

# 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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## The Centre Democrat.

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

Thursday Morning, September, 7, 1882.

### Democratic State Ticket.

FOR GOVERNOR,  
ROBERT E. PATTISON, of Phila.

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,  
CHAUNCEY F. BLACK, of York.

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT,  
SILAS M. CLARK, of Indiana.

FOR SECRETARY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
J. SIMPSON AFRICA, of Hunting'g.

FOR CONGRESSMAN-AT-LARGE,  
MORTIMER F. ELLIOTT, of Tioga.

### Democratic County Ticket.

FOR CONGRESS,  
Hon. A. G. CURTIN, of Centre,  
(subject to the decision of the District Conference.)

FOR STATE SENATE,  
Hon. C. T. ALEXANDER, of Centre,  
(subject to the decision of the District Conference.)

FOR ASSEMBLY,  
HENRY MEYER, of Miles,  
B. F. HUNTER, of Benner.

FOR JURY COMMISSIONER,  
J. H. TOLBERT, of Walker.

FOR CORONER,  
H. K. HOY, M. D., of Bellefonte.

### The Democratic Platform.

The Democratic party of Pennsylvania, holding fast to the faith that all power not delegated by the Constitution is reserved to the States and the people; inviolable the sanctity of personal liberty, the security of private property, and the right of local self-government, demanding honesty and economy in the administration of government and the enforcement of all the provisions of the Constitution by the Legislature and the Courts of the Commonwealth; declaring against monopolies and in sympathy with labor seeking protection and control in the industrial interests of Pennsylvania at all times, do solemnly protest against evils which the policy of the Republican party and the impotence of its long possession of office have thus brought upon the country, therefore,

First—We do protest against what is called the boss system, and also the plundering of officeholders by assessments of money for political purposes. Public offices are the property of no party, but are open to every citizen who is honest, capable, and faithful to the Constitution, qualifications which Jefferson declared were requisite for office.

Second—We protest against the spoils system. It is a prostitution of the offices of the people so that they become the mere perquisites of the politicians, and it is dishonorable and destructive of that public morality upon which are founded the existence and perpetuity of our free institutions. It should be abolished, and the political party that aids it and abets it with office desecrates public condemnation.

Third—We denounce spoliation of the State Treasury and immunity by pardons of those convicted of crimes, whose acts were flagrant subversions of official trusts and wrongs done the people.

Fourth—We believe the Republican party, as now organized and controlled, is based on fraud, force and corruption, and there can be no hope of true reform except by the force of the ballot box excluding it from place and power.

Fifth—The Democratic party demands of the Legislature an honest just, and true apportionment.

Sixth—Upon these declarations we invite the co-operation of all honest citizens who wish us to desire the re-establishment of honest government.

"IN HOC SIGNO VINCES."

SECRETARY FOLGER, of the Treasury department, speaks out like a little man. He says if he gets the nomination for Governor of New York he will accept.

The Independent Republicans of Maine have established a newspaper at Portland in the interest of liberal principles and honest politics in opposition to the boss machine management so prevalent in the Republican party.

KELLOGG AND ACKLEN are opposing candidates for Congress in Louisiana. They both have unsavory records, and it would not be at all distressing to the country if some decent third man would start up and retire both.

The Republicans are highly disgusted with the fusion of Greenbackers and Democrats in Maine, but quite satisfied with Republican co-partnership with Readjusters in Virginia and Greenbackers in Missouri, Texas and other States.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston Herald has had shown him by "an ex-confederate Virginia readjuster" the assessment papers served on him up to date. The unfortunate employe's salary is \$150 per month. First, his exchequer was reduced \$30 by Jay Hubbell's little two per cent. Then came Mahone's No. 1, for three per cent. \$45. Next his congressional district committee modestly requested the trifling sum of \$22.50, or one and one-half per cent., and this was shortly followed by an intimation from the county committee to the effect that a voluntary contribution of \$10 more would be quite acceptable. The last was Mahone's No. 2, for \$100, to be paid on or before October 15. The total is about fourteen per cent. of the clerk's yearly salary—\$207.50 in all.

### Organization of Posts, G. A. R.

We learn there have been organized in this county since May last, six or seven G. A. R. posts. This unusual activity of organization at this particular time, gave rise to suspicion that the order was being used improperly, probably thoughtlessly, in politics. In the Post, neither by word or deed is politics approached or allowed, but the members who go from place to place to organize new Posts, we are informed, carry with them blanks, with printed headings, which contain a pledge to support and vote for General Beaver for Governor. These pledges are industriously circulated before the organization of the new Post begins and every possible effort made to get old soldiers to pledge themselves to support and vote for General Beaver by signing the papers. To induce some to do so the argument is used that it is a mere formality and without stopping to think the unwary are caught. The truth is, that all summer the members of Gregg Post have been used thus to advance the interest of the Stalwart candidate. We have no objection to the men who belong to this organization individually supporting Gen. Beaver if they think they are right and agree with him in politics, but when they use the organization under cover of extending its usefulness as an engine to advance the political ends of a particular candidate, no matter to what political party he may belong, they are stepping beyond the bounds of the organization and are building a road which will lead very soon to its entire destruction. We are informed that what is here complained of, has been done wherever a new Post has been organized during the summer, and we mention it to put old soldiers who believe honestly in the usefulness of the organization, on their guard, that they may not be drawn into pledging themselves to support candidates they would not otherwise touch or vote for under any circumstances.

The thieves of the Philadelphia Almshouse have come to grief at last. For a number of years they have been suspected of carrying on an extensive system of robbery by the connivance of the officials and contractors selected to furnish supplies. A conscience-stricken contractor named Matthews, now discloses the villainy. Major Phipps, the Superintendent, was arrested and held to bail in \$5000 for hearing, but failed to appear, and his bail was forfeited. The depredation of these scoundrels are known to be heavy, reaching up to several hundred thousand dollars, and is the outcrop of the boss ring politics prevailing in that city, and which Pattison and the Committee of One Hundred have been so earnest in exposing. The pursuit of the Almshouse thieves has only commenced and is not likely to end until a number of favored ring politicians are safely lodged in the Penitentiary. The detectives are on the track of the absconding superintendent who is believed to be in New York watching his chances for a European voyage.

WHAT is called the "Shoestring District" in Mississippi, from which Chalmers, after cheating the negroes out of their votes, was returned to Congress and kicked out by the Republicans, is now the Republican candidate begging the negroes to vote him in again, is composed of twelve counties stretched along the Mississippi River 300 miles. It is said the demagogue will have more trouble to cheat the negroes to vote for him now than he had to defraud them on the former occasion. "My dear Hubbell" is his backer this time—with voluntary contributions from scrub women and waiter boys.

MR. HENDRICKS says the Democrats will carry Indiana. Mr. Harrison says they will not. Mr. Dorsey not being present and his star route barrel needed for other purposes, we are inclined to believe Hendricks.

### DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR SUPREME JUDGE.



SILAS M. CLARK, of Indiana.

THE Washington correspondent of the New York Sun has been making a tabular estimate of the relative strength of parties in the next Congress with the following result: Democrats, 179; Republicans, 139; and Independents 7. The official return may vary the figures some.

CHAIRMAN HEATH of the National Labor party has addressed letters to the chairmen of the Democratic, Republican and Independent State Committee, challenging them to select one or more persons from each organization to meet speakers whom he will name, jointly to discuss the principles of the respective parties throughout the state.

GENERAL BEAVER is credited with the declaration that if elected Governor he will not be controlled by the bosses. Well, we hope that declaration will be ratified if this misfortune fall upon the State; but it is somewhat strange that the bosses should set up a candidate and press him for election, to disregard them when elected? It is not their usual method of doing up that kind of business.

THE New York Times refuses to be comforted by the assurance of the sanguine Republican candidate for governor in Pennsylvania, of 50,000 stalwart majority, and expresses a belief that the chances of Republican success in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Maine, are very gloomy. The impressions of the Times are more than prophetic. This is a year for Reform and bad for boss-machine politics.

CONGRESSMAN BAYNE, of Pittsburg, whom Boss Cameron and the Administration had doomed for defeat, has carried his district for nomination by a large majority over Christy his stalwart competitor. This is the boss' first experience before the people against an Independent congressman who dared to antagonize him and act upon his own convictions of duty. It will probably not be the last, and that he and the administration will be wiser at the close of the campaign. The contest generally in Allegheny shows that the Independents are no mean factors in determining results.

THE two Republican candidates for governor of Pennsylvania are actively in the field, but have not yet come together to discuss the issues that divide their adherents into factions. Stewart it appears, devotes himself to argument and the questions involved in the campaign. Beaver avoids them, and puts in the time in hand-shaking and familiar remarks upon the weather observing, as far as possible, the injunction of Boss Quay, "Dear Beaver, don't talk." Boss machine politics is undoubtedly a case in which there is "wisdom in silence" on the part of those who represent them and our friend, the General, has caught it.

THE Stalwart machine ticket in Philadelphia will probably lose two or three hundred of their usual fraudulent votes by the exposure of the pauper thieves in the Almshouse, and the flight of Phipps, the worthy agent of the bosses.

CALKINS, the Keifer and Robeson Chairman of the election committee of the House, has been nominated for reelection in Indiana. Of course Republicans cannot dispense with the services of Calkins in cases where large majorities are to be ignored in order to seat Republican Congressional tramps, without character or merit.

WHEN the question of the endorsement of Armstrong, the Greenback candidate for Governor, was under consideration in the late Labor Convention, a delegate representing the "Shoe Cutters Beneficial Association" rose and delivered a short, sensible and significant speech. He said: "I believe that honest and executive ability are the best security that a candidate will, if elected, deal justly with the workingman. Knowing this, I vote here as I will vote on election day, for Robert E. Pattison for Governor."

THE issues involved in the present political campaign are too important and too plainly marked to fail to meet the candid consideration of the people of Pennsylvania. The reckless waste which has characterized our public administration; the disregard of law and fairness which has so largely entered into the measures of choosing its agents and representatives under the rule of Boss machine politics, has long called for the correcting hand of the power whose edict cannot be disregarded. It is in the interest of this needed reform and economy; of fair elections and a just responsibility of official agents; an honest application of the public moneys to the public services without supernumeraries to "eat out the substance of the people" that the Democratic party have brought to the front candidates of known ability and well attested honesty, pledged to the best of their ability to correct the abuses and irregularities so rife and demoralizing to public morals. Mr. Black, the able and accomplished candidate for Lieut. Governor, in his late speech said: "The battle now to be fought is not one for mere partisan victory; its object is the reform of the State government in all its departments and clean hands only must be put to the work. The nomination of the gallant Pattison—the stainless young leader, who stands at the head of the reform column in Philadelphia, means precisely that and nothing else. Like the Black Knight of old, come to restore the rightful sovereign to his own, this bold tribune of the people, will be found thundering at the gate of the ring citadel, battle-axe in hand, and when he makes his lodgment within, the 'black flag of the bosses' will be displaced by the purest political banner that ever floated on any breeze. Our Republican friends shall have no reason to complain of us. If we do not give them what we promise, an absolutely pure and honest government—they have the power to turn us out, and all decent citizens will help them to do it. But there is little danger of that. They tried Pattison once, and instead of finding reasons to part with him, they discovered many powerful reasons for adding thousands of Republican votes to his previous majority."

THE Philadelphia Times speaking of the endorsement of the Greenback candidate for governor by the late Labor Convention, intimates that a formidable revolt from the action of that body will be developed at an early day. There has been no cordial response, says the Times, from the Trade and Labor organizations to the action of the Convention, making a State nomination in direct opposition to the proclaimed policy of the Knights of Labor. On the contrary, a number of the most trusted and intelligent Labor men of this city and elsewhere are now considering how best they can extricate the Knights of Labor from the false and probably fatal position they were apparently involved in by the nomination of a candidate for Governor. They have ten votes to one of Greenbackers, and they see that they are made to depart from their declared policy to serve a little faction of Greenbackers that has everything to gain and nothing to lose. They see, also, that the Cameron Bosses at once proclaimed their triumph in the trade and Labor Convention by forcing a State nomination, and that has intensified the opposition of the honest Labor people who mean, first of all, to give no aid, direct or indirect, to Boss monopoly. They accept the declaration of Mr. Chance, a delegate from this city, that the participation in politics dates the downfall of the Knights of Labor, and they will, at an early day, take positive steps to retrieve the blunder and rescue the Knights of Labor from the fate of all previous Labor organizations which were dragged into politics. A formidable revolt is now inevitable, and it will voice with emphasis the intelligence and integrity of the Labor people of the State.

### An Overshadowing Issue.

There were one hundred millions of surplus in the treasury and the Republican majority knew it and felt no restraint. Appropriations for all purposes were recklessly increased without apparent regard for the common interest of the whole people. The sum total of appropriations for 1883 is \$294,243,067, or \$77,532,621 more than for 1882, and over \$102,000,000 more than for 1881. The party which is responsible for this extravagance has already begun to make voluminous explanations, in the vain hope of lessening the matter and making fiction play the part of truth. But truth, like murder, "will out" and the people justly murmured at this outrageous raid upon the treasury. The majority had the power to shape the record of Congress. It could have prevented this assault upon the treasury had it seen fit. It chose rather to permit the gratification of personal aims than to protect the interests of the public. There is no earthly excuse for instance, for the increase of over seven millions in the appropriation for rivers and harbors, for there is an unexpended balance of four millions of last years appropriation for that purpose. But it is useless for the people to murmur. They must act. Members of Congress are public servants and when they fail in their duty their places should be filled by more competent and faithful men. The majority should be held responsible politically and the recreant members of the minority personally for the sins of this disreputable congress. Let them prepare to record a just and memorable verdict at the ballot box.

THE Louisville Courier-Journal, noticing the opening of the campaign in Maine by a number of Republican speakers, takes the edge off their disinterestedness by tabulating the political salaries of the following fifteen: J. Warren Keifer, Speaker of the House; Charles Foster, Governor of Ohio; Fred Douglass, United States Marshal; Geo. B. Loring, Commissioner of Agriculture; Green B. Raum, Commissioner of Internal Revenue; Representatives Frank Hiscock, John A. Kasson, Benjamin Butterworth and J. R. Lynch; Senators W. B. Allison, P. B. Plumb, E. H. Rollins, Warner Miller, J. R. Hawley and William Windom; total compensation drawn from the taxpayers, \$74,000 annually.

### Not an Office Seeker.

MR. Pattison has pursued a dignified, manly course since his nomination, giving the same personal attention to the duties of his office that he had before his nomination for governor. He never sought the office for which he is now a candidate, and his actions since his nomination show him to be a believer in the doctrine that the people should be allowed to make their own choice from among the candidates in the field. The honor conferred on him by the Harrisburg convention did not turn his head or make him turn his back on the trust the people of Philadelphia confided to his care, and the good sense he has shown since he became the Democratic standard bearer has "won him golden opinions from all sorts of people." If he is elected governor, of which there appears now to be no doubt, it can be said with entire truth of him that the office sought the man and not the man the office.

THE return of revenue for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1882, which amounts to over \$400,000,000, reminds one of the historical anecdote of Blucher, who, when from the top of St. Paul's he beheld the vast city of London stretched out before him, exclaimed, "Mein Gott! what a place for plunder." The man who surveys the administration of our government might well exclaim: "My God! what a great nation for paying taxes." A nation of 52,000,000, with a standing army of only 35,000 men, with a navy that less than a year ago felt hardly ready to cope with the navy of Chili; with an interest charge of only \$80,000,000—in short, with an expenditure all told, (unless there are pension and river and harbor grabs) of not more than \$250,000,000—squeezes over \$400,000,000 of taxes out of the people annually. While in Germany, with a standing army of nearly a million men, a growing navy, an army of officeholders and an imperial court to support, the Germans actually grumble at being taxed and refuse to vote further burdens. Is it not time for the sovereign American people to put on the brake and to elect men to state office who, like Controller Pattison, have so discharged their trust that public debt, department expenses and tax rates have decreased every year?