

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, August 28, 1879.

Democratic State Ticket.

STATE TREASURER,
DANIEL O. BARR, Allegheny county.

When the Rev. Theodore Cuyler, of Brooklyn, speaks of Mr. Hayes as a "God-fearing President," we take it for granted he means that God abhors a fraud, and that Rutherford does well to fear and tremble.

Secretary Sherman is economizing the campaign fund of his party, by circulating his campaign speeches under the official stamp of the Treasury Department. It does not matter to John that this is in violation of law, which limits the use of these stamps to the official business of the department.

Read the charge of Judge Pearson to the grand jury of Dauphin county. It is an able exposition of the law against the crime of official bribery, and if the jury does its duty under the law as laid down by the court, some of the rogues who tried to debauch the Legislature last winter may yet come to justice.

It appears that the health of the Hon. Warren J. Woodward, of the Supreme Court, is still precarious, and at our last reports very little hope was entertained of his recovery. The death of this accomplished jurist would be a serious loss to the people of Pennsylvania, and we hope the unfavorable reports may be exaggerated.

Perhaps Mr. Justice Miller, of the Supreme Court of the United States and one of the infamous eight of the eight to seven electoral commission, may think that "an honest confession is good for the soul," at least he has lately admitted that the vote of Louisiana belonged to Mr. Tilden, by a majority of from eight to ten thousand votes. Mr. Justice Miller should have thought of this when he voted to override the will of the people as expressed at the election in 1876, and place a man in the Presidential chair who was defeated at the polls.

The Democratic County Convention of Clinton county met last week and placed in nomination the following excellent ticket: Prothonotary, G. W. Batcheler; Register and Recorder, James W. Clark; Coroner, Dr. Mader; Jury Commissioner, A. C. Chatham. Messrs. Batcheler and Clark at present hold the offices for which they are nominated. Both are excellent officials, and well deserved the compliment of a re-nomination. Of their election there can be no doubt. Col. William A. Simpson was made chairman of the County Committee. Col. Simpson has the ability, experience and energy to make a most efficient chairman. Under his management the Democracy of Clinton will not fail to make a good record.

"Does any sane man think this administration capable of sending the soldier to the ballot box to overawe the freedom of the elector?"—John Sherman in his Steubenville speech.

If this Administration is incapable of "sending the soldier to the ballot box to overawe the elector," why insist upon the power to do so? Why veto an appropriation bill for the sole reason that it contained a clause repealing the power of "this administration" to so use the soldier? Whenever and wherever the soldier appears at the ballot box his presence is an insult and a menace to the freedom of the elector, and Oily Gammon Sherman's innocent (?) platitudes about what "this Administration" is capable or incapable of doing are entirely "too thin" to be accepted as an answer to the Democratic position upon this issue.

To such of our contemporaries, says the *Record*, as find in the Yazoo (Mississippi) affair further reason for Federal interference with elections we would point out that when the purity of elections must depend upon the efficiency of the central authority at Washington as a regulating force, representative institutions in this country will be far on the road to decay. Whatever of good character as an index of the people's will elections have thus far sustained has been solely due to the force and strength of the local institutions. When these shall have lost their vitality there will be nothing left for the strong government to rest upon, unless a foundation of bayonets be erected as a sustaining force. Much has been written of the strength of the General Government as evinced by the suppression of the rebellion, but while dwelling upon the restraining influence of Seward's little bell we should not forget that the force which most contributed to the victory for the Union was the influence of the Northern States as States. It is safe to say that under the circumstances which existed in 1861, in respect to the absence of a regularly-organized army, etc., a central authority, though clothed with a despotic power, could not have brought to bear successfully the fighting strength of the loyal portion of the country. It was by means of the compact State Governments at the North that men and means were quickly brought into service and the national authority placed upon a war footing. What was true in relation to war and its horrors is now true of political corruption and its insidious dangers. If the nation is to live it must gain renewed life through the strength of local institutions. If the ballot box is put to base uses it will not be saved by the deputy marshals. The *North American* can only find in the Dixon murder "a convincing proof of the necessity for continuing the supervision of the Federal Government over the Federal elections." An unbiased mind should be able to perceive that the mere fact that the whites of Mississippi are quarreling among themselves over the negro's vote is an auspicious sign, for which the country should be thankful. This, of course, does not lessen the heinousness of the crime committed in taking the life of Dixon, but it shows conclusively that when bulldozers fall out the colored men are in a fair way to secure protectors vastly more serviceable than scores of regiments of carpet-bag deputy marshals.

At a Republican county meeting last week in West Chester, the Hon. Samuel Butler, the Republican candidate for State Treasurer, among other things said, "There are no State issues to-day." It would be very convenient to Mr. Butler, certainly, to hide from view the record of his party, nay, his own record, in connection with the shameless plunder of the Commonwealth, attempted and perpetrated, by the unchallenged license given to fraud and debauchery in the public doings of that party. "No State issue," indeed! Why, the question of having "honest men in office," was made a direct issue in the Convention that nominated Mr. Butler, by Wolfe's resolution, and it was rejected as a thing not to be encouraged in a Republican convention. Is not "honest men in office" a subject worthy of being classed as a "State issue," in view of the proceedings in that convention? Are not such matters as the attempt to rob the State of \$4,000,000, in the interest of the lobby, which measure obtained the votes of a large majority of the Republican members of the House, and on which measure Mr. Butler so far compromised himself as to vote against the expulsion of the notorious Petroff—the wanton appropriation of the public funds to furnish display for Republican officials—the general debauchery and speculation which marked the career of the last Legislature, and its employes, in

an extended and unnecessary session of five months duration at a cost of many thousands—are not records such as these, with many others which might be referred to, worthy the attention of the people when considering the claims of the Republican party for a continued lease of its power in the State, by the election of one of its trusted leaders to the office of State Treasurer?

The Wallace Committee in Rhode Island.

The committee of the United States Senate, appointed under the Blaine resolution to ascertain "whether the right of suffrage was denied or abridged in any State," and of which our able and distinguished Pennsylvania Senator, Mr. Wallace, is now chairman, has lately given its attention to the Republican strongholds of Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Our second page will be found to contain a full and comprehensive review of the work of the committee in the little State first named. It should command the attention of the reader. Rhode Island is the only State in the Union in which foreign born citizens are required by a constitutional provision to possess a certain amount of real estate before they can exercise the elective franchise, and the evidence taken by the Wallace committee discloses how persistently and how successfully the Republican party has resisted every effort to repeal this illiberal and anti-Democratic feature of the State constitution. It gives instances of how men of foreign birth are deprived of the right to vote though they have served in the armies of the United States and shed their blood to defend and protect the government of their adoption. One venerable man, seventy-five years old, a manufacturing jeweler by trade, testifies that he has been a naturalized citizen for twenty-five years, and that in his days of prosperity he had been a member of both branches of the State Legislature, and in 1853-4 a member of Congress. Failing in business he was obliged to turn his property over to an assignee, and with it went his right to the elective franchise. These instances might be multiplied, but repetition is unnecessary. The facts are patent.

The evidence also discloses the fact that intimidation of employes is another feature of Rhode Island politics now fastened down by proof that can not be doubted or controverted. At every election the large manufacturing monopolies of the State are the controlling power, and employes are obliged to vote according to orders at the risk of loss of employment if they refuse to do so. Bribery is also common, and it is by means like these—disfranchisement of foreigners, intimidation of workmen and open bribery—that the State is kept secure in its place in the Republican household. Senator Wallace, and the majority of his committee, deserve the thanks of the country for the thoroughness of their work. They have heretofore shown the character of the deputy-marshals and the base uses to which they have been put in Philadelphia and New York, and in other cities of the country, and now that they have exposed the manner in which elections are carried "down East," where a higher state of civilization is supposed to prevail than elsewhere in the world, it will be necessary for our Republican friends to extend the scope of their vision. Localities other than the "bull-dozed South" will demand their attention.

SENATOR WADE HAMPTON has expressed a preference for Senator Bayard, of Delaware, as the Democratic candidate for President. It is a creditable choice. With such men as Bayard, Hendricks, Thurman, Hancock, and Tilden from whom to make choice, the Democracy cannot err much in selecting a worthy champion to lead them to victory in 1880.

AFTER THE ROOSTERS.

JUDGE PEARSON'S INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GRAND JURY.

A True Bill Required in the Case of Every Person Shown to Have Corruptly Solicited or Received a Bribe in the Riot Losses Matter.

HARRISBURG, Pa. August, 25.—As the trial of Kemble, Salter, Leisenring, Crawford and others, accused of attempted bribery in connection with the bill to reimburse persons who lost property by the Pittsburgh riots, approaches the interest increases. There was a large crowd in the Court House to-day to hear Judge Pearson's charge on the riot bribery subject. The Judge appeared very earnest, and convinced all within hearing of his voice that he was in hearty sympathy with the movement to punish bribery in the Legislature.

The Judge said that bribery was highly injurious to society and dangerous to public morals and to the general administration of the Government of the country. "I speak of it, gentlemen," said he, "as a crime which strikes almost at the foundations of society, because, if instead of having fair, honest, proper legislation, according to the best discretion and judgment of the legislators, we are to have them bought over to vote for measures or vote against measures which the public requires, or which are injurious to the public, either the one or the other, then I say it is dangerous to society at large, and we should most carefully guard against anything of that kind. It is not merely a person soliciting, but the person agreeing to receive or actually receiving, that ought to be held up to public scorn and contempt by being indicted in the Criminal Court."

The Judge then quoted the Constitutional provisions against bribery and the law in pursuance thereof, and said: "Any open address, persuasion or coaxing would not come within the act, but the moment any office, money, article of value, or promise of advantages, is offered it brings the act within the statute. In order to make the offence charged here you have only to inquire has there an offer or endeavor to influence any member of the Legislature by offering or promising them money, promising them anything of value, promising them any advantages of any office, any advantage of any kind? Was that done? If so, it would be an attempt to solicit them to do what is illegal, and is an attempt to bribe and unlawful solicitation. All that is necessary to be proved is that the accused solicited members of the Legislature to vote in a particular way, under promise of procuring money for them or offering to give them money, telling them where money could be procured, or that they could have money by doing so and so. Bribery has long been prohibited in Pennsylvania, and yet, to the scandal of our State—I hope it is false, I hope it is only scandal—it has been urged, and said hundreds and hundreds of times, that such and such a bill was procured by bribery. It demeans our State, it brings us into contempt with our sister States, causes us to be belittled abroad, to be belittled at home; injures the legislative body with the community. The very suspicion that they take bribes is an injury to them, an injury to society in general, and they are led to distrust the laws that such a Legislature passes and to disregard them entirely. Therefore it is a high offence against society, and one that should be most carefully guarded against by Courts and juries, punished inflexibly and without any hesitation."

Judge Pearson also instructed the Grand Jury to proceed against members in whose cases no indictments have been framed, but whom the evidence submitted to the Jury implicates in corrupt solicitation of the members of the Legislature or of accepting or agreeing to accept a bribe. "In this way," he said, "neither the persons charged in the indictments nor the members of the Legislature themselves can escape punishment. You cannot act upon newspaper reports. You have no right to act upon resolutions of the Legislature. You act upon the evidence produced before you, and that alone; and if that makes out a case of either bribery or receiving a bribe against the person who is charged, find a true bill. If it is against others who are not charged, make a presentment of them to the District Attorney so that the whole matter shall be properly and fully investigated in Court, so that we may get to the bottom of these things. Sometimes committees of the Legislature examine such subjects. They have no the same power the Courts have in compelling the attendance and testimony of witnesses. Sometimes they are not very anxious to find out what has been done; sometimes they are not very willing to expose whether they have been guilty of receiving bribes. They don't want to tell anything that takes place. But we want to find out everything about it. We want to get to the truth of the matter, and get to the bottom of it, and see who is guilty and who is not guilty, or whether any person is guilty, or whether it is a mere general slander. If the Commonwealth produces witnesses to show the truth of the allegations made in the indictments, find true bills, without the least regard to whom it will strike; without the least regard to the character of the persons accused."

A fire broke out in a rag warehouse in the rear of the Cleveland (O.) Paper Company's establishment at Cleveland on Saturday night. It partially communicated to the main building. The loss will probably reach \$30,000.

GENERAL NEWS.

The steamer France from Havre brought \$800,000 in gold bars to New York Thursday last.

Emma Fisk, of Coleville, McKean county, gave an infant Dover's powders by mistake, and it died within a short time.

Efforts are in progress to secure the establishment of an extensive barrel factory at Curwinstown, in Clearfield county.

Alice Vail, a young girl in Sayre, Bradford county, attempted to light a fire with coal oil on Thursday afternoon, and was burned to death.

Steel rails are being laid on the Philadelphia and Erie railroad. By the first of September the work will be completed between Sunbury and Renovo.

Mrs. Chisholm has gone down to Kemper county, Mississippi, to attend the trial of the slayer of her husband, Gen. Stewart L. Woodford goes along as escort.

A needle, with a long thread attached, was picked out of a boy's back, in Lancaster, on Saturday. It is supposed to have entered some portion of his body when he was an infant.

An Edenburg paper states that some of the felt roofing from the Parker tank explosion was picked up between that place and Shippensville, eighteen miles from the starting point.

The steamship Lord Clive, sailed for Liverpool on Saturday last with a cargo valued at \$183,445, consisting in part of 4,000 bushels of corn, 18,000 bushels of wheat, 4,118 sacks of flour and 130 head of cattle.

The Lancaster *New Era* has information that Mr. John C. Groff, of Mount Joy, that county, boasts of stalks of tobacco in his patch that have eighteen leaves, some of which measure 5 1/4 inches in length.

Senator Matt H. Carpenter has been visiting Judge Jeremiah Black, and his visit is supposed to have reference to the approaching bribery trials at Harrisburg, especially as lawyer Irwin, of Harrisburg, is also there.

At Tuscola, Ill., George Clark was fatally shot by his step-son, Hugh McGuire, who told him that he had come all the way from Kansas to kill him for deserting his (McGuire's) mother. McGuire gave himself up to the authorities.

Pat Collins, of Houtzdale, Clearfield county, attacked John Donnelly on Wednesday night of last week with an iron peg remover, inflicting wounds which will probably prove fatal. Collins who is a well-known Mollie Maguire, escaped.

At Tioga last Saturday Freddy Hughes, a ten-year-old boy, while playing with a younger brother, snapped a rusty army musket at him, when the weapon was exploded, the charge passing into his little brother's head, killing him almost instantly.

At a mass meeting of weavers, two-thirds of whom were women, at Fall River, Mass., on Friday night last, it was resolved to demand a reduction of wages of 15 per cent, and that the weavers will follow many anti-state

At Springfield, Ill., early in the morning of the 27th, a fire destroyed twenty-four buildings and burned out twenty-two firms. The main business part of the city is in ruins. The fire is believed to be incendiary. Total loss about \$100,000.

The will of Harvey D. Palmer, of the firm of Jarret & Palmer, was filed for probate last Thursday. After the bequests of \$200 in cash and \$500 a year for life to his mother and \$200 a year to his aunt he leaves the rest of his real and personal estate to his wife, who is appointed sole executrix.

A private despatch received in New Bedford, Mass., on Saturday evening, announced the loss in Hudson Bay of the whaling brig A. J. Ross. The vessel sailed from New Bedford on May 15, 1878. It was owned there and valued at \$20,000. The insurance is light. The captain and crew were saved.

Geo. H. Eddy, treasurer of the Flint Mill at Fall River, Mass., has stepped down and out. He has been speculating in cotton futures, resulting in a loss to the mill of \$15,000. No criminal intent is imputed to him. His conduct was disapproved and he resigned.

Mr. John W. Forney, having accepted the invitation of the original settlers of Kansas, at Lawrence, in that state, has been formally invited to deliver the address commemorative of the early settlement of Kansas, on the 15th of September, 1879.

The United States Indian Agent at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe agency, Indian Territory, under date of August 15, reports that about the 8th inst., two white horse thieves rounded up and ran off with forty-nine head of Cheyenne ponies. All but two were recovered, but the thieves escaped.

Evangelist Dwight L. Moody has been largely instrumental in establishing a school for girls at Northfield, Mass. The corner-stone was laid on Thursday, Evangelists Moody, Pentecost, Sankey and Kimball being present. "First and foremost, the school must be a Christian institution," said Mr. Moody, in the course of his remarks.

At Middletown, Pa., on Friday night, an attempt was made to rob Jacob Steel, Collector of the Pennsylvania Canal Company. After striking him several blows about the head with a blunt instrument, the thieves became alarmed and left without accomplishing their object.

The Emanuel furnace, on the East Pennsylvania Railroad, is to be started up within a few days. The Reading Dispatch says that it will not be long before every furnace in the Schuylkill and Lehigh Valleys will be in operation. Work is going steadily on at the Kutztown furnaces, with a view to starting them in a few weeks.

The Secretary of War has ordered that the barracks at Carlisle be turned over to the Interior Department, to be used as a school for the education of Indian youths. The institution which is modelled after the Hampton (Va.) Normal Institute, and will be under the charge of Captain R. Pratt, who has had considerable experience as a trainer of Indians at St. Augustine and Hampton.

At Weissport, eighteen miles above Allentown, on Wednesday afternoon, a little daughter of Alfred Whittenhamer, aged five or six years, fell into the Lehigh canal while picking berries, and a young lady named Ellen Matter, aged sixteen years, jumped in to save her. Both were drowned. The bodies were found about two hours after. The father of the little girl was the former Register and Recorder of Carbon county.

A remarkable case of resuscitation from drowning occurred at Pittston last week. Eddy Joyce, a small boy, fell into the canal and his companion, after he had sunk twice, finding that he could not save him, called for help, when the father came, and, after the body had sunk the last time and been at the bottom at least eight minutes, brought it up. The body was rolled on a barrel eight minutes and fully resuscitated.

A story is told at the expense of a Jamaica Plains (Mass) sexton, who buys the communion wine for his church. When he made his last purchase he also bought some whiskey for himself. The two demijohns got mixed, and on the following Sunday the communicants received whiskey instead of wine, and some of the ladies were badly choked by the strong liquid.

Rev. Mr. Hayden, who has been in jail in Connecticut for a year, charged with the murder of Mary Stannard, will probably be tried in October. It is reported that under microscopic investigation of the body of the dead girl, some important testimony has been developed. In the flesh of the neck where she was stabbed a fine point of steel has been found, which fits into a nick in the edge of the pastor's bloody knife.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at St. Catherine's, Ont., on last Friday morning at 2.58 o'clock, and at Niagara at 3. At Port Dalhousie, Ont., and Lockport, N. Y., the shock was violent, and accompanied by a loud clap, similar to a discharge of cannon, which shook solid brick buildings. The shock and report also startled the people at Thorold, Welland, Allansburg, Beausville, Port Robinson and other places along the border.

The New York Democratic State central committee met at Niagara on last Friday, and adopted the Democratic platform.

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