

The Centre Democrat.

S. T. SHUGERT Editor.

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

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S. T. SHUGERT, Editor.

Thursday Morning, August 2, 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 such a candidate for State Treasurer, and also to such other officers as the convention may determine. It will also be presented to the convention a resolution which has been adopted by the State Committee, changing the rules of the party so as to fix the time of the annual meeting of the State Committee at 4 p.m., on the Wednesday after the third Monday in 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 congressional districts, one-half the Democratic votes cast at the last gubernatorial election, or a fraction of 1,000 such votes amounting to 500 or 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.

J. B. LICHTY, Clerk.

The Democratic Delegate Election and County Convention.

The Democratic voters of Centre county will meet at the regular places of holding the general election for the districts on Saturday, Aug. 11, 1883, to elect delegates to the Democratic County Convention. The election will open at 2 o'clock, P.M., and close at six P.M.

The delegates chosen at the above time will meet in the City Hall at Bellefonte, Tuesday, Aug. 14, at 2 o'clock, P.M., to nominate one candidate for Associate Judge, one candidate for District Attorney, one candidate for County Surveyor, and to transact such other business as the interests of the party may demand.

The number of delegates to which each district is entitled is as follows:

Bellefonte, N. W.	2	Frigg, S. P.	1
" S. W.	3	" N. P.	1
" W. W.	1	Haines,	1
Mifflinburg	1	" W. P.	1
Millheim	1	Halfmoon,	1
Unionville	1	Harris	1
Howardboro	1	Howard	1
Philipsburg, 1st W.	1	Houston	1
" 2nd W.	1	Lytle	1
" 3rd W.	1	Marion	1
Banner	1	Miles	1
Boggs	1	Patton	1
College	1	Penn	1
Curtin	1	Potter, N. P.	1
Ferguson, O. P.	1	Rush	1
" N. P.	4	Spring	4
Spring.	4	Snow Shoe	3
Taylor	1	Taylor	1
Union.	1	Worth	1

The committee holding the delegate elections and the W. Miles Wescott, W. M. C. Hause, Chairman, Secretary.

GOV. CURTIN will please accept our thanks for two vols. Compendium of the Tenth Census.

THE Republican Senatorial deadlock in New Hampshire still continues, but the indications are that in a few days a break will take place, and that Mr. Wm. E. Chandler who has bossed the politics of that state for some years, has lost his grip and will be retired defeated.

THE Postmaster General meant business when he ordered that no Postmaster should absent himself from his post of duty, without consent of the Department. The Postmaster at Kalamazoo, Mich., disobeyed the order and went to New York, where he remained a week. He is now a suspended official.

SENIOR BARCA, the Spanish Minister to the United States, committed suicide in New York on Sunday morning last, where it is said he arrived with a view of sailing with his wife and daughter for France. The cause of the rash act is supposed to be financial difficulties. He was popular and much esteemed in Washington, both in his official and social relations.

ENGLISH officials it seems are not pleased that the United States returned a few of the assisted paupers sent to this country who were incapable of earning a living in their own country. The United States welcomes all foreigners who emigrate here to better their condition and live under a free government, but if a government has no more decency than to take advantage of this liberality to send their helpless paupers here for support, our government is entirely justified in returning them, whether they are pleased or not.

A REPUBLICAN paper says the Democratic party do not seem to think as much of Senator Stewart now as they did last year. Well, no! Last year Stewart vehemently proclaimed that he was honestly and conscientiously in favor of reforming the abuses of administration which his party had fixed upon the state, and the Democrats were simple enough to believe him. This year they have learned that he was an infernal hypocrite then, and is a willing tool of the bosses now. Is it wonderful that respect should die under such circumstances?

The Death of Montgomery Blair.

The Hon. Montgomery Blair died at his residence in Prince George's county, Maryland, a few miles from Washington, on Friday last. Mr. Blair for many years has been a conspicuous figure in the political and social life of Washington and the state in which he lived, and well known to the country as the distinguished Postmaster General in the administration of President Lincoln. He was a remarkable member of a famous family, and like his distinguished father, Francis P. Blair, illustrated a life conscientiously and earnestly devoted to honorable works controlled by high motives. The active career of Mr. Blair, says the *Washington Post*, began with his graduation from the Military academy, forty-eight years ago, and covered the period of most rapid development in the material, intellectual, educational and moral growth of the country. It covered, also, the era of anti-slavery excitement, the great civil war, and the ensuing period of reconstruction. Such a man as Mr. Blair would, in all probability, have achieved distinction if he had followed the profession which he first chose. But army life in time of peace did not satisfy his active mind, and he sought in the profession of the law a field for greater activities and more agreeable duties. He was successful at the bar, and soon took high rank in his profession. Mr. Blair was a thoroughly efficient Postmaster General under the first Republican President, and introduced various postal reforms, the utility of which has been attested by the experience of his successors. He began his public life as he closed it, a Democrat, and was a wise counselor in matters of party policy. As a citizen, as a churchman, and in social and business relations Mr. Blair led a blameless life, and left an example worthy of emulation.

THE JUDICIAL APPORTIONMENT BILL, as agreed upon by the committee of conference, has passed both houses, and is now before the Governor for approval. In the arrangement of the districts we believe Centre and Huntingdon are coupled as the Forty-ninth Judicial District, of which Judge Orvis will be the President Judge until the expiration of his commission as additional law judge of the 25th district. This association will doubtless be pleasant and satisfactory to the people of both counties, giving to them a clear-headed, fearless judge of more than ordinary merit and ability.

SENATOR JOHN STEWART, the consistent, denounces Gov. Pattison as an "arbitrary executive" attempting "an invasion of the people's rights." This will certainly be news to the people as they are strongly impressed with the belief that the reverse is true—that Pattison is standing in the breach warding off the vigorous blows of John's Stalwart associates to crush the constitutional provisions designed to protect the "people's rights." A large portion of the people of Pennsylvania are disfranchised in direct and positive violation of their rights. This disfranchisement Stewart & Co. seek to perpetuate by refusing to pass a fair and just apportionment bill in accordance with their constitutional obligation as members of the legislature. All that the Governor or his friends ask or will ask is fair play and a just recognition of the equal rights of the people. Under all the circumstances of the case as they exist, John makes a bad figure in assuming the role of an indignant protestant against the fancied encroachment of an "arbitrary executive." The pretended Independent of last year now the supple slave of the political conspirators he formerly denounced, is not in position to denounce the Governor or any other honest man.

By the death of the Hon. Montgomery Blair, Gen. Simon Cameron is the only living representative of the first cabinet of President Lincoln.

Serious Charges.

Secretary Chandler who is in a political hole in New Hampshire, from which he is likely to emerge shorn of his power as an effective machine manager, is in danger of entering another hole of more damaging character as a representative of the Federal administration. This unconscionable trickster was one of the principal manipulators of the Presidential fraud of 1876, is now Secretary of the Navy in Arthur's administration, and had the letting for the building of six steel vessels for which a large sum of money was appropriated by the last congress. This letting recently took place under suspicious circumstances and all let to John Roach, between whom and the Secretary it is believed extraordinary business relations exist. The Harrisburg *Patriot* referring to this subject remarks: "The obvious reason was of course that Roach's bids were the lowest put in. There was good reason, however, to believe that the figures were so reduced as to make profit impossible. It was, indeed, almost unnecessary for a member of the firm of Cramp's sons, that also made bids, to tell the public that Roach depends for his profits upon extra appropriations. But this is not by any means all that the member of this firm asserts. In an interview published in the Baltimore *American* he makes some very serious charges.

He asserts that Secretary Chandler obtained his appointment as secretary of the navy through John Roach's influence and it would not be very surprising if this were proved to be true. Mr. Cramp then states that his firm made a bid for the construction of the cruisers at a lower rate than Roach could possibly afford. His astonishment can be imagined when the bids were opened and Roach's were found to be still lower. In this connection the ship-builder says: "I tell you that Chandler gave the whole thing away on the day the bids were opened. His hand shook like a leaf when he opened them. We saw through it at a glance, and I would have given him a piece of my mind then and there if my brother had not held me back. All that I said was: Mr. Secretary, are you going to give all these contracts to one man? and all that Chandler said was: I don't see how I can help it. But he trembled from head to foot as he stood there, and was uneasy as long as we were present. He still further asserted that the secret of the Chandler-Roach combination can be found in the personal business relations of a legal character that exist between them."

SPEAKING of the record Gov. Pattison has made as chief magistrate of Pennsylvania, the New York *Herald* says: "He outlived the criticism with which his administration was greeted, and those of his own party who were indifferent or hostile are numbered now among his ardent supporters. The Democratic press, with but few exceptions, have followed in the wake of the party leaders, and instead of the half-hearted support which the Governor used to get he is praised and applauded in all the glory of large type. The Governor's independence of party trammels caused hostility and jealousy; his achievements, which have always kept pace with his promises, have brought about the present revulsion of feeling. It would be useless now to recapitulate the events which have made Governor Pattison so popular; in fact, they have been recorded at length in the *Herald*. It is only necessary to say that never before in the history of the Commonwealth have so many measures of reform become law. The Governor's policy has been so well defined that the Democratic party will rely upon it in the campaign of next fall."

A VERY damaging hail storm passed over Lancaster county on Saturday night last. Over a thousand acres of growing tobacco were totally destroyed.

Which Side was Mr. Niles On?

There is a difference of opinion, says the *Phila. Record*, among Republicans concerning the way in which Jerome B. Niles, their candidate for Auditor General, voted last year—whether for General Beaver, Senator John Stewart or Governor Pattison. A good many Independents, it is claimed, voted for Pattison in order to make their votes against Beaver as effective as possible, and Mr. Niles may have been one of them. In the earlier part of the campaign he wrote a letter to General Beaver pledging his hearty support, but some time after he wrote another letter to the General in which he said he could not give the open and public support promised in his former letter. He saw how the cat was jumping in Tioga, and concluded to jump with the cat. At any rate, before the campaign was over it is said he was on the same stump with Mitchell and Merrick making speeches for Stewart. Hence it may be concluded that he did not vote for Governor Pattison. Senator Stewart favored the nomination of Niles, although there was in Colonel Grimeson a Stalwart candidate in his county, and in view of this many people have taken it for granted that Niles was an Independent last year. It is generally understood, at the same time, that his nomination was a Stalwart concession to the Independent element of the party. Still he was claimed as a supporter of General Beaver last year up to the very last days of the campaign. It must be admitted that Mr. Niles played his game of hide-and-seek with a good deal of skill in the last campaign. He may not be so successful this time.

THE Democrats of the House passed what is known as the Stewart Congressional Apportionment bill presented at the regular session, and sent it to the Senate for concurrence as a compromise of the existing differences between the two houses. This bill conceded to the Democrats eleven, and to the Republicans seventeen members, actually two more than that party are honestly entitled to, but for the sake of bringing the session to a close the Democrats agreed to accept the bill as framed and offered by Stewart in the Senate. The refusal of the Stalwarts to accept this as a compromise measure at least, proves beyond question that the controlling majority of the Senate are acting the part determined upon in advance of all proceedings had upon the subject of apportionment—that no apportionment bill except one grossly unjust would be allowed to pass or supersede the present shameless gerrymander law by which these Stalwarts now hold the power to violate the plain provisions of the Constitution and ignore the rights of the people these provisions are designed to protect. Under this state of facts, as they actually exist, the Democrats may with propriety, accept the issue presented and appeal to the people of Pennsylvania with just assurance of approval. They have done all that could be honestly expected of them to carry into effect the imperative mandates of the Constitution. The failure to do so, rests with the obstructionists in the Senate.

THE New York *Sun* says: "The Asiatic cholera, besides ravaging Egypt in a terrible way, exists at this time as it does nearly always in the East Indies. We learn officially that yesterday in the British House of Commons there were 1,161 deaths from cholera in the Bombay Presidency during the first week of last month. In the meantime the rags and garments taken from victims in Egypt are being shipped to this country for the use of paper makers. Our Consul at Liverpool has sent the facts on this subject to the Government at Washington, and warning has been given from there to the health authorities of New York, Philadelphia, New Haven, Providence and Boston. There is danger in infected rags.

A COMMITTEE of the striking Telegraph Operators have appealed to the President demanding an investigation into the arbitrary action of the Western Union Telegraph Company, which they claim jeopardizes very important interests of the government.

Bouncing the Independents.

Says the Harrisburg *Patriot*: Senator Cameron's policy from the first was to annihilate the independents. Senator Cameron never forgives nor forgets and he has never given up his original intention. He has captured Senator Stewart and with him he hopes the main body of his followers also. He is now determined to wreak his vengeance upon the other leaders. The signal has already been given to bounce them.

Senator Cameron's personal organ, the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, in last evening's edition utters the following significant words in reference to Colonel Levi Bird Duff, Colonel Thomas M. Marshall and W. S. Purviance: "The republican party is reunited. If those gentlemen do not like it, they can go over to the democrats. They will be assailed by their late political associates for that, nor their right be questioned. They will earn contempt only by pretending to be republicans and seeking to divide the party from within. They cannot succeed, for neither, nor all of them, are of sufficient consequence to set the political river on fire, and only attain prominence in proportion as they—pretending to be republicans—earn contempt by covertly aiding the common enemy."

This can mean but one thing, which is that the independent leaders mentioned are repudiated contemptuously by the alleged "united republican party." There is no mistaking the significance of this utterance coming from such a source and in order that it may obtain wider circulation than the limited edition of Senator Cameron's personal organ can give it and to make sure that it comes to the notice of the gentlemen most concerned the *Patriot* cheerfully republishes it.

MARSHAL T. POLK, the defaulting Treasurer of the state of Tennessee, has been tried and convicted of embezzlement. He was sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary, and fine equal to the amount embezzled. This unfortunate man belongs to one of the most prominent families in Tennessee. He was a nephew and an adopted son of the late President Polk, and might have been the heir to the Polk mansion, a very valuable piece of property that President Polk provided in his will should go to the most deserving of the Polk family whom the Legislature should select. The amount of Polk's embezzlement reaches about four hundred thousand dollars and if the portion of his sentence which requires his restoration is enforced he will probably stay in jail all his life. At various times it has been rumored that his friends were willing to make good the amount of his thefts, in consideration of the withdrawal of the criminal charges against him, but nothing came of these alleged attempts at compromise.

ROBERT B. BEATH, of Philadelphia, was elected Commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, at the meeting of that organization in Denver, Col., on Friday last. He received 158 votes out of 270. Gen. Barnum was a candidate, and his defeat is attributed to his expressed opinion on the Fitz John Porter case.

THE President started Monday on his visit to the Yellowstone Park. He expects to be absent from the seat of Government until the middle of September. Secretaries Lincoln and Folger are to be of the Presidential party. He might as well recall Chandler from the political field in New Hampshire and attach him to the junketing party west. Bosses are not in demand in the east now, and Bill is gathering no laurels for himself or the administration.

With Mr. Livsey, the creature and representative of Chris. Magee, in charge of the treasury, the bosses would be strengthened so as to make them invincible in republican politics. With the deposits of the state treasury to bank on Mr. Magee would go into the lobby of the next legislature, and dictate the nomination and election of his favorite to the United States senate. That would be indeed a lame and impotent conclusion for the vigorous and resolute independentism of 1881 and 1882. Independent support of Cooper in his canvass this fall therefore means independent suicide. Independent aid to the machine at the approaching election therefore is equivalent to what independent surrender to the bosses in the senatorial struggle of 1881 would have resulted in. All this is so plain that the most ordinary comprehension will not fail to perceive it. It is not therefore by any means certain that Mr. Cooper and the confederated bosses will succeed in deceiving and recapturing the independents in the approaching canvass.—*Harrisburg Patriot*.

THE New York *World* in condemning the suggestion made by the *Herold* that the Government should buy the telegraph system, says: "All that is needed is an act of Congress. It may be passed in a week and become a law. All that is needed is that an accidental majority of a Congress should believe the measure to be popular, that the people want it, and they will give it to them. Such a bill might go through with a rush. Stranger things have happened. There is one way to avert this. Let the Western Union Telegraph Company recognize that its power, its prosperity, and even its perpetuity, perhaps, depend upon the good will of the people, and let it recognize the force of the public opinion and make concessions to its employes and disarm public prejudice.

The lesson of the situation was pointed out at the start. Put an end to the strike by concessions. Settle it.

A FEW Republican papers urge the members of their party in the legislature to accept no compromise and make no concessions to secure the passage of apportionment bills, and at the same time claim that the odium of the extra session rests upon the Democrats. Not much. Nor are the people such simpletons as to believe them, or fail to place the odium just where it belongs, and that is to the determination of the Republican bosses that there shall be no bill passed which will not afford them the same unfair political advantages they enjoyed in the past.

COOPER and the Independents. The fact that Thomas V. Cooper has again been placed at the head of the republican organization in this state by his appointment as chairman of the state committee gives deep concern to those independents who broke away from their party under the lead of Charles S. Wolfe and who last year stood unflinchingly against the efforts of the bosses to whip them into the party traces. They cannot see what effect their movement has had to reform or purify republican politics when the very prince of machine politicians is again put in control of the republican organization.

Another consideration that leads the Wolfe independents to distrust a reconciliation which makes Mr. Cooper the leader of the republican party in Pennsylvania is that when the next convention for the election of delegates at-large to the national convention shall assemble the same tactics which enabled the bosses to control the convention of 1880 will without doubt be employed to defeat the friends of Blaine or whoever may be the anti-Cameron candidate for president in 1884. The chairman of the state committee has great power in the republican organization and will be able to shape the convention to his liking, while the election of delegates in the several congressional districts can be manipulated through members of the state committee with a judicious distribution of the potent Dorsey soap. It is not a matter of wonder that the Wolfe independents are loth to accept the work of the late republican state convention.

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