

# The Centre Democrat.

F. E. & G. P. BIBLE, Proprietors.

"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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FRANK E. BIBLE, Editor.

The Missouri man comes to the front now. Good bye, Ohio.

Mr. BLANE told his sister who is Mother Superior of a convent that Burchard had sandwiched "Romanism" in between Rum and Rebellion as one of the antecedents of the Democratic party and that had defeated him.

The Philadelphia lawyers have taken up the question of Police Magistrates, and are determined to reform the abuses that have fastened like barnacles on to that class of officials. Lawyers as a class don't need any reformation unless it might be a Philadelphia lawyer.

HON. LEONARD RHONE has been re-elected Master of the State Grange. Honors crowd fast on our worthy Representative and they come not undeserved. Mr. Rhone is one of the most intelligent practical farmers of our State. He has made agriculture the study of his life, and richly merits his place at the head of this organization.

The Philadelphia Press verily remarks that the senatorial question is not settled in this state. Now Chawls Emory Smith, tell that to "mugwumps" "dudes" or Pharisees, Mr. Blaine will carry out his bargain and you know it. Besides Don looked after a few doubtful districts, and somebody threw in enough Democratic seats to make kicking useless.

DONALD CAMERON will walk off with the Pennsylvania Senatorship as has been the custom of Don Cameron for these many years. There will be some feeble kicking on the part of a corporal guard of Independents but Don will smile gently on the August assemblage known as the Legislature and Senator Don will be Senator, Don for six years more.

TWELVE hundred Bonapartists banqueted in Paris the other day, and said all manner of Napoleonic things. The original "Bony," never indulged in such political moves. But then a banquet is harmless, and men are not so likely to go to war on a full stomach. About the best thing the French Republic can do is to give a banquet each week to the Bonapartists Orleansists, Legitimists, Illegitimists, Rights, Lefts and all the other parties inclined to make a noise. It may be expensive but will not cost as much as a revolution.

WHATEVER political sagacity may be claimed for the Democratic National Committee, one thing is conceded by all. That the policy of Samuel J. Randall and the men who were brave enough to follow his lead, made Democratic victory possible. The free trade avalanche with which the county was threatened, disappeared before the sunshine of a wise, and conservative tariff policy. Mr. Randall is now reaping his reward. His party is victorious, and from all over the country comes the warmest expressions of regard for the great Democratic Commoner. The leadership usurped for a time by men of but a single idea, comes back to Randall as naturally as did the dove to the ark, and for about the same reason. Like the dove it could find no place to rest. It is only a broad, liberal and experienced man like Randall that can lead the Democratic party.

FORT COLLINS, COL., Dec. 8, 1884.  
MR. F. E. BIBLE,

DEAR SIR: Allow me to congratulate you upon your elevation to the position of Editor. May your head be filled with ideas, and your pen be that of a ready writer. May your subscription list grow larger, and your shadow grow broader, and may the balance in your bank account never be written with red ink.

May your contemporaries rap you over the editorial knuckles just often enough to keep you wide awake to the interests of your subscribers and the public in general, and while you record the title papers of the citizens of your native county, and empty their pocket books, may you at the same time be able to correctly record their doings and fill their heads with useful knowledge. But should you fall short of our expectations, and fail to acquire the reputation of a Greeley, a Bennett or a Dana. May it be said of you, "he did the best he could," but "he bit off more than he could chew."

AARON WILLIAMS.

## Something to Consider.

The Republican campaign fund amounted to seven hundred dollars. Their campaign was managed and run from Bellefonte. The Democratic majority of four years ago was cut down from 996 to less than five hundred. The Democratic campaign fund amounted to \$1400, the campaign was managed from Philadelphia and the party majority reduced from 996 to less than five hundred. Just which of these two funds contributed most to this reduced majority we can't say. Perhaps both contributed their fair share. The Republican chairman has had comparatively little experience in the management of campaign. The Democratic chairman has had the experience of over twenty years in political life, a thorough acquaintance with the county, and with the party workers in every district. The Republican canvass showed a little over six hundred Democratic majority while the Democratic canvass showed twelve hundred of a party majority. Now the query is why should it take twice as much money to run the Democratic campaign as it does to run the Republican campaign? Again why should a Democratic canvass of the county show 1200 majority and the Republican canvass show 600? The result shows Mr. Keller's canvass to have been remarkably accurate, and chairman Meeks to have been the most inaccurate in many years. How is this to be accounted for? Inexperience cannot be pleaded on the part of the Democratic chairman. He claims that his committee did its work faithfully, then of course it cannot be charged to the county committee. The attempt to unload the responsibility of the chairman on the shoulders of some of the candidates is a failure. Whatever disaffection there might have been with regard to any individual candidates would only effect that candidate, as his enemies would be sure to come out and vote against him. There was a lack of confidence of the party in its executive head which was well founded, and plainly evidenced by his vacillating course and his indifference to the success of certain candidates on the ticket, which may account in part for the failure but there must be something else back of all this. What it is can only be conjectured. Let our county conventions elect as chairmen in the future men who are known to be true to their party, whose past record will be a guarantee of their future, and who do not seek the position for their own personal advancement and pecuniary benefit.

## New Markets.

Just now what American manufacturers and American labor needs more than anything else is new markets for their products. Over production, will not be complained of when the markets of Mexico, South America and the West Indies are open to our goods. The Republican party which has been in official control of all departments of the government for the last twenty-four years has by its policy driven American shipping off the high seas and banished from the marts of the world her commodities. Tariff has been the one idea of these statesmen and none have been able to grasp the situation President Arthur has shown more statesmanship in his short administration in dealing with international treaties than any of his predecessors. Whether the present proposed treaties with Spain and Nicaragua shall be ratified or not, they are the opening wedges to a new policy of diplomacy. That policy which shall give to American manufactures the markets of the world, and place her commercial marine on the ocean as the legitimate carriers of her freight, will start the wheels of industry, and the busy hum of trade will be heard throughout the land. Over production will be a thing of the past. When we take into consideration the fact that, only two and a half per cent of the goods and manufactured implements etc. that we produce, goes out of the country, it is not surprising that manufacturers complain of over production, and as a remedy, cut down the number of employees run on half time or adopt some other make-shift to tide them over the era of business stagnation. From Cuba alone we import \$46,000,000 of products, more than we give in exchange, in other words the balance of trade is against us. England furnishes Cuba with her manufactured goods, and

controls the carrying trade of that island as she does of the United States. It may take years to throw open the markets of the world, and for us to acquire our fair share of commerce, but a wise liberal foreign policy will accomplish a great deal in that direction in four years. Our manufacturers must be thoroughly posted on the quality and peculiarity of the goods salable in the different markets. The idiosyncracies of the trade must be known to American manufacturers. An intelligent consular service all over the world and managed with an eye single to the advancement of American commerce will be an element of strength. That President Cleveland will be able to grapple with the question we have no doubt and with a return to the economy of past Democratic administrations we have great hopes of the future.

## The County Committee

The disposition of the county Chairman to lug in by the ears his county Committee, and on their shoulders to unload the blame for his incompetency or neglect of duty would be amusing to the members of that body if it were not for its manifest injustice to non-participants. The rights of non-combatants should always be respected, and why he persists in it we cannot see. No person for a moment thinks of charging the greatest political forces of many years to the county Committee. In fact if it were not for the traditions of our party in Centre county no one would even suspect that there was such an organization. It is customary for the county Chairman to call his committee together during a political campaign and consult them with regard to its conduct. This was not done or at least there was no meeting of the committee. If there was a single member of that body in the confidence of the Chairman we do not know who he was. Perhaps a campaign can be better run without a committee but we doubt it. Once for all Mr. Chairman, neither the Democrat or the Democratic voters of the county hold the county committee responsible for the masquerade campaign of last fall.

## Public Lands

The House Committee on public lands has unanimously instructed Representative Oates to report favorably his bill providing that no alien foreigner shall acquire title to or own lands within the United States. Foreign born persons who legally declare their intention to become citizens of the United States shall be eligible to acquire lands. This bill strikes at one of the great abuses that have crept into existence during Republican rule. Millions of acres of land in the west are owned by non-resident land lords to the exclusion of actual settlers. Between the great railroads of the west and the foreign corporations the public domain is fast disappearing, and the prospect of small holdings or farms for the people becomes very blue indeed. This bill in principle is right, and as it has the unanimous recommendation of the House Committee on Public Land it will likely pass. Here is one measure of national importance which should be promptly acted upon. The public lands for actual settlers should be the policy of the government. The enormous acreage now in possession of English noblemen and capitalist will be one of the great drawbacks to the settlement of a large portion of some of our Territories. A farm for every man who desires it is a strong inducement to our immigrant population to leave the crowded cities of the East, where both moral and physical disease lurks in every street and ally. These lands belong to the people and the general government has no right to divert a single acre from them. Absenteeism will manifest itself in this country in a few years unless checked. Nothing will make a man a good citizen and a lover of law and order like the possession of real estate. A little farm will draw him close to his government and increase his responsibility. An ounce of responsibility is worth a ton of good advice. Put the responsibility of a freeholder on every American citizen and our jails and prisons will have few inmates. Let the public lands forfeited by the great railroads revert to the people, and every acre now held by alien foreigners be forfeited unless they take on themselves the rights of American citizenship.

## Going Out to Stay.

Our Republican friends are gradually coming to a realizing sense of the impending change decreed by the people on the 4th of November and to be consummated on the 4th of March, but it is a tremendous task to the party to rid itself of the chronic delusion that it really owns this country, and that its displacement is a conspiracy of the majority against the divine right of the minority. For twenty years the Republican party has been claiming that it alone belongs all the glory and honor of having saved the Union in the war between the sections. For twenty years "we," the Republican party, have been paying the national debt, making no account of the fact that our plan of taxation imposes the heaviest burdens on the workingmen, most of whom are Democrats.

The development of our agricultural mineral and manufacturing resources, the results of scientific progress, the forces of nature, the tendencies of civilization—all these have been claimed as achievements of the Republican party. It is therefore, little wonder that the party came at last to look upon itself as the owner of this goodly land and divinely commissioned to rule it; but this delusion is slowly giving place to the sober truth that the people have rights which minorities cannot always trample upon with impunity. The preposterous "we" that "saved the Union" the bombastic "we" that has "made such splendid progress in paying the public debt;" the "we" that has claimed all the good results of all cause for almost a quarter of a century is coming to understand that it must step aside and let "turbulent and dangerous" Democratic majority take the helm.

But the old party cannot make up its mind to go out without assuming a patronizing air, and instructing the Democracy very carefully and minutely how the governmental machine must be run, but its solicitude is not called for and its advice will not be followed. The old party should understand that it is not merely going out between the acts "to see a man," but is going out at the close of the performance—going out to stay.—Washington Post.

## Other Peoples Money.

A great many persons seem ever and over willing to undertake the management of other people's money, and by far too many forget, after they are engaged in the work, that those who paid the money expect to know all about what was done with it.

The most recent case brought to our notice is that between the Democratic editors of our borough on the subject of the Democratic campaign funds paid into the coffers of P. Gray Meek, Esq., and the wall that goes up with it sounds very much like Hans Brightman's will over his party. "Vere ich dot now?"

If the CENTRE DEMOCRAT is correct, P. Gray Meek, Esq., acted as chairman and treasurer of the county committee, and as chairman, ordered work of P. Gray Meek, Esq., editor Democratic Watchman, and for which P. Gray Meek Esq., treasurer of the county committee paid P. Gray Meek' editor and etc., without action or endorsement of the committee, forgetting, as Brother Bible thinks, the wise injunction of Robert Burns that

"Oh! mankind are very weak,  
And little to be trusted;  
If self the warring balance shake,  
It's rarely right adjusted!"

But the CENTRE DEMOCRAT must not push Brother Meek too far because you see he has spread himself considerably for this campaign. Think of his being Clerk of the House of Representatives, clerk of the State Central Committee, chairman of the County Committee, treasurer of the County Committee, all at once, and judge calmly for yourself how difficult, for even you, Brother Bible, not to get things mixed. Some body had to do the printing and why pray, give it out when you could do it at home and more especially when you had other people's money in hand to pay for it? That inquiry, we think, ought to settle you Brother Bible. But about that paying for "dead horse" out of this years' subscription? That's rather a poser to us, and if we can't say that there Brother Meek was a trifle weak, or perhaps—not to put too fine a point on it—avaricious, we must refer the matter to Brother Meek for further solution.

But for the meddling of the CENTRE DEMOCRAT this would have been a clear case of "Addition, Division and Silence" as laid down by the late patriotic politician, Wm. Kemble, Esq., in which science lessons are taught gratuitously at Harrisburg, Pa.—Daily News.

## Inter-State Question of Local Interest

ALBANY, Dec. 9, 1884.—A somewhat novel and, it is said, unprecedented controversy came before Governor Cleveland for adjudication today. The facts are stated to be as follows: About October 1 of the present year Patrick Norton, living in Allegheny, Cattaraugus county was kidnapped in Buffalo and brought to Erie, Pa., by a person named Dennis O'Connell. Norton was charged with the crimes of grand larceny, embezzlement and conspiracy to cheat and defraud. Counsel for Norton made a demand on Governor Cleveland for a request on his part to the Governor of Pennsylvania for the prisoner's release on the ground that he had been kidnapped and taken from the State of New York against his will, and that being a citizen of this State he was entitled to its protection. It appears that an application had previously been made to the Governor of Pennsylvania for a requisition upon the Governor of this State for Norton's return to Pennsylvania. This requisition was refused. It was sought by the kidnapping process, after the refusal of the requisition, to get him within the State of Pennsylvania in defiance of all legal right.

NORTON'S RELEASE TO BE ASKED FOR. Upon the above facts the Governor decided that it was his duty to lay the papers in the case before the Governor of Pennsylvania, with the request that, if consistent with his ideas of justice and due exercise of executive power, he should cause the release of the prisoner. A careful examination here fails to disclose a similar case in the previous history of this State or of any other, although in a case reported in Pennsylvania the Court intimated upon a similar state of facts, if a request were made by the Executive of the State in which the prisoner resided, the Court would feel bound to set him at large. *New York Herald.*

Our distinguished legal light, J. L. Spangler, Esq., is Mr. Norton's attorney in this case and went to Albany, N. Y., and laid the matter before Governor Cleveland. There is no precedent in the legal history either of Pennsylvania or New York, and it may become of national importance. Governor Cleveland has placed the matter in the hands of Governor Pattison. We have perfect confidence in Mr. Spangler's ability to take care of his clients, and the larger the case the more his legal talents shine forth. Our readers no doubt remember the famous Herdic case, in which Jack's legal abilities were so well tested. That case was worked up entirely by him. We hope he may be successful in this. Go in; you'll be attorney general yet.

SAV?—Why should a Democratic editor write "National" Administration? Why not say Federal and thereby establish your Democracy. Again: "National" Capital. Would not Federal sound better.—*Courfield Republican.*

We know some fellows who might use the word "Federal" all their lives and not establish their Democracy.

GENERAL GRANT prefers to be retired on the army list, rather than accept a pension on the civil list. It was in consideration of the fact that having retired from the army and accepted the Presidency for two terms, he gave up the compensation which would have accrued to him at the age of sixty four years; that a quarter of a million of dollars was raised for his benefit, the proceeds of which he now enjoys. His friends now insist that the law be repealed in his case, and that he be excepted from its application, but receive pay from the date of his resignation in the regular army to be President, and four hundred thousand dollars during his eight years, and two hundred and fifty thousand dollars as a gift besides. Does he want the earth?—*Pittsburg Post.*

—All kind of candy at reduced prices at Lewis', Haines Block.

1784. 1884.  
CENTRE COUNTY.

## A Retrospect and Comparison.

BY JOHN BLAIR LINN.

On the 14th day of January, 1784, the Congress of the United States assembled at Annapolis, Maryland, ratified and confirmed by a unanimous vote, the definite articles of peace between the United States and George III., which had been agreed upon at Paris on the 2d of September, 1783. On the same day Thomas Mifflin sent a messenger, carrying the news to President Dickinson at Philadelphia, and on the 22d of January, 1784, the President and Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania issued a proclamation, containing a copy of the treaty, and requiring all Sheriffs to cause the proclamation to be made public in their respective counties.

At that date all the territory embraced within the present boundaries of Centre County was in Northumberland County, with the county-seat at Saubury, and the proclamation, in the then state of the public roads, though sent by special messenger, would not reach Sheriff Henry Antes for five or six days. The Courts then met on the fourth Tuesdays of February, May, August and November, but in the first week of the opening Spring the glad news would become generally known, through returning jurors and witnesses to the settlers, who had fled from our valleys.

Anticipating invasions by hostile Indians, after Col. Hartley's regiment was withdrawn from the West Branch Valley on July, 1779, General Potter and nearly all the inhabitants of Bald Eagle, Nittany and Penn's Valleys, after cutting their harvest, retired to Buffalo Valley and Middle Creek, and some farther Eastward and Southward. The Winter of 1779-1780, which was exceptionally severe, drove out the resolute few who remained, and our valleys were entirely abandoned until the Spring and Summer of 1784. Having twice abandoning their homes to escape the relentless savage, they were in no humor for returning, until authoritatively assured that a treaty of peace had been absolutely ratified by Congress.

George McComick, (the ancestor of Wm. K. Allison, Esq.), was among the last to leave. He said, "I fled about the 12th of April, 1780, and the winter of deep snow, and I was away three years and ten months." He was the first to return in February, 1784. He said the settlers returned generally in 1784. Traditional incidents of the return are preserved among the old families. Jacob Stover was also one of the last to leave. Barbara Stover used to relate that they fled in the early Spring, over-turning their sugar-kettles, and leaving them in the woods; when they returned, she carried a small apple tree as a switch, as they came through the narrows from Buffalo Valley. This she planted, and the tree was yet standing a few years since.

In 1784 the only public road was the one from Buffalo Valley, which terminated near the west line of Gregg Township, made in 1775. There was a path through Logan's Gap (Hecla), and "one over by Connelly's," who lived near Pleasant Gap, gave communication with the settlers at Milesburg, and the path from Kishacoquillas beaten into a road or trail came into Penn's Valley a mile or more east of Potter's Mills. The only townships were Potter and Bald Eagle. Potter embraced the territory of the present townships of Haines, Miles, Penn, Gregg, Potter, and a considerable portion of Harris and College townships.

MILES. Taking up these townships separately, Miles is easily disposed of. It had in 1784 no settler within its boundaries. The valley proper was taken up by Col. Samuel Miles, and at that time, as far as we know, he had not sold a single acre within the present limits of Miles.

In 1884 the number of taxables in the township is 415; the valuation of real estate, \$573,918; number of horses, &c., over 4 years old, 367; valuation, \$18,861; cows, over 4 years, 434; valuation, \$6,929; money at interest returned for tax, \$9,435; aggregate amount of County tax, \$2,389.85. Its population, according to the census of 1880, 1,512.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.