

The Centre Democrat.

S. T. SHUGERT & E. L. ORVIS, Editors.

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

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Thursday Morning, January 3, 1884.

A REPUBLICAN paper in York accepts the amendment of Blaine to Barkers' tax distribution bill. He likes the whisky tax amendment, in a moral point of view, of course.

THE Teutonic Bismark, having waged unscrupulous war on the American hog, has left the question to be settled by his Gallie neighbors. After January 20th, 1884, all importations of hog meats into France are absolutely prohibited. A fellow dare not take a ham sandwich in his sachel.

It seems that Bellefonte is not to have a monopoly of the patent knuckles, as Bridgeport, Conn., had a prize fight with iron knuckles the other day, which for brutality, was only exceeded by the brilliant campaign of our own slugger. Well the penalty of being great sometimes falls on the innocent.

THE mission of General Negley, of Pittsburg, and his associates of the Union Leagues, to overthrow and drive the "bourbons" out of the South is the great enterprise claiming attention. The bare mention of Negley's Union League will have an alarming effect upon Wade Hampton and his bourbon compeers.

THE Hon. Dudley C. Haskill, a Representative in Congress from Kansas, died in Washington, after a lingering illness. He was a prominent Republican member, and it is supposed his disease originated from overwork in the last Congress in the tariff bill, during the feeble health of Judge Kelley, when the work was almost wholly upon the deceased.

THE sanguinary pistol fight between the Democratic faction in New Orleans, last week, will scarcely be available to the Republicans for "bloody shirt" capital. It was a mere family quarrel for the gubernatorial nomination between the McEury and Odenfactions, in which the Republicans and negroes were not allowed to participate, and needs no meddling on the part of the opposition to render its condemnation complete by all good citizens of that city and elsewhere.

SPEAKER CARLISLE has been tendered a reception by the Commonwealth Club of Philadelphia. The invitations was made through ex-Speaker Randall and it is understood has been accepted by Mr. Carlisle, to take place on the 12th of January. If our republican friends continue to hope to see the friends of Speaker Carlisle and ex-Speaker Randall get by the ears on the tariff question, this meeting will probably dispel the illusion.

CONGRESSMAN HOPKINS, of this state has introduced a bill looking to a restraint of our public lands being gobbled up by monopolies and foreign syndicate speculators. Quite enough of that kind of thing has already been done, and we are glad to see some movement made to hold these lands for homes for the people at fair prices, instead of subjecting them to the mercy of speculators and monopolists.

THE election trials of South Carolina, which has so ennobled the Department of Justice, under the present dode head of that institution has again fizzled, simply because there was nothing in the cases to justify them. With a zealous Republican judge, and Democrats excluded from the jury, and every needed appliance on hand to obtain conviction, except proof to satisfy a conscientious judge and jury that any obstructions were thrown in the way of a free exercise election privilege to all.

Our Past, Present and Future.

With this issue, the DEMOCRAT enters upon its sixth volume. When the paper was started, five years ago, it was believed that there was not only room for a good county paper, which would advocate the principles, and support the nominees of the Democratic party, but also that there was a necessity for such a paper. At that time there was but one Democratic paper published at the county seat, and the proprietor of that paper denied that it was the organ of the party, or under any obligation to support any candidate of the party, unless the editor was personally satisfied with the nomination of such candidate. In pursuance of that declared policy, that paper refused to support the nominee of our party for Congress at the preceding election, and assisted our political enemies to procure his defeat. The DEMOCRAT was not started in a fit of spleen or ill-temper, or to punish or injure the editor and proprietor of the other paper, but to supply the want felt by many leading Democrats in the county, of a party organ which would at all times afford a bona fide support of the party. This the DEMOCRAT has at all times endeavored to do.

In the commencement of this enterprise the paper had to contend with the idea put in circulation by those interested to prevent its success, that it would not be permanent—that it was only an ephemeral thing that would last only a few months. Time has refuted this objection. Again it was alleged that the DEMOCRAT was started for the sole purpose of making war upon certain Democrats of the county whose course had not met with the approval of the founders of this paper. The course of the paper during the five years of its existence has refuted this charge. This paper has made war on no Democrat, and has never failed to give a full and generous support to each and every candidate of the party, whether such candidate was the personal choice of the editors or not. Nor has the columns of the paper been used to promote the nomination of one Democrat at the expense of other members of the party, but at all times has given to every aspirant for the honors of the party impartial and fair treatment.

For the generous support given to the paper in the past, and the largely increased patronage it is now receiving from the citizens of the county, the editors returns their thanks.

In the future, we propose to improve the paper regularly and rapidly. We intend that the DEMOCRAT shall be the best county newspaper that ever has been, or ever can be published in Centre county. While in politics the paper will be Democratic, a large portion of its columns will be devoted to the local interests and industries of our county, without regard to the politics of those immediately interested. We shall also endeavor to furnish our readers with the fullest epitome of the news of each week, so that the DEMOCRAT will be a complete family newspaper.

We have said that the politics of the paper will be as heretofore, Democratic. We do not mean by that, that it will blindly oppose every thing which Republicans may propose, or abuse all persons because they are Republicans; nor do we mean that we will defend everything which persons claiming to be Democrats may do.

On the other hand we expect to hold every person who is put into office by our party to a strict accountability. The doctrine of the Democratic party is that public officers must be honest, capable and faithful. If any pretended Democrat has obtained an office by professing to possess these qualifications, and in the discharge of his official duties has failed to exhibit them, the DEMOCRAT will be the first to censure, and to give the party notice of the dishonesty, incapacity or unfaithfulness of its servant. Strict accountability of public officers to those who elected or appointed them, is the only safe-guard in a Republic.

Wishing each and every one of our numerous patrons a "happy New Year," we will labor on to deserve their commendation as well as patronage.

The Tariff Tirade.

Since Mr. Carlisle has been elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Republican and a few independent newspapers have continually, intentionally, and without just cause, charged that the Democratic party is the party of free-trade. We have concluded that they do this because they do not know what free trade means. If they will examine the subject they will find that free trade is "commerce free from restrictions"; free interchange of commodities "commercial reciprocity." Free trade, it will be seen, would even knock a tariff for revenue out of existence. To say that a tariff for revenue only is the doctrine of the Democratic party is as false as it is to say that the party is for free trade. The tariff as used by the Republican party to build up, make rich and powerful monopolies by adding to the burdens of labor, is a great monstrosity. "All that glitters is not gold," nor is all that is hidden under the theory of high protection, protection! We have now in operation a tariff framed by a Republican Congress upon their own terms. According to the teaching and belief of the Republican party every branch of business ought to be exceedingly prosperous. Labor should be in demand and well paid. To prove that business is dull, and trade stagnant we need to quote only a few telegrams from large business and manufacturing centres.

PITTSBURG, December 9.

The rail department of the Pittsburg Bessemer Steel Works, at Homestead, shut down to-night, throwing eight hundred men out of employment. Andrew Carnegie was interviewed and stated that the Edgar Thompson Works, at Braddock, which employs three thousand men, will follow suit next month, unless arrangements are effected with the employes to work for a small reduction this winter, or until trade improves. The loss on running at \$35 a ton for steel rails, he said, was greater than the loss of the interest on money invested in case of suspension. McKee, Anderson & Co's mill at Beaver, Pa., closed to-day until after the holidays. The Manchester Iron and Steel Works will suspend operations on Monday on account of scarcity of stock, throwing one hundred and fifty men out of employment. The puddling department at Klonan's Superior Mill, which suspended four weeks ago resumes on Monday.

HOLLIDAYBURG, December 20.—The rolling mill of McLanahan, Smith & Co., and the Hollidayburg Iron and Nail Company have shut down on account of lack of orders. It is rumored that they will start up in January.

TRENTON, N. J., December 20.—A reduction of 10 per cent, without notice in the wages of the laborers in the New Jersey Steel and Iron Works, has been ordered.

READING, Pa., December 20.—Laborers on the new railroad at Cornwall struck on account of a reduction in wages from \$1.50 to \$1.30 per day.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—The establishment of J. P. McAfee & Co., hardware dealers, Celina, Ohio, has been closed by the Sheriff. Liabilities, are \$20,000; assets, \$13,000.

NEW YORK, December 20.—A. Willet, a real estate agent in this city has assigned. Preferences, \$42,000.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., December 20.—Donald Gordon, an extensive dry goods merchant in this city made a general assignment to-day.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Brownson, builder, whose failure was announced yesterday, had fifty houses under construction. His liabilities are \$250,000.

It seems plain to us that a high tariff is no guarantee against business depression. Before the great panic of 1875 and during all the long period which it lasted we were under a tariff framed by the Republican party and in full accord with its theory.

Great labor strikes occurred in 1875—1877 and in 1882, all under Republican rule and a Republican tariff. If the tariff protects labor why then did these strikes occur? If the Republican theory is correct, laboring men, why are the shops closed and you now in want of work?

Under the false doctrine of high protection, mills, foundries and manufactories are run at high pressure for a year or two, the market is overstocked in every branch and line of business; there is no sale for any commodity. Then shut down—turn out the laborer, he has had a year of prosperity; now he can starve for the next six months.

The doctrine of the Democratic party is right. Under it monopolies are not fostered to the great injury and wrong of the laboring man. "We favor the tariff for revenue limited to the necessities of the government, economically administered, and so adjusted in its application as to prevent unequal burdens, encourage productive industries at home, afford just compensation to labor, but not to create or foster monopolies." This is the teaching of the Democratic party on the tariff. What is the need of revenue? It is necessary to carry on the government, and for this purpose more than \$500,000,000 is needed annually. Abolish internal revenue entirely and let this vast amount of money be raised by a fair, just and equitable tariff that will foster, encourage, and build up labor as against monopolies, corporation and all industries will have ample protection, and labor will find continued employment and just remuneration.

Mr. Carlisle very justly says, "we have no idea of crippling the growth of our industries, but simply scaling down the iniquities of the tariff schedule, where they are utterly out of proportion to the demand of that growth. After we have calmly stood by and allowed monopolies to grow fat we should not be asked to make them bleed. Our enormous surplus revenues are illogical and oppressive." This is so plain that the most obtuse, even the editor of the Bellefonte Republican, ought to understand it.

Let three men and newspapers be fair with us, with the laboring men and the industries of the country.

THE action of Speaker Carlisle in placing at the head of the Committee on Foreign Relations our distinguished fellow townsman, Ex-Governor A. G. Curtin, meets with the hearty approval of the whole country. No man in the forty-eight congress is so peculiarly fitted for the position, both by education and taste. A practical education, acquired at the Court of Russia, where he became thoroughly acquainted with all the details of the Diplomatic and consular service, a large acquaintance with both the old and new world; a mind beautifully stored with the needs of our country abroad, he brings to the work a clear, bright, vigorous intellect, and a thorough familiarity with the service such as few men have ever had—We may expect practical and beneficial reforms from this committee. No consular stations will be erected for needy political retainers. The Governor is under obligations to no one so far as the appointment is concerned. It came unsolicited. It was the clear foresight of a level-headed Speaker, seeking the right man for the right place. The fight between Mr. Cox and Mr. Belmont had nothing to do with the appointment, as they were not thought of for that place, by the Speaker, although both were importuning for it. If the selection of a chairmanship had been left to the Governor he would doubtless have selected this. The appointment is eminently fit and proper. The people of the twentieth congressional district congratulate their member on this appointment.

Let Congress wipe out the official sinecures. It will do a good work, and score largely on the side of economy.

Letter from Ex-Gov. A. G. Curtin.

The following letter from Ex-Gov. A. G. Curtin to Samuel Giddland Esq., of Buncburg, Pa., will be found of interest to our readers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20, 1883.

DEAR SIR: Your letter surprises me no little. From the time it was first proposed to make a railroad connection between Bellefonte and Spring Mills I have been a constant advocate of the project in its every phase, and have made repeated trips to Philadelphia in advocating it; had the promises of the late president that the connection to Lemont would be made if the connection to Bellefonte were made. I do not believe it possible that there can be a man in Bellefonte who does not desire such a railroad connection, as it would enhance the value of property and largely add to the population of the town, and it would be very selfish in the people of Bellefonte if they failed to do everything in their power to make the railroad connection through the valley so as to accommodate the interest and the people on your side of the mountain. Not only for such reasons have I advocated the measure but I have an interest in the roads as stockholder in the Bald Eagle and as interested in real estate in the neighborhood of Bellefonte, and I surely should not forget that the farms owned by Mr. Wilson, and now the only property of her heirs, could be brought into market and sold for a price that would give to them the means of living. They are not the only persons to be benefited by such connection. There are many others in Pennsylvania who would be equally benefited. When I consider that the people of Pennsylvania under extraordinary circumstances subscribed the money to locate and grade the road to Lemont I could not even, independent of any interest, be so insensible to the justice which they deserve from the Pennsylvania railroad as to fail to advocate the completion of the road. It was under the impression that I was favoring the road to Lemont and at the same time holding the Pennsylvania railroad to their repeated promises that I offered the resolution advocating the finishing of the road to Lemont when the Penna. railroad should commence to finish the road from Spring Mills to that point. That I was perfectly right under the impression in offering that resolution, is now demonstrated by the singular turn they have taken in reference to the Pennsylvania road in demanding \$25,000 from the people who have already paid so much and have been so long without the facilities of a railroad.

I will go to Philadelphia to-day and have an appointment to meet the officials of the Penna. railroad to-morrow when I will lay the whole subject once more before and endeavor to induce them, if possible, to withdraw that demand. The result of my effort will be communicated to you in advance of my going home, but I can review the whole question during the two weeks recess of Congress, all of which I will spend at Bellefonte. I presume if the Penna. railroad refuses to withdraw the demand that a new company will be raised to make the road from Lemont to Spring Mills which they have held so long and which under the law I do not believe they can hold any longer. My impression now is that a railroad will be built from Bellefonte to Lemont; and my hope is, notwithstanding the demand that the Penna. railroad will be induced to build the road from that point to Spring Mills and I will do all I can to aid this.

Yours truly,
A. G. CURTIN.

It is announced that Stephen W. Dorsey of star-route memory, is again in trouble and that his great cattle ranch of 70,000 acres upon which browsed 45,000 head of cattle, is in the hands of receivers.

THE New Orleans newspapers severely criticize the Treasury Department's rejection of Mrs. Mary Miller's application for a license as master of a steamboat, the ground of rejection being that she is a woman. She has spent her life on the Mississippi, and her husband's age has necessitated her learning all the intricacies of that great national highway. She is twenty years younger than her husband, and has navigated his boat for some years, and all the pilots recognize her skill. So constantly has she been in the boat that two or three of her children were born in its cabin. Her daughter, a pretty girl of sixteen, assists her in managing affairs in the Captain's newest craft, which is navigating the bayous that are tributary to the Black and Ouachita rivers. The aged Captain is compelled to spend most of his time in repose in the cabin.

Senator Van Wick wants to Know.

Mr. Van Wick presented a resolution in the senate calling on the secretary of the treasury to furnish copies of all vouchers and items of expense for special or assistant attorneys and detectives with the names of the parties since the 4th of March, 1881. He also wants from the secretary of the interior, copies of all papers relating to the attempted transfer by the Texas Pacific railway company of the Arizona, New Mexico and California land grants to the Southern Pacific railroad, and also copies of any memorials, briefs or letters relating to the matter of land grants or subsidies to the Texas and Pacific railroad.

Young Mr. Vanderbilt has been allowed \$100,000 a year by his careful father. The young gentleman should be able to "make both ends meet" on that sum, but the fact that he managed to "get away" with five times that amount in about as many months rather shakes our confidence that he will do so.

Press Opinions.

The Bradford Era is in favor of abolishing Mormonism even at the cost of war.

The United States had but one Indian war in 1883 and that was a very small affair, thanks to the skill of General Crook.—Tribune.

Mexico spent 1883 in imbibing Yankee enterprise and energy. May these qualities quicken her sluggish blood.—Tribune.

The Franklin Repository would be glad to have the government reduce the surplus by paying the border claims.

The Pittsburgh Dispatch thinks there is law enough in Pennsylvania to punish prize-fighters, but the officers are in fault.

Mrs. TOM THUMB doesn't stand very high, in society but she is a goodly little woman and doesn't care to marry again.

The Connelleville Courier suspects that Mr. Blaine will discover that letter writing is dangerous for Presidential candidates.

The Sunbury Democrat thinks the members of the Legislature will not be judged by the people so much by their vote on the salary bill as the amount they take from the Treasury.

Maud S. is uncrowned. The gelding Frank has beaten the record and has brought it down to 2:4. Some of the watches mark 2:6. Winship, the other horse, made Maud S.'s time 2:10 in the second heat.

Our legislative committee which has undertaken to investigate the Standard Oil Company is having just about the same luck which befel the general government in its prosecution of the Staroute thieves. Better stop it and save the state's money.—Altoona Tribune.

The republicans of Pennsylvania said before the election in this state last November that a victory for their party would insure prosperity in mill, factory and furnace in our commonwealth. At present thousands of iron workers and miners are out of employment. Laboring men should not heed the story the republican party will circulate in the campaign of 1884.—Easton Argus.