

# 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 8, 1879.

HORATIO SEYMOUR, in a letter addressed to a committee of prominent citizens of New York, on the 2d inst., declines positively to be a candidate for Governor, under any circumstances. Prominent among the reasons given for this determination, is failing health.

THE Southern negroes are not the only persons duped to emigrate to Kansas. A large number of the white race have also been victims, and would be glad to resume their old haunts if they had the ability to do so. Some from our own county, we are informed, will return when they can find the stamps to bear expenses.

Gov. HOYT has approved an act passed by the Legislature repealing a foolish and inoperative law enacted in 1820, to prevent horse racing at agricultural fairs. The trotting or racing at fairs is one of their principal attractions, is attended with no demoralizing effects, and is certainly a great stimulant to the cultivation of the highest breeds of the noble animals.

EXCESSIVE modesty! The demand of the Republicans that the army and navy, 10,000 deputy marshals, and about an equal number of supervisors should continue at the command of their executive committees, to manipulate and manage elections in the interest of frauds. It is modest, very modest. And how unkind of the "Rebel Congress" to hesitate to place the coffers of the National treasury to such valuable service.

STOUGHTON, who was made Minister to Russia by Mr. Hayes, in reward for services in the electoral count, is home on leave of absence. He is not pleased with Russia as place of residence, and thinks if he is obliged to return, he will resign. Why should he return? He rendered valuable service to Mr. Hayes, and is not needed in Russia. Let him have his salary and remain at home. If the "Rebel Brigadiers" object to the pay, it can be called a "clerical error" just as it was in New Orleans, to cover worse frauds.

THE committee investigating the charges of bribery in connection with the riot damage bill, is now in full tide, and although but few have yet been called, they have uncovered very questionable transactions, and proved that some of the members are entitled to early expulsion. Petroff and Rumbarger especially are certainly meritorious cases for this distinction. The former is a rooster who was expelled by the House in 1876, and returned by a virtuous Philadelphia constituency in 1877.

SOME of the evidence brought out by the committee investigating the charges of corruption in connection with the riot bill, proves that the lobby are a heartless set of scoundrels. They ran out their \$500 and \$1,000 gold bags to tempt and corrupt the innocent members of the Legislature with a recklessness truly surprising. They must be a wicked set of fellows indeed to force the innocent lambs of the Pennsylvania Legislature to listen to, and entertain such proposition as those revealed. But what else could be expected of men who place themselves under lead of such fellows as Bill Kemble and Matt. Quay. They have no hearts, and can have no qualms of conscience in degrading innocents. Why, they have even corrupted that pure high-toned innocent legislator, Emile Petroff, whom the Philadelphians delight to honor, and brought poor Rumbarger, if not to the grave, to a state of imbecility. And yet Kemble and Quay are serene and still roost high.

## Yocum vs. Yocum.

When the army appropriation bill was pending before the House at Washington, and after a most elaborate and exhaustive discussion for weeks of its merits, a motion was made by Republicans to strike out the sixth section, being the one involving the political features of the bill. This motion was supported by the entire Republican party in the House upon the ground that the provisions themselves were wrong, and even if right, it was wrong to attach them to an appropriation bill. On the other hand, the Democrats contended that the provisions of this section were right in themselves, and that it was in accordance with Republican precedents to incorporate them in an appropriation bill. Here were two plain and simple issues, which, after a full discussion and time for reflection, any man of good common sense ought to understand, or at least be able to make up his mind which side he would take. Hon. S. H. Yocum, who now occupies the seat as the Representative from this district, voted with the Democrats against striking out the provisions of the sixth section of the bill. The section was not struck out. Upon the final passage of the bill through the House, Mr. Yocum again voted with the Democrats. By these two votes he showed his approval of the bill both as a whole and in detail. These votes surprised many persons, as it was generally understood that during the campaign, Mr. Yocum had given pledges that he would, if elected, act with the Republicans in Congress upon all measures, save only those pertaining to banking and currency. Still no one could properly find fault with him for giving these two votes with the Democrats, if he conscientiously believed they were right. Democrats believing that military interference with elections under the pretense of preserving the peace at the polls, was dangerous to the liberties of the people, would naturally be glad to have Mr. Yocum agree with them and vote accordingly. But if he voted that way, not because he believed it was right, but in order to propitiate the Democrats in Congress, hoping thereby to retain his seat, he was not only false to the pledges he had given, but recreant to the principle in which he believed.

The army appropriation bill which thus passed the House with Mr. Yocum's vote, went to the Senate, where, after a prolonged discussion, which however evolved nothing new, passed that body without even so much as a verbal change. It was thus sent to Mr. Hayes for his approval. He returned it to the House with a veto. His veto message contains not one single new objection. He uses the same arguments against it as were used by Garfield, Fry, and other Republicans in the House before Mr. Yocum voted for it. When the vote came to be taken upon the question, shall the bill become a law notwithstanding the President's objections, Mr. Yocum changed front and voted no with the Republicans! Why the change? Why this early self-stultification? Had the bill been introduced into the House and passed without discussion and without time for reflection, it could have been urged with some plausibility, that Mr. Yocum had been convinced by the reasoning of the veto message that his first impressions favorable to the bill were erroneous. But to say, after listening to all the able and ingenious speeches made in the House for and against the bill, that he did not comprehend the principles and policy of it, and consequently he voted twice under a misapprehension, is to impeach his own understanding and good common sense, and to demonstrate his total unfitness to represent any constituency in the Congress of the United States. What other explanation of his somewhat can be given? Why, that he

found the "Confederate Brigadiers" did not propitiate, as he had supposed they would, and that he tired of acting with the "Rebel Democracy." In other words that his first two votes were not given conscientiously, but merely in the hope that by thus voting, he could hold the seat to which he was not elected, and finding that this would not win, he has gone back to his radical first love.

DON'T WANT TO ADJOURN.—The House of Representatives at Harrisburg, on Friday last, postponed indefinitely a resolution providing for a final adjournment on the 30th of May. But after a Sabbath day rest and a brief interview of constituents, on motion of Dr. Early, on Monday it was reconsidered and laid over for the present, and can be called up at any time.

This great deliberative body should do nothing rashly. There is a large calendar of business claiming attention, and they have not been in session quite five months. It only costs the State \$4,000 per diem, and furnishes food and raiment to the professional politician. Hasty legislation is a great evil, if not a crime, and early adjournment should not be pressed. Take time, gentlemen.

THERE are now more than ten thousand poor unfortunate starving negroes on the Mississippi and in Kansas, that have been deluded from their homes in the South by heartless speculators. Their situation is pitiable indeed, and yet scoundrels are traveling round under patronage of the Emigrant Aid Society, appealing to the sympathies of the people to furnish funds to enable them to add to this number. Aid should be liberally given for the relief of these unfortunates, but not through the agency of the heartless wretches who have so brutally brought them to such misery. Whatever contributions are made, should be transmitted to the Governor of Kansas, not to increase the number, but to relieve the distress of those present.

SENATOR WALLACE introduced a bill on Friday last to authorize the payment of claims for certain arrears of pay and bounty. It provides "that widows and minor heirs of deceased Union soldiers who have been defrauded of the bounty and arrears of pay due them by law, by means of forgeries perpetrated by their attorneys, shall, when such forgeries have been the result of no fault or negligence on the part of the claimants, be paid the amounts equitably due them."

This is intended to correct a very erroneous ruling of the pension bureau, some years ago, that where money had been paid on forged vouchers by claimant's attorneys, the claimant must look to the attorney for payment.

WE clip the following from the Harrisburg correspondence of the Times:

"The stationery investigation under Mr. Hewitt's committee is still going on, and, contrary to general impression, the sessions are no longer secret. The last meeting of the committee will be held on Tuesday of next week. Of the \$23,478 worth of stationery charged against the House it appears that not more than \$5,000 worth, at the outside, was actually issued to members. This is a rough and liberal computation. The average amount used by each member was \$25 worth, while if they had used all that was alleged to have been bought and paid for the amount would have been \$100 apiece. Where the balance went is the question."

It is about time to hear the conclusion of Mr. Hewitt's committee. From the statements made some time ago, there was evidently a big steal to be uncovered, not only on the distribution of stationery, but some valuable property of the Commonwealth, that disappeared from the hall of the House.

If Grant wishes to disprove the rumor that he is insane, let him pre-emptorily decline the nomination for a third term.—Cincinnati Commercial.

Can't do it—the disease is both chronic and constitutional.

It cost \$10,500 to rescue the Sugar Notch miners.

## The New Bill to Prohibit Military at Elections.

Special to the Harrisburg Patriot.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Mr. Ladd, of Maine, introduced in the House this morning, under the call of States for bills and resolutions, "a bill to prohibit military interference at elections." This is the bill agreed upon by the joint caucus of the Democratic senators and representatives. It provides "that it shall not be lawful to bring to or employ at any place where a general or special election is being held in a State any part of the army or navy of the United States unless such force be necessary to repel the armed enemies of the United States or to enforce section 4 of article 4 of the Constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof on application of the legislature or the executive of the State where such force is to be used, and so much of all laws as is inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed." The bill was referred to the judiciary committee, which will report it back to the House to-morrow, when the Democrats will bring it to a vote unless the Republicans wish to enter into debate. There will be but little talk on the Democratic side no matter what the Republicans may do. It is thought the bill will pass the House before the end of the week.

The bill to prevent the presence of troops at the polls presented, as stated above, reached a vote in the House under a call of the previous question on Tuesday and was passed, yeas 124, nays 90. A substitute was offered by Mr. Robeson recognizing the right of the Federal government to employ troops at elections, which was disagreed to by a vote of 93 yeas to 121 nays. The minority under the lead of Conger attempted filibustering to prevent the passage of the bill, but eventually surrendered.

The Senate will probably pass the bill to-day when Mr. Hayes will have another opportunity to show whether his "back-bone" still has sufficient strength to claim that he must have power to station the army at the polls to control the votes of the people.

THE VICKSBURG CONVENTION.—The Mississippi Valley Labor convention met at Vicksburg on the 5th inst. There were fully four hundred delegates in attendance, representing all the counties and precincts on the Mississippi river. A large number of colored delegates were present. Gov. W. R. Miller was chosen temporary chairman, and stated the object of the meeting to be a better understanding between capitalists, land owners and laborers of the South.

The Committee on resolutions submitted a report detailing the causes of the exodus of the colored people, prominent amongst which is the low price of cotton and partial failure of the crops of the year and the vicious system of credits fostered by law permitting laborers and tenants to mortgage crops before they were grown; apprehensions, fostered by insidious reports circulated that their civil and political rights are endangered and that by emigration to Kansas, land and stock would be furnished by the government to become independent farmers. A series of resolutions were adopted "setting forth the duty of planters and landlords; adopt a system with laborers and tenants by which both parties will receive a full benefit of labor; that as the constitution of the United States has placed the colored race on the plane of absolute equality with the white race, it is the duty of the members of this convention to pledge themselves to protect the colored people in their rights; discouraging the unrestricted credit system and favoring the repeal of laws authorizing liens on crops, etc., admitting the right of colored people to emigrate, but urging them to proceed as reasonable beings.

The general sentiments of the whites is to faithfully carry out the provisions of the resolutions adopted. The negroes have but little to say. Many express the opinion that the result of the convention will stop the exodus for the present or until the next election will afford them an opportunity to test the sincerity of the pledges made by the whites."

The revolution is visible to the naked eye. Hayes has revolutionized himself.

## BALLOTS AND BAYONETS.

Is this a free country? Then why do we see  
The ballot box guarded and bayonets gleam  
Close up to the polls? Vain boast, that we're free,  
Our prized independence is only a dream.  
A dream—yes a vision of long by-gone days—  
A remnant of glories we had in the past,  
That come back to haunt us, as hopeless we gaze  
On the chains that are binding our country so fast.  
"WE MUST," so the fraud in the White House says,  
Now mark it—"IN ORDER TO HAVE PEACE AT THE POLLS  
HAVE A STALWART ARMY." Is it peace, Mr. Hayes,  
That the party desires, which a "stalwart" controls?  
They stand—soldiers forth—watching each man  
Deposit his vote. Russia and Austria are not  
More despotically ruled—believe it who can,  
This is AMERICAN right of the ballot.  
Have we ceased to be sovereigns,  
With the right to vote free? Surrendered our liberty?  
Given up our opinions? are they other men's?  
Then Magna Charta a dead letter must be.  
What! FREEMEN march to the polls through the  
Of the nation's defenders—and drop in their votes  
At the tap of the drum? Never, no never, while  
The banner of FREEDOM over us floats.  
There are champions of liberty—all honor to them,  
Who are nobly battling against this wrong.  
This a desperate strife, but the tide they'll stem  
And make us again FREE men and strong.

ANTHONY, the Senator from Rhode Island, after the Democratic organization of the Senate, raised some excitement by charging that the Democratic officers of that body were removing Union soldiers who happened to be employees. It was not true. But the Republican papers took up the howl, and made it the text for many sensational paragraphs against the "Rebel Brigadiers" of a "Rebel Congress." It now appears that about the time Senator Anthony was so deeply affected for the Union soldiers employed in the Senate, a number of the war veterans were being removed from the custom house at Providence by Anthony's orders, to make room for relatives and favorite partisans. Thus it is ever. The stalwarts can neither be consistent nor honest.

EX-SENATOR MATTHEWS, says Secretary Sherman, will accept the nomination for Governor of Ohio, if offered him, and believes he will be the Republican candidate. If this wily politician seeks to enter the Ohio campaign as the Republican standard bearer it bodes no good for Grant, and he may prepare for a funeral of his hopes of a third-term.

Garfield is also said to be an aspirant, and will enter the contest for nomination with Sherman in the interest of Grant. They are both in Ohio watching their chances.

Kentucky's Democracy.  
THEIR NEW PLATFORM AND STATE TICKET.  
LOUISVILLE, May 2.—The Democratic State Convention has nominated for Governor, Dr. Luke P. Blackburn; for Lieutenant Governor, James E. Cantrey; for Attorney General, R. W. Harding; for Auditor, Fayette Hewitt. The following platform was unanimously adopted:  
The Democracy of Kentucky, in Convention assembled, reaffirm their attachment to the Constitution of the United States and the Union of the States as the best guarantee for the liberties of the people and their prosperity and happiness. They rejoice in the fact that it is in their power to recognize that all the States are restored to their political autonomy. They hereby record their solemn protest that the popular verdict at the polls has been reversed by the action of an Electoral Commission, and they declare that while in the interests of peace that result was acquiesced in, yet it shall not be held as a precedent for future violations of right and justice. Though thus deprived of the control of the Executive power in the administration of the Federal Government, they congratulate the people of the country at large that the popular will expressed at the polls has secured the supremacy of a Democratic majority in both Houses of Congress.

In further expression of our views, we resolve that we have viewed with intense interest the struggle between the Congress of the United States and the President, and contemplate with unfeigned anxiety and condemnation the unprecedented attitude assumed by the Executive in his message rejecting the supplies tendered by the people for the support of the army upon the wholesome condition that no military force should be used at their elections.

THE desperate means to which the radicals are resorting to widen the breach between to north and south and thus help along their bloody shirt campaign, are startlingly exhibited in the efforts they are making to increase the panic among the negroes in Louisiana and South Carolina. It is well known that negro labor is the best that can be employed on the plantations in the south. Therefore the unprincipled men who are conducting stalwart politics have employed miserable tools in the states mentioned, who travel about among the negroes telling them terrible stories and in every way adding to the numbers of the exodus, until even those who do not wish to go are being driven away to Kansas.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Mrs. Isabella Stehley, of Holidayburg, aged 82 years, departed alone last week for Portland Oregon.

Cyrus Morrison, a sexton of Millington, is alleged to have dug between ten and eleven hundred graves.

Pennsylvania has the largest number of Postoffices of any of the States, having 3,318 offices on March 1, 1879.

The soldiers' monument to be erected at Sunbury will cost \$5,250, and General Cameron has offered to pay one-half.

The State fair is to be held in the Permanent Exhibition building, Philadelphia, from the 8th to the 12th of September.

The quantity of coal and coke carried over the Pennsylvania railroad for the fourth week of April was 110,493 tons, of which 90,921 tons were coal and 19,575 tons coke.

Prince Alexander of Battenburg, has been elected to the throne of Bulgaria, and has resigned his commission in the German army. He is a nephew of the Empress of Russia.

Dr. Samuel Hill, of Manor Hill, Huntingdon county, was killed on Friday afternoon last by being thrown out of a buggy at Reedsville, Mifflin county. Dr. Hill formerly resided at Newry, in Blair county.

A pastorate vote was taken by the Presbytery in the Talmage case on Monday. It stood 12 for acquittal, 3 guilty and 3 undecided. The discussion was to be renewed on Tuesday and a decisive vote was expected to be taken.

Mr. Pierre Lorillard last week ran a train from New York to Chicago in twenty-four hours. The distance from Tyrone to Altoona—fifteen miles—was made in seventeen minutes. The train arrived at its destination just twenty-five minutes behind time.

Smithfield, a town composed of about twenty houses, a suburb of Huntingdon, was visited by an extensive fire Wednesday evening last about 5 o'clock. The fire originated in a stable, but the cause is unknown. The entire fire department of Huntingdon responded, but despite the efforts of the firemen and citizens several buildings were destroyed.

On Monday morning the town of Stratford, Ontario, was blown almost to pieces by the explosion of a car load of dynamite. Several buildings and several men were blown so forcibly that they have now gone where the woodbine twined. The total loss will equal about \$250,000. Great is the power of dynamite.

Saturday night as Milton Ritter, a breakman on the Perkiomen road, entered the private saloon of a car for the purpose of lighting the gas an explosion took place, burning him severely. The woodwork ignited, and after the passengers had been safely transferred to other cars the burning car was detached and totally destroyed.

Last Thursday morning Gov. Hoyt nominated James B. Neale, of Armstrong, to be president judge of the Thirty-third judicial district, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Boggs. The nomination was promptly confirmed by the senate. The governor also renominated J. M. Foster to be state insurance commissioner, and the senate confirmed the nomination.

The long looked for single scull race in England on the Tyne, between Edward Hanlan of Toronto, and John Hawdon, of Deleval, for £200 a side, took place on Monday, and, as was generally expected, resulted in a victory for Hanlan. Hanlan won the race with the greatest ease by six lengths. The correct time of Hanlan is 22 minutes 5 seconds. Hanlan led from the start, and had the race in hand throughout.

Advices from southeastern Kansas say about two thousand men have gone into the Indian territory within the past week; also that rich silver mines have been discovered just south of the Kansas line, and claims in large numbers are being registered daily in the Squatters' Registry office, two miles from Baxter Springs, Kansas.

MR. JOHNSON introduced in the United States Senate on Friday a bill amendatory of and supplementary to the act to aid in the construction of the Texas Pacific railroad. It authorizes the company to extend its line from its present western terminus to El Paso, there to unite with the Southern Pacific railroad. Lands granted to the former are transferred to and invested in the latter, extending along its portion of road. Each company is required to complete its road within six years. Provision is also made for railroads to unite with these roads at El Paso, the object being to form complete lines to the Pacific from the Gulf and South Atlantic States.

Sunday evening about 8 o'clock Geo. C. Harding, of Indianapolis, Indiana, editor of the Herald, entered the residence of Calvin A. Light, editor of the Democrat, and attempted to shoot the latter because of a certain publication in the Democrat. Light grasped the pistol, and getting his finger under the hammer prevented an explosion, holding on until assistance came, when Harding was arrested and remained in custody until an early hour Monday, when he gave bail. At 8:20 Monday morning he entered Light's office and fired at him several times, missing Light, but hitting an employe named Gerhard Linius, inflicting a serious wound, and Harding is now in jail awaiting the result of that wound. Another employe of Light's named Richard Walters jumped from the second-story window during the firing and broke both ankles.