

# The Centre Democrat.



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"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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Thursday Morning, March 13, 1884.

THE Hon W. S. Hunt, the United States Minister to Russia, died after a long illness at St. Petersburg on the 27th ult.

THE Hon. Kenneth Rayner, solicitor of the Treasury, died at Washington on Thursday last, at the age of 76 years. He was a native of North Carolina.

THE Lieutenant Boss victorious. Gen. Sickel, the pension agent at Philadelphia, had to go. Judge Kelley his friend had no delegates to offer Arthur, and Quay had. Hence John M. Vanderveer chaperoned by Quay got the office.

THE senators of the United States have voted themselves private secretaries, to receive handsome salaries at the expense of the public treasury. It will be interesting to see how many of them appoint their wives or sons or daughters to these positions.

THE "National Greenback Labor convention are to meet in the city of Indianapolis, Ind., on the 28th of May next, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States. It is said that Mr. Weaver, of Iowa, is again willing to lead a "forlorn hope."

It is said that there is a prospect of a split in the Republican ranks of Georgia, and that a double delegation may appear at Chicago claiming recognition. The whites composed principally of Federal retainers, favor Arthur, and the negroes are for Lincoln or Blaine.

COL. DUDLEY, the commissioner of pensions, has consented to be the Republican candidate for Governor of Indiana. He is an adroit politician and organizer, and is believed to be the strongest man of the state to lead the Republican forces in the great battle. Senator Voorhees will probably be the candidate on the Democratic side, and between the two Indiana may expect a lively campaign.

THE Democratic members of the Ways and Means committee of the house are said to have voted unanimously upon a reform tariff bill identical with that of Mr. Morrison, except that the free list is confined to salt, coal and lumber. To the other articles added by Mr. Morrison to the free list, the majority of the committee have decided to apply his general principal of 20 per cent. horizontal reduction. This bill is to be presented as a substitute to Mr. Morrison's bill.

It is said that Boss Quay, the lieutenant in command of the ring, makes no secret of his purpose to teach Judge Kelley a lesson in subordination. The Judge, it appears, antagonized the Boss in the Philadelphia appointments, and for this insubordination is to be defeated for re-nomination for congress in his district, and to make the defeat more marked and humiliating to be succeeded by the miserable ringster, Keyburn, who disgraced the senate of Pennsylvania at its last session.

A JOINT caucus of the Democratic members of the senate and house of representatives met last week and appointed a Democratic campaign committee, composed of one member from every state and territory having a Democratic representation in congress, and authorizing the committee to select one person as a member from every state and territory having no Democratic representation, and from the District of Columbia. The Hon. William Muchler is the member of the committee from Pennsylvania, and is well chosen not only for his ability, but as a prudent and sagacious Democrat in whom the people have unbounded confidence.

THE Chambersburg Valley Spirit admitting that it might crowd things a little, asks how would William T. Sherman for President, and J. Sherman for Vice President, strike you? It seems a little thick at the first start, but after it run awhile it would get thin enough.

THE Cincinnati Enquirer sent out 8,000 circulars to Democrats in Indiana, inviting them to make known to its Indianapolis bureau their first and second choice for Presidency. These letters of inquiry were answered as follows:

J. E. McDonald	5,084	Morrison	11
H. E. Payne	353	Ben Butler	1
Tilden	432	Holman	29
Heidrick	97	Voorhees	227
Hancock	14	Flower	2
Thornson	9	No choice	238
Ready	1		

THE New York Sun is responsible for the statement that Samuel J. Tilden was the largest contributor to the Hancock campaign fund in 1880. The figures are taken from the books of the Treasurer of the Democratic national committee, which shows Mr. Tilden's contribution to be \$51,500. Other large contributors were W. H. Barnum \$40,000, W. L. Scott \$43,000, H. B. Payne \$20,000, Oliver H. Payne \$31,000.

THE cyclone which passed over and devastated parts of Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama on the 18th ult., was one of terrible calamity, more destructive of life and property than the floods of the western rivers. In the track of the cyclone whole villages were swept away, and plantations and farms are denuded, and live stock killed and maimed. The losses in Georgia are estimated at two millions, and in Alabama at three millions. A bill has been introduced in the senate to appropriate \$100,000 for the relief of the sufferers.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR in his message to congress in 1882, recommended as follows: "I recommend an enlargement of the free list so as to include within it the numerous articles which yield inconsiderable revenue, a simplification of the complex and inconsistent schedule of duties upon certain manufactures, particularly those upon cotton, iron and steel, and a substantial reduction of the duties upon those articles and upon sugar, molasses, silk, wool and woolen goods."

If Morrison's bill is free trade, what is this? It will bear comparison.

STAR-ROUTE DORSEY has said that he was offered immunity from prosecution by the payment of \$30,000, and that one of the star-route contractors did pay \$200,000 for immunity. What reliance is to be placed upon such a statement by Mr. Dorsey may probably be taken with some allowance, but as congress is now investigating the late star-route trials, it is entirely proper that he should be placed upon the stand and given an opportunity to say on oath what he does know about the extraordinary corruptions charged to the management of these trials.

WILL prohibition prohibit? is a conundrum the people of Iowa propose to solve by a recent act of the legislature of that state. Many predict that the law cannot be enforced, and there is some foundation in this prediction from the experience elsewhere. It is said that in Maine, where prohibitory laws have existed for many years, that there are more grogeries than in any other of the neighboring states. Temperance is a great moral question, to be met as such by persuasion and argument in the right spirit, and we have but little faith in any party or legislative action to enforce personal morality against appetite, or what the drinker may conceive to be his right to judge and choose for himself. Coercion will always beget resistance, either open or secret, and rum drinking will continue, all the same, whether its supply is controlled and regulated by judicious laws in the hands of responsible agents, or obtained in violation of law.

THE Chicago Times thinks that Sherman ought to investigate the late southern cyclone, as it was probably designed to exterminate colored Republican votes.

A NUMBER of papers, and among them our excellent contemporary, the Lock Haven Democrat, have indulged in calculations to show that if Washington had lived to the 22d of Feb. last, he would have been one hundred and fifty-two years old. Now, having settled this question so satisfactorily, we suggest that they extend the inquiry and inform us what the combined ages of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Jackson would have been if they had lived to the day that Rutherford B. Hayes was elected as their successor in the Presidential office.

THE story, remarks the Pittsburgh Post, of the late tornadoes in the south has not been fully told. While they will not rank with the Ohio floods in the amount of damage done to property, the loss of life is far greater than has accompanied any late freshet or overflow. The latest and most accurate reports fix the damage of these storms at \$1,000,000 of property, 5,000 houses and 300 to 400 lives. If to this we add the devastation of the Ohio floods, where the amount of damage done is estimated at \$10,000,000, it will make a very heavy weather bill to pay for one month.

THE Washington Post condemns the action of the House in refusing to concur with the senate in asking an additional appropriation of \$10,000 to its contingent fund, to enable Sherman and Mahone to continue their "bloody shirt" campaign. The House was certainly discourteous, but a committee of conference was appointed in each House. The objection will no doubt be withdrawn and the campaign will continue unembarrassed for want of funds. Let the coffin pass unobstructed, John and his repudiation chum need early sepulture.

THE National organization of Greeley's "narrow-minded blockheads" calling themselves the "Union League of America," held a convention in Washington last week. The object of the meeting of the pretentious organization it appears is to make arrangements to regulate the south in the interest of the Republican party. The "solid south" worries these patriots, now, more so perhaps because they cannot but know that it was by their own blundering tyranny, in sending their robbers upon that people when they were defenceless and in poverty, that made them "solid." Times have changed the aspect of affairs somewhat. The tyrants now beg where they formerly coerced.

WHATEVER may be the intentions of Gov. Tilden, or his desires in reference to the nomination for President, he cannot but be highly gratified with the universal confidence and good feeling entertained for him in every section of the country, and the general concurrence that he would be the proper person to lead the Democratic forces, if his health and strength are adequate to the great undertaking. On this point accounts differ. He is represented by some as in the last stage of life, by others as vigorous and competent as in his best days. But all this, we have no doubt, will be made clear by Mr. Tilden himself in due time. He is not the man to make mistakes, and if he is not in condition to endure the strain upon him, he will not embarrass the party by accepting the responsibilities that the position would impose. This is our faith in the great statesman—the unselfish patriot who suffered himself to be defrauded of the Presidential office in 1876, rather than desolate his country by civil war at a time when the soldiers were massed in the capital under the command of the soldier President to enforce the designs of those with whom he acted and prevent his duly elected successor taking his seat.

EX-POSTMASTER GENERAL JAMES was before the committee investigating the star-route trials last week. In his extended testimony he stated that President Garfield was anxious and persistent in having the star-route frauds probed to the bottom, no matter who was hit, stating that he had taken an oath to execute the laws and this ulcer must be removed. Mr. James detailed at length the means taken to deal with these immense frauds upon the government, and referred to the damaging character and large amount of testimony obtained, and expressed his belief that if the President had been willing to have taken "a lower view of his obligations as Chief Magistrate and as an honest man, he would not have fallen a victim to the assassin's bullet." He subsequently explained his meaning of this sentence by saying that "judging from the clamor of the people and the clippings found in the assassin's pocket, Guiteau's head was turned by these things."

EX-ATTORNEY GENERAL MacVeagh was also before the committee as a witness, and testified to substantially the same facts detailed by Gen. James, and after informing the President that by pursuing the prosecution they "would explode a bomb in the Republican party," was directed to go ahead. He also referred at some length to the secret history that induced him to withdraw from the prosecution and the department, and explained his reasons for believing in the sympathy of Arthur with the robbers to be that they and their defenders were his intimate associates.

THE civil service commissioners have made their first annual report. It has been submitted to congress by the President with his endorsement and recommendations of the further legislation suggested by the commrs. The report states that the several results which appear to be more direct objects of law and the civil service rule, as understood, are, "That official authority and influence must no longer be used to impair the freedom of elections, or coerce political action of citizens. That the extortion from those in public service, whether under the form of political assessment or otherwise, for the purpose of paying the expenses of parties or candidates, must come to an end. That selections for executive service on the basis of official favor and partisan influence must be suppressed by requiring examinations and other adequate tests of character and capacity as the conditions of entering the service. That the true responsibility and independence of legislative and executive departments under the constitution must be restored." The report which is quite lengthy, making a volume of sixty-seven closely printed pages, declares the civil service act a success, and believes the most difficult point has been attained, and makes various suggestions and among others that of party tests be no longer applied in the selection of collectors and postmasters, and that every corrupt exercise of power, nomination, promotion, transfer or confirmation, even though a corrupt consideration may not be a thing of value, should be an offence under the bribery laws.

### Business Booming South.

THE manufacturing industries of this country which heretofore has been mainly confined to, and formed largely the wealth of the New England productions, is rapidly drifting to the south. The reports from that section state that the cotton mills in course of erection and put in operation in the months of January and February, will cost over \$3,250,000, and add more than 100,000 spindles to those now in use. As showing their faith in southern cotton manufacturing, the Manufacturer's Record says: "A number of well established southern mills propose to largely increase their capacity. The Eagle and

Phoenix mill, Columbia, Ga., intends to erect a new \$1,000,000 mill; the Rome (Ga.) cotton factory will spend \$100,000 on a new mill; the Riverside Cotton Mill company, Danville, Va.; Matthews Mill Company, Selma, Ala., and the Birmingham (Ala.) Cotton Mill will each expend about \$100,000 or more on new mills, while in addition to those there are numerous other cotton factory projects being worked up. An immense amount of northern and western capital is going into southern industries, and the southern people are investing heavily in new enterprises."

Other industries in mining and manufacturing for the two months indicated, according to the Record, shows extraordinary advancement and prosperity, in which it is estimated that the vast aggregate of twenty-eight million of dollars have been invested. This, too, in a section of our country our Republican friends ask us to believe is so badly governed by Democratic bourgeois, as to require the warning voices of Sherman, Mahone, and such, to inspire the country to send missionary committees to the relief of its oppressed people.

DON CAMERON seems to have surprised everybody by a sudden return to the United States unannounced. His return will doubtless create something of a flutter among those members of his party who were fixing up things to suit themselves, regardless of the interest of the Chief Boss.

### Legal Tender Notes Constitutional.

THE supreme court of the United States have decided in the long pending legal tender case of Quilliard vs. Grenman, that the legal tender act of May 31, 1878, is valid and constitutional, and that the treasury notes reissued under it are good and legal tender in payment of all debts. To this opinion Justice Field dissented. The opinion holds "that congress has the power to issue the obligations of the United States in such form, and to impress upon them such qualities as currency, for the purchase of merchandise and the payments of debts as accord with the usage of sovereign governments. The power, as incident to the power of borrowing money and issuing bills and notes of the government for money borrowed, of impressing upon those bills or notes the quality of being a legal tender for the payment of private debts was a power universally understood to belong to sovereignty in Europe and America."

In view of this decision, four distinct propositions were presented in congress on Monday last, looking to constitutional restriction, limiting legal tender currency to gold and silver.

### The Morrison Bill.

WHAT THE BILL PROVIDES.

THE bill provides that on and after the 1st of July, 1884, the rates of duty to be levied, collected and paid on the importation of goods, wares and merchandise mentioned in the tariff act of March 3, 1883, shall be as follows: On all articles mentioned in schedule I, which includes all cotton goods; in schedule J which includes all hemp, jute and flax goods; in schedule K, which includes all wool and woollens; in schedule C, which includes all metals; in schedule M, which includes all books, papers and articles of this character; in schedule E, which covers sugar, molasses and articles of like character; in schedule F, covering tobacco; in schedule D, which wood and wooden ware (except as otherwise provided) in schedule G, which includes provisions; in schedule N, which includes sundries other than precious stones, salt coal and linseed or flaxseed, and in schedule H, which includes all chemical products, eighty-five percentum of the duties and rates of duty now imposed on said articles severally. It provides however, that none of the articles included in schedule I, shall pay a higher rate of duty than forty percentum ad valorem; in schedule K higher than sixty per centum, and in schedule C higher than fifty percentum. It provides that the rate of duty on cast polished plate glass, unsilvered, exceeding twenty-four by sixty inches square, on green and colored glass,

bottles, vials demijohns and car boys, (covered or uncovered), pickle or preserve jars and other plain, molded or pressed green and colored bottle glass, not cut engraved or painted and not specially enumerated or provided for in this act and on all the articles subject to ad valorem duty in schedule B, which includes earthenware and glassware shall be eighty percentum of the several duties and rates of duty now imposed on said articles severally. It provides however, and nothing in this act shall operate to reduce the duty above imposed on any articles below the rate at which said article was dutiable, under "an act to provide for the payment of outstanding treasury notes to authorize a loan to regulate and fix the duties on imports and for other purposes, approved March 2, 1861, commonly called the Morrill tariff," and that when under the existing law any of said articles are grouped together and made dutiable at one rate, then nothing in this act shall operate to reduce the duty below the higher rate at which any article in such group was dutiable under said act of March 2, 1861. It provides that after the 1st of July, 1884, the rate of duty to be paid on all unpolished cylinder, crown and common window glass, on iron or steel sheet plates, or taggers' iron coated with tin or lead or with a mixture of which these metals is a component part by the dripping or any other process, and commonly known as tin plates, terne plates and taggers tin; and on linseed or flaxseed, shall be eighty percentum of the several duties and rate of duty now imposed on said articles severally. It adds the following list of articles to the present free list: Salt in bags or sacks, barrels or other packages or in bulk; coal slack culm; coal, bituminous or shale; timber hewn and sawed, and timber used for spars and in building wharves; timber squared and sawed not especially enumerated or provided for in this act; sawed boards planks, deals and other lumber of hemlock white wood, sycamore and basswood, and all other articles of sawed lumber; hubs for wheels, posts, last blocks, and wagon blocks, car blocks, gun blocks, holding blocks and all blocks or sticks rough hewn or sawed only, staves of wood of all kinds, pickets and palings, laths, shingle pine clapboards, spruce clapboards-wood manufactured not specially enumerated or provided for in this act. It provides however, that in the case of bituminous or shale coal the exemption from duty shall not apply to coal imported from the Dominion of Canada until the government shall have exempted from the payment of duty all coal imported into that country from the United States.

### Additional Local.

—The following is from the Milesburg correspondent of last Saturday's *Gazette*:  
It becomes our painful duty as a citizen of this quiet borough to mention the facts of the doings of one whom we are at a loss to know where or how to place, with the human race or brute creation. Now to the point, and you, many readers of *Gazette*, can fix or place him as you see proper. This individual, name withheld for the present, a few days ago hecoked his wife because she would not bring him something to eat from his mother-in-law's, and put her out of the house, at the same time having nothing for the maintenance of the family. Remember he is of a lazy nature, and a worthless man. Now, young man, provide for your family, or else the borough authorities will take you in charge and instruct you how to look after your family. If we have an occasion to speak of you again it will be your name and particulars of your actions toward your wife.

Alfred S. Smith is now chief of police and lamplighter, successor to W. T. Hall, retiring from said office.

The Burgess and Councilmen-elect have taken their iron-clad oaths to perform their duties as officers of the borough.

The railroad, as reported, is a settled fact, and another powder magazine has been built for blasting purposes, this being the second one built in sight of town.

Blacksmithing shops are now being built in different localities along the line for railroad smithing. This does not look like falling through, as has been reported.