

# 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, December 4, 1879.

It is said the Stalwarts of the cabinet are after the scalp of Secretary Schurz of the Interior Department. He possesses an independence they cannot endure or excuse, as well as a capability of successful administration they cannot rival.

The opposing factions in the Democratic party in Philadelphia are making some motion toward reconciliation. They should have done that before the last election, and saved themselves the disgraceful route which followed their bickerings. But better late than never.

SEYMOUR and HENDRICKS, or BAYARD and McDONALD, seem to be the ticket now. But the names may vary much between now and the meeting of the National Convention. The sentiment, however, is universal that all will concur in the nomination of the Convention.

The Washington Post says it is probably a lie that Col. McClure, of the Philadelphia Times, is about to study for the Episcopal ministry. Perhaps it is, but nothing Col. McClure could do would startle his acquaintances much. He would be splendid in a lecture to our friend, Col. Forney on Christian duty.

ANOTHER Equestrian Statue contemplated. At a meeting of the Gen. Meade Veteran Association at Carlisle, the initial steps were taken looking to the erection of a statue to Gen. Geo. B. Meade on one of the Government reservations in Washington. The Army of the Potomac are expected to take charge of the movement.

THE Lock Haven and Clearfield Railroad, for which a charter has been granted, will extend from a point on the Bald Eagle Valley Railroad at the mouth of Beech Creek to Philipsburg, in this county, traversing the bituminous coal field. The capital stock is \$1,000,000, divided into 2,000 shares of \$50 each. The company will find considerable rough work before the completion of the road, but if put through it will open a rich field of iron and coal to reward their enterprise.

THE first stage in the bribery trials at Harrisburg was reached last week when Judge Pearson decided that the indictment against Salter, whose case was first called for trial, could not stand because of the error in the composition of the grand jury. The next case called was that of the Commonwealth against Leisenring, of Carbon county, against whom a true bill had also been found by the same grand jury. The lawyers for the defense raised the same technical objections to this indictment, but were met by new points in favor of sustaining it by the other side, and the judge then postponed the case until next Monday, when his decision will be given. It is expected, however, that it will be the same as in the Salter case.

SENATOR JOHN A. LEMON, of Hollidaysburg, it is said, will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for Auditor-General, and will refuse to be put off again for the Senatorship of the Blair district. Col. Lemon having been two or three times induced to withdraw his claims to this office on the plea that no other Republican could carry his Senatorial district, is not disposed to be made a convenience of any longer, but will claim the promotion he has earned and to which he is justly entitled from his party by faithful services in its interests. If a Republican is to be elected to the important office of Auditor-General—a calamity we hope the kindness of Providence will avert—then we trust it may be Col. Lemon, as he is a gentleman, and competent to make a good and efficient officer.

## The Forty-sixth Congress.

The long or regular session of the Forty-sixth Congress began at Washington on last Monday. Taking all things into consideration it will undoubtedly prove a most important session. There are grave matters of great national import to be decided, and it is to be hoped that in their discussion and decision of these things the leaders of both parties will rise to the dignity of patriotism and sink partisanship beneath a love of country. Upon the shoulders of the Democratic majority of course rests the greatest burden, and we have no doubt of their being equal to every emergency. Upon them is imposed the duty of allaying sectional feeling and of building up a more cordial union among the people of our common country. It is the evident purpose of the Republican leaders to keep alive the angry passions of the war. Upon their success in making a solid North depends the future of their organization. The Republican party is not a national party to-day. It exists in only a portion of the Union, and therefore it is life to its leaders to foment sectionalism. The Democrats in Congress should see to it that they do not aid their opponents by intemperate utterances in debate. It will be the studied purpose of every Republican in Congress to keep the bloody shirt in motion. The battle of next year will be commenced in the Forty-sixth Congress and our record now must be our record then. Hence the importance of wise and patriotic action on the part of the Democratic leaders. The people have confidence in the Democratic majority. It is the height of folly for any one to attribute the disasters that befell the party in this year's elections to its representatives in Congress. Immediately the result was known the whole Republican press shouted in chorus, "The extra session did it." The Democrats were not responsible for the extra session. They remained in Washington at the command of the acting Executive, and their action throughout met with the warm commendation of dispassionate men of all parties. Was the extra session responsible for our defeat in New York where we have almost forty thousand majority on the whole vote and yet lose the State? Did the extra session make Philadelphia thirty thousand Republican? or was it the split there in our own party which produced the result? Was it the extra session that flung Lackawanna, Luzerne and Schuylkill counties into the Republican column when possibly one-half the voters in those counties never heard there was an extra session? or was it caused by some more powerful agency? In our own county, for instance, was it the extra session that caused a falling off of 1100 in our vote as compared with the vote of last year? or was it because the Democrats only neglected in the unusual apathy of the campaign to go to the polls? It is all the merest nonsense to talk of a popular verdict against Congress. There has been none rendered, and to-day if the same questions once more arose the people would bid their representatives God speed in their battle against the encroachments of the Federal government. Our representatives in the extra session fought a noble battle and they fought it well, and the people will so say next year when they go to their constituents to render an account of their stewardship. They fought fraud triumphant at one end of the Avenue and a mad band of fanatics in the Capitol. That they did not succeed in getting all they demanded is cause for regret, not dismay. They were right, and they did at last wrench from a fraudulent President one dangerous power and placed it back in the hands of the people. That of itself was enough to entitle them to the gratitude of all who desire to see our institutions perpetuated.

## A New Gospel.

The Reverend Mr. Colfelt, of Washington Square Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, made a new departure on Thanksgiving day, that seems a little startling at first, but we suppose we will soon get used to it. After Bob Ingersoll and Henry Ward Beecher had succeeded in disposing of hell, we congratulated ourselves that all was not lost yet, that there were still some of the honored traditions of the past left, and we confidently placed our hand upon the Bible, that good old book, and thought here's something safe from the unhallowed touch of the modern iconoclast. Fatal mistake! Mr. Colfelt, the pastor of a fashionable church, the finest pulpit orator in Philadelphia, deliberately walked into his church on Thanksgiving day and took his text from the N. Y. Tribune. For fear the shock would be too much for his orthodox congregation, he took the precaution of first laying the Tribune under the lid of the Bible. This, it is supposed, was intended to exercise the spirit of Jay Gould from the pages. After waiting a reasonable length of time, until he was certain Gould was once more among his beloved "Lambs" on Wall street, the Reverend gentleman arose. He carefully took the organ of the New York stock gamblers from beneath the lid of the sacred book. What to do with the Bible must have greatly troubled him at that time. He couldn't well leave it out through the beautifully stained glass windows, and as he hadn't any further use for it, it seemed rather out of place. However he quietly ignored that point and preached his sermon direct from the Tribune. Whether or not it was the copy of that paper which contained the editorial, written to order by the obsequious editor at the dictation of Gould, and which broke the New York stock market and ruined hundreds of unsuspecting men on Wall street, we do not know. It is not known whether Mr. Colfelt intends to use the one paper at all times or not. He ought certainly to preach one sermon from the apologist and defender of Jay Gould and Whitelaw Reid—the Philadelphia Press.

MR. R. B. HAYES, of Ohio, who is at present acting in President Tilden's place at Washington, is somewhat of a humorist. Following in the footsteps of his legally elected predecessors he has submitted a message to Congress. The one thing conspicuous by its absence is the apology due the American people for filling a position to which another man was elected, and the one thing conspicuous by its presence is that part of the message devoted to civil service reform. The following sentence occurs: "By a proper exercise of authority it is in the power of the Executive to do much to promote such a reform." This will strike most people as an incontrovertible fact, but when they contemplate Mosby at Hong Kong, Noyes in France, and Wells, Anderson, Casanave and Marks holding different offices of trust and emolument in Louisiana; Mrs. Agnes Jenks and others of her kind, filling department positions in Washington, they will naturally conclude that the Executive has forgotten to use that "proper exercise of authority." Of all shams this one of civil service reform leads the van and Mr. Hayes is the chief priest.

"PARSON TALMAGE rejoices that prayers are offered in the White House every morning." His pious soul must be exceedingly jubilant, when he reflects that the principal occupant of the White House also dispenses his charities with a lavish hand by rewarding all the thieves connected with the Presidential Steal out of the people's treasury, and only reserves for himself the \$50,000 salary properly belonging to the parson's neighbor, Mr. Tilden.

WE lay before the readers of the DEMOCRAT this week an abstract of Mr. Hayes' message to Congress, the document being too lengthy to publish in full. It is not a remarkable State paper in any particular, and will not command a great degree of respect. A large portion of it is devoted to the subject of civil service reform, of which Mr. Hayes pretends to be a sincere advocate. Considering that the Republicans have been doctoring the civil service of the country ever since 1868, and that they are yet as far from any substantial reform as when they began, this part of the message may be considered as mere cant and hypocrisy. Mr. Hayes is always great on civil service reform in the intervals between the elections, but never fails to lay aside his pretended convictions when partisan success demands the use of official patronage. His platitudes upon this subject therefore go for nothing. The shameless interference of the administration in the late elections throughout the North, not only by the active personal efforts of cabinet and other high officials, but by the use of the thousands of dollars wrung from the pay of their needy dependents, is sufficient to convince any unprejudiced person of the hollow dishonesty of these professions of reform. They will excite only contempt and ridicule. When civil service reform comes, it will be when some man of a different stamp occupies the White House.

HERE is the Radical idea of a nation, spelled with a big "N," given in the Lemars Sentinel, a Republican organ advocating the third term Grant movement: "The North, the old Free States, alone represent the National will, and alone have the right to dictate the National policy. The twice conquered slave States have no more right to a voice in their local affairs or in National affairs than have the convicts in the penitentiary to control their prisons or their States in which they are located. Let it never be forgotten that rebellion is conquered territory, and that its inhabitants are prisoners of war on parole. This is the doctrine of the Stalwarts, as boldly proclaimed by the glorified Zach Chandler, as held by Grant, and as unflinchingly promulgated by the Sentinel. Trimmers, time-servers and dough-faces may not like this open, undisguised proclamation of these ultimate and naked truths, but they are true all the same, and the only logical outcome of the present political situation.

THE Republicans, South, are claiming a Southern nominee for Vice-President, and put forward Joshua Hill, of Georgia, Postmaster-General Key and Horace Maynard, of Tennessee, as suitable men to represent them. They ought not to forget the claims of Wells, Packard and Kellogg, of Louisiana, and other thieves who served them so faithfully in the Presidential Steal. They certainly would be very proper men to put on the ticket with John Sherman, and might even give tone and significance to the Grant boom.

THE brutal policy of the Grant administration towards the South, one would suppose could not commend the General very strongly to that people for a third term. Indeed it might satisfy most any simpleton that the claim set up by the stalwarts that Grant possesses great popularity with the ex-Confederates, and could make an election by Southern votes, is all bosh. Yet some affect to believe it, and urge this as an inducement for his nomination.

THE Kellogg investigation in New Orleans has developed the usual number of liars, who swear back and forward just as the case demands according to pay. They are mostly in the employ of the custom house by appointment of the Fraud and Sherman on Kellogg recommendations.

A committee of the School Board of Norristown met on Monday and examined witnesses relative to the treatment of a pupil in the public schools named Louis G. Murr, who died not long since. It was charged that the boy had been roughly treated by his teacher, Mrs. Ramsey, just prior to his death. Such was, however, not proven, and the lad was exonerated.

## Louisiana Election.

LARGE DEMOCRATIC GAINS THROUGHOUT THE STATE—A QUIET ELECTION. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 2.—The election in this city passed off quietly. A very light vote was polled—probably less than two-thirds. The "ring" ticket in this parish was generally elected. Special dispatches from all telegraph stations in the State show heavy Democratic gains. These reports, giving an estimate in eleven country parishes, claim a Democratic gain of 12,000. Compared with the Democratic count of 1876, the same parishes gave Hayes 1,600 majority. All the dispatches say that the election passed off quietly, and most of them report the negroes voting the Democratic ticket and for the Constitution.

## GENERAL NEWS.

An oil well of recent discovery in the northern fields, the Derrick says, yields 559 barrels per hour.

The heaviest fall of snow in the State thus far was at Meadville, where twelve inches fell last week.

Of the tons of poultry eaten in Philadelphia on Thanksgiving day, Indiana county sent 37,000 pounds.

Francis Murphy, the temperance revivalist, is again in Pittsburgh. This time there is no enthusiasm over him. A monument will be erected by Reno Post, G. A. P., of Williamsport, to the deceased soldiers and sailors of Lycoming county.

On Wednesday afternoon Peter Mulvey, of Cascade township, Lycoming county, fell dead in Williamsport, of heart disease.

The attempt of St. Julien to beat his own time, 2:12, it is announced from San Francisco, has been indefinitely postponed.

Miss Alders was declared by the School Directors of East Duser township, Allegheny county, as not having been legally elected a teacher. She sued and got a year's salary.

It is reported that the Imperial Government is establishing a reserve of 10,000 men in Canada, composed of militia of the Dominion, for active service at home or abroad, if required.

A party of Clinton county hunters had fourteen deer strung up in the woods at the head of Baker's run. Another party returned to Lock Haven Thursday night with nine deer.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Christiansburg, Shelby county, Ky., was destroyed by wind on Friday, causing a loss of \$4,000. Many other buildings, fences, etc., in that section were damaged.

It is said that St. Louis merchants and capitalists will subscribe \$1,000,000 to carry out a proposition to make Port Royal, S. C., a great exporting and importing point for the West and South.

The case of the Commonwealth against the Standard Oil Company, now pending in Clarion county, will be called on Monday, December 15. A motion for a further postponement of the case was refused.

Potter county has an empty jail. There were so few cases to be tried, and they so unimportant, at the time for the last session of Court in that county, that they were allowed to go over until the next term.

Another Northwestern exploring party has arrived at Winnipeg, this time with most favorable reports of the country north of Fort Carleton. Like others they pronounce the disposition of the Indians to be very friendly.

Bradford county butter is now thirty-five cents a pound, and several weeks ago it could have been bought at fifteen cents. The local papers attribute the rise to a severe drought now prevailing in that and adjacent counties.

The Atlantic and Great Western Railway will be sold in Akron, O., on the 6th of January under foreclosure proceedings. The liabilities of the road are about \$70,000,000. It is expected that it will sell for about \$10,000,000.

The revision of the Bible now in progress is expected to entail an expense of about \$200,000 before the first copy is printed, notwithstanding the fact that the Committee of Revision get nothing for their labors except their traveling expenses.

At the annual banquet of the General Meade Veteran Association, of Carlisle, on Wednesday evening, initiatory steps were taken looking to the erection of an equestrian statue to the late General Meade. It is proposed to erect the statue on one of the government reservations in Washington, D. C. The Army of the Potomac is requested to take charge of the movement.

The record of failures reported in New York city for the month of November shows thirty-two, with total liabilities of \$667,624, and assets \$290,921. Compared with the month of November, 1878, the present exhibit is very flattering, as the former month had fifty-six failures and gross liabilities of \$1,479,994.

At half-past three o'clock Saturday morning fire broke out in the Grand Opera House, on Adelaide street, Toronto, Ontario, and in a few minutes the rear part of the building, from the box-office to the extreme outer walls, was in flames. The firemen worked well, but a heavy gale was blowing, and in an hour and a half the whole interior of the building was destroyed.

Five students of Allegheny College, Meadville, have been suspended for hazing. The suspended ones and their sympathizers went in procession

through the streets of Meadville on Wednesday, preceded by a brass band and carrying banners bearing inscriptions the reverse of complimentary to the faculty.

The immense fly-wheel driven by a powerful engine used in the rail mill of the Pennsylvania steel works at Harrisburg, weighing between 60 and 70 tons, on Thursday, burst with a loud report, creating terror and consternation for several minutes. Fortunately no one was hurt save a man named Charles Powers, a boss machinist in that department, who received slight injuries by being scalded on the arm.

A tornado, with rain, passed over Louisville, Ky., early Friday morning in a northeasterly direction, destroying some small buildings, and unroofing others. The Laval Crystal Spring Distillery warehouse, in the Brownstown suburb, was demolished. Much harm was done to monuments, shrubbery, conservatories and nurseries around Cave Hill, and Germantown suburb sustained considerable damage.

A Murfreesboro, Tennessee, special says nine prisoners escaped from the jail at that place on Wednesday night by crawling through holes which they had previously cut in the back wall of their cell, reaching the ground from the second story by means of pipes leading to water tanks in the jail yard. Among them were West Smithy, charged with murder in the first degree; Keck Slaughter, already sentenced to four years imprisonment for arson, and awaiting trial on other indictments; William Adkins, charged with horse stealing, and Tom Charlton, with forgery.

The congregation in the Lutheran church at Waynesboro, on Tuesday, became panic-stricken at the breaking of a bench, and a rush was made for the doors. A number were injured, and among them were the following: Mrs. Weagly, arm broken and otherwise injured; Rev. Mr. Richardson, of Smithsburg, Md., trampled upon and injured; Mr. Shank, of Smithsburg, arm broken; Miles Comar, shoulder bone and several ribs broken; Mrs. Mers and two sons, severely injured; Rev. W. C. Owen, of Hagerstown, badly bruised; Henry G. Fink, seriously hurt; a lady, name unknown, was taken to the hotel, where she now lies in a critical condition. The sad affair has created intense excitement in the village. The damage to the church is estimated at \$500.

It is upon the solemn asseveration of the Kalamazoo Gazette that the people of Michigan are obliged to swallow the following cow story: On the farm of E. O. Humphrey, just east of Kalamazoo, is an unused well, the depth of which is thirty five feet. On Sunday of last week one of Mr. Humphrey's cows was missed. On the Tuesday following some one was attracted to the old well by the sound of splashing water. There at the bottom stood the cow looking wistfully up. An armful of hay was thrown down to the animal, which ate ravenously. All the people in the surrounding country gathered at the well and, rigging a pulley arrangement, soon drew the cow up. She walked with difficulty at first, but in an hour or so lumbered up enough to trot onto the pasture.

## The Grant Boom.

From the Boston Herald.

It is a pitiful exhibition to see leaders of the Republican party—men who have been elevated to responsible positions by the suffrages of their fellow citizens—yielding to the panic or the prejudice which makes General Grant the one man who can save the country. It is a painful evidence of distrust of our institutions—the intimation that the country is not safe unless the unwritten law of the land which limits a President to two terms be violated. These party leaders who feel so confident in announcing the name of their candidate in advance, believe that it is a popular impulse, whose force they are sagacious enough to recognize. No doubt, General Grant is a very popular man. As the man who brought the war to an end, he was and is, a very popular hero. He has retained a large measure of public admiration, notwithstanding the mistakes of his administration. But the idea that he would be the strongest candidate to present to the people, or that he could or would make a "strong Government" in the sense in which the phrase is used nowadays, seems to us equally absurd. In the first place, it is evident that the Republican party cannot hope to carry the country next year unless it is united and able to attract to its aid a large share of the independent voters. It must be remembered that these latter were driven out of the party by the faults and scandals of President Grant's administration. Is it likely that they will be attracted back by not only promising a repetition of "Grantism" in the national administration, but by the additional mistake of endeavoring to give a president a third term? We recognize the force of the Grant "boom," but it does not represent the whole party; and, if it should be successful in carrying the convention by the aid of a "solid South" there—delegates representing no electoral votes—the Democrats would have an excellent opportunity. If the Democrats continue to blunder, the Republican candidate will be elected, whoever he may be; but the people are tired of sectional strife, and the Democrats can assume an attitude and present a candidate which will give them at least an even chance for victory. And nothing contributes more to the preparation of the public mind for a Democratic succession than the "boom" for Grant for a third term.