

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, December, 7, 1882.

AMONG the novel sights to be seen at the National Capitol now, is the large number of headless trunks parading round the House of Representatives as members of Congress.

THE cabinet makers have not yet finally agreed upon the appointments of Gov. Pattison, and it begins to be seriously apprehended that the Governor will have to attend to this business himself.

THE Rev. Richardson, a prominent Methodist preacher in Washington, it is announced, made the defence of the Star-route thieves the burden of his Thanksgiving sermon. He is said to have been very severe upon the Department of Justice and the prosecution generally.

ATTORNEY GENERAL BREWSTER uses forcible but not inappropriate language, when he designates the Star-route thieves "the worst band of organized scoundrels that ever existed since the commencement of the Government." Since Richardson of the Washington pulpit has joined the band or at least become the defender of the innocent stalwart lambs, the Attorney General may perhaps, modify his opinion.

RUMORS come from Washington that a hostile meeting is about to take place between Senator-elect Riddleberger of Virginia and Page McCarty a correspondent, and that the combatants are under surveillance of the Chief of Police from Richmond. If the fools want to shoot at each other, why not? Why need the police meddle with the innocent amusement of the game-cocks.

CLAYTON M. MICHAEL, proprietor of the Philadelphia *North American*, has been appointed by the President, United States Marshall for the District of Columbia, vice Marshall Henry, the Star-route sympathizer recently removed. Col. M. Michael served on Gen. Hancock's staff during the war, is a gentleman of character and ability, and will restore the office to the standing it possessed in the social and State assemblies at the White House before the appointment of a colored man by Hayes and an "Ohio boor" by Garfield.

THE Methodist Conference in Texas has entered a vigorous protest against ministers deserting their ministerial calling to engage in secular employment. So great is the demand for business men in the "Lone Star State" and so strong the appeal to enterprise, that the church finds it difficult to restrain the clergy within bounds to sustain the church organization. Many of its brightest lights abandon their "divine mission" to embark in pursuits to swell their exchequers, in speculative enterprise.

WISE, of Virginia, who is certified by the Re-adjuster returning board, as Congressman-at-Large, elect, is also the United States District Attorney, finding that his seat is to be contested in Congress on the ground of shameless and extensive frauds has, *Wisely*, perhaps, concluded to investigate the charges himself as District Attorney. He therefore proposes that the Grand Jury of the United States go into the case at once, so as to afford him the opportunity to certify as a Federal officer that he is all right and his party pure as angels. The committee on elections in the next Congress might, however, have some doubts of the wisdom of this Wise movement and entertain proceedings to satisfy themselves as to the honesty of Mr. Wise's election, in which other parties in interest might be heard.

The Meeting and the Message.

Congress convened on Monday last, and were rapped to order by Speaker Keifer. After the report of the tariff commission and a few bills and resolutions were offered, the President's message was read. His recommendations in regard to the reduction of internal taxes are sweeping, proposing to retain only those on distilled spirits. His recommendations on the subject of civil service reform and assessments are very well and seem to favor the Pendleton bill, but after the abandoned profligacy of the late campaign in which he lent the whole patronage of the government to political desperadoes, like Mahone, Cameron and others of equal infamy, to enforce assessments through the Hubbell organization to bebauch elections, the recommendations are somewhat thin. On the subject of tariff revision, "so as to equalize the public burden among all classes and occupations," the enlargement of the free lists and "a substantial reduction" of duties upon manufactures of cotton, iron, steel, wool, sugar, molasses, and silk the message will startle the protectionists, and throw Judge Kelley into hysterics. The President evidently favors a "tariff for revenue only," but is willing to have discrimination "in the adjustment of details as to afford aid and protection to domestic labor." The message upon the whole is a creditable one, but lengthy, and we have no space for it at present.

THE Democratic party of Pennsylvania have for many years been speaking and writing and protesting against the rule of bosses and rings, but the Republicans only began to realize that they were degraded to the position of mere slavish followers, two years ago, when Wolf raised the standard of revolt, and declared that the rank and file of the "grand old party" were entitled to equal rights with Don Cameron and Matt Quay. A portion of the party sympathizing in these views, declared their independence, and have fought a creditable "battle of freedom." The bosses were wounded, in the encounter, but they are not dead, and it now remains to be seen whether the protesting Republicans will maintain their independence or accept the yoke and again submit to the Boss mastery. Don may tamper but he will not capitulate, and we expect to see him "next year" at the head of the Republican column directing its movements in the old rut, as lively as ever. He inherited the right to command the Republican Federals in the Cameron domain, and those who will not follow must leave, and identify their fortune with the Democracy, with whom bosses will not be recognized, nor rings tolerated.

THERE does not appear to be any striking evidence yet to sustain Judge Folger's prediction that Government securities would depreciate \$10,000,000 in the event of a Democratic triumph at the late election. The Democrats are supposed to have been somewhat successful, particularly in New York and Pennsylvania, and the only evidence to be gathered from the result thus far is that the people were not so easily deceived and alarmed as the Judge imagined when he made that declaration. These sensational warnings against the Democracy are becoming less potent every year, and now even a tariff scare is found insufficient to produce a ripple of excitement.

THE Supreme Court of the United States have decided that the title to the "Arlington Estate" embracing 1,100 acres opposite Washington in Virginia, which the United States have wrongfully held from the heirs of Mrs. General Robert E. Lee, must be surrendered. On this property, the United States have erected a Fort and established a National Cemetery, and will now be obliged to acquire a legal title to it by purchase of Gen. Lee's heirs, or by condemnation proceedings.

THE Harrisburg *Patriot*, says: "It becomes daily more apparent that the republicans appreciate the meaning of the result of the recent elections. The reforms demanded by the people are repugnant to the leaders, but these demands must be met even though it be by such a sham as was put forward by the republicans of the present congress in the bill for the reduction of the internal revenue. There are rumors, however, which are worthy of credence that at the coming session of congress an effort will be made to take the civil service bull by the horns. Some sort of a bill will doubtless be offered which will compel the democrats to retain the present republican office holders during good behavior. If the bill is not favored by the democrats the republicans hope to make capital for their party out of alleged opposition to civil service reform, and thus to array themselves on the popular side without any honest intention of carrying into effect what they profess. To attempt this sort of a scheme would make it appear as though the republicans had small hopes of controlling the offices in the future. The democrats have nothing to fear from such a policy. It will react upon the originators.

THE *Gettysburg Compiler* speaking of the "effigy business" to which we referred in our last, has this to say:

The Chief Marshal and committee indignantly deny that the effigy of Gen. Beaver was "brought before and approved" by them, and the *Star* owes it to truth to say as much. They did not know that such a thing was in contemplation by anybody, and had it moved from the line during the march. It was the desire of all the Democrats that nothing open to reasonable criticism should appear in the demonstration.

The "effigy" business has been very common with the Republican boys here—Seymour, Tilden and Hancock having been in turn so "disgraced." Surely Hancock of all others should have been spared upon a field he so gallantly defended; but he was not. Had the Republican committee "properly scrutinized" everything that went into their procession (in 1880) the "disgraceful" and "brutal" exhibition might have been rejected; not certainly though, because the Republican leadership hereabouts has for years justified acts aimed at Democrats that would have "disgraced" the "most grossly ignorant section."

Still it would have been unfair to hold the Republicans as a party responsible for the "brutal" act of a few foolish boys training with it—and we did not. The secret of the extra fuse nose being made lies in the desire of the local leadership to "solidify the Republican party." Cameron may kick them and cuff them as much as he pleases, all must be borne meekly, because "there must be union against the Democrats."

Democrats may rest assured that those who are now trying to heap unmerited dishonor upon them and the party will next year, and the next, be hanging about them for votes—and that there will be plenty of occasion for reminding them of the present outrageous attempt to manufacture party capital.

HONESTLY and justly should the law be executed. No present good or necessity of partisan policy can justify wrong doing by a party in power. There will be no need, because of the decisive Democratic majority, for the substitution of the non-elect for the elect, and, whatever the vices of Republican majorities when ejecting and seating members, the Democrats will not follow their unworthy example. It was the loss of moral character that lost Republicanism its protracted mastery of the country. Reformation in official morals is as indispensable as in practical political and partisan action. Republicans only ridiculed and despised Andrew Johnson because he constantly appealed to the Constitution and the laws. These have been violated shamelessly and set at naught until the people absolutely proposed, in condemning the Republican party, to condemn perjury. Hubbell was only the impersonation of vices which the country abhorred. Therefore the Democratic Congress, aside from its addicteedness to the philosophy of "strict construction," will obey the laws and interpret them with judicial and non-partisan fairness. Men will be given seats, in cases of contested elections, as the law and right and decisions of courts direct and not as partisan selfishness dictates. No such gross outrages will be practiced upon successful Republicans claiming seats in the House as Democrats have been forced to tolerate, and law and right, in obedience to partisan necessities, will not be violated. Democracy means the government of the people, and the people in recent action at the ballot-box have shown that they condemn knavery and will approve honesty.—*American Register*.

THE Wilkesbarre *Union Leader* of Friday last contains a timely and just editorial in favor of the appointment of the Hon. Charles R. Buckalew to the Attorney Generalship as the man conspicuous for the place and the occasion. The recognized ability, of this profound lawyer, added to his excellent public record, and his entire freedom from any connection with cliques or disreputable business, either in professional or political life, would point to him as one to fill the bill of an honest administration. Of the excellent men named by their respective friends in connection with this office, the choice of none would give more satisfaction and confidence, than Mr. Buckalew.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial*, a leading Republican paper, is not feeling at all comfortable over the fall elections and, says, "that while it does not follow that the Democratic party will elect the next President, another session of Congress like the last winter's performance would make the matter sure." "Last winter's performance added to the general corruption and disregard of the Constitution and laws which has distinguished the "grand old party" since 1876 and before, are now only being seriously considered and their enormity realized by the people. The result of this fall's election are only the first fruits of this consideration, to be followed hereafter by greater results in response to the popular word "change" which will float upon every breeze throughout the country in 1884.

THE New York *Times* pronounces the "machine" a hindrance rather than a help to the Republican party. It therefore insists that the party must be thoroughly organized. But how impossible this must be! There is a fixed and well defined class who make politics a trade. Office seeking is their sole occupation. They live by it. The rest of the community and its honest, respectable, self-sustaining, industrious class stand aloof from practical politics. These only vote and they do not even care to vote. How then, can the *Times* hope to change the leopard's spots? Reorganize the Republican party you may, but the same leaders will take charge of it, and the same "machine" will shape its action and morals. In confessing the absolute necessity for reorganization, the *Times* confesses the necessity for an impossibility and thus confesses the necessity for the inevitable dissolution of its party. Its mission was accomplished long ago. It has long survived its usefulness, as well as its honesty and good name. The *Times* is only at fault when it distinguishes the party from the "machine." They are inseparable, and, as the Siamese twins, they must die together.

Training of Indian Girls.

PROJECT OF THE LINCOLN INSTITUTION RECEIVED WITH FAVOR.

The proposition of Mrs. Johnne Bellange Cox, to train Indian girls in the Lincoln Institution of this city, is received with favor by the Department of the Interior. On November 23 Attorney General Brewster addressed a note to Secretary Teller, giving his testimony to the charitable work of Mrs. Cox and her associates of the Lincoln Institution, and recommending the project, which is to take from fifty to one hundred pupils and educate them at an expense to the Government of \$175 per capita per annum. Indian Commissioner Price, in a letter to Secretary Teller, wrote: "If this proposition could be accepted the money thus expended would, in my opinion, do more to break the prejudices of the wild Indians and open the door to their civilization than ten times that amount expended for subsistence and support. It is very important that the ratio of girls to boys now being educated here should be increased. The reluctance of the Indians to part with their girls might be overcome by these ladies, who agree to assume all the labor and expense of procuring the girls, except the traveling expenses of the pupils from their homes to the institution. This institution seems to possess exceptional advantages for the work it proposes to do, and the training given to the girls, and the influences thrown around them, would be of the very best.

No such arrangement, however, can be entered into unless a specific appropriation therefor is made. I therefore earnestly recommend that Congress be urged, at its next session, for to make a specific appropriation for this purpose of not less than \$20,000."

CONGRESS AT WORK.

Special Dispatch to the Patriot.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—The ways and means committee to-day declared in favor of the total abolition of the tax on tobacco in all its forms and a bill to that effect was submitted to the house. The vote stood six to five, as follows: Yeas—Messrs. Errett, Kelley, Randall, Spear, Carlisle and Tucker; nays—Messrs. Dunnell, Kasson, Hasell, McKinley and Morrison. The revenue raised from tobacco last year amounted to forty-three millions. Morrison said to-night that he doubted whether the bill would ever be reached but that it might be tacked to the bill pending in the senate for the abolition of the match and bank taxes, known as the "little joker."

The bill introduced by Mr. Kasson yesterday to regulate the civil service, and referred to the select committee on the civil service, will probably be reported without material amendment. It provides for examinations and periods of probation for all applicants and a tenure of six years without removal save for cause. It makes it a misdemeanor in government employes to make voluntary contributions political for purposes, and fixes the penalty at not more than a thousand dollars.

Senator Beck to-day offered a resolution calling on the financial committee of the senate to make a prompt and thorough investigation into all matters relating to the political assessment of government employes by the Hubbell and Mahone committees and the discharge of any made for nonpayment, and to report by bill in February next. The resolution went over under the rules and Senator George proposed a constitutional amendment permitting the president to approve or disapprove of single items in the appropriation bills.

WASHINGTON, December 4.—The second session of the Forty-seventh congress was opened at 11 o'clock. The desk occupied last session by the late Representative Updegraff was tastefully dressed in black and ornamented by a basket of flowers. In his opening prayer, the chaplain alluded feelingly to the deaths of Representatives Lowe and Updegraff.

The speaker then formally declared the session opened and the clerk proceeded to call the roll of members. The roll disclosed the presence 202 members. A resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of a committee to inform the president and the senate that the house was ready to proceed to business. The speaker laid before the house the report of the tariff commission and on motion of Mr. Kelley (Pa.), it was referred to the ways and means committee.

Mr. Cox (N. Y.), asked if this discharged the commission and upon receiving an affirmative reply remarked that he was very glad to hear it.

Some discussion was had on a resolution by Mr. Kasson, of Iowa, granting the committee on civil service reform leave to report bills at any time and fixing Tuesday the 12th inst as a day for the consideration thereof. Mr. Cox, of New York, in his remarks on the subject, inquired what had quickened the conscience of the gentlemen on the other side in regard to civil service reform and also made some jocular remarks as to his candidacy for the speakership. No action was taken on the resolution. The president's message was read and ordered to be printed.

The deaths of Representatives Low, of Alabama and Updegraff, of Ohio, were announced and as marks of respect to their memories the house at 3.10 adjourned.

THE Philadelphia *Times* of Tuesday of last week, contains a letter from Wayne MacVeagh to President Arthur written in November 1881, in which he reviews at great length his connection with the Star route cases, and gives his reasons for the persistence of his determination to retire from the cabinet after the death of President Garfield, or to assume any further responsibility in connection with the prosecution of these cases. This letter which is very interesting, clears up much of the inward history heretofore unknown, surrounding the retirement of Mr. MacVeagh and his refusal to be employed by the government in the prosecution, creditable alike to the good judgment and independence of the ex Attorney General. We have only room for what he says in the outset:

"As I have already told you, I knew comparatively nothing about the star route frauds until President Garfield called my attention to them. He spoke very earnestly of his duty to have them thoroughly investigated, to remove all persons who ought to have prevented them, and to see that all persons were prosecuted against whom reasonable grounds for such a course were developed by the investigation. He said he had expressed to the Postmaster General the same views, and also why he wished him to consult me rather than the district attorney of the District. The Postmaster General called upon me and we went together to the President. He was quite emphatic as before in the expression of his own opinion upon the

subject. He spoke of the frauds as unparalleled villanies, as a loathsome ulcer on the body politic needing to be cut out, with all its roots, no matter where they extended. He stated that while it did not belong to my department—certainly not all at that stage of the matter—yet he wished to associate me with the Postmaster General to the extent of having the latter feel at perfect liberty to consult me at any time about it. He said he intended to remove Gen. Brady as soon as the Postmaster General could find a satisfactory successor. At a subsequent interview he regretted the delay in that matter and urged his immediate removal, as he held him principally responsible for the great frauds which he evidently was convinced had been committed."

Items.

Alexandria, Va., gets oysters at thirty-five cents a bushel.

They have a Temperance party in Alabama, but it favors license rather than prohibition, and is probable after all most effective.

Washington and Dakota will press hard this winter for admission to the family of States. They will offer strong inducements to the Republicans who will make vigorous efforts for their admission.

Erie, December 1.—This morning W. L. Scott's famous hotel at Massasauga Point, which cost \$40,000, was burned. Nothing was saved, the occupants, the Graham family, barely escaping with their lives.

The London *Spectator* is quite confident that the United States wants to get possession of a strip of Madagascar. Possibly Secretary Frelinghuysen wants it with a view of colonizing the historic 306.

Hon. Louis D. Campbell, of Hamilton Ohio, died there on Sunday. He was at one time a member of Congress and Speaker of the House of Representatives, out has not been active in politics for many years.

Jay Gould's telegraph company will give all the assistance within its reach to people desirous of making observations of the transit of Venus. If Venus makes a reasonably presentable appearance Mr. Gould may conclude to buy her.

Rev. Dr. Boyd, the most prominent Baptist clergyman in St. Louis, being asked about the progress of prohibition ideas in Missouri the other day, replied that he was not a prohibitionist and therefore was not well posted in regard to the movement.

The new city hall at Philadelphia is the largest public building in America, covering an area larger than that of the Federal Capitol by 63,685 superficial feet. It is built of marble, has absorbed over 57,000,000 bricks besides, and has thus far cost but \$8,500,000, or \$4,500,000 less than the unfinished capitol at Albany.

Two men belonging to company B, sixth regiment, Pennsylvania militia, went into the company armory at Norristown, Pa., on Saturday night. When the armory was opened on Sunday both men were found lying on the floor, the one dead and the other in a dying condition. They had been suffocated by coal gas.

The advice of Watterson, of the Louisville *Courier-Journal* to Governor Pattison is to "cut loose from the old hulk altogether, should let protection and protectionists go to the devil, and planting himself upon live issues should seek the confidence of the country outside of Pennsylvania. He is a young man and has time to build up a new party in the Keystone State."

Hannibal D. Norton, principal clerk of the finance division of the Third Assistant Postmaster General's office, was on Friday last removed by the Postmaster General upon the recommendation of Attorney General Brewster. It is thought that the removal was brought about by the course taken by Mr. Norton in giving his testimony before the Criminal Court in the late Star route trial.

A convention of representatives of labor unions was held in Washington on Thursday, in pursuance of the call issued in July last by the federation in that city to look after the legislation in the interest of the workmen. The convention was well attended, with representatives from Florida, Missouri and Kentucky, Knights of Labor from Pennsylvania and elsewhere. A directory of seven members to represent the workmen of the United States before the committees of Congress will be chosen at a meeting to be held on next Thursday.