

# 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, February 26, 1880.

THE friends of Sherman have organized a campaign club in Washington City to promote the candidacy of the Louisiana Fraud Manager for President. C. W. Moulton, the brother-in-law of the Secretary, is the leading spirit, and it is their intention to establish branches in the principal cities.

THE Hon. R. E. Trowbridge, of Michigan, has been nominated by Mr. Hayes as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, vice Mr. Hoyt removed. Mr. Trowbridge was a member of Congress several years, and it is believed will make a good Commissioner. At least it is to be hoped that dishonesty will not continue to be the rule under his administration of that office.

JOHN CESSNA, of Bedford, has been appointed chairman of the Republican State Central Committee. He is a fitting representative of the party who controlled the late State Convention, and adopted its platform of hypocrisy. A more unscrupulous fraud and dissembler could not be found within the bounds of the Commonwealth.

THE National Greenback State Committee had a meeting at Harrisburg on Friday last, and decided to hold a State Convention in that city on the 22d of March next. Whether this meeting is for the purpose of appointing assignees and making final arrangements to go into bankruptcy, or to rally the scattered forces of the Greenback party for another great effort for victory, will appear in due time.

THE Donnelly-Washburne contest in the House of Representatives seems to be a hard nut to crack by the Representative from this district. The Greenbackers, with whom he is directly identified, resolved to support Donnelly against Washburne, the sitting member, and our member finds it difficult to split himself so as to obtain the needed aid from both these parties to maintain his own position in Congress. He may as well act boldly and vote as he feels.

It is said Gen. Sherman is taking an active part in the effort to defeat favorable action in the case of Gen. Fitz John Porter, and has ordered Maj. Gardner from Governor's Island, N. Y., to Washington, to assist in the opposition to Porter. Just like this impulsive egotist and meddler. But anything he can do will have little weight with sensible members of Congress, when they come to consider the great wrong General Porter has borne for years. He must, and will have redress.

SENATOR CONKLING was a delegate to the Republican State Convention of New York, which met yesterday. His great rival George William Curtis desired to be, but was defeated in his district. Since the former was present to boost the Grant boom, the latter should also have been there to boot it. Both are able and distinguished representatives of opposite factions in the stalwart ranks, and a meeting between them would have been interesting.

E. M. BOYNTON is contesting for the seat now held in the House of Representatives by Mr. Long, of Massachusetts. General Butler is the attorney for the contestant, and has filed a brief of eighty-five pages in the case, alleging repeating, ballot-box stuffing, intimidation and unjust exclusions by Republican officials of the ballots of poor men who were legal voters, and claims a plurality for Mr. Boynton of 170. This brief also claims the disfranchisement of 10,000 additional men, white citizens of the United States in this one district.

## Honest Elections From a Republican Standpoint.

Among the many beautiful sentiments given to the world through the medium of the Republican platform in this State, none were more gracefully rounded, or breathed an air of greater sincerity than those relating to honest elections and a pure and unfettered ballot. No one, carefully reading the declaration of principles put forth by the assembled genius of latter-day Republicanism at Harrisburg can fail to be deeply impressed by the air of studied melancholy which marks the significant protest of our antagonists against any further indulgence in systematized fraud in the conduct of elections. A meek and contrite spirit of repentance for the past struggles for supremacy with the budding promise of a complete regeneration which is to find its full fruition in the misty future, and as the rounders, repeaters, false personators, lightning calculators and ballot box thieves crowded to the altar to receive the benediction of Cameron as the High Priest in the new tabernacle of reform, hope for the triumph of the new dispensation beat high in every breast. "A free and pure ballot," demand our virtuous friends, "thoroughly protected so that any man entitled to cast a vote may do so, just once at each election without molestation, moral or physical, on account of his political faith, nationality or the 'hue of his skin.'" No fault can possible be found with this admirable deliverance. The most captious critic finds himself at once disarmed by this suave, mild and dignified recital of the rights and immunities of the elector. Here the Hindu followers of Buddha and the disciples of Bob Ingersoll enjoy equally with the hosts of orthodox, the benign blessings of suffrage, while the dark browed sons of the African desert are placed side by side with the haughty, fair-haired Anglo-Saxon. What could be more Democratic? What more inherently Republican? And then, Oh! mighty spirit of "Gopher Bill!" we invoke thy presence, each man is to vote "just once." Well for you that the frowning walls of Chester county's jail hides your anguish from the gaze of an unsympathetic world as you receive this unkindly cut at the hands of your friends. But not content with this, we find further on the following, "Honest elections. The people having the 'virtue and the patriotism to govern themselves, our government must depend for its stability upon honest elections. Until a man is considered 'infamous who casts an illegal vote' our government will not be safe, and 'whoever deprives a citizen of his right to vote or of the legal effect of his vote is a traitor to our government.'" Stand up, David Mout, select councilman from the fifth ward of Philadelphia, and clerk in the office of the Prothonotary, and answer to the charge of high treason preferred against you by the Representatives of your party in State convention assembled. You are charged under oath with altering election returns, stealing tickets out of ballot boxes and substituting others in their stead, of threatening election officers and forcing them to nullify the will of the people by making false returns. The platform of your party says the man who does this is a traitor to his government and you are the first malefactor called upon to plead to the grave indictment. This man Mout is a power in Republican politics in the Metropolitan City of Pennsylvania. He is the close friend of J. Donald Cameron and is cheek by jowl with the men who are omnipotent in shaping the policy of the Republican party of the State. We will see now whether the protestations in favor of honesty in elections which we have quoted above, are the embodiment of Republican sentiment or mere glittering generalities signifying nothing. Mout is a delegate to the Chicago convention with

fledged instructions to vote for Grant and do the bidding of his master. Cameron can but illy spare such a well conditioned henchman and it will be interesting to note the contest between the exigencies of party upon the one hand and the inexorable judgment of the law upon the other. Mout is accused by the election officers of both parties and there can be no charge of partisanship made to break the force of the damning evidence against him. The fifth ward had been the scene of many disgraceful exhibitions of fraud and violence in the elections of the past, but it was left to one of the City law makers on last Tuesday a week to render all else respectable by contrast. The Republican platform and Republican sincerity are on trial now in the person of Mr. David Mout. It is in no spirit of prophecy that we predict the triumphal vindication of Mr. Mout and the consequent half masting of the flag of reform upon the part of the party.

## In Deep Sea.

It is alleged that 136,000 citizens of Massachusetts are disfranchised, contrary to the fourteenth amendment, for non-payment of taxes, for being unable to read and write the English language, etc. Speaking of this, the Washington Post remarks:

"The Fourteenth amendment of the Constitution of the United States and the law of 1873 make it the duty of Congress to diminish the representation of Massachusetts proportionally, and will cost that State their members of Congress and the electoral college unless the present legislature, now in session, shall restore the ballot to those disappointed citizens. It is one of the reverses which time brings around that the State which first proposed and adopted the Fourteenth amendment, to force negro suffrage on the South, should be the first to be punished by its operation. The Radical party of the Bay State is between the devil and the deep sea. If they refuse to restore 136,000 men, the State is delivered over to the Democracy. And if they decline to do it, they lose their Congressman and an equal number of electors."

These disfranchised citizens are counted as part of the basis of representation, and if they are eliminated from that basis the State will lose three members of Congress and three electors. This is certainly not a pleasant outlook for that stalwart State.

SOME time ago it seemed that the Presidential office was again to be thrust upon Gen. Grant unsought—that all the Republican aspirants were voluntarily to retire and beg the "greatest living American" to accept the office, and as the "strong man," save the country. He was not to descend from his seat of grandeur, away above the clouds, but to quietly amuse himself and await the triumph when his grateful countrymen shouted in one voice, "Give us back our old commander"—when Chicago's convention unanimously proclaimed him the one man, whose overwhelming popularity alone could meet and antagonize the prevailing Democratic sentiment which gives stalwart Republicanism so much anxiety and trouble in establishing the Empire of their hopes and prayers. But what a change has a few weeks wrought! The great man has had to descend from the sublime perch he had assumed, to scramble as other men in political mud pools for Grant delegates to the Chicago convention. Because of the mean character and doubtful honesty of his contestants, Blaine and Sherman, he may be successful, but he will have to fight for every inch of ground he occupies in its attainment, and then his fight has only commenced. The great Democracy will then become his antagonists, and the battle will not be a sham for amusement.

A COMMITTEE of the House was recently raised to investigate the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Le Duc, the Commissioner, has made an elaborate statement of the disadvantages under which this service has labored and detailing the needs and wants of the Department, which the sub-Committee deem entirely satisfactory. Everything therefore, being lovely, Mr. Le Duc can now be certi-

fied as a proper person to ornament the "kitchen cabinet" if the *de facto* President is in want of another political adviser.

## The Hunted Czar.

The news that came from Europe last week, of another desperate attempt to take the life of the Czar, Alexander II, of Russia, again forces upon the records of time a thrilling illustration of the truth of the trite saying that "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." The imperial family at this season of the year occupies the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg, and the conspirators sought to accomplish their aim by blowing up the building with dynamite which they had in some mysterious way placed in the basement. Immediately over the place where the explosion occurred was a room occupied by the imperial guard, consisting of about 125 men, and above that was the dining hall. The Czar, it seems, usually dines at six o'clock. Fortunately the dinner on that day had been delayed a short time and his majesty was just about to enter the room when the explosion occurred, killing, according to the accounts, eight persons and dangerously wounding forty-five. All the members of the imperial family were mercifully saved.

Of his line, Alexander is personally one of the best who has ever occupied the throne. Essentially autocratic and despotic in practice and by tradition as the government of Russia has for ages been, the present Czar has not been dead to the demand of advancing civilization. His government today is much better than when he received it from his predecessor. To him, Russia is indebted for many notable and laudable reforms in the system calculated to enhance the welfare of his millions of subjects, and these reforms have undoubtedly bettered their condition. One of the first great strides in the progress of the mighty events that have marked his reign—a work nobler in all the attributes of humanity than will be placed to the credit of any other crowned head of the present era—was the emancipation of serfs. This above all else should endear him to his people. But other changes have marked his career. From him also Russia has received elective assemblies, a system of trial by jury in the courts, and improved educational facilities such as were never enjoyed in the country before. Acts like these indicate a man that works for the good of those over whom he rules, and it would seem that he should be the most popular monarch Russia has ever had. Yet it is a veritable fact that this man lives in constant dread of death at the hands of cunning, desperate and determined foes in his own land—probably in his own household. Ever in his mind is the fear of poison, the dagger, the bullet and the scores of other means to extinguish life that have been devised by the ingenuity of men. He dare not go abroad and is not safe even in his own palace. The attempt that was made upon his life last week was a piece of cold-blooded diabolism as cunning and atrocious in design as anything of the kind the mind can well conceive of; and that he, together with the members of his imperial family and his royal visitors present in the palace, escaped death or serious injury is almost miraculous and is a matter of congratulation.

We copy with great pleasure, in another column of the DEMOCRAT, articles that have appeared in the Harrisburg Patriot and the Wilkesbarre Union Leader favoring the nomination, by the next Democratic State Convention, of Edward Herrick, Esq., of Bradford county, for Auditor General. Mr. Herrick is the present able and efficient chief clerk of the Auditor General's office, and from a personal acquaintance with him we can most heartily endorse the commendations of both the journals named. We know him to be a gentleman of the highest

integrity, of pronounced ability, and one of the best officials the State has ever had. He is decidedly strong and popular in the portion of the State to which he belongs and would draw many votes from the Republican candidate. Mr. Herrick is in the line of promotion, and we believe it would be a wise move on the part of the convention to place him in nomination.

THE Democratic county committee, of Clinton county, met at Lock Haven, on Tuesday, of last week, and elected Col. W. H. Moore delegate to the State Convention. This is an excellent selection. Col. Moore will represent the Democracy of Clinton ably and acceptably. We notice that the committee also elected Senatorial conferees and instructed them to support Mr. George J. F. Ramm for Senatorial delegate. It may have been all right for the committee to pay this compliment to Mr. Ramm, but certainly Clinton county is not entitled to the Senatorial delegate this year, and we trust this action of the committee is not to be regarded as a serious move to assert a claim of that kind. Centre county has a clear right to the Senatorial delegate which should not be disputed, and will ask for fair play at the hands of the conference. We make these remarks in order that there may be an understanding of the matter in advance.

At the meeting of the National Democratic Committee, held in the city of Washington, on Monday last, the 22d of June was the time fixed for holding the National Convention of the party to nominate candidates for President and Vice President, and Cincinnati selected as the place for the Convention to meet. Representatives were present from a number of other cities to ask for the convention and offer such inducements to influence the action of the committee as their various localities afforded, but on the first formal ballot, Cincinnati carried off the honor, the vote standing, Cincinnati, 24; Chicago, 8; St. Louis, 4; Washington, 1; blank, 1. The meeting of the committee was harmonious and its action in all respects judicious.

CHAIRMAN SPRINGER from the committee on elections submitted the majority report relative to the contested election case of Curtin vs. Yocum on Tuesday of the current week. The report is substantially the same indicated in last week's DEMOCRAT. It declares the election null and void and remands the matter back to the people of the district for adjudication. The minority report of Messrs. Calkins and Weaver declares Mr. Yocum entitled to the seat but there is another report made by Field, Republican, of Massachusetts, the provisions of which we are unable to state. The reports were ordered to be printed and action in the House may be expected at an early day.

HON. JOSEPH S. WAREAM died suddenly at his home in Lewistown, on Friday evening last, of paralysis of the brain. Mr. Waream was a well-known and popular citizen of Mifflin county, who at various periods of his life filled important trusts in that county. He also represented at one time, the district composed of the counties of Centre, Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata in the State Senate, and also served gallantly as a soldier in the Union army during the war of the rebellion. An exchange truthfully remarks that he was a warm hearted and chivalrous man and had many friends throughout the State.

WE were exceedingly glad to hear that our old and valued friend, H. L. Dieffenbach, Esq., of Lock Haven, was unanimously elected an alderman for the second ward of that city, at the municipal election held on the 17th instant. His election in this manner was a compliment as well bestowed as it was justly deserved.

THE Department of Superintendence of the National Educational Association had a meeting at Washington last week, with representatives from nearly all the States. Prof. Wickersham, of Pennsylvania, and nine others, were appointed a committee to take into consideration the formation of a National Council of Education, with instructions to report a plan of organization to the Board of Directors of the National Teachers' Association in July next.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Parnell calls Kentucky "the Ireland of America."

Simon Cameron will, if he lives to the 8th of March, be 81 years old.

The Cincinnati Millers' Exposition will begin on May 31, and close June 26. A national convention of starch manufacturers, representing \$100,000,000 capital, will meet at Cincinnati, on March 3.

During the recent rise in the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers at Pittsburgh, 5,000,000 bushels of coal were washed out.

The grant of \$100,000 by the Dominion Government toward the Irish relief fund passed the House unanimously on Friday.

The cotton mill of Verienden Brothers, near Chester, was burned down on Thursday afternoon. The loss is estimated at \$75,000.

Hon. John M. Broadhead, of Washington, formerly Second Comptroller of the Treasury, died in South New Market on Sunday night.

Up in Montreal the smallpox has broken out among the horses. Bright's disease and cerebro-spinal meningitis will be in order next.

Rev. Dr. Charles P. Bush, of New York, Secretary of the American Board of Foreign Missions, died suddenly at Albany, Sunday, of rheumatism of the heart.

The West Chester papers report the death in that place, on Saturday morning, of Ann Scarlet, a maiden lady aged 101 years. "Auntie" Graham is still living in West Chester, and is 103 years old.

"It went for a song" will hereafter hardly express the extreme of cheapness. The other day by the sea, \$3,000 was paid to Adeline Patti for singing one song at her soiree.

The New Jersey Midland Railway was sold at auction on Saturday to Charles Parsons, chairman of the purchasing committee of the New Jersey Midland Railway first mortgage bondholders, for \$2,500,000.

The Cincinnati Southern Railroad was opened on Monday to Chattanooga for freight business and Cincinnati marked the event by a display of bunting and firing artillery. One hundred carloads of freight started on the pioneer train.

On Saturday the School Board officers of Cleveland, Ohio, commenced making arrests with a view of enforcing the State law punishing employers for having children under 14 in their employ during school hours when not compelled to work on account of poverty.

The Pennsylvania steel works at Baldwin, east of Harrisburg, turned out on Thursday, in 24 hours, four hundred and forty-two tons of steel in seventy-one heats, the biggest day's work ever done in any steel works in the country.

Washington's birthday was celebrated by a military parade in which the Mobile cadets participated. The Washington Artillery celebrated their fortieth anniversary by the ceremony of the unveiling and dedication of a monument in Metairie cemetery. The attendance was large, the floral decorations attractive and the ceremonies imposing.

A Cleveland, Ohio, despatch says: At three o'clock Monday afternoon 1500 barrels of oil escaped from a tank at the Standard oil works, No 4 Broadway, took fire, and a furious conflagration ensued, which threatened to envelop the entire works at that point, the company's central and principal works. Blazing oil was floating on the creek and river, making huge streams of fire.

In the Court of Quarter Sessions at Lancaster, on Monday, the cases of the Commonwealth vs. Peter Herdic were called for trial, but the counsel for the commonwealth announced that they had decided not to proceed with them, but enter *nolle prosequi* upon all the bills of indictment found and pending against Herdic in Lancaster county. This disposition was approved by the court, and Herdic was discharged.

A special meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce was held on Saturday, when the subject of erecting a suitable monument in Wall street to commemorate the inauguration of Geo. Washington as first President of the United States was referred to a committee to ascertain if a suitable site could be procured, and also what means could be adopted to carry the project into execution.

A fire broke out Friday night in the five-story iron front building, 384 and 386 Broadway, New York, and when the roof fell in two firemen—Thomas D. Dougherty and John F. Cassidy—were thrown into the blazing abyss. They clutched at the sides of the building, but could not retain their hold, and fell amid a cry of horror from the spectators. The loss is said to be \$1,050,000. The Lorillards owned the building, valued at \$50,000. Hazen, Todd & Co., lose \$400,000; Dickhoff, Ruffler & Co., \$250,000; James Wilde, Jr., & Co., \$350,000.