

# The Centre Democrat.

THE CENTRE DEMOCRAT is published every Tuesday morning, at Bellefonte, Centre county, Pa.

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A LIVE PAPER—devoted to the interests of the whole people.

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No paper will be discontinued until arrears are paid, except at option of the publisher.

Papers going out of the county must be paid for in advance.

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Our extensive circulation makes this paper an unusually reliable and profitable medium for advertising.

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Two inches.....	7.00
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Political Notices, 15 cents per line each insertion. Nothing inserted for less than 50 cents.

Business Notices, in the editorial columns, 15 cents per line, each insertion.

## The Farmers College.

REPORT OF GOV. PATTISON AND SUPERINTENDENT HIGBEE ON ITS CONDITION AND WANTS.

HARRISBURG, Pa. March 26.—Governor Pattison, State Superintendent Higbee and Secretary of the Commonwealth Stenger, visited the State Agricultural College at Bellefonte yesterday to attend a special meeting of the Board of Trustees, which was held last night.

The object of the special meeting was to consider the financial condition of the institution and the following report signed by Gov. Pattison and Superintendent Higbee was presented:

"In making the following report the undersigned have no disposition to reflect upon the past management of the State College or to criticise the ability and fidelity of its present body of teachers. We have only taken into consideration its present financial condition and its relation to the large agricultural interests of the Commonwealth.

The college has an annual income of \$30,000, three farms, a body of students numbering from 130 to 150, a large building requiring a considerable amount to put it in repair and proper working order, a faculty consisting of sixteen teachers and a current debt reported as amounting to some \$55,000.

"The farms are widely separated, one in the eastern, another in the western and another in the central part of the State. The western farm is in no sense a model farm, and is in no condition to throw upon the market in its present state. It is an injury rather than a benefit to the college. It is an advertisement against scientific farming and not an illustration of its benefit. The eastern farm is in better condition, but is far from being what a model farm should be. The central farm, in immediate connection with the college, is all that the friends of agricultural science ought to require. To hasten the liquidation of the debt to put the buildings in proper working order, to supervise the farms so far removed from the College itself, that, as model farms, they may properly exhibit to the people the rich results of modern science applied to agriculture and to convey the whole work of the College into closer sympathy with the farming and industrial community of the State.

"We respectfully submit to the Board the following plan, which, in our judgment, will best subserve the ends above mentioned without detracting from the present professional thoroughness of the Institution's Faculty:

First—President (duties as at present).....\$3,000

Second—Lecturer on Agriculture and Superintendent of the Farms.....2,500

Third—Professor of Agriculture, Chemistry and Superintendent of Experimental Station.....1,500

Fourth—Professor of Chemistry.....1,500

Fifth—Professor of Botany and Horticulture.....1,200

Sixth—Professor of Mathematics and Civil Engineering.....1,200

Seventh—Professor of Modern Languages (French, German and English).....1,200

Eighth—Professor of Geology and Zoology and Head of Preparatory Department.....1,200

Ninth—Professor of Veterinary Science and Physiology and Assistant in Preparatory Department.....1,200

Tenth—Professor of Military Science and Tactics.....600

Eleventh—Assistant of Military Science and Tactics.....600

Twelfth—Assistant of Military Science and Tactics.....600

Total cost of teaching force.....\$15,000

"This plan removes from the work of the College the Latin and Greek languages, except so far as the former may be introduced in the study of French. It adds, as we think, to the efficiency of agricultural studies by supplying a lecturer on scientific farming, who shall at the same time act as responsible Superintendent of the farms, and also make room for the important matter of veterinary science. These additions we have thought well calculated to answer the wishes of all intelligent farmers and secure their hearty co-operation. Moreover it leaves a balance of \$14,000. This

balance we report should be devoted to the following use. Six thousand dollars to be applied to the farms distant from the institution, as the remainder to such incidental expenses as may be seen to be necessary to maintain the efficient working of the College.

"Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT E. PATTISON,  
"E. E. HIGBEE."

## Ticket Scalping.

THE DEMORALIZING EFFECT ON RAILROAD EMPLOYEES OF THIS QUESTIONABLE BUSINESS.

The developments in the recent trials of railway conductors in Philadelphia and elsewhere for embezzlement bring to light a new feature in the so-called business of ticket scalping, and explain very clearly one of the principal reasons for the crusade which is being waged by the railroad companies against the gang who boast it is that they can discount the standard rates of the companies. There was for a long time an element of mystery in this peculiar traffic, which was partially dispelled when the methods of the scalpers were ventilated in the courts and by the clear exposures of railway officers on the subject.

It is apparent that the scalper derives some of his support from some of the various links, large and small, of the longer lines between distant points. As a matter of course, rates by the various lines between important centres must be uniform, and the longer lines by reason of their greater length and time of transit, could not and very properly so, hope to obtain any considerable proportion of the scalpers, who buy for the intending traveler who falls into his hands a regular ticket by one of the longer routes, sells it to him for a dollar or so less than it costs, collecting a bonus from several of the short lines composing this route as a reward for diverting the traveler from more direct lines, and pocketing a fair profit on the transaction, although the passenger may not be so fortunate, as the greater length of time consumed on the trip, and consequent increase in cost of meals and sleeping accommodations, may more than cover the saving in the cost of the ticket, and the traveler has no compensation for his lost time.

But this and other operations which the scalper is wont to consider as "legitimate," would scarcely explain the magnitude which his profits must assume to maintain him in the traffic, and these late trials furnish the information necessary to complete a solution of the mystery. The testimony showed that the railway employes retained the ticket collected from passengers and sold them at nominal rates to the scalpers, who resold them to travelers at a discount from standard rates, the companies thus carrying two or more passengers on the same ticket.

The disclosures emphasize with painful clearness the moral character of the scalping enterprise. For years past it has been the aim of railroad companies to adjust their rules and regulations so as to relieve conductors from even the slightest imputation of dishonesty. Whether this has been from motives of self-interest or not is immaterial to the point at issue. The result has been apparent in the *esprit du corps* and the moral of their employes. The feeling that, in view of the safeguards thrown around them, they were above suspicion has wrought a remarkable change in this class of employes, and has made the position of railway conductor a highly honorable, as it is a responsible and exacting calling. But just as this condition of things has been so happily consummated, a new element of evil arises and it is not strange that amongst such a host of employes some should be found willing to listen to the temptings of the scalper, and become eventually his willing but guilty tool.

In the cause of morality, and in behalf of an important and deserving class of railway employes, we can cordially endorse the efforts of the transportation lines to utterly abolish this traffic, which has long been a misdemeanor in this state, and we earnestly hope that the various state will speedily take cognizance of the growing evil and by statute similar to our own, put the scalper under the ban of the law and compel railroad companies to redeem from cash from passengers, their unused or partially used tickets. In the meantime the traveler will do well to consider whether he can conscientiously aid the scalper or incur the risk of riding on a stolen ticket.—*Phila. Press.*

## Republicanism in Virginia.

There will be two delegations from Virginia knocking for admission at the doors of the Chicago National convention, each claiming to represent the party and to possess the qualifications for recognition stated in the call of the Republican National convention.

One of these delegations will be the creation of a State convention composed of elements having no distinctive political identity other than a record of antagonism to the Democratic party under the motley colors of readjustment, coalition and repudiation, manipulated by Senator Mahone and intended only to rehabilitate his shattered political fortunes; while the other will consist of that portion of the original Republican party of the State, which though one of the most disgraceful eras in the history of any State in the Union maintained its name and honor and kept itself aloof from unclean alliance and questionable dealings with the credit of the commonwealth.

The straight-out Republicans of Virginia, as they call themselves, though hitherto mustering but an apparent handful of strength and studiously held up to ridicule of the State, having no influence, no share of Federal patronage, no standing at court, and no deep lodgment in the confidence of the people, have nevertheless the courage of their convictions and the prestige of a name which they have never debauched.

They will hold their convention at Richmond on the 30th of April, for the selection of delegates to Chicago, and, although the Mahone interest will make every conceivable effort to control its action and capture at least a portion of the delegations chosen, there are growing reasons to believe that the convention will be a representative body; that its full representation of 273 members will be present; that its delegates will consist of men inaccessible to Mahone's approaches, and that its demand for recognition at Chicago will be of a nature to command respect.

We are led to this belief from the fact that the regular Republicans of Virginia are not groping in the dark without principle, purpose or leadership, but are being coached for the contest by a man who fully understands the situation, and who seldom undertakes a movement without at least a reasonable chance of success.

Mr. Mahone's delegation, committed to Arthur and Mr. Desondor's delegation pre-pledged to Blaine, will meet upon the doorsteps of the Republican National convention at Chicago, just as certainly as that the convention is held and an important crisis in the political annals of Virginia will there culminate with consequences in any event more or less national in their character.—*Phila. Press.*

## Western Union Taxes.

THE COMPANY CLAIMS TO HAVE PAID ALL THAT ARE DUE.

HARRISBURG, March 26.—The case of the State against the Western Union Telegraph Company was argued to-day before Judges Simonton and McPherson. It involves taxes to the amount of \$145,000, claimed on stock dividends made by the company in 1879 and 1881. The company has paid in cash the dividends made on the same stock, and insists that the increase of stock did not render it liable to further taxes; also that the Commonwealth, in assessing the tax, has included lines not owned by the company. A great deal of testimony has been taken during the past year in New York City upon letters rogatory issued from the Dauphin County Court to the Supreme Court of New York, under which Charles MacVeagh was appointed Commissioner. There was much argument to-day over that evidence. The county was represented by M. E. Olmstead, of this city; John E. Reed, of Philadelphia, and William Brown and Wager Swayne, of New York, and the Commonwealth by Messrs. Lyman D. Gilbert, J. William Nowlin and Deputy Attorney General Snodgrass. The company's counsel contended that the State was not entitled to any tax, it having been paid all that was legally due.

(Special to the Pittsburgh Post.)

WASHINGTON, March 28.—"We may be a little down now," said Representative Forney of Alabama, referring to the tariff differences in the Democratic party, "but it is only temporary. That will pass away. If our eagle stoops a little now, it is only to plume himself for a loftier flight. Here in the House the tariff is discussed according to the influence it may have upon the return of members respectively, but at Chicago everything will be subordinated to the election of the President. That will be the objective point and parties, like armies, must have an objective point in order to win success. The tariff and every question will be considered there with regard to its effect upon the whole country, and you will see that the Democratic party will be entirely harmonious."

## Oceans of Whisky.

A semi-official statement prepared by the Chief of the Assessment Division of the Internal Revenue Bureau shows the amount of whisky to be taken out of bond for the next five months to be as follows:

March.....	2,500,000
April.....	3,000,000
May.....	3,500,000
June.....	3,200,000
July.....	2,900,000
Total.....	14,500,000

The tax of 90 cents per gallon on this amount makes a total of \$13,000,000. Therefore the distillers will have to pay this sum on taking this whisky out of bond in the next five months. There is no market for this whisky, since over a million gallons were taken out of bond

in December, January and February. The owners of these fifteen million gallons of whisky to be withdrawn in the next five months will either be compelled to export it, or it will have to be sold to cover the taxes and advances that have already been made by the banks. The mode of collections is summary and cannot be evaded and as soon as the assessment has been made, the distiller is notified and given ten days in which to pay. At the end of that time a penalty of 5 per cent, and interest at the rate of 1 per cent, per month is imposed for the non-payment nor does he fare much better by exporting his product, as the exportation is surrounded with difficulties. But there is no doubt that many distillers will be embarrassed and some ruined by the defeat of the Bonded Extensions bill.

Phil Thompson will on Monday introduce into the House a resolution declaring it inexpedient at this session of Congress to reduce the whisky tax. The object of the resolution is to reassure the bankers who have loaned money on whisky in bond.

## Treatise on Mechanics' Liens.

In 1882 a nearly completed work on the Mechanics' Lien Law of Pennsylvania, by Ovid F. Johnson, Esq., of the Philadelphia Bar, was destroyed in the fire in Library street. With characteristic energy Mr. Johnson has rewritten the work, and it will be issued soon by the Law Publication House of Rees, Welsh & Co.—*Phila. Record.* The author is the son of Ovid F. Johnson, who will be recalled by our older residents as a native of Wilkes-Barre and a prominent member of the Luzerne Bar. In cataloguing this new publication the publishers say it is purely a work of practice, treating in due order from the incipency to the satisfaction of all the procedure incident to securing the compensation of mechanics and materialmen under our mechanics' lien system. It is copious with notes of reference, and considers, in clear phraseology, every printed Pennsylvania opinion upon the subject. An idea of the confused and complicated condition into which the law upon this branch of our jurisprudence has fallen, and the absolute necessity now for an explanatory work of this character, may be gathered from the fact that we have one hundred statutes in this behalf, which have been construed by our courts in over six hundred printed opinions.—*Wilkes-Barre Record.*

## New Hampshire Said to be for Edmunds.

CONCORD, March 25.—The Republican State committee met this evening to fix upon the time and place of holding the State convention, and to decide upon a plan of action for conducting the next campaign. If the sentiment expressed can be relied upon as an indication of the wishes of the State, New Hampshire will send a solid Edmunds delegation to Chicago. The committee voted to hold the State convention in this city on April 30.—*N. H. Star.*

In addition to the most extravagant pension list in the world, it is proposed to so increase it that it would require from \$300,000,000 to \$500,000,000 to satisfy the demand, to which one of the leading Republican journals of the country remarks:

The soldiers who fought so bravely for the preservation of the Union deserve all that Nation can give them without injustice to our citizens who pay taxes. Our existing pension laws provide for expenditures greater than any other nation has ever given to the survivors of its armies. The annual payments exceed \$60,000,000. Do the veterans know that the passage of the laws which they demand would sink the Nation in hopeless bankruptcy? Do they foresee the result of abandoning the established principles that pensions shall be given only for wounds or disability? More than 2,000,000 men served in the Union Army. Of these there are now living about 1,000,000 who have not applied for pensions and nearly 500,000 who have applied. Assuming that there are 100,000,000 (and that is a low estimate) who would gain pensions and land under the proposed laws, what would be the cost? An additional expenditure of at least \$96,000,000 a year and the gift of at least \$200,000,000 worth of land. The veterans also ask for the passage of the bill for the equalization of bounties. It is estimated that expenditures under this proposed law would be from \$300,000,000 to \$500,000,000. Hundreds of millions more would be required under other bills which are supported by veteran organizations.

There is a disposition to compare Blaine with Henry Clay, when in fact there is no resemblance whatever. Clay was a brilliant orator of the Western type, quick to grasp an idea and use it where it would do the most good. He was, also a person who won personal friends independent of his political standing, making him a popular favor-

ite. Mr. Blaine has no such following, and lacks a personal magnetism which captivates and retains friendships. Proud, arrogant and presumptuous, he makes friends so far as his political influence can be appropriated. Why his name is used in this connection we hardly know, unless it comes from a desire to appropriate another's virtues.

## Blaine on Buchanan.

J. Buchanan Henry in New York World.

If the historical accuracy of Mr. Blaine's statements of the chapters yet to be given to the public is not more manifest than in the one just published the forthcoming work will have to be classed with fiction rather than history, or consigned to the domain of campaign literature. There is not a word of truth in Mr. Blaine's statement that Mr. Buchanan prepared an answer to the South Carolina commissioners that was "compromising to the honor of the executives and perilous to the integrity of the Union," and that "Judge Black took a decided and irrevocable stand against the president's decision."

It is both disingenuous and unmanly for Mr. Blaine to make such vague and general averments without stating what those "fatal concessions" were and enabling Mr. Buchanan's friends to meet the charge. He shelters himself behind an ill defined and intangible allegation, which may be understood to mean anything which to the prejudice of the reader may be pleasing. His words certainly suggest and insinuate a very serious charge such, for example, that the president was in his answer about to acknowledge the principle or right of secession, or to abandon the public property of the United States to the state of South Carolina, or to order Major Anderson back to the untenable for which he had just evacuated. To use the language "perilous to the integrity of the Union" could be justified by nothing less grave. The insinuation is simply a slander upon a dead statement, and there is not one scintilla of evidence to support it.

The whole and sole foundation for this malevolent tissue of insinuation is this: When the president replied to the audacious demand of South Carolina commissioners, he made use of some phraseology which Judge Black, his legal advisor, thought might be subject to misconstruction on the part of the secessionists, and he asked that it might be modified as to those phrases, so as to clearly express what the president and the cabinet intended, because there was not the least disagreement between them upon the great vital constitutional questions involved. The president handed the draft to Judge Black to be worded unmistakably. This is the whole story, and Judge Black never told the president that he would resign or expressed any threat to him. Judge Black was not a man threaten, or Mr. Buchanan to be threatened, what ever partisan enemies may say of them. Under crushing difficulties and embarrassments, surrounded by treason and thwarted by partisan malice in congress the president and his loyal cabinet were unitedly striving to save the country from its deadly peril, and they had no substantial difference between them on any of the great questions of the hour.

I have within my reach a letter written by Judge Black to Mr. Buchanan shortly after the close of the administration, offering to write the latter's biography. It is so ardent in its outspoken admiration of his late chief's course all through the trials and perils which they had encountered together, and so commendatory of the wisdom and patriotism of his whole course, that the friends of Mr. Buchanan would be justified in disbelieving Mr. Blaine's word if he should even say that the charge had emanated from Judge Black himself, and would be right in considering it a cruel libel upon his memory.

Mr. Blaine has been pleased to speak approvingly of President Buchanan's moral and social worth. The latter's friends will cheerfully dispense with any tribute of this kind from the hero of the Mulligan episode.

## An Enthusiastic Endorsement.

GORHAM, N. H., July 14, 1879.

GENTS—Whoever you are, I don't know; but I thank the Lord and feel grateful to you to know that in this world of adulterated medicines there is one compound that proves and does all it advertises to do, and more. Four years ago I had a slight shock of palsy, which unnerved me to such an extent that the least excitement would make me shake like the ague. Last May I was induced to try Hop Bitters. I used one bottle, but did not see any change; another did so change my nerves that they are now as steady as they ever were. It used to take both hands to write, but now my good right hand writes this. Now, if you continue to manufacture as honest and good an article as you do, you will accumulate an honest fortune, and confer the greatest blessing on your fellow-men that was ever conferred on mankind.

TIM BURCH.

—Messrs. Bunnell & Aikens have a very fine selection of solid gold watches, jewelry and a full line of silverware, which they offer cheaper than any other store in Bellefonte.

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OUR PRICES:

Lake Herring, 1-4 bbl. \$ 2.00

1 Sack Best Roller Flour 1 45

1 Can Finest California Peaches 35

1 " " Apricots 30

1 " " Pears 30

3 Cans String Beans 25

3 " Lima " 25

3 " Corn " 25

3 " Tomatoes 25

3 " Peas 25

1 " Good Table Peaches 20

3 Bottles Catsup 25

3 " Pickles 25

1 lb. Baking Powder 30

1 lb. Pure Pepper 25

Granulated Sugar 9

1 gal. Best Table Syrup (all sugar) 70

1 " " Glucose Syrup 45

Sugar Syrup, 40

Choice Rice 08

3 pounds Sultana Prunes 25

Lump Starch " 06

Corn Starch, per pound 08

1 pound best Coffee 19

Sardines, 3 boxes for 25

Scaled Herring, per box 35

Extra boned Codfish, per box 45

Loose Valencia Raisins 09

French Prunes 15

Olien Soap 08

Bloater Herring, per doz 20

2 lbs Canned Corned Beef 27

Tapioca Flake or Pearl 07

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