

# 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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## The Centre Democrat.

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

Thursday Morning, July 10, 1879.

### State Democratic Convention.

The State Democratic Convention will meet at Harrisburg, on WEDNESDAY, the 16th day of July, 1879, at noon, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for State Treasurer, and transacting such other business as the interests of the party may require.

By order of the State Committee.  
R. M. SPEER, Chairman.  
H. L. DUFFENBACH, P. J. FISHER, P. C. HAMBER, Secretaries.

THE majestic and imperious Mr. Conkling says, "No!" and that is an end of it. He will not go to Ohio to help Charley Foster and the Sherman boom.

JAY GOULD has sailed for Europe, but the New York Tribune will nevertheless continue to do his bidding. From Horace Greeley to Jay Gould! "What a fall was there, my countrymen!"

It is full time for some of the stalwarts to put a muzzle upon Bishop Gilbert Haven. In a fourth of July address at Woodstock, Ct., he characterized Grant as a greater man than Washington or Napoleon. This kind of thing will soon become absurd.

THE report so widely circulated by the Republican press that Zach Chandler, in one of his spasms of excessive patriotism, had offered his personal bank account for the pay of the deputy marshals lacks confirmation. It is greatly to be feared that the old Michigander is far more extravagant in the use of his tongue than his private funds.

THE New Orleans Picayune epitomizes the results of the extra session of Congress as follows: "An uncontaminated jury box and an unmolesated ballot box. The session has cost something. Has not the money been well and worthily spent? Consider either of these conclusions reversed and tell us what you would be ready to pay for another answer."

PITTSBURG promises to send a number of distinguished Democrats to assist in the Ohio campaign this fall, among them Hon. James H. Hopkins and R. M. Gibson, Esq. It is also announced that David Kirk, National candidate for Congress against Russell Errett in one of the Allegheny districts last fall, will also take the stump for Ewing.

THOSE were very appropriate terms which the Democrats of Maine, in their recent nominating convention, used in reference to a certain creation of the Republican party. "The refuse of every city under the name of deputy marshals," is what they were termed, and perhaps no words can more fittingly describe the corrupt men and means upon which the Republicans rely to maintain the position of power, now fast slipping from their grasp.

It was officially announced from Washington yesterday, that Jno. Sherman is a candidate for the Republican nomination for president, and that he will make several set speeches in Maine and Ohio during the present campaign upon the finances and the Southern question, explaining incidentally the position of the Administration, and defending Mr. Hayes for his actions during the extra session of Congress. If he does all this his speeches will necessarily be "set" speeches, for no living man could stand up and go through such a programme. John Sherman is unquestionably a man of great ability, but he will find his resources taxed to their utmost as he defends one so-called president and makes himself a candidate at the same time. He is used to political gymnastics, but he will have to turn a double-back-action-cylinder-escapement somersault if he expects to light on his feet after the attempt. No ordinary exhibition will be safe.

### Veto of the Labor Bill.

The veto of the bill passed during the late session of our State legislature to secure to operatives and laborers in mines and manufactories of iron and steel the payment of their wages in lawful money of the United States has already been announced, and has provoked considerable discussion by those interested on both sides of the question. It is not our purpose at this time to take part in any discussion either to defend or doubt the correctness of the reasons given by the Governor of the State for disapproving the bill and preventing it by the use of the veto power from becoming a law; but we simply desire to show that the strongest objections urged by the Governor might have been obviated if those who set themselves up as the special champions of the rights of labor had been sufficient, by wise to accept the reasonable amendments proposed by Senator C. T. Alexander when the bill was under consideration in the Senate. Gov. Hoyt, in the veto message, states his principal objections, as follows:

"The act is special and within constitutional prohibition. Even if general it would be open to valid objection as being contrary to the genius of our free government and as based upon a theory subversive of the true principles of our constitution in that it denies the laborer the right to sell his labor to whom he pleases and for such prices and on such terms as seem good to him without molestation, hindrance or restriction."

In his able argument on the merits of the bill, Senator Alexander referred to its "special" character, in that it only applied to labor employed "in mines and manufactories of iron and steel," and showed conclusively that unless made "general" by amendment, so as to apply alike to all branches of industry, it came within the constitutional prohibition and could not become a valid law. Upon the question of the policy of the law as proposed by its friends he was equally conclusive, as an extract from his speech, that covers both of the objections advanced by the Governor, will show. He said:

"Section seven, article three, of the Constitution, provides that the General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law... changing the rules of evidence in any judicial proceeding, or inquiry before court, alderman, justices of the peace, or regulating labor, trade, mining or manufacturing." This proposed law may not be local in its character as it applies to three branches of industry in all of the counties of the State, in which they are conducted, and is therefore general as to the business to which it refers, but is it not special as it applies to three particular branches of industry? What did the framers of the Constitution mean by the use of the words local or special in the connection in which they are here used? We must gather their meaning by the same rules we would apply in the interpretation of a statute.

But whether it be unconstitutional or not, is not the policy of such a law bad? All men are equal before the law, and each man should be left free to make his own contracts in his own way, so long as he does not interfere with the rights of others. All laws in restraint of legitimate trade are obnoxious; all laws that seek to interpose a barrier to the making of legitimate contracts are in restraint of trade, and an unwarranted interference with the rights of citizenship.

This seems wise, reasonable and statesmanlike. Now for the remedy urged by Mr. Alexander. His amendment reads as follows:

"That every corporation, co-partnership, firm or individual doing any business within this Commonwealth in which laborers are employed shall pay their laborers or employes at stated periods in money or merchandise or other commodity, as may be agreed upon between the parties at the time of the contract of hiring and in accordance with the terms thereof, and it shall be unlawful for any corporation, co-partnership, firm or individual, doing business as aforesaid, to knowingly and willfully charge their employes more or a greater price for any article of merchandise furnished than that at which the same article and quality of merchandise is sold at for cash in the same town or neighborhood by other merchants or others trading in such articles. That it shall be unlawful for any retail merchant doing business in this Commonwealth to receive any order that may be drawn upon him for the payment of labor at less than its face value, or to discount the same, or to furnish store goods or merchandise therefor, charging a greater or higher price for the same than he would sell the same quality of goods at for cash, or

than the same quality of goods or merchandise can be purchased at for cash in the same town or neighborhood. That any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall pay a fine of not less than ten dollars or more than fifty dollars for each offence, and shall refund to the party to whom such goods or merchandise shall have been sold the difference between the price charged and the cash price thereof."

The reader will not fail to observe that while making the measure general in its effect upon all kinds of labor, and thus obviating the fatal constitutional objection, this proposition was also comprehensive enough to meet the objection of public policy, so forcibly presented in the veto message. Under its provisions there could be no interference with the rights of contract. Upon this point Mr. Alexander said: "The amendment I have proposed does not interfere with the right of capital and labor to contract with each other, and it makes the order that may be issued in payment of labor, buy as much as would that much money." And again: "It recognizes the principle that underlies our institutions, to wit: the freedom of all our people to make such contracts as they please, so long as they do not interfere with any positive law or the rights of others. But no law should be passed, unless based upon the soundest policy, restricting their right to do so contract."

It will thus be seen that a fair and reasonable law for the protection of labor might now be upon the statute books, had the pretended friends of the measure before the legislature last winter been "wise in their day," and had accepted such modifications of their bill as would have brought it within the bounds of the fundamental law of the commonwealth and of a sound public policy. With the safeguard of the Alexander amendment the act would not have fallen under a veto.

### Pennsylvania's 2nd Centennial.

The people of this country have been having so many Centennial celebrations within the last four or five years, that some danger exists that one of the most important events which should be thus celebrated may be forgotten or overlooked. In less than two years we will have the two hundredth anniversary of the granting of the Charter of Pennsylvania by Charles II. to William Penn. The granting of that charter laid the foundations for civil and religious liberty in Pennsylvania. The upwards of 4,000,000 of people who will be enjoying these blessings in this great commonwealth, on the 4th of March, 1881, ought on that day to properly celebrate this event. The fact that this anniversary comes on the same day as the inauguration of the next president should not cause it to be overlooked. Politicians and office-seekers may be more interested in the proceedings at Washington on that day than in celebrating the founding of a great commonwealth, but the mass of liberty-loving citizens of this State have more reasons to be interested in properly celebrating an event which resulted in establishing free government over this vast territory, than in seeing any man, be he good or bad, inducted into a high office. The Legislature of this State will probably be in session then. Let its members, at the State capital, properly celebrate the second centennial of Pennsylvania, instead of going on a jamboree to Washington.

On the third page of the DEMOCRAT, of this week, will be found the exceptionally able and brilliant speech of Hon. Frank H. Hurd, of Ohio, delivered in the House of Representatives, on the 27th of June, on the bill making appropriations to pay the fees of United States marshals and their deputies. Mr. Hurd completely wrecks the absurd proposition of Garfield that the Union preceded the States, and just as completely demol-

ishes the centralizing, "strong government" theories advanced by the same gentleman and other leaders of the Republican party. He also reviews in a clear and concise manner the position assumed by Mr. Hayes in the veto messages, and thoroughly exposes their fallacy. In conclusion, Mr. Hurd presents a strong statement of the issue now made up between the two parties, and eloquently appeals to the country in behalf of the fundamental principles of civil liberty, the pure administration of justice and free and fair elections. We trust this effort will receive the careful consideration of the reader.

### Important to Pensioners.

Gen. H. G. SICKEL, the efficient and obliging Pension Agent at Philadelphia, publishes the following notice, in the newspapers of that city, by which it will be seen that under a recent act of Congress the biennial examination of invalid pensioners has been discontinued.

U. S. PENSION AGENCY, 720 Sanson st., PHILADELPHIA, July 7, 1879.

I enclose you a copy of notice of the repeal of Sections 4,771, 4,772 and 4,773 of the Revised Statutes as follows:

"DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, PENSION OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C., July 1, 1879.—By virtue of an act of Congress approved June 21, 1879, the biennial examination of invalid pensioners is abolished from that date. The following is the provision, to-wit:

"That Sections forty-seven hundred and seventy-one, forty-seven hundred and seventy-two and forty-seven hundred and seventy-three, of the Revised Statutes of the United States, providing for biennial examinations of pensioners, are hereby repealed."

(Signed) J. A. BENTLEY, Commissioner."

The effect of the above is to dispense with the medical examinations of pensioners that were heretofore required at the September payment of each odd year, as 1877, 1879, 1881, etc.

Heretofore, the biennial examination has been the cause of much delay in the payment of pensioners at such times, more especially those in the city, as they were required to appear before the Board of Surgeons here.

This being a matter of importance to many, I think it should be given publicity through the local columns of your paper. Very respectfully,

H. G. SICKEL, United States Pension Agent.

THE recent amusing blunder of Congressman Hubbell, of Michigan, who mistook Mr. Turner, a Democratic representative from Kentucky, for Gen. Robinson, the chairman of the Ohio Republican State committee, and divulged the plan of Republican Congressional committee to subsidize in the interests of the Republican campaign of Ohio, the *National View*, a Greenback organ published at Washington, is again heard from. This time from the headquarters of the Congressional committee comes a wail of woe over Mr. Hubbell and his voluntary information in regard to Republican tactics in Ohio. To counteract the effect of Hubbell's indiscreet disclosure it was proposed by the committee to issue a circular letter, for distribution in Maine and Ohio, alleging that Hubbell acted without authority and solely on his own responsibility in soliciting money for the benefit of the *National View*. To this procedure Hubbell has entered a solemn protest, and threatens if any thing of the kind is done to denounce the committee openly and state publicly what the members of the committee knew to be a fact, namely that they had considered the matter in committee more than once and that in his efforts to raise money for the Greenback paper he was acting, not only with their knowledge, but under their advice. This Washington newspaper has strenuously opposed any greenback affiliation with the Democrats of Ohio, and thus hopes to keep enough Greenback votes from Gen. Ewing to insure the election of Foster, the Republican candidate for governor. It is about time for honest Greenbackers to ascertain who among their leaders and which of their organs annually receive pay from the Republicans for the purpose of helping that party to success at the polls. The Ohio game, however, is about played out. To be fore-armed is to be fore-armed.

### Gathering Raspberries.

Written for the CENTRE DEMOCRAT.

In the cool of morning rising,  
Dressing hastily,  
Donning all our oldest garments,  
Laughing merrily,  
Eating of a hearty breakfast,  
Which we all agree  
Was the best ever partaken  
By humanity.

Each one taking a deep basket,  
Gente and ladies fair,  
We go forth into the morning  
Quaffing in the air,  
Empty though our baskets now are,  
Ever the day is done

We that hope with luscious berries  
They will over-run,  
For we're going after berries  
Toward the dewy wood,  
Where they grow along the hedges,  
Plump and sweet and good;

Pendant in rich, glowing clusters,  
Of which each one may  
Pluck and heap within his basket—  
Not a cent to pay.

Far and near throughout the country,  
Stretching round us broad,  
Grow these lovely berry bushes,  
Planted there by God.

As we gather them we drink in  
Nature's gift of health  
Which, more than the berries even,  
Is a store of wealth;

No other gift ever given  
Half so sweet can be  
As, when served with cream and sugar,  
Is this raspberry.

If its rare sweetness be bottled  
In jars close and tight,  
Then throughout the dreary winter  
It will give delight.

What if as we berries gather  
Juices from them flow,  
Spreading o'er our fair, white fingers  
A rich crimson glow?

This slight stain will only color  
On the outward skin,  
And we need not worry if our  
Hearts are pure within.

Then, ye delicate, fair lady  
And ye polished beau  
Come, and in this lovely weather,  
To the country go.

Place between your lips a berry  
So its juice will flow,  
With its luscious, crushed-out sweetness,  
Gently down your throat.

### The Cow Ordinance.

MR. EDITOR:—Will you permit me to call the attention of the citizens of our borough to an ordinance relative to the impounding of cattle running at large upon the streets between the hours of 7 P. M. and 6 A. M. First, as to the object of the ordinance: I was told that it was to prevent a certain class of cows from breaking into gardens, yards, &c. It cannot be denied that there are cows that break into these places, and sometimes do great damage. But how will the ordinance compensate those who meet with losses in this way. The ordinance does not seem to benefit those who lose by trespassing cattle. It seems only to benefit the one who hunts them up and collects the two dollars. This ordinance is a dead letter as to compensating the past, present or future losses of individuals by these trespassing cattle.

Does not the law afford a remedy against these kind of losses? Yes, but one says, in most cases the parties are too poor to pay damages, and consequently they can do nothing with them. But, under this ordinance, they will either keep their cows in at night, or pay their two dollars to get them out of the pound, if caught and put there. Suppose this to be true, is it right that you should be compelled to pay for the damage that another's cow does to your neighbor? To illustrate: Suppose there are ten bad or trespassing cows in this borough, and two hundred and fifty good or non-trespassing ones; and out of this last number sixty belong to those who receive their greatest comforts, and largest family supplies, from this source, and can ill afford to pay two dollars for the taking up of their cows, that have never done any harm or damage, save that they are five or more minutes too late in getting home—are these the ones that must pay for bad or trespassing cows? Or is it right that any one, rich or poor, should pay any sum to get his cow out of pound when she has committed no wrong to any one? It is a well known fact, that if every one were able and disposed to get pasture for his cow, that he could not do so, simply because it is not to be had. Hence his cow must run at large, and in a favorable season there is abundance of pasture; but this season it is a failure, consequently cattle are often late in coming home—and I repeat, is it right or just to take up a cow and collect two dollars, when no harm is done to any one? When a cow does damage to another's property, the owner of the cow should pay the loss, but I cannot see how this ordinance provides a remedy. Surely two hundred and fifty persons should not be subject to a penalty for the mischief and wrong that ten others commit. The ordinance would not lack sense if it said all cattle found at large and committing damage at any time would be impounded and held until the damage, if any, were satisfied. Then it would be a protection to the citizens of this borough, otherwise it is an imposition.

VOX POPULI.

### GENERAL NEWS.

Up to Wednesday nearly 100,000,000 feet of lumber had been rafted out of the boom at Williamsport.

Ex-Judge Abraham B. Olin, formerly Associate Justice of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, died Monday morning at Washington.

Bishop O'Hara, of Scranton, visited Dushore, Sullivan county, on Sunday last and confirmed a class of over one hundred at the Catholic church in that place.

Cases of incendiarism and other outrages by tramps have become so frequent of late at Oil City that a meeting of citizens has been held and the council asked to pass an ordinance for the punishment of tramps.

An enjoyable feature of the Fourth of July in Philadelphia was when Mr. George W. Childs, of the *Public Ledger*, fed six hundred and sixty-two newsboys at his own expense in the Permanent Exhibition building.

While General Tom Thumb was sailing in his yacht on Assawampsett pond, at Middleborough, Mass., on the Fourth of July, it was capsized. The General and party were picked up by a passing boat.

When Judges differ who shall decide? Judge Pershing, of Schuylkill, decides that druggists are liable to pay a license as vendors of patent medicines, and Judge Myers, of Northampton, decides that they have no right to pay such license.

The Democratic committee of York county met in York on Monday. Chauncey F. Black was unanimously elected Senatorial delegate, and Messrs. N. B. Wanner, W. F. Baystewart, James B. Schmidt and Emanuel Smith, Representative delegates.

Dr. Alexander Clark, of Pittsburg, editor of the *Methodist Recorder*, died at the Executive Mansion, at Atlanta, Georgia, on Sunday. Dr. Clark was of Scotch descent, and was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, on the 10th day of March, 1834. He was the author of many religious papers and books, and was an incessant worker.

A new railroad, eight miles in length, is to be built from New Bloomfield, the county seat of Perry county, to a point on the line of the Pennsylvania railroad. The object to be accomplished by building this branch line is to furnish an outlet for rich beds of iron ore. It is expected that the road will be completed by the 1st of October.

By the careening of a pleasure boat on Lake Quinsigamond, Worcester, Mass., on the afternoon of the Fourth of July, seven persons were drowned and many others injured. It was caused by one party endeavoring to get on and another party to get off the boat before the gang plank had been run out. Thus bringing the large number of persons to one side caused it to upset with the above result.

The great shipbuilder, William Cramp, the head of the extensive and well known Cramp shipbuilding and engine works in Kensington, near Philadelphia, died on Sunday at Atlantic City. He had been failing in health for the past two years, active life and old age beginning to tell severely upon him. Three weeks ago he became ill, and Sunday morning, at eleven o'clock, died of ossification of the blood vessels of the brain. Since commencing business he has built two hundred and twenty-five vessels.

Another destructive cyclone and tornado prevailed on Wednesday evening throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa. At Lamars, Plymouth county, Iowa, it was furious, destroying \$100,000 worth of property. At St. Paul, Minnesota, five inches of rain fell in fifteen hours, deluging cellars. It raged most violently at Vasa, Goodhue county, Minn., where hailstones fell as large as hen's eggs. The orphanage at Vasa was destroyed and three of its inmates killed. Near that place many other houses were demolished and their inmates killed or injured.

As Miss Jessie Dunbar, music teacher, 20 years of age, was walking Saturday afternoon in Toohy's grove, at Mattawan, N. J., three boys threw down some fire crackers which exploded under her clothing, which became ignited, and her screams attracted the attention of some men near by, who quickly came to her assistance. She was horribly scathed all over her body, the flesh being burned even up to her head, which is charred and blackened. The coroner, Dr. J. P. Schenck, attended her and took her ante-mortem statement. Every possible effort was made to alleviate her sufferings, which were of the most terrific nature. At 8 o'clock Saturday evening death came to her relief.

One of the most distressing accidents ever known near Wilmington, N. C., occurred in Beaufort harbor on the Fourth. At 2 o'clock on that day Captain Appleton Oaksmith, with four daughters and one son, embarked on Fort Macon for Beaufort in a small boat. The wind was blowing pretty fresh at the time and the storm signal at Fort Macon was displayed, but not heeding this they embarked. When about halfway across the sound the boat filled and sunk, and they were all at the mercy of the water. The oldest daughter sunk and was seen no more, but Captain Oaksmith, his son and the other three daughters were rescued by boatmen, the girls more dead than alive. The Captain and his son were in no danger, but the three girls, after unceasing care and attention, died, the same night about 9 o'clock. Their remains were taken on Saturday to their home at Carolina City for interment.