thing for France. No fault, in fact, can be found with the policy which General Boulanger has laid down. The question is whether he will remain true to it, whether his patriotism is of a texture strong enough to withstand the strain of his sudden advancement and elevation. There is good reason for distrusting professions of unselfish devotion on the part of the heroes of the French populace. The precedents for things of this kind in French history are not reassuring. It is not well, however, to invite disaster by doleful prophecies. General Boulanger may yet prove to be the regenerator of France.

Perhaps the most interesting autobiography recently given to the public is that of George Pemberton Clarke. Mr. Clarke has put the story of his life into verse. At the end of his poem he says: "I have travelled 140,000 miles, crossed the equator eight times, encircled the earth once, doubled Cape Horn four times, visited 48 countries, 66 islands, lived under six kingdoms, seven republics, 17 other forms of government, civilized and savage, starved twice, chewed by a whale, bitten by a shark, blown up with powder, burst boiler, broken leg, broken arm, kidnaped once, asphyxiated once, captured by cannibals, elected to be roasted; attacked by robbers, carried over Chagres Falls, over the Rip Raps, Virginia, fell down ship's hold, fell down elevator hatchway, married twice, am well, strong and hearty to-day; that's enough for one man." The writer further says that he is seventy years of age. Perhaps some novelist who believes in the value of a plot might collaborate a readable story with Mr. Clark.

THE REVENUE ACT UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Judge Simonton filed an opinion which if sustained by the Supreme Court, will deprive the State of a large amount of expected revenue. The Judge declares the thirteenth section of the revenue act of 1885 unconstitutional, in the case of the Commonwealth against the Delaware Division Canal Co.

Mortgages issued by foreign corporations and owned by residents of Pennsylvania are required to be taxed at their actual value by the local assessors, the same as mortgages issued by corporations of this State are required by the fourth section to be assessed at par, and the treasurer of the company is required to deduct the tax upon their par value when paying interest upon the bonds. A number of cases involving this tax were argued last December, but this is the first opinion filed.

The Court finds as a fact, from the evidence, that some corporate bonds, upon which interest is regularly paid, sell as low as fifty cents on the dollar and others as high as one hundred and fifty, and declares that "under the facts the necessary working of the law is that a citizen owning these loans to the value of \$10,000 may pay a less amount of tax than another whose holdings are worth only \$5,000. * * * Taxes are uniform, in the sense of the Constitution, when any inequality of burden which results from imposition is due to the imperfect knowledge or judgement of the persons whose duty it is to assess them.

When, however, the law itself is so framed that it necessarily produces gross inequality of burden, no matter how perfectly it may be administered, it would seem impossible to avoid the conclusion that it violates the mandate of the Constitution."

The act of 1885 is declared to be substantially the same as the acts 1879 and 1831, which were declared void by the Supreme Court in the Lehigh Valley case.

RUINED BY THE STANDARD.

In the trust investigation, B. B. Campbell, an oil refiner of Westmoreland county Pa., gave testimony showing that the Standard Oil Company had been built up by rebates and drawbacks given it by the railroads. These rebates had ruined nearly all the independent refiners. After becoming powerful, the Standard built pipe lines and became the boss of the railroads.

Testimony was given by Mr. Cassatt, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, showing that the rebate given the Standard amounted to 50 cents per barrel. While they got 22 1/2 cents a barrel gratuity on shipment of competitors.

Augustus H. Tack and William H. Harkness, oil refiners, testified to having been ruined by the rebates given the Standard and to having been squeezed tighter and tighter until forced to sell out. Mr. Tack estimated the capital destroyed in this manner at 15,000,000 and the Standard's gains through rebates at \$250,000,000. He thought part of this money was returned to a few high railroad officials for their personal enrichment, but had no proof of that fact.

THE MILLS TARIFF BILL.

The tariff is to occupy the attention of the House for the next month. An arrangement may be entered into by which the Tariff bill will be set aside for a day or two for the River and Harbor bill; but at present the friends of the Mills bill refuse to permit anything to stand in its way.

The general debate will run about ten days yet, and the interest will then be materially increased, as the measure will be debated under the five-minute rule, when amendments will be considered, and when individual members will look especially after the interests of their local industries and their constituents. The prospects at this time are that the bill will not be finally voted upon until the middle of June.

The Senate during the week will be occupied with the Animal Industry bill, the Copyright bill, and the Pinna bill forfeiting unearned land grants. The reply of Senator Ingalls to Senator Voorhees on Tuesday, after the morning hour, is expected to attract a large crowd.

Instead of merely denouncing Cleveland's last annual message, had not the high tariff journals better publish that document about once a month and issue it in pamphlet form as a campaign document, so people can judge for themselves of the arguments contained in it? The fact is the Republican organs want that particular document read and circulated as little as possible, because they fear the clear and concise reasoning of Mr. Cleveland in favor of tariff reform— not free-trade—and will keep on yelling free trade without copying a sentence from the message that proves their false charge.

The message pleads for the protection of the many and not the few only.

APPOINTED CHIEF JUSTICE.

MELVILLE W. FULLER, OF CHICAGO, TO SUCCEED MR. WAITE.

The president on Monday sent to the senate the nomination of Melville W. Fuller, of Illinois, to be chief justice of the United States, vice Waite, deceased. Judge Fuller is a personal friend of the president. He was not an applicant, and has not been in Washington since the death of Chief Justice Waite. Mr. Fuller is a judge of ability and stands high as a conservative democrat. He is about 50 years of age, and has made a number of able arguments before the supreme court. He is looked upon as the leader of the Chicago bar and his reputation is mainly of a local legal character. It is stated that Senators Culum and Farwell have assured the president that they will vote for the confirmation of Judge Fuller.

In his practice in the Supreme court of the United States Mr. Fuller, the newly appointed chief justice, has repeatedly come in contact, both as a colleague and an opponent with Messrs. Edmunds, Thurman, Hooley, Ingersoll and other admitted great lawyers and has never failed to hold his own against the greatest of them. He is familiar with the decisions of that court and well informed in the history of our country and especially on constitutional questions. The nomination of Melville W. Fuller, of Chicago, as chief justice of the United States, is regarded here with unbounded satisfaction by the leading men of both parties. Mr. Fuller is in every respect fitted to fill the high office to which he has been nominated.

The business of glass making for 200 years has been one of the industries of Massachusetts, but on the whole, notwithstanding there has been seasons when it was profitable, it has fared badly even when successful in other States. Eighty years ago the State, to encourage the manufacture, exempted it from taxation, and for a quarter of a century there were signs of a revival of this particular industry. In 1855 nearly \$2,000,000 was invested in the business, and when the tariff imposed a high and unreasonably duty on all forms of glass at the close of the war there was every reason to suppose that the manufacture of glass in Massachusetts would flourish as it did and still does in some of the other States. But from some unexplained cause it steadily declined. In 1880 the capital embarked in it was less than one-half that it was in 1855 under the low tariff. Since that it has fallen off still more, until now the last of the important works, those of the Boston and Cambridge Company and of the once famous Sandwich Company, are winding up their affairs, leaving nothing remaining in the way of glass making in the State except the fabrication of small fancy articles.

In Great Britain in 1885, only eight passengers on railroad trains lost their lives from causes beyond their own control; and out of 866,000,000 passengers conveyed, 615 was the whole number of the injured. That gave the ratio of one passenger killed for each 1,080,000,000 travelers; and one injured for every 1,400,000. Mr. Mundella, who has been noting these statistics, deplors the sad fact that, while the passenger has had almost perfect provision made for safety, the total number of employees killed in that year was one for each \$15, and one was injured for each 179 employed. In this country there are more passengers killed than in England, but a still greater proportion of employees. The law just declared constitutional by the supreme court, passed by a western State, putting railroad employees on an equality with passengers in recovering damages where the company is at fault, if generally adopted, may improve matters.

BLAINE IN THE FIELD.

It seems to be generally believed among Republicans in Congress that Blaine will be nominated at Chicago. Interviews with a large number of them disclose the same expectation. They all recognize the fact that, while each of the other candidates spoken of has the support of his own State, Blaine's support comes from every quarter. They believe that, whatever the first few ballots may show, the Convention will be a Blaine Convention just as soon as it shall become apparent that none of the other candidates can obtain a majority of the votes.

The Pope is about to give utterance to his views upon Irish affairs.

The published statement that the Pope has decided to issue a document condemning the practices under the plan of campaign and the boycott act is confirmed by a dispatch from Rome. The plan of campaign is condemned on the ground of being illegal, because the land courts will reduce all unfair rents, and because the funds to carry on the plan are extorted from the contributors. Boycotting is condemned because it is contrary to justice and charity. The document contains no reference to the National League.

HENRY SMITH.

The "Anarchist Member" From Milwaukee—So Called Because He Is Not An Anarchist.

(Special Washington Correspondence.)

One of the most interesting men in Congress this year is Henry Smith, the Independent Labor representative from Milwaukee. His fellow-members call him the "Anarchist member," because he affiliates with neither party and sticks to his own peculiar opinions on National legislation. Mr. Smith is by no means an Anarchist, but is one of the most peaceable and law-abiding men to be met with anywhere. He is a mill-wright by occupation, and has lived in Milwaukee forty-three years, going there with his father when he was a boy of fourteen. He has caught frogs where the Franklin Hotel now stands, fished for bull-heads where the Wisconsin street bridge crosses the Milwaukee river, and once saw a deer shot on what is now Prospect avenue. He is a man of jolly disposition, free from every thing like rancor and vindictiveness, and naturally, having lived so long among his people, is a very popular citizen. He is a man of good judgment, and if he fails anywhere in his dealings with men it is in his disposition to trust people whom he does not know.

Of course in Congress Mr. Smith, and the three other Independent Congressmen, are at a very great disadvantage. Not being Republicans, and refusing to enter the Democratic caucus, they expect and receive very little assistance in securing the local legislation which their constituents desire. The people of Milwaukee want a new courthouse and post-office. The old one has long since ceased to be at all convenient or commodious, and the business of the custom-house and post-office is very rapidly increasing from year to year. There is nothing that Mr. Smith would like so much to secure from the Congress as an appropriation for a new public building. As the House committees were not appointed before the holidays no bills could be introduced, but in the Senate bills were introduced, and before Mr. Smith could introduce his Milwaukee public-building bill Senator Spooner had introduced a bill for that purpose, had it reported back from the committee and very promptly passed.

As soon as it went over to the House the Republican members from Wisconsin at once set to work to have the bill passed without Mr. Smith's knowledge or cooperation, and have nearly succeeded in doing so. With the Democrats displeased at Mr. Smith's independence, and the Republicans determined to outwit him if possible, the chances are very decidedly against him. The incident shows how feeble and helpless any movement to elect Independent or Knights of Labor Congressmen must be unless the Independent party can elect enough Congressmen to hold the balance of power in the House. Had the Knights of Labor elected seven more members than they did, the situation would have been completely reversed, and the other two parties, instead of giving the Labor men the cold shoulder, would have been asking favors of them. T. J. A.

TROTTING TRACKS.

Some of Their Peculiarities Described by an Expert.

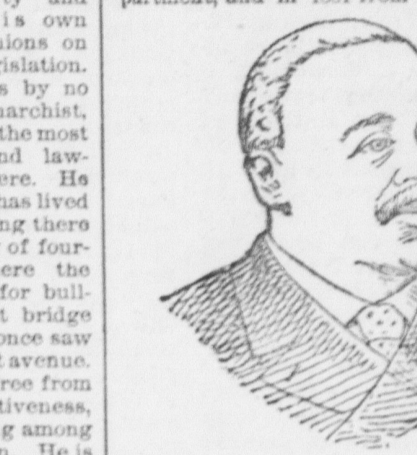
The noted horseman, W. B. Fasig, contributes to the current Spirit of the Times an interesting paper on trotting tracks, from which we extract the following: "The care of a track has much more to do with its success than is generally supposed. Tracks differ so much in the nature of the soil that to write down rules as to their care and preparation would be like giving a set formula to train every horse by and expect the best results. The old Chicago track at a certain stage after a rain, was one of the fastest that I ever saw, and the dirt without its particularly fast stage would be the slowest stage of the Cleveland track, and the latter would be dead and cuppy. Later on, as they became drier, the Chicago track would get too hard, and the Cleveland track get right. I think that the Cleveland track stays in condition a longer time without being completely reversed, and that the other two parties, instead of giving the Labor men the cold shoulder, would have been asking favors of them. T. J. A.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

The crop bulletin of the Signal Service Office for the past week says that, owing to the general deficiency of rain, the weather has affected growing crops unfavorably. Rain is especially needed in the winter-wheat sections and in the northern portion of the Gulf States. Frosts occurred in Kentucky, Eastern Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and the Middle Atlantic States during the week, which probably injured vegetables and fruit. Reports from Kansas, Minnesota and Western Missouri indicate that the weather has been favorable in those sections and that farm work is well advanced. The weather is reported as favorable for farm work in New England, where plowing and planting are in progress.

The Colored Divine Who was Decently Appointed Minister to Liberia.

Rev. Joseph C. Price, who has been appointed Minister to Liberia, is president of Livingston College at Salisbury, N. C. Mr. Price is a full-blooded African of large frame, fine presence, and is physically one of the finest specimens of his race. He is thirty-four years old and was born at Elizabeth City, N. C. At the close of the war he attended school at Newbern, and by teaching and working at intervals he was able in 1875 to enter Lincoln University, where he graduated in 1879 from the collegiate department, and in 1881 from the theological



JOSEPH C. PRICE

department. He showed decided ability all through his college course and was famous for his natural eloquence. On leaving the college he was appointed a delegate of the Methodist Episcopal Zion church to the Ecumenical Council held in 1881 in London.

His speech before the vast audience assembled at that council was one of the most famous things connected with it. Such a triumph of eloquence was never seen in London. The entire audience rose to their feet cheering wildly, throwing hats and waving handkerchiefs, and all this from a ten-minute speech by a full-blooded negro speaking on the subject of Africa. The next morning the incident had been telegraphed all over the world, and the report of it was being read at breakfast in Hong Kong, Calcutta, San Francisco and Winnipeg. Mr. Price spent nearly a year in Europe collecting funds for the establishment of Livingston College, which was started in 1882 with three professors and three students, and has now eleven professors and 230 students. Mr. Price is loth to give up his educational work, but is inclined to accept the appointment, believing that it will give him an opportunity to do his race great good.

ION GENNADIUS.

The New Grecian Envoy to This Country—Brief Sketch of His Life and Services.

Ion (or John) Gennadius is the strange but euphonious name of the new Grecian Minister who has recently taken up his resi-



THE NEW GRECIAN MINISTER.

dence in Washington. He is accredited to the Court of St. James, but will be expected to divide his time between England and the United States. He is thirty-seven years old, and before entering diplomatic service was a merchant in Athens. His family was prominent in the Greek revolution fifty years ago, and have always been firm adherents of the present royal family. Gennadius was for several years Secretary of Legation at Constantinople; he was sent to London in 1875 as Secretary of the Greek Legation there. In 1878 he was sent to Berlin to negotiate a refunding of the Greek revolutionary loan; three years later he was delegated to adjust the Greco-Turkish boundary. He was then sent to Vienna as Secretary of Legation, and in 1886 was appointed Minister to the English Court and Consul-General to the Hague.

M. Gennadius is a thorough-going Greek, having finely-chiseled features characteristic of his race, and is in mind and manners quite suggestive of his famous ancestors. He is a bachelor and quite popular in English society. He dresses in good taste, wearing on all ordinary occasions the quiet garb of a well-to-do business man. At court, however, he used to wear the national costume of Greece, with his heavy, white zouave trousers, short, red, gold-branded jacket and tasseled cap. M. Gennadius has received the degree of doctor of common law from Oxford University. His special mission to the United States is to protect the Grecian current from a prohibitory duty.

MASSACHUSETTS PROHIBITIONISTS.

Boston, April 16. At a meeting of the Prohibition State Central Committee provisional delegates to the Indianapolis Convention were chosen. The selection of the time and place for the State Convention was postponed until the next meeting.

Death of Ex-President Porter's Wife.

New Haven, Conn., April 16. Mrs. Mary Taylor Porter, wife of ex-President Porter, of Yale College, died yesterday, after an illness of several years.

Queen Victoria speaks German in her own home, and when she speaks English it is with a slight German accent.