

The Centre Reporter.



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DOG OWNERS ARE ANGRY.

THEY ARE OPPOSED TO PAYING AN UNFAIR TAX.

An Exorbitant Dog Tax to Help Pay County Orders.—A Political Scheme to Make a Good Show.

From the Centre Democrat.

We deem it appropriate to call the public's attention to the imposition being practiced upon the dog owners of this county. For some time the owners of dogs have been compelled to pay about twice as much tax on their dogs as the law clearly indicates they should. This is done for the purpose of enabling the county commissioners to collect about \$1000 more than is necessary, each year, to pay sheep claims; and the extra fund is used to pay county expenses and in this way they can keep the millage down. This is not just nor right, and in some instances it is burdensome on hunters and others. In May 1893 an act was approved for the "Taxing of Dogs and the Protection of Sheep." This act provides that all dogs shall be taxed and the sum be kept apart from other taxes of the county, and is to be used for the purpose of indemnifying any person who suffered a loss of sheep by reason of dogs destroying the same. This act further says, in Section 2:

"Commissioners in each county and councilmen of their respective cities, shall annually levy a tax upon each dog so returned and within the discretion so given to such commissioners and councilmen to such an amount as will in their judgment create a SUFFICIENT fund from which all loss or damage caused to sheep, within the respective counties, by a dog or dogs during each current year, may be paid, together with all necessary expenses incurred in the adjustment of claims as hereinafter provided."

That section very explicitly sets forth that these monies are raised for no other purpose than that of paying the loss of sheep and the county commissioners are to estimate, use their judgment, as to how much of a fund is needed each year for this purpose. They can very easily do this from the experience in former years, and it is right here, in the exercise of their judgment, that they impose an unjust tax on the owners of dogs. Section 9 of this act provides that at the end of the year whatever monies in excess of \$200 of the dog tax remains in the hands of the County Treasurer, shall be turned into the general county fund and this is the place where the abuse exists. According to the last year's statement by this means the commissioners paid claims amounting to \$138 18, and turned \$741.82 into the county fund and left \$246.59 in the hands of the treasurer. The following statement, covering a period of four years, shows how this dog tax is being farmed for other purposes:

DOG TAX	SHEEP CLAIMS PAID
1896.....\$2776.00	\$1786.07
1897.....2915.00	1972.19
1898.....2928.00	1283.87
1899.....2570.00	1153.15

Last year \$741.82 was taken from the dog tax fund and put to the general fund. The previous year it was still larger \$1243.25, or over \$2000 the last two years, or an income from the dogs to pay other bills to the amount of \$1000 per year. This shows that the owners of dogs in this county are paying twice as much dog tax as the act of assembly provides, and the county commissioners actually use one-half of the fund for other purposes. When they make a levy of \$2.00 to pay \$1100 of claims, there evidently is something wrong with their judgment. No doubt if the dog owners would call the attention of the court to this abuse of the sheep law they would be restrained from laying such an excessive tax in the future. The best way to put an end to this trouble is to get a new set of Commissioners to conduct that office in a legitimate way.

The law says if there is any sum in excess of \$200 left over at the end of the year in the sheep fund, it shall be turned over to the county. It does not mean that the commissioners shall see to it that they scoop \$1,000 each year by an excessive tax. Now if the \$2000 excessive dog tax in the last two years, and the \$5,000 arising from the increase of the millage is taken from that \$9,000 Republican increase you will commence to get at the real facts of how well these commissioners have been conducting that office. Any board of commissioners can increase the assets of the county by unjust and excessive taxation.

In reply to this dog tax, we expect to hear these gentlemen say that they are following exactly the same course as the former Democratic Board. But it must be remembered that this law was passed in 1893 and went into force the following year. At first it was unknown how large the sheep claims would be. Then the first two years of the act they had no income from uncollected tax, of former years, as now and taxes come in slowly. The sheep claims, the first year, amounted to al-

most \$2,000, and the law seems to have the effect of inducing people to kill useless and sheepkilling curs, and the claims thus are growing smaller. These things are simply instances to show the capacity of the present board of commissioners, Fisher and Riddle, who upon assuming control of the office three years ago notified Mr. Heckman, the Democratic member, that he was not expected to take any active part in the running of that department, as they were fully competent to do it themselves, and further intended to run it too, without his counsel or advice. For that reason he is not responsible for these various shortcomings, as he practically was not consulted or had a voice in them.

A STRONG ARRANGEMENT.

The millions of the people's money have been held as the estate of the party machine and administered at the behest of the party boss. They have been deposited with political banks and with political bankers for private gain. They have been loaned out to the political boss, to the members of his family, to his lieutenants and to his mercenaries and his tools. They have been handed over for stock jobbing and stock gambling to corrupt politicians. Their use has been sold by the same agencies for interest paid to the treasurers, to other public officials and to conspicuous managers of the machine. They have been made to pay annual tribute regularly to furnish the machine itself with funds to debauch the elections and elect machine candidates. They have been in steady and systematic corrupt manipulation by political state treasurers during decades of machine rule.

This is the history of the state treasurership in Pennsylvania. In no respect is it over-rated or exaggerated. It is known to all men. It has been incontestably proven by judicial investigation, by confessions of the guilty, by letters and private records of the conspirators, by books of account and by suicide.

Yet this same machine asks to be retained in power for another term.—From Cressy's speech.

Didn't Get 'Em All.

At the recent annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission at Scranton it was reported that over 50,000,000 of the finny tribe were hatched and distributed in the streams of the state during the year. This would indicate that the stories of big catches by fishermen have been modest. Even their highest claims have not aggregated the smallest fractional part of the average number of fish that are consigned annually to the Pennsylvania waters. After all piscatorialists have been honest in their reports.

The Increase.

About 36,000,000 babies are born each year, an average of seventy every minute, that is, ten more in each minute than there are beats of the clock. A man with a pronounced weakness for statistics has figured that if all the 36,000,000 little ones were ranged in a line of cradles, the cradles would girdle the earth. If carried one by one in their mother's arms past a given point the procession would continue night and day for twelve months.

Died at Stormstown.

Mrs. Henry Stevens died Monday evening, of dysentery, at her home in Stormstown. She was aged about 75 years. She is survived by her husband and the following children: Abednego, Blair and Lloyd, of Clearfield county; George, of Martha; Vinton, of Julian; Mrs. Charles Blake and James, of Stormstown. The funeral took place Wednesday afternoon.

Died at Milton.

Mrs. Elizabeth Barber, widow of Rev. Daniel Barber, a minister of the Presbyterian church, died this morning at her home at Milton, after a long illness with cancer. She was aged eighty-six years, and was the aunt of George M., Shannon and Wm. A. Boal, of Centre Hall, and frequently visited her relatives in this section.

Always Falls Trade.

A properly constructed advertisement frequently creates a want of which the reader was not previously conscious. How many times does it happen that people in reading advertisements suddenly conclude they want something which they see described, but which they had not previously thought they stood in need of.

Lecture in the M. E. Church.

Rev. G. D. Pennacker, D. D., of Williamsport, Pa., will deliver an address at Centre Hall M. E. church, Tuesday evening, October 24, '99. Subject—"Hang On." Admission 10 cents.

Married.

At the Lutheran parsonage, Centre Hall, Mr. Richard Brooks and Miss Sarah E. Wian were united in marriage by Rev. J. M. Rearick. Mr. Jacob T. McCool and Miss Rosie B. Ungart, both of Spring Mills.

HE IS A MACHINE CANDIDATE.

Lieutenant Colonel Barnett, says the Pittsburg Post, virtually confirms the general impression that the Tenth regiment is now being exploited on funds contributed by the Quay machine, and it is not a violent presumption that these funds came from the profits of treasury speculation, or, what is much the same, from levies on Republican office-holders. The trip to New York is the first chapter, and the second is announced in a detail from the Tenth to accompany Colonel Barnett on a canvass of the State in the interest of his election as Senator Quay's candidate for state treasurer. A good many thousand dollars will go in this way, and we trust it will not be necessary for leading Republican politicians to give an indemnity bond to the state treasurer, as they did on another occasion.

Colonel Barnett says he is in "the hands of my campaign managers, and will do anything they say." Does he mean both before and after election? The late treasurer, Haywood, no doubt gave a pledge of this character, and it accounts for his mandate to the cashier of the Peoples bank that \$100,000 of State funds be handed over to the Quays for speculative purposes, to say nothing of the immense sums loaned to Quay in his processes of shaking the plum tree.

Dewey Notes.

Two million visitors attended New York's ovation to Dewey.

Dewey's right hand became lame from shaking, so much so that he had to miss his left hand for a shake.

Miss Helen Gould, of New York, spent \$3000 for decorating her house in honor of Dewey. Her residence had the finest decorations in the city.

The New York Herald estimates that the money spent for the Dewey reception and by the visitors, last week, including railroad fares, was 30 million dollars.

Dewey for President, is the word with some Democrats. The Admiral replies that he is a sailor and does not desire to get into politics. This is not construed as a refusal to accept the presidency if tendered.

Danger in Stove Polish.

The fate of a young woman who lived at Burlington, N. J., is a warning to persons who have been in the habit of using liquid stove polish. As she applied the brush which she had saturated such liquid to the hot surface of the stove, the inflammable stuff ignited, the contents of the bottle which she held in one hand also blazed up, the burning fluid was spilled over her clothes, and when assistance reached her, she had sustained fatal burns.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week:

George P. Clune, of Franklin, Venango county, and Julia E. Brown, of Philipsburg.

Jacob T. McCool and Rosie S. Ungart, of Spring Mills.

Wm. Clarence Breon and Ada Virginia Wian, of Bellefonte.

Thomas A. Bennage, of Kelley X Roads, Union Co., and Katie Long, of Penn Cave.

David J. Kelley and Jean Steward Shugert, of Bellefonte.

Dogs After Sheep.

Dogs got after a flock of sheep belonging to Lycurgus Lingle, at Earlston on Monday night and played the very deal with the flock. Two head were killed and four others badly injured. Auditors assessed the damages at \$25, but it may run higher as the injured ones will likely die. The canine population in that district is standing with one foot in the grave at present.

Roasted to Death.

The three-months-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Hilborn, of State Run, was roasted to death Sunday. The tot was left asleep in a cradle in charge of a three-year-old sister while its mother went out into the yard to hang up some clothes. The older child began to play with the fire and ignited the cradle. When the mother returned she found the cradle in flames and the babe a mass of charred flesh.

A Seltzer Party.

The members of the M. E. Epworth League held a seltzer party a few nights ago, for the benefit of Mission work. They cut up a big lot of wind-fallen apples which were dried for them at the evaporator plant. The dried fruit will be sold and the money used for church work. They will realize a neat little sum as the result of the night's work.

To Contestants.

The prize pumpkin contest inaugurated by Montgomery & Co., clothiers, closes on October 14th, and the firm desire that all contesting for the prizes have their pumpkin marked with the name and address of the owner that no error can be made.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

That Famous Bird Book is a Beauty.—A Debtor who Makes an Honorable Use of the Bankruptcy Law.

We had a copy of the much noted Birdbook in our hands for a half-hour the other day. It is an outlandish looking affair, paper cover, about eight inches in thickness, pages uncut and untrimmed, the top, bottom and side margins are each about two inches wide, within these margins is printed matter about 2½ inches—far more white margin than printed space. In the absence of an intended steal, one-third size of the book would have had room for all. But great, blank margins furnished opportunities for great fat steals. The only thing magnificent about it is the price, \$65,000! when the matter really authorized to be printed in the book, would have cost about \$800.

Inside of this elephant are pictures of chicken gizzards, chicken toes, the parts used for gilet soups, chicken lice, chicken diseases, owls, bats, &c. A bigger book than the Holy Bible and the most unholly fraud of this century, perpetrated by the Quay machine in spite of Governor Hastings's veto.

Debtor's High Sense of Duty.

John McNevin, of Altoona, who was discharged from bankruptcy September 4, presented an unusual application in the United States Court on 27 ult. He asked the Court to retain the Sheriff from selling his property, in order that his trustees may sell it, and realize more. Judge Buffington remanded McNevin that he had already been discharged from all indebtedness. "Yes, legally," replied the applicant, "but not morally. My religious feelings will not permit me to accept my discharge in bankruptcy as releasing me from my moral obligations to fully pay all my debts, as I intend to do. If this property is sold for \$2000 less than it would bring at a trustee's sale I will have just that much more to pay." Judge Buffington said he honored McNevin for his sentiment, but thought it out of the ordinary for a man to feel bound to sacrifice his property to pay debts from which he had already been released.

Here is another rare example of honesty.

Stopped a Runaway.

The other day as James Spangler was out with his horse and springwagon attending to his cattle business, he stopped at the foot of the hill below Henry Stoner's, to go into a farmhouse by the road. On the wagon were two calves in a crate. For some reason the horse started up the hill at a full gallop. Mrs. Stoner, hearing the racket, went out, saw what was coming and with a grab for the bridle stopped the runaway. There was no harm done save a lively shake up for the two hommies. This was the second heroic feat of the kind to the credit of Mrs. Stoner.

Hard on Farmers.

The township and borough property owners are grumbling much over burdensome taxes. For example, Perry Breon, one of our most industrious farmers, has a tax-score of \$161 dollars. Others in proportion. Taxpayers want to keep a sharp eye on the methods of spending their money. Some farmers have little or nothing left after their taxes are paid. Economy and reform are as much needed in towns and townships as in the State.

Elocutionary Entertainment.

On Saturday evening, October 7th, an elocutionary entertainment will be given in Grange Hall. This entertainment is entirely for the extension of Foreign Missions and will be given by a lady who is preparing for the field. Admission 10 cents. Doors open at 7 o'clock.

Big Coal Land Deal.

Ex-Governor Hesings, Colonel J. L. Spangler, James A. McClain and C. F. Frazer recently purchased 77 acres of valuable coal land in Elder township, Cambria county. The price paid is said to have been over \$100 an acre for the tract.

Unclaimed Letters.

Letters remaining unclaimed for in the Centre Hall postoffice Oct. 1, 1899: Miss Edna Barkley, Mrs. Sue Glen, Mrs. Rachael Stover, A. M. Drake, Harry Raymond. Persons calling for above letters please state they are advertised. GEO. M. BOAL, P. M.

Premiums on Sculp.

The following amounts are paid for sculp of certain animals killed in the Commonwealth: For every wild cat, two dollars; for every fox, red or gray, one dollar; for every mink, fifty cents.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

Prices still have an upward tendency, except in grain.

The late frosts damaged tons of grapes in York state.

McKinley with wife and the entire cabinet have started west.

The Canadian telegraph line has been completed to Dawson.

The large Ridgway tannery, recently burned, is in process of rebuilding.

Excitement over the great honors showered upon Dewey, caused the death of an uncle of the Admiral.

Our Philippine fleet is to be reinforced, by at once sending there three warships on advice of Admiral Dewey.

The trial of the legislative bribers has been postponed until after the election lest the evidence be damaging to the Quay cause.

Dewey advises McKinley to have a sea blockade and says an active army is needed in the Philippines, and believes Aguinaldo will not yield.

The bank cashier of the Dover, N. H., bank, was arrested for embezzlement. It's the old story, dude dress, fancy horse, kid gloves, sporting, etc.

The Boers have seized the British gold mines. England has provided 15 million dollars for war, and will send an army of 40,000 men; distance 7000 miles.

Wires are supposed to have been cut in the Transvaal and London is without news from South Africa, leaving it unknown whether the Boers had begun war or not.

The Filipinos were repulsed, Monday morning, in an all-day battle. They made a desperate attack on Bacoor and in the engagement two Americans were killed.

A Shamokin girl of 13 years was married the other day to a fellow of 26. A short time after the ceremony the bride was found at play on the street with other little girls.

The prospect for war between the Boers and England is ugly. But a later attempt is being made to bring about an adjustment. The Boers are placing their army in the field.

The rebels are planning a crushing campaign by moving on the Americans from two directions, and have again occupied Porac. In one fight a number of our troops including two leaders have fallen, and the Filipinos left 60 dead.

Andree passed the North Pole, as per the buoy recently picked up. The buoy was a rearranged sign, and opened in the presence of experts and members of the Swedish cabinet; it was found September 9.

England has 7000 miles to the seat of war with the Boers. The United States have 10,000 miles to their picnic with the Filipinos. John Bull can reach his dance in about six weeks while Uncle Sam requires about 12 weeks.

Sir Henry Irving devoted part of his summer holidays to writing an article, which he has given to The Ladies' Home Journal. It is called "Shakespeare in Small Communities," and tells how the study, reading aloud and acting of Shakespeare's works may be followed in communities away from the larger centres.

Admiral Dewey received a rousing reception on his arrival in Washington. The Admiral is now at his home in Vermont. His reception by New York exceeded anything of the kind heretofore. It is estimated two million strangers were in the city and the triumphal arch was a magnificent piece of artistic splendor.

The Milton Fair.

The Northumberland county fair is going in full blast this week at Milton. The weather has been favorable all week and there is a large attendance. From this station sixteen tickets were sold this morning to the fair grounds. A special return train will be run from Milton to Bellefonte this evening to bring home the fair goers.

No Head No Citizen.

On Tuesday in naturalization court at Bellefonte, nearly a score of foreigners were refused naturalization by his honor Judge Love, because they did not possess a sufficient knowledge of the Constitution and the laws of the country.

How to Prevent Croup.

We have two children who are subject to attacks of croup. Whenever an attack is coming on my wife gives them Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and it always prevents the attack. It is a household necessity in this county and no matter what else we run out of, it would not do to be without Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. More of it is sold here than all other cough medicines combined.—J. M. Nickle, of Nickle Bros., merchants, Nickleville, Pa. For sale by J. H. Ross, Linden Hall; S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville; F. A. Carson, Potters Mills; H. F. Rossman, Spring Mills.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Cullings of More than Ordinary Interest from Everywhere.

The First Fire of the Season.

How it leaps, in dance excited, How it sleeps, in trance delighted, How it looms in liquid shining, How it glows in wan declining, While around the hearth we gather, One and all, In the bleak and windy weather Of the fall!

Friendly flame, remote Chaldean Seers of the name effaced, Sabean Shepherds in the elder ages, Persian bards in mystic pages, Thee adored, for so divinely Streamed thy light, Half we follow, and enshrine thee Spirit bright!

Dear the friends each heart remembers As in cheer we stir the embers, Bid the ash renew its beauty, Sparkle, flash and glow, till duty, Through the comfort of the hour, Woos our soul, And we deem its sterner dower Life's best goal.

So we dream not visionary, When we deem the missionary Household fire, once more relighted, Blazing higher the while united, 'Round the hearth of home we gather, One and all, In the bleak and windy weather Of the fall!

—Kitchen Magazine.

Vote for Arebey.

Apple pickers are busy. Milder to-day, possibly rain. Another rise of 25 cents in coal.

Linden Hall on up, apples plenty. Heavy frosts morning of 1, 2 and 3.

Merchants here are offering 40 cents for potatoes.

W. F. Smith, of Mülheim, is able to be about again.

Jacob Rhone, of State College, was granted a pension, \$6.

Wm. Eminheiser, of Milesburg, was granted a pension, \$12.

Corn topping and husking is engaging our farmers just now.

Saturday last some early snowflakes were riding on the wind.

Joseph Snook, an aged resident of Sugar valley, is seriously ill.

Prof. Daniel S. Boyer, of Freeburg, died on Monday, aged 75 years.

Sunday morn there was nigh a quarter inch of ice on outdoor puddles.

Coburn Markets: Old wheat 68, new wheat 65c. Oats 20c. Corn 25c. Rye 35.

The proposed bridge across the river from Sunbury to Shamokin Dam is now assured.

Coal shipments from the mines are slow, the Trust is holding up for further pinch in prices.

A hindquarter of good beef taken on subscription, at this office, between now and February 1. Report soon.

Rev. Rearick's appointments, Sunday, Oct. 8: Centre Hall, 10 a. m.; St. Johns church, 2 p. m.; Georges valley, 7 p. m.

The K. L. C. of the United Evangelical church of Rebersburg, will hold an interesting anniversary exercise in their church, Sunday evening.

Come to Centre Hall if looking for a business location; no little town has better facilities or equal healthfulness, nor as fine churches or better schools.

Rev. Orwig, one of the able men of the United Evangelical church at its headquarters in Cleveland, O., preached an interesting sermon in their church in this place, Sunday evening.

Letters testamentary in the estate of James G. Evans, late of Gregg township, are advertised in another column. L. Kryder Evans, J. Wells Evans, John M. Evans, and Daniel M. Wolf, are the Executors.

Ren T. Clayton has been made superintendent of the Nittany Rod and Gun Club, vice Solomon Peck, resigned. The "Second Annual Farmers' Day" will be given at the club house on Saturday, Oct. 14, at which there will be a pigeon shoot.

The only man in the world reported to be worth over \$1,000,000,000 is the Anglicized German, Alfred Beit. He is not yet 50, is well educated and made his fortune in diamonds during the past 24 years. We don't want to be loaded down so heavily as that.

Dewey surprised the New Yorkers by getting into the harbor two days ahead of time. That's his way of doing things; the Spaniards said he got into Manila harbor ahead of time, so he sailed out again, took his breakfast, sailed back, and that day the Dona had to do without breakfast, dinner or supper.

Henry Gable died Wednesday night, aged 82 years. He was the oldest living native born resident of Williamsport, and for sixty years resided in the same house. He was a gunsmith. During his life Mr. Gable never traveled upon a railroad or rode on a trolley car. He was never more than fifteen miles away from Williamsport.