

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, April 21, 1881.

Democratic County Committee Meeting.

A meeting of the Democratic County Committee will be held at the Bush House, Bellefonte, on TUESDAY, APRIL 26, at 2 o'clock, P. M., at which it is earnestly hoped every member of the committee will be present. The apportionment of delegates to the different districts for the ensuing two years will be made, and other matters of importance to the party will be considered. P. GRAY MEEK, Chairman.

THE spinster in politics. Miss Buckley, of Armstrong county, offers herself as a candidate for Register and Recorder, and desires the nomination of the Republican party.

WHEN fighting is in order in the United States Senate, Don Cameron is the man for the Republican-Repudiationists. They must, however, let his coat tail have full play, if they want to obtain astounding results.

GOV. FOSTER, of Ohio, expresses a willingness to accept a re-nomination, but that he will not seek it. It is believed he will be unanimously nominated, and that the Hon. W. S. Groesbeck will be put up by the Democrats in opposition.

JAY GOULD has purchased the interest of Col. Thomas A. Scott in the Texas Pacific Railroad Company, for which he drew his check on the Fourth National bank, of New York, for the neat little sum of two million four hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Gould is the President-elect of the company.

SENATOR CONKLING, failing to scare Judge Robertson to decline the nomination of Collector of New York, or the President to withdraw the nomination, is becoming very affable to Democratic Senators. He is soliciting recruits for the war upon the Presidential appointment, which we trust will not be found in the Democratic ranks. The appointment being a proper one will no doubt receive Democratic sanction whether it pleases or displeases the imperious boss.

BOSS CAMERON did not wait for a tilt with Hill to make an ass of himself. He did that in his speech to justify the contract with Mahone. But in his pugilistic demonstration, last week, against the Senator from Georgia, who was in debate with Mahone, to demand the meaning of words not addressed to him, the Boss wrote the word ass all over him. He was probably fortunate in the strength of his coat tail, that it did not give way in the hands of his Republican friends, or he might have received a forcible lecture on the indecency and impropriety of his conduct. We have heard it intimated as an excuse that Don had been testing the strength of "Jersey lightning."

THE Republican dicker with the Mahone Repudiation party is not likely to pan out the great thing our Don anticipated, when he electrified the Senate with his great speech on the subject of the bargain. It appears the honest Republicans, of Virginia, are not satisfied that the New York and Pennsylvania bosses should possess the power to transfer them to the little nondescript, now credited to Virginia as a Senator. A large delegation of the leading Republicans from that State called upon the President on Saturday, to protest against the transfer and to insist that the Republicans and not the Repudiationists shall be recognized by the administration. That any other course will disintegrate the Republican party and doom it to hopelessness in the future. The delegation indicated very plainly to the President that his recognition of the corrupt bargain could not receive their approval and would not be carried out, so far as the Republican party of Virginia is concerned.

A Serious Republican Confession.

The Cincinnati *Commercial*, the personal organ of the head of the late fraudulent Administration, and the Ohio representative of the present President, took occasion last week to exalt its voice in favor of immediate strife in the Republican party. It said:

If Senator Conkling wages war upon the Garfield Administration in the spirit in which it has been opened by the journals that made a specialty of the third term, it is the duty of the President to use his whole power to teach the Senator the virtue of discretion. If he wants peace on terms becoming reasonable beings with responsibilities he can have it without trouble, but if he is resolved upon war the Administration owes it to the country and the Republic and party and its own self respect to defend and sustain itself by instant, incessant, and relentless aggression, and the full employment of the war club and the scalping knife.

This has had the effect of startling the New York *Times* into a genuine political confession. The *Times* is an opponent of Conkling; but an organ of Grant and the third term. It has always claimed to be respectable, but it never fails to be partisan in the presence of an emergency. During a campaign it condones its party's sins with zeal. When the political world is at peace it sometimes exposes them. Its present remarkable avowal is as follows:

The enormous increase in the extent, cost, and power of the civil service, which was made necessary by the war, came at a time when the country was deeply moved in regard to questions of life and death. In filling the offices then created it was inevitable that Republicans should be chosen almost exclusively. That was in accordance with custom, and at the time the opponents of the Republican party were regarded as directly or indirectly in sympathy with the rebellion. It would have been practically impossible to adopt the policy of a non-partisan civil service.

So there commenced that system of Senatorial influence, amounting often to dictation, of which men of the type of Mr. Conkling became the natural exponents, as they were, also, its natural fruit. The period when intense partisanship was logically the same as patriotism passed away, but the partisan system of appointments remained because it served the interest of a vast army of politicians, from the Senators down to the primary managers. It was a bad system, unconstitutional, un-republican, unbusiness-like, unjust and unprofitable for the country and the party in power as well. It nearly ruined the Republican party and it cost the country not only millions of dollars, but many delays in the righting of the currency, many errors in the reorganization of the South, many blunders in our fiscal laws; for year after year the real issues in politics were put aside or trifled with to save the patronage to the men who enjoyed it. The Government was benumbed, the party was rendered cowardly by the wretched system which placed the political machinery in the hands of men who ran it mainly for the spoils. Unquestionably, Mr. Conkling is a product of that system.

The Washington *Post* remarks with great force that "this is a most important contribution to the political history of the country, in matter and in fact. It places the responsibility for the invention of this disgraceful system of 'machine politics' upon the shoulders of the Republican party, where it belongs. Such credit as it deserves for its frankness, the *Times* will receive."

The home organ of Mahone in Richmond claims that the Virginia Senator "is a Democrat; that he was a Democrat when he was elected to the Senate." If this be so, his brief record convicts him of reprehensible methods—as one of that class who get into the ranks to betray, and thereby to enlarge his exchequer or importance. But what he was before the record was made up, is of little consequence now. Benedict Arnold was a patriot, gallant in defence of his country. He was tempted by British gold and fell. The parallel is apparent, and not flattering to the Virginia Senator.

The attention of the members of the Democratic County Committee is directed to the call of the Chairman for a meeting of the Committee on Tuesday next, the 26th instant. Every member should be present. The business to be laid before the Committee is of an important character, and the

interests of the party demand that it shall be carefully considered. We trust there will be no absentees.

The Monetary Conference.

It was expected that the international monetary conference of which Secretary Evarts and ex-Senators Thurman and Howe are members by appointment of the President, would begin its sessions in Paris on last Tuesday. The conference possesses no power further than to give the views and the conclusions of the delegates which are to compose it, although in some quarters a contrary belief seems to have been entertained. The American delegates had particular instructions to avoid undertaking to commit our government to any particular line of policy, as it could not be foretold what action Congress would determine upon. The great point which it seems to be brought before the conference is to discover the true explanation of the depreciation of silver, and in what way its value can be appreciated. Among the propositions which it is understood will be urged before the conference is that the price of fine silver be advanced to sixty and seven-eighths pence per ounce by the combined action of the United States and the great governments of Europe. But even if such a plan could produce the desired effect, which is extremely doubtful, it may be considered as impracticable. The commercial nations are all anxious that silver should command a higher market rate, but each prefers to derange its currency as little as possible and let the others experiment with silver. France nominally has the bimetallic standard, but not in reality. So with the United States. The silver enthusiasts in Congress succeeded in passing laws to fix the bimetallic system on the United States, but the effort was abortive, as Secretary Sherman's construction of the laws enabled him to retain the gold standard, and no creditor of the government has been paid otherwise than in gold, unless by positive request. Silver as an unimpeded legal tender has not found favor in this country, nor to any great extent elsewhere. Nothing practical in the way of securing a fixed and legal ratio between gold and silver came of the international monetary conference of 1878, and it would be surprising if the experience of this conference proves different. The friends of a single standard remain firm in the conviction that gold is the true one, and will not therefore be likely to recommend anything practicable in the way of giving the world a bimetallic standard.

THE spectacle! The representatives of a great party in the United States Senate, present the anomalous spectacle of refusing to transact the business for which they were convened. And why? Simply, because the Democrats, who still entertain respect for the dignity and glory of the past as well as for the proprieties of the present, cannot become parties to the ratification of a corrupt and disgraceful bargain. This, in the Senate of the United States, once supposed to be a high and dignified body! Shades of Clay and Webster, Calhoun and Benton, to what degradation has this forum, in which the eminent men of America once electrified the world with the wisdom and the glory of their statesmanship, descended. It is now converted into a *barter shop* where Conkling and Arthur, Cameron and Mahone trade their wares and bargain for the mean advantages of power to which they have neither claim or fitness. In the light of the past, this is indeed a melancholy picture. But it is not overdrawn, and no true Democrat can lend them any aid or sympathy to break the dead-lock. Democrats can only stand firm and by their acts protect the great party they so faithfully represent from any apparent responsibility with the acts of these huxters and the disgrace that will follow the ratification of their nefarious bargains.

In speaking of the Hayes veto of the funding bill, the Harrisburg *Patriot* hits the nail squarely on the head when it says that "it was to enable the Garfield administration to arrange the loan with the national Banks on their own terms during the recess of Congress." Under the plan of Secretary Windom they can refund their bonds at the rate of 3½ per cent. for interest, while Congress proposed that all bonds maturing during the present year should be refunded at 3 per cent.

LOGAN, of Illinois, made a speech in the United States Senate the other day upon a congenial subject. It was all about himself.

BEACONSFIELD DEAD.

FULL OF YEARS THE TORY LEADER PASSES AWAY—STATESMAN AND NOVELIST.

LONDON, April 19—5:30 A. M. Lord Beaconsfield is dead. His death was much more sudden than his physicians expected. At five A. M. the newspapers announced that his symptoms had given grounds for more grave anxieties than at any period during his illness. The bulletins of yesterday morning had stated that he had been more restless, during the last twenty-four hours and that there was no material gain in his strength. The news at ten P. M. was that he was restless during the day and that his strength had diminished. His death took place at half-past four A. M.

[Benjamin Disraeli, the distinguished English statesman and author, was born at London in December, 1805, and was the son of Isaac Disraeli, an English literature, who also born near London, inherited a large fortune from his father, a Venetian merchant of Jewish extraction. In 1826 Benjamin produced his first work, "Vivian Grey," a fashionable novel which met with great favor; this was followed in 1830 by "The Young Duke," and two years later "Contarini Fleming" was published. The life of Disraeli reads like a romance. A successful author at 20 years, he early looked forward to political distinction. In 1831 he was a candidate on the Radical side for the borough of Wycombe, and he lost the election in two contests. He was a candidate in 1835 as a Conservative in the borough of Taunton, and fared no better than before; but in 1837 he was returned to Parliament as a candidate for the borough of Maidstone. Upon the formation of Lord Derby's Ministry in 1852 Disraeli came Chancellor of the Exchequer. He filled the same office in 1855, and in 1859 brought forward an elaborate bill for electoral reform, which was defeated in the House of Commons March 21, and Parliament was dissolved April 23. It was not until 1866 that the Derby Ministry again came in power, with Disraeli in the same capacity. On the resignation of the Earl of Derby in 1868 Disraeli became Prime Minister, but on the dissolution of Parliament, owing to a disagreement as to the disestablishment of the Irish Church, the Ministry in the new elections found themselves in a minority, and were forced to resign. A Liberal Ministry was then in power until 1873, when it made an appeal to the country and was defeated. Disraeli was again called to the helm, and remained for a full Parliamentary term—seven years—when the Liberals, in 1880, again triumphed at the elections, and Disraeli retired, having entered the House of Lords as Earl of Beaconsfield in 1877. He had, however, previously refused the peerage, but made his wife a Countess instead. It was during his last administration that the Queen assumed the title of Empress of India. In 1870 he published "Lothair," a politico-religious novel, which attained a great circulation, and only last year "Endymion" was given to the world by this distinguished author. It was probably his most profitable novel. Disraeli's name is associated with many prominent events in the modern history of England, and it is doubtful if the romance of his career will ever be eclipsed by that of any British Premier.]

For the fourth time the Wyoming Valley Hotel has been threatened with destruction. About eleven o'clock on last Sunday morning fire was discovered and when the department arrived upon the scene the flames already had spread from the little wooden shoe shop adjacent to the hotel to the dwelling of John Wells Hallenbeck on the north and to the Valley House on the south. Already quite a number of tourists are passing through this section and the register shows a number of guests. The north wing of the hotel was on fire and the main hallway and stair egress was a scene of excitement. After a stubborn fight the flames were quenched. The damage to the different properties is several thousands, but the hotel will continue to do business. The parlors and sleeping rooms and dining room are in good condition.

The great Corliss engine, which was on exhibition at the Centennial and was taken to the new town of Pullman a few miles south of Chicago, has been placed in the Pullman Palace Car Company's works, and was on Saturday started for the first time.

The iron ore discoveries in the county of Fayette give promise that the mining of that ore will become an extensive and lucrative industry.

STATE NEWS.

The deepest coal working in Schuylkill county is the Pottsville shaft, where a depth of over 1,600 feet has been reached.

A pistol accidentally exploded in the hands of Franklin Bechtel, aged 17 years, at Lebanon on Friday, killing him instantly.

An explosion occurred recently at Helfrich's paint works, near Allentown, in which several persons were seriously injured. The explosion was caused by the mixing of acids. The loss is estimated at \$1,500.

In Forest county there is a well which has recently begun to produce a black oil bearing a close resemblance to coal tar. No other well in the vicinity produces anything like it, though the drill passes through the same kind of slate at equal distances in all of them.

A spark from a locomotive set fire to a blanket that was wrapped around a \$1,000 stallion owned in Pleasant township, Warren county. The horse was maddened by pain and his wild leaps made relief impossible. He was so badly burned that he died within a few hours of the accident.

William Folmer, a German, residing not far from Lancaster, obtained more liquor than was good for him in that city on Friday afternoon. On his way home he fell out of his wagon, striking upon his head, and the wheels passed over his back. He died immediately, his neck having been broken by the fall.

Sometime since a large hoghead of water was placed on the property of Jacob Strump, of Portland, Northampton county, and left in an unprotected position. Friday, while Mr. Strump's three-year old son was playing in the yard, the boards which loosely covered the hoghead were pushed aside and the child fell in and was drowned.

Advices from Pittston, Pittsburg, Pottsville, Wilkesbarre, Williamsport, Erie, Titusville, Altoona, Chester and Easton say that spring trade has begun in earnest in all those places. Purchases are being made with a freedom indicative of a plenty of money. Lumbermen are introducing a new life into places along the Susquehanna. The *Marietta Times* says that money is plenty, and the merchants in good humor all along that river.

Old Jacob Smeltzer, of Bell township, Westmoreland county, didn't bury \$10,000 in gold and silver coin under his hearthstone, as was reported a few days ago. But the *Saltsburg Press* learns that the late Mr. Smeltzer did have a "strong box" under the floor of his house and that for many years he dropped the shakels into the box through a crevice in the floor. His heirs the other day found \$4,200 in the box.

By the will of the late Colonel E. A. L. Roberts, of Titusville, his real estate was left to his nephews and nieces and the rest of his property to his nephew, Mr. Owen M. Roberts, of Bradford. The will was dated in 1877, a few months after Colonel Roberts had separated from his wife. Some months ago Col. Roberts gave his friends to understand that he should prepare a codicil, so as to provide for his children, but he did not live to execute it. An amicable agreement has been made by Mr. Owen Roberts and the guardians of the children and the latter will obtain a large part of the property.

Jerome Wilson, brother of Dr. R. B. Wilson, of New York, and of Henry Wilson, proprietor of the Honesdale *Orizon*, left Carbondale fourteen years ago. Giving no information of his wanderings, nothing was heard of him until his return last Saturday, the 16th of April. He was given up as dead years ago. His wife believed him to be living, and remained true to him. His daughter, two years old when he left home, has grown to womanhood. It was some time before they could be convinced that he was the long-lost husband and father. Wilson spent his years amongst the Indians in the wilds of Texas, and has made a fortune.

The Bloomsburg *Columbian* tells of a novel temperance experiment. Mr. C. R. Woodin has "bought off" the liquor dealers of the town of Berwick. In the words of the *Columbian*: "Mr. Woodin has made arrangements with the keepers of saloons and hotels by which, for a pecuniary compensation, they agree to abstain from the sale of intoxicants. There are few men who possess such wealth and such standing in the community as to be able to control and suppress a most profitable business. It is probably the only case on record, and Mr. Woodin should receive all due credit for removing temptation from the hundreds of men in his employ. To benefit his workmen was, we understand, the reason why he voluntarily assumed such a burden of expense."

Gyumbere, the Hungarian, has now been asleep sixty-six days at the Lehigh County Almshouse. The man's position is improved. He now appears sensible of all that is going on around him. A slight tap on the nose while reclining on his cot caused him to smile. The attendant yesterday led him around the room. Lifting his eyelids the attendant shook his fist at him, which made him smile broadly. He was then led out of his room, down stairs, into the yard and up and down the road in front of the Almshouse. After that he was given a good bath. During all this time he appeared to know what was taking place, though unable to speak and powerless to move of his own accord. Dr. J. D. Erdman, of Macungie, the attending physician at the Almshouse, has good hopes of the ultimate recovery of the unfortunate man.

The King Killers.

St. Petersburg, April 15.—All the Nihilists, except the woman, Hesy Helfman, condemned to death for connection with the *Czar's* assassination, namely: Russakoff, Michaeloff, Kibaltchitsch, Jeliaboff and Sophia Pieoffky. The *concourse* of spectators was immense, and the excitement has not been paralleled by any event since the Russian capital was thrilled by the report that the *Czar* had been torn to pieces by a Nihilist's bomb, on March 13. At the appointed time the victims of the law were taken from their cells in the Fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul, placed upon a hurdle, drawn by four horses, and surrounded by a strong body of mounted troops, the cortege proceeded at a slow pace through the streets leading to Someroff square, the place of execution. In the middle of the square stood the scaffold, a revolting object, with its five ropes dangling against the sky. To the last every one of the five persons so soon to die refused positively to accept the ministrations of the priests. A horrible incident occurred as the drop fell. Michaeloff's rope broke and he fell to the ground. A thrill of horror ran through the vast assemblage, and even the officers charged with this terrible duty showed signs of being shocked. Michaeloff's body was raised, when upon again attempting to hang him the rope once more parted. Loud exclamations of disgust and pity were heard among the people, but there was no disorder. The work of death was finally accomplished, and the five condemned Nihilists swung lifeless from the fatal beam.

The Iron Trade of the United States.

The Census office has published a preliminary report of the iron and steel industries of the United States. The whole number of establishments in 1880 was 1,005. In 1870 it was 808. The percentage of increase in ten years was 24.38. The size and capacity of the establishments were, however, much greater in 1880 than in 1870. As the capacity of blast furnaces only was given in 1870, no complete data are available for a comparison of the capacity of all the works in the two periods. The daily capacity of the blast furnaces in 1870 was 8,367 tons, and in 1880 was 19,248 tons—an increase of 130.32 per cent. The whole amount of capital invested in the iron and steel industries of the United States in 1880 was \$230,971,884; in 1870 it was \$121,772,074; increase, \$109,199,810, or 89.68 per cent. The total production of the iron and steel works of the United States in the census year 1880 was 7,255,140 tons; in 1870 it was 3,655,215 tons; increase, 3,600,925 tons, or 98.76 per cent.

In 1870 there were twenty-five States engaged in the manufacture of iron and steel. Of these South Carolina does not appear in the statistics of 1880. Its total production in 1880 did not aggregate 500 tons. The iron industry in this State has been practically abandoned. Since 1870 three States have, for the first time, engaged in the manufacture of iron, namely, Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska; also two Territories, namely, Utah and Wyoming. Utah did not, however, make any iron in 1880. It made a small quantity in the years 1874, 1875 and 1876, and it will make a larger quantity in the near future. California and Washington Territory have made arrangements since the close of the census year to manufacture iron. New Hampshire made iron many years ago, but it does not appear in the statistics for 1870; it re-appears in the tables for 1880. Oregon and Texas each built a blast furnace in the decade preceding the census year 1870, but they did not make any iron in that year; they appear, however, in the statistics of production for 1880. The District of Columbia once had a blast furnace in operation, but in 1870 it had no iron industry whatever; in 1880 the United States Government owned and operated a small rolling mill at the Washington navy-yard. Minnesota appears in 1880 for the first time among iron manufacturing States, but its statistics relate only to the preparations that have been made to embark in the business. Thirty States, the District of Columbia and Wyoming Territory actually made iron in 1880.

Given up by Doctors.

"Is it possible that Mr. Godfrey is up and at work, and cured by so simple a remedy?" "I assure you that it is true that he is entirely cured, and with nothing but Hop Bitters; and only ten days ago his doctors gave him up and said he must die!" "Well-a-day! That is remarkable! I will go this day and get some for my poor George—I know hops are good."—*Salem Post*.

Charley Ross again! This time he appears in England. Col. Forney has received a well authenticated letter from two gentlemen in England, one of whom is well known to him, who express the belief that the lost boy has been found in the village of Loughton, a suburb twelve miles distant from London. He is in charge of a woman who passes him for her son, but the boy disclaims the relationship and asserts that he was brought from America in a big ship, and that his name is Charley Ross.

Ex-Senator Gordon, of Georgia, it is said, is getting ready to build a railroad from Columbus, Miss., through the great coal fields of Northern Alabama, to Atlanta. That is better than politics.