

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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The Centre Democrat.

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S. T. SHUGERT and R. H. FORSTER, Editors.

Thursday Morning, February 16, 1882.

Centre County Democratic Committee—1882.

| DISTRICTS. | NAME. | P. O. ADDRESS. |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Bellefonte | N. W. F. Roby | Bellefonte. |
| " | S. W. James Smith | " |
| " | W. W. James Schiffler | " |
| Howard | C. K. Rosington | Millsburg. |
| Millsburg | A. T. Gray | Half Moon. |
| Millheim | A. W. Walters | Millheim. |
| Phillipsburg | D. W. Holt | Phillipsburg. |
| Unionville | J. C. Smith | Fleming. |
| Bonnet | Frederick Roby | Bellefonte. |
| Boys | C. A. McLaughlin | Millsburg. |
| Burnside | William Hipple | Pine Grove. |
| College | Frank Taylor | Lemont. |
| Carlisle | W. H. Gardner | Howard. |
| Ferguson | O. P. A. J. Orendorf | Pine Grove Mills. |
| " | N. P. J. H. Heberling | Spring Springs. |
| Gregg | S. P. M. L. Rishel | Rock Mills. |
| " | H. E. Brock | Spring Mills. |
| " | Benj. Linbert | " |
| Haines | Geo. M. Keister | Arsenbourg. |
| Halfmoon | A. T. Gray | Half Moon. |
| Harris | James Gilliland | Boalsburg. |
| Howard | David Tanager | Howard. |
| Houston | John Q. Miles | Julian. |
| Liberty | Christie P. Fleming | " |
| Marion | J. J. Hoy | Walker. |
| Miles | George Haines | Wolf's Store. |
| Patton | D. L. Meek | Buffalo Run. |
| " | H. E. Brock | Millheim. |
| Potters | G. W. Spangler | Tusseyville. |
| " | S. P. J. Wimer Wolf | Centre Hall. |
| Rush | William Collins | Sandy Ridge. |
| Snow Shoe | William Haines | Snow Shoe. |
| Spring | T. M. Barnhart | Bellefonte. |
| Taylor | Vinton Beckwith | Forster. |
| Union | Christie P. Fleming | " |
| Walker | Andrew Krowe | Harrisburg. |
| Worth | W. G. Morrison | Port Matlack. |
| | R. H. FORSTER, Chairman. | |
| | H. A. McKee, Secretary. | |

The life of a baby elephant must be quite precious and valuable, when Barnum can afford to obtain an insurance upon the one recently born in his menagerie, of three hundred thousand dollars. The premium he pays is fifty thousand dollars for one year.

The tragedy enacted in Washington on the second of July last, does not seem to impose any restraint upon the gaiety and dissipation of its society circles. These are unusually active, and are liberally patronized by the successor of the assassinated President.

The repudiation doctrines of Mahone have been fully endorsed in the Legislature of Virginia, by the passage of the Riddleberg bill. Thus, by the aid and co-operation of the stalwart administration at Washington, the Old Dominion is disgraced and the integrity of public credit has received a wound that may infect other burdened Commonwealths, if it does not prove a source of annoyance to some of the money kings who invest so heavily in stalwart supremacy.

The Montrose Republican says that General Beaver is a "Presidential candidate." If this be the case, it is the first time, in a great many years, that Providence has interested himself in selecting Republican candidates. Many people think the "other fellow" has generally made the nominations.—*Douglas Democrat.* That's so, and if Don Cameron and Matt Quay are not chained in some dark corner on the 10th of May, the "other fellow" will select the Republican candidate again.

A PISTOL AFFRAY took place at Washington on Thursday evening last, resulting fatally to one of the attacking parties. A. M. Soteldo, jr., who it appears was clerk to the Committee on Railroads in the Senate and also a correspondent of several prominent papers, with his brother, A. C. Soteldo, made an attack upon Clarence M. Barton, the managing editor of the *National Republican* for some articles published in that paper reflecting upon his character and standing. Both the Soteldos appear to have been well armed for conflict when they invaded Mr. Barton's office and were prompt in making known the hostile purpose of their visit. The firing commenced and was kept up until Mr. Barton and the elder Soteldo were shot, the latter fatally, the former severely, but not dangerously. It is supposed that the ball which proved fatal to Soteldo was from the pistol of his brother and was intended for Barton. So far as we can see, there is nothing kindly to be said of the attacking party, and the offensive character of the articles that gave rise to it, leaves the other party with very slight claims to sympathy. It is only another drawing in the "lottery of assassination," and some greedy stalwart will draw a small prize through the committee on railroads.

"State Larcenies."

For a some time past that able and uncompromising Democratic journal, the *Lancaster Intelligencer*, has been waging an active, earnest and aggressive warfare against the extravagances and peculations of the ring of bold and adroit politicians who control the affairs of the State at Harrisburg. It is an old story. For many years it has been a well established fact, though a fact that has never seemed to make much impression upon the public mind, that not only open and reckless stealing has been the rule with the officials of the dominant party that has for so many years had the management of the various departments of the State government. Through the loose practices that have grown up in the past years of Republican control, thousands of dollars have been filched from the treasury without warrant of law, and in ways and through cunning devices that can only be characterized as downright and unmitigated theft. These rascally practices have long been known, but the exposures that have been made of them, usually in the heat of political campaigns, have never been of much consequence in the outcome of the elections. They have passed over the heads of intelligent voters as an idle puff of air, and the ruling dynasty of the Commonwealth has always managed to maintain its power to plunder the public. We sincerely hope the work of the *Intelligencer* will bring forth better results in the near future than those that have followed efforts in the same direction in the past. The *Intelligencer* has an able ally in this cause in the veteran editor of the *Clinton Democrat*, and we think it is full time that every Democratic newspaper in the State takes an unflinching stand upon the ground on which our friend and neighbor so firmly plants his feet in the last issue of his excellent paper. Upon this subject Mr. Deifenbach gives timely notice to all prospective candidates for legislative honors which they will do well to heed. We copy from the *Clinton Democrat* as follows:

We most cordially second the suggestions of the *Intelligencer* and now give fair notice that we will support no man for senator or representative from this district who will not pledge himself to do what he can to stop these "State larcenies," not only by protesting and voting against every one, but moving so to amend the appropriation bills as to cut them up by the roots and forever obliterate them, and by calling the yeas and nays upon all propositions in which the stealings are involved. In the campaign of 1878 the writer of this, with the assistance of Maj. Forster, now one of the editors of the *CENTRE DEMOCRAT*, prepared elaborate statistics exposing these thefts, had them printed in the papers, and sent condensed tables convenient for use to all the stump speakers we could reach. For a time the feature promised to become prominent in the contest and to have marked influence, but Col. Quay and the Republican leaders were adroit enough to adopt issues in reference to federal financial measures and the Democratic orators were fools enough (generally) to drop their own and accept the Republican gage of battle. This year we hope to see the state larcenies made a prominent issue by the Democratic leaders, orators and newspapers, and also hope they will not again permit themselves to be driven from it. The same sort of federal issues ought at the same time be made and driven home to the heart of every voter. If the people mean to sustain thieves let them know, at least, who the thieves are. It is for such reasons as these that we have urged the selection a bold, aggressive, fighting candidate for governor, of abundant ability and knowledge. With such a candidate and upon such issues fully exposed the Democracy can and must win.

The Rhode Island Legislature proposes to enact a stringent law for the prevention of bribery at elections in that State. No particular movement seems to be on foot, however, to enfranchise the citizens of Rhode Island who are deprived of a vote because of an unjust property qualification. It is all well enough to erect safeguards against frauds, but would be still better to tear down the barriers that stand between honest men and the polls.

BLAINE and the administration are having very interesting squabble over South American diplomacy. On the whole, we are inclined to think Blaine has the best of it.

The Apportionment Bill.

Speaking of the bill reported from the committee of the census to apportion the Representatives in Congress, which calls for 320 members, and is one for every 156,285 inhabitants, the *Washington Post* remarks: "If there were no State lines each Member would represent just that number of people occupying contiguous territory. But as the assignments have to be made to States, there are fractions always left after dividing the population of a State by the number of inhabitants entitled to a Representative. By this plan obviously there are not a sufficiency of constituencies of the required size in the different States to include the whole number of Members to which all the States are entitled. The method heretofore pursued has been to assign the remainder of the Members, so far as they will go, to those States having the largest fractions after the division referred to."

Under the bill reported by Mr. Prescott, however, a new system of computation, called after its author, the "Seaton method," has been invoked. An attempt to explain it would take up too much space, to say nothing of the probable impossibility of making it clear even to the most intelligent reader. By it but six States are affected, California, Rhode Island, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois. According to the old plan the first three States each retain a member, which, by the new method, goes to each of the last three. By assigning 320 members to 49,371,200 people, it is intended that every Congressman shall represent a constituency of 154,285, as near as may be. Under the old method, California, Rhode Island, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois would have a member for a population respectively of 144,115, 138,265, 134,746, 154,026, 152,960 and 153,893, New York's representative population being within 259 of the number required, Pennsylvania and Illinois close up and Florida the farthest off, being 19,539 short. By the new scheme the Representative population of these States is as follows: California, 172,938; Rhode Island, 276,531; Florida, 269,493; New York, 149,496; Pennsylvania, 147,680, and Illinois, 146,565. These last three States are farther from the required number by this method than the other, while of the first three California has 93,261 inhabitants not represented at all, Florida, 115,208, and Rhode Island 122,246. The fairness of such an apportionment is not particularly striking.

Another peculiarity of the new system is worth noting. Dividing the population of New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois by 154,285 and the product is respectively 32, 27 and 19. Each of these States have an extra Member, on account of the large fraction remaining over in the division, which puts the representation at 32, 28 and 20; but the improved system of calculation gives these States each one more, making them 34, 29 and 21. The three extra members must represent the 330,715 inhabitants of California, Rhode Island and Florida, who, by this compound and complex arithmetic, are left out in the cold, for surely they speak for nobody in their own States. The aggregate population of New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois is 12,445,365, not enough for 81 members, yet the new method allows them 84, requiring a population of 514,575 greater than they have. California, Florida and Rhode Island are given only 7 Representatives, although their aggregate population authorizes 9. By the new method these three large States obtain three Members to which they are in no way entitled, the loss falling upon the three small States; while by the old plan the three large States have their proper number of Representatives, the three small States securing in the aggregate only one extra member.

Illustrations may be multiplied, but enough are cited to show that while the figures used by Mr. Prescott's committee to bolster up the Seaton method may not exactly lie, they do most emphatically prevaricate and mislead.

Absolute justice and fair dealing suggest another consideration. The first two and the fourth State in population cannot gain much by the addition of one member each to their already large numbers, while the reduction of the representation of Florida and Rhode Island each from 2 to 1 will be severely felt, especially by the former, whose territory is larger than either of her vastly more populous sisters. No such result should be brought about, especially when, in order to accomplish it, a new plan has to be adopted so manifestly unfair and unjust."

Electoral Bill.

Mr. Hewitt, of New York, introduced in the House on Thursday last, a bill designed to carry out the provisions of the Constitution in the election of President and Vice President. It provides that the electors shall meet and cast their votes on the second Monday in January, and that between the day on which the electors are chosen and the day on which they are to vote, the title of the office of elector of any person claiming to have been elected shall be determined and certified to the Executive of the State by such State authorities, ministerial or judicial, or in such manner as the State shall prescribe by the laws in force on the day of choosing the electors, and every such determination shall be conclusive on question of fact or of State laws in the counting by Congress. The bill makes regulations for the meeting of the two houses in joint convention, and provides that when an objection to any vote shall be submitted in writing and signed by at least one senator and one member, the two houses shall separate and come to a decision thereon, which decision shall be announced to the joint convention, and no vote shall be received except by the affirmative votes of both houses. The joint meeting shall not be dissolved until the count of the electoral vote shall be completed and the result declared. Notwithstanding the decision or declaration provided for, the title to office of any person so declared to be elected as President or Vice President and the title of any claimant thereto may be tried and determined by an action brought in the name of the United States, in the nature of a quo warranto, in any Circuit Court of the United States, with a right of appeal to the Supreme Court. The bill was referred to a select committee.

Nepotism at Washington.

The soldiers' and sailors' league in Washington the *Harrisburg Patriot* remarks, have effectually returned the fire in their rear by exposing the nepotism of some of the official advocates of the repeal of the pension arrearages act. Their organ, the *National Free Press*, has begun the weekly publication of lists to show the extent of the practice of nepotism in the civil service. From these lists it appears that the meritorious family of Shermans draw fifty separate salaries from the government. Justice Harlan of the supreme court of the United States has a son in the post-office department, a nephew in the treasury, and a relative holding a war department clerkship. Commissioner Raum's zeal for maintaining the internal revenue taxes is partly explained by the fact that he has a brother, a son, and a nephew in the bureau. Almost as deserving a government family as the Sherman's is the French family, the names of eight of whom, headed by the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, are published, who draw \$17,400 in annual salaries in Washington. Not less than thirty of the French family are said to be provided for by the public treasury. Twenty names of the

Kirkwood family who draw salaries from the government are given which goes to show that the head of the family has availed himself of his advantages since becoming secretary of the interior. Commissioner of Patents Marble has provided for four of his relatives, whose names and places are given. Assistant Secretary Bell of the interior department is said to have twenty-six relatives in government employ. The Marr family, one of whom is chief clerk of the post office department, has ten representatives who are known to draw government salaries in Washington. These lists are to be published until the whole system of government nepotism is exposed. The old soldiers look askance at any system of civil service reform which tends to fasten forever so many barnacles on the government. They insist that the first and most important step toward true civil service reform is in cleaning out the departments of the favorites who owe their positions not to merit, but to family influence.

MR. BELTZHOVER, the able and indefatigable Representative in Congress from the Carlisle district, has a pending amendment to the apportionment bill requiring States to be redistricted without gerrymandering. On this fair and honest proposition, he made a speech on Monday last, for a brief report of which we are indebted to the correspondent of the *Philadelphia Times*, as follows:

"Mr. Beltzhoover was of the opinion that if this could be accomplished it would be more important and efficient in securing just representation to the people than any measure which has ever been enacted. There had been a great deal of earnest contention about the loss of a single representative in a few of the States. But what difference would it make to the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania whether she gets twenty-eight or twenty-nine members, if her Legislature can so distribute the number as practically to disfranchise one-half of her citizens and leave them without representation? This unfair distribution of members is, said the speaker, no new offense in the servile satrap of the modern boss. No respect is paid to the ratio of representation or the contiguity of territory. Counties are torn into fragments and distributed by townships and half townships to meet the exigencies of the vilest partisan frauds. Counties widely separated are joined by narrow strips of land running through intervening counties, and thus connected, are called contiguous territory and erected into districts. Take the Eleventh district in Pennsylvania. Here three Democratic counties are taken in one section, all contiguous and containing about 4,000 Democratic majority. Not satisfied with swallowing up this large surplus of the minority the leaders want more, and while there is abundant contiguous territory they do not take it, but run a marvelously constructed line over the two large intervening counties, wresting therefrom in the passage twenty and one-half townships, containing 1,500 Democratic majority, so as to strike and take in two other large Democratic counties, with 3,000 Democratic majority.

"Thus we have, continued the speaker, a district, without a parallel in the famous history of fraudulent apportionment, in the shape of a dumb bell, gathering up in its peculiar serpentine contiguous area about nine thousand Democratic majority. This district, as it appears in the political text book, composed of five counties and parts of two counties, is bad enough, but as it appears on the map and to the people of the State it is the masterpiece of that matchless band of political conspirators who have run the machine in Pennsylvania for years and before whose sublime genius for fraud their feeble imitators in all the other States grow green with envy. It is the ideal which delights the dreams of the machine man as he contemplates it by day and the fetish before which he bows at night in adoration of the marvelous work of his master-hand. The Tenth district is another interesting work of the great gerrymanderer's hand. There we have two large contiguous counties with sufficient population for a district with 6,000 Democratic majority. They are not satisfied with that, but go over into an adjoining county and wrest therefrom eleven townships, containing 2,000 Democratic majority, and attach these to the district, already large enough, making it run above the ratio, and with 8,000 Democratic majority. This is done so that the remainder of the county, which is otherwise Democratic, from which the eleven townships are taken, may become Republican, and being attached to its adjoining county may secure a Republican Congressman from what would otherwise have been a fair Democratic district. How do these things affect the representation of the great Commonwealth in which they are perpetrated?

"In 1880 the Democratic party polled 407,428 votes and elected seven members of Congress. The Republican par-

ty polled 440,704 votes and elected twenty members. It took 50,928 votes to elect a Democratic Congressman and only 23,450 to elect a Republican. Thus a large proportion of the people are disfranchised and unrepresented, and a great crime is committed against the fundamental principles of representative government, against the spirit and purpose of the Constitution and against the highest rights of the people. This amendment will provide a remedy which the ignominious political burglar cannot break through without endangering the representation of his State."

The Committee of Agriculture in the House have reported a bill favorably, for the creation of a Department of Agriculture with a Secretary and Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, at the same salary allowed these officers in other departments. They also report a bill recommending a bureau of Annual Industry to prevent the exportation of diseased cattle, and the spread of infectious diseases.

The West Chester *Jeffersonian* adds the Hon. Robert E. Monaghan to the list of able and deserving men already named as Democratic candidates for Governor. No one can question Robert's ability, his honesty or his fidelity. Like the other gentlemen named, he would make a most excellent and faithful executive.

The Deadlock at Albany.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 9.—During the ineffectual effort to elect a Clerk of Assembly to day, Mr. Goddard, Republican, of Laurens, made a speech in which he asserted that a number of Republicans, including himself, had determined that about enough time had been wasted in the dickering for patronage between the Democratic factions, and indicated that if the differences were not soon settled these Republicans would settle the matter for the Democrats. It is believed this warning will be productive of an early cessation of the unseemly wrangle for office.

The report made to the Committee of One Hundred yesterday by its Subcommittee on the Prosecution of Election Frauds, is an interesting document to all classes of citizens, and should be specially instructive to the unprincipled ballot thieves of the city. The subcommittee was appointed on the 22d of February, 1881, with Mr. Blankenburg as chairman, aided by Messrs. McCreary, Morton, Corson, Parrish and Wood, and they have done a great work toward the protection of the purity of the ballot. The sub-committee have considered 55 cases of alleged election frauds, of which 17 have been convicted and sent to prison, 9 were acquitted, 4 bills were ignored, 6 are fugitives from justice, 7 indictments remain to be tried and 12 warrants of arrest have not yet been served because the persons wanted are not to be found. It is due to the committee to say that they have successfully inaugurated the first systematic plan of arresting election frauds in this city, and the public will be gratified to learn that the good work will be prosecuted with equal vigor in the future.—*Times.*

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

—A correspondent at Millheim, to whom we are extremely thankful, sends us the following "Scraps":

Our colored population is on the increase.

Uncle "Ben" of the *Journal* is a candidate for the Legislature.

The game of "One hundred embossed letters" is "all the go." Parties not well versed in the construction of words come out.

Mr. J. H. Auman has assumed control of the primary school, since the departure of Mr. M. I. Jamison, for the West. Prof. Auman is an efficient teacher, and will do good work among the young Americans.

Hon. W. K. Alexander, late member of the "do nothing" party in Millheim, has taken charge of the pike school, in Penn township, Mr. Roush, their former teacher, having resigned. Prof. A. will no doubt cause "a rattling among the dry bones" there.

Mr. Chares Sturgis has removed from this place to the genial town of Lewisburg, where he will continue his trade of watchmaker and jeweler. Mr. Sturgis is a clever man, and a good mechanic. We wish him abundant success.

The protracted meeting now in progress in the Evangelical church is doing a good work, judging from the number of seekers.

—Mr. J. R. Bartroff has added a large bell to his already fully equipped manufactory. We presume its primary object is to call his hands together, and know its secondary one to be to startle all within two squares of it.

—If you do not patronize Harry Green, commence to do so at once. His stock commands universal praise both on account of its admirable selection and excellent quality. Harry Green is the name that charms the smoker's ear and bids his sottis cease.