

# 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, March 2, 1882.

Democratic State Committee.

HEADQUARTERS DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE, WILKESBARRE, February 23, 1882.—There will be a meeting of the Democratic State Committee at the Bolton hotel, Harrisburg, on Wednesday, March 22, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of fixing a time and place for holding the next Democratic State Convention.

E. P. KISSER, Secretary.  
J. K. BOBERT, Chairman.

**CANNOT GIVE THE CODE UP.** Governor Cameron, Mahone's Readjuster executive of Virginia, has vetoed the bill recently passed by the Legislature against dueling.

**THE Democratic State Central Committee** have called to meet at the Bolton House in Harrisburg, on the 22d of March, to fix the time and place of meeting of the next State convention.

**THE Election Committee of the House** have adopted a report in the contested case from Utah which ousts Delegate Cannon, and justly repudiates the claim of Campbell. Utah is therefore without a delegate.

**EX-SENATOR SARGENT** of California, although not entitled to a "306" medal, is in full accord with the Stalwart third-termers, has drawn a prize in the "lottery of assassination." The President has nominated him as Minister to Germany.

**PROFESSOR JACKSON**, of the pyrotechnic manufactory recently exploded at Chester, with such fatal results, and his assistant Van Horn, have been arrested on the verdict of the coroner's jury, charging upon them a criminal responsibility for the disaster.

**FISCHBACK**, the notorious negro gambler of New Orleans, has drawn a good prize in the "lottery of assassination." His ticket was "306" and it carries him through as Surveyor of the Port. This is a favorite number with President Arthur and never minus a prize.

**MAHONE** having succeeded in breaking the deadlock in the Virginia Legislature, is now having full sweep under his personal supervision in changing all the officers of the Commonwealth, from the Judiciary down and filling their places by his Repudiation cohorts. This will last for a time, but the day of settlement will surely come.

**ENCOURAGING THE MILITIA.** The House Committee on Militia have agreed to report a bill to amend the militia laws so as to increase the annual appropriation to \$1,000,000, and to distribute to the States in proportion to the number they maintain. If such a law passes, of course the National Guards of Pennsylvania will obtain their prorate in the distribution.

**THE speculative correspondents** are still active in fixing up a combination for the Democracy in 1884. It is now Ex-Governor Tilden of New York, and Ex-Governor Palmer of Illinois. They discredit this programme however, by claiming that Mr. Tilden has written to Gov. Palmer that this must be the Presidential ticket, forgetting, perhaps, that neither of these able and distinguished Statesmen are blockheads like the average correspondent. Mr. Tilden of course never wrote any such letter.

**THE establishment of Postal Savings Banks** is again agitated. Are they necessary? Certainly not, unless there is a necessity to supply a stalwart demand of adding thousands of officials to our already superabundant supply of Federal officers. Scarcely a town in the country where a postoffice of any character is located, but there are institutions in which to make safe deposits for the earnings of the people, great or small.

## A Good Man Gone to Rest.

We are pained to see the announcement in the papers this week, of the death of Hon. Charles Mason, of Iowa. As a sincere friend and former official associate, no man living was so dear to our heart as this just, pure and noble man. He was a native of New York, and a pioneer in building up the State of his adoption, one of the few public men who lived emphatically a blameless life, whether as a private citizen or as a public official. But as a contemporary well observes Judge Mason was more than a pioneer of a State. "His reputation was national; he was a citizen of whom the whole country knew, and knew nothing but what was honorable and admirable. He was educated at the United States Military Academy, and, after graduating at the head of his class, was offered and accepted a professorship of mathematics at West Point, which position he resigned for the purpose of entering civil life and making the law his profession. Emigrating to Iowa, then a Territory, he was appointed to the chief justiceship, serving in that capacity for several years. Subsequently, upon the admission of Iowa into the Union, he was assigned by act of the Legislature to the important duty of codifying the laws of the State. Later in life he became well known throughout the country by his administration of the Patent Office, as commissioner of that bureau under President Pierce and Buchanan. In politics he always affiliated with the Democracy, and that party in Iowa testified its appreciation of his sterling qualities by more than once nominating him for Governor. Judge Mason had entered upon his seventy-seventh year at the time of his death. We retrace the long record of his public and private life without discovering a blemish. He was essentially an honest man, into whose mind the thought of corruption found no more entrance than conceptions of evil into the heart of a child; and passing as he does from the city of the living to the city of the dead, ripe with years and the characteristics of a blessed Christian life, he leaves a green and faultless memory in the hearts of all who knew him.

**THE President** created quite a sensation the other day, and to the astonishment of everybody, nominated Ex-Senator Conkling for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, recently made vacant by the purchased retirement of Justice Hunt. Various opinions are expressed as to the probability of his acceptance of the position. Some are positive that he will—that the appointment is made with his concurrence as an earnest of his desire to retire from political life; others, that by the appointment, he merely seeks that vindication he failed to obtain at Albany, and when confirmed by the Senate, will withdraw, or if he accepts, it will only be to await the chances for something else. But however this may be, few, if any, will question the excellence of the selection, or, apart from his stalwart prejudice and unscrupulous partisan methods, will doubt his honesty as a public man. During his long service in Congress his record is not stained by corruption, a fact as rare as it is true, of Republican leaders. Senator Hoar objected to the immediate confirmation which is usually accorded right who have been members of the Senate, without reference, making the charge that Mr. Conkling is not honest. The nomination was referred.

It appears that Mr. Beltzhoover's amendment to the apportionment bill to prevent gerrymandering in the formation of Congressional districts, was rejected and not incorporated in the bill, as we stated last week. That this just and honest proposition could not be accepted by a Republican Congress, is perhaps not remarkable, but its rejection is positively a disgrace and outrage upon decency and fairness.

**EVER** since State Treasurer Butler has been named as a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor, we notice that the Chester and Delaware county Republican newspapers are rabid in their denunciations of the Pennsylvania State College. They persistently call it "Gen. Beaver's Agricultural College." "Gen. Beaver's College." They make general and sweeping allegations that appropriations made by the State, and the income from the land script fund of \$30,000 per year, has been and is "being squandered to little or no purpose." That General Beaver is the Boss that rules the college and who squanders this money. They complain that the committee appointed to investigate these speculative theories, that exist only in the minds of a few Chester county people, and who originated these stories, will not report. They know very well that the committee cannot report until the meeting of the next Legislature, yet they keep a continual growl at the college, at Beaver, and at the investigating committee. They are like a set of little dogs barking at the moon. We have no interest in the matter beyond that of any other citizen of the State, and are willing to await the report of the committee, and shall accept its verdict as to the truth or falsity of the allegations made. What we condemn in this matter, is the perversity of these Chester and Delaware county papers in parading before the public these, as we believe, unfounded accusations at this time. It makes no difference to us whether Farmer Beaver or Farmer Butler makes the Republican nomination for Governor, as we expect the Democrats to nominate a man who will beat either of them, but the system of electioneering adopted by Butler and his Chester and Delaware friends to beat an honorable opponent, is base and unmanly so far as it drags in and does injustice to the college, whose affairs are under legal investigation as to the charges urged against its management, merely because Gen. Beaver happens to be chairman of the board of Trustees. It is dirty—it is contemptible.

**FIRST IN THE FIELD.** The Prohibitionists have nominated a full State ticket, including a candidate for Congressman at large. Their nominees for State officers are, for Governor, A. C. Pettit, of Lawrence county; Lieutenant Governor, Albion Williams, of Chester county; Secretary of Internal Affairs, Ezra Crossman, of McKean county; Judge of the Supreme Court, S. P. Chase, of Susquehanna county. Woman's suffrage seems to have received a qualified endorsement in the construction of the State Committee, which is composed partly of twelve ladies, among whom we notice the names of Mrs. McAllister and Mrs. Rynder of Blair county. This party are prompt year after year in presenting their candidate. Their advances towards success has not been very encouraging heretofore. But there is no telling what courage and perseverance may accomplish in the march of time.

It is announced that the special committee to whom the subject was referred, have agreed upon the compensation the Surgeons and others attending the late President are to receive. Dr. Bliss is to have \$25,000; Drs. Agnew and Hamilton, each \$15,000; Drs. Reyburn and Boynton, each \$10,000; Mrs. Dr. Edson \$5,000; Mr. Crumps, the steward, is allowed \$3,000, and the other employees of the Presidential mansion two months extra pay. Many of the items will be opposed, it is said, by Messrs. Springer and Blackburn, in a minority report.

**A REPUBLICAN** paper in Philadelphia believes its party is not suffering for its principles, but by the dry-rot of corrupt leadership. Very true, but the party has encouraged and profited so long by corrupt leadership, that grave doubts now exist whether it ever had any principles to suffer for.

**THE Pittsburgh Post** speaking of the Hon. James H. Hopkins, now a prominent candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor, says: "His public life has been honorable to himself and useful to the people. The fact of residing in a strong Republican county, has deprived him of active participation in public affairs; but in his one term in Congress from this district, and activity in the councils of the Democratic party of the county and State, he has developed high ability, a thorough knowledge of public affairs, and that sort of integrity and opposition to jobbery which should now be the great prerequisite of high station. In the executive office, Mr. Hopkins would be a careful guardian of the people's interests, and no alleged partisan necessity would ever induce him to traffic in the good name of the Commonwealth. We have not had many such Governors lately. Mr. Hopkins has none of the elements of the popularity-seeking demagogue. He is a man of careful professional training, with business habits of exactness and promptness. These command the respect and confidence of all who have been brought in contact with him. He is well known throughout the State, and if nominated we believe will make a strong candidate."

Mr. Hopkins will come into the convention with the unanimous endorsement of his own county, and most, if not all, the western counties of the State. At present the chances seem to rest between him and Mr. Pattison, of Philadelphia, with considerable leaning westward. Judge Trunkey, of the Supreme Court, is also named in the west with favor, but it is not probable that he would be willing to desert his present post of duty to canvass for the Executive office.

**THE Senate of the United States** have passed Logan's bill to pension and retire Gen. Grant with the rank and pay of a Major General, and for which several southern Senators voted. This wealthy national beggar is therefore to draw pay from the National Treasury during life, without performing any duty or rendering any equivalent, for it is not to be expected that the Radical majority of the House will fail to ratify it. It is an outrage upon decency and nothing in the world to justify it—a downright robbery to satisfy the cravings of one whose greed is unappeasable. If he could not get a third term of the Presidency, he will take the best thing his subservient stalwart contemporaries can flinch for him from the National Treasury.

**THE memorial service** in honor of the late James A. Garfield at the Capitol in Washington on Monday last, was an impressive and brilliant scene, and attracted perhaps the largest and most distinguished crowd ever assembled within its walls. Mr. Blaine, his late Secretary of State, was the orator on the occasion. His eulogy on the deceased President is published, but is too long for our columns at present. It is an eloquent tribute to the memory of the deceased President and will not discredit any previous effort of the distinguished speaker.

As evidence of the tender sympathy prevailing in the factions of the Republican party, the exclamation of the New York Tribune announcing the appointment of Roscoe Conkling as a Justice of the Supreme Court, is perhaps a fair sample. The Tribune says: "Guiteau has made a Supreme Justice as well as a President, and is not hung yet."

**JUDGE TRUNKEY**, of the Supreme Court, has filed a dissenting opinion in the Legislative salary case. He holds that the word salary in the constitution means a fixed round sum for specific service, and that the first section of the act of 1874 clearly violates the constitution.

## The Jefferson Club.

Chauncy F. Black in New York Sun.

Mr. Jefferson loved to see the people move in their primary capacity; the less they trusted to their representatives, and the more they trusted themselves the greater was the safety. These governments were theirs, "by the people and for the people;" they should manage them, and "eternal vigilance was the price of liberty." Accordingly, in every hour of peril he advised them to organize, to deliberate, to agitate, to come together in local societies, which, being connected by the ties of fraternal interest and correspondence, might pass the signals of danger from one to another, "like that shepherd's whistle which, sounding through the listening stillness of the night, gives warning that the wolf is upon his walk again." It was the voluntary local associations, the vigilance committees, the committees of correspondence, which lent the strongest impulse to the revolution, and it was the voice of the people rising in thunder tones through the many throats of the "Democratic societies" which struck terror to the hearts of the Federalists in 1800. The popular club is the chosen engine of liberty everywhere; and the Jeffersonian club, planted in every neighborhood, is the one thing needful to "rouse the people," as afore time they were roused by Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin. Shall we not take this leaf also from the handbook of freedom which comes down to us from the "author of the Declaration of Independence and the founder of the Democratic party?" As he lay dying on the 3d of July, 1826, his mighty intellect, half released from its embarrassment of flesh, reverted fondly to this system of popular machinery for the security of popular rights. Fancying the struggle again in progress he cried out, "Warn the committees!" and rising in the bed, he seemed to be tracing with eager but shrunken hand a dispatch to the embodied patriots. These were almost his last words. The next day being the fourth, and the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration, he passed away at high noon, and in the very hour of its adoption. When we shall have "waned," when his teachings shall have lost their influence, when his memory shall have ceased to be dear, the free institutions of America will be no more.

## The Republicans' Second Purchase.

The Republican organization of New York State have just followed the example set them by the Republican party as it is represented in Congress. In 1881, to pay for the vote of Senator Mahone, a Republican Administration virtually suppressed the Republican organization in Virginia to make certain the election of Mahone's candidate for Governor. Again, the Republican politicians were forced aside to make way for the election of a Repudiator to the United States Senate. Mahone alone held the control of all legislation, and he sold it for an astounding price, a Governor and a Senator.

In New York a few days ago the Republicans bought the control of the Senate from the Tammany men, who were elected as Democrats. They paid for it ostensibly by giving the controlling votes in the different committees to Tammany men, though the real pay is probably expected in offices far removed from the Legislature, and in the satisfaction of seeing Democrats shorn of their power of resistance to the machinations of Tammany.

The second purchase seems likely to turn out less profitable than the first. By the first, the Republicans openly allied themselves with repudiation, but they got what they paid for. By the second, they won over a treacherous lot of politicians who knew no party but their own interests, and the first exhibition of the bargain meets with an unexpected resistance. Some young, but astute, Republicans evidently think that openly carrying out a bargain with traitors from another is not a good thing. They say they won't have it. The old members of the party who made the agreement shall not be allowed to carry out their part of it, and the disappointed Tammany strikers must get their living outside of the Republican lines.

Whatever the result of the deal, it will have one wholesome development. Hereafter the Democratic voters will know as well as the Republican managers have known heretofore, that John Kelly is no more interested in the success of the Democratic party in New York than was Mahone in Virginia.—New York Sun.

## The Western Floods.

A telegram from Cairo reports that the Ohio and Mississippi rivers have fallen five inches since Sunday night, and it was hoped, although a light rain had set in, that the worst was over. Several hundred men were kept constantly at work strengthening the levees. Advice from Memphis report the river at that point at the highest mark reached this season, and rising slowly. The flood in the Laconia circle is increasing, and great destitution prevails. Along the White river bottoms, in Arkansas, the water is from two to four feet deep, and there have been heavy losses of stock. Great alarm was felt at Helena, where a further rise was expected. A telegram from Vicksburg says there are breaks in the Catfish Point and Kentucky levees, which will flood portions of Bolivar and Washington counties. The governor of Arkansas reports 5,000 people needing food in the flooded counties of that state. One hundred thousand rations were ordered by the war department to be forwarded from St. Louis yesterday to Arkansas and Mississippi.

## Discussing a Party Break-Up.

SOME OF THE REASONS WHY PRESIDENT ARTHUR IS MAKING PROGRESS SLOWLY. Washington Politician in New York Sun.

"Grant is about the stiffest party man there is. He connects his career with the Republican party and hold fast to it. Nevertheless he is not oblivious to the philosophy of time and events. He will not object to a new deal, since it is Blaine who proposes. Logan has some advanced ideas. Like Blaine, he believes in a new era and is not averse to it any time nor disinclined to believe it may come sooner than some think. Some curious complications as to this may be disclosed before long. But for the present Logan is not disposed to pooh pooh the idea of a new deal, albeit he is not exactly in rapport with Arthur in some important respects."

"Whose influence dominates Arthur?"

"Well, it would not be right to say any one's does, but Conkling's counsel is soonest listened to. Between the two friends there is an indissoluble bond. Go ahead and do as well as you can," said Conkling to Arthur, a few days after Arthur had taken the oath. "You have a hard task before you. I know you would prefer yourself back in quiet life in New York, but there is no escape. All the good I can do you shall be rendered, but leave me out of your list entirely. I can take nothing. Let that be considered settled." So it was and has been ever since. Conkling, as I have said, believes there is going to be a chance, if not a break-up. You see some evidences of it in New York even now. Small streams produce great rivers. Right here in Congress evidence is not wanting that what has been predicted may prove true. At present Arthur has the Republicans solid, but he has the spoils; and let me remind you those who would run away after they obtained them will not get them. To make sure of this takes a good deal of Arthur's time."

## The Fitz John Porter Case.

There is no divided sentiment in the country, outside of a few distrustful politicians and several incompetent Generals, as to the duty of the government in the case of Fitz John Porter.

It is now the settled judgment of the nation and of the world, that Porter was the victim of a tide of passion started by the jealousies of military imbeciles, and it is no time to higgie over the question of dollars and cents. He has been wronged, and prompt restitution, with all that restitution logically and lawfully carries with it, is the scantiest measure of justice. It is to be expected that such Generals as Pope and Logan will oppose Porter's restoration to honor and command must be as a perpetual reproach upon Pope's incompetency and integrity and a perpetual reproach upon Logan's manliness as a soldier; but the nation can't pause in the exercise of justice to parley with the Papes and Logans of the day. They represent only the imbecility and bigotry of the army and the disreputable elements of politics.

The President should promptly exercise the power conferred upon him to re-nominate Porter to his proper rank in the army, and thus prove to the world that justice is yet one of the darling attributes of the Republic. Whether it shall give Porter one thousand or one hundred thousand dollars is of little moment, compared with the delay of justice to a most grievously wronged citizen and soldier. Whatever is lawful, is right; and let the law fulfill the clear demand of justice in the case of Fitz John Porter.—Philadelphia Times.

**NOWHERE** in the country is there more need of young blood in the councils of State governments and the representatives in the National Government than is now felt as a necessity in the south.—Harrisburg Telegraph.

Well, now, suppose we pursue a liberal policy towards the south and send her the young blood she stands so much in need of. There is that well-known "young blood," Simon Cameron. He is out of business just now, having retired at a quite too utterly early age in order to give Don's powerful intellect a fair chance to expand. We might send him down in the perfect assurance that the south could not heat a stove hot enough to deter his young blood from laying hold of it. Then there's Galusha A. Grow, another of our young bloods. He is out of business also, through no fault of his own, and the man who does not credit him with patriotism enough to be willing to shed his young blood as United States Senator from a southern State, does not more than half know him. George V. Lawrence is another frisky young blood who might be spared, and if George Lear is old enough to be wise enough he might go too. John Cosens, who is just out of his teens, might join the procession, and if Bill Kemble isn't so good as to make it certain that he will die young, he would be a great "addition." John J. Patterson is another of our young bloods who is out of employment at present. He gave the south the benefit of his young blood at one time when he rose to high honors, and there can be no doubt that if he were to go again he would attain still higher honors—if the rope didn't break.

We need not give more names. The Telegraph knows our young bloods even better than we do, and if it will just work away at this matter it may accomplish great things for the south and provide employment for our unemployed *accoucheurs d'industrie*.—Carthage Volunteer.