

# The Centre Reporter.

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## THE CENTRE REPORTER

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The Philadelphia Republican revolt against Quay is now ripening.

As Governor of the state Pattison cannot conceal his partisanship. His veto of the apportionment bills was based solely on political grounds. Thus the Governor who is always harping about the constitution, cannot permit a Republican legislature to obey that constitution because the reapportionment is not in the interests of the Democratic minority. Pennsylvania, however, is not likely to give the Pattison party a chance to gerrymander.—Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin.

Now does not the good editor of the Gazette and Bulletin know that it is an undoubted intention of the constitution to prevent a partisan apportionment, and that hence it is an unavoidable duty of the Governor to veto a partisan apportionment bill?

Some transactions of the Bohemian association, which operated so extensively among the farmers several years ago, are cropping out among Berks county farmers. John Heffley, a farmer, had a summons served upon Thomas Sira-sor, George K. Larop, S. F. Bushey, and Ezra C. Griesemer, officers of the association, charging them with fraud. Heffley bought fifteen bushels of Bohemian oats at \$10, the association promising to sell for him the following year thirty bushels at \$10 a bushel. The association disposed of none of the oats, but as alleged, sold the note which he had given to a third party, and he had to pay it.

One of the most commendable acts of the Illinois Legislature at its recent session is the passage of a city election law which requires the election clerks in canvassing a precinct to make a list of voters who failed to register. This list is to be used first in drawing jurors, and until it is exhausted the list made from the poll books of those who register and vote is not to be touched. Under this law those who neglect to vote, in order to shirk jury duty, will be in greater danger of being drawn as jurors than those who go to the polls. It is in fact, a law in favor of compulsory voting and might with propriety be enacted in other States. The fear of having to perform jury duty would doubtless spur a good many indifferent citizens into becoming very earnest exercisers of their suffrage rights.

In point of fact the entire surplus and the entire funds belonging to the Treasury have been expended, and the Treasury would be literally bankrupt to day but for the forced loan of some \$50,000,000 by transferring a sacred trust fund for the redemption of bank notes, into the general fund. The government held that fund as trustee and its transfer into the Treasury was simply a forced loan and an increased debt to save the government from dishonor.

In a few months the Treasury will be compelled to confess its inability to meet the obligations of the government by refusing payment of the loan maturing in September. The loan is about equal to the amount of the trust fund for the redemption of bank notes, but, after scattering the surplus and running the Treasury down so low that dimes are pressed upon the banks and people to scrape together a few millions, the government must extend its matured bonds and proclaim its inability to pay its obligations.

It is an interesting question whether the Commonwealth will be able to hold the city of Philadelphia responsible for John Barsley's theft of the State taxes that came into his hands, amounting to about \$1,200,000. The attorney general, Mr. Hensel, is doing his duty in making the effort, and the question of liability will be determined by the supreme court. The Philadelphia Herald states the case on behalf of the city.

In the collection of certain taxes which the people of this city owed to the State, John Barsley was appointed State agent and gave bond to the Commonwealth for the faithful performance of his function. It was the duty of the auditor general and the State treasurer to see that the settlements were made at proper intervals and the payments met promptly and properly. The people of this city have nothing to do with the money they pay so vast a sum again, because one dishonest and two neglectful State officials failed in their duty, would be manifestly unjust.

The Herald holds that the proper remedy is against the auditor general and State treasurer and their bondsmen for neglect of duty, and also against the bondsmen of Barsley in the amount they went security to the State.

## Winnowing Legislative Chaff

In vetoing the Judicial apportionment and the Flinn traction bills, the Governor has practically completed the work of sifting the mass of legislation rushed through in the closing hours of the session. The number of bills disapproved is unprecedented, but it can be truthfully said that every vetoed measure fully deserved its fate.

The Judicial apportionment bill was undoubtedly the fairest and much the least partisan of the three apportionment measures passed by the Legislature. The Governor does not criticize it for its partisan character, but because it created too many Judges at an unnecessary expense to the tax payers and with a depreciation of the respect in which the courts should be held. While the bill contained many gross irregularities, its chief offense, and a very grievous one, was that it created nearly a hundred Judges to transact the business that two-thirds of that number would not find burdensome. The traction bill seems to have been disapproved because of its retroactive character, which was a fatal objection.

There is a disposition in some quarters to find fault with Governor Pattison for vetoing so many bills. The fault should be found with the Legislature for rushing through such a mass of doubtful legislation in its closing hours. Nearly every one of the vetoed bills could have been considered and prepared for passage early enough in the session to have allowed for the elimination of unconstitutional and objectionable features. Instead the bulk of the completed legislation was passed in the last week of the session, thus leaving all actual deliberation upon it to the Governor and necessitating the application of the veto power late to admit of the passage of other legislation on the same subjects that would meet with executive approval. If the Commonwealth has suffered in consequence the blame lies with the Legislature and not with the Governor.

## A New Lien Law.

The new lien law just signed by Governor Pattison provides as follows:

"That no contract which shall hereafter be made for the erection of the whole, or of any part of a new building with the owner of the lot on which the same shall be erected, shall operate to interfere with or to defeat the right of a sub-contractor who shall do work or shall furnish materials under agreement with the original contractor in aid of such erection, to file a mechanic's lien for the amount which shall be due for the value of such work or material furnished, unless such sub-contractor shall have consented in writing to be bound by the provisions of such contract with the owner in regard to the filing of such liens. Without such written consent of the sub-contractor and the owner which shall expressly or all contracts between the original contractor impliedly stipulate that no such lien shall be filed be invalid as against the right of such sub-contractor to file the same.

"All persons contracting with the owner of ground for the erection and construction of the whole, or of any part of a new building thereon shall be deemed the agent of such owner in ordering work and materials in and about such erection or construction, and any sub-contractor doing such work or furnishing such materials shall be entitled to file a mechanic's lien for the value thereof, notwithstanding any stipulations to the contrary in the contract, unless such stipulations shall have been consented to in writing by such sub-contractor.

## A Man With Honor.

Amidst the congestion and disruption of the Republican party in this State, there is being brought forward a man who has a right to popular favor, the reputation for integrity and probity, but who today is better known in local popularity than in national fame. That man is Congressman John Dalsell, of Pittsburg. He represents that element of the Republican party which comprehends men whose name and honor are not marketable commodities, but who are sadly in the minority in this disgraceful day in that party, which a quarter of a century ago was championed by men whom progeny delights to honor, but which to-day is only a name for profligacy and corruption.

Mr. Dalsell is no office seeker, but there is a force at work, in a measure unknown to him, which we hope for the sake of an outraged humanity, may prove potent enough to rise, like the Phoenix, from the consuming fires of robbery, corruption and dishonor that encompass it, and place him, or another who is his equal, in leadership, and through him herald in tones that shall be not delusive, the institution of reform and the obliteration of existing things that are not only disgraceful but criminal.

## Woodland Coal.

Two car loads Woodland coal just received at Kurtz & Son's mill.

## The Work of Our School Directors.

In lengthening the term of public school our directors have brought upon themselves unstinted praise and clearly evidenced their progressive spirit.

But there remains a still greater and more beneficial work to be done, and that is, to formulate the studies here producible into a prescribed curriculum; or in other words, make our grammar school a high school. No real progress can be made without system, nor can the best results be attained where there are no definite ends towards which the pupil may direct his endeavors. It is lamentable, but true, that there is a vast amount of time lost by the pupils in our schools. We mean no disparagement to the teachers, but the fact is indisputable that pupils linger over work that could be well done in one quarter the time they devote to it were the external influences and directions what they should be. They work the same problems in arithmetic year after year; learn the same rules of orthography, grammar and reading; commit the same passages, time and time again.

For this evil there is an infallible remedy.

Let the work of the year be clearly mapped out, divided into distinct terms with the studies of each clearly defined. Then at the end of each term by regular examinations let the pupil's eligibility for advancement be determined. Let there be the distinction of classes, junior and senior, and as each year rolls by a class graduated in regular college or high school style.

The pupil, as a rule, is too young to see for himself the progression he should be making. He studies that which is laid before him, and not until he is old enough to revert to his days spent in the public schools is he able to see the error of his ways, but then it is too late, and only as a pilgrim can he return to view opportunities that should have been his, but which his own inexperienced mind and immature judgment were unable to define and appreciate.

As far as they have gone our directors have done nobly. They are men not hampered by old time conservatism, and the day they shall supplant our grammar school by a high school will ever be memorable in the history of our educational institutions, while the rewards that will redound to themselves will be an undying gratitude and to rising generations an imperishable heritage.

## Ingersoll on the Farmers.

Concerning the condition of the farmers and what they may expect from the Farmers' Alliance, Colonel Robert Ingersoll recently said:

"I do not blame the farmers for trying to better their condition. They have certainly had a hard time, and they feel that they have been suppressed by the bankers, railroads, merchants and patent medicine makers, to say nothing of ministers and lawyers. Everything seems to be against them. They have to fight frosts and floods and drouths, and all sorts of worms and bugs, and speculators and cyclones, and all the birds of the air. Everybody and everything takes toll from the farmers. No wonder they want to do something. I do not think the planks in the Cincinnati platform can be fastened together and held in place. The farmers ought to know that resolutions passed by political conventions raise neither corn nor wheat, neither can they affect prices. I do not believe that a government can make money by law any more than it can make good crops by law. The government can't support the people. The people have got to support the government. The government is a perpetual paper. I ask this one question—if the government can make money why should it collect taxes? Why not make what it needs and stop bothering the people? Still I am glad that the farmers are discussing this question. They will find out what the government can, and cannot do."

## After Quay.

Philadelphia Republicans are after Quay. An address to the citizens of Pennsylvania was issued, signed by 150 of Philadelphia's most influential business and professional men, all of whom write themselves Republicans. They point out the causes of past Republican defeat and present scandals in the State and the necessary steps toward improvement.

The movement is directed against Senator Quay and his followers in general politics. The citizens threaten to defeat any ticket headed by any adherent of his. The address is signed by many men of means and independence, but few who have hitherto taken any part in politics.

Senator Pettigrew says that he had positive assurance that Mr. Blaine would accept the presidential nomination in '92 if offered to him. The senator predicts that if Mr. Blaine is alive in '92 he will be the Republican candidate.

## A Monster Swing

A Meadville, Pa., resident is the only man who has yet come forward with an original suggestion worthy of note for the World's Fair in Chicago. His device if practicable, will be both pleasure-giving and money-making. He wants a mammoth swing 500 feet high erected to be operated by electricity. It will carry fifty persons. According to the designer's calculations, the car will swing a distance of 1,250 feet. At the extremity of each sweep it will lift the passengers a height of 400 feet, affording them a flash view of the exposition, the city, surrounding county and lake. Midway in its flight the car will travel swifter than a bird and faster than a mile a minute. It is to be so stupendous and startling that it will be dubbed the eighth wonder of the world.

## A Three Mill Tax.

A three mill tax will have to be laid this year by the commissioners to enable them to meet all bills and have some money in the treasury at the end of the year. They are at work the past few weeks on the county assessment. Henderson's little two mill tax scheme was very short lived and only found an empty treasury and several thousand of debts shortly after worked. Two mills are utterly inadequate for the commissioners to meet all bills and keep the county free of debt and an example was furnished by the last competent(?) board of efficient commissioners. So to get the county free of debt once, move a three mill tax will be laid.

## Wants to Reduce the Surplus.

The Lyncoming county commissioners want to hire forty tobacco choppers, who will be supplied with free tobacco, and whose duty it will be to climb up into the trees on the Court House lawn and spit all over the leaves for the purpose of destroying the insects that are playing havoc with them. We guess we'll send down some of our Look Haven choppers who crowd the street corners and stand about the church doors evenings. We have noticed some of them who we think would be able to squirt the tobacco juice clear into the very topmost branches, adds the Clinton Postmaster.

## Will Lengthen the Siding.

The railroad company will begin work soon on the siding at the station, on the north side of the track. Part of same has been occupied by a coal yard and freighted. This will be filled up and the siding extended to the one on the picnic ground to facilitate in the handling of trains. The small siding on the picnic ground used for unloading machinery will then be removed. It will require some work to do this as there is a large fill at the place.

## The Nicelys Did Confess.

Sheriff Good, of Somerset county, is reported to have said that every word in the Nicely confession was true. He said he was a witness to the confession, and that the condemned men had not made an explicit confession because they would have been obliged to implicate one near them, and this they refused to do. He said, also, the truth of their confession had been contested for a purpose by their friends, and that other parties implicated in the tragedy would now never be known.

## The Last Leg Sawed.

The big steam saw mill of Hopkins & Weymouth, at Snow Shoe, was shut down for all the time, Saturday afternoon the last log having been sawed at 4 o'clock. The mill was erected there to saw the lumber on tract of 5,000 acres, from which the lumber has been cleared entirely.

## Laws Etc.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Reformed church, of this place, will hold a Lawn Social at the residence of Dr. Alexander, Saturday evening, July 18th. Ice cream, cake, fruit and other delicacies will be served. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

Gold Plating Coin Must be stopped. The secret service officers have notified jewelers that they will be prosecuted for counterfeiting in case they are caught gold-plating silver or nickel coins for use as bangles. It has been discovered that some of these coins have been passed for gold coin.

## Still Smashing.

The stone crusher has been removed from near the station to Mr. John Arney's field, back of Hoffer street, where it is engaged at present in chawing up stones for the pike company, it's owner.

## A Train Back.

A special train has been secured by the committee of Bellefonte's Fourth of July celebration, to run from Bellefonte to Coburn, leaving Bellefonte at 10 p. m.

## INTERESTING FACTS.

Valuable Information Regarding Early Times in Pennsylvania.

Hon. John B. Linn, the able historian, of Bellefonte, delivered an address before the alumni association of Franklin and Marshall college, at Lancaster, which treats on the early history of our state, particularly as it relates to railroads, canals, turnpikes, etc. The following is the address:

"Whatever may have been written in depreciation of the enterprise of our Commonwealth, 'The Sleeping Giant' as Dr. Nevin was wont to call our State, it is certain that Pennsylvania took the initiative of all sister States in public improvements. The documents are extant to prove that the United States is indebted to Pennsylvania for the first introduction of turnpikes and canals to the public attention. In 1791 actual commencement was made in Pennsylvania of projects which have resulted in the connection by turnpikes, canals and railroads of every important part of our vast country, and great liberality has always marked the career of Pennsylvania in public improvement.

A career, to speak accurately, not commenced but resumed under the Constitution of 1790, with the act of April 13, 1791, making large appropriations for the improvement of rivers and roads. Then came the resolution of September 27, 1791, which inaugurated the turnpike from Philadelphia to Lancaster, followed by the act of September 29, 1791, authorizing the incorporation of a company to open a canal from the Schuylkill to the Susquehanna. The turnpike was commenced in 1792 and finished in 1794, sixty-two miles in length, at a cost of \$465,000; and under the act of April 10, 1792, authorizing the opening of a canal between the Schuylkill and the Delaware, the work was set on the river bank at Norristown to excavate the first public canal in the United States.

In 1807 there were three completed turnpikes from Philadelphia to Harrisburg, one of them by way of Downingtown. It is no stir upon the enterprise of the director who went to Philadelphia to have the mile stones re-erected that "To H." was engraved upon them. "He always spelled Downingtown 'Townington,'" and evaded the question following his own language to complying with the whim of the Scotch-Irish, thus unconsciously attesting on tables of stone, which have endured for nearly a century, that at the lowest estimate, one Pennsylvania German was at that early day in the forefront of public improvement. What would that director exclaim now were he to awake from his long sleep and hear the clanking wheels and see the smoking hordes of hundreds of trains, trains that now speed their way over the Alleghenies and stretch across the Ohio to the sunset side of the father of floods, thence over the Rockies to the Pacific? Prior to 1796 transportation of iron and merchandise was made on pack horses and in 1794 the cost of transportation from Philadelphia to Erie was \$249 per ton. The crank for the first saw mill built in Ohio was carried by pack-horses over the mountains in 1789. The first wagon load of merchandise taken over the Allegheny Mountains was hauled from Hagerstown, Md., to Brownsville, Pa., in 1780, by John Hayden, the discoverer of iron ore in Fayette county, distance 140 miles, cost three dollars per hundred and the time consumed in the trip one month.

When General Benner established his iron works in Nittany Valley, now Centre county, in 1798, he transported his iron on horseback to Pittsburg at a cost of \$75 per ton. The pack horses carried the bars of iron crooked over and around their bodies and barrels and kegs were hung on each side of the animal.

As late as 1817 it cost \$160 to move a ton of freight from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, distance 385 miles. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company now carries a ton between the same points for from \$2.30 100 to \$3.05 100. In 1817 it cost \$7 to transport one hundred pounds of dry goods from Philadelphia to Pittsburg; now the lowest price is thirteen cents, the highest thirty nine cents.

On the 16th of April, 1834, the main line between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, consisting of canal, Portage Railroad and Columbia Railroad (the latter being the last link) was finished. After that freight occupied eight days in transit and cost one dollar per hundred. The passenger time between these cities was three days and nineteen hours, and the ticket alone cost \$15. As late as 1857 an English traveler remarks it took him 46 hours to travel from Pittsburg to Erie. Now freight is transferred from Philadelphia to Pittsburg in twenty-four hours, passengers in nine hours and ten minutes; fare nine dollars.

The first act passed by any Legislature in America for the construction of a railroad for public use was passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania and signed by Governor Heister on the 21st of March, 1826. This act authorized the building of a railroad from Philadelphia to Columbia. Ten years afterwards the first successful locomotive made in Philadelphia, and the best one that had been made in the United States, was placed on the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad by M. W. Baldwin, of Philadelphia. It ran a mile in less than a minute.

The first locomotive with a train of cars attached that came into Harrisburg was run from Middletown, in September, 1836. It took thirteen years to stretch the railroad to Lewisport, sixty miles west of Harrisburg. Four years after it reached the Portage road, one mile east of Hollis daysburg, and on the 15th of February, 1840, communication was established by the Pennsylvania Railroad, with Pittsburg, a distance of 337 miles. To crown the achievements of Pennsylvania enterprise, in June, 1876, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company ran a train from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from New York to San Francisco, 3,217 miles, in less than three days and a half, running from New York to Pittsburg without a single stop.

## Have Gone West.

The Delamater family have dropped out of Meadville. George Wallace Delamater, late Republican candidate for Governor, is now at Puget Sound, Washington. T. A. Delamater, late supervisor of the Meadville and Louisvillle Railroad, is at the home of his sister-in-law at Chicago. Victor M. Delamater who was cashier of the bank, is packing up his household goods, and will leave Wednesday for Sharon, where his father-in-law, Joseph Forker, a wealthy citizen, resides. George Delamater, father of the young man is at Put-in-Bay Island Lake Erie. His wife is not known where she will reside in the future. The families of G. W. and T. A. Delamater are still here, but are expected to go West.

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## Business Failures.

The business failures for the first six months of the present year are reported by R. G. Dun & Co. to number 5,074 as against 5,385 during the same period in 1890. The increase is unusually large. The extent of the liabilities is also excessive. The amount owing by the parties who have failed in 1891 footing up to \$92,000,000, while for the same period in 1890 it was only \$65,000,000.

Notwithstanding the extreme extent of these casualties and other adverse circumstances, the reports from all portions of the country, furnished for the semi-annual business outlook, indicated a fairly healthy condition of trade and excellent prospects in view of the large increase of wealth from growing crops and native industrial enterprises.

## The Pipe Laid.

The new water main being laid by the water company from the REPORTER office to the woods, was connected on Friday morning and the citizens again supplied with water, though some of the private connections were not made until a day or so later. For a year or more much complaint was heard on account of no water at that end of town, but now it has ceased and all are happy once more, though a few will always kick, just for the sake of doing so, it being chronic with them.

## Fourth of July Excursions on the P. R. R.

In pursuance of the usual custom the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets for the Fourth of July holiday between all stations on its system east of Pittsburg and Erie, at a rate of two cents per mile.

The tickets will be sold on July 3d and 4th, and will be valid for return July 7th 1891, inclusive.

## Death of John Tate.

Mr. John Tate, of Pleasant Gap, died at his home near that place on Thursday night, about 12 o'clock, his death being caused by paralysis. Mr. Tate was aged 74 years. The funeral took place Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

## A Big Time.

A big time will be had at George Meiss' store, across the valley, on the evening of the 4th of July. Fireworks, and other attractions. All are invited to come.

## The Prohibitionists.

The Pennsylvania Prohibitionists will meet at Harrisburg, August 20, to nominate a State ticket.

## Lengthened the Term.

The board of school directors have lengthened the term of public schools from six months to eight.

## Additional Locals.

—Where are you going to celebrate?  
—It looks as though we would have a wet Fourth.

—John Krumbine has had the exterior of his house repainted.

—Mrs. J. D. Murray sojourned in Bellefonte several days this week.

—Mr. Thomas Yearick and wife, of Aaronsburg, are visitors in town among relatives.

—Wednesday morning began a rain which has continued to this morning, with no signs of a clear up.

—Wagner Geiss has been employed by a nursery company to sell their goods through this section.

—Many farmers through this section have begun cutting their hay and will have a better crop than expected.

—Miss Flora Love, a REPORTER typo, will spend the 4th at Mechanicburg, as guest of Rev. Wm. Foster.

—Peter Hoffer, the farm implement agent, last week received a car load of binders for which he had taken orders.

—New clothing, new hats, new furnishing goods, everything new for the coming season is now opened and ready for your inspection at the Philad. Branch, Bellefonte.

—The masons are engaged at work on the new reservoir in the mountains. It will be several weeks before the job is completed and is no small one either.

—Do you want to secure genuine bargains in clothing and gen's furnishing goods? Lewins, at the Philad. Branch, Bellefonte, can save you considerable money.

—Friday morning at Piney Creek some few miles from Altoona, Robert Calbert was drilling out a blast when it exploded. The sixteen-foot drill was driven 12 feet through his breast. The remaining four feet were pulled through the wound with difficulty and yet he lived 20 minutes.

—No shelf worn stock is thrust upon customers at A. C. Mingle's shoe store, Bellefonte. His large trade enables him to constantly keep new goods, and always of the latest styles and at very moderate prices, as all customers admit.