

# 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, May 1, 1879.

CHAIRMAN SPEER has called a meeting of the members of the Democratic State Committee at the Bolton House, Harrisburg, on the 7th of May, at 10 o'clock A. M., to fix a time for holding the State Convention, and the transaction of other important business.

THE Legislative appropriation bill passed the House on Saturday last, with the repealing clause attached, by a strict party vote. The only Republican voting with the Democrats is Mr. Yocum of this district. He did right. He represents a Democratic district, and it is but fair to give a Democratic vote.

IN this week's DEMOCRAT we publish the great speech of Senator Wallace. It will repay a careful reading, and furnish a clear view of the important issues under consideration in Congress. The impregnable position of the Democracy in demanding free elections, and subordination of the military to civil power in time of peace, is powerfully discussed by the Senator.

THE committee to investigate charges of bribery in connection with the Riot Bill, do not seem to have made any progress, or even determined the form the investigation is to assume. The chairman, Dr. Gatchell, and Dr. Doyle of Huntingdon favor confining it to members alleged to have been corruptly approached, while others are in favor of following the precedent adopted in the Boom investigation, by examination of all the members of the House in alphabetical order.

THE New Orleans Times favors the removal of the seat of government from New Orleans to Baton Rouge, and urges the Constitutional convention now in session to take action to that end. Great cities are not perhaps desirable places for State governments, but if the object of the removal is to get rid of rogues, it is useless. This class of patriots will travel as readily to Baton Rouge, as they do to Harrisburg in this State, in pursuit of the plunder that is supposed to be distributed by State Legislatures.

A CONVENTION is to be held at Vicksburg, Miss., next Monday, to consider the colored exodus. Gov. Brown and other prominent men have issued a circular addressed to the people of the Mississippi valley, urging every county, parish and city, and every State along the river to be represented by delegates. The colored people are specially called upon to send representatives.

The object of this convention is to "take into consideration the present agitation of the labor question," and no doubt to take such measures as will allay the excitement produced by the Northern demagogues, or to supply any deficiency which the negro exodus may create. The Chinese importation may become popular.

SOUTH CAROLINA, having convicted her rogues, is disposed to be merciful in punishment. The Governor has pardoned F. B. Cardoza, ex-State Treasurer, and Robert Smalls, ex-Congressman, both convicted of embezzlement in the State courts, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for a term of years. They are colored men and were mere instruments of the infamous carpet-bag reign that so desolated and robbed that State. No doubt this fact controlled largely to secure clemency from a Democratic executive. The other thieves, such as John J. Patterson and the gang that trained with him, will be allowed to run, and so long as they will keep themselves at a respectable distance, will be allowed to escape the South Carolina penitentiary, whatever their fate may be elsewhere.

Wonderful Escape.

The terrible news was telegraphed over the wires on Wednesday of last week of the entombment of seven persons in a mine of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company, at Sugar Notch. The prisoners were six men and a young lad—a messenger, who had been dispatched with a mule to warn them of the caving in of the mine, all other persons employed in the mine having made their escape. It was not certainly known whether the messenger had reached the men or not, and serious apprehension was felt as to their fate. A hundred miners have been constantly at work night and day, and as day after day wore away relays were added to the force already there. But each day repeated the same sad news that great difficulty was being met with in the work and the men had not yet been reached, and towards the last all hope of their recovery alive was given up. But on Monday morning, after five days and nights of imprisonment, they were reached—not suffocated, or drowned, or even suffering much, but engaged in the work of cooking some mule steak for breakfast. The messenger had reached them in safety, and on the second day they killed the mule and had sustained themselves on its flesh, while a stream of water fortunately running through the mine had given them the needful refreshment. Where there had been sorrow there was now joy, and one hundred dollars was presented to each of the men by the stockholders of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company. A concert for the benefit of the men was to be given at Music Hall, Wilkesbarre, yesterday, at which Charles Hawkins, one of the prisoners, was to tell the history of their incarceration. It was, no doubt, a large benefit and an enthusiastic gathering.

COL. LOWE, formerly a confederate Colonel, but now a Greenback member of Congress, on being interviewed by a correspondent of the Pittsburg Post, has been reviving some of the early history of the war times on Senator Logan, of Illinois, when he sympathized with the rebellion. Col. Lowe in that interview stated that there were "two or three companies from Illinois in the confederate service; that he had talked with one of the officers and some of the men, and they said they were enlisted to constitute a part of Gen. Logan's command in the confederate army; that such reports were current in his section and he had never heard any denial of them." It does not suit Logan now to have his early sympathies revived, and instead of pleading repentance and subsequent service in the union army in bar of his former devotion to the South and its cause, he pronounces the statement in a card to the Washington Republican, "false and slanderous." Col. Lowe then addresses several epistles to him to know whether these offensive words were intended to apply to him personally. Logan makes no reply, and Lowe then sends a formal challenge for a meeting "outside the District." Logan still fails to respond, and Lowe publishes a card from which we take the following:

"I will not brand John A. Logan as a liar, for he is a Senator of the United States. I will not post him as a scoundrel and a poltroon, for that would be in violation of the local statutes. But I do publish him as one who knows how to insult but not to satisfy a gentleman; and I invoke upon him the judgment of the honorable men of the community."

GEN. JAMES SHIELDS has been appointed agent to prosecute the claims of Missouri against the Federal Government. These claims are very large and the position to which the honest old veteran is chosen is one of great responsibility, and we trust will also be one of fair emolument to him personally.

CHOSEN by fraud himself, Hayes desires the perpetuation of the fraud machinery for his successor.

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL passed the Senate on Friday last in the same form it passed the House, without any amendment, and was sent to Mr. Hayes for his approval or veto on Monday. That fraud has not disappointed his stalwart masters, but has returned the bill with his veto. This will intensify the struggle, if it does not result in great inconvenience and disaster to the military arm of the public service. The Democrats have met this issue entirely as a question of principle, and cannot afford to surrender under any circumstances. The rights of the people must be rescued from executive and military encroachments. The ballot and bayonet must be separated. The military must be subordinate to the civil power, or our republican government is a fraud, and not what its founders intended it to be in its institution. It is not a mere political question to determine which political party is to be benefitted, but one of grave and overpowering importance, whether our government is the mere play-thing of the "one man" power to wield as the commander-in-chief of the army to control the elections of the people, as his interest, or the political interests of his party may deem proper. In such an issue, the Democrats, the true friends of republican government, cannot recede, no matter what may be the consequences now or in the future, and we trust they will not. The pretense set up that military interference is already sufficiently provided against; that supervisors and marshals are necessary to guard elections; that legislative attachments to appropriation bills is wrong and revolutionary, is mere bagatelle. We have had too many practical illustrations, to accept that kind of stuff now. The army has been used unlawfully and tyrannically to control our elections. Supervisors and marshals have been stationed at our polls to aid the perpetration of frauds. Legislation has been made by attachment to appropriation bills, ever since the foundation of the government, and by no party more frequently than those who now make the objection. Indeed some of the oppressive measures now in question were enacted by that party, by attachment to appropriation bills, and for which he, who now fraudulently holds the veto power, voted as a member of Congress.

But it is not a matter of wonder that Mr. Hayes, independent of the desire to gratify the Radicals, should have some affection for the measures the Democrats desire to repeal. They were the foundation work upon which the great fraud was built which placed him in the position to wield the negative power of a lawful President.

FARMERS will do well to read the articles in the agricultural columns of this paper, which are carefully prepared weekly by one of the most accomplished agriculturalists in this or any other section of the State. The selections and editorial discussions of subjects pertaining to the interests of farmers are adapted to time and season, with strict reference to the good that may result from the dissemination of correct and practical results. Indeed one month's reading of this department will more than repay the farmer for the small amount charged for a year's subscription to the DEMOCRAT.

An unusually warm summer is predicted by Professor Piazzi Smith, the astronomer royal of Scotland. He bases his predictions on the records of the temperature of Edinburgh as registered during the last forty years by the earth thermometer of the observatory of that city. These observations show, he says, that a great heat wave comes upon the earth without presumably from the sun about every eleven years; and it appears that the next heat-wave may be expected in the summer of this year. Professor Smith thinks these seasons are likely to be glowingly hot, and the following winter exceptionally mild.

Mill Creek, Huntingdon county, had a blaze the other day which resulted in the destruction of a large coach and wagon manufactory.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

—Go to McGuintz's for your carriages if you want a good article.

—The gentlemen who occupy offices in the Court House all purchased new hats Saturday afternoon last.

—The mercantile firm of Wolfe, Potter & Co., of Snow Shoe, dissolves partnership to-day, and those elegant business men, Messrs. James Sommerville and F. W. Crider, will assume control, under the firm name of Sommerville, Crider & Co.

—The collection of carpet rags for the Y. M. C. A. carpet is proceeding satisfactorily. They will be gathered together this week and taken to the weaver. The total amount will no doubt exceed the number of pounds required.

—Mr. George Hoppes not only has the largest and finest hotel in the State, but also a truly wonderful hen. As the fruit of this hen he is able to serve up to his guests eggs which measure 8x6 inches. Oh, at this grand hotel All can live in bliss, When they can fare high every day Upon such eggs as this.

—A medical examination of the members of Company D, National Guard, of Huntingdon, was instituted on Tuesday morning of last week by the efficient Surgeon of the Fifth Regiment, Dr. George F. Harris, of this place. Fifty-one of the fifty-eight members of the Company passed the examination. It is announced that Dr. Harris will conduct the examination of Company C, of Hollidaysburg, this evening.

—Judge Dean, at the Huntingdon county court, recently, in sentencing two persons found guilty of jumping on coal cars and throwing off as much as they could carry away, warned all persons guilty of such practices that he would hereafter send all convicted of the offense to the penitentiary. The railroad company has suffered much loss in this respect and are determined to put a stop to the practice.

GENERAL NEWS.

Brocklyn has already had one death from hydrophobia.

The New York canals will be opened to navigation on the 8th instant.

The employees on the Pennsylvania Railroad appear in new uniforms to-day.

A lot of people have banded together in Western Michigan to live 100 years.

Paris will celebrate her centennial November 18, 1884—Paris, Ky., by the way.

Ex-Judge George G. Barnard, of the New York Supreme Court, died Sunday morning.

The people of Venango rejoice because their depot is burned down and they can now have a new one.

The public schools all over the country are introducing plain sewing as one of the branches to be taught to both boys and girls.

Colonel Thomas A. Scott writes from Egypt that he will be at home in June to resume his duties as President of the Pennsylvania railroad.

General Fitz John Porter is inclined to smile at the newspaper statement that he wants to send his son to West Point. His sons are all daughters.

George Koach's barn, near Liberty, Ind., the largest barn in the State, was destroyed by fire on Friday night, together with all its contents. Loss estimated at \$25,000.

The Clarion county papers state that the lumber season has ended with them, and the prices received for the timber were better than those that have ruled for many years.

A meeting of the State Democratic committee has been called by Chairman Speer, of Huntingdon, at Harrisburg, on May 7, to fix the time and place for holding the State convention.

Thursday morning, at about 3 o'clock, fire was discovered in Stranahan's block, Union City, near Erie, and before assistance could be procured was beyond control. Loss from \$50,000 to \$90,000.

August Belmont, while driving from Central Park, the other day, was run into by a heavy team. So forcible was the concussion that Mr. Belmont was precipitated from his carriage, sustaining severe injuries.

Edwin Booth was shot at twice while performing the last act of "Richard III" on Wednesday night of last week at McVicker's theatre, Chicago. The man who fired the shots is Mart Gray, a dry goods clerk in that city. He was arrested.

"Colonel Leon," of California, 35 years old and forty inches high, who has made a living by exhibiting himself with circus parties, but has had to retire from the business on account of ill health, will settle in Johnstown and probably open a cigar store.

The Derrick says a boy in Oil City came stumbling into the house with the remnants of a dozen mashed eggs in a bag and a broken molasses pitcher, yelling: "I beat him solid and two laps to spare." He thought the next lap, which was his mother's, was the hardest of any.

The mines and coke works in the entire Youghiogheny region are working and the famous strike in virtually ended, the men resuming work at the old rate of twenty-five cents per wagon. The strike has been disastrous to the industries of the entire region, and general satisfaction is felt at the resumption of work.

Jackson Pearson and Miss Alice Seely, of Washington township, Lycoming county, happened in Williamsport the other day and resolved to get married. A milliner, from whom the young lady had made some purchases, surrendered the cloak room for the ceremony, and the two were soon made one.

Of Judge Beggs, who died at Kittanning, recently, and who was one of the most powerful jury lawyers in that part of the State, a Pittsburg paper relates the following: "One hot day, while driving a load of hay, he remembered that he had a case in Court, and thither he wended his way with his breeches tucked in his boots, his breast exposed and his hair plentifully besprinkled with hay seed, he proceeded with his argument and won the case."

Miss Warner, of Chartiers township, Allegheny county, lay dreaming, at the hour of midnight, when her beau, his knee in supplication bent, should ask her hand. She awoke and found a man standing at the foot of her bed. She made no outcry, but, with the determination of a woman thoroughly in earnest, took a 34-calibre horse pistol from under the pillow and commenced to blaze away. The intruder went out of the window, taking a part of the sash with him, and Miss Warner turned on her side and finished out the nap.

By a decision in the London courts last Thursday, in the case of the "Bolivian bondholders" against P. & T. Collins, the contractors for the building of the Madeira and Mamora railroad in Brazil, \$4,000,000 which have been locked up awaiting the dissolution of an injunction to prevent payment of certificates for work done by the Collinses, which proceeding has caused them great trouble and annoyance, are made available for their purposes. The injunction proceedings have dragged along for many months, and the result of the decision has been to infuse new life and encouragement into the enterprise.

Barglars blew open the safe of the Laclede, N. H., National Bank, Thursday night, securing about \$4,000 and a quantity of securities. The president of the bank in making a statement of its losses said: "The amount of cash taken was \$4,178. The bank was robbed of notes to the amount of \$120,000 and of \$7,500 in coupon bonds, which had been lodged as collateral for some of the notes. There were in all nearly one hundred and fifty notes, ranging from \$25 to \$50,000. The bank has a complete record of all these notes. The loss to the bank cannot exceed 4 per cent of its capital. In a steel chest which was not broken open there were from \$20,000 to \$30,000 in coupon bonds, the property of special depositors and the reserved cash fund of the bank; \$5,000 in greenbacks and \$1,500 in gold."