

The Centre Democrat.



SHUGERT & VAN ORMER, Editors.

"EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL MEN, OF WHATEVER STATE OR PERSUASION, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL."—Jefferson.

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S. T. SHUGERT & J. R. VAN ORMER, Editors.

Thursday Morning, May 18, 1882.

CONTEST ENDED BY DEATH! James O. Smith, the contestant for the seat of Representative Sheeley for the Fourth Alabama district, died in Washington on Friday last of pneumonia after a short illness.

THE Supreme Court of the United States have sustained the proceedings of the Court Marshal in the case of Sergeant Mason for shooting at Guiteau. The President and cabinet are considering the propriety of granting a pardon.

GEN. BEAVER in his speech declared that he had but "little political experience." That is true. But that "little experience" got him the "306" medal, and an order of the machine boss for his nomination for Governor. His experience will probably be greater before next December.

THE Pittsburgh court house has been destroyed by fire. By great exertion, most of the records and archives and law library were saved. The building originally cost \$200,000, and many thousands have since been expended on improvements. Insurance \$50,000.

THE HON. EDWARD M'PHERSON has been retired by the stalwarts from the Secretaryship of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee. D. B. Henderson, of Iowa, is his successor. Don hits hard when he strikes a foeman of the ring. Edward has felt it before.

THE Dauphin county court last week wrecked the death-rattle insurance companies at a fearful rate, having revoked one hundred and thirty-five of their charters. The days of speculative insurance in Pennsylvania are ended, and aged decrepids may now hope to die in peace when called for.

THE committee on appropriations have reported the annual bill for pensions. The aggregate amount appropriated by the bill is \$100,000,000, being the exact amount recommended in the estimates submitted to Congress. The appropriations for the same purpose for the current fiscal year was \$50,000,000, and it is estimated that a further appropriation of \$20,000,000 will be necessary to complete the service for that period.

THE following Democratic ticket arranged and handed us by a prominent and live Democrat of Bellefonte, so fully commends itself to our own views of fitness and excellence, in the ability of the men named and the purity of their records, that we adopt it as our "slate" for the consideration of the Democratic Convention.

For Governor—JOHN TRUNKY.
For Lieut. Governor—Gen. W. H. H. DAVIS.

For Supreme Judge—JAMES R. LUDLOW.
For Sec't of Internal Affairs—J. SIMPSON AFRICA.

For Congressman-at-large—JAMES H. HOPKINS.

With such a ticket Democracy can sweep the state, and triumph in the knowledge of giving to it a pure and honest administration in all its departments.

THE river and harbor appropriation bill is completed in committee, and will be reported at an early day. It appropriates about \$15,000,000, of which \$4,500,000 is for improvement of the Mississippi river; about \$5,000,000 for the improvement of the Delaware river and its harbors in Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey. Of the Pennsylvania rivers, Schuylkill river gets \$25,000; Allegheny river gets \$150,000; the Susquehanna river \$15,000, and the Susquehanna above and below Havre de Graco \$25,000. Nothing for Kiskiminitas, Harry White not present.

SENATOR MITCHELL steps boldly to the front and declares his purpose to oppose the election of the machine Republican ticket just placed in nomination. In an interview the other day. Mr. Mitchell said: "It is not men that the independents are contending for—it is principle. The ticket is as strong a Cameron ticket as could be selected. I do not particularly object to the men. The independents in Pennsylvania are not making war upon persons. They have not even claimed the right to initiate nominations; they asked only that men whose antecedents and character would make sure the suppression of machine methods, bossism and the spoils system in Pennsylvania, should be selected. They demanded that works shall be added to the profession of faith to which the stalwarts' committee said amen at the late conference. For bread they are given a stone. Their declaration of principles was laughed to scorn in Cameron's convention. It was robbed of its practical effect, even upon future party control, by eliminating the clause which requires the representation at state conventions to be based upon the republican vote of each county. It is also vitally stabbed by leaving the right to vote at primaries to be regulated by county committees at their will, when they generally have no will but that of the imperial head of them all."

With the exception of Marshall, the ticket was selected months and months ago. Even Mr. Rawle says Cameron gave him his nomination as a Christmas gift. The gift is one of genuine quality and intrinsic fitness and value for its setting, but all self-respecting republicans, as well as independents, in Pennsylvania, must deny the right of Mr. Cameron to select and make it for them, or they deserve ever after to be political slaves. Under the feudal system certain classes of men were called vassals regarding the lord of the fee, but they wore his collar as a mark of their bondage, and they passed with the land to which they were appurtenant when it was sold. They had no freedom as men, and no choice even of their masters. For myself, I propose to stand free from such restraint in politics."

It appears that Ex-Treasurer Butler was not present at the Cameron convention last week. He was a candidate for Governor, but finding that the Boss set-up was final and irrevocable, had withdrawn his name and being at home on his farm in Chester county, was only apprised at a late date that he had been slated for Congressman-at-large. On learning the fact he immediately telegraphed the Chester delegation his declination, but they failed to present it and allowed him to be slaughtered. Mr. Butler's course seems to have been straight forward and honorable, and he has good reason to complain in being set up for a place to which he did not aspire and then victimized so ruthlessly.

It is announced that Senator Mitchell and the Hon. Butler B. Strang will be colleagues to represent Tioga county in the Independent Republican convention, to be held on the 24th of May. The stalwart boss, as one of his sly movements sought to banish Strang to Dakota as Marshal of that Territory, but he wouldn't stay banished. He is one of the independent able men of the State whom the machine bosses cannot handle at pleasure.

GUITEAU TO HANG! It is announced in the Washington papers, that the District Court in banc have come to a conclusion in the case of the assassin. They have determined not to interfere with his voluntary martyrdom in the cause of stalwart supremacy, but allow the sentence of the court below to be carried to a final conclusion on the 30th of June.

The Republican Ticket.

The Republican State Convention met in Harrisburg last week and with the usual obedience to the mandates of the machine management, ratified the ticket selected by the Boss in the city of Washington some months ago as follows:

For Governor—James A. Beaver, of Centre.

For Lieut. Governor—William T. Davies, of Bradford.

Sec't of Internal Affairs—John M. Groer, of Butler.

Supreme Judge—W. Henry Rawle, of Philadelphia.

Congressman-at-large—Thomas M. Marshall, of Pittsburgh.

The nomination of Marshall was the only break in the machine program. It was a whirlwind smash at the tail end of the slate upon which was written the name of ex-Treasurer Butler. It was unexpected and cannot be accounted for only as a thoughtless unmeaning levity which became serious from its perversity, and is doubtless a source of dangerous annoyance to the chief boss, who would prefer the devil for Congressman-at-large to Tom Marshall. In another column we publish the speech of Gen. Beaver, with the platform.

THE platform of the Cameron Convention which we publish, affects to condemn the "use of patronage to promote personal political end." This in the face of the fact, that the entire patronage of the President was placed at the disposal and used by Senator Cameron to secure the ratification of the machine ticket selected in Washington months before. That "all offices bestowed within the party shall be on the sole basis of fitness," and that "competent and faithful officers shall not be removed except for cause." These three planks, so foreign to the party action, were of course only introduced and adopted by the boss convention to dazzle the simple—as a bait to catch gudgeons. They are part of the legacy of the late peace conference between the Independent and machine Republicans. In view of the late official changes in Pennsylvania, and the object and purpose of them, is it any wonder that they were received by the convention amid boisterous laughter and derision, as a rare joke—an unusual sharp trick to elicit the admiration of those members of the Republican party who begin to believe that public affairs should be administered for the public benefit by honest and capable officers—that those agents as servants of the people should be chosen by the people, and not dictated by a self-constituted boss to subserve personal ends in securing personal power and aggrandisement. Indeed the whole platform is a striking incongruity compared with stalwart methods, both of the present and in the past.

SENATOR MITCHELL'S back bone seems to be undergoing a process of strengthening. It is said he has decided that his future support of the administration in the Senate will depend upon President Arthur's recognition of him in connection with Federal appointments in Pennsylvania. With abilities incomparably superior to Don Cameron, fully equal to him in character and position, it has not been creditable to Senator Mitchell that he has allowed himself to hold a subordinate position to the stalwart boss, or to be treated with contempt by the stalwart President. He holds the power in his own hands, and he fails in justice to himself and the people he represents, if he does not exercise it. Let Mitchell be the man his capabilities warrant him in being, and he need not fear the tricks of Cameron, or a want of respect from his party or the people of Pennsylvania.

PENNSYLVANIA politics this fall will be quite lively, and of such variety as to suit all grades of opinion. We shall have five State tickets in the field, Democratic, Republican, Independent Republican, Greenback and Temperance.

PARTISAN or personal malice will make nothing out of the attempt to implicate General Beaver in any scandals connected with the management of the State Agricultural College in Centre county, and this may as well be understood first as last. General Beaver may not know much about farming, and he may not know how to preside over the affairs of an agricultural college, but no corruption in the management will be found sticking to his fingers.

We commend the above timely suggestion of the Philadelphia Record to the foolish persons who base opposition to Gen. Beaver on alleged mismanagement of the State College located in this county. We are not aware that any mismanagement exists in that institution or that its funds have been misapplied. Indeed we know nothing about it, and care as little for the personnel of its administration, and this feeling of indifference for anything we know, is mutually entertained. But we prefer to await the report of the legislative committee having the charges against its management under consideration, before saying anything particular on the subject. This, however, we do say without hesitation, that while we oppose the election of General Beaver to the office of Governor of this commonwealth because of the principles he avows and advocates, and the base political ring he serves to his discredit in a mad ambition for political preferment, we have no idea that his character will suffer reproach in any business relation he bears to the community in which he lives or to the college of which he is a director. The General has political sins enough to answer for, and now that he has undertaken to carry the banner of the Pennsylvania Boss ring of corruptionists and fraud, it is not necessary that he be loaded with falsehoods in connection with the college. His political connections and his own political rottenness as the representative of the duplicity and tyranny of the corrupt cabal whose obedient servant he now is, are open to just and deserved criticism. Apart from these, he is an honorable man and a gentleman, and will compare very favorably with those who condemn him in the face of the undeveloped investigation instituted by the clamor of jealous cranks or disappointed malignants.

THE bill creating a Department of Agriculture with several bureau attachments, has passed the House of Representatives. Ever since the reorganization of the agricultural division of the Interior Department, and dubbing it "the department of agriculture" under old father Newton, each commissioner has been persistent in Congress to be declared a cabinet officer with an official seat at the council board of the President as a political adviser. Bills for this purpose have been introduced and discussed with more or less ridicule for twenty years past and defeated. Dr. Loring, the present commissioner, is no exception to the rule, but is likely to be more successful. It may be in the interest of agriculture that its official representative be dignified, and occupy a commanding position in public estimation, but just how that great interest is to be benefitted by dividing the duties of that official with all other interests as one of the political family of the President, is about as clear as mud and must remain for future demonstration.

A VERY large number of applications have been made for appointments on the Tariff commission created by the recent act of Congress, but no appointments have yet been announced. The Pennsylvania delegation have recommended Henry W. Oliver, Jr., of Pittsburgh, as a proper person to represent the protective interests of this State. The commission is to be composed of nine persons, three Senators, three Congressmen and three civilians, each to receive a salary of \$5,000 and expenses. They will travel to the different business centres of the country empowered to subpoena witnesses.

Washington News.

Special Correspondence of the Harrisburg Patriot.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16.—Judge Kelley, Mr. Randall and several other members of the ways and means committee to-day had an informal discussion on the senate funding bill, and decided to take the matter up for consideration on Thursday next. The majority of the committee are convinced that a three per cent. funding bill should pass in accordance with the recommendation of the national banks and other financial organizations. The difficulty which surrounds this matter, as Judge Kelley and others of the committee view it is that under the results of the present heavy taxation all the fives and sixes will be redeemed within three years. They therefore maintain that to make a three per cent. funding bill useful for national bank purposes, there should be a large reduction in tax and tariff lists, in order that bonds can have longer to run, and that without this it is useless to pass a funding bill. Congressman Randall and other members and senators interested in the tariff commission have had frequent interviews with the president concerning its composition. They suggested that no person should be appointed on the commission who was personally interested in any way in the subject matter of the inquiry, or would in his business be benefitted by the result of its labors. The president admitted this was a proper course to pursue and said he would endeavor in making a selection to be governed by that idea as far as possible.

Mr. Crapo told your correspondent to-night that the house had agreed to close debate on the bill to extend national bank charters at 2 o'clock to-morrow. Voting will then commence on amendments, and any debate arising will be confined to the five minute rule. He proposes that only two amendments be adopted and he may offer them himself. One of these would allow national banks with bonds for security for circulation to replace called bonds by other bonds and issue circulation equivalent to par, provided that bonds were at a premium of over ten per cent. in market. This is to prevent contraction of bank currency. The other is to equalize issues of circulation to banks so that all can take out ninety per cent. of their deposited bonds. Small banks can take out under the present law ninety per cent. of their deposited securities, while banks with over half a million capital can only take out fifty to eighty per cent. of circulation.

Mr. Page, chairman of the house commerce committee, says that the committee has considerable difficulty in determining its course now that the great work of the session, the river and harbor appropriation bill, is completed. The committee has decided, however, to commence on Friday with the interstate commerce bill and he said, with some degree of positiveness, "We will pass it and I believe it will be practically Reagan's bill."

General Harrison Allen, of Warren, is in the city. He is known here as one of the 306 and a Cameron delegate to the Harrisburg convention. He is presumably after his reward, but whether he will succeed or not is, at this writing, a matter of conjecture.

Senator Mitchell called at the white house to-day. He had a short conference with the president, the substance of which was a request for the withdrawal of the Jackson and Kauffman nominations. When seen by our correspondent a few minutes later he was very uncommunicative, and the presumption is that he met with very slight encouragement. Senator Mitchell leaves for his home on Friday morning next to speak at the mass meeting to be held in Wellsboro' the following evening. Senator Cameron intended bringing up Kauffman's case in executive session to-day, but agreed to postpone it until to-morrow, at Mitchell's request. Mitchell thinks Kauffman will be confirmed by about the same vote that Worthington had yesterday.

COLUMBIA county has appointed delegates to the Democratic convention instructed to support Judge Elwell for Governor, as the first choice, and S. T. Wolverton second.

The Lycoming county Democrats instruct their delegates to vote in Convention for S. T. Wolverton first and James H. Hopkins for second choice for Governor.

The Domestic Aspects of the Tariff Question.

E. S. Cox's speech in the House.

The little girl cannot play with her doll, nor the boy whiz his top, nor the mother wash her offspring with soap, except at an expense of from one-third to one-half of their cost for the domestic privilege. [Laughter.] If the mother gives her child castor oil, she pours down 148 per cent. ad valorem [laughter]; if the child does not enjoy the dose, there is a 25 per cent. bowl as the recipient of the contents of its tender stomach. And though she "wash it with niter and take to it much soap the inquiry is marked before me," saith the Lord, for the soap is taxed 40 per centum! God help the child!

Mr. Townsend, of Illinois—How about candy?
Mr. Cox, of New York—I am coming to that in a moment, my honey. [Great laughter.]

If she wraps the little dear in a plain bleached cotton night-shirt, it has a night-mare of 5½ cents per square yard, specific [laughter]; when the child awakes in the morning fretful she combs its little head at 35 cents ad valorem [laughter]; if she would amuse it, she rolls it over a Brussels carpet at 90 cents per square yard, or gives it confectionery made of refined sugar at 4 cents a pound tax and 25 per cent. ad valorem; if it tears its little panties, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Kelley) sews them up with spool thread (taxed at three-quarters of its value. [Laughter.] Why, if she used a shingle to bring the little "toddling wee thing" to its senses, as the honorable gentleman can recall, the cost would be enhanced at the rate of 17 per cent. taxation. [Laughter.]

If the youngster has a patriotic inclination on our Fourth of July, his fire-crackers are taxed as a patriotic luxury at \$1 extra a box, and the bunting which furnishes the flag, though but 23 cents a pound, costs 121 per cent. extra, while the band plays on instruments taxed at 30 cents. She takes him to the menagerie to study natural history. There is the zebra, symbolic of a mixed ad valorem and specific [laughter], and the stately giraffe, high protection [laughter], the royal tiger, and unicorn of Holy Writ at 20 per cent., and the procession of elephants, every one 20 per cent. True, Jumbo, for purposes not to be mentioned, is excluded by the affidavit of a consistent protectionist! But the log chain that holds his huge legs binds the monster in protective chains! [Laughter.]

Lawyer Pritchard's Keeper.

HE FALLS ASLEEP AND IS ROBBED OF HIS WARRANT BY HIS PRISONER.

ALTOONA, Pa., May 14.—Joseph Moss, Deputy Sheriff of Hamilton county, Ohio, arrested one, B. F. Pritchard, in the city of Washington on Friday, on a requisition from Gov. Foster, of Ohio, for uttering negotiable notes in Hamilton county to the amount of \$5,000. While en route to Ohio yesterday morning, the officer fell asleep, relying on handcuffs for the security of his prisoner. At some point between Harrisburg and Huntingdon the prisoner abstracted the requisition papers and warrant of arrest from the pocket of his sleeping guard, tore them up and telegraphed to Altoona to have the officer arrested for kidnaping. The Altoona police detained both of them and a lawyer proceeded at once to get out a writ of habeas corpus to secure the release of the prisoner.

While so engaged the officer hired a conveyance, and with the assistance of a Blair county constable, drove the prisoner out of town, intending to make the train again a few miles westward. Pursuit was given by the lawyer and another constable, and the parties were overhauled and brought back. The habeas corpus resulted in having the prisoner sent to jail at Hollidaysburg until Wednesday, the deputy sheriff promising to be back from Ohio by that time with the necessary papers from Governor Foster. Pritchard is a Washington claim agent of unenviable repute, and has been indicted for a similar offense in Miami county, Ohio.

The requisition on which Chief Justice Cartter surrendered Pritchard to the Ohio authorities stated that he had been indicted for uttering a forged note for \$300 on one Daniel Fritz, the note bearing date at Covington, Ohio, March 15, 1881. Pritchard had an office in the St. Cloud Hotel, Ninth and F streets northwest. Sheriff Moss left here with his prisoner late Friday evening.

Important Information Obtained as to the Dublin Assassins.

DUBLIN, May 13.—The government has issued a special proclamation offering a reward of £500 for information leading to the arrest of any one harboring the assassins of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke, or assisting in their escape. Persons harboring the assassins are liable to be sentenced to penal servitude for life. Information must be given within three months. It is believed the assassins are still in Dublin, their car having been traced to the city. The man Corvin, who was arrested at Belfast on suspicion of being the driver of the assassin's car, satisfactorily accounted for his movements and has been discharged. The police have found out the name of the man who drove the car containing the murderers. The name is stated to be Rush.

A dispatch from Cork says: "The government are in possession of information leading to important revelations. Three men have been arrested at a hotel here."