

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, September 15, 1881.

Democratic County Ticket.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES,
JOHN G. LARIMER, of Spring,
JOHN K. RUNKEL, of Potter.
PROTHONOTARY,
J. CALVIN HARPER, of Bellefonte.
SHERIFF,
THOMAS J. DUNKEL, of Rush.
REGISTER,
JAMES A. McCLAIN, of Boggs.
RECORDER,
FRANK E. BIBLE, of Spring.
TREASURER,
DANIEL C. KELLER, of Potter.
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
A. J. GREIST, of Unionville,
JOHN WOLF, of Miles.
COUNTY AUDITORS,
JOHN S. PROUDFOOT, of Milesburg,
F. P. MUSSER, of Millheim.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD now appears to be in a fair way to recover. There has been a gradual improvement in his condition for several days past, and the latest accounts from Elberon are quite encouraging. Every one is at present cheered with the hope that the worst is over, and that from this time forward there will be an increase of strength, and that his restoration to health will only be a matter of time.

HON. ECKLEY B. COXE, of Luzerne, is favorably spoken of as the Democratic candidate for Governor to succeed Gov. Hoyt, also of Luzerne. The party might do worse. Mr. Coxe is certainly an honest, conscientious man, with fair qualifications for the position.

AUDITOR GENERAL SCHELL, previous to his retirement from office, settled an account against the Standard Oil Company, showing a balance in favor of the Commonwealth of \$3,000,000, which that company refused to pay. Before taking an appeal, the company asked a re-settlement of the account. This has been refused, and the case will now be contested in the courts. The company we believe allege, that being a foreign corporation, they are not subject to taxation by the State to the extent of the Auditor General's finding.

SENATOR BECK, on his return journey from the Territory of Wyoming, was interviewed by the Cincinnati *Inquirer* in reference to the statement so extensively published, that he favored the election of a Republican President of the Senate, and would vote for Senator Anthony. Senator Beck replied that he made use of no expression which could convey such an idea—that he was not interviewed by any newspaper during his absence, and therefore the alleged interview in Milwaukee was a myth, and never took place. The Senator will not now be considered so magnanimous as the Republican press have been representing him lately.

As was to be expected, Boss Cameron, after his experience with the Independents last winter, had his Convention well selected, and his best lieutenants were on active duty to enforce his commands. Independent Republicanism was to be crushed out; the boss power of the Cameron control, and the edicts of the Cameron dynasty were to be maintained and established beyond the power of honest independent Republicans to object either as to their methods or purposes. For this Quay, and Cooper, and Magee worked, and they worked successfully. The independents were crushed, and their defeat emphasized by the nomination of General Bailey, one of the immortal "306" of Chicago for Treasurer, and the appointment of Mahone's eulogist and the Cameron candidate for Governor, as chairman of the State Committee.

Boss Rule at Home.

The Republican County Convention passed off as neatly and nicely as the late State convention of our rival party. The only perceptible difference was that "Boss" Hastings held the strings instead of "Boss" Quay. Mr. Don Cameron has trained his Lieutenants most admirably. He has big Lieutenants and little Lieutenants. When he has a State Convention, he uses the big Lieutenant. When it is only a County Convention, a little one answers his purpose. Mr. Quay is a small man, yet he can run a big convention. Col. D. H. Hastings is a big man and he has shown his ability to run a little convention. It, of course, is a matter of indifference to Senator Cameron as to the size of his men. What he wants is to have fellows who can do the work well. It must be acknowledged Quay and Hastings have done well. Quay nominated Baily; Hastings nominated Rankin and made himself Chairman of the County Committee. The beauty of the whole thing was in the way it worked. Our genial and good looking friend James P. Coburn, of Aaronsburg, (than whom there is no better Republican in Centre county,) wielded the gavel and presided over the deliberations of the Convention. The general personnel of the delegates was good. They appeared to be representative men and evidently spoke for the best element of the Republican party in the county. But, while these good fellows were filling the comfortable chairs, in which the members of the Centre county Bar are wont to lol, as their colleagues annoy the Court and puzzle the jury, "Boss" Hastings set up the pins and informed the good fellows how to knock them down. He kindly looked after the tally of the Secretaries and saw that it came out so that there would be no confusion. After the announcement of each vote, the Col., would smile confidently into Mr. Coburn's face, and the subsequent proceedings were as smooth as possible. A machine is a machine. When it is a real good machine it works well. The Republicans of Centre county have reason to congratulate themselves upon having a good machine and a competent engineer to run it. Col. Hastings will see to all the cogs and keep them well oiled. Pennsylvania is panning out well. The State convention makes the first score. Beautifully; yes, artistically, the county convention of Centre comes to its support. Hastings, smiling like a May morning, beams on Cameron. Hat in hand, he says, "My good sir, here is Centre county." The great boss gently strokes his blonde mustache as he says "Thank You." Thus does the game go on. Colonel Hastings showed commendable modesty in not wanting a vote taken upon his nomination for Chairman of the County Committee. His modesty was charming. He knew he had the Convention in his coat tail pocket and his coyness was just awfully nice. Now if there are any thunderbolts to hurl, let us have them. It is the boast of some of these wise men that the ticket placed in nomination on Tuesday will defeat the regular nominees of the Democratic party. We welcome the issue. The day of bossism has passed. The passage of a pharisaical resolution of condolence with the President, does not disguise the fact that the machine in Pennsylvania and Centre county is in ardent sympathy with what is known as the third-termers. Call a halt, Col. Hastings. The machine is powerless. The people in their majesty are to the front, and so long as outraged public sentiment confronts the action of bosses, so long will bosses find that their occupation is gone. The doom of bossism has been decreed. The long roll has been sounded; Wolfe has called on the reserves and bossism must go to the rear. To Col. Hastings, we will say in that kindness the Colonel knows we feel for him, that any effort on his part, to copy the imperial

methods of Quay, will bring disaster upon him and deserved reprobation on the party to which he belongs. Col. Hastings, in all candor we ask you to pause.

The Republican Ticket.

The ticket nominated by the Republicans of Centre county on last Tuesday is not one to give any alarm to the Democrats. The gentlemen composing it are personally good and respectable citizens, but not one of them will command Democratic votes enough to make any material change in the usual Democratic majority of the county. The Republicans will, of course, elect one commissioner and one auditor, and we do not believe the most sanguine members of the party will claim that they have the ghost of a chance to secure anything more. It is not a ticket that should receive Democratic votes, and we therefore call upon our friends to stand firmly and unwaveringly by their own candidates. No scratching; no trading; but a solid vote for the Democratic ticket. Let this be the motto of every Democratic voter, and a glorious triumph will be the reward of the party in November.

POSTMASTER GENERAL JAMES, after making creditable efforts to wind up the frauds of his department, has now introduced the civil service machinery which his predecessor talked about as a thing that might be employed advantageously. Hereafter competitive examinations are to be enforced as a means of securing competent and efficient service in the Post Office Department. This scare-crow, as put in operation by the Curtis' commission in the Grant administration, was used as a means of getting rid of persistent place hunters, by plying them with irrelevant and difficult questions which could have no bearing upon the character of the work to be performed, and which none but favorites were prepared to answer satisfactorily. The best test of qualification to discharge important trusts, is character, and experience, and adaptability to the work to be performed. A failure in these prove unfitness, and the applicant or official should be allowed to seek employment in business suited to his capacity, however efficient he may have been in the service of party. But it is fair to believe that Gen. James' competitive examinations are principally confined to the promotion of tried and deserving officers in the public service, in order to secure efficient administration. And in this he is to be commended, if, in filling vacancies thus created, he uses his own good judgment in making character and adaptability to the duty to be performed the test of fitness.

The call of Arthur to the Presidential office during the disability of the President, it appears, is still under discussion. The accumulation of executive business, and the uncertainty that the President under the most favorable circumstances will be able to transact any business for months to come, it is said necessitates an immediate decision, and that Gen. Arthur must be called to the higher chair. It is undoubtedly a pitiable position in which the Republican party is placed. They have little confidence in Arthur, and are afraid to trust him, but they elected him as a stalwart, and a stalwart created the necessity which calls him to the front. Their disquietude seems to arise in some measure from an impression that if Arthur takes the office it would be for the term and not for the period of disability. In this they doubtless do the Vice President injustice. Base as he may be as a politician, we cannot entertain so mean an opinion of the second officer of the Government as to believe that he would take advantage of the position which the assassin's pistol placed in his hands, as to desire to retain the place after the President became sufficiently convalescent to perform its

duties. His own partisans may think they know him better, but we doubt whether any Democrat could be found who would concur in such a degraded opinion of one who has been elected by the people to the Vice Presidency of this great country. If the same opinion were expressed of Rutherford B. Hayes, who was not elected, concurrence would be universal.

Wolfe's Revolt.

The organs will find that they cannot laugh Wolfe's candidacy for State Treasurer to death. Wolfe is impulsive and he is somewhat erratic at times, but in all his madness of the past few years there has been deliberate method. His hatred of Cameron may arise from motives that are not above suspicion. But that does not enter into the question. The fact is as patent as the sun at noonday that Wolfe has been the head and front of all the independent Republicans Pennsylvania has produced. He did not make one protest against bossism and then rest. At first he was laughed to scorn, jeered at and hooted out of Republican conventions. His fellow members of the legislature refused to listen to him. But his own people stood by him and at last even haughty party leaders had to bow to his power, and arrogant, corrupt and powerful lobbyists, entrenched in wealth and influence, had to answer for their crimes against public morality in a court of justice. When the prison doors closed on such as Wm. H. Kemble, Charles S. Wolfe was vindicated and his persistent fight of years was crowned with success. His candidacy now is notice to the bosses that there is to be no cessation in the battle against the machine. He will fight—and those who know him know how he can fight when his blood is up—until he has routed the enemies of popular government in his party. Behind him stand the Committee of One Hundred and the Industrial League. The sinews of war are thus assured. Twenty thousand independent voters in Philadelphia alone will vote for Wolfe in vindication of their own course in the past. In the western part of the State, especially in the oil regions, he will be stronger than Baily. Gentlemen of the Republican press, make up your minds that this is no pleasure excursion. There is a good deal of pure, unadulterated business in store for you. Wolfe will make the welkin ring when he gets on the stump. He can tell more of the devious ways of the bosses than any other man in the State. He knows their methods and understands their crooked processes. He will enlighten the Republican masses and he will make the endorsement of the administration of the wounded President a distinct issue of the campaign. He will at least have the hearty sympathy of the greater portion of his party. He claims that he can be elected. We do not believe any Republican can be elected this year, but if there is one to be elected we incline to the belief that Wolfe has an equal chance with Baily. The independent voter has been abroad in the land this year. Democratic mayors have been elected in the strong Republican cities of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Chicago, and now the most independent of all Republicans comes to the front and unfurls his independent banner and calls upon the independents to do or die. Let the procession move.

An attempt was made on last Sunday night, by a sentinel on guard at the Washington jail, to shoot Guiteau. As he was relieved from duty before the assassin's cell he turned and discharged his musket through the iron grating of the door. The ball just grazed Guiteau's head and saved him from the punishment that will come to him in the future. The soldier who fired the shot has been reported to General Hancock, who commands the

department. There is talk of civil prosecution, but District Attorney Corkhill can take no action, as the case has not been officially brought to his notice. Gen. Hancock will deal with this insubordinate in a very thorough fashion. He will doubtless recall the regulations of the army and the man who forgot his duty will have to suffer.

Samples of Political Consistency.

The Washington *Post* hits the Massachusetts Senators square in the eyes by comparing the liberality of the laws of Virginia and Massachusetts with reference to suffrage. These honorable hypocrites, in their correspondence with Mahone, urge the Republicans to make common cause with the Repudiation party because the laws of Virginia require the payment of a small tax for the support of common schools as a qualification for the right of suffrage, while at the same time a tax qualification is required in Massachusetts, under which thousands of citizens have been deprived of the privilege of voting. And this with the concurrence these Senators. The *Post* says: "If a citizen of Massachusetts, no matter how honorable his life may have been, falls into such distress that he is compelled, in a single instance, to accept public charity, his name is stricken off the poll lists. He may have been a heavy taxpayer in the past, but that does not count. Let him but accept a coffin for his dead child or medicine for his sick wife, and the laws of the Bay State, by and with the advice and consent of Senators Dawes and Hoar, designate him a "pauper" and disfranchise him as a convict. In the terrible period that followed the financial crash of 1873, when millions of honest men in this country looked in vain for labor by which to earn bread for their dependent families, there were some thousands of the sons of toil in Massachusetts who lost their right to vote. They could find no work, because industry seemed to have died. The spindles and looms of the factories were still, the shoe shops were closed, Grim poverty stalked abroad, and the wolf howled at many a door where smiling plenty had sat in happier days. All who preferred public charity to death from starvation in that awful time were disfranchised, like convicts, by and with the advice and consent of Senators Dawes and Hoar. We are not particularly anxious or perplexed about the Bay State. That ancient Commonwealth has her good qualities to offset her bad ones. If she sells paupers at public auction in the gentle spring time, if she disfranchises for the crime of having been poor and distressed, it is also true that she contains many noble characters and leads the way in many paths of progress. But we confess that it moves our contempt and derision when Messrs. Hoar and Dawes, after assisting in the disfranchisement of so many of their poor neighbors at home, go down into Virginia to weep and howl because an able-bodied man is required to pay a day's earnings annually into the school fund, or forego the luxury of voting till another year."

SPEAKING of the late Republican State Convention which came off at Harrisburg last week, the New York *Times* regrets that "some of the vigor which was shown in the vindication of party discipline in the convention, did not communicate itself to the declaration of party principles." The *Times* is too innocent by half! There were no principles in the thing at all. It was nothing but discipline. A certain class of Republicans, who thought they possessed sufficient capacity to think and act for themselves without the intervention of a boss, had the temerity to revolt against the Cameron dynasty and the third-term ring, and it was the business of the Convention to discipline the malcontents, and to show them how completely the party is subjugated to the will of the bosses.

Ambrose Everhart Burnside.

The sudden and totally unexpected death of Senator Burnside, of Rhode Island, will recall the vicissitudes and triumphs of a man whose name but a few years ago was in every one's mouth. First he came into national prominence when he was assigned command of the Army of the Potomac on the 7th of November, 1862. He came to this position after having gained some renown in his North Carolina expedition, and his participation in the battles of South Mountain and Antietam, to succeed McClellan in the command of the army. Thus for the first time was General Burnside brought into great prominence. His disastrous campaign is historical. The terrible reverse at Fredericksburg closed his career as a great captain. The war over, he returned to his native State of Rhode Island and soon spoke for her as a United States Senator in Congress. His career as a civilian has been marked by none of the terrible mistakes that followed him as a soldier. He has been a creditable, fair and conscientious Senator. His part has been small, but he has successfully enacted it. As a soldier he is held in high esteem, despite the disaster which followed his army on its march to Richmond. It is but just to the memory of General Burnside to say that when the powers at Washington displaced his chief and made him general of the army, that he said he could not command so great a body of troops, and that General McClellan was better able to command the army than any of his officers. General Burnside, on many occasions, has borne willing testimony to the fitness of General McClellan for the position he occupied, and which he was compelled to assume. The country will hear of General Burnside's death with sincere sorrow. He was not a great man, but he tried to be an honest one.

THE Cameron dynasty rules the Republican party once more supreme in Pennsylvania. The "Independents" walked into the State Convention with their all in their hands; they were caught as between two millstones and ground to fine powder. The memory of what they did at Chicago and what they threatened to do in the Senatorial contest of last winter availed them not; the "machine" rose by force of might and laid all opposition low. It now remains to be seen whether the work of the machine at Harrisburg will be endorsed by the people at the polls next November.

FEMALE ATTORNEYS are not wanted in Massachusetts. A Miss Lelia J. Robinson, who took a regular course in the Boston University law school and graduated, applied for admission to the bar to practice as an attorney. Her application was dismissed by the court on the ground that under the laws of the Commonwealth women are not entitled to be admitted as attorneys. Lelia must therefore carry her legal lore to some more liberal market.

VICE PRESIDENT CASSATT, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, besides being an accomplished railroad magnate, is also a successful farmer. It is said he has the finest crop of tobacco on his farm, near Burwin station, in the State. The yield of his crop, it is believed, will average eighteen hundred pounds to the acre, and the leaf being of superior quality, will sell for thirty cents per pound, and bring five hundred dollars to the acre.

CHARLES S. WOLFE'S independent candidacy for State Treasurer offers a fair opportunity to test the relative strength of the Independent Republicans and the Cameron machine. Wolfe represents the Independents, and Baily the machine. "You pays your money, and you takes your choice."

THE bosses to the front. Independents to the rear.—Senator Cameron.