

The Centre Democrat.



SHUGERT & FORSTER, Editors.

"EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL MEN, OF WHATEVER STATE OR PERSUASION, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL."—Jefferson.

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S. T. SHUGERT and R. H. FORSTER, Editors.

Thursday Morning, March 13, 1879.

SENATOR FERRY was re-elected President pro tem. of the Senate. Thurman will soon be his successor.

THE veto of the Chinese bill is not popular in the Pacific states. Indignation meetings are the order of the day.

SPRIGHTLY political speeches by democratic and republican members enlivened the last day of the Forty-fifth congress. In conclusion Speaker Randall made a parting address that was received with much applause.

It will be good news to pensioners entitled to arrearages to learn that among the last acts of the late Congress was the passage of the bill appropriating money for their payment. The bill was promptly signed by Mr. Hayes and is therefore the law of the land.

EVEN a false and fraudulent count of the votes was not sufficient to give Louisiana to Hayes. The conspirators were obliged to resort to the crime of forgery in order to consummate the great wrong. The minority members of the Potter committee admit that the names of two of the electors signed to the certificates were forgeries.

THE speakership is now the agitating topic in Washington. The contest seems to be between, Speaker Samuel J. Randall, of Pennsylvania, and Representative Blackburn, of Kentucky. Mr. Randall made a splendid record in that position during the 45 Congress, and will be supported by a large following—Mr. Blackburn possesses great ability, is very popular, and will bring to his support a powerful influence. The success of either will be gratifying to the country.

THE republicans made a brilliant and successful fight to prevent the investigation in the crookedness of Seward, the Chinese ambassador, charged with damaging crimes and shameless frauds. The defense set up was that he was not obliged to exhibit the books and public records in his possession, which might be proof of his guilt. The committee charged with the investigation demanded them. Seward, under advice refused. The session closing, the committee goes out of existence, and Seward escapes with his plunder.

The Electoral Frauds.

The Potter investigating committee has concluded its labors. It made a most searching inquiry into the electoral frauds of 1876, and the first report of the majority relating to Louisiana and Florida, signed by Messrs. Potter, Morrison, Hunton, Stenger, McMahon, Blackburn and Springer, was presented to Congress before the adjournment. "The report," says the *New York Sun*, "sums up the positive results of this investigation with balanced judgment. The fact that the votes of both Florida and Louisiana were cast for Tilden and Hendricks and were wrongfully taken from them and given to Hayes and Wheeler, was well-known before, but it is now solidly established by testimony of the most complete and conclusive description. The methods, the machinery, and, above all, the agents of the false count, are here illuminated by the full light of evidence that cannot truly be gainsaid. It is a clear and lasting record which is made up in the report of this committee."

The inquiry into the cipher telegrams will constitute a separate report. In regard to the Louisiana and Florida fraud, the conclusions of the committee, copied from the *Washington Post*, will be found in another column.

Let There Be No Retreat.

The necessity for an extra session of Congress was created by the unjustifiable and revolutionary attitude of the republican majority in the Senate. It was no part of the policy of the democratic leaders to force an extra session; on the contrary, they, each and every one, bent themselves to the task of accomplishing all the needed legislation within the legal life of the Forty-fifth Congress. But the statute books of the Nation are disgraced and their pages soiled and dishonored by the presence of obnoxious laws, that mock at free government and are a standing insult to the genius of our institutions. These laws are among the last monuments that still exist by color of authority of the undying hate of the republican party for the people of the South. The patriotic democrats in Congress determined that they should be wiped out at once and forever, and to this end provided in the appropriation bills for their repeal. Upon this the two great parties locked horns in a life and death struggle, the republicans using the last, lingering remnant of legislative power they possessed in the Senate to prevent action both upon the appropriation bills and the repealing sections. So let the responsibility of the extra session rest where it belongs, upon the shoulders of the factious republican majority of the senate.

And what was it the democrats demanded? Did they labor to do violence to the honored traditions of the people? No; they simply insisted that the following propositions, in effect, should again be recognized as part of the law of the land:

- 1st. That intelligent and honest juries shall be impartially selected, for the Federal, as well as the State courts.
- 2d. That all soldiers, whether State or Federal, shall be prohibited from interfering with citizens at elections.
- 3d. No Federal supervisors or deputy marshalls shall be paid out of the public moneys for corrupting elections.

Only this and nothing more. They only ask that men who are eligible for president and vice president of the United States; who can be senators and members of Congress; who can be judges of the district and circuit courts, and who can fill the chair of Chief Justice Waite himself, shall also have the poor privilege of sitting upon juries in the Federal courts. They only ask that Wade Hampton, Senators Gordon, and Hill and Lamar, and Postmaster General Key, shall be placed upon an equality with the lowliest negro in their respective states. Furthermore, they ask in the name of free elections and unfettered citizenship, that the soldiers of the government shall not be used as a partisan police to overawe the will of the people at the polls. In this they desire to place this boasted republic upon a level with monarchical England, in which country the people hold as their dearest treasure the parliamentary enactment that no soldiers shall be quartered within five miles of a polling booth. And lastly, they demand in the name of outraged decency that the black-jacking roughs of Marshall Kerns and John I. Davenport, and the army of carpet-bag scoundrels who infest the South during the holding of elections, to do the nasty work of their republican masters in Washington, shall not be paid for their zealous campaign labors in behalf of the republican party out of the common treasury of the people. Upon these questions the democratic party have put their hands to the plow, and there must be no looking back. In them are contained the essence of popular government and the liberty of the citizen, and the democratic party owes it to its historic record and its devotion to the Constitution to stand firm and unyielding until the proposed reforms are carried into full effect.

BLAINE expects to make friends in Virginia on the reputation of his grand-mother.

An Outrage Upon Citizens.

From the organization of Pennsylvania as a commonwealth to the present time, all legally authorized elections by the citizens have been by ballot, that is, a secret vote, in order to protect the poor and dependent voter from the domination of his rich and powerful neighbor. The right of every legally qualified voter to maintain silence and secrecy as to how and for whom he voted at any election has always been recognized as among the sacred rights of the citizens of Pennsylvania. Before the adoption of the new constitution it was held to be illegal to put any mark or designation upon the ticket of a voter by which it could afterwards be identified. But a great evil had grown up in places, from the practice of wicked and corrupt election officers changing the ballots, after they were voted, and thus falsifying the will of the people. As no individual voter could recognize his ticket, it was impracticable to prove the stuffing of a ballot box, unless it was done to an outrageous extent. In order to enable each voter to recognize and identify his ballot, in case of any contest founded upon an allegation that the tickets at any particular poll had been tampered with or altered, the new constitution provided:

"All elections by the citizens shall be by ballot. Every ballot voted shall be numbered in the order in which it shall be received, and the number recorded by the election officers on the list of voters opposite the name of the elector who presents the ballot. Any elector may write his name upon his ticket or cause the same to be written thereon, and attested by a citizen of the district. The election officers shall be sworn or affirmed not to disclose how any elector shall have voted, unless required to do so as witnesses in a judicial proceeding."

The election law of 1874, enacted for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the new constitution, among other things, provides: "In addition to the oath now prescribed by law to be taken and subscribed by election officers, they shall severally be sworn or affirmed not to disclose how any elector shall have voted, unless required to do so as witnesses in a judicial proceeding." To enforce this it is further provided: "If any officer of election shall act without being first duly sworn, * * * it shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, the officer or officers so offending, shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court."

These provisions of the law are certainly plain and strict enough to guard securely the secret of every voter. But as the same ballot-boxes are used at each successive election, the legislature foresaw, that when the boxes were opened, containing the numbered ballots, they might be exposed, and thus enable interested parties to ascertain how any citizen voted at the preceding election. To make "assurance doubly sure," it further provided:

"Whenever the election officers of any election district shall require the election boxes of such district, to hold any election which, by law, they are, or shall be required to hold, they shall keep the same securely in their possession without opening, until the morning of such election, and until they shall severally be sworn or affirmed not to disclose how any elector shall have voted, and after being so sworn or affirmed, they shall open the said boxes, and burn and totally destroy all the ballots, and other papers which they shall find therein, before proceeding to hold such election."

Nothing could be plainer, nor more explicit than this. And yet the counsel and friends of Mr. Yocum, in violation of the constitution, in violation of the statute law, and in violation of the rights of citizens, have had the numbered ballots voted at last November election stolen from the ballot-boxes in several townships of this county, (and probably in other counties) and exposed to the examination of themselves and others, in order that they might know how every person voted for Congress. In two townships, Benner and College, this outrage was perpetrated by members of the election boards. In Benner, one inspector and his clerk, (both of whom were

supporters of Yocum) surreptitiously abstracted the tickets without the knowledge of the other members of the board, and after keeping them in their own possession several days, took them to the office of Yocum and Hastings, and after submitting them to the examination of attorneys and clerks, and making a list of the tickets with the names of the voters, delivered them over to Hastings to keep. Messrs. Furst, Love and Hastings then had the audacity to produce these stolen tickets before the commissioner and offer them in evidence, thus making themselves participants in the crime of violating the provisions of the constitution and law. And still they claim to be honorable attorneys!

No excuse or palliation, much less any justification, can be given for this outrage. No legitimate or good purpose could be subserved by it. If it was believed that any illegal votes had been polled, when it was first proven that any particular person had voted who lacked any of the legal qualifications, he then not being a legal voter, could be compelled to testify for whom he voted for Congress, in order that his vote might be deducted from the number of votes returned for such candidate. It is only the legal voter who is privileged from telling how he voted. If a person votes illegally, he commits a crime; and the law gives no privileges to crime. But a legally qualified voter, even in a contested election, may, if he chooses, refuse to tell how he voted. It is said that one of the purposes of this larceny of the ballots in Benner, was to enable a wealthy citizen of Bellefonte to learn whether any of his tenants or employes in Benner voted for Curtin, that he might punish them by dismissal if they did. We take it for granted that the perpetrators of this outrage will be prosecuted according to law.

THE republican members of the Potter committee made a desperate effort in their report to show that John Sherman never wrote that letter about which he was so uncertain when on the witness stand. It does not matter very much whether he did or did not write it. The country will always regard him with sufficient distrust and aversion for the part he bore in the Louisiana infamy outside of his epistolary venture with Anderson and Weber.

Court Proceedings.

Adjourned Court for March 10, 1879, opened at 10 o'clock A. M., with Hon. John H. Orvis presiding.

In the Orphans' Court of Centre county: Rule granted upon John Rocky, guardian, to pay the money due James T. Swartz, minor child of George Swartz, deceased, within thirty days, or show cause why attachment should not issue.

Alias citation on J. H. Brown, guardian of Samuel R. Gault, minor, to file his account, prior to April term of court.

In the matter of the petition of Jonathan Kreamer for an order to stay the collection of road taxes in Penn township, March 11, 1879, appeal granted.

Cases tried by jury in the court of Common Pleas:

Centre county vs. Milesburg borough, No. 162, April term, 1878. Verdict for plaintiff in the sum of \$259.27.

Tuesday, Hon. C. A. Mayer presiding. John S. Gray vs. Hugh Adams. Juror withdrawn and case continued at cost of John S. Gray, plaintiff.

Jones, Allport & Co. vs. John S. Gray and wife. Verdict in favor of plaintiff for the sum of \$214.37 in No. 181, January term, 1878, and in No. 180, January term, 1878, the sum of \$148.72, subject to the opinion of the court in both cases, on the question of law reserved whether the mechanic's lien as filed is sufficient in law to bind the estate of Emma T. Gray, the wife of John S. Gray.

Jno. S. Gray vs. W. C. McCutcheon. Case tried, but jury still out.

M. B. Spar vs. John E. Murray. Tried, and verdict for M. B. Spar in the sum of \$287.22.

—Lock Haven's handsomest attorney, ex-Senator Peale, is attending court in this place. Mr. Peale is an able lawyer and is becoming well acquainted with Centre county juries.

GENERAL NEWS.

A fire at Fort Fairfield, Maine, Friday, caused a loss of \$30,000.

Governor Andrews, of Connecticut, has appointed Friday, April 11, as a public fast day.

Governor Proctor, of Vermont, declines to respite Henry Gravelin, the Weatherfield murderer.

The imports of specie for the past week were \$78,200, of which \$53,000 was silver and the remainder gold.

A fire Friday morning in the bag factory of F. S. Atwater, No. 22 Bridge street, New York, caused a loss of \$30,000.

Miss Rosina Thomas was fatally burned at Tamaqua, Schuylkill county, on Saturday, her clothes taking fire from a stove.

The Wheeling, W. Va., *Evening Standard* changed hands on Saturday and appeared as a democratic paper on Monday.

The Catholic clergy of Newport, R. I., are in favor of taking collections to aid Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati, out of his financial troubles.

The wife of Hon. Victor E. Piolet, of Bradford county, died on Monday week. She was a daughter of the late Hon. Jesse Miller, of the same county.

It is proposed to celebrate at Pompeii this summer the eighteen hundredth anniversary of the destruction of that city by an eruption of Vesuvius.

In the case of R. T. Burtin, charged with the murder of Mrs. Bowman, seventeen years ago, during the Morrisette trouble, the jury, after being out for nearly three days, returned a verdict of not guilty.

A despatch from Los Angeles says a reservoir with one hundred million gallons of water broke Thursday morning, but was so far from the city that damage was confined to flooding of streets and cellars.

A broken axle caused 16 cars on an eastern bound freight train on the Pennsylvania railroad to jump the track near Marietta, Pa., on Friday. Four loaded coal cars were wrecked. No person was injured.

The anniversary of the laying of the first Atlantic cable was celebrated at the residence of Cyrus W. Field, of New York, Monday night. Addresses were made by Mr. Field and Rev. Wm. Adams and David Dudley Field.

An insane man was arrested in Dallas, Texas, the other day, who had become crazy from disappointment in love. He had walked all the way from Missouri, wearing a large bell around his neck to attract, as he explained, the maiden to him, as she was bewildered by his absence.

The warm weather and rains experienced for the last three days has but slightly raised the water in the Delaware river. The small packs of ice between Milford, Pa., and the head waters still remain firm. No fears of a flood from gorges are entertained at Port Jarvis.

Father Edward Purcell, Wednesday the 5th, made an assignment to John B. Mannix. The property thus assigned includes the Bishop's residence, the seminary at the corner of Third and Plum streets, and on Warsaw pike seventy acres of suburban lots, and a number of smaller pieces of property in various parts of the city.

A Pesth (Hungary) telegram says that two of three dams protecting the town of Szegedin from an overflow of the Theiss river have burst. Five thousand men are working on the remaining one. If this bursts 70,000 people will be made homeless. Many villages have already been swept away. Szegedin is in a marsh on both banks of the Theiss river.

The boiler and engine rooms, shafting house, fertilizer, sacking room and smoke house of the pork-packing establishment of T. M. Sinclair & Co., at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were burned Friday afternoon. The fire originated in the fertilizer, and the flames spread with frightful rapidity. The almost superhuman work of the firemen alone saved the remainder of the establishment from destruction. The loss approximates \$75,000; insurance light.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Iron and Steel Association held at Philadelphia on Thursday, Hon. Daniel J. Morrill was elected President; Abram S. Hewitt, of New York; Joseph Wharton and Samuel M. Felton, of Philadelphia; B. F. Jones and James Park, Jr., of Pittsburgh, Vice Presidents; Charles Wheeler, Treasurer, and James M. Swank, Secretary. The next meeting will be held in April or May next at Pittsburgh, at such time as the Executive Committee may determine.

"Miss Rose Eytlinge" having been interrupted in a performance in a San Francisco theatre, the other night, appeared before the curtain and said: "I am an emotional, not a mechanical actress, and, under the circumstances, cannot proceed." Miss Nellie Holbrook then undertook to read Miss Eytlinge's part, and did it so well that the audience, including Miss Clara Morris, roundly applauded. Incensed at the reception of Miss Holbrook, Miss Eytlinge broke her engagement at the theatre and left the coast in a huff.

The State Central Convention of the Prohibition League of Indiana, an organization said to number about 10,000 voters and which looks to the absolute suppression of the liquor traffic, has issued an address calling on all who are

in favor of the prohibition of the liquor traffic to meet in State convention at temperance headquarters in Indianapolis on Wednesday, May 21, to nominate full State ticket to be voted for at the annual election in 1880. The call is signed by I. A. Goodwin, Secretary of the league.

At a meeting of eleven representatives of coal miners from Dauphin, Schuylkill, Northumberland, Carbon, Luzerne and Columbia counties, held at Harrisburg on the 11th instant, a resolution against the strike contemplated on the 15th inst., was read and adopted. No individual operators were in attendance.

The Supreme Court of the United States convened Wednesday last, after a recess of four weeks. All the justices were present except Associate Judge Hunt. Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood was admitted to practice. A large crowd was attracted to the court room in anticipation of a motion to admit Mrs. Lockwood, a similar motion having been denied two years ago on account of the candidate's sex. On this occasion no objection was raised, and for the first time in the history of this court a woman's name is on the roll of its practitioners.

The floor in Mechanic's Hall gave way Monday forenoon, during a town meeting. No one was killed, but many are badly and probably fatally injured. Among those seriously injured are John and George Neal, internally. Thomas Ricker had his shoulder and leg broken. Reuben Chadbourne had both legs broken. Henry S. Kidder was injured internally. Thomas E. Goodwin's ankle was broken. At the time of the accident there were about five hundred in the hall. A hundred and fifty persons were precipitated a distance of fourteen feet to the floor below. The recovery of John Neal, Henry Kidder, Charles Ricker and Reuben Chadbourne is doubtful.

At Brooklyn the examination into the common fame charges against the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage began Tuesday. The committee having the matter under consideration made a report, which was accepted, recommending that Mr. Talmage be cited for trial on the charges. Dr. Talmage said he had been ready for the past nine years and he wanted an investigation now. There had been an atrocious crime committed against him as a minister of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and he wished to be tried by the presbytery, or next Sunday morning, in the tabernacle, he would try the presbytery. The charges and specifications were adopted, and the presbytery adjourned until evening when the details of the trial will be fully considered.

Mr. James R. Keene, the well-known grain operator, stated Friday night at the Hotel Brunswick, where he was stopping, to a reporter of the Associated Press, that his name was forged last night (Thursday) to a half-rate telegraphic message to J. K. Fisher & Co., grain brokers of Chicago, directing them to sell three million bushels of wheat on Mr. Keene's account. This caused the decline in wheat in Chicago on Friday from 96 to 93 cents per bushel at the morning and afternoon boards. Mr. Keene pronounced the dispatch a forgery, and steps have been taken to discover the author of the telegram. Mr. Keene says suspicious are strong against what is known as the "provision clique" of Chicago. A large reward will be immediately offered by Mr. Keene for the discovery of the forger and his associates. The original copy of the despatch is now in Mr. Keene's possession.

The Kansas Emigration Society is making preparations for departing from the city of Philadelphia. A committee which was appointed some time ago to inquire into the character and ability of the three men selected to prospect in the West and select the ground upon which the colony is to settle reported at the meeting held Thursday night that they could not agree upon those selected, and suggested that others be named. This was agreed to. A member of the company who had been sent to Washington to make the necessary arrangements for the land reported everything complete. A resolution was unanimously adopted forbidding the sale of intoxicating liquor, as a beverage, within the line of the colony. Special arrangements will be made with the railroad company for a complete transfer of the colony, which will cost about \$4 per capita for adults, children to be conveyed without cost.

Between 1 and 2 o'clock Monday morning a fire broke out in the wagon shop of Mrs. Henrietta Bausch, on Broadway, East St. Louis, and owing to there being no fire apparatus in the city, and no call being made on the fire department in St. Louis, one brick and five frame dwellings were destroyed. In the second story of the wagon shop, the building where the fire originated, occupied as a residence by Mrs. Bausch, there were sleeping her three children by a former marriage, Henry Schoepferketter, a blacksmith, and Mrs. Catharine Baret—who was spending the night with Mrs. Bausch—all of whom burned to death, they being unable to escape by reason of the doors leading to their apartments being fastened on the outside. Mrs. Bausch was also asleep in the same house at the time, but she jumped from a window, and was so severely injured that she will probably die. At the inquest testimony was elicited pointing so strongly to incendiarism that John Baret, husband of Catharine, Andrew Marshall and Theodore Hammond were arrested, and locked up.