

The Centre Democrat.

SHUGERT & VAN ORMER, Editors.

"EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL MEN, OF WHATEVER STATE OR PERSUASION, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL."—Jefferson.

TERMS: \$1.50 per Annum, in Advance.

VOL. 5.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1883.

N.O. 26.

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Terms \$1.50 per Annum in Advance.

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

Thursday Morning, June 28, 1883.

Democratic State Convention.

The Democratic State Convention will meet in the Opera House, Harrisburg, on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 10 a.m., to nominate a candidate for Auditor-General and a candidate for State Treasurer, and to transact such other business as the convention may determine. There will also be present in Harrisburg a resolution which has been adopted by the state to fix the time of the annual meeting of the State Committee at 4 p.m., on the Wednesday after the third Monday of January, instead of the third Monday as now provided.

Under the new rules of the party the representation in the State Convention will be by representative delegates from existing representative districts, one for each 1,000 Democratic votes cast in that district, and by a number of additional delegates to represent minor electorates of less than 1,000, each voter entitled to one more. Provided that each representative district shall have at least one delegate.

There will be a meeting of the Democratic State Committee in Harrisburg on Tuesday July 31, at 8 p.m.

W. U. HENSEL,
Chairman State Com.

SENATOR HARRISON, of Indiana who has about 50 of his relations now in office, is in favor of a civil service reform that will make their places permanent, in which all his kindred sympathize.

THE officers of the Virginia Military Institute has written to the authorities of New York city, asking the privilege of returning to the city the flag presented to the 164th Reg. N. Y. Volunteers, which was captured during the war of the rebellion.

THE Washington Postmaster, Mr. Tullock, died the other day, and at once a scramble for the vacancy occurred among the horde of office-seekers, ever in waiting around the national capitol, to pick up the crumbs which death or misfortune may scatter to their rapacity. Amongst these is the veteran A. M. Clapp, the late Government Printer. The office is a desirable one, and Clapp, who never loses sight of a good job, is willing.

J. PROCTER KNOTT, the Democratic candidate for Governor of Kentucky, and Z. T. Morrow, his competitor, are meeting in joint discussion at various points of the state, no doubt making the fur fly in each encounter to amuse their adherents. Knott is able and popular in his state, backed by an overwhelming party majority, and it is certainly creditable to Morrow's courage and manhood to meet him on the stump under the circumstances. Such a man could not be other than a good officer, if elected.

THE belief has been expressed, remarks the Phila. Record, that at least five Independent Senators would be found willing to arbitrate between parties so as to compel a fair apportionment. But only three have turned up, in Senators Stewart, Emery and Lee, and a strong pressure has been made on these Senators to sacrifice their independence and sense of duty to the Constitution to the demands of party managers. What is party to obtain by a deliberate refusal to do what the Constitution enjoins except to convince the people of Pennsylvania of the utter worthlessness of party?

THE Pittsburgh Dispatch, a Republican paper, only voices a large proportion of the honest fair minded members of its party, when it says: Six Republican votes in the Senate given to a fair apportionment bill will absolutely guarantee its passage. The Democrats of both branches would support such a bill, because any fair bill could not be better their condition as compared with the existing apportionment of the State. They would do so without wasting time in delay, for the extra session is their venture and they want to make it as little expensive to the State as possible. The failure of the apportionment bills at the regular session lies at the door of the Republican Senate. If they fail again, those who have given the people a right to expect something better of them than huck politics will have to answer for it.

Responsibility will Follow.

The people will bear in mind that the Republican Senate made an extra session of the legislature a necessity. That it did it in contempt of the oaths of the members to support and defend the constitution of the state—that acting under the instructions of the Boss to defeat the passage of a fair apportionment bill, and thus perpetuate a shameless gerrymander fraud upon the state, by which he again hopes to be re-elected to the Senate of the United States—that after instructing his satellites and lieutenants, he hid away to Europe to escape personal responsibility. This is the true inwardness of the stalwart action in the senate, and they need not hope that the people of Pennsylvania will be so blind as not to comprehend it, or fail to hold them to a just accountability. While reflecting upon this delectable programme, the people should also compare the apportionment bills presented in each house with the number of votes polled by each party at the last Presidential election, which was 444,704 for Garfield, and 407,528 for Hancock to determine the approximate ratio of representation due to each. Turn and torture these figures as we may, it will be impossible to arrive at an honest conclusion that the Republicans shall elect with any degree of fairness a member of Congress by 23,000 votes, while at the same time it requires 58,000 Democratic votes to elect one, as provided by the Senate bill. It is on this basis that the Republicans claim 18 representatives in Congress and yield 7 to the Democrats, leaving two districts in doubt, with Republican chances in the lead. This is the kind of fairness the Republican Senate offered to the Democratic house at the late session. It is their ultimatum now, and why? They know that it cannot be accepted and hence they defeat the passage of an apportionment bill to fall back upon the infamous gerrymander act by which they have dominated the state heretofore.

The Senate's bill apportioning the Senators and Representatives, stands about in the same proportion to the Congressional bill, and both may be characterized as bills of fraud, and the unmitigated soundrelism of machine politics. Can, or will honest people justify or applaud such legislation when the Constitution of the state makes the duty imperative and mandatory upon the present legislature to pass fair, just and equal apportionment bills? It is a matter of plain arithmetic and there should be no difficulty in arriving at a just conclusion in a day's time, if members will be honest and act up to their constitutional obligations instead of seeking an unlawful advantage which the figures will not justify.

The following brief statement of the controlling figures which we clip from the Patriot, will enable any one to determine for himself what a fair, honest apportionment ought to be, both as to Congressional and Senatorial districts:

If 852,132 voters are entitled to twenty-eight congressional districts then 407,228 voters are entitled to thirteen congressional districts.

If 852,132 voters are entitled to only twenty-eight congressional districts, then 444,704 voters are entitled to only fifteen districts.

In the same proportion 444,704 voters are entitled to but twenty-six senatorial districts and 407,704 voters to twenty-four senatorial districts.

Shall this problem in the easy and fundamental single rule of three be solved by the legislature or shall it be submitted to the people at the next election?

One evening last week a catamount killed fifty-five chickens, two turkeys and a young pig for a Huntingdon county man. The varmint was killed the same evening by dogs.

A NEPHEW of Dukes threatens to kill young Nutt if he is acquitted.

COMMENDATION from the Republic can press in favor of the conscientious acts of an honest Democratic official is so rare, and yet so just in this case, that we take pleasure in crediting the following to the Philadelphia *Press*:

"We have taken occasion to commend the action of the Governor in vetoing a bill which, in one of its provisions

revived imprisonment for debt; also his veto of another, keeping alive securities after they have been paid, which could have no other object than to defraud creditors; of another, allowing lawyers to try cases before referees, and appeal from them to the Supreme Court, independent of the Common Pleas Courts. The other vetoes are perhaps not so important, but the reasoning in each case is conclusive, showing that what the legislation proposes is essentially vicious, or founded in misapprehension. The pamphlet laws for 1883 will be much curtailed in quantity and number by these vetoes, but they will be of a much higher average character. Governor Pattison's surgical treatment has been highly beneficial and will doubtless make the next Legislature much more careful than the present about the quality of legislation."

A HONOR has been uncovered in Philadelphia, which in detail equals the depravity of Tewksbury, only that the latter acted in the name of charity under pay of a respectable commonwealth, while the case in the Quaker city is the private enterprise of a brute called a Doctor. The police, it appears, have found in the cellar of a dwelling on North Fifth street, formerly occupied by Dr. Isaac Hathaway, an abortionist, a large number of human bodies, from which they selected some twenty-five skulls of infants as evidence of the infamous character and practice of the professional brute. It appears he had other similar graveyards and further investigation runs the number of skeletons up into the hundreds. He is in jail under other charges, while this evidence is accumulating against him.

SOME of the Washington newspapers do not seem to enjoy a fact thrust upon their attention by an experienced lawyer. The opinion expressed by Mr. Kerr that it is impossible to convict a great government thief in that city, however heinous the crime or the strength of the evidence, is not palatable. Upon whom the responsibility rests for the lapse of justice in the Star-route cases, is a question in dispute. But the startling truth is too apparent not only in this case, but in others, where great criminals are allowed to escape the penalties of crime at trial, or is hid away before trial by official connivance. Howgate is a conspicuous example of this. But this official thief left behind sufficient to satisfy personal creditors and of course the government can stand the robbery. Who cares?

THE Secretary of Interior, it is said, has determined to leave the Apache Indians captured by Gen. Crook in the hands of the army to undergo a training process, before he will permit them to return to the reservations. He believes that army drill may have a good effect upon the future conduct of the Indians, and counsels that the children be taken from them and sent to the schools. Secretary Teller has studied the Indian situation very thoroughly and has no doubt hit upon the proper mode eventually to overcome its difficulties. Educate and civilize the young and put the wild devils under control as well as protection, to work for their own living or starve.

A COMMITTEE of prominent Democrats of Chicago, has been appointed to confer with Gov. Tilden, Mr. Hewitt and other prominent men of New York and elsewhere, with a view of locating the meeting of the next Democratic National Convention in that city.

BELLIGERENT EDITORS. Two Virginia editors have been hiding themselves from the public during the last week to mature the terms by which they can enjoy the pleasure of firing at each other with navy revolvers, while two Florida editors with less ceremony and equal courage and decency, settled a grudge by pummeling each other in a barber shop.

THE St. Louis School Board has issued an order that corporal punishment shall be abolished in the public schools of that city after the 1st of July. A good example for all schools. Educators who cannot control pupils by kindness and interest them in the work in hand, are unfit for their positions and ought to be driven out to employments suited to their tastes and capacity.

THE ladies of the South in continuation of the healthy and vigorizing enterprise inaugurated by a party of girls last year, have arranged a party of five ladies and six gentlemen of high social standing in Washington, for a six weeks walking party in the mountains of Virginia. One of the ladies is married and will be the chaperon of her Virginia sisters. The camp equipage will be carried in a wagon, and the artist of the tramp will act as steward.

JOHN H. ALEXANDER, a colored applicant for admission to the West Point Academy, it is announced, passed an excellent examination and was admitted. It is to be hoped he will have the good sense to avoid the shoals upon which other colored cadets wrecked their future. He will doubtless remember that good conduct and gentlemanly behavior and candor will be more effective in attracting sympathy, then slitting ears or any other foolish device.

THE President has issued orders for a reduction of the internal revenue districts. The order sweeps off forty-four districts in all. Those dispensed with in Pennsylvania are the Eighth, office at Reading, Collector Valentine; the Fourteenth, at Sunbury, Collector Bruner; the Seventeenth, at Somerset, Collector Scull; the Twenty-first, at Greenville, Collector Brown, all of which are to be consolidated with the six remaining districts under Collectors Pollock, of Philadelphia, Kauffman, of Lancaster, Chase, of Wilkesbarre, Case, of Pittsburgh, Sullivan, of Allegheny city, and Walther at Erie, the only new appointment made who supercedes Collector Lincoln. This is the beginning of the end of the internal revenue system, which is not likely to be deeply mourned outside of the displaced officials.

Crook Ordered to Washington.

General Crook has been ordered, by direction of the Secretary of War, to proceed to Washington at once for consultation as to the final disposition to be made of the captured Apaches. The War department has received no official information of the reported arrival of the captives at San Carlos, and it is stated that no instructions to send them there have been sent to General Crook.

A telegram received yesterday from Indian Agent Wilcox, stating that the renegade Indians had been forced on the reservation, is believed at the Indian office to be an error.

One result of the recent shake-up in land at Chicago has been the revelation of numerous interesting trade secrets connected with its manufacture. A home correspondent of the Chicago Tribune has been explaining to that paper how it is that "prime family lard" can be sold by certain dealers, packed as desired, away below the market quotations. "This 'family lard,' he says, "consists of something like this: Forty per cent. of fisher's stock, 40 per cent. of prime steam lard, 10 per cent. of stearine, and 10 per cent. of cottonseed oil. Now, for the information of the public, I will define the term 'fisher's stock.' It is the product of hogs that die in transit of disease or otherwise along the various lines of railway lead-

ing to Chicago. They are taken out of the cars at stopping points along the line and sold at a nominal price to rendering establishments. The hog goes into the tank whole—bristles, hide and all. So much for the 'fisher's stock.' Nice stuff to make pie crust of." Canada clay, this same correspondent says, is a pigment imported from Denmark, which is used with alkalies to bleach such questionable stuff as "fisher's stock."

Honest men cannot compete with the people who are engaged in this kind of business, and the public will be compelled to run the chances of getting pure lard or a compound of villainous grease, clay and stearine, with strong probabilities that they are buying the latter. There seems to be no possibility of stopping this tampering with the American stomach until a stringent national law against adulterations is adopted and rigidly enforced.

Mr. Hewitt and the Presidency.

"I am not, and will not be under any circumstances, a candidate for the office."

"But supposing your party should nominate you, how could you decline?"

"Well, that is a difficult question to answer. I know of no such instance. Silas Wright was informed by friends at the Baltimore convention that he could be nominated if he would accept, but he refused. He was so committed to Van Buren that he could not honorably have allowed his name to go before the convention. If I were elected President I would go to Washington with the firm belief that I would never be allowed to serve out the term."

"Why?"

"There are too many lunatics—too many Guiteaus—at large. I would not go there to administer the office for a party—to dispense patronage. I would be President for the whole people, and act alone for their good; and that would be fatal for me. I am not a seeker after office and never was, and do not believe in 'deals' and never took part in any." —*New York Tribune*.

From this time until the election for President "representative" Republicans from the South may be expected to appear at frequent intervals in the National Capital to give assurance that this or that Southern State may be wrested from the Democrats by the use of proper means. What constitute "proper means" are well understood to be liberal supplies of money and a judicious distribution of Government patronage. The Hon. James M. Leach, an ex Democrat of North Carolina, is the latest "representative" Republican from the South who has appeared in Washington, and Mr. Leach, of course has no doubt that North Carolina can be induced to desert the Democrats by proper means.

One of these proper means is to take care of Mr. Leach. Kellogg, too, is convinced that if the Star route prosecution against him be abandoned Louisiana can be brought into the Republican line, even without the machinery of a returning board. But prudent politicians will not attach much importance to these assurances. There is not a Southern State which is likely to give its electoral votes to a Republican candidate for President except Virginia; and even in Virginia there are significant signs that the Mahone alliance of negroes and mean whites is crumbling to pieces. One of these signs is in the apathy and disgust of the negroes of Virginia, who unquestionably constitute the more respectable portion of the motley Mahone combination.—*Philad. Record*.

Floods in the West.

GREAT DISASTER BROUGHT TO BUILDINGS AND CROPS—THE RIVERS RAPIDLY RISING.

ST. LOUIS, June 21.

The river has risen about three inches since last night. Advice from the North and West note heavy rains along both the Upper Missouri and Mississippi rivers, and it is now feared that another rise of a foot or two will come. Should this be the case there will be great destruction of crops and farmer's property along the streams in this State. Already a great amount of bottom land on the Missouri river is overflowed and the crops are ruined. Farmers have been forced to abandon their homes for higher ground. Farms opposite Hermann are reported to have suffered damage to the extent of over \$60,000, and other losses. In Callaway county, opposite Jefferson City, the bottoms are

submerged. A great quantity of low land along the Osage river is inundated and settlers are moving to safer places. Forty miles of bottom below Ashland, on the Missouri river, is overflowed and a great loss of wheat and corn is reported. The Madison dyke, above this city, still holds. Two hundred men are working on it.

All Sorts.

Montgomery Blair is a sufferer from an affection of the spine, which has assumed an acute state.

The most conspicuous and influential free trade newspapers in the United States are great Republican dailies.

Mr. Gould's yacht is ornamented with the great financier's coat of arms, consisting of a letter G encircling a crested jay bird.

The export of ostrich feathers from the Cape last year was unprecedentedly large. The prices obtained were enormous.

It is proposed to erect a memorial chapel and mausoleum at Epworth, in England, the birthplace of John and Charles Wesley.

One of the Senatorial seats belonging to Arkansas will be vacant in 1885, and candidates are already springing up at nearly every cross-road.

Senator Anthony has had a slight relapse, but his friends at Providence do not anticipate any serious interruption to his gradual convalescence.

It was a county with a good name, Christian county, Ky., that raised in 1882 10,534,350 pounds of tobacco and 5,180,000 bushels of wheat.

It is said that Senator Lafayette, of France, the last of his illustrious line, is broken in health, poor, and living in an ordinary third floor flat.

A report is current that James Carey, the informer, has gone to the North of Ireland, and that the Government will eventually send him to Canada.

George Hooley, the Democratic candidate for Governor of Ohio, is a native of New Haven, Conn., and is a nephew of ex President Woolsey, of Yale.

It was by the decisive, crushing vote of 35 to 7 that the Massachusetts senate killed the house bill to increase the salaries of legislators fifty per cent.

Clarence Parker, the sixteen year-old son of a State Senator of Nevada, weighs 180 pounds, and has thus got his name and fame admiringly into the newspapers.

There is only one business more profitable than that of robbing the United States Treasury, and that is the making of abortive attempts to convict the fellows who do the robbery.

Another loving heart has been broken. A Brooklyn girl who married in London has just discovered that her young husband is not an Englishman at all—nothing but a New York dude.

General Francis E. Spinner, whose queer signature used to adorn all United States currency, has left his Florida plantation for a time and is visiting friends in Boston and elsewhere in the North.

The President has appointed David B. Parker as Postmaster at Washington, D. C., to succeed Thomas L. Tullock, deceased. Col. Parker is now the Chief of the Post Office Inspectors.

The Supreme Court of Vermont holds that a witness was competent, although he was dumb, uneducated in the use of signs, and only able to assent or dissent in answer to a direct question by a nod or shake of the head.

The New York Times says of the Republican thieves, "Turn the rascals out," If they were to do that they would not have any leaders left, for there is hardly one of them who has not had his fist in the public purse contrary to law.

The officers of the Pennsylvania state agricultural society have signed a ten years' lease for the property of 300 acres located near the junction of the Pennsylvania railroad, a Sixteenth street, Philadelphia, where it crosses the Germantown and Norristown branch of the Reading road.

"If the various countries maintain their present rate of increase," says Mr. Gosselin, Secretary of Embassy at Berlin, "fifty years hence the United States will have a population of 190,000,000, Russia approximately 153,000,000, Germany 83,000,000, the United Kingdom 63,000,000, Austria-Hungary and Italy both 44,000,000, France only 40,000,000,