

# 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, March 22, 1883.

### Centre County Democratic Committee for 1883.

DISTRICT.	NAME.	P. O. ADDRESS.
Bellefonte N. W.	J. M. Keichling	Bellefonte.
" "	Chas. Smith	" "
" "	E. A. McQuinn	" "
Howardboro.	Ira C. Leathers	Howard.
Milesburg	James P. Jones	Milesburg.
Milheim	F. P. Maser	Milheim.
Phillipsburg W.	C. G. Herlinger	Phillipsburg.
" "	Sol Schmitt	" "
Unionville	A. J. Carpenter	" "
Bonnet	P. J. McDonald	Fleming.
Wagon	Wm. Ishler	Bellefonte.
Wagon	Frank T. Adams	Milesburg.
Wagon	Henry Mosker	Fine Glen.
College	John Reop	Lemont.
Curtin	John McCloskey	Romola.
Ferguson	J. T. McCormick	State College.
" "	N. P. L. W. Walker	Rock Springs.
Orange	S. P. John C. Linton	Spring Mills.
" "	N. P. Wm. Lase	Farmer Mills.
Haines	E. P. L. B. Stewart	Woodward.
" "	W. P. Geo. Bower	Aaronstown.
Half Moon	J. H. Griffin	Stonestown.
Harris	D. W. Meyer	Bellefonte.
Howard	John Glenn	Howard.
Hudson	John Q. Miles	Julian.
Liberty	James P. Linn	Blanchard.
Nation	J. J. Hoy	Walker.
Miles	Ellis E. Shafer	Madisonburg.
Patton	Agnes Sellers Jr.	Filmore.
Pena	P. H. Stover	Robson.
Pater	D. J. Meyer	Center Hill.
" "	S. P. Samuel Slack	Tusseyville.
Booth	N. P. William Cullen	Phillipsburg.
" "	J. T. Evers	Sandy Ridge.
Snow Shoe	Wm. R. Haynes	Snow Shoe.
Spring	R. C. Wood	Bellefonte.
Taylor	Heptura Bowers	Fowler.
Union	S. K. Emerick	Fleming.
Walker	Joseph Emerick	Hudsonburg.
Worth	M. S. Spotts	Port Matilda.

W. MILES WALKER, Secretary.

GEN. DIAZ, ex President of Mexico and his wife, with a number of Mexican ladies and gentlemen, were most cordially received and entertained at St. Louis last week. They are about to visit Washington.

DURING the floods in Arkansas, a preacher whose church was pretty universally submerged, preached to his flock assembled in skiffs, from the roof of the church. This was certainly an exhibition of a commendable degree of earnestness as well as pluck.

A BILL, funding the State debt at 50 cents on the dollar, has passed both Houses of the Legislature of Tennessee. Whether this is forcible elimination according to Mahone's system, or voluntary agreement of creditors, we are not certain, but we believe it is the latter.

THE periodical rumors of the failing health of Mr. Tilden are again making their appearance. From this it is reasonable to infer that Presidential nags are to be trotted round loose before long. Preliminary to this the stubborn old war-horse of New York must be disabled.

SENATOR J. I. MITCHELL's nepotism in dismissing a competent messenger from the committee of which he is chairman, for the purpose of appointing his own fifteen year old son, has damaged his character as a reformer very seriously. He might profit by a lesson from the civil service reform commissioners.

THE Star route trials are still progressing. Brady, one of the chief expeditors is put on the witness stand. He swears that Walsh is a liar, and Walsh swears with equal clearness, and perhaps with more plausibility, that Brady is a liar. Shouldn't wonder if some lies are passing in that famous investigation.

THE question of prohibiting the German language in the public schools is now agitating the people of Ohio. This grows out of the introduction of a bill in the Legislature forbidding public instruction in that language and like the legislative interference with the beer of the Germans last year, is not unlikely to have an important bearing upon the politics of the state.

REPRESENTATIVE FLOWER, of New York, is the pioneer in the restitution of money illegally drawn for Congressional services. He refused to accept several hundred dollars tendered him in payment of salary and mileage to which he did not believe himself entitled by law. The deduction was made for time he was absent in attendance upon his own business, in which he rendered no service to the public or his district. This deduction is strictly according to law, but Mr. Flower is the first to give practical effect to it. If all our members of Congress were bound by conscience or law thus to account for absence from their official duties, it would make quite an item in the public expenditures and leave many of them a large shortage. Our own distinguished reform Senator might fare badly under such ruling.

### The Apportionment.

In the House of Representatives on Friday last Mr. M'Namara reported a bill from the committee providing for the apportionment of Senators and Representatives. This bill is the one approved by the Democrats, and concedes twenty-seven Senatorial districts to the Republicans and ninety-three to the Democrats. These concessions are made by the Democrats in a spirit of liberality, that there may be no excuse left to justify a failure to apportion the State in accordance with the requirements of the constitution. It ought to be satisfactory to the Republicans if they are influenced by any desire for fairness, and possess a shade of respect for the oaths they have taken as representatives of the people. But it is represented that the Republican caucuses have already determined that no apportionment shall be made that will improve the shameful gerrymander of the present.

If this be the determination of the Senate, the Republicans have the majority and can prevent the passage of a fair and equitable apportionment. But their responsibility will not end here—a tribunal which even Senators must respect, will pass in review upon the result as well as upon the motives. This is a question upon which the imperative duty of the legislature cannot be mistaken or evaded. The constitution has limited the time and defined the character and object of the law to be enacted too distinctly to admit of a quibble as to either, and that man who does not appreciate this duty is not worthy to be a representative of the people. The parties evenly balanced—one holding the Senate and the other the House, are in position to pass a law of perfect fairness. There is no necessity—there is no excuse or decency in the adoption of any measure that will not insure equal and fair representation to both in proportion to their numerical strength, fairly and honestly ascertained. This we believe is the imperative demand of the honest people of the State, without regard to party, and no tricks of legislation which will tend to stifle the true voice of the people in favor of just representation will or ought to be approved. Fair play is all that is or should be demanded on either side, and if the Republican Senator is so blinded as to refuse this in order to perpetuate the unequal distribution and shameful gerrymander of the present law, public opinion will run them into a hole sooner than they imagine. They cannot afford to do this in the face of the liberal manifestation from the House.

### Obstruction Bosses.

The Republican senators and representatives some time ago, says the Harrisburg Patriot, in secret conclave committed the work of obstructing the passage of apportionment bills to a select committee of bosses, chief among whom are Mr. Cooper in the senate and Messrs. Hulings, Molineaux and Brown of Erie, in the house. These are the bosses who are to give orders to the remainder of the Republican senators and members and whose truncheons are to thrust into line any who are disposed to be independent of the obstruction policy determined upon by the Republican caucus.

The bosses have ordered that in the house no bill, however important, shall be considered out of its order on the calendar and that even if a member is willing that a bill introduced by him shall be passed over and be placed at the foot of the calendar it must be considered when it is reached, no matter how unimportant it may be.

The programme of the bosses is about to be developed. It is simply by every possible means to obstruct the passage of any apportionment bill, congressional, legislative or judicial by the present legislature. Let the public watch and see how these desperate politicians will attempt to defy the plain mandates of the constitution.

### A Mysterious Proceeding.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 18.—In Clarendon county, this state, yesterday and last night, Charles Wilson, a deputy United States Marshal, assisted by two constables, arrested nine white men and one colored man, all respectable merchants or farmers. He took them from their homes without allowing them to change their clothing or make any preparations for a journey. He carried them to Graham's and locked them up all night. In the morning he took them to Clarence where they are to be held until Tuesday when they will be examined by the United States commissioner. Wilson said the arrest was for an election offense, but would give the prisoners no definite information of the charge against them. Bail was offered for all the prisoners, but Wilson refused it, giving as his reason that to take it would deprive him of his mileage. Great indignation has been caused by this proceeding.

From the above it appears that the monstrous fraud known to the public as the Attorney General of the United States is again at work, on the same field where he made a disgraceful exhibition a year ago. The tyranny and outrage of the proceeding detailed, are such as might be expected from the instructions of an inflated fox, and may be safely laid at the door of Brewster, where it belongs. The crime for which the arrests were made is alleged to have been committed in November, 1880, and will no doubt be as ridiculous as those upon which the Attorney General emptied his wind-bag on the former occasion.

THE Jefferson Association of Harrisburg is now favored by regular addresses from the most distinguished Democrats of the State. On Thursday evening last the Hon. Wm. S. Stenger, says the Patriot, spoke very forcibly and eloquently of the principles and public services of Mr. Jefferson. He said as Washington was the great military leader of the revolution, so was Jefferson the informing spirit of the civil policy of the republic. Jefferson was the author of the idea that government should be "of the people, by the people and for the people." It had been said that Jefferson is dead, but that was true only of the corporeal organization of the man. Jefferson's spirit was still present in the free principles which he engrafted into our system of government. "Men may come and men may go," but like the waters of the poet's brook, the grand and glorious principle of human freedom which is the life of this republic, will "go on forever."

A PUBLIC meeting of the citizens of Fayette county has been held in Uniontown, in which the verdict of the jury acquitting Dukes of the murder of Capt. Nutt, is denounced in a perfect storm of indignation. Judging from the speeches and resolutions and the general exhibition of feeling in the community, the best thing Dukes can do is to slip off into some unknown quarter of the earth, where he will not again be heard of. His brutal letter to his victim and his no less brutal acts that suggested that letter, should bar him from all decent associations here.

THE Independents of Rhode Island have organized to force a Republican form of government from the lords of that State. They have nominated Ex-Senator Sprague as their candidate for Governor and apply to the Democrats for sympathy and aid. A large population of this diminutive State are entirely disfranchised—the laws of Mr. Anthony not allowing naturalized citizens the privilege of suffrage, unless they are in possession of a freehold estate, while of negroes and other citizens no such requirement is needed. This State has long needed reconstruction to place it on an equality with other States of the Union and render it Republican in name at least.

SENATORS MCKNIGHT and EMERY the other day, lost their tempers in the Senate Chamber and indulged in a fist fight. Neither of the combatants were much the worse of the encounter, except in dignity, and the indecency of the act.

### Pennsylvania's Rival.

There is every reason to suppose, from investigations already made, that there is a large deposit of anthracite coal in Colorado. Professor R. Weiser states that the fields of anthracite coal in Gunnison county belongs to the true carboniferous formation. On analysis the proportion of carbon is found to be equal to 90 per cent, the coal, therefore, being as good as Pennsylvania anthracite. This coal is now placed in the Denver market at nine dollars and fifty cents a ton, and last year over three thousand tons were mined. This is the small beginning of a great business. An article of such bulk and cheapness as coal cannot be carried beyond a certain distance at a profit. The limit for the profitable use of Pennsylvania anthracite is probably reached before it gets to the Mississippi river. It would have been impossible to supply the vast, treeless regions of country west of the Mississippi with fuel mined east of the Alleghenies. But the Colorado coal, taken at an altitude nine thousand feet above the sea level, can be cheaply distributed to millions of consumers west of the Mississippi as the country becomes populous and the demand increases. For smelting the iron, gold and silver ores of Colorado and the mining territories adjacent this find of anthracite is of immense importance. One ton of it is equal in heating quality to two and a half or three tons of the best bituminous or semi-bituminous coals. It will also be the cheapest fuel to be obtained for the trans-continental railways. Colorado is so far away from Pennsylvania that she is in no sense a competitor, for she will have a market of her own; but the similarity in the mineral productions of the two states may at some future day make them peaceful rivals for the palm of superiority in mineral wealth. Colorado's gold and silver are outbalanced by our petroleum so far as the immediate yield is concerned, but he is a daring man who would undertake to speculate as to the outcome of future production.—Phila. Record.

### Judge Thoman's Views.

A DEMOCRATIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEW CIVIL SERVICE ACT.

Quite an extended interview with Judge Thoman, of the civil service commission, appears in the Pittsburgh Post on Friday, relative to the work of the commission, its prospects and probable success. His views are generally favorable to the system and practically; at least he favors a thorough experimental test of it. Following are extracts from the interview on several important points:

"Will the questions be different from those adopted on former occasions?"

Judge Thoman—"I believe the examinations should be confined strictly to test the capacity and fitness of the persons examined to discharge the duties of the service in which they seek to be appointed and should be practical in their character."

"How did the civil service act in England affect the party?"

"It was a great disappointment to them. Mr. Eaton relates two or three instances of attempted pressure to override the commissioners' recommendation. Lord Palmerston, the prime minister, sent the commissioners to have the papers of a certain person sent to him for inspection in order that he might be able to exert his influence to get him pushed forward. The commissioners made a stand, declaring that it would not be done. Our commissioners are as firm I trust as any English commissioners."

"Does the Pendleton civil service act secure or confirm the Republicans in office?"

"Nothing of the kind. So far as the Pendleton act is concerned every clerk in Washington city could be turned out to-morrow without further cause or reason other than that their services were not required."

"What does it do with them?"

"It provides that no person shall enter the public service without being qualified. It says to ability and fitness, 'come front.' It gives to the poor man's children the same rights as to the rich; to the Democratic youth the same rights accorded Republicans and will close the door against the indiscriminate use of money at elections, extorted from the employees and clerks in the departments, whose salaries are barely sufficient to maintain them respectably."

"Are the competitive examinations for Government positions popular in England?"

"Yes, so much so that great corporations and business firms have persons examined before a commission for their own private service. The bank of England, the bank of Westminster, the London Clearing house and other large establishments, each of them have a commission for conducting their private business upon examinations based upon this system."

"Are there any positions now in which examinations are made?"

"Oh, yes, candidates for cadetships are examined in every Congressional district throughout the country, while formerly it was looked upon as a perquisite of a member of Congress."

"Do you think the workings of the commission will be successful?"

"It is early to predict the result, but I am satisfied that the members of the commission are sincere, and with the encouragement we have received from the President, I am convinced that it is his intention to give the commission all the support in his power, and if the heads of the departments will directly, or indirectly, sustain us, the effect within six months will be to mould public opinion in favor of the system so strongly that retracing of steps will be impossible."

SENATOR NELSON has introduced a bill to prevent cremation of human bodies in Pennsylvania. The Senator's efforts in this direction is a waste of time. If a man desires to have his body cindered and his ashes delivered to his family in a neat urn to ornament the homestead, why not? It is a matter of taste that grave Senators have no occasion to quarrel with. They might, however, with great propriety adopt some stringent measures to arrest many of the involuntary cremations in hotels, public buildings and mines by requiring safe and efficient escapes to be provided in all buildings where the public are invited either on pleasure or business.

A COMMITTEE of the Legislature was raised to investigate the management of the Soldier's Orphan Schools, and to ascertain how many pupils are in said schools who are not Orphans. Mr. Cox, the chairman of the Committee, and Mr. Higbee, the Superintendent, have reached a misunderstanding, in which the latter has taken ground he cannot maintain. The Department he presides over is one of the public departments of the state, the doors of which cannot be closed under any pretext, to Legislative investigation. If there are pupils in the Orphan Schools wrongfully, and it is asserted that there are in large numbers, it ought to be corrected, and it will not do for the superintendent to claim that he has not clerical force equal to the task of furnishing the information and that his office is too exclusive to allow clerks employed by the committee to do the work necessary to obtain it. This subject of Orphan Schools needs light upon it. Instead of diminishing in number, the number of orphan pupils it seems are on the increase, which in view that all the orphan children of soldiers have passed sufficient years to have reached manhood and womanhood is somewhat paradoxical.

MR. BLACK, a colored messenger in the Navy Department at Washington, said to be an intelligent educated man, has been dismissed by the Secretary because he declined to black the boots and perform other scullion work not connected with his official duties, for the head of the bureau in which he served. As a reward for his party devotion, the negro may be placed on the official roll, in order that he may be paid out of the public Treasury, but he cannot be allowed to rise above the rank of a boot-black for Republican officials.

THE impression seems to be general that the health of Secretary Folger is seriously impaired, and will necessitate his withdrawal from the Treasury Department.

PARNELL is coming to America, and is expected to be present at the Land League Convention to be held in Philadelphia on the 25th of April.

JAMES A. BOSSLER, one of the familiars of the Star-route ring, who recently tried to steal a seat in the Senate of Pennsylvania from the Cumberland district, has been arrested and held to bail in \$1,000 for assaulting a Deputy Marshal who subpoenaed him as a witness on the Star route trial.

THE West Chester Village Record believes that as Robert Fulton was only ten years old when the revolution broke out he was not eligible as a subject for one of Pennsylvania's statues.

It has been asserted that Fulton's claim to be the original inventor of the application of steam as a motive power, was one of very questionable justice, and it is now too bad that his ghost through the management of a distinguished Ex-Senator should deprive the memory of the brave Anthony Wayne of the Revolutionary statue, to which he was entitled in the National Gallery at Washington as the representative hero of Pennsylvania.

THE pension list is to be published, containing the names of all persons receiving pensions from the United States government. It will be an interesting volume, and will be largely read, reflecting honor on the deserving and affording means of detecting the underserving who by thousands have got themselves placed fraudulently upon the pension roll, and are drawing pay from the government to which they have no valid claim.

### General News.

An estate of some \$40,000, said to be all honest savings, is left by an aged colored woman who has just died at Bridgeport, Conn.

New York city has 486 miles of water pipe, 391 miles of sewer, 821 miles of gas pipes, fourteen and a half of steam-pipes, and fifteen miles of underground electric wires.

A Tennessee schoolmaster kissed the girls as a punishment, and before the trustees put a stop to the practice it took him about an hour per day to requite their disobedience.

In Ballstown, York county, a few days ago a bull and a goat fought desperately for half an hour. The goat whipped the bull in seven rounds and chased him across country for nearly two miles.

The New Orleans Times-Democrat has been visiting the tallest man in America. His name is Henry Clay Thurston, and his height is seven feet seven inches and a half. He lives at White Oak, Texas, and is a thrifty, well-to-do farmer.

The Rev. Mr. Talmage lectured in New Orleans last week, and in talking with a reporter said that the changes in all phases of Southern life since he visited the South five years ago amount to almost a revolution, and in some particulars to a resurrection.

An Indian woman, 120 years of age lives near Fitzpatrick, in Bullock county. She was on General Andrew Jackson's staff as a cook when that worthy cut a road through the country of Florida, and has some of the pots and kettles in which she used to cook the hero's frugal food.—Mobile Register.

A Pittsburg girl who had refused a good-looking telegraph repair man three times within six months gave as reason that he was too much of a wanderer. That he roamed from pole to pole, from one climb to another, and if he did come home, he'd be insulate that the neighbors would be sure to talk.—Pittsburg Telegraph.

Eight years ago A. C. Kean, of Woodland, Cal., purchased six trees of the red gum variety and set them out at his home. A few days ago one of these trees was cut down, and it measured seventy-five feet in length and nineteen inches in diameter at the butt. The blue gum tree, it is said, grows even more rapidly than the red gum variety.

Benjamin Franklin's old "bull-eye" watch is owned by a man in Lancaster. Large offers have been refused for this watch, including one of \$1,000 per annum for ten years, from a New York watch company, simply for the loan of the watch during that period to display in the window of their office in Broadway.