

The Centre Reporter.



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THE CENTRE REPORTER

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Blaine seems to have a far larger boom for president than Harrison.

B'gosh, the Republicans find that the November elections didn't chalk any for their side.

The Republicans were defeated in New York by 50,000 and are now trying to steal the legislature. They will find it up Hill business.

In some quarters Gen. Gregg, auditor general elect, is mentioned for governor. This is more Centre county gubernatorial timber, as Gen. Gregg belongs to the Gregg family of our county. We have lots of men in our county fit for governor.

Five hundred men employed in a Pittsburg iron industry were compelled to submit to a cut in their wages the day following the Ohio election. This is not in accordance with the promises of the McKinley bill, but McKinley's victories come high, and the expense must be met in some way.

The Lancaster grand jury found true bills against Prothonotary Lewis S. Hartman, Recorder E. L. Reinhold and Register George Guyer and their principal deputies charging them with taking illegal fees and conspiracy to extort illegal fees. That's right, go for the rascals—the fees already allowed by law are burdensome enough without adding robbery to them.

At last the Czar has issued the ukase forbidding the exportation of wheat on account of threatened famine in parts of the empire. This may better the prices of grain in our country and give our farmers a paying price for their wheat. While this may be the effect, we know that no honest Christian farmer will feel otherwise than sorry that famine is threatening in some parts of the globe, a horror that all pray may never be the lot of any people.

Doubt no longer exists as to the political complexion of the incoming New York legislature. That it will be Democratic in both branches is definitely settled by the declaration of the Dutchess county board of canvassers that Osborne (Democrat) had received 184 plurality in that county over Deane, (Republican). This gives Osborne a plurality of 14 in the Fifteenth districts.

The assembly is expected to contain sixty seven Democrats to sixty-one Republicans. The senate will stand: Democrats, 16; Republicans, 15; Independent, 1. The casting vote of the lieutenant governor will give the organization of the senate to the Democrats, if the independent should vote with the Republicans, which is not certain.

For the year ending November 1, there were 26 failures of national banks, and 7 other banks were closed temporarily, but allowed to resume. This is an unusually bad record, for the average heretofore has not been more than six or seven in a year. Five more national banks have been closed since November 1, and are not included in this report. There was no special dullness in business to bring on these failures in the natural course of events. They mainly originate in the bank-wrecking of speculative bank officials. The failures of the years, by reason of their character more than their number, direct attention to the office of the comptroller of the currency. Insolvent banks should not be allowed to go on doing business and increasing in number until the reverse of a single year multiply the average failures by five. That argues neglect of duty on the part of the bank examiners.

Baker Ballot Illegal.
There will be a strong, determined effort made, it is said, at the next meeting of the Legislature to revoke the Baker ballot law, which, after next March, will govern the elections of this State. Prohibitionist and many others will test its constitutionality. The fifth article of the constitution says that the right of suffrage shall be free to everyone and that no civil or military power shall in any way interfere with the right of any suffrage. Prohibitionists and others claim that the Baker ballot law conflicts with the constitution inasmuch as no party can have a candidate on the ballots that does not represent three per cent. of the entire votes in the state. This virtually disfranchises any movement or independent party. It is said the Prohibitionists at the next presidential election, if the matter is not adjusted before that time, will try to vote for their candidate. Before that, if not allowed, they will endeavor to have the vote of the state thrown out.

Blaine, not Harrison

A special of the Pittsburg Post, writing from Washington, 22 inst, says: There has been no big gathering of Republican working politicians and wire-pullers in the last 15 years in which the Blaine sentiment was not strong. This is true in a very marked degree of the present gathering of Republicans in this city to attend the meeting of the Republican national committee. The Blaine shouters are present almost to the exclusion of everyone else. The atmosphere which they create is so marked that it can hardly fail to make the occupant of the White House a block away from the Arlington hotel, feel uncomfortable. There may be here and there a Harrison man in the crowd of delegates and committeemen that throng the headquarters, but if so he is silent and subdued. An overwhelming majority of the delegates are outspoken for Blaine, and there is no doubt that a majority of the members of the national committee feel the same way. "The only question," they say, "is, will Blaine take the nomination for president next year? If he will he can have it at a nod of his head. No one else will be in it."
The general feeling seems to be that Blaine is again full of the ambition to make the race once more. This is the conclusion those who have seen and talked with him in the last few days have reached. Of course Mr. Blaine has made no public declaration one way or the other, but he has left the impression on his callers that he was watching closely and eagerly the drift of things political in all parts of the country, which would hardly be the case if he had abandoned the idea of again being a presidential candidate.

Could be Avoided.

Court is in session this week, with its usual grist of petty cases, in which the lawyers are gladdened by a rich harvest in fees and the clients saddened by a clearing out of their private exchequers, no matter how the cases terminate.
There are constantly little cases in court not worth the amounts involved. Some of these originate from spite, some from headstrongness and misunderstandings and want of disposition of fair-dealing on the part of persons concerned in business transactions, and so on. Where reason, and cool tempers prevail among parties who have business differences, bitter and expensive lawsuits are rare. One fruitful cause of lawsuits is the abominable tick system, under which men do business for years without even so much as comparing accounts. Memory fails in regard to disputed parts of transactions of previous years, mutual accusations and bad tempers arise, and then the lawyer gets the cow to milk and keeps the cow for the trouble of milking besides. If men did a cash business in every day dealings, or balanced accounts every 30 or 60 days, all these vexations would be avoided money would be saved and friendships preserved.
There is a mass of litigation which should never be allowed to go beyond the office of the magistrate.

Selecting Polling Books.

Secretaries Harry and Stewart and Auditor General McCannan, the commission appointed to select a style of polling booth for elections under the Baker ballot bill, will hold an open meeting in the Supreme court room on Wednesday 25, for the purpose of examining and inspecting such styles, samples and patterns of shelves and compartments or guard rails as may be submitted. At the same time the board will examine and inspect such patterns of improved ballot boxes as may be offered. The commissioners of Pennsylvania are invited to be present, as well as those who have patterns of shelves or compartments, guard rails and ballot boxes to submit for inspection.

Election districts containing 250 voters will require five voting shelves or compartments; and rooms suitable for holding elections therein will require, if square, to be about 15 x 15 feet; if not square, to contain not less than 250 square feet of floor space. Election districts containing more than 250 voters will require still larger rooms; and it is believed it will be necessary to construct temporary rooms provided with light and heat. Furthermore, if many election districts are not reduced from their present size, it is feared that some voters will not have an opportunity of voting, especially those who go to the polls at noon and evening hours.—Harrisburg Patriot.

Made a Raid on Distilleries.

United States Marshals Thursday night destroyed two "moonshine" distilleries in Fulton county, near the Maryland line. The moonshiners fought desperately to retain their property and endeavored to shoot the marshals. A large quantity of liquor was discovered which was destroyed, along with the stills, furnaces, kettles, the building, &c., as provided by law.

The Bearing on 1892.

New York World.
Last Tuesday's elections leave a very large margin for conjecture about the distribution of the electoral vote of '92. Neither party can confidently claim the possession of anything near the 223 votes necessary to elect a President.
Under the new apportionment the twenty States that cast their electoral votes for Harrison have 249 votes. But this easy majority in the electoral is wiped out when the following States are ranked as doubtful.

Indiana.....	15 votes
Iowa.....	12 "
Massachusetts.....	15 "
Michigan.....	14 "
New York.....	34 "
Total.....	98 votes.

These reduce the available strength of the States that went Republican in 1888 to 169 votes. Add to these the seventeen votes of the new States of Idaho North and South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming and the total is still fifty votes short of a majority. Under the new established district system in Michigan its electoral vote will be divided, but only six votes are claimed by the Republicans. Add to these the votes of Indiana, Iowa and Massachusetts and the election would be a tie. Let the Democrats carry New York, Indiana and eight districts in Michigan and their victory would be complete.
Let the fact be admitted that Illinois New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Wisconsin are no longer securely Republican States and the problem becomes still more complicated for the party that won in 1888.

Ex-Senator Wallace.

Ex Senator Wallace in a published interview states his desire to enter the Pennsylvania legislature next year as a member of the assembly. There is no doubt the electors of Clearfield county will take great pleasure in nominating and electing Mr. Wallace. His experience in State legislation and great ability as a lawyer and equipment as a statesman, would make him a valuable member at any time; but the indocement that moves Mr. Wallace to re-enter public life at this time, to quote his own words, is as follows:

I would like to be there to secure for the voters of the State a satisfactory ballot system and to provide some system that would act as a screen between the illiterate and the ballot. Pennsylvania is absolutely suffering from the flood of illiteracy that is coming in upon it from other counties I would not hesitate a moment to take the stump in advocacy of compulsory education, not the compulsory education that is sometimes agitated but for a qualification that would compel foreigners to read and write before they are allowed to vote. I would favor the enactment of a law that would enable the authorities to say to this foreigner when he is 16 or 18 years old, "You must learn to read and write, else you cannot exercise the right of the ballot." That I think, would be a spur in the head of the young foreigner, and that, I think, would act as a screen between the ballot and the illiteracy from which Pennsylvania, New York and other large States are now suffering.

There is not an abler, truer citizen in this commonwealth, than Wm. A. Wallace, devotion to the interests of the masses stamps his entire record. We hope he will go to the next legislature.

A Law Point.

The question will shortly be decided in New York City as to whether a merchant can be compelled to do that which he advertises his willingness to do. A lawyer is the complainant in the matter, so that it will not cost him anything to find it out. According to a New York paper, this lawyer is a big man, and when he saw a handsome piece of cloth outside a certain tailoring establishment marked "Suits to order, \$18," he went inside to give his order. He was told that a frock suit would cost \$20, but he did not weaken and gave his order. The tailor told him to return in a day or two to try the suit on, but it was not ready, and he was told to come again. This happened two or three times, and he got weary. When he asked the tailor in an emphatic manner whether he intended doing what he said he would, the tailor told him that his mill in Philadelphia had stopped making that kind of goods, and that he had not enough of the material in stock to make a suit for the lawyer.

Got His; Not Even a Tail.

The Centre Hall hunting party returned home last Friday with a weary and disconsolate air, having been out in the Seven mountains for four or five days and did not even get a shot at a deer. The boys had hard luck and hope the next trip will be far more successful.

Singing Class.

Samuel Rowe, of this place, will open a singing school in the School building, commencing on Friday evening, Dec. 4th. He has secured a class of about fifty.

CHURCH BLOWN DOWN.

Five Children Seriously Injured by the Storm.

During the wind and rain storm of Monday noon a church that was being built at Hecla, this county, says the Daily News, was blown to the ground and thirteen school children, who had sought shelter from the storm within its uncompleted walls, were more or less injured, five of them seriously and one probably fatally. The accident occurred at about 12.45 o'clock. The church, which was to have been a union one, was only recently raised and the building so far consisted only of the frame work, a weather boarding of inch boards and a very heavy roof.
When the storm came up thirteen school children on their way to school were caught and sought shelter in the church. They had not been in it long until they heard the timbers crack and realized that the church was being blown down. Of course, in their fright and excitement the children did not know what to do and before they could get out the building fell with a crash and all the children were knocked down and some pinned fast beneath the heavy timbers. Fortunately there was no floor laid and most of the children fell between the joist receiving only slight injuries, but five of the number were pinned fast and badly injured.
Master Elias Dunkle, son of T. J. Dunkle, was probably the most seriously injured. He was pinned fast beneath the weight of one of the heaviest girders and it took five men to release him. When taken out it was found that his right limb was broken in two places, he had several severe cuts on the head, his arms were cut and his body was badly bruised as was also three other children. Dr. Fisher, of Zion, was at once summoned and rendered the necessary medical assistance and at this writing the children are all alive but the condition of Master Dunkle is very serious.

Court Melange.

Court convened on Monday morning at ten o'clock, with President Judge Furst and Associates Riley and Rhoads on the bench. The appointment of tipsters, etc., was made and the usual number of writs and applications were presented to the court and acted upon. The grand jury was called and sworn and instructed as to their duties. The constables then made their returns, and the usual amount of miscellaneous business was transacted.
The week promised to be one of activity, and about forty-five commonwealth cases were on the docket. Col. James T. Stewart, of Boalsburg, was appointed foreman of the grand jury.
The judge in his charge to the grand jury impressed upon them the importance of secrecy and instructing them to ignore such petty cases as should not be brought before court. He told them to be as expeditious as possible in returning or disposing of bills. The Court alluded to the cess pool drainage, and believes it is now satisfactorily adjusted. With suitable internal changes and additions the present accommodations for the people of the county will be sufficient; the Court is at present opposed to the erection of a new court house.

The first case on trial Monday afternoon was that of Commonwealth vs. James A. Mayes, of Clarence, charged with carrying concealed weapons and using same with intent to kill. The charge was made by Alfred Lucas, constable, who in attempting to make an arrest was shot in the thigh with a revolver in the hands of James Mayes and a revolver was snatched at his breast by John Allen Mayes. The testimony on the case closed at five o'clock and went to the jury, who returned a verdict of guilty in manner and form as indicted. They were remanded for sentence.
In the case of Commonwealth vs. Jacob From, charged with assault and battery, S. W. Smith being the prosecutor, the grand jury ignored the bill and each party to pay half the costs.

Scalded to Death.

Johnnie Marsden, aged four years, of Cuba Mines, near Philipsburg, fell into a tub of scalding water on Monday evening, resulting in the death of the little fellow soon after. He was a son of Geo. Marsden, who only a few weeks ago received almost fatal injuries in the mines.

The Delamater Property Sold.

The homestead of George Wallace Delamater was sold at sheriff's sale at Meadville the other day for \$8,300. Two hundred depositors were lookers on. The original cost of the property was over \$40,000.

Senator Quay last Friday brought suit for \$100,000 damages against the Pittsburg for publishing the anti-election Bardsley article.

—Have you seen the new stock of overcoats just received at the Philad. Branch?

TEACHER'S INSTITUTE.

Will Convene in the Court House on Monday, Dec. 21st.

Prof. D. O. Etters, county superintendent, is busily engaged at present completing his arrangements for the holding of the forty-fifth annual session of the Teachers' Institute. The institute will convene in session promptly at 10:30 o'clock, Monday morning, December 21st, and continue for only four days, closing on Thursday, 24th.

Prof. Etters has been very successful in securing a competent corps of instructors and the following will be in attendance and address the assemblage on different occasions. Hon. Henry Hauck, of Harrisburg; Dr. G. G. Horne, of Allentown; Geo. W. Atherton, LL. D., President of State College; Gen. D. H. Hastings; Prof. John Hamilton, and Miss Cora Latschaw.

On Monday evening Hon. Henry Hauck will lecture on "Bound to win;" on Tuesday evening Hon. Henry Hauck will deliver his lecture on "The Gospel of Get there," and on Wednesday evening a concert will be given by the Kellogg concert company.

On Thursday, the 24th, will be director's day. The session on that day will begin at 10 a. m. Several addresses will be delivered, viz., Gen. James A. Beaver on "Improvement of School Grounds;" Dr. G. G. Groff, on "Health and the School House;" and Mrs. Cora Latschaw, "Text Books on Hygiene." Mr. George Taylor is president of the Directors' Association and W. B. Rankin, secretary.

SENSATIONAL TESTIMONY.

A. V. Carpenter Swore that he Burned the Loch Lomond Lumber Yard for D. W. Holt. Philipsburg Journal Nov. 18.

The case of the People's Fire Insurance Company against D. W. Holt, of this city, is on trial in the United States Circuit Court in Pittsburg. The case is an important one and involves about \$120,000. There are 16 similar cases against Holt, which will probably be decided by this one and they aggregate the amount stated. The present suit is to recover \$3,500 paid to Holt on a fire insurance policy.

Mr. Holt, as is generally known, was one of Philipsburg's leading lumber merchants, his mill and yard he located at Loch Lomond. Several years ago the yards were cleaned out by fire and on this destroyed lumber Holt recovered \$125,000 insurance. He had been insured for \$125,000, apportioned among a number of companies. It is now claimed that Holt set fire to, or caused to be set on fire, the lumber to get the insurance. Also that by fraud he made his books show that he had on hand about twice as much lumber as he actually had at the time of the fire. What was there, is claimed, was second-class material and unsalable, and he took that method of getting rid of it.

The first witness called in the case was A. V. Carpenter, a former employe of Holt. He testified that Holt had instructed him that when he was making his daily returns to the bookkeeper of feet of lumber sawed that day, to add about 3,000 or 4,000 feet to the actual count, and keep increasing the amount each day until the extra amount given made the total about twice what was on hand.

From the Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph we learn that Mr. Carpenter, in addition said "I prepared three tin boxes filled with shavings and saturated them with coal oil. In each box I placed a piece of tallio candle, and placed one box at the lower end and one at the middle and one at the upper end of the yard. I lit the candle and then returned to Philipsburg. I went to the Potter House and was there about fifteen minutes when some one said, 'the Loch Lomond yard is on fire.' I went to the yard and met Holt there, who said, 'you have made a good job of this you will always have money in your pocket.' Judge Orvis, who appears for Holt, tried to break down the witness' testimony, but did not succeed.

HOLT ACQUITTED.

D. W. Holt is acquitted. The jury on Saturday morning brought in a verdict that he was not guilty of the charges that he set fire to his lumber yards to obtain the insurance.
There was a rather large crowd in the U. S. Circuit Court room when the jury brought in the verdict. Mr. Holt was present and did not seem in the slightest nervous. When the verdict was read that the jury "find for the defendant," his face was entirely expressionless. His counsel Judge Orvis, was plainly delighted, however, and showed that he had scarcely been hopeful of such a complete vindication.

Musical Conventions.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Reformed church, Centre Hall, will hold a musical convention in their church commencing on Monday evening, January 11th, and to continue during the week. Further announcements will be made in these columns later.

Detailed Routes of the Pennsylvania Railroad's Golden Gate Tours.

These tours to California under the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's personally-conducted tourist system have excited considerable interest. The routes traversed are very diversified and interesting. On the first the Pullman vestibule train will leave January 13th, going via St. Louis, Kansas City, Las Vegas Hot Spring, and Santa Fe.

Returning, after six weeks in California via Sacramento, Salt Lake, Glenwood Springs Leadville, side trip over Marshall Pass, Colorado Springs, Manitou Denver, Omaha, and Chicago.

Rate from Philadelphia \$300.
The second tour leaves February 24th going via Cincinnati, Mammoth Cave, Montgomery, Mobile, New Orleans (Mardi Gras festivities, Galveston, Houston, San Antonio, and El Paso.

Returning, after four weeks to California, via route of first tour.
Rate from Philadelphia, \$335.

The third tour leaves March 24th going via St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Colorado Springs, Manitou, side trip over Marshall Pass, Glenwood Springs, and Salt Lake City.

Returning, after four weeks in California, via Mt. Shasta, Portland, Tacoma, Seattle, Spokane, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Chicago.

The fourth, April 20th, will run west via Chicago, Denver, Colorado Springs, Manitou, side trip over Marshall Pass, Glenwood Springs, and Salt Lake City. Tourist will return independently within six months.

Rate from Philadelphia, \$225; via Portland, \$25 additional.
The rates fixed the first three tours cover every necessary expense en route in both directions, including hotel accommodation and several carriages and trains for all side trips in California, while rate for fourth tour covers every necessary expense as above west-bound only, all side trips in California, and trains only returning via route selected. This particular tour is designed to accommodate those who desire to visit the Yosemite Valley and Yellowstone Park prior to their return to the East.

Beware of Them.
Two swindlers worked a number of Cardonians nicely. They took orders for crayon portraits, agreeing to furnish them at a low rate of \$3 each. They required in advance the sum of 50 cents on each sale, and so delighted were some with the scheme that they invested in from one to six, which they intended for their friends as holiday presents. The swindlers have gone and no crayons have come back. These same swindlers may visit this section and our readers should be on their guard.

A Double Postal Card.

A double or reply postal card is a new invention on file at the Post Office Department at Washington. It is so arranged that a blank card accompanies the original, and if the receiver does not care to reply he can tear the blank off, and two distinct cards are ready for use.

Duty of Supervisors.

Judge Krebs, of Clearfield county, decides that all supervisors have the right to demand, and county commissioners must provide the money to keep public roads in proper condition if the townships do not supply the necessary funds from road taxes.

To Work Night Hours.

Governor Pattison has declared that the eight-hour law must be enforced in State institutions. The decision was given because of complaints made by employes of the Huntingdon Reformatory that they were obliged to work ten hours.

And That is too Much.

Most men are willing to make most any sacrifice for their wives except to get up and find an extra quilt or blanket when it gets colder in the night.

400 Pianos at Once.

A pyramid of 400 pianos all connected by wires to a key board, which is to be operated by a woman, is to be one of the features of the World's Fair in Chicago.

Instantly Killed.

Weaver Adams, a brakeman on local freight, was killed on Saturday near Philipsburg, while in discharge of his duty. He was standing on a box car applying the brake and did not notice that the train was nearing the bridge that spans Moshannon creek a half mile south of Steiner's station. Several other brakemen saw the danger but could not attract Adams' attention and the train rushed on the bridge. A cross beam struck the unfortunate man on the back of the head, breaking his neck and he fell dead on the car. Weaver Adams was a son of Thomas Adams, Esq., of Millburg.

A Mind Cure.

Believing his legs had been crushed to splinters between cars that squeezed them, John Stroudburg, of Altoona, couldn't move the limbs until surgeons at the operating table told him the bones were unbroken. Then John jumped and ran.