

# 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.

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CONSIDERING the troubles the Republican Senators at Washington are now undergoing, the Philadelphia Times is disposed to think that this is no longer a nation with a big N, but a caucus with a big C.

At the opening of the criminal Court in Erie, on Monday last, the attorney in a homicide case moved to quash the entire list of jurors on the ground that they were illegally drawn, the jury box having been sealed with mullage, instead of wax, as directed by law. Judge Galbraith set aside the whole array, and discovered the fact that no legal jury had been drawn in that county in ten years, from the same cause.

THE Pennsylvania Railroad it is said, is preparing to build ten monster locomotives like the one recently turned out at Altoona, and which runs between Philadelphia and New York at the rate of a mile in fifty-seven seconds. The experiment with this gigantic locomotive has been so successful and satisfactory in overcoming time, caused by stops in changing passengers, that the management has determined to utilize them on other divisions of the road.

THE Pittsburg Post remarks that the mere suspicion that a Federal office-holder in Virginia sympathized or co-operated with Mahone in his scheme of repudiation, induced Secretary Sherman to adopt measures for his removal. This was in October, 1879. Eighteen months have passed, and now John Sherman is doing the very thing he declared the Virginia tobacco inspector unfit to hold office under the Federal Government for doing. Slippery John.

THERE are before the United States Senate two hundred and seventeen nominations awaiting the action of that body. To confirm or reject these appointments of the President is the public business for which the Senate was called together, but the Republican members of that body deem it of far more importance to carry out the terms of the bargain with Mahone, which includes the election of Riddleberger to the position of sergeant-at-arms, than to do the only work legitimately before them.

FIVE members of the Republican Senatorial caucus called upon President Garfield on Saturday last, in the interest of peace between the President and Senator Conkling. To the main inquiry whether the withdrawal of the nomination of Judge Robertson would be embarrassing, the President is said to have replied emphatically that such a proposition was not to be entertained. The difference between bull-dozing a real President and one who held the position wrongfully by fraud is furnishing the stalwart Senator from New York with some very interesting experience at this term.

AUDITOR GENERAL SHELL, says the Philadelphia Times, signals his retirement from office by turning over to the Attorney General for collection claims for back taxes against certain corporations amounting to three and a half millions of dollars. The most of this sum is charged against a single corporation, the Standard Oil Company, which has refused payment for several years on the ground that it is not a Pennsylvania corporation, and the matter is likely to be contested. Auditor General Shell has made one of the best officials this State has had in many years, and he has been particularly vigilant in the work of collecting the taxes due from corporations, to which sufficient care has not always been given.

### Who is President?

It has been generally believed by the people since the result of the last November election was known that James A. Garfield was the chosen President. Whether Garfield is President or not is now doubted by a great many men who voted for him not over six months ago. True it is that he, Garfield, seems to have been inaugurated and taken the oath of office, but outside of this nothing has been done, in eight full weeks, to lead the people to believe that he is now or will be President, one whit further than he is allowed to be by Senator Conkling, who leads a cabal of stalwarts bound by the treaty of Mentor to reap the full benefit of the fraud and corruption that made the Republican party successful in November last. Garfield nominates; Conkling confirms or refuses to confirm as the nomination pleases or displeases him; and for eight long weeks Garfield has stood sullen and cowed like a cur, unable and afraid to move, because his master is in the way. The government may go without proper treaties with other nations, and every branch of the public service suffer because of the will of one man. It is proper for the people to believe that the man they elect should be the Executive part of the Government; but when they see that branch of their government entirely swallowed up by a cabal belonging to another and entirely different department of the government, and that this cabal is led, controlled and entirely subordinate to the will of one man, they have a right to enquire with alarm who is President? The dead-lock between these two branches of the government is the result of a most disgraceful bargain, ("treaty" more properly, signed and sealed at Mentor in the early part of October 1880. Garfield, in order that he might be elected, yielded consent to articles of the treaty then proffered by Conkling. The substance of which was that for New York the Senator should say who should and who should not hold office under this administration. Logan was to have like control over the Federal officers in Illinois, and Cameron to have the same power in Pennsylvania. This article being ratified and confirmed by Garfield without exception, the stalwart element of the Republican party all over the North was set in motion, immense sums of money raised and the patronage and power of the federal Government used to make him President. When inaugurated he undertakes to abrogate this treaty without notice to the other parties; to violate with impunity this one article in particular. Of course it causes war. The disruption of treaties without notice and in an abrupt manner generally does cause war. Why should it be otherwise now, even though the public do suffer, our government become the laughing stock of the world, and the people wonder who is President, Conkling or Garfield? One hour's exhibition of nerve and back-bone by Garfield would put an end to this disgraceful squabble, and would settle at once that the man the people voted for is President.

A SWEARING PARSON. A Kentucky Presbytery has dissolved the pastoral relations of the Rev. F. D. Moore and the Fourth Presbyterian church of Bowlington for reasons which might be considered novel from their rarity. We have heard of preachers being discharged for teaching doctrines not strictly in accordance with the received views of Calvin and other divines. But brother Moore has marked out a new field of difference not before explored by divine teaching. He affirms that the Bible contains no authority for the observance of the Christian Sabbath, and that it is lawful to pass the day in amusements; that it does not prohibit swearing, which is only a matter of taste in language and expression. These are somewhat peculiar views to come from the sanctuary and it is not surprising

that they should so startle the straight laced Presbyterians of Kentucky as to have some doubt whether the Rev. Mr. Moore was the right man in the right place.

### A Legislative Apportionment.

The rogues are showing their hands! True to their instincts, the State plunderers are preparing the way for the future triumph of fraud and ring government. Billingsley, acting in concert with the agents of the rounders and thieves of Philadelphia, has reported in the House an Apportionment bill which for desperate villainy and unfair manipulation is without a parallel in politics. It is said to have been mainly the joint product of a committee of Philadelphia ringsters, and intended to secure a Republican majority in the Legislature of at least eighty under any circumstances. The districts are so arranged as to give preponderance to the worst element of that party over any honesty or conscience that might remain amongst them in elections. The Harrisburg Patriot speaking of this bill says: "After an incubation of five months the House Committee on apportionment through its chairman, Billingsley, has made its report. As might be imagined from such an origin the product is a scorpion. Democratic counties are carved up ruthlessly in order to elect Republican representatives while Republican counties of like population are left intact. Its author boasts that the bill will give the Republicans seventy-five majority in the Legislature on joint ballot on the basis of the Garfield vote. But there is no danger that such a monster of gerrymandering villainy will meet with the approval of the honest and fair-minded portion of the Republicans of the present Legislature. They will spurn it with the same contempt which they must entertain for its author."

The Philadelphia portion of the gerrymander is the work of ex-Sheriff Leeds and some other members of the city ring who were in conference with the apportionment committee a few nights ago. The rest of the State was safely left to the chairman. But there was no intention of passing an apportionment bill at this session and it is now too late. This job was carved out for an extra session of a hundred days. It will never pass through this Legislature either at a regular or an extra session. Mr. Billingsley and his committee have exposed their partisan unscrupulousness to no purpose."

THE Star Route postal swindle, is just at present engaging the attention of the Postoffice Department at Washington, and the developments are likely to bring to grief a number of famous pets of the Republican party. Brady, the official who had charge of the star route business of the department, has been asked to resign, and a number of others implicated in the frauds will fall with him. The New York Times says that in ninety-three of these routes "which have been increased from \$727,119 to \$2,075,095 the name of J. W. Dorsey appears eight times. One increase of his annual pay on one route was from \$2,892 to \$49,051. This man is the brother of ex-Senator Dorsey, of Arkansas, the Secretary of the Republican National Committee and the man to whom Vice President Arthur gave the credit of securing the election of the Republican ticket in the late election. Ex-Senator Dorsey is more than suspected of having a pecuniary interest in the contracts that stand in the name of his brother and of J. M. Peck, whose name also appears eight times in the list of ninety three."

THE Duke of Sutherland, with a party of railroad men from England, are on a visit to this country. Their object is to inspect our railroad system with a view to improvement of their own. They were in Baltimore and Washington on Saturday, and will visit Harrisburg and Altoona on their return.

### The Facts.

It will be remembered that Senator Butler promised to give the public "irrefragable proof" of a corrupt bargain between the Republicans and Mahone to control the organization of the United States Senate. One day last week Mr. Butler, in the course of a reply to the virulent tirade of abuse uttered by Frye, of Maine, against the people of the South, proceeded to fulfill his promise, and in support of his position he presented the following seventeen facts, which Republicans can answer in their leisure moments:

First—The Senator from Virginia (Mr. Mahone) was elected to the Senate as a Democrat.

Second—His purpose to vote with the Republicans had never been announced until his vote disclosed that fact.

Third—Following that vote he had been assigned to the chairmanship of an important committee by the Republican caucus.

Fourth—This had been followed by the nomination of Mr. Riddleberger for Sergeant-at-Arms.

Fifth—George C. Gorham, an earnest friend of the Senator, has been nominated as Secretary.

Sixth—He (Mr. Mahone) had appointed Mr. Gorham's brother in law as clerk of his committee.

Seventh—The nominations by the President of Mr. Mahone's political friends to Federal offices.

Eighth—The Senator has voted on every motion with the Republicans.

Ninth—By such votes he was carrying out the will of the Republican caucus.

Tenth—He had moved his seat to the Republican side of the chamber.

Eleventh—The Republican caucus refused to transact public business until Gorham and Riddleberger were elected.

Twelfth—The Senator still claimed to be a Democrat and voted with the Republicans.

Thirteenth—Riddleberger was an avowed Democrat and reputationist and therefore offensive to the Republicans.

Fourteenth—The Senator from Ohio (Mr. Sherman) avowed that anything that would beat down the Democratic party was justifiable.

Fifteenth—The Democratic Senators had been assailed because they voted as Democrats.

Sixteenth—Instead of inviting an investigation of the charges the Senator from Virginia and his friends sought to prevent free speech and legitimate discussion by threats and denunciations.

Seventeenth—The reason assigned for the coalition was that the Senator from Virginia was in favor of a free ballot and a fair count.

A free ballot and a fair count! continued Mr. Butler, when at the last election the State of Indiana was colonized with negro voters from the South in order to nullify and neutralize the Democratic vote of that State.

A sensational case was before Mayor Lyon, of Pittsburg, last week. An army officer was one of the passengers on the train from Chicago. His name is John Conline and he ranks as first lieutenant in the Ninth Cavalry. He was on his way from the plains, Texas or Mexico, to Washington, on some official business, and it appears, had become deranged for some cause or other on the way. He jumped up in the car and drove the passengers out with his revolver. At the Union depot he was taken to the Central Hotel, where he was assigned a room. He threw the clothes out of the window and acted as if he was about to jump out himself. He was taken to the Central Station, as it was impossible to watch him and it was believed he might do to himself serious injury. He had checks and tickets with him that shows his baggage had been sent on to the capital and that was his own destination. Mayor Lyon discharged him and he was taken to the West Penn Hospital.

Miss Maria Stimson Diman, daughter of the late Professor J. Lewis Diman, of Brown University, was killed at Providence, R. I., on Friday evening last. She was riding on horseback, attended by a student in the University, when her horse became unmanageable in going down Angell street and dashed against a tree in the rear of the First Baptist Church. The young lady died from concussion of the brain. Her attendant had just caught the rein of her horse, but too late to turn, and he and his horse went through a fence and over the bank wall of ten or twelve feet into the church yard, receiving little injury. Miss Diman was twenty years old. Her father died three months ago.

Mrs. Ann Allen, a relative of R. M. Elliott, in charge of the New York buildings at Pittsburg, while ransacking an old desk, discovered documents that evidenced a ninety-nine-year lease of \$40,000,000 worth of property in New York and Brooklyn. The lease had expired about eighteen years since, and on two different occasions advertisements had been inserted in different papers calling for the heirs, but the relatives did not see them until within a few days. Mr. Elliott and Mrs. Allen propose to institute proceedings to recover their interest in the property.

Pennsylvania tobacco is now leading in prices the tobacco raised in many of the other States.

### ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

#### General Weaver on Reform.

A TALK BY THE LATE GREENBACK CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT.

The people of Bellefonte and vicinity, on Saturday evening last, had the pleasure of listening to an able and eloquent speech from Gen. James B. Weaver, of Iowa, who will be remembered by a large number of the readers of the DEMOCRAT as the candidate for President of the National Greenback Labor party, last fall. Mr. Weaver served as a member of the 46th Congress from Iowa and while there was one of the ablest advocates of the principles of his party. It is an unusual thing, in the history of the politics of our country to have political discussions at a time when no particular question is before the people or when we are not in the midst of a political campaign. But no doubt it is a stroke of political diplomacy on the part of the leaders of the party whose principles Gen. Weaver is espousing, and perhaps one that is worthy of commendation, as it gives bitter partisans an opportunity to reflect on the questions of the day at a time when they are not treading in the foot paths marked out by the leaders of their respective political organizations.

The meeting at which Mr. Weaver spoke was held under the auspices of the Greenback party. It was organized by electing ex-Congressman Yocum chairman. Mr. Yocum upon taking his seat as chairman of the meeting, made a few remarks upon the importance of the people and citizens of the United States preserving the liberties and powers delegated to them by the Constitution. That these powers are gradually being taken from them by the moneyed and corporate influences of the country; that they should look after their interests, and see that they were represented in the law-making power by persons whose interests are common with their own. He closed his remarks by introducing Gen. James B. Weaver, of Iowa, as the speaker who would discuss the principles of their party at length.

On taking the stand, Mr. Weaver said he was happy to meet the people and neighbors of the chairman, Mr. Yocum, who had been his friend and fellow laborer, for three sessions of Congress in looking after the interests of their constituents and the interests of the nation, and that it was a source of great pleasure to him to meet in this town his personal friends, and talk to them upon the great cause of reform and the great cause of human industries. Mr. Weaver said he had been speaking every day for the last six weeks, and assured the audience he would not be at this work if he did not believe that there was an absolute necessity for it. That he recognized the fact that other people were just as much interested as their party was in good government and that his Democratic and Republican friends were just as honest in proclaiming their political views as they claimed to be. That we are all interested in good government, but we differ as to how this good government should be obtained.

There were fundamental principles of government, given to the people at large, rights and privileges guaranteed them by the Constitution of the United States, and the people were responsible for the proper use of them. The people have a voice in the affairs of this nation and they exercise it by means of the silent ballot they cast on election day, consequently they should consider well before they cast it. The framers of the Constitution of the United States intended that the people should rule this government by their representatives in Congress and that Congress had certain powers given it by the Constitution. But instead of being ruled by the people the country is ruled to-day by five powerful kings represented by five great monopolies—Railroads and Telegraph companies, National Banks, Standard Oil company and Alaska Seal Company—any one of which could get any National or State legislation they desired to increase their power, to increase their profits or to oppress the people. The people have given them this power and now they have become so powerful that they use it as a machine of oppression in every conflict with their interests. They are robbing the laboring man, buying up legislatures and winking at the law—for they need only say so to have a law that restricts them in their profits repealed. They not only accomplish legislation with their money and power, but they elect Presidents. They did it last fall. There is no man in this house who does not in all conscience believe that Garfield was elected by the money power of this country. He was placed in the Presidential chair by the power of monopolies, and that he will be controlled by the same power while President has already been shown by some of his official acts.

Mr. Weaver went on at some length to demonstrate that the people do not exercise the proper care in selecting their legislators or in exercising their own opinion. He charged that in a great many instances throughout the country, men were made to vote through threats of their employer as the employer dictated. There was a great necessity for reform. Whenever the faults of the party in power were about to be laid open, they would cover it by raising the hue and cry of the "Solid South." But that cry is now hushed forever. They can no longer rely on that. That question is settled forever in this country, and people will no longer be deceived by that false alarm.

He spoke of the creation of the debt of the United States occasioned by the late civil war, and if the plan of Thaddeus Stevens had been adopted instead of the plan offered by Wall street of New York, this great debt might have been avoided. But he charged that there was a "criminal conspiracy" concocted to take advantage of the misfortunes of the country at that time and to "speculate in the blood of her sons." He said he would try them for this crime now; he would present his case; call the defendants themselves as witnesses and would take for his jury the consciences of hearers, and that he would prove them guilty by their own testimony. Here the speaker entered upon an exhaustive argument on the subject of finance and political economy, which to do justice to the speaker would require a verbatim report of his speech, which our space forbids.

Mr. Weaver spoke for two hours, and at the close of his speech predicted that the reforms necessary to make this the best government in the world could only be achieved by the success of the National Greenback party. But had Mr. Weaver been candid he would have admitted that the principles he advocated in his speech were the principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, with a single exception. The view he expressed on the refunding bill, which was that the National Greenback party is in favor of cancelling all outstanding bonds by issuing enough greenbacks to pay them off as they become due, and instead of refunding, redeem them in that way. While the Democratic doctrine is to refund them at a low rate or three per cent. bond.

—Prof. Daniel M. Wolf, elected on Tuesday to the important office of Superintendent of the public schools of Centre county for the coming three years, is a gentleman in every respect well qualified for the responsible trust confided to his care. In the requisites of character, scholarship and experience to fit him for the position he stands pre-eminent among his fellow-men. He is a native of the county, and by earnest, faithful and conscientious devotion to every duty of life has gained a position in the public esteem that any one might be proud to occupy. Professor Wolf will enter upon his official work on the first of June. He has devoted years of his life to the education of youth, is thoroughly conversant with our school system, and his whole career is an ample guarantee that the new duties that devolve upon him will be justly and zealously performed. Certainly the schools will be safe in his hands.

—In the school director's convention on last Tuesday a number of the warm personal friends of Professor Henry Meyer insisted on voting for him, and continued to do so through a number of ballots. Of course the compliment was deserved, but it should not lead persons to regard Mr. Meyer as having been in any sense a candidate asking or desiring a re-election to the Superintendency which he has so ably and acceptably filled during the past six years. Mr. Meyer will turn the cares and responsibilities of the position over to his successor on the first of June with a consciousness of duty well performed throughout his entire term of office. Under his supervision the schools of the county have made marked improvement and he will retire with the respect and confidence of the public.

—Mr. H. L. Harvey, of Boggs township, makes his morning rounds with great regularity and dispenses to his many patrons in Bellefonte the purest of milk and cream. Hereafter on each Tuesday and Friday morning, Mr. Harvey will be prepared to furnish butter milk to those who desire it.

—We have been requested to announce that Rev. M. S. Blair, of the church of the Disciples of Christ will preach in the school house at Central City on Saturday evening next.

—We noticed Mr. Willis Musser, of Millheim on our streets the other day inquiring for good draft horses. He recently bought three fine horses from Clearfield county and found a ready sale for them.