

# 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 17, 1881.

THE Senate has confirmed the nomination of ex-Governor Hartraut for Collector of Customs at Philadelphia.

THE eligibility of Mr. Arthur to the Vice Presidency on account of his foreign birth is still agitated, and will no doubt be the subject of investigation before he takes the oath of office.

THE BARGAIN! It is said the bargain between Grow and Cameron, the leaders of the boss and bolting factions of the Republican party at Harrisburg, places Grow upon the slate as the Republican candidate for Governor to succeed Gov. Hoyt, instead of our friend Gen. Beaver. Well somebody will be cheated by the dicker and in due time realize the uncertainty of boss pledges. It may be Grow; it may be both the gubernatorial aspirants.

WEDNESDAY of last week was the time fixed by law for Congress to count the electoral vote, and at noon of that day Mr. Wheeler, followed by the members of the Senate, entered the hall of the House for the purpose of performing that duty. Mr. Wheeler was seated at speaker Randall's right hand, while the senators were accommodated with chairs at the front rows of desks. Mr. Wheeler, after stating that he was there in accordance with the constitution to perform a specific duty, proceeded to open the certificates of election of the several states of the union. At 1:35 the count was concluded, and Garfield and Arthur were declared elected President and Vice President of the United States. The votes of each State were counted in accordance with the published result of the election until Georgia was reached. Mr. Springer then demanded the reading of the certificate in full. Mr. Wheeler said that as it appeared that Georgia's electoral vote was cast at a day other than that fixed by the act of Congress, it could not be recorded until afterward. The count then went on, and the result was announced in accordance with the joint rule of the two houses.

MR. BLAINE, the Luzerne Union remarks, is just now getting a good deal of praise from the Republican papers for his efforts concerning the establishment of a universal penny postal system, as if he were the originator of the idea. History shows that George Francis Train was the man in this country who first endeavored to prove that by the adoption of the system generally, the postal revenues would be largely increased, and he emphatically urged its establishment. Blaine in his later efforts is simply echoing what was said long ago. The cheap postage system formed a plank in that queer political combination that nominated Vic Woodhull for President. The adoption of a universal penny postal arrangement would undoubtedly increase the revenues of the Post office department and greatly facilitate public convenience as well. When Sir Rowland Hill, first argued in behalf of cheap postage in England, on the ground that the revenues would be increased, his ideas were scouted at as being those of a crazy man. The British government, however, was induced to try the experiment, and general surprise followed. It came out just as Rowland Hill had prophesied. Indeed it went far beyond his own expectations. The increase in correspondence was enormous, and every body wrote letters when they found they could dispatch them for a penny. Mr. Blaine's efforts in behalf of cheap postage are to be commended, but the credit of being the originator of the system here should be placed where it fairly belongs.

### Stand by William A. Wallace.

Within the last week considerable effort has been made by many Democrats throughout the State, and particularly at Harrisburg, to have the Democratic members of the legislature cast their votes for one or the other of the Republican candidates for United States Senator and thus end an ugly contest that now divides the Republican party. What any Democrat expects to gain by such a move is more than we can comprehend. Alliances of this kind have heretofore been made in other States, as well as in this, and have never yet resulted in good to the Democratic party; but without exception have always brought disaster and disgrace.

In 1875 the Democrats of Michigan and Wisconsin joined with a faction of the Republicans and elected Isaac P. Christianity from the one State and Angus Cameron from the other with the hope that these men would at least occasionally rise above party in the discharge of their Senatorial duties. The sequel is that these men have been the most bigoted and narrow-minded radical Republicans in the Senate. But Democrats by these unholy alliances have done very much worse even than this. In 1851 they joined hands with a few disappointed Whigs and Free Soilers and elected Charles Sumner a senator from the State of Massachusetts to succeed the great expounder and defender of the Constitution.

A vigorous and accomplished writer of a later day truthfully said of this man that he was "one who was 'notoriously an abolitionist: in short 'an ideologist and ultraist, who how 'ever restrained by policy, at that 'time, from the full expressions of 'his extreme opinions, yet constantly 'avowed doctrines which, subjected to 'any logical analysis, were inimical to 'the Constitution, and tended clearly 'to the destruction of the Union.' Of his election the same writer charges that the Democrats were "guilty 'not only of the betrayal of party fidelity, but all the duties of patriotic 'citizens. It is certain that most disastrous consequences eventually flowed from this deplorable act. Immediately, it proved of little public consequence, except in the injury inflicted by the Massachusetts Democrats upon their own party standing and interests, and in the evil example 'which it set for similar treacherous 'coalitions in other states. It turned 'over the State of Massachusetts which 'had always before been conservative 'to the radicals."

In 1877, if it was possible, the Democrats did worse by a coalition with a few disgruntled Republicans in Illinois in electing David Davis to the United States Senate, just before the organization of the infernal 8 to 7 commission. After his election Davis, being an honest man, believed it would give a political color to the commission if he became a member. In view of this he declined to serve upon it, and the infamous Joe Bradley was chosen in his stead. The result we all know. Tilden was counted out. Fraud and iniquity became triumphant for the first time in American politics. The people were robbed of their lawfully chosen rulers, and crime and the perpetrators of crime were rewarded by being put in high places of honor and profit. Had the Democrats of Illinois refused to join hands with the disgruntled Republicans, Davis would have remained on the bench, and he would have been one of the five judges on that commission. His love of justice and right would have given the Louisiana and Florida electors to Samuel J. Tilden. The people would have been honored in having their lawfully chosen President administer this great government for the last four years and the nation saved from the awful blotch that must forever darken her otherwise fair escutcheon.

Then, Members of the Legislature, stand by Hon. William A. Wallace!

He will do credit to any state however powerful! He will honor by his pre-eminent talents, unlimited capacity for work and devotion to the public good any Senate however great! No good can come to the party by forsaking him and joining hands with either the bolter or ring candidate. There are Republicans enough in the legislature to elect a Republican Senator if they so desire; if they do not, you keep your hands clean by standing to your own honored nominee. If the yoke of the machine chafes the necks of the bolters too severely, let them join with you in electing an honest, able and tried man like Mr. Wallace. In this way they can beat the power of the machine, honor themselves and the State, and give the people a senator able to properly represent them in the high councils of the nation.

The coalition in Massachusetts in 1851 wrought ruin eventually to the whole Democratic party; it gave poison to the Senate from Michigan and Wisconsin in 1875; it brought shame and disgrace on the whole country by being made in Illinois in 1877; if made now in Pennsylvania it will only bring disaster to a great party growing stronger day by day, and further shame and disgrace to our great Commonwealth. Stand by Wallace to the end!

THE well known and distinguished member of Congress from New York, Hon. Fernando Wood, died at Hot Springs, Arkansas, on last Sunday night. The sad news of his death reached Washington at noon on Monday and created a profound impression. The Washington Post, of Tuesday says that "private intelligence for the last three or four days had given his friends slight hopes of his recovery. For many years he has been afflicted with a serious affection of the bladder, and his strength was not sufficient to enable him to submit to an operation, upon the performance of which his physicians had long ago decided his recovery depended. Without exaggeration, it can be said that Mr. Wood died in official harness. His ambition was to see the Refunding bill, of which he was the author, become a law. He had made a careful study of the financial history of the Government, and it was his conviction that a three per cent. loan could be successfully carried through.

Mr. Wood unquestionably hastened his death by taking the part he did in the consideration of this measure. It was with great difficulty that he could reach the Capitol in the last days of its discussion, and his participation in the debate was possible only through the use of strong stimulants. It was a matter of great gratification to him when the bill was passed substantially as he had prepared it. That done, he reluctantly acted upon the advice of his physician and hastened to the famous Hot Springs in search of health and rest." The hope of restored health however was not to be realized. Mr. Wood was a native of Philadelphia, though in boyhood he became a resident of New York. He was in the sixty-ninth year of his age and served nearly twenty years in Congress.

ON the fourth of March Gen. Garfield will be inaugurated the twentieth President of the United States. Of his predecessors fifteen were lawfully and directly elected to the office; three succeeded to it from the Vice Presidency, Tyler, Fillmore and Johnson, by the death of the incumbents, and one obtained the position by fraud, held it in defiance of decency, and will leave it with the merited scorn and contempt of all classes of the people.

THE ballot for United States Senator yesterday resulted as follows: Beaver, 78; Wallace, 74; Bayne, 57. Still no break in the dead lock.

REPRESENTATIVE GEPHART will accept our thanks for a copy of the Legislative Record.

### The Senatorial Fight.

THE change of candidates made by the two factions of the Republican party is about the only thing new in the Senatorial contest at the State capital since the last issue of the DEMOCRAT. Instead of Oliver and Grow, it is now Beaver and Bayne; but with the change of names the problem of an election seems to be no nearer a solution than when the clashing and discordant factions first grappled with each other under their original leaders. Gen. Beaver is a citizen who has served his country well in the past. Much can be said in his favor. Above all of his party competitors named for United States Senator, we deem him worthy of any honors his party has to bestow. As between Republican candidates, if a Republican must be chosen, the citizens of Centre county, would, we believe, without regard to party lines, be pleased should the high honor of an election fall upon him. But while this feeling undoubtedly exists, we just as firmly believe that the sentiment of a very large majority of the Democratic portion of our community is in favor of letting the Republicans decide the matter of an election themselves. If General Beaver succeeds, it should be by Republican votes, and not with the help of Democrats. Democrats at his home do not begrudge Gen. Beaver any political preferment or advancement that may come to him legitimately from his own party, but, without regard to persons, they do oppose a coalition with either wing of the Republican party in this fight, and they heartily endorse the course of their representatives in voting thus far strictly for their own candidate.

THE election in Philadelphia on Thursday was rather discouraging to the machine Republicans. King, Democrat and Reform, defeats Stokely, Republican, for Mayor, by over 5,000 majority. Hunter, Reform Republican, is elected City Treasurer by about 20,000 majority.

In Pittsburg Major Lyon, the only Democrat on the citizens' ticket, is elected Mayor, over Miles Humphrey, the Republican candidate, by from 1,000 to 2,000 majority.

In Harrisburg, John C. Herman, Republican, was elected Mayor by about 600 majority.

Lock Haven elects Mr. Clawater, Democrat, Mayor by fifty-nine majority, and in Clinton county, S. Woods Caldwell, the Democratic candidate, is elected to the Legislature to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J. C. C. Whaley, by from four to five hundred majority.

The returns from the Luzerne Senatorial district indicate the election of Eckley B. Cox, Democrat, by a majority of from 2,000 to 3,000.

In Montgomery county, Brown, Republican, is elected to the Legislature to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Boyd.

It is now thought that there is still a chance for the passage of the Apportionment bill before the adjournment of Congress. The number of members to the House will probably be fixed at 307. This is an increase of fourteen over the present membership. The bill reported by Mr. Cox fixed the number at 301, and 307 is supposed to be a compromise that will be satisfactory to a large majority of the members. It is sure the House is strongly disposed to favor this number and the committee will not, it is believed, oppose the House when the bill comes up again for discussion. The present number is 293. At 307 California, Iowa and Michigan gain one Representative each; Kansas gains three and Minnesota and Nebraska two each, making a gain of ten in these Northern States. Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and West Virginia gain one each and Texas gains four, making a gain of nine in the Southern States; and Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York lose one each. It is curious that the number 307 is more favor-

able to New York than any number intermediate between that and the present. At 294 and up to 298 New York would lose three Representatives and from 298 to 306 the State would lose two.

### Restrictions upon Corporate Power

WE are pleased to see that Senator Alexander has taken a firm stand in favor of compelling all corporations to accept the provisions of the State Constitution of 1873 before further favors in the way of legislation are granted to them. Senate bill No. 23 is an act to extend the time for the completion of a railroad in the western part of that State, and on motion of Mr. Alexander the bill was amended so as to provide "that no corporation shall be entitled to the benefits of this act, until the directors, trustees or other proper officers thereof shall have, by resolution, adopted the provisions of the Constitution of the State, and a copy of such resolution, duly certified under the seal of such corporation, shall have been filed in the office of the Auditor General."

Mr. Alexander was requested to withdraw his amendment and permit the bill to pass without it; but he declined to do so. In the discussion of the question thus raised in the Senate, we take from the *Legislative Record* the following remarks made upon it by Senator Alexander. It will be observed that he illustrates his position by a home thrust at a corporation within our own county. Mr. Alexander said:

"I would be very much pleased to accommodate the Senator, but I do not see how it would be possible for me to grant his request on this bill at this time. This is the proper time in which to amend a bill, when we are on second reading, and it is not the proper time to do it when bills are on third reading, and in order to get this amendment attached to this bill it is necessary that it should be placed there on second reading. Otherwise, I should be pleased to accommodate him. I think the amendment is an important one and ought to be adopted. It is one certainly that met with the approval of the people of this State. It met with the approval of those people who framed the new Constitution when they required of these corporations that had grown so large in this Commonwealth that before they should be able to obtain any further legislation extending their privileges or their franchises they should accept the provisions of the Constitution. Many of them have failed to do that, and when they ask for legislation of this kind it is proper for us that before granting additional privileges that they should be compelled to do just what every other citizen of this Commonwealth is compelled to do—accept the provisions of the fundamental law of the State. It was so applied to the bill that was passed two years ago extending the franchises of corporations. I have in my mind one railroad which passed through my county. It was incorporated as early as 1854. They commenced by soliciting releases of the right of way and obtaining subscriptions from the land owners along the line of the road to a sufficient amount to grade the road. In 1872 and 1873 and 1874 the road was built a distance of forty-three miles from Montandon to Spring Mills in Centre county. The balance of the road, not the whole balance, but some fifteen miles of the road was graded and a portion of it ballasted. Since 1873 no work has been done on it whatever, and the farmers living along the line of the road who generously granted the right of way, and who subscribed the money for the grading of the road, have received no return for their investment, with the exception that they have the inconvenience of having their fields dug up, embankments thrown up, their fences torn down and no railroad; they are not within hearing distance of the sound of the whistle of a locomotive. Now, they complain of that. This corporation has it within its control. Its privileges and franchises have been extended for five years from 1873, and there is no means by which these people who have paid their money and who have their property partially destroyed by the construction of the road—no means by which they can have any redress whatever from this railroad company, and every time when its franchises are about to expire by limitation, by some act of this kind, general in its character, their privileges and franchises are extended, and may be from time to time for a hundred years, until the little boys of the old men who have subscribed their money to build this road are gray-haired men themselves. I do not know why the company who has that road in charge do not complete this work. There are fifteen miles to be tied and railed yet, and some little distance of eight or ten miles to be graded. So far as this bill is concerned, if it passes without this amendment, it virtually annuls the act of 1879; it takes its place in every particular. It is inconsistent with it in this, that it leaves off the provisions that they shall accept the provisions of the new Constitution, and I hope the Senate will pass this amendment to this bill."

### ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

—These big floods are hard on fish. Valentines expected their large stock of sixty cent kits of mackerel, but they have not yet arrived—delayed somewhere en route.

—Mr. Anthony G. Noll, the popular boot and shoe maker, who during the past year has been located in the small building on High street near Deschner's gun shop, removed, last week, into a more commodious apartment in McCafferty's building. Mr. Noll has built up a large business which will follow him into his new quarters.

—R. G. Brett, Esq., our reliable Democratic friend from Ferguson, dropped in to see us on Monday. Mr. Brett reports everything as favorable in his township and thinks our Republican friends will be disappointed in their expectations of receiving a largely augmented vote in Ferguson in consequence of the opening up of the ore beds there.

—Mrs. Amanda Leonard, the wife of Judge James T. Leonard, of Clearfield, died suddenly, of paralysis, on Friday, the 4th instant. A short time before receiving the fatal stroke she was enjoying excellent health, and on the Wednesday previous celebrated the 54th anniversary of her birthday by entertaining a large company of relatives and friends. The grief occasioned by the sad occurrence can well be imagined.

—We hope our readers will not forget the elocutionary entertainment to be given in Humes' Hall, on next Friday evening, by Mr. George P. Bible. Mr. Bible sustains an enviable reputation as an accomplished and finished elocutionist and his programme embraces many popular selections. He deserves an audience composed of our most critical people, and we hope the hall will be crowded on the occasion of his first appearance in Bellefonte.

—The *Watchman* is mistaken in regard to an "error or oversight in the commissioners' statement," which it alleges "does injustice to Mr. Benjamin Stamm, collector of Harris township." The statement as it appeared in the CENTRE DEMOCRAT was properly marked with a double dagger before Mr. Stamm's name to indicate that his duplicate had been paid in full after the settlement, and it should also so have appeared in the *Watchman*. The same is true of Mr. J. H. Griffin, of Half Moon. The "error or oversight" is not chargeable to the commissioners' office.

### GENERAL NEWS.

The military prison at Leavenworth, Kan., is reported as having turned out in the last fiscal year 25,225 pairs of boots and \$1,220 of shoes.

A pigeon hawk having seized a hen in the barn yard of Thomas Gorsuch, Oneida township, Huntingdon county, was attacked and killed by an old gander. Unfortunately an accidental stroke of the gander's wing killed the hen also, but she probably forgave him with her dying breath in consideration of his well-meant efforts to save her from a horrible death.

There is an agitation in Southern California about a division of the State. The southern portion is agricultural, and has a great deal of the old Spanish element. She difference between the two sections is every way greatly marked. It is very likely that a State made from Southern California would be democratic, and as steady as Connecticut or Delaware. The effort affords an opportunity for study. In climate, in scenery, in the social methods of the people, the two parts of the State are widely dissimilar.

General Garfield is now being bothered by the persons who are making arrangements for the inauguration. Apropos of this the Washington *Republican* relates an anecdote of Mr. Lincoln. The inauguration committee submitted two programmes and asked the President-elect which he preferred. Mr. Lincoln threw one leg over the back of his chair and replied as follows: "When I was practicing law in Illinois a client of mine, a peculiar sort of fellow, was brought before the Court and the Judge asked him: 'Do you swear or affirm?' 'Mr. Judge,' my client replied, 'I don't care a damn which.'"

It is rumored that the syndicate building the New York, St. Louis and Chicago have offered the Presidency to Governor Foster, of Ohio, at \$25,000 a year. \$13,500,000 of the \$16,000,000 capital of the road has been subscribed. The extension from Fort Wayne to St. Louis will be under contract next month, and completed by July, 1882. The latest developments as to the connections east of Cleveland are that the road will be built to Buffalo, instead of through Pennsylvania from Ohio to New Jersey. The whole road will be laid with steel rails, and 40,000 of the 60,000 tons needed between Chicago and Cleveland have been bought already. In case the Buffalo extension is not agreed on, the objective point for eastern connection will be Milton, Northumberland county, on the Catawissa and Williamsport branch of the Reading. A feasible pass through the Allegheny ridge has been discovered, in which a road can be laid at a grade of not more than fifty or sixty feet to the mile.