

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, May 26, 1881.

IMPORTANT! The Philadelphia *Press* believes that ex-Senator Conkling is a gentleman. Who doubts it? He wears curls and is highly perfumed.

WILLIAM J. STEES, a highly esteemed citizen of Harrisburg, and Superintendent of the Harrisburg Car Company's saw mill, was killed on Friday last on the railroad. Driving near the railroad, his horse became unmanageable and ran upon the track as an engine approached. Mr. Stees was killed instantly and dragged some distance.

The President has exacted the resignation of Mr. Le Duc, the Commissioner of Agriculture, and appointed ex-Representative Loring, of Massachusetts, in his place. Mr. Loring's appointment was confirmed by the Senate. He is favorably spoken of as likely to introduce some common sense into the management of this important bureau.

COL. INGERSOLL is encountering some obstructions to the free delivery of his infidel lectures. In St. Louis, the court has been appealed to for an injunction enjoining the delivery of his lecture, "What must we do to be saved." The Colonel is an eloquent speaker, and as long as he mixes politics with his infidelity is the idol of Beecher and most of the stalwart of his stamp.

The country will be rejoiced to know that Mrs. Garfield is now in a fair way of recovery from her dangerous illness. Her symptoms continue to be encouraging, and her physicians are confident she will gradually get better. It is now said that as soon as she is able to be removed she will be taken to the Soldier's Home, near Washington, and later in the season will seek some quiet sea side resort along the coast of Maine.

JAY GOULD, in giving testimony in a recent case, stated that he owned and controlled 52,000 miles of railway east and west of St. Louis, and 95,000 shares of Telegraph stock. With this, and his vast resources independent of either, and the ownership of two of the leading newspapers in New York, the *Tribune* and *World*, representing the leading parties, is it any wonder that he is able to control Presidents, Cabinets, Legislatures, and fix up the Supreme Court to suit his purposes.

The nomination of William E. Chandler, as Solicitor General of the Treasury, was rejected by the Senate previous to its adjournment, by a strict party vote, with the exception that Don Cameron voted with the Democrats to reject, and Mitchell, the independent, dodged. After the confirmation of Matthews, of Presidential fraud memory, as Justice of the Supreme Court, Senators need not have faltered over Chandler because of his partisan bitterness, and the general cussedness that attaches to his character.

COL. MCCLURE, of the Philadelphia *Times*, not being able to reach the moral sense of the Philadelphia roosters in the Legislature of Pennsylvania by addressing them in the English language, is now trying to appeal to their intelligence, as well as their pluck, in German and French. He lays before them a few pertinent and interesting remarks which he desires them to comprehend and digest. If the Colonel fails in these languages to elicit the attention of the roosters, we suggest that he try the *Winnabago lingo*. They will certainly understand this, or at least can find a convenient interpreter in the honored heir of the old chief, now returned from his arduous duties at the seat of the National Government.

Adjourns Sine Die.

On Friday last it was announced that the President had no further business that required the action of the United States Senate, and after an executive session of some duration, in which a large number of appointments were confirmed, the body adjourned *sine die*. This extra session of the Senate was a long and eventful one. It lasted almost three months, and will be noted in history as a period during which the country was treated to many strange episodes and startling surprises.

The body was convened in extra session by the President for the few simple purposes that pertain to executive business—the Constitution requiring the consent of the Senate to the appointment of certain public officers and the ratification of treaties with foreign nations. Plain folk, remote from the turmoil and excitement of the great political centres, supposed that the duties thus devolving upon honorable and dignified Senators would be quietly and decorously performed. There was no expectation that months would be uselessly spent in exciting political discussion and angry personal controversy. Least of all was it supposed that a great political party, flushed with victory and enjoying an unprecedented degree of public confidence, would signalize its advent into renewed power by confirming a corrupt and disgraceful bargain with an avowed repudiator for the single purpose of possessing themselves of a few insignificant offices in the Senate. And yet the wheels of executive business were blocked from the very moment the present Administration breathed the breath of life.

Mahone was impudently put forward as the modern Moses who was to lead the people of the South into the promised land of fair elections and a free ballot. Gorham, the partner and apologist of Star route thieves with Riddleberger the unrepentant rebel and blatant repudiator, consumed the attention of Republican Senators while President Garfield's nominations for important public offices lay unheeded and unthought of upon the Vice President's desk. The Democrats amidst the applause and approbation of the honest people of all parties, resisted this attempt to blacken our credit and bring reproach upon our institutions by introducing repudiation as a factor of our political system.

The disgraceful effort of the obstructionists to prevent the transaction of the public business continued for weeks, and was not abandoned until it became apparent that the Democratic side of the Senate, encouraged by the honest and enlightened sentiment of the country, would never yield its consent to the consummation of a corrupt and debasing intrigue that has no exact counterpart in the history of legislative venality. When the fact dawned upon the minds of Hoar, Dawes and other prominent parties to the intrigue that no one of the opposition—equal in numbers to themselves—would yield to their arrogant demands, they subsequently agreed that the Senate might proceed to the consideration of treaties and the confirmation of the President's nominations. A few days sufficed for all, and then came the unexpected resignations of Senators Conkling and Pratt. These resignations placed the control of the Senate in the hands of the Democrats and they are to be congratulated upon the wisdom with which they used their power. Unlike their opponents, they did not long for spoils and position. They permitted the committees to remain undisturbed; promptly confirmed every proper nomination made by the President, and when the objects for which they had been convened were accomplished they adjourned the body and went home. In a political sense the session cannot fail to be of benefit to the Democratic party. The country has not only witnessed with

disgust the bold attempt of Republican leaders to carry out the terms of the corrupt bargain with the Virginia apostate and repudiator, but they have also been nauseated with the unseemly wrangle between Mr. Conkling and the President. Good citizens will expect beneficial results to flow from this quarrel in the Republican ranks, and their expectations are likely to be realized. Indeed, it does appear that the entering wedge to rend asunder and destroy the party is now likely to be driven home, and upon its ruins the Democracy will again come into power with more than its old time honor and glory.

GRANT TAKES A HAND!—General Grant enters the ring as a second of Conkling in his fight with the Garfield administration, as will be seen by his letter in our columns. He recognizes the nomination of Robertson as "a deep laid scheme by somebody to punish prominent leaders for being openly friendly to me," that is, to the great Ulysses himself. The selection of the man for the collectorship of New York, who headed the revolt against the third term, he regards as an "insult that ought to be resented to the bitter end." Therefore the immortal "306," as well as the whole Imperial clique, must to the breach to resent the insult. Conkling and Grant should not take the situation so much to heart. Their contract before the election was made with one who had been proven a hypocrite and knave by Republican testimony. They knew this. If he failed them after they had given him power to do so, what else had they to expect? "Honor among thieves" is not always to be relied upon. This the third-term stalwarts, of all men, ought to have known, and exercised more caution in obtaining surety for the fulfillment of the bargain.

The Republican friends of the Administration in New York, were about as much astounded at the late appointments of Garfield as was Conkling and Platt, by the appointment of Robertson. They expected him, after his demonstration against Conkling, to stand by his friends, but he seems to have deserted them and joined the Conkling ring, and it is now difficult to determine whether his sympathies are with the Conkling or anti-Conkling faction. His appointees are from the most active and belligerent of Conkling's friends. But why should they be surprised at any of Garfield's apparent eccentricities. He only seeks to placate the imperious Republican chief of New York with a little cheap taffy, and thus soothe the ruffled spirits of his adherents.

The members of the Huntingdon, Blair and Cambria bars, without respect to political divisions, have united in a letter to Judge Dean, of that District, to permit his name to be presented to the people for re-election. Judge Dean has the reputation of being one of the fairest and most reputable Judges in the State, and to be re-elected by the people without the intervention of party machinery would be a compliment, as deserving to him, as creditable to the people of his District.

The situation at Albany between the Conkling and Anti-Conkling factions is growing lively and deeply interesting. The parties are marshaling in force, each assured of success. Conkling and Platt have determined to fight for re-election, and the Administration party are as determined for their defeat. Upon the whole, it is destined to be a very exciting and acrimonious contest, disastrous to Republican supremacy in New York, however it may be decided.

This country it seems is not big enough for ex-Collector Rutan, of Pittsburg, since the failure of Don Cameron and Boss Quay, to secure his re-appointment. He retires from politics and is to rusticate in Europe.

The revision of the New Testament has been published, and is now being distributed in very large numbers by the leading publishers of New York and Philadelphia. The comments of prominent ministers of the gospel upon the revision are various, but by many quite commendatory. Those who favor the revision reach the conclusion that light is thrown upon many obscure passages in the old version. Others, however, think that the effort of the learned men who have been engaged in the work has been too much in the direction of making the Testament a mere religious classic, and how far this idea may affect the faith so generally given to the scriptures as the infallible word of God to man is a matter for time to develop, and grave apprehensions upon this point are not unwarranted. For our part, the Lord's prayer as received in childhood, and the scripture text just as it has stood the test of many ages, are sufficient for us. Before many days, we presume, the new version of the book will be on sale in our book stores and will also be supplied by agents.

GEN. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN in accepting membership in a Jefferson association to which he had been elected, says: "I firmly believe that the welfare of the country depends upon the future success of the Democratic party, and that in order to deserve and obtain success the party must fall back upon, and rigidly adhere to, the principles so closely associated with the honored name of Jefferson."

EX-SENATOR BRUCE, the darkey who was so urgently presented for a cabinet appointment in recognition of the negro race in politics, has been appointed by the President, Register of the Treasury, in place of Hon. Glenn W. Scofield, of this State, who is transferred and made Judge of the Court of Claims. Both these appointments were unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

The *Washington Post* makes the following suggestions to the Democratic members of the New York legislature:

"Replace Conkling and Platt with two Democrats if you can.
Failing in that, succeed the two Republicans with Conkling and a Democrat.
Failing in that, re-elect Conkling and Platt.
Do these things as time and occasion are propitious and serve you."

The Legislative Roosters, aided by their rural allies, are still successful in fighting off the reform legislation demanded by the people of Philadelphia. The stealings in the Recorder's office and the Delinquent tax office are too important to the plunderers of the City treasury and to the election of city roosters to the Legislature, to be surrendered without a struggle.

Who is going to discharge the obligation the Republican party has incurred to Mahone? Conkling has gone, Don Cameron is shorn of his power and Garfield has distinctly repudiated the repudiator. Mahone must "feel like one who trends alone, some banquet hall deserted."

In the appointment of Lucius P. Thompson as Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia, Attorney General McVeigh, acquired his first victory in control of the Executive patronage in Pennsylvania. Cameron and Mitchell favored other applicants.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD showed plenty of backbone in the fight with Conkling. If it still continues firm, let him now challenge "Dear Hubble" to speak out in vindication of Brady and Dorsey. They need it badly.

BRADY'S SHOES, it appears, were too small for Grier, the original Garfield man. He declined to wear those that would fit him and therefore remains a private citizen of Pennsylvania.

The Judicial District to which Stanley Matthews, the new Associate Justice, has been assigned, is the 6th, embracing Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan and Tennessee.

STATE NEWS.

At the Republican primary election in Middleburg, on Saturday, J. Merrill Linn, of Lewisburg, received the nomination for President Judge. There was no opposition.

There was a cave-in at the Pittston Coal Company's shaft one day last week. It is thought the damage will be heavy. The citizens in the vicinity were greatly excited by the shock.

Mrs. Mary Fox, of Foxburg, is building a \$20,000 church at that place as a memorial of her deceased husband, Samuel M. Fox, and her son, William L. Fox. It will be the first P. E. church in Clarion county.

The ladies of Gettysburg plant early flowers in preference to later varieties that they may be ready for Decoration Day. Next Monday the borough will have for its guests the President, the members of the Cabinet and many veterans from various points.

C. R. Woodin, of Berwick, Columbia county, has instituted a novel mode of temperance reform. He has made arrangements with the keepers of saloons and hotels there by which for a pecuniary compensation paid by him, they agree to abstain from the sale of intoxicants.

The ladies of Mifflin county have purchased a large silk flag for use in the parade at Lewistown, on Decoration Day. On Saturday the flag will be publicly presented to Huling Post, No. 176, G. A. R., and ladies from all sections of the county have been invited to attend the presentation.

John Wray, a teamster, of Belltown, Mifflin county, was standing in his doorway recently talking to two neighbors, one on each side of him, when he was struck dead by lightning. Neither of the other two men felt any shock, though an arm of one of them was resting on Wray's shoulder at the time.

Nicholas Singley, who was born in Pennsylvania 104 years ago, is now a resident of Ventura, Cal., living with his daughter, Mrs. M. E. Short. Both his father and mother lived to be over 100 years of age. His brother, recently deceased, was 108. Mr. Singley can be seen on the streets any day, is well preserved, but hard of hearing, and is a great reader. He has not used liquor since he was 30 years of age.

The contract for the control of the low-grade division of the Philadelphia and Erie road by the Wabash system, it is understood, has been signed by Solon Humphreys for the Wabash and Messrs. Lathrop and Haven for the New Jersey Central; but it is now before the Chancellor of New Jersey for his signature, that State holding a certain interest in the matter requiring this signature. It will probably come before President Roberts next week.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Engineer corps has been making its headquarters at Greensburg for some time past, while locating the new line of railroad from Latrobe to Mt. Pleasant. Having finished their labors, they departed from that place Monday morning, and now have their headquarters at Blairsville. They will immediately begin the location of a low grade division of the West Penn Road, beginning at Bolivar station on the main line of the Pennsylvania Road, and running to the junction of the West Penn and Allegheny Railroads.

Henry B. Veisley and Valentine Hardy, two young men, while engaged at some carpenter work at the residence of Job Evans, on South Queen street, Lancaster, on Friday evening, were precipitated to the ground, a distance of twenty feet, by the breaking of a scaffold upon which they were standing. Veisley fell with such force as to render him unconscious, in which condition he remained until Saturday evening, when he died. It is supposed that his skull was fractured and that he sustained internal injuries. Mr. Veisley was the son of George Veisley, also a carpenter, aged about 24 years and unmarried. Hardy's injuries are less dangerous.

At Lancaster on Sunday morning fire was discovered in the law office of Alexander Harris, on the second floor of the "Law Building," a large, three-story brick structure at the corner of Duke and Queen streets, in the rear of the Court House, and occupied exclusively as lawyers' and conveyancers' offices. Before the flames had been subdued they had completely gutted Harris' office, destroying a large quantity of valuable books and papers and extending to the adjoining office. The offices on the lower floor were also considerably damaged by water, but no estimate of the probable amount of loss can be given. The fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin.

Information was lodged before Alderman Brownwell, of Reading, against Dr. L. C. B. Yorgey, of Pottstown, and Albert DeHaven, of Monocacy, charging them with fraudulent conspiracy in procuring policies of insurance in the State Capital Mutual Relief Association, of Harrisburg, in the sum of \$5,000, upon the life of Daniel Gehris, of this place, who died one week ago. Information was also lodged against the same parties for false pretence. The warrants were placed in the hands of Constable Lash, who proceeded to Monocacy and Pottstown and effected the arrest of Yorgey and DeHaven. The evidence is to the effect that Daniel Gehris, upon whose life the insurance was effected, died a few hours after the medical examination was made. The doctor advised the dying man's attendants to give him milk and brandy in order to keep life together until the application could reach the company and a policy be issued. The policy was received on the day after Gehris' death.

Garfield Arraigned.

GENERAL GRANT INDIGNANT BECAUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S COURSE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 18, 1881.—[Special to New York Herald].—The following letter from ex-President Grant to Senator Jones, of Nevada, shows that in the present contest between ex-Senator Conkling and the President, Mr. Conkling has the full sympathy and support of General Grant. This letter to Senator Jones contained one from the ex-President to Mr. Garfield, which was delivered to him personally by Senator Jones. Its contents are not known, but there can be no doubt that its purport is similar to that of the letter to Mr. Jones. The letter is as follows:

CITY OF MEXICO, April 24, 1881.—My Dear Senator—I see by the latest dispatches received here from the capital of our country that the deadlock in organizing the Senate is not yet broken, and that nothing has been done by the President to allay the bitterness which must be engendered by his most recent appointments. When the first batch of nominations for New York was sent in I was delighted. I believed then the President had determined to recognize the Republican party, and not a faction. But his nominations of the next day convinced me that the first act was but a part of a deep-laid scheme by somebody to punish prominent leaders for being openly friendly to me. I cannot believe that General Garfield is the author of this policy. I give him credit for being too big a man to descend to such means for the punishment of men who gave him a hearty support in his election, and who are disposed to give him the same support now, for the offence of having had a former preference for some one else for the office which he now holds. But Garfield is President and is responsible for all the acts of the Administration. Conkling and Platt are the chosen Senators from the great State of New York, and that, too, against all the opposition of an Administration created by the same party that elected them. This should give them all the stronger claim to be consulted in the matter of appointments in their State. When it comes to filling the most influential office in their State without consulting these Senators it is a great slight. When he selects the most offensive man to be found it becomes an insult and ought to be resented to the bitter end. I sincerely hope the President will see this and correct his mistake himself and restore harmony to the party. He owes this to himself and to those without whom he could not have been elected. Nobody believes that he could have carried the State of New York without the active support of her present Senators. Their passive support would not have answered. Without the State of New York General Garfield would not now be President. His rewarding Robertson is not only offensive to the New York Senators but it is offensive to New York Republicans.

The change of Badeau and Cramer, the two appointments in which I felt a strong personal interest, was very distasteful to me; the first, because of our personal relations and my wish that he should be kept where his office would support him until he finishes some work he is engaged upon, and which he could do without interfering with his public duties; the second, because it was at the expense of removing the son of my old Secretary of State, who probably never had his superior—certainly never for moral worth—in the department. It is true Fish resigned. But he did this from a sense of honor, supposing it to be the duty of representatives abroad to give a new administration the opportunity of saying whether they were wanted or not.

Very truly yours, U. S. GRANT.
Hon. J. P. Jones, United States Senator,
Washington, D. C.

The Centre of Population.

A census bulletin just issued places the centre of population of the United States "eight miles west by south from the heart" of the city of Cincinnati. This place is in Kentucky, one mile from the south bank of the Ohio river, and one and a half southeast of the village of Taylorsville. The centre of population, as defined in the Statistical Atlas of 1874, "is the point at which equilibrium would be reached were the country taken as a plane surface, itself without weight, but capable of sustaining weight, and loaded with its inhabitants, in number and position as they are found at the period under consideration, each individual being assumed to be of the same gravity as every other, and consequently to exert pressure on the pivotal point directly proportioned to his distance therefrom." In brief, then, it is the centre of gravity of the population of the country.

According to Prof. Bell it is only five years and a quarter since articulate speech was first transmitted by the telephone. In the short time that has elapsed since January 15, 1876, the exact date of the discovery, the telephone has come into daily use in all civilized countries, as well as in Egypt, China and other places not usually included in the term civilized. Only one city in the United States is now without a telephone exchange. There are 408 of such exchanges, and 132,692 instruments in use in the States.

Half a million emigrants this year is the estimate of the Superintendent at Castle Garden. That's a good many people, but if the Old World can stand the drain, we reckon the New can put up with the increase.