

# 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, March 3, 1881.

SENATOR W. A. WALLACE has accepted an invitation to deliver the address before the Literary Society of Muhlenberg College during the commencement week. The students of that institution may expect a rich treat from an earnest and accomplished orator.

HARD ON CONGRESSMEN.—A Methodist preacher in Cincinnati is credited with the declaration that there will not be as many congressmen in heaven as there are icicles in the other place. Nothing to worry the statesmen in that! Bob Ingersoll has froze up "the other place" long ago, and no doubt this preacher has been in his company skating on its plane surface with all the agility of an admiring partisan.

THE Philadelphia reformers are still reforming, and are now after the rogues—the corrupt election officials, the ballot-box stuffers and repeaters, whom they propose to prosecute to conviction in every instance where sufficient evidence can be secured. If they perform this duty faithfully without regard to individuals or parties, they will deserve all honor. Philadelphia elections, for some years, have been a scandal and a reproach, and any means taken to give even a show of decency to them is to be commended and encouraged by the whole people of the State.

THE RING BILL, presented in the Legislature to handicap the new Mayor of Philadelphia in the matter of the appointment of the police, by vesting the selection of these officers in a Police Commission, to be appointed by the council, has been very properly sat down upon by the committee to which it was referred. There is no means sufficiently mean to restrain these ringsters. The emphatic condemnation of a partisan police by the people of Philadelphia at the late election, might at least have warned them that the people of Philadelphia are not in temper to be trifled with in their corporate affairs.

RUFUS E. SHAPLEY, Mayor Stokley's private and official counsel, and one of the ablest and most eloquent advocates of his re-election, turns out to be the author of that exquisite political satire, "Solid for Mulhooly." Mr. Shapley wrote the book when his chief was dancing attendance on the Reformers, and was the candidate of the Committee of One Hundred. By the time Mr. Shapley got his book into print Stokley had changed partners and was the choice of the bosses. Thus the strange anomaly was witnessed of Shapley on the stump for Stokley, pleading with his Mulhoolies and Blossom Bricks to support his candidate, while Pattison, Caven and others were using his own ammunition to defeat him. As a political "Buttercup," Mr. Shapley is a success. He had things badly mixed.

THE invitation to General Hancock to attend the Inauguration ceremonies of the opponent "elected" over him (by treachery in New York and corruption in Indiana) is one that low enemies would like to lay hold of for invidious comment on the distinguished soldier, whether he accepts or declines. But surely if there ever was a case where a man might be left free to decide his course according to his own pleasure or sense of what is right and proper, this is the one. There is no call for any one to sneer, whether Gen. Hancock is present or absent. If he remains away, it will not unlikely be due to a modesty which shuns an ovation that would throw that extended to his rival into the shade, since this one would be genuine—to the man, and not to the office.

THE Chicago Times, commenting on Senator Wallace's proposition to elect the President and Vice President by a direct popular and plurality vote taken by districts, expresses itself as follows: "A feature of the proposition that ought to receive the hearty endorsement of all good citizens is the undoubted tendency it will have to obliterate sectionalism and break up the solidity of the North and South, because, as Senator Wallace remarks, with truth, under his system in the last election Pennsylvania would have probably chosen nineteen electors for Garfield and ten for Hancock, while Virginia might have given eight for Hancock and three for Garfield, and so on through all the States North and South. The advantage of such a policy can not be too fully appreciated, for of all the political curses that have been entailed upon this country, that of sectionalism is by far the worst. Another provision of the resolution which is deserving of applause is the proscription of a secret ballot, which will do away with the possibility of some lynx-eyed politician "setting" an enemy who may hold office and yet dare to vote for some individual of the rival party whom he believes better fitted for the public service than some party hack he may be forced to support for fear of vengeance from his friends. There are many other features of Senator Wallace's resolution, which must be passed over for the present. It is a pity that the honorable gentleman must die officially on March 4, and that with him must also perish for the present his great scheme of electoral reform."

THE National Banks are making a vigorous appeal to force a veto of the Funding bill, recently passed by Congress, providing for the issue of 3 per cent. bonds, which are made compulsory as a foundation for bank circulation. But the banks presuming upon their mastery of the Government and the country demand that this bill shall not become a law, and in the event that their demand is not heeded have threatened to retire their circulation in order to achieve by panic what they fail to obtain by protest. Let them do so; better this than sink the independence of the country, and acknowledge the mastery of these soulless tyrants. The bill they war against anticipates and provides against these raids upon the Treasury and assures the domination of the government over the banks. We remember that nearly the same opposition was made against the 4 per cent. certificates, under the plea that no one would take them, and yet when they were placed upon the market, the rush for them was so great that the supply was found to be inadequate, and thousands were disappointed and unable to purchase even at a premium. Every one will remember the rush for their certificates even in our own little town. This demonstration of the banks to coerce legislation is another warning which should not escape public attention. It was against this assumed power of the money kings that Andrew Jackson interposed his great name and invincible power of will and patriotic duty to crush out, and we doubt not that in due time another Jackson will appear to save the government from the dangers that now menace it from the same source.

THE President-elect started from Mentor on his way to Washington to be inaugurated President of the United States on last Monday afternoon and arrived at the capital on Tuesday morning. A large number of his old friends and neighbors congregated at the railroad station to say good bye, and Mr. Garfield made a feeling and appropriate speech to them. He also spoke from the platform of his special car at several other points in his old Congressional district along his route of travel. The trip was very quietly made, and after leaving Ohio was without interest or special incident to attract attention.

## The River and Harbor Bill.

That annual steal called the river and harbor appropriation bill, in which every member of Congress tries to get all he can for his district, this year assumes larger proportions than ever. The bill which passed on last Saturday appropriates about \$11,500,000. It is only necessary to go back a few years to show what a monstrous abuse this annual raid upon the public funds has grown to be. In 1870 an expenditure of not over \$2,000,000 was found to be amply sufficient for repairs and improvements to harbors and for improving the navigation of a few of our principal inland streams. But now every Congressman seems to have a trout stream to be improved. These gentlemen combine their influences. Their estimates go into the bill and the money is voted with a reckless and brazen disregard of the interests of the people that deserves the severest condemnation. These men are unfaithful to the trusts confided to their care and an outraged public opinion should make itself felt in censure of their shortcomings.

Among the faithless, however, it is a pleasure to note the few faithful, and to know that this outrage upon the treasury was not permitted to pass without strong protests against its enormities from such Senators as Thurman, Wallace and Kernan. They were not strong enough to prevent the passage of the bill, and unless Mr. Hayes will favor the country with a veto it will undoubtedly become a law and a large portion of the millions voted under it be squandered upon useless and unnecessary projects. The Harrisburg Patriot exposes the character of some of these "navigable rivers" of the country upon which it is proposed to spend the public money. The Patriot says that "one of these great navigable rivers upon whose bosom is to be borne the commerce of the country is the majestic Elk river in West Virginia. The engineer William P. Craighead, reports that before this river can be "properly prepared for the full development of trade," some or all of the private mill dams upon it "should certainly be modified or improved." His estimate is that with much less than \$100,000 the mill dams can be "modified" and the noble Elk opened for commerce. The money thus spent, he says, will give the Elk "ten or twelve inches depth at lowest water," and the Elk is put down for a handsome appropriation in the river and harbor bill. Imagine what mighty vessels will float down the stream with a depth of ten or twelve inches of water.

Another of these mighty streams is the Little Kanawha in West Virginia. By liberal appropriations in the past, as the engineer reports, rafting is now practicable on the Little Kanawha "at a much lower stage of water than ever before." But as the navigation for rafts is not fully improved on this stream a further appropriation was necessary. Appropriation is also made in the bill to improve the Guyandotte river for "push-boat navigation."

One of the items in this bill is to make "pole boat channel" in the Savannah river above Augusta. This great improvement for commerce is to be accomplished by putting up wing-dams on the river so as to concentrate the water. This will make a channel three feet deep. Fortunately there are no mill dams that need to be modified. Jay Gould and his associate monopolists will tremble at these statesmanlike efforts to establish a system of water transportation in competition with the railroads. When the mill dams on the Elk are "modified," when navigation for rafts is established on the Guyandotte, and when the upper waters of the Savannah are opened for pole boats, a new and mighty commercial epoch for the country will begin, according to the predictions of the statesman of Georgia. It is only necessary to pile up the appropriations, and pole boats, scows and rafts will dispute the carrying trade with the gigantic railroad monopolies.

THE dreadful catastrophe that occurred at Scranton the other day, by which seventeen orphan children lost their lives, leaves an impressive lesson behind it which should not be unheeded. These children were locked in their dormitory and died from suffocation. But for the iron bolt that barred their egress, they might have escaped the terrible fate that befell them. It is the custom in many asylums and schools for children to lock them into their rooms at night, and this is not the first awful sacrifice that has resulted from this practice. But it ought to be the last, for there is no excuse for taking the risk of burning children to death merely to save the expense of a watchman. It would be safe to say that more than half the children who have been suffocated or burned to death, both in private houses and public institutions, have fallen victims to the horrid custom of locking them in. Not many weeks ago, in a Western village, six children were locked into the house, asleep, while their parents went to church. The dwelling burned and all were lost, but the position of the charred remains showed that they had vainly striven to force an egress through the locked door. It is a horrible practice, and those who follow it are guilty of criminal disregard of the lives of those under their charge.

ALL attempts to pass the Apportionment Bill have been met by the Republican members by filibustering and dilatory motions under the lead of that Congressional nuisance and obstructionist, Conger, of Michigan, for which there was no excuse, as the Democrats offered to meet them fairly in the most liberal terms of compromise. The object of this course is to force an extra session of Congress. The failure of this bill will also involve the necessity and expense of extra sessions of the legislature in more than one-half of the States of the Union at a fearful cost to the people. The Republicans are thus making a record and establishing precedents that will certainly return to plague them in the future, and why the sensible Republicans, if there are such, do not curb the officious blatherskite who leads, is a mystery that can be accounted for only by partisan blindness of the most ultra and inexcusable character.

THE unwavering loyalty of the stalwart patriots of the National capital has just received another strong exemplification. These gentlemen will not march under the leadership of the "rebel brigadier," and have raised a hornet's nest about Gen. Sherman's ears for selecting Gen. Field to command one of the divisions of the inaugural procession. The "rebel brigadier," however, in the organization of the United States Senate is not to be sneezed at, and these same super-loyal gentlemen will not object to receiving any advantage that may come to them through the vote of Mahone. When there are spoils to divide and the "rebel brigadier" is a potent factor in the securing of them he is not such a bad fellow and may be safely tolerated.

THE man who for four years filled the high position to which the people of the United States had called Samuel J. Tilden, steps down and out to-morrow. He will retire to obscurity, despised by mankind, and in the future will only be thought of as the one in whose person fraud first triumphed over the rights of the people.

ANOTHER appeal for aid is made for the colored emigrants in Kansas. They are said to be freezing and starving in large numbers and there is urgent demand for prompt relief.

THE completed tabulation of the population of the United States, as given in the late census, shows that the excess of males over females is 888,298.

HIS FRAUDULENCY, Rutherford B. Hayes, retires from his stolen office to-morrow.

## Book Notices.

THE most striking things in the March St. Nicholas are Mrs. Oliphant's admirable paper giving the touching story of "Lady Jane Grey" (to be followed in April by the companion article on "Mary, Queen of Scots"); an illustrated account of two sturdy Icelandic boys and their desperate "Encounter with a Polar Bear"; "Mary Jane Describes Herself," an illustrated autobiography of a Sunday-school scholar; a new scientific in-door amusement called "The Magic Dance"; an incident of Adeline Patti's childhood, when traveling in the United States, in 1854, with Ole Bull and Maurice Strakosch; and the four serials, the fourth installment of Rosier Johnson's story of "Pheton Rogers," in which is described that young inventor's disastrous "horizontal balloon-ascent"; Dr. Oswald's stirring "Adventures in Nature's Wonderland"; Mrs. Clara Erskine Clement's second paper of "Stories of Art and Artists," with six pictures; and the anonymous "Mystery in a Mansion, a Story of an S. S." There are more than fifty illustrations, a page of music, and an Anglo-Chinese story for the boys and girls to interpret.

SCRIBNER for March has a number of interesting points. The second part of Mrs. Burnett's piquant novelette, "A Fair Barbarian," will be eagerly read by those who have read the first part, and will be found even more interesting. "Ericsson's Destroyer, and her New Gun," is the subject of a paper, by Charles Barnard, which has the advantage of presenting the first drawings of this long-expected piece of armament, with some fresh details. Never-before-engraved portraits of Charles and Mary Lamb, from old paintings, embellish a short paper by Mr. John Arbutnot. "In London with Dickens" is a chronicle of the localities of Boz, including Mr. Tulkington's house, Limehouse Hale, Jenny Wren's house, the Inns of Court, etc. Dr. B. E. Martin, who contributes this paper, writes from personal familiarity with the places which he describes. Another similar paper is to follow. Still further variety is given to the number by a second paper of "Recollections of American Society," by Mrs. S. W. Oakley; an illustrated paper on "Striped Bass," by Mr. Francis Endicott; an account of "Protestantism in Italy," by Rev. Washington Gladden; more "Notes of a Walker," including discussion of Shakspeare's natural history, by John Burroughs; "A Dangerous Virtue," a striking short story, by Mr. H. H. Boyesen; and the fifth part of Mr. Schuyler's "Peter the Great as Ruler and Reformer," illustrated by Blum, Nehlig, and others. Among the poems there is a sonnet ("Two Homes") by Dr. Holland, who, in "Topics of the Time," writes of George Eliot and "The Metropolitan Museum," and takes note of Bishop Cox's exception to part of a recent paper in SCRIBNER on the Bible Society. "Home and Society" treats of "A Mother's Duty to her Girls," "A New Cooking-Stove," and "Servants' Rooms and Quarters." "The World's Work" deals with "Artificial Ballast," "Power for Pleasure-Boats," "Optical Tests for Milk," etc., and "Bric-a-Brac" has humor and pleasantry of its own well-established kind.

## Famous Bathers at the Hot Springs.

Five years before his death, the Hon. O. P. Morton, of Indiana, came here to check, as far as possible, the progress of his disease. The Hon. James G. Blaine has been a sojourner here during three seasons. United States Senator-elect Camden, of West Virginia, comes here with his family every year. Ex-Governor Hendricks, of Indiana; the Washburne brothers, E. B. and C. C.; Senator Vest, of Missouri; Senator Maxey, of Texas; Senator Voorhees, of Indiana; W. B. Astor, of New York; the Garrisons, of St. Louis, are habitual visitors here; ex-Gov. Beriah Magoffin, of Kentucky; Col. Tom Nelson, of Indiana, and ex-Gov. Merrill, of Iowa, are at present here. The Hon. Fernando Wood, of New York, was one of the latest arrivals, but soon succumbed to his ailments.

## Maine News.

Hop Bitters, which are advertised in our columns, are a sure cure for ague, biliousness and kidney complaints. Those who use them say they cannot be too highly recommended. Those afflicted should give them a fair trial, and will become thereby enthusiastic in the praise of their curative qualities.—Portland Argus.

Gen. Garfield's last Sunday at Mentor preceding his trip to Washington, to assume the duties of President, was very quiet. In the morning he attended church, accompanied by his family and the remainder of the day passed in the usual quiet manner. All preparations for the trip were suspended. There were few, if any callers and Lawnfield was more like itself, a year ago, than an almost preceding day since the nomination.

## GENERAL NEWS.

The favorite girls in Washington society have big, brown eyes, smooth dark hair and large mouths that know how to smile.

A stone pitcher used by John Brown during his imprisonment in Charlestown, Va., was sold at auction in Baltimore on Wednesday for \$5.

London, with a population of 3,500,000, manages to get along with a fire department of 406 men, and still clings to the old fashioned hand engine.

Last Friday Governor Hawkins' message was presented to the Tennessee Legislature. The debt of the State is over \$26,500,000, including interest. The Governor believes the best interests of the State will be subserved by a speedy adjustment.

Vanderbilt, the elder, gave Nashville, Tenn., a university, and in Nashville now the people have a regular Vanderbilt shirt factory, a "Vanderbilt barber shop," a "Vanderbilt corn cutter" and more to come.

Sheridan C. Matthews, 16 years of age, was fearfully mangled by cars last Thursday, at Carbondale, while on his way home from work. He was employed on a level of the Delaware and Hudson Gravity road and at quitting time attempted to board a moving train and fell under the wheels. His escape from instant death was miraculous.

A man and woman were married at the cantonment on the Bad Lands, in Dakota, on the 16th, Rev. Mr. Stevens, of Bismark, officiating by telegraph. Two citizens witnessed the parties responding to the minister's questions from one end of the wire, while a newspaper correspondent and others saw the minister do his duty at the other.

Major Ben Perley Poore, the "father" of the reporters' gallery, went to Washington in 1827. He was born in Georgetown, and was very young when he began in the National Legislature to report the news of the capital for a New York newspaper. He has lived in Washington almost constantly since. He has a very distinct recollection of every inauguration from the time of John Quincy Adams.

General Sherman, Grand Marshal of the inaugural ceremonies of General Garfield, has issued a circular detailing the programme to be observed by the military escort of the President-elect: The First Division will be commanded by Brevet Brigadier General Ayres; the Second by Major General Hartranft; the Third by Major General Fletcher, and the Fourth by Major General Field. The Legislature of Tennessee on the 17th accepted an invitation to attend the inauguration.

The Census Office announces the following approximate distribution of the total population of the country among the several classes: Males, 25,520,582; females, 24,632,284; natives of the United States, 43,475,506; foreign born, 6,677,360; whites, 43,404,877; colored, 6,577,151; Indians and half-breeds not in tribal relations on reservations under the care of the Government, 65,122; Chinese, 105,463; other Asiatics, 255. The number of colored persons to each 100,000 whites is 15,153, against 14,528 in 1870. The number of females to every 100,000 males is 96,519, against 97,801 in 1870. The number of foreign born persons to every 100,000 natives is 15,359, against 16,875 in 1870.

When the Ocean City people saw some strange object far out at sea, the other morning, they got out their glasses and went down to the beach. They discovered that the object was an immense ice field, which appeared to be drifting nearer and nearer. On the following day the floe, which was from three to four feet thick and which stretched out to sea three miles, drifted to the shore. The roar of the surf was hushed for several hours, when the mass was partly broken up. Hundreds of people from the surrounding country witnessed the novel sight.

The liabilities of Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Maryland, are stated at \$165,000 to \$200,000, and the assets at \$100,000 to \$150,000. The principal creditors are Mrs. Anna P. Marshall, first mortgage, \$17,000; First National bank of Hanover, Pa., \$25,000 and \$18,000 of paper discounted for the college; Gettysburg (Pa.) Bank, \$6,000; First National bank of Frederick, \$5,000; Littleton (Pa.) Bank, \$2,400. There are over one hundred creditors, but very little of the indebtedness is in Baltimore. Captain James McSherry, a lawyer, of Frederick, is the receiver. A special from Emmitsburg says that the graduating class of the college has rebelled, left the institution and lodged at a hotel in the adjacent village. Rev. Father Hill, the President, will return to Brooklyn.

The Ames Manufacturing Company of Chicopee, has taken a long stride toward a return to the old apprentice system. The Company has been very much troubled to get skilled help, and also by having men leave after they have learned enough to begin to be useful. It has now adopted a plan something like the former system, only the term of service is not more than three or four years, instead of seven, and applications come in by scores. The men sign a contract to stay to the end of the term, and the company will teach them the different branches of the business, so that when they go out they will be masters of the trade, instead of knowing how to run but one machine or to do but one particular kind of work. The company keeps 10 cents a day from their pay until it amounts to \$100, which is given to them at the end of the apprenticeship.