

# The Centre Democrat.



SHUGERT & FORSTER, Editors.

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

TERMS: \$1.50 per Annum, in Advance.

VOL. I.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1879.

NO. 47.

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

Thursday Morning, November 20, 1879.

HENRY D. COOKE, of Washington, is given as authority that Jay, Cook & Co., can now pay all their debts on demand at par. This will be pleasant news, if true, to many.

COURTNEY and Hanlan, after a long correspondence and much bantering, have at length decided upon a match to row in the Potomac at Washington, on the 2d of December, for a purse of \$6,000.

THE Central Pacific Railroad company have made a payment of \$536,291 of the money they withheld from the treasury of the country. So much for Mr. Thurman's legislation in forcing the rascals to disgorge. Let the whole steal be recovered.

THE Hon. Charles R. Voorhis, a Republican member of Congress from New Jersey, has been arrested for embezzlement of the funds of the First National Bank of Hackensack, of which he was president. The affidavit was made by the cashier and vice president.

THE Cincinnati Enquirer favors the nomination of Potter and Hendricks or Hendricks and Potter as the Democratic candidate for President and Vice President. A strong ticket either way, composed of honest, incorruptible men, whom the Democracy could support with confidence and pleasure.

THE military station at Carlisle, in this State, has been turned into a school for Indians and is in quite a prosperous condition. There was added to the number of students last week two girls and six boys from Dakota and Wisconsin, making in all 158. Arrangements are to be made for a chapel and assembly room with capacity for 300 children.

THE HON. WM. McCLELLAND has purchased the Weekly Record published at Sewickley, Allegheny county, and removed the establishment to Pittsburgh, where it will hereafter be published as a Democratic paper. Capt. McClelland possesses ability and experience, and will publish an able and interesting paper. We hope he will be liberally sustained by an appreciative and extended patronage.

CONGER, the Michigan blatherskite of the House of Representatives, sought appointment to the vacant Senatorship. But the Governor knowing that the mantle of Zach. Chandler would not fall gracefully upon the brawling demagogue, conferred the appointment upon Ex-Governor Henry P. Balwin, who will take his seat in the Senate at the opening of the session.

It is announced that a movement is on foot to send Senator Thurman to the House of Representatives from the Columbus (Ohio) district, where he resides. That district is now Democratic, and though the new Republican Legislature will doubtless gerrymander the State, it is questionable if they can change its political character. Mr. Thurman was a member of the House thirty-four years ago.

THE Bond-holders are happy of course. The Republicans and a few demagogues of Virginia, to obtain a few offices, have led their negro partisans to disgrace their State and repudiate its obligation. To prevent the degradation, the Democracy of Virginia labored with great energy and devotion, but were unable to overcome the combinations. The Democratic Governor may prevent the passage of any outrageous act, but he cannot prevent the demagogues obtaining the offices, for which, with the help of the negroes, they sacrificed the public honor.

## The Next Census.

Gen. Walker, the superintendent of the census, has already in a general way disclosed his plan of operations for next year. The United States, for the purposes of classification and enumeration, will be divided into about 150 districts, each of which will be divided by the supervisor in charge into appropriate enumeration districts. About 20,000 persons will be employed to take the census, which will have two distinct departments. First, there will be the enumeration proper, including a count of the population, with the ordinary social and vital statistics. The other general department of the work will embrace the collection of statistics of manufactures, agriculture, mining, fishing interests and social statistics, such as taxation, wealth, public indebtedness, libraries, churches, schools, newspapers and so forth. Gen. Walker expects to complete the work in the single month of June. Heretofore several months have elapsed before the census returns were all made and classified, and the consequence was that those returns, overlapping to that extent the period to which the census was limited, included returns in the census then completed which by right belonged to the present decade, and will thus make imperfect to a small extent the comparison between the figures of the last decade and that which is now coming to a close.

SENATOR MATT. CARPENTER has discovered a "mare's nest." He has discovered that the Democrats intend to count the Republican out, if they should be successful in electing the President in 1880. If the Democrats, following Republican precedent, contemplate this naughty thing, it is not likely that they have made a confident of Mr. Carpenter. It is not the Democratic style, and they are opposed to such proceedings by any party or any set of scoundrels. It is more likely that Matt. and his party are preparing to repeat the frauds of 1876 and only raise the cry of "stop thief" to cover their own retreat and hide their own villainy. Certain it is, the Democracy desire, and will have no tricks of this kind played in 1880. One fraudulent President is sufficient for one century at least. Another one could only be seated after the streets of Washington are drenched in patriotic blood. It will be perilous for Mr. Carpenter and his party to repeat. No one better than he knows how the thing was done in 1876, and the smoldering volcano that lay beneath the act.

THE Sub-Committee of the Senate in the Kellogg-Spafford contest met at New Orleans this week to take such testimony as it was not convenient to take at Washington. No doubt Kellogg will have a wholesome lot of witnesses on hand, judging from the specimens given at Washington last winter. But it is to be hoped the labor of the committee will be so thorough that the country may hope soon to be relieved from the disgusting details of this Louisiana villainy.

It is believed that the magnanimous Conkling will now pardon the White House fraud, and take him into favor, so long as he will continue subservient. Being exceedingly placable since the New York election, he may also withdraw his contempt from Everts and try to forget the stultification to which that minister of fraud subjected himself to obtain the favor of his present imperious master.

THE Hon. Thos. B. Keough of North Carolina, in Washington to attend the Republican National Committee, says that two-thirds of the committee favor the nomination of Grant. He thinks that the National convention will be held at Chicago, though New York may be selected. The committee were to meet on Monday last.

## Our Bituminous Coal Fields.

Within a decade of time there has been a vastly enlarged demand for bituminous coal. Under the necessities of a growing and rapidly increasing consumption, the great, undeveloped bituminous fields of Pennsylvania have attracted, and are still attracting, the attention of capitalists and carrying companies to an extent that must be apparent to every one who observes with any degree of intelligence the ordinary run of current events. As an evidence of what we here assert, we lay before our readers an extract from the letter of a correspondent of the Philadelphia Record, on the consumption of both anthracite and bituminous coals, and which, at the same time, speaks as by authority of the efforts that are now under way to reach the heart of the bituminous coal fields by interests that have as yet been unable to penetrate to the rich deposits of those regions. This letter appears in the financial column of Monday's issue of the journal named and reads as follows:

"The official statement of the output of anthracite coal shows an increase for the past year of over seven million tons. This increase has been so gradual and widespread that it is difficult to trace it to the consumers, and yet there has been no accumulation of stock at the leading shipping points, and the belief is general that next year will show a much greater increase in consumption, which will tax the anthracite mines now opened to their full capacity, which means good prices for coal and dividends for the coal roads.

"The consumption of bituminous coal has also increased very largely. The output from the Clearfield regions alone will be 1,500,000 tons, an increase of about 500,000 tons above last year. The railroad into this field now pays about 13 per cent. dividend on its capital stock of \$1,000,000. This road has no bonded debt, and is certainly prosperous.

"The favorable results of mixing one-half coke in the anthracite blast furnaces and numerous rolling mills along the line of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad and its connections has made a large demand for bituminous coal in that region, so that the iron manufacturers are clamorous for new and direct connection with the Clearfield coal field, and it is reported, upon what seems unquestioned authority, that the Reading Company is quite willing to co-operate with its customers in acquiring connections in that direction. It is further stated that property owners representing some seventy thousand acres of coal lands in the Clearfield region are also anxious to co-operate in this movement to secure a competing outlet to market, for even now the operators cannot get cars from their own road to fill their orders, and the Reading Company is sending its cars over lines controlled by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to accommodate customers along its line.

"Looking in this direction also is the extension of the Reading tracks to Linden, beyond Williamsport, and the accepted proposals by the citizens of Lock Haven for the Reading Company to furnish iron, and give the bonds of the line for cost of construction—the bonds to be accepted in payment of all freight to or from Lock Haven.

"The most favored proposed route from Lock Haven is via Beech Creek and Phillipsburg, thence along the valley of Moshannon creek to its head waters in the heart of the Clearfield region. As an encouragement to construct this connection it is reported that parties interested are willing to guarantee the sale of 1,500,000 tons of Clearfield coal per annum on the line of the Reading road and its branches. These new and paying lines into our coal fields will augment the demand for both coal and iron, and clearly indicate that prosperity will continue for several years at least. Thus we may expect increased dividends from all railroads in the State, and that general prosperity will prevail in all departments of business."

So far as the above extract refers to the intentions of the Philadelphia and Reading company, we can say that we are assured by good and reliable authority that those who control the operations of that corporation are in earnest in seeking for a bituminous coal field into which to extend their lines, and are now directing their attention to the fields of Centre and Clearfield counties, including the Snow Shoe region. This is no longer a mere idle rumor or suspicion, but work is now being done to secure the route and the coal lands. The significance of this fact must forcibly strike the Pennsylvania railroad management. To that great carrying company it is a fact pregnant with importance; and now, while negotiations are pending between that management and the Snow Shoe railroad company, is the

time for the Pennsylvania company to secure the valuable Snow Shoe field. When worked as it is capable of being worked, and developed as it undoubtedly must be under the stimulus of present demand and consumption, this Snow Shoe coal field cannot fail to prove as remunerative to the Pennsylvania railroad company as the Clearfield region has been, now is, and must continue to be in a long future.

## An Honest Ballot Box.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

A ballot-box which rings a bell when a vote enters the box, which counts all the ballots as they are received, stamps them with a number, and files them neatly away beyond the reach of any hand, would seem to be as nearly perfect a device for preventing fraud at the polls as has been devised, and an ingenious New Yorker has invented such a contrivance.

No use for it in Philadelphia. The white hats and the swallow tails do not want an "honest ballot." The rounders and the strikers must be maintained, and this contrivance would interfere inconveniently.

In another column will be found a table of the official vote of all the counties of the State at the late election for State Treasurer. The footings are as follows:

Butler, Republican.....	280,153
Barr, Democrat.....	221,715
Sutton, Greenback.....	27,207
Richardson, Prohibition.....	3,219
Scattering.....	85
Total vote.....	532,379

Butler over Barr.....58,438  
Butler over all.....27,927

The total vote is 169,659 less than it was last year at the election for Governor. The vote was then divided as follows: Republican, 319,567; Democratic, 297,060; Greenback, 81,758; Prohibition, 3,653. Total, 702,038. The loss this year on the vote of last year, divided amongst the parties, is represented by the following figures: Republican, 39,414; Democratic, 75,345; Greenback, 54,551; Prohibition, 434. It will be seen that had the Democrats polled their vote of last year they would have elected Barr by a handsome majority. There may be food for thought in these figures for some of the Democrats who stayed at home on the last election day, and it is to be hoped they will profit from a perusal of them.

TO READ the Republican papers one would be led to suppose that the Southern people were all an abandoned race of Ghouls, feasting upon the blood of the negro, instead of the high-toned, generous people they are. While here at the North we can witness whole communities of banded murderers, and nearly every town and city sending out marauding assassins in every direction, but little account is taken of it. It is merely noticed in the papers as a thing of daily occurrence. If the villains are caught they will be punished, provided they do not wield a political influence to commend them to the pardon board and Executive clemency. But, let a negro and a white man of the South get into a fight, and the negro is worsted and comes to grief—or let the men of the South punish a negro or a clan of negroes for shameful atrocities against the life of citizens or the good order and peace of society, immediately the "bloody shirt" is waved and the Republican press is made to groan under the thunder of its denunciations of the wickedness of the whole Southern people, and the party is admonished to organize to repel the new rebellion which the "Rebel Brigadiers" are about to precipitate upon the country.

This is about the character of the twaddle that the Republican press give in response to the advances of the Southern people for harmony and fellow-feeling and good government throughout the country; and it is about time their readers would rebuke these miserable appeals to their passion; and prejudices for party effect. Their intelligence should feel

insulted by the constant reiteration of such stuff. The Southern people are free from the sectional animosity, so recklessly urged in the North, and have shown a creditable disposition to live on terms of amity and good will for the sake of the general good of a common country.

It is said that Mr. Edison has brought the Electric Light to a complete economic success, and that he is now preparing, and will shortly make, a full and satisfactory demonstration of the same.

## GENERAL HANCOCK.

A WICKED INVENTION BLOWN TO THE WINDS BY A DOZEN HONEST WORDS.

WASHINGTON, November 13, '79.—The mention of General Hancock's name in connection with the Presidential nomination has led, as his friends supposed it would lead, to spiteful outcroppings over the hanging of Mrs. Surratt, an affair which his official position just after the war compelled him to direct. A few days ago in the Indianapolis Journal an interview was printed about General Hancock, of which the following is part:

"The Democrats can't nominate General Hancock," said a Catholic Priest to me the other day, in response to my expression of opinion.

"Why not?" I asked.

"Because," he said with much feeling, "he hanged Mrs. Surratt without cause and persecuted her for her religion."

"I don't see how he hanged her," said I, "more than General Holt, who was Judge Advocate, or Stanton, who was Secretary of War, or Andy Johnson, who was President."

"Hancock," exclaimed the priest, "had her immediate custody, and he absolutely refused to let her see her clergyman, or any clergyman of her church, after she was sentenced. He did all he could to send the woman to hell; but no doubt her earnest request for clergy was passed to her credit in the books beyond the sky."

"I never heard of that," I said.

"Well, Catholics have," said the priest, "and if Hancock should arise and have the impudence to ask for Catholic votes, they would bury him under their indignation."

The above extract appeared in the Post of this city this morning. The reporter of the World called upon Rev. Father Walter, of St. Patrick's church, with this interview. He was Mrs. Surratt's adviser, and he it was whom General Hancock was credited with having insulted. Father Walter is a tall, square shouldered man, with enough fire in his face and vigor in his movements to make one almost wish that he and General Hancock could put on the gloves together, they are so nearly matched.

"I am glad you came," he said, "for this isn't the first of these fringes at General Hancock. I have blamed myself often for not declaring the truth in the matter, for I am the only one that should tell it, so far as it concerns myself. Yet, being a priest, I have felt bound to hold my peace. Besides so far no tangible harm has resulted from silence. For me weeks back though I have seen that circumstances might arise which should change my determination; this attack seems to me to call for the kind of response that will make objections to General Hancock impossible in the future. That is what I said to-day to Bishop Keane, of Richmond, when I informed him that I had about decided to brand all such stories as false over my own signature."

"Would you object to doing it now?" the reporter asked.

"Not at all," Father Walter replied, and seating himself at a table he wrote this denial:

Truth and justice compel me to deny the statement with reference to General Hancock's participation in the execution of Mrs. Surratt, which appeared in the Washington Post this morning. I attended Mrs. Surratt on that occasion and met with no interference on the part of General Hancock. General Hancock had great sympathy with this unfortunate lady and waited until the last moment, hoping for a reprieve. I consider it an act of justice to General Hancock that this statement should be made. (Signed)

J. A. WALTER, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Washington.

"There. That is the first statement I made for the public in all these years," Father Walter said, a trifle sadly. "I hope it may be the means of enough good to compensate for all the harm that these stories have done."

An assertion made to-day by an ex-army officer was abundantly corroborated in the War Department that so strong was General Hancock's hope for a reprieve for Mrs. Surratt that on the day of the execution he stationed relays of cavalry along the streets from the White House to the Arsenal, that no delay might ensue in communicating the fact. In the Arsenal are Photographs of the scaffold at the time of the execution. They show Father Walter at Mrs. Surratt's side.

Judge Pearson, last week when the Zechman jury was being selected, was very emphatic in his disapprobation of putting men in the jury wheel who do not know the English language sufficient to understand what is said by the court, witnesses and counsel. He intimated the issuing of an order to cover the inconvenience.

An appropriation of \$2,750,000 will be asked for taking the census in the next fiscal year.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Pittsburg milk dealers are forming combination to advance the price of milk.

The expenditures during October last on the Brooklyn bridge were \$112,981.51.

For street cleaning purposes in New York during October \$41,216.66 were expended.

The steamship Main, which arrived at New York from Europe, on Thursday, brought \$800,000 gold coin.

Colonel James Duffy, of Marietta, is the most successful farmer and tobacco planter on the Susquehanna river.

The Knights Templar demonstration at Richmond, Va., last Thursday afternoon, was a most successful affair.

The venerable Peter Hay died at his residence in Philadelphia Saturday morning, in the 91st year of his age.

Paul Boyton has responded favorably to the recent challenge of Captain Webb to swim a race in their respective swimming dresses.

A colored man was recently attacked by a sparrow hawk that had been confined in a room at Chichester, Delaware county, and severely injured.

Associate Judge Joseph Light, of Lebanon county, died last Thursday morning. The Court was adjourned for the week in respect to his memory.

A Mifflin county hunter recently killed as he thought one turkey, but upon investigation found three. He thinks they were in a line and two of them were hidden from view.

The Lehigh and Delaware division canal company are going to try steam on their canals between Mauch Chunk and Philadelphia, and are now building an experimental boat.

Details of the damage done by the gale which visited the southern portion of Ohio at eleven o'clock Friday morning, show that property valued at about \$7,000 was destroyed.

Robert A. Farnsworth, a prominent citizen of Sunbury, committed suicide last Thursday morning by hanging himself in the garret of his residence. He had been sick for some time, and was not in his right mind.

There has been recently found in the Miami river a magnificent pearl weighing 46½ grains. It has an agatized groundwork, with the iridescence shining through, and as it is the only one of the kind known its value can scarcely be estimated.

A white swan, measuring 56½ inches from the tip of the toes to the end of the beak, and 85 inches across the wings, and weighing 11½ pounds, was shot on the Ten Mile creek, Washington county, on Wednesday, of last week. It will be presented to the Sportsmen's Club of Pittsburg.

The Pittsburg Chronicle says: The general manager of one of the Indianapolis roads has contracted with the Edgar Thomson steel works for several thousand tons of steel rails, to be delivered as early as May next, at \$60 per ton, this being the lowest figure the steel works company would agree to furnish them at.

Theodore C. Vermilye, a well-known New York lawyer and a prominent resident of New Brighton, Staten Island, was thrown from a carriage near his home on Thursday evening and instantly killed. He was a man of middle age, and has a son in the legal business in New York. He was a member of Assembly from Richmond county in 1860.

The Pittsburg coal men are delighted with the recent behavior of the Allegheny river and other tributaries to the Ohio. These show a tendency to swell, and upon their getting up to the necessary height depends the success of floating to market about 15,000,000 bushels of coal lying in boats at Pittsburg and vicinity. Louisville and other points to which this coal goes have empty bins, and offer greatly advanced figures for it. This increases the desire to get it off, and therefore the rivers cannot rise too rapidly to suit the coal people of Western Pennsylvania.

Articles were agreed by Hanlan and Courtney Thursday night, by which they are to row a 5-mile race, 2½ miles out and return in their best boats for \$6,000 offered by the Hop Bitters Manufacturing Company, said race to be rowed on the Potomac, near Washington, on Tuesday, December 9, between 2 and 5 p. m., subject to postponement by the referee on account of weather, each party to deposit \$500 with the referee within five days from this date, party starting at the word "go" to get the money if the other party does not start; but if both start or fail to start, money to be returned to both parties. Blakie is to be referee.

Frederick Douglass, Jr., of Washington, has written an article in the New York Advocate in opposition to the negro exodus. He says it is an "attempt to stop up one hole by boring another." He wants to know "if the northern door is thrown open so wide to the colored emigrant, why are our colored professional men compelled to seek practice away from the North?" "If he continues, 'there is so much milk and honey in the North and West in the way of employment, how can you account for the presence of so many Northern colored people seeking homes in the District of Columbia and the South?' I am a printer by trade, and never worked in any office outside the one owned by my father up north in my life; the Republican offices were always full when I knocked at their doors seeking employment." He thinks the negroes will do better to stay where they are.