

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, June, 29, 1882.

Our Next Governor.

The Democratic convention, yet in session as we go to press, has just nominated ROBERT E. PATTISON for Governor. No better nomination could possibly have been made. Mr. Pattison has been regarded, and very properly so, as the inveterate foe of the machine—the ring—and the boss in politics. He has done more than any other living man to bring to light the immense stealing committed in the tax receiver's office, and by the gas trustees of Philadelphia.

He was the Democratic candidate for controller of the city in 1877, and in November of that year was elected by a majority of 1,963, and in November, 1880, was re-elected by 13,593 majority over a strong Republican, while Garfield, the Republican candidate for President, carried the city by a majority of 29,566 over Hancock. His election by so large a majority in a city so largely Republican, during an exciting presidential campaign, demonstrates very much more strongly than anything we can say, the great moral worth, personal popularity, high integrity, eminent ability and unimpeachable character of the man. He of all others is the man for the occasion. Free from the rings, machines and bosses, that have become so great a curse to the people of this State, he is at once in thought and practice a reformer upon whose actual worth the people can rely for the faithful discharge of all responsibilities they may put upon him.

The people of Philadelphia owe to him a great debt of gratitude; elected to the Controllorship, and taking upon himself the duties of the office, when every department of the city was filled with practical thieves, and was slimy with corruption, single handed and alone he commenced the great reforms that have since led to the entire reformation of city government from mayor to police.

We promise our readers a full sketch with some of the comments of the press of the state in our next issue.

THE Mahone-Arthur combination has not yet succeeded in coercing the independent Republicans of Virginia into the scheme to perpetuate power and plunder in the boss. They hesitate to accept slavery for themselves, for the mere purpose of strengthening the stalwart Federal administration at Washington, who sold itself to the repudiation boss to accomplish this end. The stalwart bosses are likely this year in Virginia as elsewhere, to have a realizing experience that there is an honest independent element in the Republican party controlled by principle more than plunder.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR is reported as having said, in substance, that government employes, who fail to respond to "my dear Hubble's" blackmail circular, need entertain no fear of being removed. This indifferent action will have little effect. What is wanted is an unconditional denunciation of the spoils system. That will never issue, by the way, from our emergency executive. He owes his individual political preferment to it, and is too well versed in the principles of Republican chicanery to thus array himself against the power and influence of the men who made him what he is.

The Campaign of Morality and Purity.

In our article last week on the morality and purity of the present campaign as laid down by the Cameron Republican candidate for Governor, we were compelled to stop at the point where the evidence showing the General's faith in Cameron and his belief in the political machine was given, we have therefore taken up and continued the article on the same subject: Beside all this General Beaver is as firm a believer in the boss, the power of the machine and ring in politics, as he is in the doctrines of Calvin in religion. In his speech at the Garfield and Arthur ratification meeting held in the Court House in June, 1880, in speaking of Arthur, the General said, "It is charged against Arthur that he belongs to the ring in New York. I see no harm in that, and my word for it, if he does he will be elected." The result of the election in New York is proof beyond cavil that the General knew whereof he spoke on that occasion.

Having now shown what Cameron Republicanism is, and that General Beaver believes in it, and endorses all that it is and means. When the campaign opens as it will before long, he will be assailed by the independent Republicans and Democrats alike for standing before the people and boldly declaring that this campaign means morality and purity, when in reality it means directly the reverse.

As we understand it the triumph of the Cameron ticket means a continuation of all the evil practices with which this great State has been cursed, especially for the last decade, a continuation of ring rule and the subjection of the people to boss. The triumph of the briber and corruptor of Legislatures and the success of "Pardon Board infamy." As before these and many other evils the boasted morality of a candidate who is the choice of the men who believe in and practice them, is but as a breath before the storm. If General Beaver with all these evils hanging upon him can make this campaign mean morality and purity, then anything no matter how foul, slimy, impure or unholy may be made to mean morality and purity. For many years the Republican party has boasted that it was the party of great moral ideas, and under this cloak there is no crime, in all the long catalogue of crimes that the party has not committed, from the credit moblier fraud to the steal of a hundred million only last week. To undertake to make the triumph of the very worst element of this party mean morality and purity is a task too monstrous for human comprehension. In his Towanda speech the General does not say that he never asked anything of Cameron, and if he means to be truthful he will not say so during this campaign.

A NUMBER of the leading Republican members of the House had a consultation on Friday last, to consider the question of a *sine die* adjournment. The conclusion reached was that the House could be ready for adjournment on the 10th of July, provided the Senate gets through its work.

It is said Senator Cameron has had no faith at any time of compromise with the Independents, but allowed some advances to be made in deference to the wishes of his friends. He is said to dismiss all idea of any future efforts to harmonize with the Independents, puts on the "war paint" and is making arrangements for a vigorous dash to crush out the rebellion against his authority. When Don fights he fights with vigor and generally with effect. This fall, however, he will have an unusually heavy load on hand, but the desperation of his fortunes will no doubt give impetus to his blows, as well as free circulation to his finances, personal and assessed, and the Independents need not hope for an easy triumph, even if they are not again whipped into traces.

Spoils!

The worshipers of the spoils system, that was so bravely grappled with by President Garfield and that furnished the assassin to restore the spoilsmen to power, the Phila. Times thinks, were never as insolent and defiant of public sentiment as they are to-day. The champions of that system howl their contempt and defiance at every friend of civil service reform, and the collectors of the party tithes state substantially in their orders to their dependents to stand and deliver, that President Arthur and the heads of departments approve of the systematic robbery.

Mr. George William Curtis and some other eminent Republicans, who believe in the honest practice of what party platforms profess, recently called the attention of the government dependents to the act of Congress forbidding government officers from collecting party assessments. It was a temperate, dignified presentation of the law, and asked that obedience to the law from officers of the government that is enforced among the people. To this sensible and obviously honest and proper suggestion from Mr. Curtis, Mr. Jay A. Hubbell, chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee, has answered Mr. Curtis with a degree of insolence that could come only from an utterly debauched worshiper of the spoils system.

Mr. Hubbell puts in the technical plea that he is a member of Congress and not an officer of the government, and he challenges Mr. Curtis to submit the question—not to any competent tribunal to decide the issue, but to the Attorney General of the administration that is publicly committed to the spoils system as the cardinal article of its political faith. It is possible that Congressman Hubbell is not an officer of the government within the meaning of the 6th section of chapter 287 of the United States statutes; but it is none the less the truth that he is one of the law-makers who enacted that law for officers of the government, and common honesty and common decency, if not legal power of the law, should make him respect the statute alike by precept and example. There can be no more insolent teaching of contempt for law than for a law-maker to issue to government officers a request, that is equivalent to a command, to disobey the plain spirit if not the letter of the law. It is simply the insolence of lawlessness intensified by the law-making authority of the Republic.

Nor does Congressman Hubbell stand alone in his ostentatious and insolent advocacy of the spoils system. Frank Hatton, First Assistant Postmaster General, and A. A. Freeman, Assistant Attorney General for the Post Office Department, have come to the front by public letters giving the broad seal of the administration in approval of the systematic robbery of all government officers for the benefit of professional politicians who live on party assessments, and for the pollution of the ballot. Both Hatton and Freeman are officers of the government and clearly come within the prohibition of the statute; but Hatton has tens of thousands of subordinates under him and Freeman has hundreds who must obey his suggestions, and they treat the law with open contempt and practically advise government officers and employes to repudiate it.

Had Assistant Postmaster General Hatton and Solicitor Freeman written public letters practically teaching contempt for the law of the government, when Garfield was in the Presidential chair, they would have been dismissed in disgrace; but the assassin came to clear the way for the spoilsmen by murder, and the teachings of Garfield are forgotten in the places of power, as the Stalwart shouts for the robbery of government officers and employes to debauch the civil service of the nation. It is idle to say that the responsibility for this insolence rests on Hub-

bell or Hatton or Freeman. It rests solely on President Arthur, and he and his Stalwart faction must answer to the people for this open, insolent contempt for law. The President of the United States is to-day the author of the spoils system that now, for the first time, declares itself as greater than either public sentiment or public law, and he and his party must meet the issue before an honest and outraged people.

THE REPUBLICANS claim that ex-soldiers should vote for General Beaver for Governor. Certainly they should if they desire to do so, and he now represents the principles of political government they desire to perpetuate, but not otherwise. He is now before the people as a politician, and whatever his merits as a soldier in former days, he is to be judged by the political principles he avows and the dark and turbid waters floating the boat in which he sails as the representative of the basest element of the Republican party, now falling to pieces by the corruptions and tyrannies and usurpations of that branch of it in which the General is immediately associated. That the soldier claim has no particular merit in political action has been attested by Gen. Beaver and his party on many occasions. Less than two years ago Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, a native citizen of Pennsylvania, was the Democratic candidate for President. He is supposed to be a soldier of some eminence and had rendered very valuable service as such to the country, but not representing the stalwart Republican party with which Gen. Beaver's fortunes are identified, he did not consider it incumbent upon him to vote for Hancock, because he was a soldier of merit and distinction, but preferred a civilian because he represented his political sentiments. In this Gen. Beaver was exactly right. He voted as a civilian to maintain those principles of civil government, which accord with his own views. The same privileges and the same duty is incumbent upon every soldier of the State who bore a part in its defence. If the fragment of the Republican party controlled by boss and ring methods, making law and the constitution subordinate to party necessities, meets the desire and approbation of soldiers, they may safely vote for Gen. Beaver. He is the standard-bearer of that element. But we trust our veterans will be governed by principle and sound common sense in selecting the party to which they desire to give prominence in the important election approaching, and not be governed by the silly claim to which we refer. It is not Gen. Beaver, it is not John Stewart, nor is it the Democratic candidate, whoever he may be, that claims consideration. It is the principles of the party they serve, and the claim each party has for sincere effort to correct existing abuses, promote reform and restore the administration to the plain methods of honest economic administration, dispensing justice and equal rights to all alike, not only to secure a full, fair and just representation of the people in their Legislature.

TO ACCEPT the utterances of Gen. Beaver, Attorney General Palmer, who thinks Brosius is the Moses for the occasion, Corporal Cooper and other stalwart politicians, one would be led to believe that everything is lovely for the Cameron ticket—that the demonstrations of the Independents is a mere byplay to be swept off whenever the bosses cease to be amused by the frolicsome gambols of the performers. Plays sometimes become serious, if protracted, and it now looks as if John Stewart and his associates have reached the serious point and "mean business." This is not a cheerful aspect of the situation for our esteemed friend, the General, and it is not surprising that he and his stalwart adherents are loath to receive it.

MESSRS. JOHN L. HAYES, W. H. McMahon and A. M. Garland, members of the tariff commission, says the Washington Post, have nothing to say when approached upon the tariff question. Alexander R. Boteler, however, ventures to give expression to his belief that after all a commission is the only way to settle such a vexed question. Mr. Robert P. Porter takes occasion to deny the charge that he represents special interests. He believes that much depends on circumstances, on the comparative state of industry and on the necessities of the consumer. "I will go into this investigation," said he, "with no interest save the good of the Nation and the elevation of American labor." Mr. Henry W. Oliver, Jr., thinks the commission "should follow closely the act under which they are appointed, and not forestall the action of the body by making public personal views in advance of its organization." The only one who talks freely is Mr. J. W. H. Underwood. He is in favor of raising a revenue to defray the expenses of the government and to pay the public debt in a reasonable time by duties on imports, which, in his mind involves the overthrow of the internal revenue system. As the present tariff was adopted when the national debt was large and the exigencies of the country required a great income, he thought a change should now be made resulting in a complete revision of the whole system. In his interview he puts himself on record as being opposed to a tax on tobacco and other products of the country. The ground for his opposition lies in his belief that the general system of internal revenue fosters monopolies.

THE assessments levied by the Congressional campaign committee upon the Federal officials and employes in Philadelphia at 2 per cent., will aggregate the sum of \$25,769.02, divided as follows:

Custom House	\$5,439.96
Navy Yard	6,725.21
Mint	6,423.15
Postoffice	6,206.75
Sub Treasury	649.95
	\$25,769.02

Add to this the assessments of the post offices, revenue offices, attorneys, judges and other Federal officials throughout the State, and the stalwarts have quite a sum to commence the work of corruption and fraud on the first levy. A large dividend of this will be claimed by the State committee for the exclusive use of the Cameron campaign. This *divy* and the personal assessments of the iron men by Cameron himself, will explain the character of the great fight the boss proposes to make for continued power and supremacy in Pennsylvania. The money bag is certainly a great power, but it is not equal to the virtue and intelligence of the people, when properly aroused, to the necessity of maintaining popular freedom and individual rights against the personal rule of a bloated self-constituted master and usurper.

GENERAL BEAVER'S vaunted popularity among the masses of Republican voters is a myth. Nine-tenths of the instructed delegates who voted for him at Harrisburg, represented counties in which the Republicans are in a hopeless minority. The appointment of delegates in most of these districts was, therefore, merely a matter of form; only the work of a few of the leaders. This kind of support rushing into the Beaver column sickened the representatives of other parts of the State, wherein is expected to be polled the vote that is to elect. If our friend is really in earnest in his statement that he verily believes himself to be the choice of the Republican suffragists of Pennsylvania, why does he not suggest a new convention of delegates, properly instructed at a primary election? This would place him, if they chose to endorse his candidacy, beyond the limits of a regular ring political prize fight and steal from the Independents their tenable only ground.

THE army worms have made their appearance in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, Delaware and Maryland, and are very destructive to the growing crops. Considerable alarm is felt in the visit of these destructive pests. They move in large bodies with the regularity of veterans, and carry destruction to every field they attack.

SENATOR CAMERON, fearing the assessment process of taxing government officials, adopted by the Congressional campaign committee might be too slow and fail in obtaining sufficient funds for present emergency, has in his capacity of boss, assessed the eleven Bessemer steel companies of his ranch \$1,000 each, with warning to prepare for future orders.

It is expected that a very lively contest will occur this week in Congress over the funeral expenses of the late President. The extravagant and shameless allowances to physicians and others connected with the case, will undoubtedly be sharply resisted, but the surplus in the Treasury is very attractive to robbers, and the present majority do not seem disposed to place any restraint upon their raids. The bills will of course be paid.

THE medical cranks are now in motion appealing to the President in the interest of Science for a respite of the execution of Guiteau. They claim that he is a confirmed lunatic and ought not to be hung but confined for life at hard labor. They propose to prove this on the most Scientific principles, if allowed time to do so, and for this purpose ask the appointment of a Scientific expert commission. Guiteau obtained notoriety by killing a President, and why should not the medical cranks seek notoriety in saving the assassin in a Scientific way.

THE Cameron Republican convention re-assembled at Harrisburg on Wednesday of last week, to repair the broken tail of the boss ticket. John Wanamaker having declined to permit his name to be used as a candidate, the choice fell upon Mariott Brosius, of Lancaster, for Congressman-at-Large. To the question so frequently asked since the adjournment of the convention, "who is Brosius?" Gen. Beaver has answered in an interview, "I am acquainted with him and am satisfied." That's enough. The boss didn't care.

THE New York Globe, an exponent of the interests of the colored race, and a paper of great political sense, will not regret to see "the power of the Cameronian idea nipped in the bud." Considering the stalwart growth of the Cameronian idea, "nipped in the blossom" would have been better, but it's not worth while to be hypercritical about metaphors. The Globe disguises its opinions in no equivocal terms. It says: "If the Republican party proper is to crush out the full and free expression of the popular voice, then it is better that it should be curbed now, before it develops into an evil too consequential to be handled effectively." And then, with the infamies of the reconstruction era at the south rising vividly to its recollection, the Globe adds: "The carpet-bag governments were modeled after the Cameron fashion." Of all the criticisms and animadversions which have been heaped upon "machine" rule in this country, nothing rougher than this has ever been spoken of the "bosses." At the same time, when we come to look at it, nothing is more true. The carpet-bag idea and the Cameronian idea are both based upon the same degrading principle—that all power resides in the leaders and that independence of thought is a forbidden heresy to their followers. The analogy is perfect, and the only consolation to be derived from it is that being alike, the same inglorious fate which overtook the one must sooner or later overtake the other.