

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, December 22, 1881.

FOR the sake of adding another debauched vote to the Senate majority, the Republicans have stooped low down in the dirt to bring Riddleberg in as the colleague of Mahone.

LICENSE in Nebraska to sell liquor is placed at \$1,000. It will require pretty large sales and the stuff well diluted, to realize the license fee and the usual profits of the trade.

It is said that President Arthur has conceded to Gen. Grant the choice of one member of his Cabinet. Of course the President can rely that the selection will be intirely stalwart.

THE Baltimore Gazette thinks that "Frelinghuysen may occupy Blaines place, but he can't fill it—that the robes of James G. Blaine will hang on the new Secretary as a shirt on a broomstick."

Is the present Congress already preparing funds for the next election? The aggregate of estimates for the next fiscal year is \$340,562,507, nearly \$50,000,000 more than for the present year. Extravagant appropriations, entail reckless expenditures.

SENATOR COOPER, after a visit to Washington, comes down gracefully from his elevated perch, as a candidate for Governor, and pledges his cordial support of Gen. Beaver. It was the very best thing he could do. Boss Don settled that business, and Senator Cooper is not the man to disobey a mandate authoritatively issued. Will Grow be as complaisant!

THERE is nothing specially new in the trial of Guiteau. The assassin continues to conduct himself in about the same outrageous manner that has distinguished him from the first. The insanity plea appears to be about played out, and the egotistical fool cannot help seeing by this time that his acting has been overdone, and is not likely to win to save his neck from the halter.

THE victims of the terrible Theatre fire at Vienna, are reported as numbering seven hundred and ninety-four, of which the bodies of 144 have been identified. This disaster has again excited attention everywhere to the necessity of providing greater security against the recurrence of such calamities, which will last while the present excitement is up, and be renewed when the next slaughter occurs.

JOHN CESSNA has abandoned the idea of contesting the election of Judge Baer, his successful rival in the Bedford and Somerset district. John considers "discretion the better part of valor" in this case, and well he may. With the large Republican majority in the district, the rebuke to this unprincipled demagogue was as emphatic as it was complimentary to Mr. Baer and the intelligence of the people.

THE ravenous greed of Gen. Grant, it appears is still unsatisfied. After serving in the sinecure office of Lieutenant General at a high salary up to the time he was inaugurated President of the United States, in which he served two terms at double the salary of former Presidents; after traveling around the world at the expense of his friends to receive adulation and presents from foreign governments as an American representative who had received the highest honors of his Government; after begging and receiving untold contributions to his private coffers, until he is known to be one of the most wealthy men of the country, this plethoric beggar now comes to Congress and asks to be placed upon the retired list of the army to enable him to draw the salary of a General from the public treasury. Could meanness be greater, or contempt more deservedly earned.

Reconstruction in Pennsylvania, and How It Works.

An act of Congress of 1875, authorized the U. S. Circuit Court to require the Prothonotaries of State Courts under certain circumstances to certify records into such Circuit Court. This piece of legislation emanating from a Republican Congress to meet the southern situation, has at last found its way into the great stronghold of Republicanism in the north, Pennsylvania. The Gloucester Ferry Company, the boats of which ply between the Pennsylvania and New Jersey shores of the Delaware, last week appeared by its counsel in the Common Pleas of Dauphin county in search of the record in the matter of the appeal of that company from the true settlement of the Auditor General in order that the U. S. Circuit Court, sitting for that foreign land, Jersey, might take cognizance of the abstruse questions that must arise in the premises. The Gloucester Ferry Company is not so great a Ferry Company, as some others, viz: The Cunard, White Star, &c., yet the five cent fare of "this most aesthetic" establishment, may prove as afflicting a scourge to this Commonwealth as though they were marked down "\$125 gold, wine included." As "big oaks from little acorns grow," so do at times grave cases at law find their rulling precedent in the list of the smallest. The fact that this humble Gloucester Ferry Company, may under the cloak of a foreign charter, come from the U. S. Circuit Court in Jersey, to drag away the records of our State Court, is from a pecuniary standpoint a mere bagatelle; yet, when we look about us and see a host of foreign corporations whose annual indebtedness to the Commonwealth runs into the hundreds of thousands of dollars, waiting for just such a precedent to justify the like course upon their part, we halt and wonder whether this impertinent interference of Congress in State matters, is not a little, well yes! just a very little rough.

THE investigation provided for by Sherman's resolution at the extra session of the Senate, into the alleged frauds and speculations of the Treasury Department during the Hayes administration, is getting under way. It will be remembered that Mr. Sherman in his resolution called for the report made by a committee of officials under Secretary Windom, which was said to implicate Mr. Sherman and a number of his subordinates in scandalous transactions, but refused to permit the testimony upon which the report was founded to see the light. The subject now comes up before the committee of the Senate, and Mr. Sherman and his friends insist that the session of the committee shall be secret and held with closed doors. This is opposed by the Democratic members of the Committee with whom, it is said, Senators Logan and Allison concur, and claim that the whole facts in the case should be fully developed and the guilty parties, if such there be, exposed or acquitted if innocent. The scandals brought out by the Pitney investigation and suppressed by the secretary, were wide-spread and too shameful in character to be covered up in the committee or in the Senate. Let light be thrown upon the dark transactions charged. If they are false, the innocent should seek vindication, not in secret but in the face of day.

An appropriation of \$100,000 is asked from Congress to pay the bills for medical attendance and nursing in the case of the late President. This it is believed will be about \$25,000 of the amount required. Two-thirds of the whole amount will be divided between Drs. Bliss, Hamilton and Agnew. This with the other expenses incident to the trial of the stalwart assassin, makes the accession of a stalwart President an expensive luxury, besides the loss to the country of one who was proving himself a high-toned conservative statesman.

Independents Moving.

A call for a State conference of the Independents has been issued by Mr. I. D. McKee, chairman of the State committee of the Citizens Republican Association, to be held at Philadelphia on Thursday, the 12th of January next. The address invites each county in the State to send representatives to the conference, to take into consideration the wisdom of placing in nomination proper persons for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of Internal Affairs and Judge of the Supreme Court, and such other matters as may come before the conference, looking to the overthrow of "boss rule" and the elimination of the pernicious spoils system and its kindred evils from the administration of public affairs. It also enforces the importance of the 50,000 unshackled voters who supported the independent candidacy of Charles S. Wolf, and all other liberty-loving citizens, who are ready to revolt against bossism, being properly represented in the conference.

THE utter insufficiency of the present statute framed to determine the Presidential succession in case of the death, removal or disability of both the President and Vice-President, says the Washington Post, was well illustrated by the remarks of Senators, Beck, Maxey and Anthony upon the question. The different theories propounded leave the whole matter in utter confusion. Under existing statutes the President pro tempore of the Senate and Speaker of the House, both of whom may not be eligible directly to the Presidency on account of foreign birth or insufficient age, stand in succession, and they are not officers of the United States. So much for the fact; the queries arising out of it are more confusing. Does the President pro tempore, while discharging the duties of President, vacate his seat as Senator, or the Speaker of the House, while so acting, cease to be a Representative in such way as the State or district has the right to choose a new Senator or Member? After either of these gentlemen ceases to be acting President, does he resume his seat in the branch of Congress from which he came? While acting as President does or does he not continue to be President pro tempore or Speaker, as the case may be? Can either continue to act as President after his term as Senator or Representative has ceased? As the Senate has the power to change its President pro tempore every day, can it elect one while another is acting President, and so change the incumbent of that office? Does the successor of an incumbent laboring under inability hold for a full term or only until the inability be removed? And whenever any one succeeds a President, is it to the duties only or to the office itself? These and other practical questions suggest themselves to every mind, and they ought to be done away with by a carefully prepared statute, perfectly clear in terms, and fixing the succession in such a manner as to cover all possible contingencies.

UTAH is likely to be without a representative in Congress. Cannon, the delegate who has represented that Territory for several terms, has been by judicial decision declared an alien. He was re-elected last year by a large majority over Campbell, but as he is ineligible will doubtless not be permitted to resume his seat. Campbell, although holding a certificate of the Governor, was not elected, can properly only be sent back to try his luck again.

THE New York Star says "Mayor Grace is in training as a candidate for Governor." It will be lucky for the State of New York if the training proves a success. New York, like Pennsylvania, is in much need of a courageous business executive who cannot be controlled in the performance of duty by bosses or rings.

Next Governor.

We concur in the following remarks of Brother Deffenbach of the Clinton Democrat in word and letter. Give us Wallace as a candidate, or if not, one of Wallace's experience, honesty, ability and vim, and let us have a fair field tussel with the Stalwart machine, with its corruptions and infamous disregard of the interests and rights of the people. The time is past when temporizing with inexperienced or respectable mediocrity is justifiable. Let the people choose the candidate and do it wisely, not to gratify the ambition of any individual but for themselves, to rescue the Commonwealth from the tyranny and debauchery which has been its heritage for many years under machine management.

A recent article in the Clinton Democrat which urged that ex Senator Wallace be again placed in the lead of the party, because of his great ability in that direction, and that to this end it would be well to nominate him for Governor, or put him at the head of the State Committee, has called out various comments. From these we clip the following from the Clearfield Republican, the Democratic paper printed at Mr. Wallace's home:

Mr. Wallace does not desire to be a candidate for Governor. "The ex Senator asks to be permitted to give his time and attention solely to his practice and personal business, which so much need his time. He is not a candidate for the gubernatorial nomination, or for any other political office. We hope the Senator will revise his present intentions on this subject by the time of holding our State Convention."

It would be greatly for the public good if no man could be nominated for Governor, or elected, who would offer himself as a candidate or in any way solicit the position. People would then be left to select the ablest, most prominent and most reputable of our citizens. And this should be done without particular reference to the wishes of the person selected. Any man of ordinary patriotism would serve, if freely called to the position by his fellow citizens. Let us once have a patriotic Governor, who does not seek the office, and who is not a constitutional office hunter.

The Erie Observer, an able and respected contemporary, has this to say, viz: Much as we esteem Senator Wallace for his unquestioned integrity and great ability, we hope he will not allow himself to be coaxed or goaded into being a candidate for Governor. To be available, the Democratic nominee for that office should be a new man, who has taken little or no part in public affairs. We take little stock in "new men" business, now or at other time, for those negative characters who feel so little concern in public affairs that they have "taken little or no part" in the stern issues and important questions of the last twenty years. Such a candidate could not command the vigorous and energetic support that is required to carry a candidate successfully through such a contest as that of 1882 will be. The Democracy had a trial of that policy in 1875, when it nominated such a candidate in the person of Judge Pershing, and suffered defeat with him, when any aggressive candidate would have been elected with certainty.

Give the Democracy a bold, aggressive, fighting candidate, a speaker of ability and courage who will attack and expose the plundering misgovernment of the Republicans, lay bare their corruptions and their outrageous exactions from the people, their squandering of the taxes and of the public lands, their contempt for the rights and interests of the people, and their encouragement and establishment of fearful, exacting, overbearing and tyrannical monopolies, their corruptions of the ballot box, and their frauds upon the elective principle, and so on to the end of the chapter of political infamy. The party and people will rally around such a candidate and elect him, but Heaven save us from the perille candidates who have "taken little or no part" while these things were being perpetrated in open day and with defiant effrontery—a candidate who is not afraid to do his duty to his party (in other words, his country) and then his party will do its duty by him. Mr. Wallace would be our ideal of a candidate, and we named him in that way, not in the least supposing that he desired to be nominated or even mentioned. There are other able and proper men in the Commonwealth who will no doubt be brought forward in due time. In the mean time our preference is as stated.

THE President has appointed Benjamin Harris Brewster, of Philadelphia, Attorney General. The nomination, which was referred to the Judiciary committee and reported to the Senate, has been unanimously confirmed by that body. Mr. Brewster is well known as an able and accomplished lawyer, a little eccentric perhaps, and will not be fretted by the nice independent scruples which forced the retirement of his distinguished predecessor. Mr. Brewster was formerly identified with the Democratic party but drifted into the Republican party when division and discord in the Democratic ranks brought its enemies into power. He is, therefore, like Grant, and other violent Stalwarts, a Republican recruit from the Democracy, and as such persons generally turn into the most zealous and unrelenting partisans, he will no doubt be in full accord with the Stalwart administration in its most radical measures. Unlike Grant, however, he possesses legal ability for a brilliant career in the service of the government, which, if not subordinated to the desperate gang with whom he is associated, may raise the name of Brewster to a respectable height on the roll of distinguished men who have preceded him in the legal department. But the new Attorney General will have to look well to his official scalp, if Cameron, who never forgives an offence and who is now entrenched in the highest feathers of the administration, does not find means at the proper time to revenge these words spoken by Mr. Brewster in an interview published in the Philadelphia Times in 1877:

"Last winter our people were shocked with the election of J. Donald Cameron, the irresponsible son of a Senator of whom I will not speak, because he and his acts have become a part of public history, and must be measured with more deliberation than can be given in a casual conversation like this—a son that has neither mind, attainments, dignity of character, knowledge of public affairs, party services of personal worth to warrant his advancement, and has no record but a bad one as an intriguer and manager of bad men. He was forced into the War Department, as the price of his offer to betray his State and renominate Gen. Grant, and after being there he was so base born in his notions of decency and gentleness as to solicit and urge, by all the mean arts of political contrivance, that he should be retained as the companion of Cabinet officers and gentlemen who did not want him. Failing in that, by the coarse brute force of organized power, he jostled his old father out of his place, and thrust himself into a Senate where he will be an object of derision and disgust. The public are sick of these odious men, and the public will do away with them. We have destroyed human bondage in the south; we will next break down political bondage in the north and south."

THE Stalwart Republicans and their coalitions, after being defeated by more than thirty thousand in Mississippi, are talking of setting up a bogus government in that State, and calling upon the Stalwart President of the United States to maintain them in the villainy. After his performance with Mahone in Virginia, no telling what he might do by way of breaking the "solid south" and re-instate the carpet-baggers.

JAMES G. BLAINE, of Maine, is now one of the "rank and file." He retired from office on Monday last after many years of active service. If he consults Judge Black, Horatio Seymour or some other of our distinguished Democrats, he may learn how to live happy as a private citizen, at least until 1884.

MAHONE'S Lieutenant, Riddleberger, goes to Washington, not as Sergeant-at-arms, but as United States Senator from Virginia. Republican aspirants for this honor were obliged to submit to the edict of Boss Mahone. Unrepentant rebels are now in demand.

MRS. GARFIELD has ordered the erection of a fire-proof building on the site of Gen. Garfield's office at Mentor, to be used for the storage of his papers and letters.

EX-SENATOR TIMOTHY O. HOWE, of Wisconsin has been appointed Post Master General. Thus the Cabinet of the President is being gradually made up of stalwart third-termers.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

—It is true other remedies can be praised, but PERUNA has the unequalled proof.

—Our attention was called last evening to the novel appearance of the show windows at the Bee Hive. In one there is an elegant display of silks, satins and laces, and the other a beautiful christmas tree nicely illuminated with wax tapers.

—Persons in search of Christmas toys and other desirable presents to make happy the young during the festivities of the holiday season, should call and examine the splendid collection now on exhibition at Mr. Sands' store on Allegheny street. The assortment is very large and very choice, and cannot fail to please all. Mr. Sands has surpassed his usual good taste in his selections, and can accommodate his customers in any desirable article at very moderate charges. He has the most extensive and most carefully selected assortment of goods in his line ever brought to Bellefonte.

LOGAN HOSE COMPANY BALL.—The members of the Logan Hose company will give a grand ball in Bush's Hall, on Friday evening the 30th instant, which should be liberally patronized by our people. The company has certain expenses to pay which have been incurred by their efforts to increase the efficiency of their organization, and the boys are entitled to an encouraging return. The ball will be properly conducted, and will no doubt afford pleasant amusement and recreation to a large number of persons. The cards of admission will be fifty cents—a sum that places them within the reach of every one. Do not fail to invest in a ticket even if you do not go to the ball. Give the company a good benefit.

—Our Howard friends enjoyed a very pleasant entertainment on last Friday evening, given by Miss Laura Keller, the talented young elocutionist of Lock Haven, assisted by Mr. J. F. Brown, and Misses Raab, Richmond and Berger, all of Lock Haven, who interspersed Miss Keller's readings with delightful instrumental and vocal music. Miss Keller is a daughter of our old friend Col. Rueben Keller, formerly of Snyder county, and we remember to have noticed that the young lady graduated with first honors both at the Lock Haven Normal School and at Prof. Shoemaker's School of Elocution in Philadelphia. Those who heard her in Howard speak of her elocutionary powers in terms of the highest commendation and predict for her a brilliant future.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.—The thirty-fifth annual session of the Teachers' Institute, of Centre county, will be held next week in the Court House, Bellefonte, commencing on Monday afternoon at two o'clock, and continuing through Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Mr. Wolf, the able and efficient County Superintendent, has prepared an elaborate and interesting programme of exercises, and has secured the services of a number of prominent and experienced instructors to take part in the exercises. The session promises to be one of the most successful ever held in the county and should receive the attention and encouragement of every friend of education, who has the welfare and success of our common school system at heart. There should be a general attendance of teachers, directors and friends of education.

We copy from Mr. Wolf's circular, as follows:

INSTRUCTORS.
Physiology and Hygiene, Geography, &c.—Prof. S. D. Hillman, Rahway, N. J.
Primary Methods of Reading, Spelling, &c.—Prof. H. R. Sanford, Middletown, N. Y.
Mental Science, Morals, &c.—Prof. T. M. Balliet, Supt. Carbon county.
Rhetoric, Use of Blackboard, &c.—Prof. H. F. Biner, Keystone State Normal School.
Methods of Instruction.—Prof. W. A. Krise, Spring Mills, Pa.
Recitations.—Prof. J. W. Heston, State College, Pa.

PAPERS.
Why are not our Schools better?—M. L. Romich.
Professional Inactivity of Teachers.—J. S. Houts.
Literary Societies.—G. W. Johnsonbaugh.
Reading.—T. B. Rupert.
Abstracts, its Causes and Results.—C. L. Gramsey.
Interesting papers are also expected from other prominent teachers of the county.
Prof. George P. Bible will give some of his entertaining readings during the sessions.

LECTURES.
Monday evening, The American Teacher.—Prof. S. D. Hillman.
Tuesday evening.—Growth and Decay of Languages.—Prof. McKee, State College.
Wednesday evening, Our Race in Search of its Grandfather.—Prof. Hillman.
Thursday evening, What we Brains.—A popular scientific lecture, illustrated by numerous experiments.—Prof. A. R. Sanford.