

# The Centre Reporter.



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NO. 39

## THE CENTRE REPORTER

FRED KURTZ, -- EDITOR

### Democratic State Ticket.

For Treasurer,  
Edmund A. Bigler,  
OF CLEARFIELD.

### Democratic County Ticket.

For Associate Judge,  
Thos. F. Riley.  
For Prothonotary,  
L. A. Schaeffer.  
For District Attorney,  
J. C. Meyer.  
For County Surveyor,  
Geo. D. Johnson.  
For Coroner,  
Dr. James W. Neff.

Where does Henderson sleep now? is often asked. Why with Fiedler of course.

The Democratic ticket in this county is composed of such excellent material that it deserves to be elected by 2,000 majority.

Henderson says "by — I know the value of mules, I was raised among 'em." True, for he plays the part of one out-and-out.

There is a decline in sugar. While there is no connection between sugar and Henderson and Decker, yet the latter should resign now.

Why don't the board of county commissioners hand in their resignations, the people are anxiously looking for them? The charge is imbecility.

Instead of raising the assessed value of Snow Shoe mules from \$60 to \$80, it would have been better if Henderson had stood behind a mule and got a little raise himself from the heels of the critic.

There are nearly one dozen newspapers in this county, and only one, the Gazette, defends the county commissioners, and it is influenced by a printing contract from the board which had a steal in it.

Surely that was a dark affair down in Jackson, Miss., the other day. The first Republican State Convention held for several years met there with 60 counties represented by 254 delegates only 60 of whom were white.

Besides raising the value on real estate, we learn now from a good republican that Henderson raised the assessed value of \$60 upon mules in Snow Shoe to \$80. Lots of Republicans are denouncing the course of the present commissioners.

Taxpayers, how do you relish the condition of our county affairs, under Henderson and Decker?  
The county in debt.

The valuations raised near half a million.  
About \$8000 more taxes to pay.

Schaeffer, Meyer, Johnson, Neff—these compose the Democratic county ticket. Every one is a gentleman of spotless character and capable. The opposition ticket is a boss concern, made up against the wishes of the Republican masses, and to do the bidding of the boss only. The boss business is played out.

Voters should not swap a certainty for an uncertainty. You now have an efficient district attorney in J. C. Meyer, who has rendered entire satisfaction. Will you run the risk of having the public service snuffer by electing a green one like Chambers? Don't do it—when you have a good man, stick to him. Vote for J. C. Meyer.

From the encouraging way in which Senator Quay winks at big General Hastings, while still smiling sweetly upon little Senator Delanater, it looks as though a big wagon load of "relief supplies" might override all the promises made the statesman from the Northwest. And Hastings has his team harnessed.

Not a single objection can be brought against the re election of L. A. Schaeffer as prothonotary—so well and faithfully has he discharged the duties of that important office in the last three years. To make a change, and elect an inexperienced gentleman like Mr. Fleming would be a grave mistake and the public would suffer thereby. You have a fit man there now, and he should be retained three years more.

### A Few Pointers.

It would be well for our protectionist friends if they would more closely study the subsidy system of England and the tariff laws of Germany before committing themselves to either.

To judge by the expressions in the tariff monopoly press, England has a mint of money ready at all times to be lavished upon English ship builders who will condescend to try their luck in the carrying trade between England and the outside world; and to this supposed ill-begotten system of subsidies, our monopoly breeding protectionists would commit the present administration. Petitions have been prepared and congressmen are to be flooded with appeals for appropriations "to restore our commerce and rebuild our merchant marine." It is time the taxpayers—and this is a term which includes the rent payers as well as the rent collectors—should prepare counter petitions against this contemplated ill advised raid upon the treasury; and if they will but devote a little time to the study of English ship subsidies, they will be convinced that the merchant marine of that country is not now, and never was, indebted to government bounties for existence.

Not one ship in a hundred has been granted a subsidy, and of those to which a subsidy was granted, the carrying of the mail has been the only consideration and not the extension of commerce. Not only this, but all grants of money have been in the nature of payment for services and not for the creation of a merchant marine, and in bidding for such mail contracts competition has been free and open to ships of all nationalities. If the United States were blessed with ocean going ships, their owners could to day compete with the owners of English ships in carrying the mail of that country, and thereby securing what is called a subsidy, which, in fact, is but a well regulated payment for services. There is a broad distinction between a so called subsidy of this kind and the contemplated raid upon the United States treasury for the sole benefit of a few speculators who, debarred from any participation in foreign commerce by our tariff and navigation laws, seek to reimburse themselves for all anticipated losses in any new commercial ventures, by thrusting their pickers and stealers into the treasury. It will be no credit to the American people if they should be hoodwinked in a matter of this kind where a little inquiry would enlighten them, and it is to be hoped and expected that they will inform themselves on the subject of ship subsidies before congress meets, because knowledge of the subject means sure defeat to the new brood of spoliators.

As to the "German tariff laws which have done so much to build up the empire of Bismarck," our "American system advocates are as deep in the mud of ignorance as they are in the mire of preparation on English ship subsidies. There is nothing in the tariff laws of Germany that would please the tariff boodlers of the "American system" who insist upon levying fines and penalties upon the importation of raw materials; increasing the fines and penalties at every stage of manufacture. The tariff laws of Germany are based upon the sound and sensible idea that raw materials should enter duty free. If our woolen manufacturers had such a tariff, there would be more mills in operation, more persons employed and more general prosperity among all branches of the wool trade. Even the tariff on half finished products which Germany levies is but nominal, the whole force and effect falling upon the finished articles for the benefit of the manufacturers. Such a tariff system, if there is any protection at all in a tariff on imports, is highly protective, and is in no wise to be compared to the protective abortion of this country which fines the manufacturer for buying raw materials and robs the consumer for purchasing the manufactured product. How the tariff on raw materials affects the consumers, may be judged by the fact that one paper manufacturing firm in Connecticut pays \$20,000 annually at the custom house for the privilege of being permitted to make manilla paper from jute butts, a product of India. How this fine of \$20,000 enables the paper mill owners to pay high wages to "American workmen" would puzzle a conjuror, and why they would be able to pay better wages if they paid no tariff fines and penalties is a matter requiring no demonstration. As it is, however, the mill owners pay the fine, deduct the amount from wages, and then, by having a tariff fine imposed upon American citizens who presume to buy foreign made paper, they get even with the people; but is this protection?

When the Democratic commissioners, Greist and Wolf, went out of office, the county was out of debt; there was a large balance in the treasury; taxes were getting lower.

Now, under Henderson and Decker, we have the reverse in each of these points.  
Taxpayers, what do you think of such housekeeping?

The Republican primary election held in Clearfield on Saturday last was a heated, bitter contest for delegates to the State convention of 1890 between the supporters of Hastings and those of Delanater. The result is not yet definitely known.

The present year furnishes a chapter of calamities in the history of the world that is unprecedented. Every scourge but that of famine seems to have done its deadliest. The floods at Johnstown and in Japan, the fires at Seattle and Spokane Falls, the explosion in Antwerp, the cholera in Mesopotamia, the storms at sea, and now the land slide at Quebec, comprise a horrible list. Thousands of the lives lost have been sacrificed to carelessness or negligence. The South Fork Dam was declared unsafe before the Conemaugh flood, the cartridges at Antwerp were declared dangerous before the explosion, and the cliff at Quebec was declared unsafe nearly ten years ago. In 1880 the chief city engineer of Quebec recommended that \$27,000 be expended to make the cliff safe to the inhabitants below. The recommendation was disregarded and now \$100,000 in property has been destroyed and nearly two score persons have been crushed to death. If a building contractor, after being told that his structure is unsafe, persists in disregarding the warning, he goes to State prison when his building collapses; but a city or town may ignore the recommendations of its engineers and go unpunished when the threatened calamity occurs. What is the use of having engineers and inspectors if their advice is not to be followed? Shall we ever come to esteem forethought, or must we always be lamenting and criticizing on the hither side of calamity? The cries of despair that were heard last week from beneath the debris at Quebec for hours after the rock had fallen, must have pierced the hearts of those who refused to avert impending disaster. The cries for help were as piteous, and in some cases as unavailing as those of the victims of the Conemaugh flood who were swept away to death before the eyes of their friends. The only solace of such disasters is in the fact that human mercy is always kindled to the noblest heroism.

The four new States, the two Dakotas, Washington and Montana, will vote on Wednesday of this week on the acceptance of the constitutions made for them by the conventions held in the past summer, and will choose state officers and congressmen. The Dakotas and Washington will pass on prohibition as a separate article of the constitution, and Washington will also give its verdict for or against women suffrage. At the election of 1888 the four States threw over 200,000 votes for territorial delegates. The Republicans carried all four by pluralities ranging from 5,100 in Montana to 18,000 in South Dakota. The Democrats are making a strong fight to carry Montana, and Civil Service Commissioner Roosevelt, who recently returned from an extended Western trip, is quoted as saying that the Republicans of Montana are not very hopeful of success. The Republicans claim they will have a walk over in the other States. Washington is entitled to one congressman, North Dakota to one, South Dakota to two, and Montana to one. Each State will choose legislators to elect two United States senators. The Democratic candidate for congress in North Dakota, Captain D. W. Maratta, a river man formerly of Western Pennsylvania, it is said, notwithstanding Republican confidence, stands a good chance of being elected. In South Dakota the canvass on the State capital location has absorbed all other issues. There are four towns aspiring for the honor and profit.

The dressed beef law, which came very near being enacted at Harrisburg last winter, has excited its quietest by the decision of Judge Nelson, of the United States district court of Minnesota. He held the law is unconstitutional, on the ground that it encroaches upon the power of congress to regulate inter State commerce, and violates the provision that each State must concede to the citizens of other States the privileges and immunities enjoyed by its own citizens. Judge Blodgett, of the Northern district of Illinois, had previously rendered a decision to the same effect. A decision on appeal to the supreme court cannot be reached in less than three years, and it is improbable that the judgement of these two prominent Federal judges will ever be reversed.

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### Atlantic Coast Storms.

The storms that do such incalculable damage along our southern and eastern coasts are generated in the boiling hot atmosphere of the Caribbean sea. They are usually known as West Indian hurricanes. A peculiarity of them is that they follow the general course of the Gulf stream northeastward. What is known of them definitely is that immense volumes of heated air rise among the islands east of the Caribbean sea. They rise and whirl around and around in great eddies, sucking up in their course more and more hot air, circling eastward and northward as they whirl. Why they move in these vast circles, and why they travel eastward and northward will be a problem for future scientists to solve.

If a cyclone like this touches the Gulf coast then there is a terrific storm along our southern shores. Destruction and terror are in the wake of such a hurricane.

Again the cyclone stands off the Gulf coast, whirrs eastwardly, then, suddenly drawn northward, follows the line of the Atlantic coast from Georgia to British America. In the southern Atlantic states the rice and cotton fields are wrecked, further north, watering place hotels and towns are damaged, houses are splintered in the gale and ships are foundered and driven upon the coast. The hurricane season is from Aug. 19 to Oct. 20. It is then that the accumulated heat develops its greatest energy. It is rare for a season to pass without at least one of these mighty hurricanes.

### All the Americas.

"The success of Mr. Blaine's device would be of great and disagreeable significance to Europe, as is easily understood," remarks La Epoca, a paper published in Madrid. The Spanish journal refers to the congress of the three Americas, which opens its sessions in Washington this week. It does not appear, however, that the idea originated with Mr. Blaine. The scheme first began to take shape as far back as Garfield's administration, but the late Congressman Townshend, of Illinois, first introduced it. It is entirely commercial in its object. Mr. Townshend had a favorite plan, which was that all the countries of the American continent should be joined in one customs union, against the rest of the world. The German word Zollverein expresses the meaning of such a union as Mr. Townshend wanted.

At this very important congress the great object in view with both North and South Americans will be to increase and facilitate trade. The annual commerce of Central and South America amounts to \$700,000,000. The United States gets only a small fraction of the whole vast sum. This is not because the Spanish republics do not want our trade, for they do. It is a fact that many of our manufactured products are first sent to Europe, repacked and labeled, and then shipped anew to South America, where they are bought as European goods.

The great difficulty in the way of direct trade with these countries is lack of facility of transportation. There are very few lines of steamers in the North and South American trade. Merchants and those interested say that steamers enough can be maintained regularly if the United States will pay increased sums for rapid mail transportation. But there is in the United States a strong feeling against subsidized steamer lines, so that the question will not be easy to settle.

Other topics discussed at the congress will be arbitration of international disputes, the acceptance by each government of a common silver coin which shall be legal tender in all the countries, and the adoption of uniform customs regulations and of uniform weights and measures.

Undoubtedly Texas is a great state. She can produce annually cotton enough to supply the world, she raises one-sixth of all the cattle produced west of the Mississippi river, and she is also said to raise cane considerably. Besides all these she will not permit a silk hat to be worn within her borders.

Within the past quarter century the Protestant Episcopal church has grown in America as at no previous period in its history. It is mentioned as a curious fact that as the taste of the American people for artistic decoration and aesthetic ceremonials has been awakened and intensified the Episcopal church has increased proportionally.

The taffy Emperor William of Germany gave Minister William Walter Phelps is something unspokeable. He always admired the United States, quoth the emperor, and the study of our "history of peace" had excited in him the greatest interest. This sounds very sweet, coming from the most warlike ruler in Christendom. Well, most of the nations of Europe are beginning to find it healthy to admire our country as much as Emperor Willie does.

### A Lesson of the Greas. Strike.

The London dockers' strike was the most remarkable event of the kind in the history of labor. The extraordinary feature of it was that the dock laborers should strike at all, and still more extraordinary it was that, having struck, they gained their point and had their wages raised.

The London dockers belong to the very lowest and most wretched class of laborers, partly by his own fault, partly by the fault of the great corporations that employ him. He is one type of the vast throng of white slaves out of which civilization slowly squeezes the life and the manhood. There is nothing in barbarism so degraded, so apparently hopeless, as this lowest class, which is the product of civilization.

Yet in every one of these creatures there is a desire for something higher and better. In the case of the London dockers they demanded something better, and, to the surprise of everybody, got it.

How? We read that the dockers' cause was so just that they had the sympathy of the working people of Great Britain. Thousands of laborers in employments connected with theirs, who had not their grievances, went out with them. A spirit of restiveness pervaded all the trades' societies on the island. The tailors also struck; the bakers, the cab drivers, the railway employes and others were moved by the wave of discontent and insurrection that floated from the London docks. The wave disturbed all England, even the millionaire noblemen who are kept awake nights trying to devise ways to spend their money.

The strike was managed with consummate tact by the large brained, good tempered engineer who led it, John Burns. He began his career as an engineer; he will not end it as such. He is already a professional expert, and his speciality is conductor of strikes.

To Burns, as far as it can be claimed by any one man, is owing the success of the great strike. But there is a deeper, grander reason for its success than the efforts of any one person, or any dozen persons. That reason is this: The laborers held together as one man, and the working people of all Great Britain stood by them. That was why they succeeded. It was standing together, co-operation, that did it.

Utilizing this one idea, working people can rule the world. From their perfect union will grow a giant that all the capitalists in Christendom cannot down. This is the thought of John Burns, in his attempt to form a federation of labor.

### Jute.

Once more the question is discussed of cultivating jute in the southern states, since the cotton farmers in many localities are using cotton bagging for their bales rather than patronize the jute mills bagging trust. But cotton bagging is not as well liked as the other, and now the farmers say: Why cannot we raise our own jute? Why not, indeed? It is true, in case they did, the product would have still to pass through the mills of the loathed combination, or, if other mills started up, it would not be long till they too joined the trust, but still a little thing like that ought not to stand in the way of raising the raw material. We should be just that much more independent of India and England. A calculation has been made that jute can be produced at a cost of one and a half cents a pound on the same soil that will grow hemp. Our improved machinery of culture would produce vastly more than is done by the rude and primitive methods of India.

When the mothers of the present generation of young people were girls they used to do their hair in long curls, wear hooped gowns, tinkle on the piano and sing, "I love it, I love it, and who shall dare, chide me for loving that old arm chair." They sang, likewise, "The Last Good-by," "The Old Farm Gate" and "Home in the Heart." In their school books, also, were the poems of Miss Eliza Cook, who wrote the songs named. Miss Cook and Mrs. Hemans had a little school of poetry all to themselves. It was the domestic school, chanting the praises of gentle, faithful family loves and virtues. Well, Miss Eliza Cook, who wrote so many of these gentle, musical poems, whose name the irreverent young generation hear with a half smile, has just died in England, at the age of 71. She has been unable to do any literary work for so many years that few thought her to be living still. She received from the British government a pension of \$500 a year.

Mrs. J. C. Croly ("Jenny June") has started in New York the publication of a bi-monthly called The Woman's Cycle. It will deal especially with women from the associational point of view, women united with other persons of their own or the opposite sex in business, in clubs, in educational and benevolent organizations. Mrs. Croly hopes her publication will help to join isolated units into a grand federation.

### An Important Law For Borrowers.

By the act of the legislature, approved June 1, 1889 it is declared that after the passage of said act it shall be unlawful for any persons, corporations, etc., in loaning money at interest, whether on bond and mortgage or otherwise to require the person or persons borrowing the same to pay the tax imposed thereon by the first section of the act, and in all cases where such tax shall have been paid by the borrower the same shall be considered usury and be subject to the laws governing the same. Section 1 imposes the tax of 3 mills on the dollar, as to which, it is stated, that a failure of the assessor to assess the same shall not discharge the owner or holder from liability for payment. As the usual printed forms of bonds and mortgages are draughted so as to require payment of the tax by the mortgager, or obligor this act changes such printed forms and the system formerly pursued by real estate lawyers and conveyancers, and should be noted by the public.

### Elections in the New States.

On Tuesday elections were held in the four new states, North and South Dakota, Montana and Washington. First reports gave the two Dakotas to the Republicans. Later advices say South Dakota is probably Democratic. In Montana the election was conducted under the Australian law, and to the surprise of every one votes were polled rapidly, nearly all the voting being done by noon. The Australian balloting system has proved, so far as heard from, a complete success. The ticket is a long one and it will be late before enough of returns are in to know the result on governor and congressmen. The Democrats claim the state. From Washington there was no news on account of the storm.

Here is a diagram in figures that illustrates President Harrison's fidelity to his civil service pledges: During the four years of President Cleveland's administration, when the railway mail service was not under civil service rules, there were 725 removals, 763 resignations, 340 dismissals for inefficiency and 166 for drunkenness, a total of 1,999 changes. Under the Harrison administration, from March 20 until May 1, there were 1,524 dismissals and 210 resignations in the postal railway mail service. From May 1 to July 1 there were 23 dismissals and 147 resignations, besides 530 clerks dropped from the service "after a trial," making a grand total of 2,434 in a little more than three months. This record of four months removals from the railway mail service exceeds that of the entire four years of the Cleveland administration by 435.

Scribner's Magazine for October contains an exciting exploration article, in which Joseph Thomson describes his remarkable and famous journey through equatorial Africa; a very practical paper on the best way to improve the common roads of the United States; an end paper by "Ike Marvel," the author of "Reveries of a Bachelor," one of the most attractive electric articles, showing modern applications of electricity to war, on land and sea; the end of Stevenson's great romance, "The Master of Ballantrae," an unconventional travel article on Iceland; the second instalment of Harold Frederic's romance of Colonial New York; with other interesting fiction and poems. Most of these articles are richly illustrated.

The people of Centre county will pay about \$8000 more taxes, under Henderson and Decker, than under Greist and Wolf. The Republican commissioners do this by raising the valuation. They now have the county in debt—when the Democrats left it in hands of Henderson and Decker, the county was out of debt and a large balance in the treasury.

### Linden Hall.

Major George Huss returned from a week's hunt for squirrels on Monday, and had a number of very large black and grey squirrels. The Major is a boss shot. So is Samuel Kern, who shot a hog for Will Meyer, on Wednesday morning. After he shot the hog, he then stuck it and after he had that done, the hog jumped up and commenced eating apples, so P. H. Meyer said: I did not see it but suppose it is true.

Joe McCallan will have a large fine straw stack to work into manure, as P. H. Meyer could not keep all the straw in the barn, owing to the large crop he had.

We notice Mr. Thomas Williams, of Lemont, as counter jumper, at J. H. Row's. J. W. Keller got the g. b. Success to him.

Mr. M. F. Nagle, of Shamokin, and J. Slaymaker, of Sunbury, are spending a few days at Meek & Nagle's lumber camp.

—Had a heavy frost this morning.

—S. D. Gettig, of Tusseyville, teaches school at Abdera, Clinton co.

—Read Lewins' big ad.—it means extra big bargains.

—The dog that was left over from the picnic, was run over by Curry's wagon, he rolled over, and in a few minutes went over, and now its all over with the dog that was run over, for being left over.