

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 ORM, Editors.

Thursday Morning, March 15, 1883.

Centre County Democratic Committee for 1883.

DISTRICT.	NAME.	P. O. ADDRESS.
Bellefonte N. W.	J. M. Keichline	Bellefonte
" S. W.	Chas. Smith	"
" W. W.	S. A. McQuinn	"
Howard	Isa C. Leathers	Howard
Milonesburg	James P. Jones	Milonesburg
Milonesburg	F. P. Mosser	Milonesburg
Phillipsburg W.	G. G. Herlinger	Phillipsburg
" S. W.	S. L. Schmidt	"
" W. W.	A. Y. Carpenter	"
Unionville	P. J. McDonald	Unionville
Denner	Wm. Lehler	Denner
Kege	Frank Z. Adams	Milonesburg
Paradise	Henry Mosker	Paradise
College	John R. ...	College
Curtis	John M. ...	Curtis
Ferguson	J. T. ...	Ferguson
Gregg	L. W. Walker	Rock Springs
N. P.	John ...	Spring Mills
Haines	Wm. ...	Farmer Mills
" W. P.	L. B. ...	Woodward
" W. P.	Geo. ...	Aaronburg
Half Moon	J. H. ...	Half Moon
Harris	D. W. ...	Baldsburg
Howard	John ...	Howard
Houston	John ...	Houston
Liberty	John ...	Liberty
Marton	J. J. ...	Marton
Miles	Ellis ...	Miles
Patton	Agnes ...	Patton
Yonk	P. H. ...	Yonk
Patterson	D. B. ...	Patterson
S. P.	Samuel ...	S. P.
N. P.	William ...	N. P.
Rich	J. T. ...	Rich
Spring	Wm. ...	Spring
Taylor	H. C. ...	Taylor
Union	Upham ...	Union
Walker	S. K. ...	Walker
Worth	Joseph ...	Worth
	M. S. ...	Worth

W. MILLS WALKER, Secretary.

Normal Schools.

The Daylestown *Democrat*, speaking of the appropriations to Normal schools, reflects the sentiments of nine-tenths of the people of the State when it says, "They should be abolished, and the tax-payers no longer be called upon to pay for their support. They are outside of, and beyond the common school system. When common schools were established, nearly half a century ago, nothing was contemplated beyond providing the children of the Commonwealth with the rudiments of an education at the expense of the taxpayers. These schools were established in the interest of poor men, who could not afford to pay for the education of their own children. Normal schools have been engrained on the common school system, to enable those who are able to pay, to get a classical education for their children at reduced rates. It is an outrage to ask the taxpayers to support these schools. Normal schools have broken up all, or nearly all, the academies and boarding schools in the State, for private enterprise cannot compete, successfully, with the State in running schools. In Normal schools, tuition is free; the scholars only pay their board; hence the academy and private schools are underbid. If a parent wish his children to receive a higher education than they can get at the public schools, he should have the privilege of sending them where he pleases, and the equal privilege of paying the bills from his own pocket. Need we repeat that it is gross injustice to ask the tax-payers to pay such bills and support such schools? It is now time to call a 'halt' in the matter of taxing the people to assist in giving a classical education to the children of these rich enough to pay for it themselves. The appropriation for these State boarding schools should be refused and they should be thrown upon their own resources, and thus place upon the same footing as the academy and ordinary boarding school. Normal schools are a sore on the body politic."

THE New York *Sun* says: "We can not say the second session of the Forty-seventh Congress was much more creditable than the first. The last River and Harbor Bill was not so large as the former one, but was passed by an incorrigible majority of the House in the face of the existence of a large unexpended balance from the appropriations of last year. All the appropriations of this session have been characterized by the same reckless and squandering spirit which finally brought so many statesmen to grief last fall. Taxation has only been reduced to the extent of diminishing the internal revenue by about \$40,000,000, but the burdensome and costly machinery for collecting it, and the political and partisan efficacy of that machinery remain the same. The same number of office holders will continue to draw salaries and work for the good of the party, and this is the whole of the story. The end of this Congress has left the country in as great a need of an honest and determined band of reformers in Congress as did the end of the first session."

JAMES S. NAGLEY, President of the National Union League of the United States, has called a meeting of the executive committee at Philadelphia for the 24th of March, for the purpose of adopting measures to harmonize the warring factions of the Republican party in the various States, and particularly in Pennsylvania. This is preparatory to the campaign of 1884, and it will require huge labor on part of the League, aided by all the bosses of the "grand old party," to convince the people that the robbers who have plundered the public lands; who have defrauded the public treasury on alleged harbor improvements; who have oppressed the public by taxes, and refused at the last moment of their power to mitigate the oppression by the repeal of unjust tax laws, are worthy of another lease of power.

Apportionment.

The Harrisburg *Patriot*, discussing the duty of the Legislature in connection with the apportionment of the State into Senatorial and representative districts, says: "The Constitution of Pennsylvania provides (Article 2, Section 18) that the general assembly 'immediately after each United States decennial census shall apportion the state into senatorial and representative districts.' The Republican legislature of 1881 failed to obey the mandate of the constitution and to all appearances the Republican members of the present legislature are resolved to repeat the dereliction of the former body. Every effort of the Democrats during the present session of the legislature to promote the consideration of apportionment bills has been met by obstructive and dilatory tactics on the part of the Republicans. The latter seems to regard the mandatory provision of the constitution with indifference and contempt. By refusing to apportion the state into senatorial and legislative districts the legislature would not only disregard the plain requirement of the fundamental law, but would be doing gross injustice to those localities which have increased in population during the past nine years. The legislature therefore cannot afford to adjourn without re-apportioning the state into senatorial and representative districts. The responsibility for the delay which has attended the consideration of apportionment bills will be placed where it belongs. The Democrats of the house have performed their duty in presenting to that body the necessary measures to secure to the people of the state a proper representation in the legislature. If those measures are not acceptable to the Republicans they can propose amendments and as the senate is Republican the bills can be sent to a committee of conference. But no good reason is discernible, not even from a Republican point of view, why the consideration of those measures should be delayed.

Perhaps the Republicans of the legislature are so enamored of the tactics of their brethren in congress on the tariff bill, that they mean to put off the apportionment bills until the last day of the session and then cross each other for allowing them to pass at all. If that is not their reason for obstructing the consideration of those bills it is something, in the classic language of Dunderberg, that "no fellow ever can find out."

An interesting entertainment was given in the hall of the House of Representatives last week by a delegation of Indian girls and boys from the Carlisle training school. It is said these juvenile savages exhibit very commendable progress in education and culture, and furnish good evidence that the Government, after a century of error, has at length hit upon at least one practical measure towards the civilization of the Indian and to prepare him for usefulness as a citizen. By educating the young, who will soon be the controlling influence in the several tribes, the government is probably doing the work which is to solve satisfactorily the difficult problem of the century "what is to be done with the Indian?"

SECRETARY FOLGER is now investigating what is called the "Treasury Granite Ring" under charges preferred against supervising Architect Hill. The charge is that Architect Hill was in collusion with granite men to make money illegally out of the granite contracts with the Government. Among the prominent men, who are interested in granite quarries, and supposed to be in cahoot with Hill, are ex-Secretary Blaine, Gov. Ben Butler, and Senators Hale and Rollins of New Hampshire. If these compose the "ring" it is certainly a very strong one and would be likely to have their tracks too well covered, to fear exposure under ordinary investigation.

Postal Notes.

The law authorizing the issue of three-cent "postal notes" will go into effect about September 1, 1883, or at an earlier date if the necessary engraving and printing can be sooner done. The Washington correspondent of the *New York Tribune* says the postal note is about as large as a greenback. At the right hand are two columns giving the months of the year and the dates of twelve years, beginning with the present. At the left hand are three columns of figures. One, representing dollars, is numbered up to 4; the second, representing dimes, is numbered up to 9; the third, representing cents, is also numbered up to 9, and each series ends with a cipher. The note is for sums less than five dollars. The postmaster at the office issuing the note will punch the month and the year, the number of dollars, number of dimes and number of cents in their respective columns, thus preventing any alteration of the amount or date. By this system the postal notes can be issued for any sum from one cent up to \$4.99. In buying a postal note no written application will be necessary. The note will be bought like a postage stamp and will be payable to the bearer at any time within three months from the last day of the month of issue. The body of the note is a form stating the office at which it is issued and the office to which it is sent. When paid the person obtaining payment puts his signature upon the note.

It is not claimed that the postal note furnishes the same elements of security as the postal order now in use, where written application is made and where the sender's name is privately forwarded to the office where the order is to be paid; but it is believed that its convenience to all classes of people will be so great as to render the decrease in security of trifling importance. It is expected that it will take the place for transmission of money through the mails of the old fractional currency. Since that was withdrawn there has been no safe and agreeable way of transmitting small sums except by postage stamps, which are not regarded with favor as currency, or by the cumbersome process of the postal order.

A sad commentary on the fallibility of human judgment is contained in a press telegram from Michigan, which states that "a life convict name Samuel Ulum has just been pardoned out of the State's prison, where he has been confined twenty-nine years for the murder of a man named Estabrook in St. Joseph county in 1853," and adds that "there is little doubt that Ulum is entirely innocent of any connection with the murder." Not many years ago Governor Baker of Indiana, pardoned a convict who was serving a life sentence for murder. The pardon was granted because the "murdered" man had been discovered in good health and was enjoying, as a huge joke, the idea that his "murderer," who, by the way, had never injured him, was shut up at hard work for life. There are many other known instances of similar mistakes. In some cases the death penalty has been inflicted on persons subsequently proven to have been innocent. For instance, a telegram from Middleburg, Pa., published yesterday, says of a man who was hanged a year ago: "There is a general impression that he died innocent." It is probable that a good many mistaken convictions occur that are never shown to be errors. Of course it is not possible to get at the facts and to expose and refute falsehood in all cases, but the wrong of an unjust conviction is so awful and irremediable that courts and juries cannot be too careful. There is actual guilt enough to punish without involving the innocent in the penalties of crime.

The New Pension Act.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The following circular has been issued by the Commissioner of Pensions and approved by the Secretary of the Interior: The following regulations are prescribed for the purpose of carrying into effect as speedily as possible, the provisions of the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1883, increasing to \$30 per month the pensions of those who have lost a leg or arm above the knee, or an arm or above the elbow, and of those who have been so disabled as to be incapable of performing any manual labor, but not so much so as to require regular personal aid and attendance,

who are now receiving a pension at the rate of \$24 per month, and to \$24 per month the pensions of those who have lost one hand, or one foot or been totally or permanently disabled in the same, or otherwise so disabled as to render their incapacity to perform manual labor equivalent to the loss of a hand or foot, and now receiving \$18 per month. Inasmuch as the said act has immediate effect upon such admitted cases as have been adjudicated at the rate of \$24 and \$18 per month respectively, no formal application by the beneficiary is necessary to be made other than to forward to the Commissioner of Pensions the pension certificate, accompanied by a letter stating in the handwriting of the pensioner his present postoffice address. As soon as possible after the receipt of the pension certificate aforesaid, the Commissioner will re-issue to him a new certificate for the new rate, and will forward the same to the proper pension agent to inscribe the name of such pensioner on the roll at the increased rate, and to make to the pensioner the proper payment. In the case of amputation the certificate will be re-issued without any further medical examination. The intervention of an agent or attorney in such admitted cases as are affected by this act, being unnecessary, will not be recognized.

THE health of Senator J. D. Cameron is said to be much more seriously impaired than is generally supposed—that he suffers with a painful disease, greatly aggravated by neglect and the use of opiates to allay pain, that will require delicate and successful surgical treatment to make recovery possible. The Senator is undoubtedly very ill, but we trust his condition is not so serious as described, and that rest and quiet from the excitement of his arduous senatorial duties will sufficiently recruit his strength to undergo the operation without danger.

By later reports we learn that an operation has been successfully performed, and that the Senator's restoration to health is assured. The disease he suffered with was fistula.

THE *Washington Review and Examiner*, speaking of the late Congress, characterizes it mildly thus: "This dead Congress has had no parallel in the history of the country. It will have no successor like unto it. The Senate obtained a Republican majority by a disgraceful bargain with Mahone and the repudiators of honest contracts. The House began by a trade between Robeson and Keifer, by which the control of the legislation was placed at the mercy of the most corrupt and unscrupulous ring that ever walked outside the walls of a penitentiary. Patriotism and virtue were subjects of ridicule and the treasury has been depleted and the sacred right of the people bartered away in the open market.

TOO LATE! It was our enterprising and generally wide-awake friends of Lock Haven, this time, who allowed the golden moments to slip by them unheeded. They were anxious to have the machine shops of the S. W. Railway erected at that place, but were tardy in raising the necessary subscription required for that purpose. In the mean time, the little town of Jersey Shore quietly went to work and secured the prize, and when our Lock Haven friends appeared, cash in hand, to claim the reward, were informed that they were late—the letting was made and the prize awarded to the little rival down the river.

THE trial of Dukes for the murder of Nutt, is now going on at Uniontown. Some damaging testimony against Dukes is given, and if not satisfactorily explained will show a preparation and premeditation for the act, that will not be healthy in the defence. Whether this man is pronounced guilty of murder or acquitted on the plea of self defence, his own letter to his victim, now published, should be sufficient forever to prevent him taking a seat in the legislature of Pennsylvania.

THE Legislative committee investigating the management of the Dixmont Asylum at Pittsburg has been put in possession of very damaging testimony against the officials of that institution. Their treatment of the unfortunate inmates, according to the evidence has been very brutal and deserves the severest condemnation, if not a prompt dismissal.

THE *New York Evening Post*, (Rep.) thinks that Congress, in passing the tariff bill, defied the popular will "expressed with rare distinctness and force." They only defied the popular will in failing to clear the deck of a reasonable amount of the exuberances and relieving the people of unnecessary tax oppression.

THE Democrats and Greenbackers of Michigan have agreed to pool their issues. Each party with a separate organization claiming different views, have nominated half the state ticket and vote as a fusion to win. The consistency of the arrangement is not to be admired, but if it pleases the Michiganders, let them be happy in their own way.

A SENSATION FOR BLAINE.—A sensational report has been sent out from Washington that an attempt was made to assassinate the "Plumed Knight" by shooting into a carriage in which he was returning from a night session at the Capitol. Mr. Blaine himself treats the affair lightly and says he is satisfied that no shot was fired into the carriage while he occupied it.

A BILL introduced in the New York legislature to preserve the purity of elections, makes it a felony to receive or pay money for votes; it fines and imprisons offenders and deprives them of the right to vote or hold office for a term of years. The enactment of stringent laws for the protection of the ballot is all right enough, but it is of little value if the law is allowed to become a dead letter, as is too generally the case, both in New York and elsewhere.

URIAH MOYER, so long under sentence of death for participation with two others in the murder of John Kintzler and wife, in Snyder county, was executed on Friday last at Middleburg. His associates were hung some time ago, but Moyer has made a brave fight for life and when all efforts have failed to obtain from the Governor and pardon-board a reversal of the sentence, he confesses his guilt and expiates the crime with apparent indifference.

EX-GOVERNOR WM. SPRAGUE of Rhode Island was married at Stanton, Va., last week to Mrs. Dora Inez Calvert, in forty-eight hours after the bride's divorce from her former husband. The bride who, is described as an attractive lady, is a native of Connecticut, but for many years has resided in West Virginia. The Governor's experience in a former marriage did not deter him in taking chances for better agreement in a new venture.

THE family of Joseph A. Seeds, the heroic engineer who perished on the Pennsylvania railroad last October, in the successful effort to save the lives of three hundred endangered passengers, is said to be in a condition of absolute destitution. Judging by the last annual report of the great Pennsylvania corporation it would seem as if this ought not to be. The company is certainly able to keep the family from starving until the public has time to organize measures for their relief.—*Washington Post*.

We know not what foundation there is for the above, but it is not like the great corporation to neglect the family of a brave official in the manner described. Let inquiry be made.

THE HON. DAVID DAVIS became convinced that the Presidency was beyond his reach and secured a more valuable prize—a good wife.